

FREE

140-07 / Oct. 16, 2008

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

GAZETTE

BUILDING
A HOME



STUDENT HOUSING SET TO DISAPPEAR WITH FENWICK

For related stories, see pages 4-9

Design: Matt Ernst Photo: Josh Boyter Lego lover: John Packman



WEEKLY DISPATCH

Hello, Dalhousie students!

We hope everyone got out to vote on Tuesday. Thanks to everyone who participated in the DSU Vote Squad this year!

Society Leaders, mark your calendars for this year's Society Village Square on **October 23rd, 5:30-7:30 pm in the McInnes Room!** It is mandatory that **at least one society executive attend.** The Village Square is an opportunity to learn about the benefits and responsibilities of being a society executive, to ask any questions you may have, and to interact with other societies with similar questions. Please RSVP to dsuvpi@dal.ca with your name and the society you represent by **October 20th.** Make sure to put "Village Square" in the subject line.

Fall Fest is just around the corner, and we have a full week of activities planned. The festival runs all this week and ends with the Bedouin Soundclash concert at the Grawood on Saturday, **October 18th.** Don't forget to pick up tickets at the SUB info desk! We also have the Hockey Home Opener on Friday, including pre and post-parties. Keep an eye out for specially marked hockey pucks around campus. Bring them to the Grawood during the post-party to redeem some 'refreshing' prizes! A full list of events is below. Visit www.dsu.ca for times and event descriptions.

Wednesday, October 15

-Oktoberfest Fall Carnival (Studley)

Thursday, October 16

-Oktoberfest Fall Carnival (Carleton)
-Carleton vs. Studley Trivia at the Grawood
-Open Mic Night at the T-Room

Friday, October 17

-Hockey Home Opener, including pre and post-parties
-T-Room Engineering vs. Nursing Trivia

Saturday, October 18

-Bedouin Soundclash & Guests at the Grawood

As always, the Grawood is a great place to stop for lunch throughout the week, and both the Grawood and T-Room provide fantastic programming for your evenings. Check out this week's details online at www.dsu.ca.

Are you interested in becoming involved in student life on campus? Do you want to know what is going on around Dal in terms of events, activities and services? Do you possess a desire to share your school spirit with your peers? If so, Tiger Troupe is the way to go! This enthusiastic and interactive group of volunteers will be charged with delivering basic information on DSU events and services personally to students. Commitment can be as simple as announcements in your own classroom, or as engaging as stunts and performances. This program is recruiting now! For more info, contact Daniel Boyle at dsuvpi@dal.ca.

Check back next week for more news, and as always, contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Your DSU Executive



COVER

This week's cover was conceptualized by none other than Dalhousie's own fotog tag team John Boyter and Josh Packman. These two laboured tirelessly building a Lego keg, featured on the back cover, while the remaining build-ings were supplied by NovaLUG.

This cover allowed for John and Josh to get in touch with their inner child, which coincidentally resembled their outer child.

We greatly appreciate NovaLUG's assistance in making what we originally thought could only be the hallucinogenic derived brain child of Josh and John, and we're even more grateful that the Lego experts at NovaLUG babysat them as long as they did.

Please visit NovaLug at:
<http://novalug.ca>

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THE FINE PRINT

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. 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. Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, The Word at Dal, 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 Stretcher feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff. 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.

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Art for a change

JULIE SOBOWALE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

One of the common complaints I hear from some out-of-province students is the lack of stuff to do in Halifax. Sometimes I wonder what kind of "stuff" they're looking for, considering we have big name concerts – Sir Elton John, anyone? – along with various festivals throughout the year. Last month Halifax wrapped up its annual Atlantic Film Festival and is busy preparing for the Atlantic Canadian Fashion Show. This doesn't include the dozens of galleries, clubs and restaurants in the city.

Perhaps Toronto students are pining away for Nuit Blanche, that city's annual all-night fest filled with art gallery showings, dancing, music and all things art. The festival, held Saturday Oct. 4, quickly became a fan favourite for Torontonians and tourists alike. Halifax will join the big boys with Nocturnal, our own version of all-night visual arts festival set for this weekend.

The idea for free night-time art originated in 1997 when Germany



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The city of Halifax needs to embrace the arts to bring people together.

hosted its first Long Night of Museums, a festival where German museums stayed open all night free of

charge to the public. Paris borrowed the idea from the Germans in 2002 and thus Nuit Blanche was born. At

least 17 cities have run their own versions of Nuit Blanche, including Toronto and Montreal.

Halifax's inaugural all-night art bash is a coming out party exclaiming we too are a budding city of culture. As the largest city in Atlantic Canada, Halifax has the potential to sway the moods of Canadian art with East Coast flavour. To make Halifax the cultural city community leaders want it to be, they need to give art a greater audience. This is the great promise of Nocturnal. Students, families, couples, retirees and kids will all have their chance to see something that in normal circumstances they would not be able to experience. All art galleries in the city's museums, universities and colleges will be open free of charge to the public, including the Dalhousie Art Gallery. This doesn't include the various venues scattered throughout Halifax and Dartmouth.

The importance of Nocturnal lies in what it represents for the city. Part of urban growth is strengthening the cultural community. If Halifax hopes to join the big leagues as an attractive urban centre for students and other

members of the community, the city needs to embrace the arts as a way to bring people together.

All the major issues that the city is suffering through deal with how to keep a growing community united. Transportation around the city is dismal because there are more cars on the narrow roads with few bike lanes available. Developers want to build downtown while people are striving to keep heritage sites intact at all costs. Affordable housing, particularly for students, has reached a crisis point with few solutions offered by city officials. I'm not suggesting that art will solve these problems, but the common thread in these issues is how to manage growth in our urban centres, especially in the downtown region. If Nocturnal is a success, this could be the goodwill gesture the community needs to move forward and discuss these critical issues.

On Saturday, Haligonians will vote in the municipal elections. Ironically, Nocturnal will serve as the celebration for what I hope will be a new turn in our local politics. At least students can get a cheap date out of the deal.

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No buyers yet for Fenwick

SARAH KEHOE
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The administration is trying to find out how the university will manage next year without 400 of its residence spaces now that Fenwick Place is up for sale.

Dal spokesperson Charles Crosby says the university's needs assessment calls for more residence spaces closer to campus.

"We are currently assessing our residence needs for 2009-2010," he says, "and will be able to report on where we are headed in the next few months."

After 37 years, Dalhousie University has decided to sell its long-standing residence Fenwick Place.

The main reason the university is putting one of Dal's alternatives to regular dormitory-style housing up for sale is the cost of renovating, says Crosby.

"The cost to renovate the building to the degree we would want to is high," says Crosby.

Parts of the building's exterior show its unkempt state: the walls are missing large pieces of concrete.

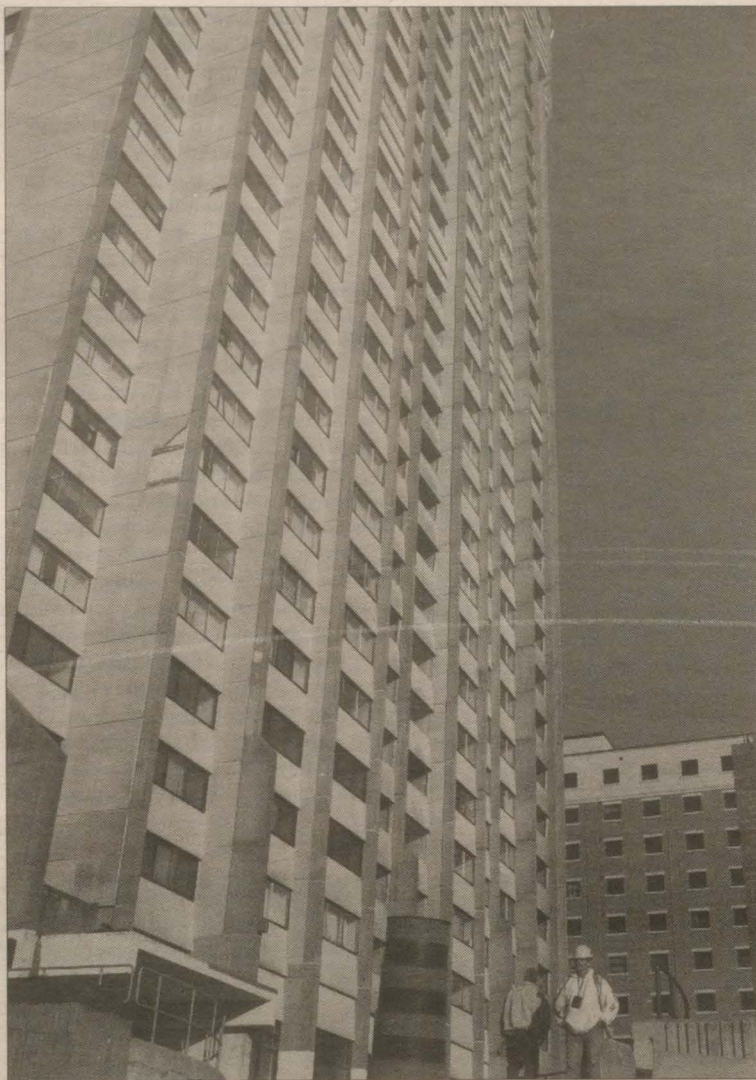
Fenwick, about 15 minutes from the main Studley campus, is home to roughly 400 students this year, including two international exchange floors with 22 rooms for foreign students.

The residence is made up of two apartment styles, including student-shared apartments that can be rented for eight months and come fully furnished. The second is conventional apartments that come unfurnished. Dal purchased the unfinished apartment-style student residence for \$5.25 million in April 1971 from the then bankrupt company Kenney Construction of Yarmouth. Months later the building was hit by Hurricane Beth, which flooded the building and caused major damage, costing Dal an extra \$500,000.

Fenwick was publicly listed for sale in September under the company DTZ Barnicke. According to the company's website, it employs "Canada's leading commercial real estate advisors."

No word yet on any offers for the property, but Crosby is optimistic.

"We are accepting sealed bids from interested parties now," he says. "It is not based on an asking price and the bids could cover a lot



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

After 37 years, Dal has decided it's time to sell Fenwick Place.

of ground."

Interested buyers can also bid on parts of the property.

According to the Property Valuation Services Corporation, which runs Nova Scotia's Online Property Assessment Information website, the most recent tax assessment value estimate of the property as of June 2008 is \$13,931,300.

The Nova Scotia government uses property assessments to determine the worth of a property to charge property tax. This amount is determined by the current market value as well as the condition of the property.

Some students are sad to see it go, including Jazz Campbell, a first-

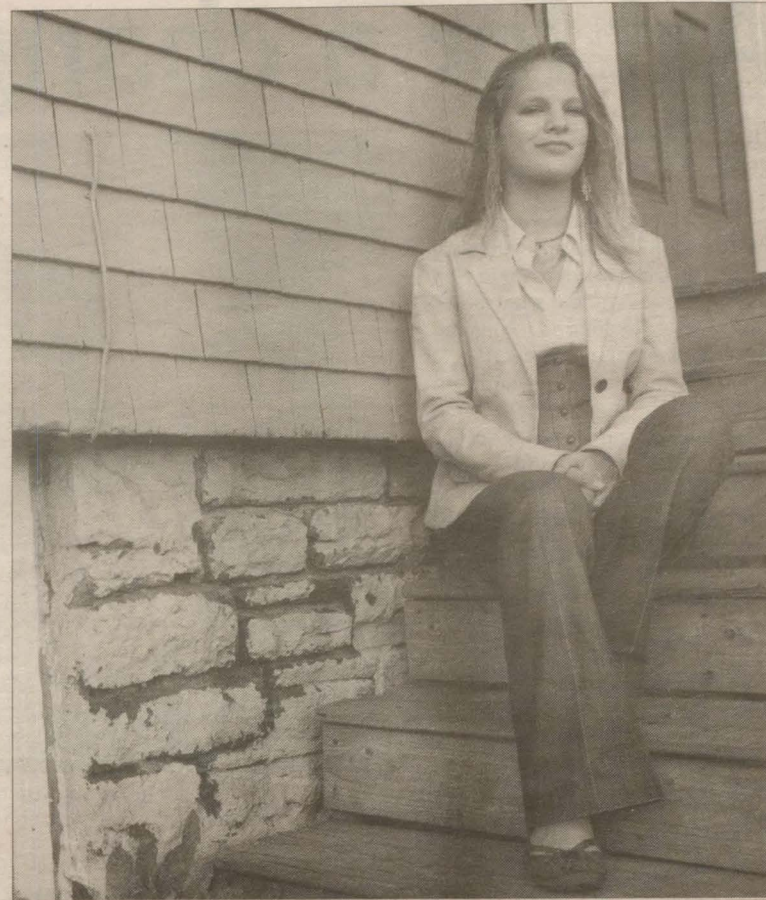
year Dal student, who hasn't run into any issues with his new apartment.

"I love living here," says Campbell. "They do regular maintenance everyday. It's great."

Colin Grieves, a first-year Dal student who also moved in to Fenwick this September, doesn't agree.

"They said that the balconies would be cleaned, but they never were," says Grieves. "Also the heaters in the hallways, the coverings are falling off the heaters."

Students need not worry about housing for next year, according to Crosby. Students currently living in Fenwick will be placed in alternate residences if a sale occurs.



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Rachel Derrah hopes to get a new student housing co-operative underway.

Former students urge more co-op housing

CHLOE WESTLAKE
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Former Dalhousie student Rachel Derrah thinks university housing just isn't cutting it anymore — she's been pushing for more co-operative student housing in Halifax for three years.

"There are a lot of campaigns to reduce tuition, but your cost of living is so high," says Derrah.

Derrah was in her second year of the community design program at Dal, which has a large focus on affordable housing, when she became one of the co-founders of the Metro Student Living Co-operative along with Bridget McConnell. She's now finished her degree, but she still wants to see more reasonably priced accommodation for local students.

The Metro Student Living Co-operative is a non-profit co-operative business. It leases units from other co-operatives and then markets them specifically to students.

Derrah says through co-operative housing, students can get beautiful, large shared apartments on university bus routes. Although the cost of co-operative housing varies depending on the location and the current housing market, it will always be at the low end of the market cost.

McConnell first met Derrah through a classified ad on the Dal website.

McConnell was a student at Dal from 2000 to 2004 and graduated with a degree in psychology. She is also a single mother who says she would not have survived her university years without co-operative housing.

