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WEEKLY DISPATCH

Hello, Dalhousie students!

Did you know your student union building is turning 40? November 7th marks this momentous occasion in the SUB's history. Come celebrate in style with two (that's right...not one, but two) rockin' birthday bashes. We'll kick off the celebration with some good clean fun, right here in the SUB from noon-2:30 pm. Everything's free, including party hats, prizes, cake and games. Be sure to get here early enough to nab a loot bag with all kinds of free stuff (while supplies last). Next, we'll 'suit up' for a glow party at the Grawood, including power hour and all night drink specials. Free admission includes appearances by The Bounce 101.3 and the Jagerettes! For more information, email Kris Osmond at dsuvpsl@dal.ca.

Last year's winter semester audits are complete, and we've compiled a list of societies and audit information for student and society reference. Keep an eye out in this week's Gazette for a detailed report. For more information on society audits, email Matt Golding at dsuvpf@dal.ca.

Judging by all the Christmas paraphernalia cluttering store shelves (already???!), Christmas must be just around the corner...or at least planning for Christmas events is just around the corner. Keep the DSU in mind when planning your Christmas event this year. For information on booking space in the SUB, email shelly.brown@dal.ca. For information on bar services, email greg.wright@dal.ca.

Just a reminder: the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) has retained the services of Hill Law to provide legal assistance to Dalhousie students. The DSU Legal Assistance Program is available for any legal problem, regardless of whether or not it is University related. Consultations are provided to students free of charge. A lawyer will be available most Friday afternoons after 2:00 pm. All consultations are confidential and made by appointment only. Appointments must be made before noon on Thursdays. Visit www.dsu.ca for more information or call: 494-1106 to make an appointment.

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



GAZETTE...STAFF



COVER
Happy Halloween Dalhousie!

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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 Streater 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.

WE SCREWED UP!
On the cover of the Oct. 23 issue, we should have credited Josh Boyter for taking the front page photo.

The Gazette apologizes for any confusion this error may have caused.

Corrections policy

The Gazette is steadfastly committed to accuracy and always strives to provide correct information to students. We are human, though, and we do make mistakes. We promise to correct them as promptly as possible. If you spot an error in *The Gazette* in print or online, please report it to copy@dalgazette.ca.

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Dal needs shuttle to ease parking pains

JULIE SOBOWALE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dal students' top complaint about their school is the lack of parking, according to a recent *Dalnews* report.

Parking is the non-sexy, complicated issue plaguing universities. It's the one constant gripe from commuters. Students want to park as close to buildings as possible. Inevitably, there will be peak times when everyone wants to be as close as possible to their destinations. Those who can't park in their ideal spots on campus won't like walking five minutes or more from their car to their destination. Students who ride their bikes to campus also have to find decent place to lock them.

Students at various universities found alternative solutions. Nursing students at the University of Western Ontario last year decided to set up a shuttle bus service between the parking lot at a nearby mall and the main campus. McMaster University and the University of Alberta are currently upgrading their parking facilities.

If this community is serious about fixing the parking problem, we must accept the realities of being an urban campus. It's unfeasible to have everyone find a space in the heart of the main campus during peak hours. Parking permits don't guarantee parking spaces for a good reason. Every student who needs a permit is not on



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Parking is the non-sexy, complicated issue plaguing universities.

campus at the same time. Dal cannot rely on Metro Transit to fix the bus system so that magically a significant amount of students will ride the bus more. The bus pass is not a fix. If Dal wants to be a sustainable campus, uni-

versity administration has to incorporate parking into its master plan and spend significant dollars to improve the situation.

Dal needs a shuttle service. We cannot rely on the bus service for Dal's

transportation needs. Metro Transit is facing various issues regarding funding and improved service. Our leverage as students should be used to pressure Metro Transit but that gives too much control to a third party. We should pres-

sure our administration for shuttle service between the Studley/Sexton campus and possible alternative spots in the city where students can park. This would only work if the shuttle service was convenient and reliable. It would be a substantial cost to the university but contracts could be given out to local companies and alternative parking areas could be found.

Building more parking lots is not the answer. New parking lots will help in the short-term but as the university grows and more students live further away from campus, more parking spaces will be needed. We have to make alternative transportation convenient and affordable for students.

Before any new parking spaces or lots are made, Dal should do a thorough assessment regarding how many spaces exist, where they exist and what are the busy times. Additional bike racks should also be added on campus to encourage alternative ways of transportation but that won't be enough to move traffic out during peak times.

I don't know if Dal administration is progressive enough to push for a shuttle service or for any other ideas outside of building a parking garage. Perhaps the Dalhousie Student Union could host public forums on parking issues. The ultimate solution for students is to live as close to campus as possible. It worked for me.

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Ian Anderson, master's student
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Dal student threatened on campus

RUTH MESTECHKIN
NEWS EDITOR

Dalhousie student Noah Mitton was the victim of an attempted campus mugging on Tuesday, Oct. 21.

The first-year masters of industrial engineering student was walking to his South End home from Sexton campus between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. He cut through the Weldon Law Building at University Avenue and Henry Street. That's when he says three teens wearing hooded sweatshirts and jeans approached him.

"They tried to grab my bag," says Mitton. "I grabbed the bag back. And one of them threatened to kill me if I didn't give them my laptop."

But Mitton's laptop case didn't have a computer inside — it was just full of lab notes. The assailants left when they saw Mitton didn't have what they were looking for.

"I was a little panicked. I defi-

nately felt threatened by them in retrospect," he says. "They probably didn't have a weapon. I didn't see one. But there's three of them. I was just one."

The incident occurred just more than six months after the mugging outside Risley Hall this February, when campus security and police arrived at the scene of the crime. Dal security didn't come to the crime spot this time because Mitton called 911 instead.

He says the main reason is because he didn't know the campus security number. He also says he saw this incident as an "actual crime" as opposed to a campus infraction and thought the Halifax Regional Police might respond more quickly. Mitton adds he doesn't feel informed enough about Dal security and has "no idea" what kind of incidents the department is supposed to respond to.

"Are they supposed to handle

this? How fast can they respond to an emergency? I have no idea," says Mitton.

He says it took about two minutes until the first of three police cars arrived. In February's incident, campus security took roughly 15 minutes to respond.

Representatives from Dal security could not be reached for comment.