She says her passion for student-specific co-operative housing came from listening to her peers during her time at Dal.

"I talked to students who failed courses because they were living in such bad situations," says McConnell.

McConnell now works for Pathways Housing Services, which gives management support to housing co-operatives in Nova Scotia.

The Metro Student Living Co-operative project has recently slowed down. McConnell says it's difficult to keep students on board because of their transient lifestyles. But Derrah and McConnell have been trying to find time to meet and figure out what changes need to be made in order to get the project up and running again. McConnell says there is a co-op on Wood Avenue that has empty units right now, and she would be happy to help make these units available to students if there was the interest.

"I don't think the concept of co-op housing is well known at all in Halifax," says McConnell.

Derrah says Dal has a great deal of empty property, and students should start pressuring the school to use this space to create more affordable housing for them.

McConnell and Derrah have encountered some roadblocks in the process, such as lack of continuity on the board of directors for the Metro Student Living Co-operative as members graduate and move out of the city. McConnell says the answer lies in getting alumni on the board of directors.

But despite barriers, McConnell has by no means given up on the project. She hopes to get more people on board in the near future by talking to students about the project.

"We would be open to any students out there who would like to meet," says McConnell.

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Candidates weak on affordable housing

ALY THOMSON
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Mayoral hopeful Sheila Fougere wants students to know she's dedicated to delivering what they're asking for.

"Will I commit to supporting a late night shuttle? Yes!" she answered a rowdy crowd at the Mayoral Environmental forum last Wednesday morning in Dalhousie University's Tupper Building.

Late night bus services, affordable student housing and safe bicycle routes were three of the environmental issues mayoral candidates Fougere, David Boyd and Peter Kelly discussed for a crowd of about 200.

All three candidates agreed a late night bus service may be in the cards for the Halifax Regional Municipality.

"Yes, I would support that approach. The 'U-pass' has been an asset to students in terms of transportation," said Kelly. "We can look at expanding on that concept."

Kelly has been mayor of the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) for nearly eight years and has worked within the municipal government for 23 years. In 1985 he was elected mayor of Bedford, and in 1995 he was elected councillor for District 21-Bedford in the newly amalgamated HRM. He has a diploma in hospitality management from Nova Scotia Community College and a master's of business administration from Saint Mary's University (SMU).

David Boyd, who worked as a taxi driver and a tow truck driver, agreed with his fellow candidates.

"We should expand the bus schedule until two or three in the morning, at least on the main routes,



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

HSA Chair Mark Coffin said David Boyd, Sheila Fougere and Peter Kelly seemed unsure what Halifax needs to do about affordable housing availability in the city.

and especially having the number one run more frequently," he said.

Laura Simms, an environmental science student at SMU, said the late night bus service is a must.

"I definitely do not feel safe walking around at night, but I still do it," said Simms, who was president of SMU's Environmental Studies Society for the past three years.

Mark Coffin, Dalhousie Student Union vice-president (education) and Chair of the Halifax Student Alliance (HSA), who co-hosted the forum with Sierra Club Canada, said the late night bus service response

from candidates was "fantastic."

"It is a really important service that Halifax needs," Coffin said. "It is not safe right now for students to walk alone downtown at night."

The HSA is comprised of the DSU, the NSCC Waterfront campus' Student Association and the Saint Mary's University Students' Association.

The HSA asked candidates what they would do to provide affordable housing for students.

Fougere was confident in her answer, but she proposed no new policies.

"The U-pass has been useful in terms of affordable housing. It has enabled students to live further afield than immediately around the post-secondary institutions, so they have a broader range of affordable housing to choose from," she said.

Fougere has been the councillor for District 14 (Quinpool-Connaught) for 10 years and was the first woman elected to the Halifax Regional Council. She has a bachelor's degree in recreation administration from Dal and a certificate in municipal governing from Henson College of Public Affairs.

Kelly said city officials "need to look at size and smaller places that can become more cost effective for students," while Boyd said the municipality needs to look at rent controls.

Coffin and the HSA weren't impressed with the candidates' answers to their affordable housing question, saying they lacked "any concrete plans."

"(Affordable housing) is an issue that we are waiting for a better response," said Coffin.

"(The candidates) were unclear, and I think they were unsure of where exactly Halifax needs to go in terms of affordable housing."

Another issue addressed at the forum was the condition of Halifax's bikeways and the safety of cyclists.

"I am a cyclist myself," said Boyd. "We need a concrete system for downtown because right now if you are riding your bike you are taking a risk."

Boyd also suggested Argyle Street be restricted to bicycles, cabs and pedestrians.

Fougere concentrated on the economic side of the issue.

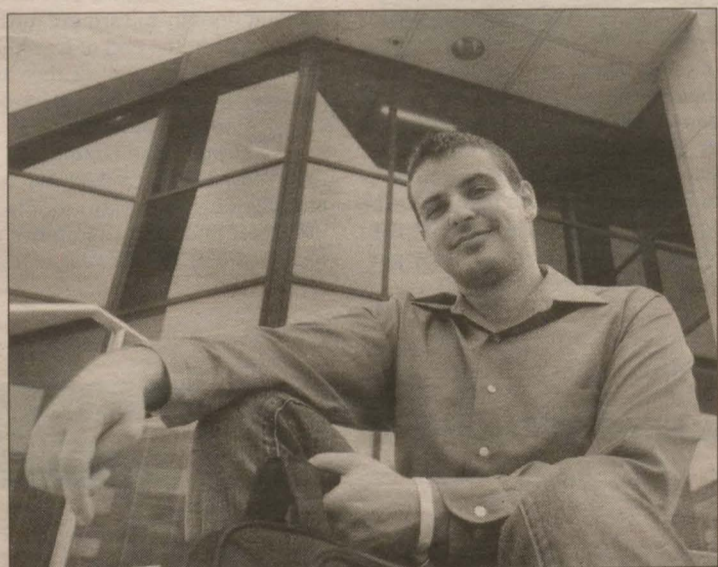
"We have hundreds of thousands of dollars sitting there for infrastructure improvements that has not been spent and we need to make sure it is spent on the right things," said Fougere, suggesting bike lanes that do not stop abruptly on busy roads.

Kelly offered an action plan while reminding citizens of his achievements as mayor.

"This year we did seven streets and there is still a lot more to do," said Kelly. "It should be a standard policy that every time you re-pave a road, you should be forced to put in an additional bike lane."

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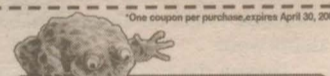
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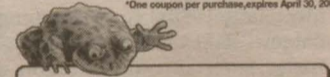


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Master plan shapes Dal campus' future

MELISSA DI COSTANZO
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dalhousie is undergoing a slow but steady long-term facelift known as the campus master plan.

Ken Burt, Dal vice president (finance and administration), explains the master plan is used as a guide to help school officials make decisions about the university campus.

"The purpose of this exercise is to provide a clear, concise vision of how the campus should develop to effectively support the overall strategic plans of the university," he says.

The plan was started six months ago, as an addition to the university strategic plan, which Dal president Tom Traves is working on.

Burt says there are also specific sub-committees – such as athletics and recreation, student housing and student life and wellness – looking at a number of issues relating to students.

He says the master plan will incorporate new ideas for Dal campus and take care of older problems.

"The master plan will help us in making the right decisions about either fixing or replacing or renewing space on the campus," he says. "Over the last 20 years, there have been some very tough budget years for the university, and they didn't do all the building and grounds maintenance that they should have."

The master plan is currently in its first stage: the consultation phase, which involves research from consultants – IBI Group in Toronto and WHW Architects in Halifax – hired by the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) steering committee. During this phase, the consultants will meet with different groups throughout the university, such as the Board of Governors, the Senate and student societies, to get an idea of what students want.

During the next phase, the consultants will take all of the research they gathered from the consultation phase to try and get concrete ideas out to the student body.

The third phase is an implementation strategy and final plan.

Mary Jane Adams, of Dal facilities management, says students can comment on the consultant's plans by e-mailing their views to community.relations@dal.ca or by going to dalnews.dal.ca and commenting on issues such as transportation and student housing.

"Everyone (will) be able to see issues and say it's a good idea, or it's not a good idea," she explains.

"The consultants will be asking for input."

Adams says this master plan is vastly different from the last campus plan, which was done in 1991.

"The old master campus plan was great, but it was pretty static. It told you the future and how to grow, but it didn't really have the life and the breath of how to actually implement it," she explains. "These consultants are going to tell us how to implement the campus plan, and I think that's really important for the university because you can come up with all these ideas, but if you can't implement it or act on it, it just becomes very static."

Courtney Larkin, president of the DSU, says the steering committee is trying to create buzz about the master plan by meeting together with the consultants and students.

"We've been getting out to people and trying to create buzz about it, but it's also hard," she says. "Students don't necessarily know. 'What does this campus need?' is a very broad question."

Larkin says student voice is varied.

"Look at the senate meeting. There are 74 senators but very few students. The same with the Board of Governors. So, sometimes they're very small but they're in a Board of Governors context, so those students are really focusing on huge student issues coming forward," she says. "At our Imagine event, we had about 40 trickle through throughout the day."

Larkin says a sign posted in the Student Union Building – nearby long lineups at Tim Hortons – that asks students what they'd like on campus has garnered attention.

"Students have been writing all kinds of different things on it, which is good because we're going to take it all and show it to the consultants. We've got three campuses here in Halifax and one in Yarmouth," she says. "The consultants are doing quite a bit of homework right now."

Larkin says space issues rank high on the list of needs.

"Most students, in general, also want a lot of green space, places to mingle on campus and that you can feel welcome, not just in your building but essentially everywhere," she says. "A lot of people want a more pedestrian-friendly campus, less cars, better transit to and from ... so it's quite a big mix but we noticed those are the key things which keep coming up."

Dal dentistry launches new study

ROSIE JACOBS
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Dalhousie's Department of Dentistry is conducting the first province-wide study of adult oral health in Nova Scotia.

The goal is to see if Nova Scotia's elderly communities are able to maintain their dental health, explains Martha Brilliant, project coordinator for this study.

"We hope to develop a clearer picture of the oral health and expectations of aging Nova Scotians," she says. "At present, there is very little data on the oral health status and needs of aging Canadians in general and Nova Scotians in particular. We also want to see if the oral health needs and expectations of the baby boomer generation differ from those preceding them."

The study, called "The Oral Health of our Aging Population," is looking at the oral health of 1,200 adults aged 45 and up in urban and rural Nova Scotia. Research for the study started in 2004.

Debora Matthews, a lead investigator in the study and the head of periodontics at Dal, hopes the study will discover how Nova Scotians' oral health impacts their quality of life, their clinical oral health status, and their need for treatment, as well as find out how they use the current oral health system.

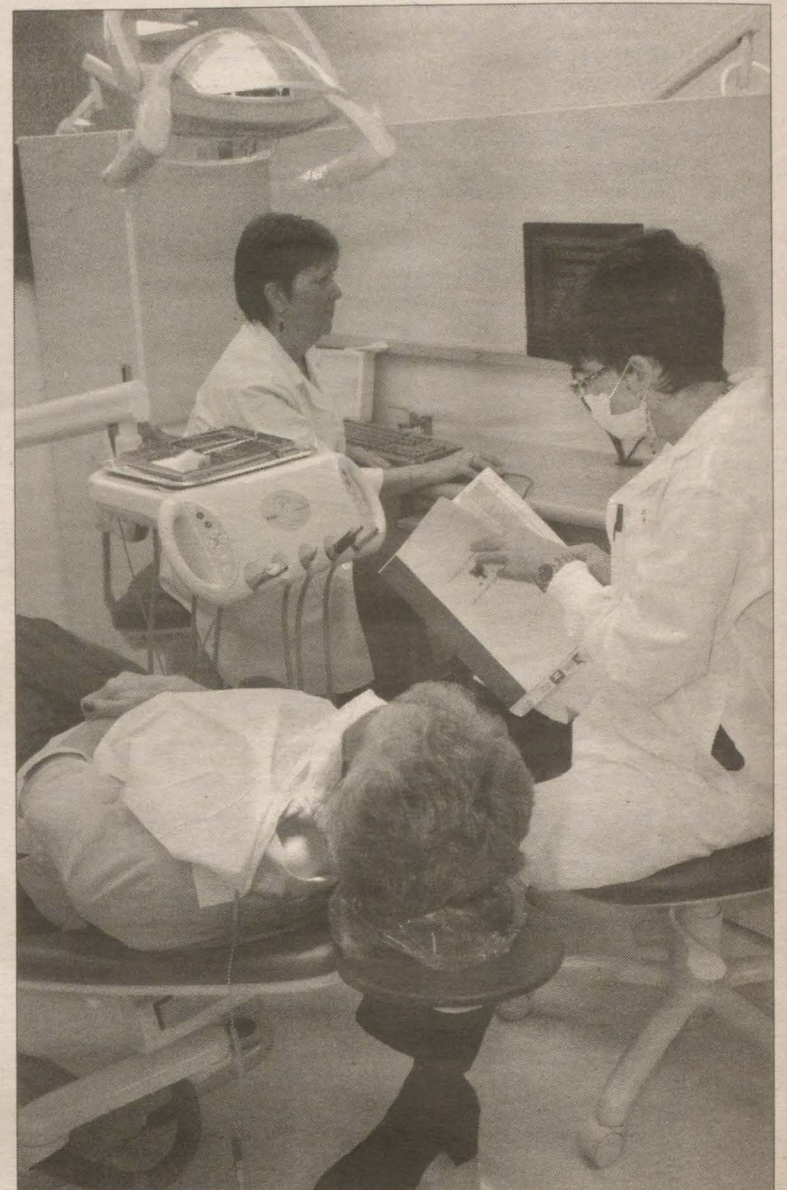
"(This study) will give us provincial data," says Matthews. "It will give a broader picture of the oral health of older adults, and be one of the first studies in the country to provide comprehensive data on adults in long-term care."

The study focuses on the vulnerability of Nova Scotia's elderly community and the possibility of their needs expanding. Matthews and her team started their telephone survey this month.

"Older adults in Halifax (as in other areas of the province) may not have the access to dental care that they need due to an inability to afford care or other barriers such as mobility and transportation issues," says Brilliant. "This study will clarify the current status of oral health care and needs of this population."

And with the baby boomer generation aging, Matthews says boomers likely have varying demands and needs for oral health care.

"That is one of the main objectives of the study," says Matthews. "To determine if the demands are different, and if so, what are the differences. We suspect that the demands for oral health care will be higher and there is some discussion around the fact that baby-boomers may be less willing to put up with poor aesthet-



KAREN SHERWOOD PHOTO

Debora Matthews, right, hopes the study will show how Nova Scotians' oral health impacts their quality of life.

ics, pain and dysfunction than the generation previous to them."

Brilliant also hopes the study will shape future policy-making decisions.

"It is our hope that this data will form a basis for planning and policy change to improve oral health care for aging Nova Scotians," she says.

Matthews says without any baseline data about Canada's current dental system, it is impossible to improve Canada's oral health care.

"Will it be through better education of the public, of physicians, of other health care workers? Will it mean graduating more dentists and dental hygienists to meet the needs of older adults in nursing homes? Will it mean a change in the curriculum of dental schools to address the special needs of older adults?" asks Matthews. "There are so many pos-

sibilities, but until we have the data, we won't know the next questions to ask."

Matthews adds Health Canada and the Office of the Chief Dental Officer of Canada are currently completing their first national oral health study in more than 30 years, meaning Canada's understanding of the needs of "vulnerable" populations is extremely outdated.

Matthews and her team currently have 200 adults booked for clinical examinations in and around the Halifax area until the end of November. They hope to have all of their data collected by next fall, and to have the study completed by 2010.

Following the completion of the study, Matthews and her team are planning a forum to discuss how their findings can improve oral health care in Nova Scotia.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS BY THE NUMBERS:

\$1.4 million USD: the price of the Nobel Peace Prize, awarded to former Finnish president Martti Ahtisaari on Oct. 9.

106 years: age of nun who plans to vote for Barack Obama in the U.S. elections after not voting for the past 56 years.

£40 billion: asking price of taxpayers' money by U.K. banks to boost economy.

2: the number of motions rejected on Oct. 9 by Portugal's parliament that would have allowed same-sex marriages.

115: the number of McDonald's restaurants the Venezuelan government demanded closed for 48 hours because of "irregularities in financial books."

\$1.9 billion: the revised cost of NASA's budget for its next 2009 Mars mission.

Sources: CBC, BBC, BBC, CBC, CBC, BBC

NEWS BITES

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS:

Students could fill strikers' shoes

If there's a strike at the Montreal Gazette, Canwest News Service is turning to journalism students from Concordia University to fill the spaces.

In case of a strike — involving Gazette advertising, editorial and sales staff — several students were offered opportunities to fill-in, reported CBC.

Mike Gasher, director of Concordia's journalism school, said he was not contacted for recommendations before Canwest approached students.

"When a big newspaper comes calling, it's very tempting, but I think what they are doing is recruiting scab labour, and they call it replacement work if they want," he said.

Source: CBC

Ryerson Student Union short \$50,000

The Ryerson Students' Union (RSU) is currently working within a budget that put the union in debt last year, reported The Ryersonian.

At a board of directors meeting Sept. 23, eight members of the RSU walked out to avoid voting on the type of budget the union should operate under.

The RSU can either choose

the finance committee's proposed budget, or an alternative budget, which is an amendment to the original.

Toby Whitfield, RSU vice president (finance), said the members had no choice but to walk out to prevent the budget from passing because they thought the budget showed no concern for student rights.

Source: The Ryersonian

NATIONAL HEADLINES:

Country's Afghan operation may cost up to \$18.1B

The CBC reported Canada's military mission in Afghanistan would cost from \$13.9 billion to \$18.1 billion by 2011. This would mean each Canadian household could shell out over \$1,500, according to a government report.

In the past six years, the country has spent from \$7.7 billion to \$10.5 billion on costs related to the Afghan mission. Prime Minister Stephen Harper had originally

estimated the total cost to date would be less than \$8 billion.

The report also said the government hasn't been consistent or transparent with the mission, and the cost-related figures were challenging to estimate. Some departments, such as Foreign Affairs, chose not to respond to requests for financial data, which would allow for a "rigorous bottom-up analysis," according to the report.

Source: CBC

N.S. labour officials examining pharmaceutical plant

Nova Scotia labour officials are investigating pharmaceutical plant Sepracor Canada Ltd. in Windsor, N.S., after a 46-year-old quality-control technician died.

The technician died 18 hours after he inhaled D-Malic acid, the Labour Department confirmed. Three other workers were also exposed to D-Malic, reported CBC.

The laboratory is under a stop-work order. The rest of the facility is open.

"The company has also been ordered to provide the department with their health and safety procedures, and the company is going to be carrying out an incident investigation of their own, to be completed by Oct. 24," said Labour Department spokesperson Jacqueline May.

Source: CBC

Maple Leaf considering new Listeria-killing preservative

After the nationwide outbreak of Listeria, which has already killed 20 people across Canada, Maple Leaf Foods is assessing a preservative for meat products. This preservative would hinder the growth of Listeria bacteria, reported CTV.

On Sept. 20, Health Canada approved this preservative, sodium

diacetate. The growth of Listeria is hampered when this chemical is combined with sodium lactate.

After the contamination was detected and linked to the listeriosis outbreak, Maple Leaf shut down a meat processing plant on Aug. 20 in Toronto.

The plant was sanitized and reopened on Sept. 17. The following Wednesday, more Listeria was found.

Source: CTV

Morgentaler receives Order of Canada

Dr. Henry Morgentaler, known for his work in getting rid of abortion laws in Canada's Supreme Court about 20 years ago, was named to the Order of Canada on Oct 10 along with 18 others.

A group of about 12 people staged a protest outside the Citadel in Quebec City, where Governor General Michaëlle Jean distributed the awards, reported CTV.

Some held signs reading "Abortion Kills Children."

Louise Arbour, former Supreme Court of Canada justice, defended Morgentaler.

"In the specific case of Dr. Morgentaler, I think he represents values that Canadians should be happy to celebrate: courage, passion, dedication, personal service to a cause that obviously has been a controversial one," said Arbour.

Source: CTV

Medical Musings

The tanning trap



RACHEL SUNTER
HEALTH COLUMNIST

Somehow, even the most dazzling autumn is a time of loss.

The maples shed their caramel leaves. Sensitive gardens lose their blossoms.

Restaurants close patios. Streets lose their vendors.

And summer tans, underneath thickening layers of clothing, begin to fade.

It's a dilemma every tanned body must confront when the sun withdraws to its cold winter glare.

If only fashion would change with the seasons and milky white skin could annually become the aesthetic ideal. But alas, this is not the case, much to the satisfaction of Halifax's tanning salons.

Last year, I gave in to tanning. I stepped into my first tanning salon and came out warm and peachy. I kept this up every few weeks, September through May.

I rationalized that I wasn't simply tanning — I was maintaining a "healthy glow" that served to increase self-esteem and bring an end to unwarranted sympathetic remarks. While being frightfully pale definitely gets me longer extensions from pros, I want to look as healthy as I believe myself to be. And today, in the Western world, healthy skin "glows" with warm hues.

In addition to a fair complexion, I'm a routine sufferer of winter depression, or Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). I rationalized simulated sunlight would do wonders for

my mood. And don't we get vitamin D from sunlight, too?

Basically, it was a distant risk of cancer versus immediate self-esteem and anticipated health benefits. I'm sure this argument isn't uncommon.

But after a summer of ubiquitous skin cancer articles and Canadian Cancer Society ads, I decided to do a little research before buying this season's 10-tan pass.

Wikipedia is a gold mine of tanning information, with vigilantly sourced articles on the physics of tanning lamps, the biology of ultraviolet (UV) light absorption, as well as common tanning misconceptions. The sources themselves — medical articles and lab reports — are available at the click of the mouse.

A little reading here and there proved my flimsy arguments for better health and moods to be, well, flimsy.

Vitamin D is an essential vitamin, preventing all sorts of diseases, assisting with calcium absorption and preventing and fighting cancer.

Exposure to UV rays induces production of vitamin D on our skin. The thing is, vitamin D production is optimized within the UV range classified as UVB rays. Incidentally, UVB rays are the ones that, when overexposed, cause sunburns.

This is why tanning salons like to advertise their low level of harmful UVB rays.

What they don't say is that the rays they use instead — UVA rays — are much more carcinogenic than UVB rays. Contrary to popular belief, sunburns, caused by what's called Direct DNA Damage, actually only cause eight per cent of melanoma cases.

Melanoma is the most lethal skin cancer, expected by the Canadian Cancer Society to kill 4,600 Canadians this year.

The other 92 per cent of melanoma cases is caused by Indirect

DNA Damage, which is caused by UVA exposure and has no visible symptoms.

So going tanning to get your vitamin D, which prevents cancer and exposes you to high doses of UVA — which cause cancer — is backwards logic.

Fortunately, dietary supplements, such as fish liver oil and fortified foods are a bountiful, safe and logical source of vitamin D.

And as for tans warming your winter blues, today's SAD research suggests otherwise.

Experiments support that exposure to visible light, not to invisible UV light, successfully reduce SAD symptoms like depression and fatigue. Daylight-simulating lamps have been shown to greatly reduce SAD symptoms, but tanning lamp exposure, possibly due to the use of protective goggles, doesn't boast the same benefits.

This being said, I doubt the general notion of feeling better with tanning is a complete hoax. Frankly, it makes sense that 10 minutes of privacy, pure relaxation, physical warmth and the sheer act of treating yourself would battle feelings of depression.

But I can think of a slew of winter activities that could produce the same psychological benefits, sans cancer. A hot, scented bubble bath. A cozy comforter, hot drink and a book or movie. A cuddle session.

Over the past few years, organic living has exploded in popularity, catching mega corporations and mainstream fashion by the tail.

I figure it's only a matter of time before natural skin — maintained without electricity expenditure and carcinogenic treatments — becomes the real deal. I'll see if bronzers, moisturizer and bubble baths can't make me glow.

E-mail Rachel your health questions at vega_of_the_hyra@hotmail.com.

Incoming MBA director pledges student involvement

DAVID REID
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

When Peggy Cunningham graduated with a bachelor's degree in history and English, she was passionate, motivated and eager to make a difference in the world.

There was only one small problem, she says.

"I was highly unemployable."

Cunningham is taking over as director of Dalhousie's school of business administration this February. She's currently the director of Queen's University's Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility, has about 20 years of teaching experience in corporate social responsibility there.

She says many students graduate with ideals and the desire to make a difference. The problem is, they find their options limited when it comes to finding a job.

Cunningham wants to change that by making Dal's faculty of business "one of the highest quality business schools in Canada."

"We want to make a difference and change how business training is done in Canada," she says. "We also want to make people more employable."

Cunningham wants to emphasize awareness of business's impact on society and its responsibility, not just the fundamentals of business and management.

To achieve this goal, she says

the school will depend on "quality of teaching, quality of research and quality of students."

Central to the business school's direction is its new Corporate Residency MBA program, the only MBA program in Canada that incorporates working experience into the curriculum, something Cunningham calls "a brilliant insight."

During the program, students take an eight-month paid residency at one of Canada's leading corporations. This pays for the cost of the degree and gives students the experience to engage the practical side of their education.

Her input to the MBA program will be as professor of marketing management. She plans to make the class as current as possible, to teach students the leading edge of business education. Cunningham hopes to do this by integrating marketing management with other functions of business — an example of the interdisciplinary direction of the new program.

"You can't just look at marketing management on its own," says Cunningham.

Her input stems from her expertise in corporate social responsibility, which says businesses should take responsibility for their impact and pursue policies that are beneficial to society and the environment.

Dal's faculty of management is "very well-positioned," as part of the

business administration school, says Cunningham. It covers information management, public administration, and resource and environmental studies, offering a unique interdisciplinary environment.

"It's not just a business school. It links the pieces together," she says.

To make classes more effective, she says students should not just learn about the principles of each subject. They should also learn how those principles interact with other aspects of business administration. The new MBA takes an interdisciplinary, integrative approach, relating classroom learning with experience from the corporate residency, and through case studies which draw from multiple disciplines.

With this approach, students can gain insight into the overall functioning of business. With Cunningham's input, they will also focus on the impact of business on society.

Cunningham is not alone in her enthusiasm for the new program. Part of what attracted her to Dal's school of management was the energy in the faculty for the new MBA program and the school in general.

"The program is really important for the faculty," she says. "The effort staff is putting into the development of the curriculum shows how significant they consider the new MBA. I think the program is tremendously attractive."

Playing monopoly with student union money

GREGORY DEBOGORSKI
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

The housing market collapse seems to be the talk, and the bane, of the financial sector these days. Should students also be concerned about the current credit crunch? I have heard little talk on the subject from our student union. So, I am going to lay out a possibility for students, council, and executives to consider.

The Dalhousie Student Union is facing an opportunity to start providing housing for students - one house at a time. Let's start with the current price of housing around Dal's Studley campus. According to Coldwell Banker real estate, a decent four-bedroom house with an unfinished basement is in the \$350,000 to \$400,000 range. That might seem like a lot of money to a student, but it really isn't much to the DSU.

The most recent numbers on DSU financial resources I could find were from the union's March 31, 2007 annual report. In the report, the net excess of revenue over expenses is posted at \$79, 945, and cash and cash equivalents at \$1,239,932.

The Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)'s variable rate of interest stands at 4.75 per cent. The student union appears to have the resources for a \$160,000 down payment on a house, since \$160,000 is 40 per cent of \$400,000 and 40 per cent is the go-

ing rate for down payments. Monthly payments on a house with the above listed conditions, spread over 25 years, would be \$1,407. Spread over 15 years, the monthly payments would be \$1,912.

So here is my suggestion: buy student housing one house at a time. If you charge students \$425 a month for rent, and if the DSU can squeeze six bedrooms out of a house and fill the rooms, it can generate \$2,550 per month.

Now some will scoff and say, "How will one house fix student housing problems?" The answer is: go big or go home! Do what corporations do. Buy up city blocks, one house at a time, create DSU equity, provide cheap housing, and aim at a long term goal of creating an on-campus student housing compound.

The DSU has a relatively stable revenue flow from year to year, according to our current vice-president (finance). Instead of spreading student dollars to the wind for frivolous student wants, let's start planning for current and future student needs. If our current prime minister can talk about taking advantage of market conditions, the DSU should as well - to help its constituents and promote future planning.