Mitton says he only saw a couple of people walking around outside at the time of the incident and didn't see any campus patrol. He says a few minutes after the three teens left, one person came out of the law building to see if he was all right.

"I feel a little less safe than I did before," says Mitton. "But I'm still going to walk through campus when I go home."

He says if this incident were to happen again, he would "absolutely" call the city police instead of campus security.

"I assume that the Halifax regional cops have a bigger budget so they can probably respond faster," says Mitton.

Media relations spokesperson Charles Crosby says Dal security sends out information to students at the beginning of the school year and posts its information on poster boards around campus.

"Sometimes you have to look for them a little bit to actually look around and see what's posted, but the information is there," he says.

Crosby says stepping up communication to students from Dal security is an "ongoing commitment" from the security office and security committee, but he couldn't cite any specific plans they have in mind.

He also says security can't be everywhere at once.

"The cars have a campus to patrol. So at any given moment they can't be at all places at all times," says Crosby. "At that moment, they

could have been at another point on campus. But again, they're close by and they will make their way around to almost every point on main campus."

As a result of this incident, Crosby says there are no current specific plans to increase security on campus, but that the security office and committee are "revisiting" how campus security works and ensuring areas are well-lit on campus. He explains Dal is in its third year of paying for dedicated police control, where the school pays municipal police to be on campus to beef up security numbers.

But this service will continue until Halloween and then only for peak times such as Munro Day, where incidents are more frequent in comparison to the rest of the school year.

Crosby says Dal security currently employs 24 officers and there are no plans at this point to expand.

NSPIRG inches to ratification

ANDREW ROBINSON
DSU REPORTER

A community-wide interest group is a step closer to ratification as a student society after the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) voted to approve the proposed changes to the society's constitution at an Oct. 22 council meeting.

The ratification would allow the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG) to collect approximately \$5,000 in student levies owed to the society since the summer. NSPIRG is scheduled to receive an additional \$25,000 in levies next month, dependent on enrolment figures from this fall. Dal's student population is up by 174 students compared to last year.

At the centre of the proposed amendments to the constitution is a requirement that all non-Dal students on NSPIRG's board of directors be non-voting members. The original referendum question from 1990 that led to the formation of NSPIRG called for "the establishment of a Public Interest Research Group at Dalhousie University (Dal-PIRG), which will operate as a student-run" organization.

In an interview with *The Gazette* last month, vice-president (internal) Daniel Boyle said having community members on the board violated the DSU's policy that NSPIRG be a student-run organization.

For ratification to occur, the proposed constitutional amendments must be approved by the society review committee (SRC) before they are presented to members of NSPIRG at the group's annual general meeting on Nov. 4. An audit of NSPIRG's financial records covering the last year will be undertaken by DSU vice-president (finance and operations) Matthew Golding.

Asaf Rashid, NSPIRG's campaigns co-ordinator and a member of the NSPIRG committee that came up with the changes, says NSPIRG was initially reluctant to make these changes and was prepared to take the matter to Dal students in a referendum. But given the time and effort involved in waging a campaign combined with the energy already put into dealing with the ratification issue, Rashid says NSPIRG feels it's best to try and move on.

"This whole issue is taking up so much of our time. We want to organize social and environmental justice events, do research, and start to get back into publications again," says Rashid.

Allowing community members to



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

DSU VP (internal) Daniel Boyle said if NSPIRG meets the review committee's proposed changes, the DSU will ratify it.

serve on the board in a voting capacity encourages the community to get involved with the group, he says.

"It's more enticement for community members to become involved in an organization and help inform (its work) more."

Rashid says the option included in the proposed changes to NSPIRG's constitution is the best under these circumstances.

"It's not ideal for us, but it's definitely something. What would be worse is if community members were excluded entirely," he says.

Rashid has served on the NSPIRG committee since May and has met with its members to go over documents and discuss issues relating to NSPIRG's constitution almost every Monday since then. The committee presently includes Rashid, vice-president (internal) Boyle, graduate senate representative Yannick Tremblay and Dal student Vikram Rai.

Boyle presented the recommendations of the committee at the beginning of the Oct. 22 council meeting.

"NSPIRG will amend their constitution to the satisfaction of the society review committee based on these proposed changes, as well as the society policy as a whole. Should these requirements be met, NSPIRG may be ratified by the DSU," he said.

On the changes to the voting privileges of community members and the

non-Dal student serving on NSPIRG's board, Boyle likened their roles to that of the DSU general manager and two Dal alumni who sit on the DSU board of operations. They do not vote on any matters put before the board of operations, but are able to contribute to the work the board does.

"They're there for their knowledge and expertise," he said.

A vote on approving the recommendations of the NSPIRG committee was initially going to be delayed until the next council meeting on Nov. 5 in order to let council digest the committee's report and get informal feedback from the student body. The report was distributed to council members by e-mail on the evening of Oct. 19, three days before the meeting.

This frustrated the 20-plus delegation of NSPIRG members who came to the council meeting thinking they would get council's approval that night so the proposed amendments could be presented at their AGM on Nov. 4.

A lengthy discussion ensued, from which council member-at-large Victoria Jones introduced a motion calling on council to approve the findings of the NSPIRG committee to allow them to move on to the SRC.

Golding's amendment to add the requirement of conducting a new audit to the motion stemmed from his concerns about NSPIRG's audit from

last winter.

"Looking back on the records that I have, I would definitely say that an audit was not completed to a level that I'd deem as adequate. There are no notes on the agenda and they received a 'satisfactory' mark on everything with no reason given why," said Golding.

Rashid anticipated the proposed changes would go before the SRC, but was very surprised by the addition of an audit to the ratification process — particularly for a re-audit.

"It's a past audit. I don't know how it can be actually appealed by the VP Finance," he says.

According to the DSU constitution, the vice-president (finance and operations) must "perform an audit of every levied society in the summer, fall and winter terms before allotting monies for the society or levied organization."

The constitution provides no information on the authority of the vice-president (finance and operations) to re-audit a society.

Rashid hopes NSPIRG will be ratified soon, and because of the significant amount of time the issue has taken up at the last two DSU council meetings, he believes council wants the same thing.

"I'm optimistic that most people on council see this as a long overdue that we be ratified."

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Shannon Zimmerman says the DSU executive should have talked to her before asking for her resignation.

JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Committee chair resigns

MELISSA DI COSTANZO
NEWS EDITOR

Shannon Zimmerman resigned from her position as chair of the Executive Review Committee (ERC) in at the Oct. 22 Dalhousie Student Union council meeting. Her resignation came after the DSU executive presented a letter to council citing a conflict of interest between Zimmerman and the executive. The ERC, which consists of three students - two from council, and one non-council member - functions to keep council responsible by writing reports that detail where executive is excelling and where it is failing.

"For those people to call me their friend and then give me a letter that doesn't even take into account what I would do if I had gotten a letter that stated they felt there was a conflict of interest - I would have been able to make my own decisions from there and able to do this without it going to council and without everyone having to get involved," Zimmerman says.

She gave handed her resignation to council in a letter. She says she ultimately decided to resign because she felt the letter she received would create awkward situations between the ERC and the DSU executive.

"If I was chair, would they still think it was a worthwhile process or would it lose some of its credibility because I was still chair?" she says. "It put my committee in an awkward situation and I didn't want that to be the case. I wanted it to be run by someone who could take this, change this and make it a process that the executive listened to and council listened to," she says. She says she has

already given newly appointed chair, Victoria Jones, all the information she has, and encourages Jones to stay in contact with her.

Jones says she received a phone call from the ERC asking her to be chair. She was the only person nominated for the position and was appointed at the Oct. 22 meeting.

"Victoria's going to do a good job at it. I think Victoria's a very smart, strong intelligent councillor and I think that Victoria doesn't put up with a lot of stuff, which is good in this position," she says.

Jones says she found the letter odd.

"An executive in my memory, and I've only been on council for three years, has never done that," she says. "It's traditional that the executive doesn't meddle in anything to do with the ERC. It's just odd, especially because Shannon and her ERC were appointed in May and they waited until September to send this letter. The timing is so suspect that there has to be something else there and I haven't quite figured out what it is."

Zimmerman says she wanted to be part of the committee because no one else took the job seriously.

"There was never really a lot of emphasis put on (the ERC) and it almost felt like the executive didn't really consider it to be that important part of their job and I think that's detrimental to the process and detrimental to the executive."

She says she didn't see the letter coming.

"It almost felt like an attack, rather than them trying to offer a suggestion of how it might be perceived by

the student body," she says. "It was definitely a really hard letter for me, both personally and professionally."

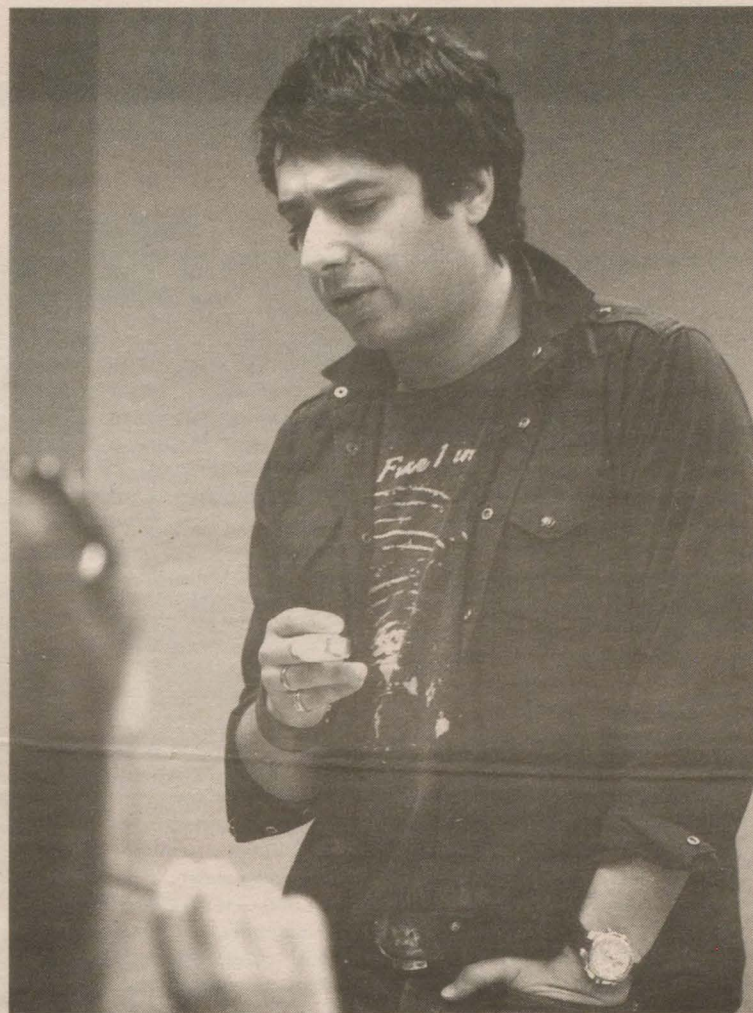
Matthew Golding, vice-president (finance and operations) declined to comment on Zimmerman's resignation. Daniel Boyle, vice-president (internal) couldn't be reached by *The Gazette* before press time. Courtney Larkin, president of the DSU, was unable to attend the council meeting at which Zimmerman announced her resignation.

"Any issue should have come up long before it did because a letter in my mailbox a few days before it happened is not fair to anyone: council, student body, executive and the committee," Zimmerman says. "They should have told me if they felt there was a conflict of interest long before the interviews even started, when we did committee interviews with them. I definitely don't think they should have asked for my resignation because they were getting themselves involved in the ERC as executive, and that's not OK."

Jones says her relationship with the executive is much different than Zimmerman's.

"While I'm friendly with them, they're not my main core friends so I think that aspect of it won't be there," she says. "But I think I'm going to be quite similar to Shannon, in that we're both professional. We're both responsible, we both understand the importance of this committee and what it does. I don't think there's going to be much difference besides name."

Jones plans to get cracking on the next ERC report, which is due on Jan. 7.



BLAKE MACEWAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

CBC radio host Jian Ghomeshi spoke at the University of King's College last Friday about his journalism career on TV and radio.

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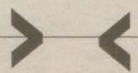
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NEWS BITES



CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS:

Commission rejects McGill TAs' complaints

McGill teaching assistants filed grievances against the university with a Quebec labour relations commission after they were suspended from their secondary campus jobs during their 10-week strike beginning in April. The commission dismissed the complaints from the 138 TAs, reported *The McGill Daily*.