Gregory Debogorski is a third-year management student.

Killer pads: shelter on the cheap

JOHN HILLMAN
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

It can be tough for students to find affordable housing these days, and with the economy going through tough times, many may have trouble seeing the light at the end of the tunnel, even after graduation. In their quest to find a nest, however, many young people often overlook an option that has provided countless cash-strapped twentysomethings with affordable, high-quality housing. I refer, obviously, to death-cursed murder houses.

Yes, from Amityville to Elm Street, murder houses have long given the financially challenged a viable opportunity to live far beyond their means, all without needing to resort to those endless subprime mortgages that have been making news lately. While some may be a bit put off by their colorful histories, it is impossible to argue with the economic incentives of these houses.

If you've decided to investigate the murder house market, the front page of your local paper is a great place to get a heads up on places that are about to go on the market so you can get your offer in early. Remember, while many houses have spooky reputations, you are going to want to find a repeat offender if you are looking for the very best deal. A real estate agent might be able to pass off a single tragedy as a random act that has nothing to do with the property, but when a single house has claimed at least a few groups of busy teens,

you're going to see some real savings.

When it comes to narrowing a location, your options are more limited as a student, given that you are going to want to find a spot located near public transportation routes. There are definite advantages to such restrictions. It is very unlikely, for example, that you will ever trip over a root while a chainsaw-wielding psychopath chases you half-naked through a shadowy forest. Furthermore, when the telephone lines are inevitably cut some night, you will have great cellphone reception. Finally, given that your neighbours have clearly slept through entire nights filled with bloodcurdling screams without bothering to call the police, you'll be able to throw at least one killer party without worrying about the noise bylaws.

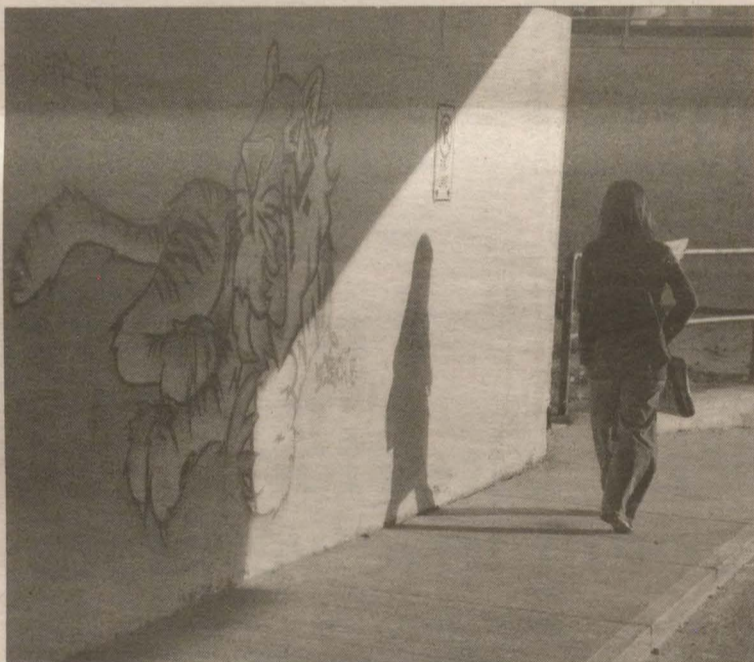
Once you have a particular house in mind, don't be afraid to ask some tough questions. One that you should get out of the way immediately is whether the previous massacres were committed by a human serial killer or by some sort of unstoppable demonic force. If the real estate agent answers human, be sure to press the matter further and inquire about the circumstances surrounding the killer's capture or death. If he was hit in the chest with five or more bullets yet the body was never recovered, you should plan on taking something more potent than a broomstick with you when you step outside in the middle of the night to check out that strange noise.

While the economic advantages

can't be matched, purchasing an established murder house is obviously not without risks. If you are entering into a rental agreement with several friends, you might want to make sure that the others are such repulsive specimens of humanity that your own character flaws seem relatively minor by comparison. This little bit of pre-planning should give you a heads up if an insatiable killing machine returns from the grave and starts hunting you down one by one, as such fiends tend to work their way from the most drunken and lecherous backwards.

Also, if any children are involved with the housing arrangements, you might want to sedate them heavily and throw out all arts and crafts supplies in the house. Should you fail to do this, they will most certainly start drawing really creepy pictures at the instruction of new imaginary friends whose names sound suspiciously like those of the previous residents of the house. If you do insist on having children over, it would probably be a good idea to plan a lengthy vacation the minute any of them tells you that "Jody" says they are going to be friends forever.

If you like a building with character, can put up with a few unsavory housemates, and are willing to come to terms with the possibility that the police may find your mutilated corpse pinned to the front door by kitchen knives one morning, a murder house is one of the safest housing investments that one can make in the current economic climate.



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Dal needs to figure out how to replace Fenwick's residence spaces.

Dal leaving international students in the cold?

STEPHANIE SMITH
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

Fenwick is up for sale and next year new incoming international and exchange students will be out of a home. Nearly 250 international and exchange students live in Fenwick during the fall and winter months and that same number of students or more will be told to find off campus housing or move into one of the traditional residences starting next fall if the university accepts an offer on Fenwick Place. These students already pay \$23,896 for tuition, books and housing, which is double the amount Canadian students pay. They should not be told that they have to go find alternate housing. International and exchange students do not have the same wants and needs as Canadian students. Exchange students come here for one school term. Finding a place for only four months would be too difficult. Cul-

ture shock and even just adjusting to Halifax's whacky climate is hard enough to adapt to without having to worry about housing issues. Give these students a break!

Fenwick's 32nd and 33rd floors provide an international community to those coming from abroad. It allows people to meet others who are new to Canada, but also a wide variety of other students. Splitting these visiting students into smaller groups and putting them in international housing would destroy the community that the International Exchange Office at Dal has worked so hard to foster for these students.

So before we sell Fenwick, let's make sure we have somewhere for these students to go. Building a new housing complex would take time but would insure a new livable place for international and exchange students. Or, maybe this time they can buy a building that isn't falling apart at the seams.

Spare some change for homelessness

JESSICA GALLANT
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

Have you ever walked down the street in Halifax with a handful of change in your pocket? For a student, those quarters can really come in handy on laundry day. But, if you have extra change shouldn't you throw your laundry money to the panhandlers asking for a few cents on the street?

If you gave to every one who asks, you'd be re-wearing your clothes a lot! Although that sounds uncomfortable, it is a reality for many people without stable housing.

I'm not saying you need to give to everyone that asks. Be mindful of the way you treat them when you're

passing by, and if you can spare anything, give. But better help should be available for them. They shouldn't have to rely on your extra change.

Our city needs to develop a better strategy for helping people in desperate situations.

It's not fair how badly some homeless people are treated. Negative language and looks are thrown at the homeless, as sometimes people feel threatened by their presence. Students are especially guilty of this, as we may feel vulnerable in an unfamiliar city. Keep in mind: their struggles are a reflection of social problems, a lot of times it isn't something they can control.

Around the world, cities deal with the problem of homelessness

in different ways. In Edinburgh, Scotland I've seen people curled up under blankets on the streets, freezing. A few times a day, a van would go around the city, bringing food and luxuries to those living on the street.

So, why don't we have better help? Why don't we have an awesome lifesaving van travelling the streets? Our city should invest in a mobile assistance unit, especially with the cold months ahead. If the city were doing its job, homeless people wouldn't have to rely on the spare change in a student's pocket.

Jessica Gallant is a first-year journalism student.

Stop segregated voting

HILARY BEAUMONT
ARTS EDITOR

On the first of October my mom handed me a bundle of letters from the Fenwick Street parental mail. And oh, rapture - an envelope from the Halifax Regional Municipality topped the pile. It was like Christmas.

The letter told me I was eligible to vote in the Municipal and School Board elections. I flipped the page over to check out the candidates.

The usual suspects were there: Sheila Fougere and Peter Kelly. But in the middle of the page, under the African Nova Scotian Member of the School Board, I noticed a name that excited me: the President of the Africville Genealogy Society, Irvine Carvery.

For the last few weeks I've been researching Africville, an African Nova Scotian community that once stood at the north end of Barrington Street. It's a shady part of Halifax history that isn't commonly known. The city bulldozed the village during the 1960s in the name of what racist media of the time called "social integration."

So I wasn't surprised when I noticed this tidbit of information at the bottom of the letter:

I would only qualify to vote for

the African Nova Scotian Member of the Regional School Board if I meet the more than 18 regulations and have lived here for at least three months, plus I would need to be "an African Nova Scotian or a black person," or "the parent of an African Nova Scotian or a black person as defined in the Education Act."

I am fully capable of making an informed choice, especially after researching the African Nova Scotian community and Irvine Carvery's contributions to that community. But I'm white.

I have lived in Halifax for 20 of my 21 years. I was born here. As a child I climbed the wave on the waterfront. But a black person who has lived here for only three months has more voting rights than me.

I can see why the HRM would define these terms, but this seems like the same old "social integration" policy of years ago.

Irvine Carvery was 13 when he was relocated from his home in Africville. He has been fighting for fair compensation and respect for the community since the last resident left Africville almost 40 years ago.

Halifax used the African Nova Scotian community's lack of water and sewer services, plus nearby

health hazards like the city dump, incinerator, slaughterhouse and infectious disease hospital as reasons to relocate Africville residents.

Great reasons, but the city caused those problems in the first place. The civic government refused to extend basic services to the community, and chose to dump waste 100 feet from the black village rather than in the white south end. Africville residents had to fend off rats and boil their well water.

Community members didn't want to leave their homes, and some refused to budge before being bribed and threatened by city officials holding suitcases of cash.

The city still hasn't apologized. Halifax won't be able to overcome these racist undertones until they decide to fairly compensate the community for their land and rebuild the Seaview Baptist Church they demolished. And an apology would go a long way. Like many Haligonians, I'm ashamed of my city. Halifax is backwards.

If you meet the qualifications outlined by the government, please don't hesitate to vote for Carvery. I would if I could.

Letters to the editor

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Letters

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

Articles

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

NSPIRG challenges perceived inequality

This letter is in respectful response to Andrew Robinson's article about the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group's ratification by the Dalhousie Student Union. There are some false points in the article that I would like to clarify, as a staff member and former board member of NSPIRG.

NSPIRG's constitution is not in violation of the Human Rights Act. NSPIRG has a clause in its constitution that states that women shall comprise at least 50 per cent and no more than 75 per cent of the board of directors.

NSPIRG has this clause in place to promote gender equality, and avoid the likelihood of having a homogeneous group in decision-making capacities.

This reasoning is based on the fact that women are generally underrepresented in positions of power, and especially so in politically minded organizations. If we look to the DSU as an example, one may see that the executive is currently comprised of four men and one woman. In 2006, when I began my master's studies at Dal, the DSU executive was entirely comprised of white men.

More recently, when I attended a meeting of the committee formed to work with the DSU and NSPIRG on their concerns, I was disappointed to discover that I was the only woman present.

In accordance with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act, NSPIRG is taking legitimate measures to challenge inequalities. NSPIRG is committed to working against oppression of all forms, and therefore rather than remove such a clause we are working with a representative of the N.S. Human Rights Commission to make this clause more inclusive for all under-represented groups. Our response to the DSU Society Review Committee very clearly outlines these details, and has been endorsed by the Human Rights and Equity Office at Dal. The committee we have been working with at the DSU has also agreed to this approach.

Secondly, NSPIRG is a student-run organization and has been since its inception in 1990. In 1993, student members voted at a general meeting to have voting community members on its board of directors. NSPIRG has had community members on its board for 15 years, and currently has two community members, seven Dal students and one non-Dal student as voting members. Given that NSPIRG is an organization that links students with the wider Halifax community, it is important to have some level of community input to ensure accountability to the community. It also ensures continuity in our work since many students are only here for part of the year, and often only for four years, while environmental and social justice struggles are longstanding. Still, I would like to emphasize that the board is mostly comprised of Dal students and no vote can be passed within the board without their support.

The DSU has a different interpretation of "student-run" and has developed one uniform policy to govern all societies, even though the unique nature of particular societies is an important consideration for any overarching policy. NSPIRG has been working patiently and respectfully with the DSU on this process, and has been addressing their concerns since February. Unfortunately, we haven't found that our concerns with the DSU's conduct have been

equally taken into consideration.

Finally, student levies are paid with the understanding that the \$2 paid in both September and January go to NSPIRG. NSPIRG also offers an opt-out period every year, which is run according to our constitution. Any student who wishes may ask for their levy money back and be reimbursed by NSPIRG. It is a simple process, and we work to make that option accessible to all students. However, this levied student money has been withheld from NSPIRG throughout the review process, making operations for NSPIRG very challenging while we try to engage with the DSU's process.

Each student also pays \$117 per year to the DSU, and has no opt-out possibility, even when one has concerns with their conduct, the legitimacy of their processes and ultimately, their accountability to students and to longstanding student societies that have wide support from students, professors, and the community.

I encourage anyone who wants more information about NSPIRG to come by room 314 in the Student Union Building, visit our website at www.nspirg.org, or contact me directly at angela@nspirg.org.

Sincerely,
Angela Day
Former NSPIRG board member

Student groups out of line

I would like to take issue with *The Gazette's* recent article "Ratification riles student societies." Yes, student groups are "fighting". But it's not for "official status" that they're fighting; it's for money - your student fees. And it's not the "union" they're fighting, it's you, the student body, and the mandate students gave them in their referendum.

I served on the committee last year that wrote the new Society Policy and worked on these issues. I can tell you that every rule in place involved consultation and was considered at least five times over. It's all designed to make sure that student groups are organized, fair, and live up to their obligations to you, the students.

However, I'll let you in on a secret: the issues of the Dalhousie Women's Centre opt-out policy and the NSPIRG-Dal Board of Directors composition aren't with any Dalhousie Student Union policy at all. Rather, they are both part of the referenda the societies themselves put forward back when they first asked students for their money. Under the terms of running a referendum question, "the purpose and spirit of the levy may not change without another referendum". Period.

Nothing the DSU is saying is outside of the intended function of these societies, and no one has threatened their existence. On the contrary, vice-president (internal) Dan Boyle has been working tirelessly with these societies and others since the day he came into office. The DSU is supposed to stand up for student interests, and that includes making sure the money given to student groups is used the way the students intended.

But this isn't supposed to be the DSU's responsibility. This is the responsibility of those societies! It should be built directly into their founding documents and the way they function. The DSU wouldn't even be involved if these societies were living up to their responsibilities.

Now, I place no blame whatsoever on the current executives of these societies. Short-term institutional memory and poor record-keeping bear the blame for this being an issue today. However, now that they're informed, the leaders of those societies have a responsibility to the students who pay them and who approved their levy to make sure they are functioning the way students intended.

With all the confusion going on now, students should take a long, hard look the next time they see a referendum to give away their money.

Sincerely,
Eric Snow
DSU Senate Representative

Re: DSU friendship spurs call for resignation (Oct. 9)

It doesn't surprise me that the DSU executive has called for Shannon Zimmerman's resignation from the committee that oversees them. Far from being unable to separate her personal friendships with executive members, Zimmerman has an outstanding record on executive accountability. Given the actions of this president, that's something DSU members can't afford to lose. On things like making ethical hiring practices policy, some executives say no, while Zimmerman says yes. On things like executive accountability to and support of student societies, some executives are shaky, and Zimmerman is solid. The implication that Zimmerman is kowtowing to the executives because of her friendships is absurd. It seems to me that the true motivation behind these claims is not the conflicting interests of Zimmerman's job and her friendships, but the conflicting interests of out of control executives and the overseers who must hold them accountable. Shame on the executive. Their actions have once again betrayed a deep misunderstanding of accountability and what it means to hold a public office.

Respectfully,
John A. Doucette
President, Dalhousie Computer Science Society

High costs of housing hurt students

As a young person from a low-income family background, I've been directly affected by the lack of affordable housing available in Halifax. After three terms of course work at Dal, I was struggling to pay my rent while living in a four-bedroom house with six other roommates and accumulating thousands of dollars in debt. I was then lucky enough to land a decent paying job. Though I'd like to complete my degree, my basic living expenses and the financial obligation to support my family means that I'll be working full-time for the foreseeable future.

In 1993, the Liberal government scrapped Canada's National Housing Program. In Nova Scotia, the provincial government hasn't invested in affordable housing in years. Combined with the fact that tuition fees have risen substantially since that time, post-secondary education has become less and less accessible to low-income Canadians.

With an impending Conservative minority government, it is unlikely that a comprehensive and effective

national housing strategy will be resurrected. While Canada's 200,000 to 300,000 homeless individuals are perhaps the most directly attacked by a lack of federal government re-investment in affordable housing, students have good reason to be concerned, too. Students at Dal and other Halifax universities and colleges struggle to meet their basic shelter expenses. And for many people the high cost of housing makes post-secondary education simply not an option.

Cole Webber
Community worker, Dal Legal Aid

Re: Russia Plays for Power (Oct. 2)

Writer Omar Selim's article was a regurgitation of CNN, just another attempt to paint Russia as the "evil empire" of the world. You skipped over a couple key facts: it was Georgia that struck first and slaughtered Russian peacekeepers. South Ossetia and Abkhazia are independent regions that won their freedom almost 20 years ago in a civil war, and Russia is following through on a promise made to the people of those regions: to defend their land against outside aggression.

I don't have the time, energy or space to list off every fact you either missed or distorted. According to you, "the attack presented a direct challenge to NATO." But how about discussing the fact that Georgia was denied NATO membership because of Saakashvili's abysmal human rights record? Also, you assertion that since Turkey, a NATO member, borders Georgia, NATO must leap to Georgia's defense highlights your complete misinterpretation of how NATO functions.

Russia did what they had been saying for years they would do if anyone invaded South Ossetia and Abkhazia: respond in force. This is obvious to anyone who decides to form their opinions on facts, not propaganda.

Andrew Coombs
Third-year marine biology

Green Party deserves more respect

After reading *The Gazette's* coverage of the federal debates, I was perturbed by the lack of coverage given to the Green Party, for several reasons.

Firstly, more than 300 students attended a recent Students for Sustainability sponsored event to listen to David Suzuki and Maude Barlow talk about the environment. It is clear that these issues hit home with students at Dal.

Secondly, the Green party representative in Halifax, Darryl Whetter, is a professor at Dal. I know a paper doesn't want to seem biased, but was he ignored in order to avoid the appearance of bias? I don't really care either way, because if you want to talk about someone having student issues at heart, who would know better than a faculty member that sees students every day?

And finally, ignoring the Green party has to stop. I'm personally not voting for them but I respect their policies and their leader and feel they deserve just as much respect as any other party. When media outlets like *The Gazette* choose to forgo mentioning them, it makes them

appear as if they aren't a serious player, and if the media doesn't respect them the public never will. Any open-minded observer of this year's political period has to grant that May has incredible knowledge of all the political issues.

Cris Thomas Seaton
Fourth-year biology student

People with disabilities shut out of political process

It's too bad that the Dalhousie Student Union didn't think that students with disabilities would want equality of access to ask questions of their candidates during the All Candidate's Forum on Oct. 6.

The process of asking questions involved pushing past a lineup of people at a microphone. At that point, those waiting to ask questions could be expected to stand up for more than two hours, with no guarantee that they would get a chance to have their voices heard. By the end, I was exhausted, and I cannot imagine anyone with mobility or pain issues being able to stand for that long. The microphone locations were never announced for the benefit of those who could not see them, and if there was a translator available for those who are deaf, it was never referred to or offered at any point during the debate.

People with disabilities are often invisible, or used as "poster children" to say "look, we care!" In my experience, though, those with disabilities are often forgotten about, or assumed not to want to be involved.

I am angry that with the vast numbers of people who must have been involved in the planning of this All Candidates Forum, not one person thought that people with disabilities should have the opportunity to speak, to ask questions, and to engage with the person who will be representing them in Ottawa next week.

Earlier this year I was thrilled to learn about Dalhousie's new Mark A. Hill Accessibility Centre. Having watched my husband, who struggles with a chronic pain-related condition, take more than 10 years to complete his bachelor's degree - the final year at Dal - I know how important it is for people with disabilities to have advocates, to have a safe space and to have it acknowledged that it's not a simple as just attending classes.

I ask, sincerely, that those who will be involved again brainstorm with the people at the Mark A. Hill Accessibility Centre on ways that people with disabilities, especially students, can ask questions and otherwise interact with the candidates at the public forum. Perhaps have a dedicated microphone for those with mobility issues, and have that microphone brought to them instead of expecting them to push through the crowd. Perhaps have all questions written down throughout the evening, and then drawn out of a hat by the moderator.

One in seven people live with a disability. It is a non-discriminating minority group that anyone can join, from a slip in the shower, to a high fever, to the realities of aging. There is nothing to say that every able-bodied person reading this will not become part of this group. Should that happen, I doubt that you would want to be marginalized, or to be told, directly or indirectly, that you are not expected to be part of society.

Sincerely,
Anna Pearce

STREETER

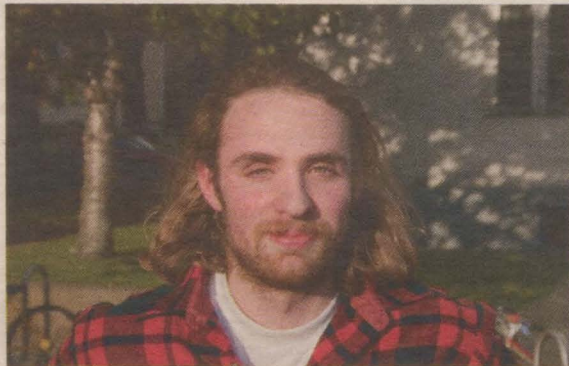
Who is your all-time favourite prime minister?



“Jean Chrétien, because he had a lot of liberal policies.”
Cameron Langhofer, third-year biology



“(Wilfrid) Laurier, because he looks better than the Queen.”
Glenn Blake, third-year IDS



“Kim Campbell, because she's fine as fudge.”
Daniel Wood, fourth-year philosophy



“Pierre Trudeau, because he did pirouettes.”
Claire Dykhuis, fourth-year IDS and political science



“John A. Macdonald, because I know the name.”
Jessica Muise, second-year management



“Paul Martin, because he's wrinkly and creepy.”
Jessica Roy, third-year biology



“John A. Macdonald, because he's on the \$10 bill and he looks like Woody Allen.”
Jesse Ganz, third-year arts



“Sir Charles Tupper. Check out his bust at the Tupper building: epic mutton chops.”
Nick Khattar, second-year beard sculpture

HOT OR NOT

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| HOT: The lowest common denominator | NOT: Realizing you're it |
| HOT: Traditional Thanksgiving | NOT: Tryptophan coma |
| HOT: Feeding the homeless | NOT: Eating the homeless |
| HOT: Harmless flirting | NOT: Criminal stalking |
| HOT: Amateur pyrotechnics | NOT: Arson convictions |
| HOT: Obama vs. McCain | NOT: Harper vs. Dion |
| HOT: Taking a nap | NOT: Being put to sleep |
| HOT: Almost plagiarizing | NOT: Almost getting expelled |
| HOT: Liquid diets | NOT: Liquid poops |
| HOT: The Conservative Party | NOT: A conservative party |

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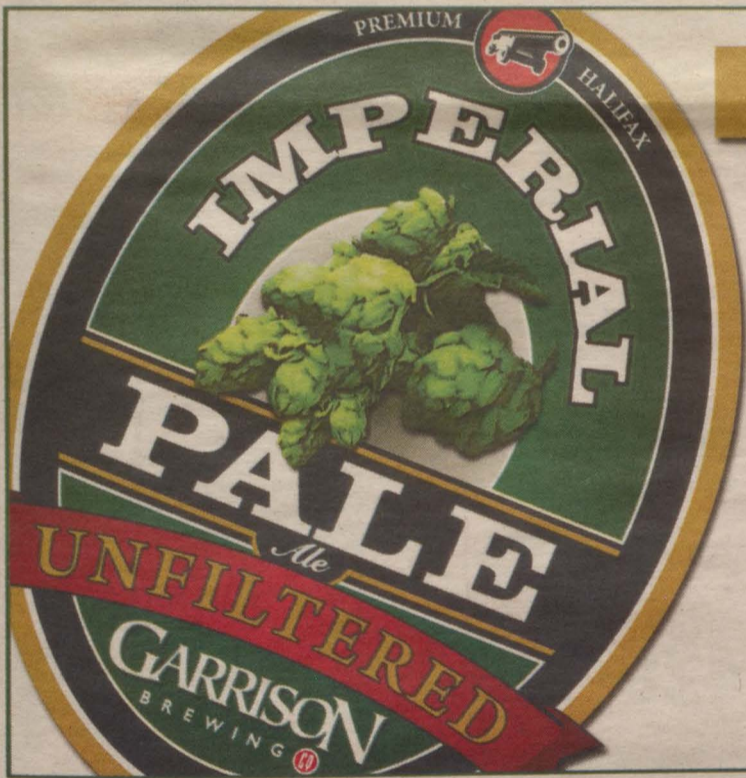
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How to tattoo

Stick 'n' poke your friends

LAURA DAWE
ARTS COLUMNIST

Step one: Issue a disclaimer

This newspaper in no way promotes the following activity or promises the health and safety of those engaged in the following activity. Keep in mind the risk of infectious diseases any time you are exposed to somebody else's bodily fluids.

Step two: Chat it up

These tattoos are also known as "stick'n' pokes," "sailor's specials," and "prison tats." They're made by hand, no gun required. Anyone can do it. You can do it to yourself. They are permanent.

Step three: Buy supplies

Black India ink. This is the only colour you can use. Carmine red and lime green inks will tempt you, but do not be sucked in. Those inks have dyes that could be poisonous. India ink is a common art supply. You can get it at Loomis Art Store on Barrington Street for about \$5.

Sewing needles. Sewing machine needles are easiest to use because the thread hole is at the tip. You will see why this matters later.

A spool of thread.

Rubber gloves, also known as hand condoms.

A clean rag.

A little dish.

Booze. I like beer but I like wine too. You might like something else. Start slow.

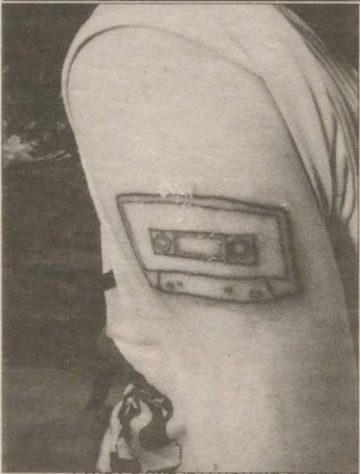
You could get some disinfectant skin cream for after.

Step four: Really simple but hard to explain

Wrap a piece of thread tight around the tip of the needle about 10 times and tie it off so it doesn't move around. Trim the excess. You want the thread to be about 2 or 3 mm above the needle's point. This will act as a gauge to show you how deep to push. It will also act as a reservoir for the ink so you don't have to re-dip between every poke. If you're using a machine needle, this will be a less finicky process, as you can thread the hole, wrap the thread, and tie it off without the thread slipping around everywhere. I use hand needles and this step is always the trickiest part of the whole tattoo for me.

Step five: Boil the needle and the dish for five full minutes

I usually prepare more than one needle because I buy mine at the dollar store and they're not always really sharp. One time I used a dull one on my friend Rosie's boob and she passed out. But don't worry. It



LAURA DAWE/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE
Poke the pin, down some wine. Repeat.

will be easy and relatively painless if the needle's sharp. You'll know.

Step six: Draw the tattoo on the skin with pen

This is the most important part, really. Try it as many times as it takes to get the image exactly right. I don't think I have to explain why. The simpler the design, the better. Choose images that are made of lines, not fills.

Step seven: Pour ink into dish

You won't need much. Fill a little dish with hot water while you're at it. You're going to be wiping the tattoo constantly to see what the hell you're doing.

Step eight: Take a big drink

Make sure your tattooee takes an even bigger drink.

Step nine: Tattoo away

Put on the rubber gloves. Follow the lines you've drawn with pen by making little pokes all the way along. Put them as close together as you can so when the original drawing gets wiped off you still know what you're doing. It will get hard to see as it gets covered in ink. Be careful. Remember you can always add, but you can't take away.

Step 10: Wipe

Dip the rag in warm water and wipe away the excess ink. You'll be left with a sparse string of little dots. Your job now is to keep drinking and fill in the spaces with more little dots, wiping as you need to. The tattooee may be bitching like a little baby or claiming to be having an orgasm. Both are reasonable and common responses to the process.