The McGill administration didn't inform many of the TAs of their suspension from their other jobs, such as research assistants and exam invigilators, but they continued to work. They are asking that the university pays them for their work during this period.

The university is pushing for a hearing to decide if TAs should collect their wages.



Potential York lockdown looms

If a settlement between a staff union and the York University administration cannot be reached by Nov. 6, classes at York University will be suspended, reported *The Excalibur*.

About 85 per cent of CUPE Local 3903's 1,192 members supported the strike mandate. The members include teaching assistants, graduate assistants and contract faculty.

The union has a list of demands, including wage increases, an annual adjustment to the cost of living, elimination of tuition fees for union members and increased job security.

"It makes it necessary for us to think carefully, as I think we have been all along, but perhaps with more urgency about finding a resolution," said Robert Drummond, dean of the faculty of arts.

Source: *The Excalibur*

NATIONAL HEADLINES:

Halifax teen charged with assault

A 17-year-old Halifax teen turned himself in to police on Oct. 23, after being accused of assaulting three staff members at Citadel High School, reported CBC.

He appeared in youth court later the same day.

The teen - a student who was under suspension - was charged

with assault, assault with a weapon and uttering threats after he allegedly came into the school's administrative offices and punched two vice-principals. He also attacked a teacher who tried to intervene.

He was released on a \$100 recognizance and was ordered to stay away from school property.

Source: CBC



Williams cabinet shuffle expected in two weeks

Within the next two weeks, Newfoundland Premier Danny Williams will shuffle his cabinet, reported CBC.

Williams didn't speculate on how big the changes would be, but he did say finding a full-time fisheries minister was high up on his to-do list.

Liberal opposition leader Yvonne Jones said Williams should make big changes.

"There's lots of people inside that cabinet that need to be shuffled right out the door in my opinion," she said. "One of those is in the Department of Health. One is in the Department of Education."

Source: CBC



Vancouver Olympics organizers to cut costs

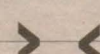
Officials for the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games are looking for ways to cut spending, reported CBC.

After three days of meetings between international Olympic organizers and the city of Vancouver, officials decided to look for sources of new revenue and find ways to save costs.

The budget to run the Games is currently \$1.6 billion plus \$580 million for venue construction. Donors, licensing, government funds, fees and ticket revenue make up the funding.

Chief executive officer of the 2010 Olympic committee, John Furlong, said the committee plans to look at every single activity and ask whether it's necessary to do.

Source: CBC



Manitoba searching housing units for asbestos

Manitoba's provincial housing authority is looking for asbestos, mercury and PCBs in its public housing buildings and spending up to \$5 million, reported CTV.

Some of the housing units contain the hazardous materials. Housing experts said many units were constructed inexpensively more than 30 years ago and haven't been looked after since then.

But the manager of maintenance operations at the Manitoba Housing Authority, John Sneyzyk, said employees not planning to remove the materials because he says the materials, if not disturbed, usually don't cause too much harm.

"It's just being proactive," he said. "It's a hallmark of a good landlord. We want to make sure we are aware of what we have in the field."

Source: CBC

Medical Musings

Your personality might make you sick



RACHEL SUNTER
HEALTH COLUMNIST

Health risks seem to lurk behind every piece of good news these days.

Fruit juice bottles scream "Vitamin C!" to celebrate their health benefits, but just a few weeks ago new research showed excess Vitamin C to be a negative agent in combating cancer.

Disease-fighting organizations often use terrifying statistics and research findings to grab our attention. While it's an effective advertising technique which undoubtedly gets more people out to the next fundraiser event, it's a wonder we feel safe leaving our own beds. And what about your sheets? Do they have any red dye in them?

So when I read that certain personality types have been shown to have a higher risk of developing and surviving coronary heart disease or cancer, frankly, I was almost too exhausted to care. Almost.

But more than vitamin fads, the organic war and daily exposure to multi-syllabic chemical compounds

I can't dream of pronouncing, I found the concept of Type A, B and C personalities most readily applicable to everyday life.

Type A personalities are the go-getters. They are characterized by speedy activity and driving ambition. Eat fast, brush teeth, get to meeting, don't forget, don't forget!

Because of the pressure Type As put on themselves and their environment, they suffer higher levels of stress, anxiety and anger than Type Bs, whose more laid-back, agreeable attitudes promote lower stress and a more optimistic world view.

Type C personalities are generally more sociable and friendly than Type As, but have huge issues opening up about negative feelings. Where a Type A is quick to come down on the world for failing to fall into perfect order, Type Cs internalize anxiety and guilt, harbouring feelings of helplessness when faced with life stress.

Both Type As and Cs are set-up for more pessimistic life attitudes than Type Bs, and research shows that speeding through life or bottling up emotions is a major health risk.

Higher levels of anxiety, anger and frustration give Type A personalities a higher likelihood of developing coronary heart disease.

By contrast, Type Cs are more likely to develop cancer than other types. Furthermore, once they have cancer, their defeatist attitude appears to seriously inhibit their likelihood of survival.

I am by no means the happy-

medium Type B person. Without taking a placement test, I'd give myself a little bit of column A, and a little bit of column C.

But instead of giving in to my statistically augmented chance of getting heart disease or cancer, I'm sure the Type C in me wants to, I think it's important to recognize and think about how our life perspectives do not only drastically affect our subjective experience of day-to-day life — they physiologically change us.

Stress and anxiety are all-encompassing: they engage our minds and bodies. Persistent negativity has been scientifically shown to decrease longevity. Ironically, if you're really pessimistic, you might already be convinced you won't live a long life, or don't want to see old age anyways.

Ups and downs and depressive spells aside, it's fascinating to think of the direct link optimism and pessimism can have on our health.

With this in mind, I've started making serious efforts to recognize negative, spiralling thoughts, to feel anxiety in my body and mind, and to stop. To stop and take a breather, and put things in perspective.

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

INTERNATIONAL NEWS BY THE NUMBERS:

\$322,000 USD: the amount a \$500 Canadian bill - one of three known to exist - from 1911 sold for at a recent auction.

\$64.15 USD: the amount a barrel of crude oil closed at on Oct. 24, the lowest in 17 months.

51 per cent and 40 per cent: voter support for presidential candidates Barack Obama and John McCain, respectively, in an NBC poll for Iowa.

\$150,000: the amount vice-presidential hopeful Sarah Palin spent on her campaign outfits.