Step 11: You should be getting pretty drunk right now

But guess what else? You're totally giving a tattoo! The skin may look a little embossed where you've been stabbing. That's normal. It's just histamine or some other reaction of the body that I don't know anything technical about. It's also normal for the skin around the tattoo to get a little red, or for a little blood and a lot of clear plasma to come out.

Step 12: You're almost done

When you've filled in all the gaps and made lines of your dots, you're done!

This tattoo will indeed be permanent.

Step 13: Rejoice

Finish all the alcohol together and discuss elatedly the moment you've just shared.

Step 14: Maintenance

I've never had any of the more than 40 tattoos I've given get infected, but I'm sure it can happen. Wipe the tattoo down with a boiled rag. Put some Polysporin or something similar on there. You don't really have to keep it covered - it should heal pretty quick. Advise the tattooee to keep the area clean and moisturized. Advise the tattooee that if the tattoo gets red or angry looking in the next couple of days to go to a doctor. The tattooee should know what an infection looks like unless they're a little kid, in which case you probably shouldn't have gotten them so drunk.

Voila! It's Tattoo City and you're the mayor.

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The maker:

Canadian producer Daniel Lanois takes centre stage solo

ANDREW MILLS
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

"You can go to a store, buy a box, press a button and make a beat or a record these days, but people will always be hungry for something authentic," famed Canadian producer Daniel Lanois says.

Despite tumultuous times in the record industry, Lanois is more of a rooted sage than a cynical veteran. Since the 1970s he's been known for his meticulous craftsmanship. He always searches for the soul of a song, often stretching the recording process until he finds that perfect hallway for band The Edge's guitar solo to echo in.

But Lanois isn't weary of experimentation. Just listen to his production resume. You'll hear some of the spookiest reverberations in the careers of artists from Bob Dylan to Emmylou Harris to U2.

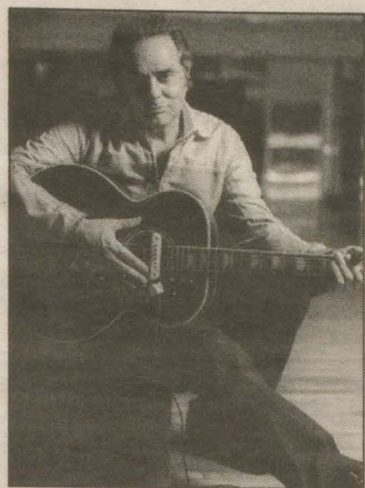
Recently Lanois embarked on a nationwide motorcycle trek with his brother to rediscover Canada, and its stories.

"There were many kind folks along the way and Canadian values are still intact," he says.

As many flock to cities or suburbs Lanois mourns "the dying churches and little stories you miss in between" of small town life.

It's not a surprising sentiment coming from a man whose ear might be permanently tuned to pick up vibrations in the ether. His latest solo album, *Here is What Is*, is a euphoric, guitar drenched time-lapse of ambient noise anchored with candid vocals. It's the perfect soundtrack for the middle of the night when the atmosphere is dense and subdued.

Lanois is optimistic about the fu-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Daniel Lanois' new album is euphoric and ambient.

ture of music, believing people will be able to see through corporate fodder. He admits to having weak moments, like every Canadian, perhaps "sitting in front of our televisions watching advertisements, in a trance, at 2am." But he concludes, "Canadians have a good bullshit barometer."

Lanois spent much of the last two year producing U2's upcoming album, and he's looking forward to the mixing process in November. He says the record sounds like "the future of rock and roll, man."

The genius producer encourages aspiring musicians to have "confidence in themselves and a good head on your shoulders."

"People have a life force of their own," he continues. "It's important to believe in your own voice."

Lanois will perform at the Marquee on Oct. 18. He promises bring stories and "some ammunition to raise the roof."

Moving portraits

Famous hipsters come to life in Warhol's screen tests

TONY SMITH
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

For the last four minutes I've been staring into the face of artist Salvador Dali. His mustache, his animated eyes and all his little eccentricities are on full display. For three minutes it's the Dali I've known for years. And then something shifts. Not the camera's perspective nor the lighting but something within the subject. Dali lets his guard down.

This is the immediate payoff of Andy Warhol's "Screen Tests" now on display at the Anna Leonowens Gallery. Unlike a portrait they give us a chance to slowly peel layers off the subject until what we see is a true representation of the individual.

Warhol shot his screen tests between 1964 and 1966 at "The Factory," his infamous studio in midtown Manhattan. The set-up is deceptively simple. Single head and shoulders shots that last as long as a roll of film, about three minutes, and subjects who are instructed to do nothing but look forward. The film is then played back in slow motion lending both a ghostly atmosphere and the opportunity to contemplate each facial tic

and shift of the eyes.

The studios status as hipster hangout in the mid-1960s gave Warhol access to many celebrities and personalities and he took advantage shooting more than 500 tests. On display at the Anna Leonowens Gallery is a solid selection featuring Lou Reed, Edie Sedgwick, and Dennis Hopper. The only glaring omission is Bob Dylan - perhaps the biggest name to sit for Warhol's tests.

Warhol's obsession with fame and celebrity is on full display. I can picture him revelling in the power and influence required to convince his subjects to go along with this. The films often show a level of awkwardness from people the viewer might not expect.

Lou Reed, whose image is nothing if not the epitome of cool, shifts and squirms like an uncomfortable adolescent. Mama Cass breaks into sporadic nervous laughter and is eventually unable to keep a straight face. Dali loses that crazy glow in his eyes and, while taking another shot at the test, decides to film himself upside down.

The tests were supposed to show who could be a "superstar," some-

one Warhol said could carry a film not through acting out a character but by being themselves. What they have shown instead is that those superstars are actually acting out a role at all times and through these clips we are offered brief glimpses underneath that act. Where a static portrait would only offer support of that façade, these living, breathing alternatives show us what's underneath.

Opposite the exhibits projection screen hangs the honorary degree Warhol was given by the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in 1972. It was awarded in absentia and a note from Warhol displayed alongside reads "Sorey (sic) can't come." The stark white room and basement location of the exhibit sets the right mood but I can't help but wish they had been playing The Velvet Underground & Nico to accompany the silent film reel.

Nonetheless, the Warhol Screen Tests exhibit is a fascinating look into both the celebrities featured and the mind of Andy Warhol. The films are being displayed as part of the Nocturne art festival on Oct. 18 at the Anna Leonowens Gallery.

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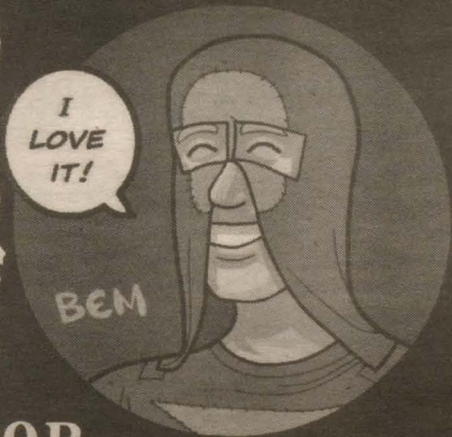
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ELISE MURACA / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Yesterday's tacky is today's trend.

Back to the 1980s

LAURA WALTON
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

It started with the re-emergence of leggings. Then neon started appearing on the streets in jackets, headbands, and leotards. Items formerly labelled as tacky have steadily become the new hot trends. Runways and designer boutiques are starting to fill with acid washed, tie-dyed and fringed pieces that were thought to be on permanent retirement from the fashion circle.

When American Apparel started selling acid wash jeans and hoodies, it became clear that the 1980s were back. High waists and tapered legs were further signs that the latest trends were borrowing from the past. From one-piece leotards to sideways ponytails, revival was definitely the word of the season.

During fashion week events

held recently in Paris, London, New York and Toronto, styles last associated with trailer park couture walked down the runway in elite designer shows.

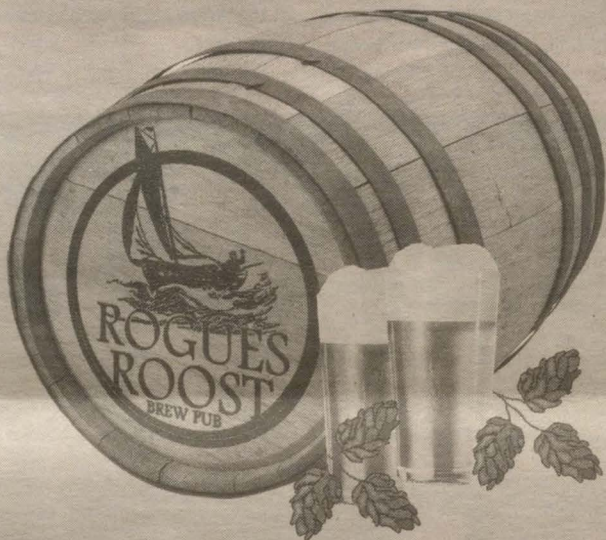
Tie-dye and fringe detailing now fall under the most elite designer labels. Miu Miu has used both the dip and tie-dyed look in suede pumps and totes. Diane Von Furstenberg is following suit with tie-dyed dresses appearing all throughout her line for spring 2009. Christian Louboutin's latest pair of status-marking boots sport fringe detailing with three, layers of swinging suede.

The appearance of these formerly tacky trends in high-end designer lines brings causes shock that takes a while to fade. But when the initial shock has subsided and items like fringed jackets and acid washed denim become the new must-have items, thankfully the search doesn't

have to stretch too far.

Stores have been early in accepting these former faux pas, and have stocked Halifax with some goodies of years past. Le Chateau now has several purses that include lines of fringed detailing. Down the street and around the corner, Spree, at 1530 Brunswick St., has an amazing rack of die dyed T-shirts, tanks, and scarves. And of course American Apparel has held strong to acid wash on pants, tops and more.

Be careful what you scoff at or throw away, because fashion never fails to surprise and revive. Inhibitions must be checked at the door, and arms opened wide for whatever the new season brings along with it. Whether it involves mom jeans, cowboy jackets, or T-shirts reminiscent of camp arts and crafts, recycling is important in the fashion world too.



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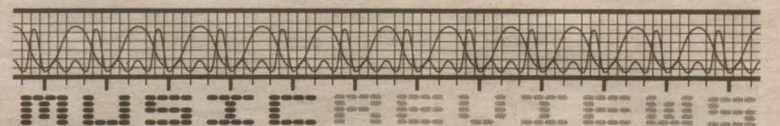
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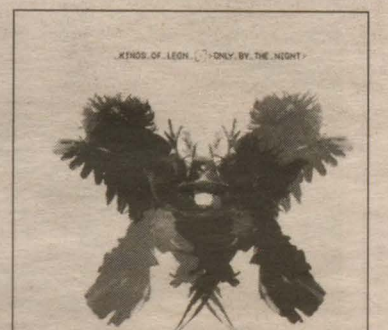
Kings of Leon: *Only By The Night*

MATT RITCHIE
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The Kings of Leon finally released a perfect album. The bass lines are strong and up front. The guitars soar more than any other record. The drums on *Only By The Night* are solid, not over-produced, and vocals are the best the band members have done during their whole career. But with all these positive aspects, why doesn't this album feel as amazing as previous recordings?

There is no doubt that this is the band's most musically complex effort and will certainly be listed in the top five albums of the year. The real problem with the album is that it shows a departure from the Kings' romantic southern swagger and into the finalization of their transformation into arena rock superstars.

The sound of this album will continually be compared to U2 for the atmospheric guitars and powerful choruses, but this album is more of a Pixies meet The Cure ordeal. It really is their most gothic album to date; you could consider this to be their "disintegration" album.

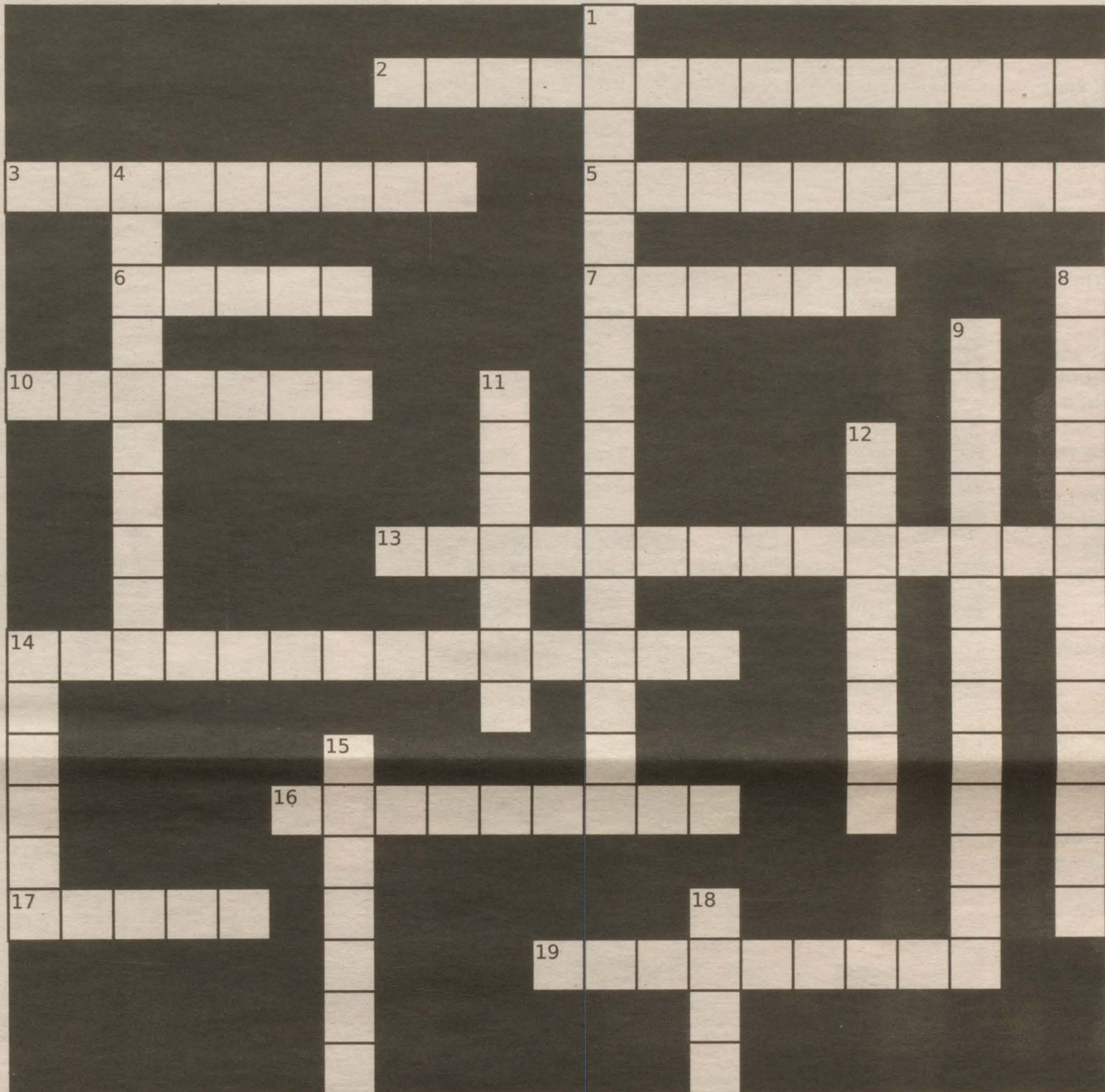


The tracks are amazing. "Sex on Fire" is their best single since "King of the Rodeo." "Crawl" and Joy Division rip off opener "Closer" shows more experimental synths taking precedent in their music.

This album is great, but if you're a long time fan and grew up listening to *Aha Shake Heartbreak* it will be an odd departure. The amount of bands using this same boring formula of sonic atmospheres and post punk rhythms is a little tired, reminiscent of Bloc Party, Editors, Interpol, Tokyo Police Club. If you're into that kind of sound you can't go wrong with *Only by the Night*.

CROSSWORD

T.G.I.F



- Across
- 2 Olsen twin's shared character
 - 3 State where Step by Step took place
 - 5 Tanner, Katsopolis and Gladstone
 - 6 Laura Winslow's brother
 - 7 Hangin' with Mr. _____
 - 10 Melissa Joan-Hart's contribution
 - 13 Steve Urkel's alter ego
 - 14 Kermit the Frog, et all.
 - 16 Uncle Jesse's wife's maiden name
 - 17 Only feline star
 - 19 One of two Jim Henson creations

- Down
- 1 Balki Bartokomous and Larry Appleton
 - 4 A more modern Brady Bunch
 - 8 Ben Savage as Cory Matthews
 - 9 Theme Song "As Days Go By"
 - 11 Teacher, then principal, then professor
 - 12 Alicia Silverstone movie spinoff
 - 14 Huge nerd, not Urkel
 - 15 Girlfriend of Shawn Hunter's best friend
 - 18 Lived in his van

Crossword Answers:
 2. Michelle Tanner
 3. Wisconsin
 5. Full House
 6. Eddie
 7. Cooper
 10. Sabrina
 13. Stefan Urquelle

Down
 1. Perfect Strangers
 4. Step by Step
 8. Muppets Tonight
 9. Donaldson
 11. Family Matters
 12. Dinosaurs
 14. Salem
 15. Mr Feeny
 17. Chelss
 18. Cody

Across
 2. Boy Meets World
 3. Topanga
 4. Minkus
 5. Chelss
 6. Mr Feeny
 7. Family Matters
 8. Boy Meets World
 9. Cody

Jock Talk Tigers must fight for final 10 points

Name: Matthew MacTavish
League: Dalhousie Co-Ed Intramural Soccer
Team: The Beavers

- 1. Do you think that Michael Jackson did it?**
 "Does the Tin Man have a sheet metal dandy?"
- 2. Who is your favorite Backstreet Boy and why?**
 "The Mongolian one 'cause he wouldn't quit playing games with my heart."
- 3. If you had to pick your team's theme song what would it be?**
 "Fresh Beef by The Maritime Kings."
- 4. Who would you rather have as a wingman: Jack Bauer or Chuck Norris?**
 "Jack Bauer."
- 5. Do you think that you could beat Gazette Sports Editor Nick Khattar in a "yo mamma" battle?**
 "Heck yes I could - aw yee!"
- 6. If you had to speculate, what would you guess the Dawgfather's real name is?**
 "Donny. I think he looks like a Donny."
- 7. Who is the "McLovin" of your team?**
 "Conor Stuart."
- 8. Who is the "Frank the Tank" of your team?**
 "Conor Stuart."
- 9. Are you stuck on Band-Aid brand because they stay stuck on you?**
 "No, I use Batman bandages."
- 10. Would you agree to a tuition hike so that Dalhousie could have a live tiger at all of your games?**
 "Definitely. But it would have to run loose. Caging animals is wrong."

DYLAN MATTHIAS
 STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

With just four games and 10 points remaining, the next few weeks will be crucial for the Dalhousie men's soccer team.

Due to the sometimes awkward system of awarding points in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) league, the Tigers have a huge chance to pick up as many as six points on league leaders University New Brunswick, which would put them both at 24. UNB play two games as well this upcoming weekend, but neither is worth four points. Dal will play Memorial University—who sit ninth in the 10-team conference.

If they can get a win against Me-

morial, the Tigers will have a great chance to gain two points on an undefeated UNB when they play Saint Mary's on Sunday at Husky stadium. That will make the usual cross-town game even more heated. Dal won the last meeting 1-0 on a goal by veteran Alan Dalton.

They'd better hope they get six points this weekend. After that, the team is set to travel to Cape Breton and Antigonish to close out the season. Dal has yet to even score a goal this year on the road, let alone win. And the St. EX. X-Men and Cape Breton Capers are both trailing the Tigers by only five points. That said, the Tigers dominated the Capers at Wickwire field. They'll need to repeat that performance in Sydney.

The top five teams and host Mount Allison University make the AUS playoffs and compete for a chance to head to Ottawa and compete against the best in the country. Dal hasn't won the AUS since 1999. If the Tigers can make it to nationals, though, they might not fare too badly. They're currently ranked 10th in the country.

To win on the road, Dal will have to score, and so far this season, that hasn't really happened for the Tigers. While the league leaders sit on seven goals and most teams have a striker on four or five, Dal have several players sitting on two goals. Dalton scored last week to help Dal to a whopping 4-0 win over UPEI.

Dal will probably make the play-

offs, but even if they don't, there's ample room for growth. Many of their rookies have shown some great promise this year. Eric Negulic has shown flashes of brilliance on the left side. Keeper Ben Ur is only in his second year on the team, but already able to bring solid goalkeeping.

Is it enough to get the AUS title? It could be tough. UNB are probably the favourites — they've scored 20 goals this season, and Galen Smith and Phil Demers have combined nine goals. They're also ranked fifth in the country. If there's any encouragement to be had, it might be that Dal held UNB to a 0-0 draw in Fredericton.

If they meet in the final, it might even be worth a trip to Sackville.



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE
 Kelly Donald defends against University of Saskatchewan's Lindsay Copeland at the Dalplex Sunday. The Tigers lost the exhibition game 65-59 to the Huskies.



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE
 Tigers' Andrew Sullivan guards a Lancers player at the Dalplex on Sunday. The Dal Tigers lost 86-66 to the University of Windsor at the men's exhibition game.



TIGERS ACTION!

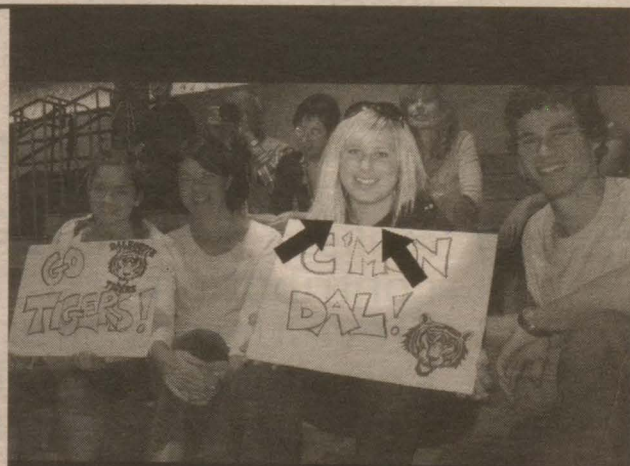
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17
 SUBWAY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, 3/5/7PM, DALPLEX
 MEN'S HOCKEY HOME OPENER vs StFX, 7PM, DAL ARENA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
 SUBWAY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, 3/5/7PM, DALPLEX
 SOCCER vs MUN, W 1PM, M 3:15PM, WICKWIRE FIELD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19
 SUBWAY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, 11AM/1/3PM, DALPLEX



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Men's hockey off to shaky start

TYLER BROWN
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Dalhousie men's hockey fans don't have much to cheer about after the Tigers' two previous losing seasons and a shaky start in this year's pre-season. The Tigers received an early dismissal from the annual exhibition tournament at University of New Brunswick, losing two games straight to Saint Mary's University 9-7, and then Carleton 7-3. The streak continued with them losing 4-2 to Acadia University on Oct. 1, and again to Acadia 7-1 last Friday.

Dal's new head coach, Pete Belliveau, aims to stop the losing streak. With nine new recruits coming into the program this year, he wants to move away from the embarrassment of the last two years. Belliveau has set his goal on a top six finish and a berth in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) playoffs.

It won't be easy. SMU and UNB are again powerhouse teams, and the incredible parity of the AUS assures that every game will be a challenge.

This year's incarnation of the team seems to be much more physical than in previous years. Belliveau has added size and grit over the summer, something that was lacking from recent Dal teams. These new recruits should add the needed edge



JOHN PACKMAN/GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

This year's men's varsity hockey team is more physical than last year's team.

to the team, and allow Dal to compete in the very physical AUS.

Belliveau's arrival has brought something else though- optimism. Optimism is abound in the men's

hockey program, and if anyone can bring back prestige to a tarnished program, Belliveau, with his stellar coaching record may just be the man for the job.

Most of Dal's hope rests on the capable shoulders of veteran goaltender Josh Disher. Disher will need to play consistent hockey, and possibly steal a few games for this young

team to reach the playoffs.

Other players to watch include captain Tyler Dyck, who will be expected to lead the team with physical play and timely scoring. Veteran forwards Jeff Larsh and Sean Thompson are expected to shoulder some of the offensive burden, and make life miserable for opposing forwards.

On the blue-line, veteran defenders Devrin Stonehouse and Kyle Raftis lead a talented, and mobile defence corps. Leading the rookie charge will be Swedes Robert Ahlander and Hampus Engzell, who will only get better as their adjustment to North American hockey progresses.

Talented Nova Scotian rookies Trevor Mackenzie and Kenzie Shepard will help carry the load offensively, and after leading the team in scoring during pre-season exhibition play, are expected to contribute right away.

If the Tigers want to make an AUS comeback, they will need their nine new recruits to step up in a big way, something that is not easy considering the vast step between junior and university hockey.

With only three exhibition games left until the Oct. 17 season opener against St. FX, there is still time to tweak the lineup. Dal fans have needed a reason to cheer for a few years now - maybe this will be the year they can brag again.

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Hockey Night vs. election night



NICK KHATTAR
SPORTS EDITOR

"So who'd you vote for?"

I turned my head away from my beer and the disappointing Leafs game overhead. I was momentarily shocked, thinking I had really dropped the ball this time and forgotten to vote. Panicked, I fumbled with my pocket organizer to check my dates. Before I had time to verify my mistake I heard the guy say, "you know it's down to two candidates." Puzzled, I strained my ear to eavesdrop and hopefully satisfy my curiosity.

"Yeah, it's come down between that 13-year-old kid from Toronto and the schoolteacher from Alberta," the man excitedly assured his audience. What he was referring to was the recent contest held by CBC to find a new theme song for *Hockey Night in Canada*.

In case you aren't familiar with the situation, the previous 40-year-old theme song entitled "The Hockey Theme" was acquired in June by CTV-TSN for a reported \$1 million. CBC lost the rights to the song after the broadcaster refused to make a deal with the song's author, Dolores Claman. Instead, CBC launched on June 19 its search for a new anthem that attracted almost 15,000 submissions.

A short list of five was created and the public was given the responsibility of voting for a winner. Last week it was narrowed down to the two finalists and on Saturday during *Hockey Night in Canada*, Colin Oberst, a 37-year-old elementary school teacher from Beaumont, Alta., was announced the winner. Oberst wrote his submission, "Canadian Gold", in three hours and collected \$100,000 as his

reward.

Besides the money and half of the future royalties, Oberst also got the honour of having Canadian hockey icon Don Cherry announce his victory in front of hundreds of thousands of hockey fans across the country. Now that's bragging rights.

Despite the media-fuelled publicity war between CTV and CBC that inevitably sparked the contest, the process itself is something Canadians should be proud to have been a part of. Now all televised hockey in Canada will be represented by the music of Canadians. Dolores Claman's classic, although newly re-mastered by 54 members of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, will still be heard during TSN's hockey coverage. Hockey fans watching CBC's *Hockey Night in Canada* can take pride in knowing they chose the theme that will greet them for at least the next 25 weekends. That's democracy that leaves you smiling.

It's interesting that out of the controversy that bunched the panties of hockey fans, lawyers and TV officials over the summer, something uniquely and genuinely Canadian was formed.

You try and get us to decide on a majority in Parliament, on the other hand, and public opinion is cynical at best. Give Canadians the power to pick a new hockey anthem and we are all over it like a Leafs fan on a bottle of Prozac.

It seems like Canadian's hate having to choose who runs their country, but love voting for TV glory. Last year more than 38 million votes were cast to crown the winner of *Canadian Idol*. That's almost seven million more votes than Canada's population. Just imagine if instead of the standard "tour around the country and give speeches" political candidates running in federal elections had to come up with catchy theme songs for their parties and perform musical renditions of their platforms as they toured the country.

Maybe if we gave Prime Minister Stephen Harper a stylist, Liberal leader Stephane Dion a vocal coach, and NDP leader Jack Layton

a choreographer, people would be more energized and more confident in their choices. Hell, if Layton could dance the jitterbug and sing "One Froggy Evening", he might at least convince me and maybe a few others that he was a capable candidate.

Canadians are simple folk that care about the things close to them; the things they can see, hear and touch. No one wants to get up in the middle of *Corner Gas* and roll down to city hall for a run of the mill political debate. But if you put up some disco balls and streamers in the middle of the local mall and had the candidates come tearing through giant banners, throwing high fives accompanied by catchy theme songs, you could expect people to show a lot more interest.