6: number of nuclear weapons mistakenly flown across the U.S.

\$2 billion: the amount of the two-year-long loan going to Iceland from the International Monetary Fund.

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

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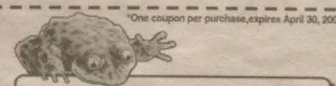
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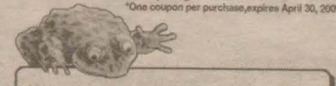


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Taking Lockheed Martin's money

CATHERINE HOLLOWAY
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

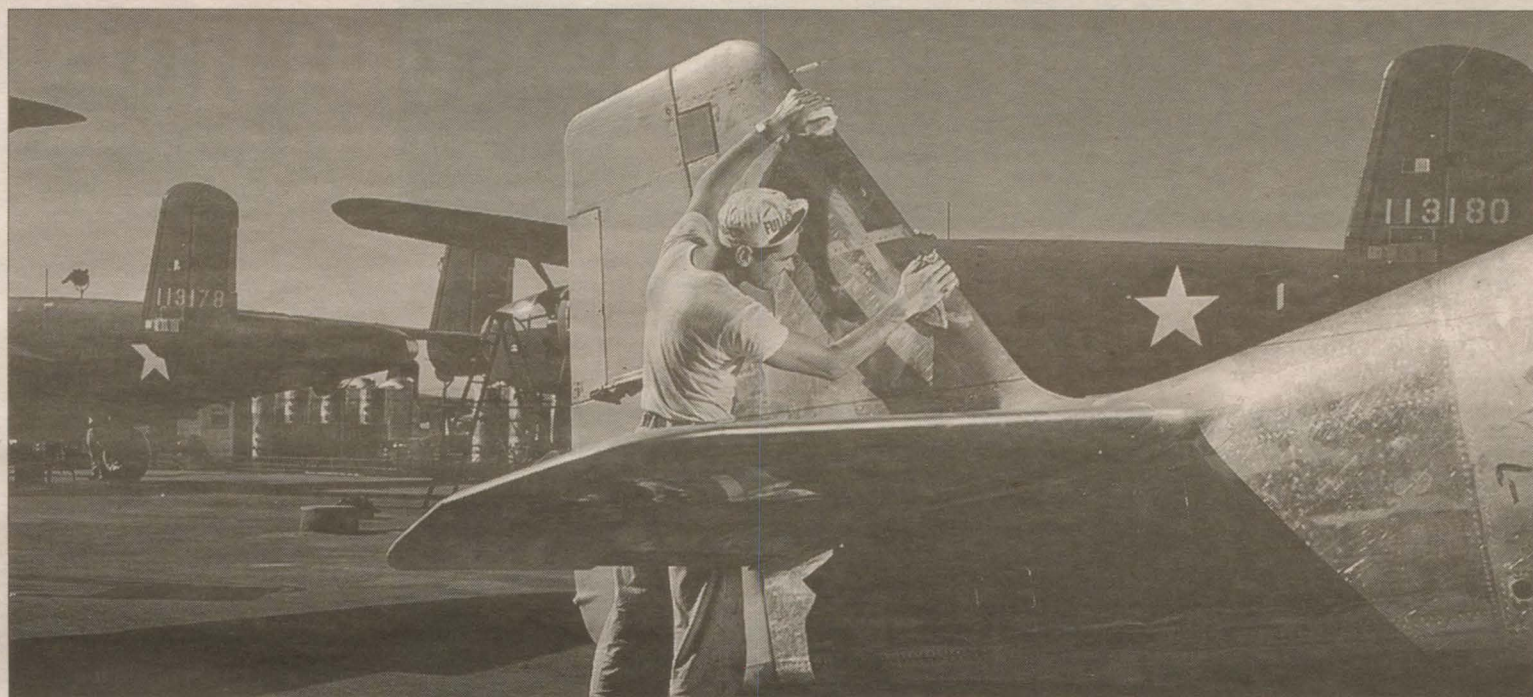
In May, Minister of Industry Jim Prentice announced that global security company Lockheed Martin would be investing \$2 million in Dalhousie University's physics department.

The funding investment was part of a contract between Lockheed Martin and the Canadian government. To win a contract to build 17 Super Hercules planes for the Canadian military, Lockheed had to invest a certain amount of money into research. The Hercules is a type of plane used primarily for medical evacuation and transportation, but has also been used as an assault aircraft.

The Halifax Peace Coalition and the Voice of Women for Peace attended Prentice's announcement to protest the investment. Angella MacEwen, a recent graduate of the masters in economics program at Dal, was involved in the organization of the protest. She says accepting the funding is unethical.

"Lockheed Martin profits handsomely from war. More than 90 per cent of its revenue comes from military and defense contracts," she said during an interview months after the protests.

"They are the largest supplier of military hardware to the U.S. Armed Forces. The substantial catalogue of weapons they produce includes cruise missiles, rocket artillery, and nuclear tipped intercontinental ballistic missiles. Their strike fighter jets and long-range bombers carry death and destruction to people all over the world. They are one of the largest lobbyists in Washington, D.C., and



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Damn, I hate these second-year physics projects.

last year made \$4 billion in profit from their weapons."

Jordan Kyriakidis was one of the recipients of the Lockheed Martin funding. His research involves looking at the limits of quantum effects, a necessary step toward the development of quantum computers. Though he feels conflicted about the source of his funding, he realizes he doesn't have the luxury of rejecting funding from non-academic sources.

"You wouldn't be able to do the kind of research we do if we didn't have corporate funding, because there just isn't enough federal gov-

ernment funding."

Both Kyriakidis and MacEwen admit the research Lockheed Martin is funding doesn't have direct military applications, and even if could, it wouldn't be for many years. Though physics research can lead to new and deadlier weapons, it also produces innovations that improve the quality of human life. In particular, Kyriakidis' research applications may someday usher in a new generation of ultra powerful computers, and ultra cryptographic keys, to improve security in online banking.

The question should not be about

how Lockheed Martin makes their money, but about how the source of the money will affect the research that is conducted. In this case, nothing is classified and Lockheed Martin is not steering the direction of the research.

It's unrealistic to expect scientific research to progress solely on government funding. Canada gets an unusually high percentage of its research funding from government sources, whereas the most research funding in the U.S. comes from defence-related government contracts, or through companies that produce

weapons they hope to later sell to the government.

The benefits this money provides to the university, to research in Canada, Canadian industry and to the progress of society in general outweigh sticking to an unrealistic ideal. A more productive method of protest would be to complain to the Canadian government. Lockheed Martin would not be in the business of defence contracts in Canada if there were no market.

Catherine Holloway is a third-year physics student.



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change the world come from?



Getting to the bottom of bullying

Why do overweight kids get bullied more than others? It's a question pondered by Atif Kukaswadia, a Master's candidate from our Department of Sociology. To answer it, he often finds inspiration over a coffee at a favourite coffee shop on the edge of campus.

Atif chose Queen's for the "free flow of ideas" that come from small class sizes and deep interaction between students and faculty. And whatever link exists between bullying and obesity, Atif and his colleagues will be among the first in the world to find it.

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CREATE AN IMPACT

STREETER

What costume will you be wearing for Halloween?



"I'm going as Annie Oakley, because my name is Annie."
Annie Covert, first-year social work



"I'm going as the Cheshire Cat because my friends are planning an Alice in Wonderland tea party."
Daniel Blythe, third-year physics and engineering



"I'm going as Mario and my friend is going as Luigi. A bunch of us are going as Nintendo characters."
Will Horne, third-year IDS and music



"I'm wearing an alien costume that I made in my fashion course at NSCAD."
Samantha Delaney, second-year journalism



"A Captain Kirk costume because he's always been my hero and I finally got an account on Ebay."
Gerjan Altenburg, first-year arts



"I'm gonna be Miss America because I already have a tiara and I get to puff my hair."
Kate LeBlanc, third-year English



"A bubble bath because I get to wear a rubber ducky."
April Saunders, third-year biochemistry and French



"I'm getting my wisdom teeth pulled so I can go as John McCain."
Nick Khattar, third-generation Republican

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.

DSU should speak out for student study space

As president of the Computer Science Society, I had to deal with the issue in May when the building hours of the Computer Science building were reduced, and have some advice for anyone who is seeking 24-hour study space on campus. It is unlikely the CS building will be used again as a general purpose 24-hour study space. Security concerns arising from stolen computers and the like were a major factor in the closure, and theft has dropped dramatically since the policy was instituted. However, real gains can be made. The administration is somewhat flexible on this issue, and will likely be receptive to attempts to create some 24-hour study space on campus, at least during exams and midterms. I do not think loud protestations as suggested by Nick Khattar ("Snake in the grass" Oct. 23) would be the best approach. One reasoned discussion can be worth 100 chanting protesters. I would suggest lobbying the DSU if you're really interested in this, and letting them talk to the administration.

John Doucette
President of the Dalhousie Computer Science Society

Dal security too aggressive

I completely sympathize with the comments in both articles on the Computer Science building closure by people who have been accosted by Dalhousie security. Last winter I organized an event during which the fire alarm went off late at night. With 30 people standing outside in the cold, I politely asked one of the security guards who'd arrived on the scene how long we'd have to wait, and whether or not people should move to the Student Union Building where it was warmer. Never have I seen someone react so aggressively and defensively to so simple a

question. Dal students pay security guards salaries because we want to feel safe, not intimidated, and the sooner all security guards start acting like that's the case, the better off everyone will be. Save the tough talk for the bad guys, not the people trying to study.

John Doucette
President of the Dalhousie Computer Science Society

SustainDal agrees with food questions

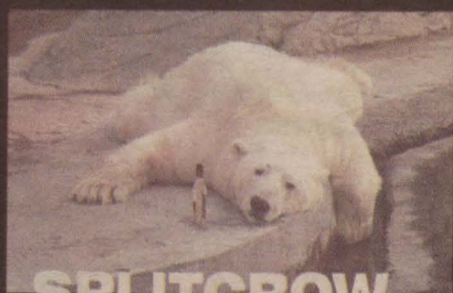
I am writing in to support Gregory Debogorski's insightful article on the lack of student involvement in the managing of our food services in the Student Union Building. As a fine example of a highly successful student-run food service I can point to Concordia's People's Potato. This not-for-profit initiative started in 1999 making food in a church basement and bringing it to campus and it now provides nutritious, vegan food to more than 500 people daily. Operating on a fee levy system of 27 cents/credit, they are able to provide healthy food on a pay-what-you-can basis, and offer such invaluable benefits to campus life as cooking and gardening workshops, food politics education, and a space where students know they have a say in their food. Now this is not necessarily the model that Dalhousie would want to adopt. Gregory Debogorski, in his article, definitely has in mind a more conventional food service, with the qualification that it is student-run. My point is that such a thing is possible, and would be a boon for Dalhousie student life. I agree wholeheartedly that it is time to "start demanding more information as to why food services at the SUB are the way they are."

Cheers,
Benjamin Langer
Food project Co-ordinator,
SustainDal

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Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, Overheard at Dal, and Streeter are solely those of the contributing writers or the individual pictured, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. The quotes attributed to Nick Khattar in the Streeter are completely fabricated by the staff and are do not necessarily represent views held by Nick Khattar himself, The Gazette and/or its staff.

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Contributor meetings are held every Monday @ 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the SUB

Who's responsible for fixing our future?

GREGORY DEBOGORSKI
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Dalhousie students are victims of a nationwide disease: apathy. The issue is discussed during our yearly Dal Student Union (DSU) elections, and then, like blowing out a candle, apathy seems to disappear from the DSU executive agenda. Although the DSU pays lip service to this phenomenon, it does little to investigate the cause or the cure. The questions the executives barely dare to explore include: What is causing student apathy? Whose responsibility is it to solve the problem? And finally, how can we solve it?

I think the second question is the easiest to answer. Last year's communications committee didn't successfully address the issue, and voter turnout in last year's DSU election was the worst I have seen yet. As far as I know, I am the only person to bring the issue forward in council

this year. Why does the DSU act like it has legitimacy to take our money and use it as it sees fit while refusing to properly engage students in how that money should be spent. It is reminiscent of the American government, isn't it?

When executives talk of apathy right before elections, they view it as a problem that the DSU council should solve. After elections, it all of a sudden becomes the responsibility of students to fix their problem of apathy. So who is genuinely responsible for solving the apathy problem facing the student union? In my opinion, it is those who receive money, votes and prestige from the students for the sole purpose of serving us.