Even the whole process of registering to vote, remembering to find out where to vote and actually voting can be daunting tasks for some people, especially those who aren't at all inspired by their choices. We have just adopted online voting in Halifax, which is a start, but what about telephone voting? If you had efficient, reliable Internet and telephone voting, half the country could vote while they took a shit using their Blackberrys. Add convenience to some excitement from the candidates and you got yourself one hell of an election. If you really wanted to be ambitious, you would start having voting booths at hockey games. Not just NHL, but Major Junior games, and Junior Games. Even throw up some booths at Toronto FC games and find some new voters.

The point is, election voting has become too much of a chore that's associated with bleak results. If people aren't going to get a good choice, they might as well get a good show out of it.

By the time you read this there will be a huge change in Ottawa and a new tune to Canadian hockey but my bet is that you will be more impressed with the changes made to HNIC than to Parliament.

Used sporting goods

The Saint Mary's Huskies may be forced to battle out the rest of the season without their Hec Crighton Trophy winning quarterback Erik Glavic. Glavic, 22, underwent numerous tests last week after a ligament reconstruction surgery, and is still uncertain about whether he will hit the field again in 2008.

The team recently suffered its first loss at the hands of the 3-3 Montreal Carabins, 37-20 at home in front of 2,400 fans on Oct. 11. The game produced 18 fumbles and three blocked punts while the Huskies' quarterback Nathan Marsman recorded three of the game's four interceptions before being pulled in the third quarter. The loss means the Huskies fail to clench the top spot in the Atlantic University Sport league.

The powerhouse St. Francis Xavier X-Women's rugby team finished the AUS Rugby regular season unbeaten and unscored upon after a 60-0 win against the Huskies last Wednesday. The X-Women's hammer star Ghislaine Landry had seven tries, making that 22 total for the year thus far. This year the X-Women have outscored their opponents 416-0 while the win improves their record to 6-0. The semi-finals will take place at Saint Mary's on Saturday with the Acadian Axewomen playing the Huskies at 2 p.m.

The King's Blue Devils travelled to Truro last Wednesday to split a couple of games with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College's Rams. The women managed to walk away unscathed with a 3-0 win thanks to two goals from Hye Yeon Jang and one from Stacey Cutler. The men's Blue Devils were not so fortunate in their late 4-3 loss to the men's Rams. With goals from Kent Mader, Avery Withrow and Brant Allen, the Rams' Lars Loevstad brought the Rams victory with an 84th minute goal. Alex Raze had a pair for King's with Alex Poulton netting the single.

Last Thursday, in front of a record low home crowd, the shaky Halifax Mooseheads finally broke their five games losing streak, beating Victoriaville 4-2. A previously sidelined Tomas Knotek was back in the lineup for Halifax, scoring a goal at the midway point of the third period to break a 2-2 tie and guide the Mooseheads to their win. It was the 18-year-old Czech forward's first game of the season due a groin injury in training camp. Also scoring for Halifax was Ned O'Brien, Charles Bety and Logan MacMillan with an empty netter while Mark Yetman had 34 saves.

On Friday, the celebrations ended with the Mooseheads falling 4-1 to Montreal, furthering their record to 3-9.

Six weeks and a recount later, the Banook Canoe Club has been declared this year's Canadian sprint

canoe/kayak national overall club champions. Originally Ontario's Burloak club was declared the winner at the Aug. 27 national championship, however after an inquiry from another club resulted in a recount, it was found that the results of four races were left out. The recount showed Banook to have finished with 685 burgee points to Burloak's 678.

The Dal women's volleyball team beat the Acadia Axewomen 3-2 on Thursday. The women lost to Acadia in the Husky Cup at Saint Mary's the previous weekend three games to one. This time around the Tigers took the game three games to two (25-19, 25-27, 18-25, 25-21, 15-10). The women will be 1-4 in exhibition play when they head to the University of Montreal on Saturday.

The pre-season exhibition woes continue for Dalhousie Men's hockey. The Tigers were downed 7-1 by the Acadia Axemen on the road Friday. Scoring for Acadia was Paul McFarland, Tyler Whitehead and Ryan Graham with singles while David Lomas and Blair Jerrett had two a piece. Kyle Raftis had the single for Dal. The Tigers play at home tomorrow against St.FX.

Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) basketball fired up in Halifax last weekend with a number of games. Dalhousie downed Toronto 80-48 at SMU on Saturday. Dal's Simon Farine had 19 points while Josh Beattie had 11.

Toronto would rebound later that evening to down Saint Mary's 84-72. The Huskies' Joey Haywood had 26 points in SMU's loss while Toronto's Rob Paris improved on his earlier performance against Dal scoring 19 points against SMU.

In Wolfville, the Windsor Lancers beat the Acadia Axemen 81-50. Windsor's Greg Surmacz had 25 points in the win.

The Windsor Lancers would finish the visit to N.S. 3-0, beating Saint Mary's on Saturday and Dal 86-66 on Sunday.

The women's Tiger's also played last weekend, but couldn't manage to shake the pre-season cobwebs as they lost a close game to Saskatchewan 65-59.

The University of New Brunswick Cougars will be heading to the Canadian University Baseball National Championships in Montreal after defeating Saint Mary's at Beazley field on Sunday. The Cougars came off a 4-1 victory in game two of the best of three series, to take the decider 6-0. UNB's pitcher Jason Waugh threw a three-hitter and finished with six strikeouts to lead his team to glory.

Sources: The Chronicle Herald

In review: women's soccer

DYLAN MATTHIAS
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The Dalhousie Tigers women's soccer team has only one loss this season, and they'll be trying not to add to that. Unlike the men's team, the women are considerably safer down the stretch—they sit eight points inside the playoff cut-off.

Although they play three of their remaining four games on the road, that shouldn't be a problem. The Tigers are 3-0-0 on the road, defeating the University of New Brunswick, Université de Moncton, and Acadia University.

None of those teams are much of a test. Acadia sits seventh, UNB eighth, and Moncton ninth in the league. The tough tests are just around the corner—a road game against the Cape Breton Capers, who have snatched the number two rank-

ing in the country this week, as well as at Saint Mary's, who hammered Dal by a combined score of 5-0 at a weekend exhibition fixture earlier this season.

The Tigers have stepped into a higher role since those bleak days. Those two games against SMU were the first two without former star striker Leanne Huck, and 2007 nine-goal scorer Katie Hollinshead.

But an ambitious group of young players have filled the void. They've no doubt missed Huck's scoring presence, but the group isn't shallow at forward. Kate MacDonald has already matched her previous season-best of four goals.

The search for another striker continues, though. No one else has achieved more than one goal. Fortunately, the Tigers' defense doesn't need a multi-goal game from the

strikers to pull out a win. Dal is tied for the stingiest team in the league with Cape Breton, both having given up only four goals.

Dal might just win. They made the finals last year, before losing 1-0 to Cape Breton, who won the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) national tournament. This year looks primed for a repeat.

This is a grand opportunity for Dal students. The playoffs, Oct. 31 through Nov. 2, are at Husky stadium this year, which means the Huskies get in no matter what. Although the DalCard won't get you free admission on SMU turf as it does at Wickwire—Atlantic University Sport (AUS) admission is generally pretty cheap, and for \$9 (\$3 per game) you can catch three days of playoff soccer.

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THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER



Oct. 16 - Fall Fest Open Mic
Oct. 17 - Nursing vs. Engineering Trivia
Oct. 23 - Arrested Development Marathon
Oct. 24 - Trivia

Sexton Campus Office

Courtney Larkin
DSU President

The time has finally come for us to announce that the brand new Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) Sexton Campus office is open!

The process of having the office relocated, renovated, and furnished has been a long process (over one year), and now we are ready to open our doors and get to work for you. The office will provide several of the DSU services currently available in the

Student Union Building on Studley Campus. The office will host Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services and a Health and Dental Plan office. The DSU Executive will also be holding office hours to help enhance your experience.

I should also point out that this is an office that has great potential to make Sexton campus life better than ever expected, but to do that we need your help! Let us know what you need, what you hope for, and when we are doing things that work for you. It is our job to represent all Dalhousie students so please let us know how you want to be represented.

The DSU will be hosting a grand opening of the office on **Friday October 17th, 2008 - 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm**. The new office is located in the J Building - just next door to the new Dalhousie Sexton Engineering Undergraduate Society office (in the hallway that leads from the T-Room to the security desk). Every student on Sexton, and the entire student body, is welcomed with open arms.

The entire 2008-09 DSU Executive is proud to be serving students and to be a part of the grand opening of our DSU Sexton Campus office.

Oktoberfest

Evan Thompson
Sexton Entertainment Director

This week is Fall Fest if you haven't noticed, and the theme this year is Oktoberfest. In line with that theme, we're going to be showing Beerfest in the T-Room this Friday after Engbeering. Not only will you be able to watch an incredibly hilarious movie, but there is also a new Friday afternoon Happy Hour to enjoy. Friday

afternoons from 5pm - 6:30pm, we're offering up buckets of 5 Budweiser or Bud Light for \$12.50. On top of this, there will be free popcorn, as well as pizza for sale. So come on down after Engbeering and watch Beerfest, and have some beers.

This will be going on all year, so if you have a suggestion for a Friday movie you would like to see, or if you have a totally different afternoon event idea, send your suggestions to ethompson@dal.ca.

"Top 3" - The 20th Century

JF Nowlan

I've watched the last 8+ years of the 21st century fall into complete disarray. Everything from the economy, the environment, world political disorder, greed and genocide is occurring all at once. The times are more uncertain now than ever. Therefore, I've decided to take a look back on the previous century to gain some sense of what events, inventions or moments that have helped shape our current lives. This week, I give you the Top 3 moments from the 20th century.

3) **The Internet** - Although many of you probably think this is the most important event of the 20th century, the Internet has truly facilitated com-

munication for a global community. Some negative Nancy's will suggest that this is the tool that has brought globalization to near break speeds. However, this invention may be looked upon in the future as a key invention in human history.

2) **The Crash** - October 29th, 1929. This marked the first ever crash in the United States. On this day, 16 338 000 shares of US Industry and Commerce was worth about as much as a penny. It was also a day where many wall street workers jumped from tall buildings (these days they're getting bailed out...sympathy I guess?). Interesting to note, a technically larger crash occurred during 1987, where the Dow Jones lost 22.6% in one day. On the bright side, we only had to wait 21 years between the previous economic downfall and our current situation.

1) **World War II** - When you analyze the multitude of complex issues surrounding WWII, no other event truly marked our world like this war. Broken down, it deals with many of the issues affecting today's society. Issues such as genocide, surprise attacks, nuclear strikes, and ruthless world leaders dominated the headlines. The aftermath of the war created the United Nations and gave birth to the very controversial country, Israel. These two entities have since been at the forefront of many disturbing issues surrounding our present day society.

The past century is filled with highlights and lowlights. It is important to understand and avoid our past conflicts to help us face the challenges of tomorrow. As always, don't like the list, email: sextant@dal.ca

Research on Sexton: P/M Alloys

Chris Boland

Forming metal components using powder metallurgy (PM) offers many advantages over traditional processes. There is little to no waste produced by the near-net-shape process, it offers high reproducibility and high output as it is an automated process. These advantages make PM ideal for the automotive industry. This industry is traditionally a large consumer of ferrous PM products; however, the increased demand for more fuel-efficient vehicles has led towards the production of lighter car components. This has increased the demand for and encourage the development of more aluminum PM alloys. The aluminum PM industry is currently limited in terms of alloys available. My graduate project involves the development and characterization of aluminum PM alloys.

The automobile industry is one of the larger clients of the P/M industry, as many structural components are made from ferrous powder methods. The use of P/M to produce automotive parts has led to the need of advancement of P/M methods in terms of densification and wear characteristics of these components to be able to survive in the high wear environment of an engine. For these purposes operations such as forging and the use of hard alloying or composite particles within starting blends need to be considered and developed. Although many smaller car engine components are traditionally made using ferrous P/M metals, cam caps and connecting rods for example, the use of aluminum P/M

alloys has become an attractive alternative. Aluminum's potential to create lightweight, high strength and corrosion resistance alloys as well as the ability to keep its application cost effective make it a promising avenue for its growth within P/M. In the ever-expanding pursuit of lighter, more fuel-efficient cars, aluminum powders have the potential to play a key role within the manufacture of all automobiles.

Powder metallurgy (P/M) is a near-net-shape metal fabrication process that produces small to moderate sized metal components. The P/M process is particularly useful for metals that have a high melting point and therefore cannot be processed using traditional methods, such as casting. This aspect of powder processing also makes it useful with other materials such as ceramics, while composites can be produced using powder technology by mixing both metallic and ceramic particles, for example. Other attributes of the P/M process include the ability to control porosity and grain structure, no secondary machining and shaping is necessary because of its near-net-shape attribute (although forging, for example, can be used to improve properties if desired) and results are easily reproducible. Due to the ability to efficiently mass produce parts, the process is energy and therefore cost efficient.

The P/M process consists of several steps, all of which can be modified to give the desired properties of the final product. First, the powder must be fabricated. The metal particles can be produced in wide a range of shapes and sizes, as dictated by the fabrication method, while screening can also be done to control size. Once

powders are made, they need to be mixed or blended thoroughly to promote homogeneity throughout the alloy in elemental blends or an even size distribution in pre-alloyed powders respectively. Lubrication or binders can also be mixed into the powder. Next, the powders must be compacted; this is when the powder is formed into its final shape, as dictated by the die used for compaction. Various compaction pressures can be used and many simple and complex forms can be pressed. There are several compaction methods, the simplest being uniaxial die compaction. Other pressing methods include hot and cold isostatic pressing, injection moulding and extrusion. Once the green compact is attained, it is sintered. Sintering is executed at temperatures below the melting point of the primary powder constituent and encourages the bonding of contacting particles in the pressed green body. The sinter body is the final product of the process, however other operations may be performed if desired, polish or heat treatments for example.

For my research, I produce my own test pieces from blending through sintering. That nature of PM allows me to test the compaction pressure or sintering temperature used to produce an alloy, as well as alter the composition by changing mass ratios or by adding new powders. In addition to producing my own PM test samples, some characterization that I perform includes; tensile tests and microstructural/chemical analysis using optical and scanning electron microscopes and x-ray diffraction. I also perform heat treatments and forging tests.



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