It irritates me to the point of rage when I hear council, executives, full time staff, and committee members talk about apathy as a problem that stems from lazy students. These people profit from our fees and then they rescind their responsibilities to

serve us. How dare they? Of course, there isn't too much risk. Apathy works in their favour and the cycle continues.

Students need to realize that it is the job of the DSU executive and full-time staff to engage students using our own money. If they are creating events and programs, such as Imagine DSU, that students don't effectively use, it is their responsibility to use our money more effectively to serve us. Fighting apathy is what we pay executives and full-time staff to do. If students were being served properly, apathy would not exist, because students would be engaged in the services provided by the union. It is a very elementary explanation that people miss every year.

If responsibility for fixing student apathy lies with our bureaucracy, why has our bureaucracy done nothing to fix it? This is a question you should ask your current executives.

Canadians go for a sneaky bastard

MICHELLE HAMPSON
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

I'm embarrassed for Canadians. The elections results indicate they believed Prime Minister Stephen Harper when he said Canada would be fine while the U.S. economy crashes.

In 2007, trade between Canada and the U.S. exceeded \$560 billion. Even if a person were unaware of this ridiculously large number, they would have to be daft to think that a crash in the U.S. economy would not affect Canada's economy. The two countries are powerfully linked, despite Canadians' passionate belief that we are extremely distinct.

So as the U.S. economy rapidly deteriorates, Canada's can't help but follow. The decline may not be as

dramatic, but it is happening. It is too bad that a looming deficit is only an issue now, after our federal election is over.

Harper has a degree in economics, so he must've known this was coming. He did an excellent job of covering up the intimidating truth of a looming deficit during the election campaign.

Harper seems to be in favour of a free market, but that is how the American economic crash started: a deregulated housing market. If the free market is the root of our problems, how is more freedom supposed to solve everything?

Seeing as I am the person with all the answers, I am sure you are interested to know my solutions. The answer is simple. The only way to fix

this is to build a time machine.

Elizabeth May would have been a great prime minister. She knows the root problems and is not afraid to tackle them. Vote Green, two weeks ago!

Stephane Dion might be meek, but the Liberals were the ones that left Canada with a surplus and might be good at managing a tight budget. Vote Liberal, two weeks ago!

Even though I don't really like him, Jack Layton's NDP approach would be safer than a full-fledged free market during a poor economy. Return to the past and vote for him.

Unfortunately, this is wishful thinking. Canadians have re-elected Harper. Why? He's just a sneaky bastard. Congratulations, Canadians! You were duped.



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Celine Vautour sews costume couture

Designer masquerades at the market

HILARY BEAUMONT
ARTS EDITOR

A surprise awaited shoppers at the Halifax Farmers' market last Saturday. On the sidewalk in front of the brewery, Celine Vautour, owner of Wa'Ou Designs, wore an elephant mask with floppy grey ears the size of dinner plates and a scrunched trunk as long as a baguette. Some shoppers stared and others grinned. She sewed it herself.

The table behind her was covered with her other creations – colourful sequined and feathered masks fit for a Halloween ball. They're \$25 for simpler designs, but her animal masks are pricey because of the time and effort involved.

"Right now the animals are a new challenge," the 30-year-old says. "I'm proud. There's a few things I did this year I'm pretty proud of. I like the cabaret burlesque look too, so I did these little tiny hats and the Venetian masks."

You might see a Vautour disguise on a Halifax stage soon. Romy Lightman, the elder twin by five minutes of local duo the Ghost Bees, bought a sheep mask from Vautour on Saturday. The designer covered it in teased white wool and finished it with grey ears and a sweet black nose. The Ghost Bees' stage wardrobe of dreamy lace dresses and timeless caplets are a quirky contrast to Vau-

tour's dramatic creature creations.

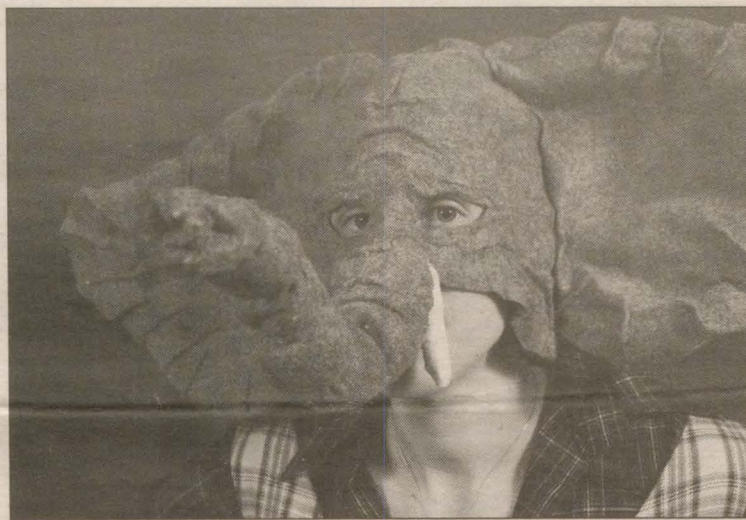
Her selection of masks at the market offers a dash of mystery for women – and sometimes for men – searching for a costume, but her attention-grabbing designs can also be found in the eclectic local treasure chest known as Elsie's. The shop at the Citadel end of Queen Street supplies stylish ladies with vintage wear and dapper men with retro sweater vests.

Lately owner Maureen Elsie Court has been hanging Vautour's line of dresses on their own rack just inside the door. A quick flip through the hangers reveals the designer's signature bunched and shredded fabric along the hem of the garments and details such as owl and swan appliqués.

In the past she's harvested attention for her dress with sewn silhouettes of businessmen in bowler hats raining from the sky. Inspired by a René Magritte painting, she interpreted the idea stitch by stitch onto neutral bags and grey shift dresses.

Magritte was a surrealist, and so is Vautour.

"I just like absurdity and surrealism," she says. "The Marx Brothers and all that, they were inspired by surrealism themselves. My theme is surrealism. Some of these dresses are a bit exaggerated and it being worn in a crowd with very straight edge, I like the contrast."



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Some shoppers stared and grinned when Vautour modelled this mask at the farmers' market.

The same wearable art concept shows up on Wa'Ou tunics featuring floating mushrooms and Warhol bananas. Her tunic designs start from \$45. No tax, she says. She's not making enough yet for the government to deduct.

Four years ago, Vautour, who's from Moncton, N.B., closed up her Montreal thrift shop and moved to Halifax. She has no regrets. The only thing she misses about Montreal is shopping for fabric.

"I never belonged there. Never

did," she says. "I am not a Montreal designer."

After eight years she says she couldn't stand the city any longer.

"I find that place is odd because I got that attitude of 'why are you leaving this place to go to Halifax,'" she says in a fake snooty voice. "I couldn't stand chip on the shoulder arrogance that 'we rock'. But it was more to me like a very small penis inferiority issue. And I couldn't handle it anymore."

The designer moved to Halifax

because she felt her customers she met from the East Coast seemed to be more experimental with fashion. She says Halifax is also appealing because it's a university city with young people who are willing to wear more extroverted styles.

Because Halifax has less going on than bigger cities like Montreal, Vautour says she feels more focused in her creativity.

"A city that has lots of things helps the inner dull person. You know, the person who just has nothing going on. Maybe (it) makes them feel alive, while for me, makes me feel out of control."

She says she feels more calm and free now, working independently out of her Halifax apartment.

Over the last four years her designs have continued to evolve. Soon she'll tire of masks and move on to a new obsession.

Next week she'll have tunics available at the market with new appliqués. Soon she says she'll begin to stitch dresses with more colour and clean, crisp cuts. In the coming months, Elsie's will stock Vautour's evening wear for the holidays.

Her designs are for women of all ages who are not afraid to be extroverts.

"There's a lot of joie de vivre in what I want to do," she says. "It's all about standing out and having fun."

No money down

Local car lot mockumentary aims for roaring laughs

JOHN HILLMAN
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Lower Sackville has always had three things in abnormally high numbers relative to the population: churches, porn shops, and used car dealerships. It makes sense, then, that one of that socio-economic triumvirate, the used car trade, is at the centre of the most talked about comedy to come out of Sackville, N.S. since the *Trailer Park Boys* packed the "shitmobile" and moved to their classy new Dartmouth set six years ago.

The Lot, due to be released in early 2009, is the first of several planned offerings from Harsh Knuckle Productions, Lower Sackville's most ambitious independent filmmakers. The mockumentary follows the daily tribulations of half brothers Trent (Chad Lindsay) and Kamal (Karan Sidhu), the proprietors of Kingfisher Auto. The lot is known as the sketchiest dealership in a town, built on rolled-back odometers and creative paint jobs. The brothers, along with their bottom of the barrel crew, must struggle to stay afloat while coping with a seemingly endless array of problems thrown at them by a pugnacious clientele. This includes a sleazy city councillor (Brad Johns) trying to shut them down and their cross-city nemesis Tanar "F*C*IN" Ford (Tanar Repchull), the testosterone-oozing, steel-abbed owner of Harvard Auto.

"When we started coming up with the idea for *The Lot*, it was just Karan and I," said Chad Lindsay. "We started writing in mid August, and from the very start, the biggest objective has been to do something that is completely ours. A lot of times, you work for someone else, but with *The Lot*, we're producing, starring, directing, editing and filming. We have complete creative control from the

bottom up."

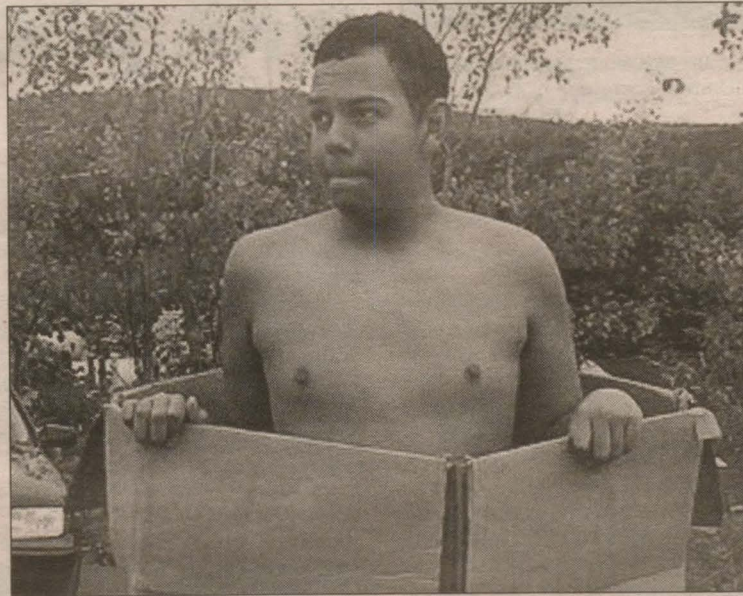
Given their initial technical and financial limitations, Lindsay and Sidhu intended to film *The Lot* on a personal camcorder using a few close friends as actors. They formed a Facebook group dedicated to the project and encouraged their friends to spread the word that they were looking for a cast and crew.

The project and its guerilla marketing campaign struck a chord within the community and within a month and a half, the Facebook group had swollen from two members to 400. With this increased attention came a wave of local support.

Paul St. Armand, a film school graduate and the owner of Sanchin Films, offered his services as director of photography and editor, and brought with him professional-grade cameras and sound equipment. Tom's Family Restaurant, a popular local dining spot, agreed to cater the set free of charge. Both Major Discount Auto Sales and Harvard Auto agreed to donate the use of their lots and automobiles for the project. Most importantly, dozens of volunteers were so excited by the idea of the film that they were willing to give up their Sundays to help make it a reality.

"I met Tanar at the flea market and he told me about the film and I thought it would be fun," said Leo Melanson, a Metro Transit bus driver with a marked Acadian accent. "I was cast as a hillbilly that comes to the lot to buy a new car for his pregnant teenage daughter. I love it."

In the end, these unpaid, infectiously enthusiastic local characters have made *The Lot* as successful as it has been so far. Given that the majority of the crew members arrive hungover on the frigid set at 8 a.m., their spirits are always remarkably



MAX MARCELLI PHOTO

Volunteer actors improvise with hilarious consequences in *The Lot*.

high. No one is paid beyond a free sandwich or two, yet you would be hard-pressed to find a more dedicated or tightly knit collection of talent on any professional set. There is no drama over union regulations or salary discrepancies; everyone who comes out is there because they believe in the project.

This energy and enthusiasm translate amazingly on screen. While there is a script, no two takes of the same scene play out the same way because the actors are allowed free rein to improvise dialogue at will. Given some incredibly authentic casting decisions, this style leads to some gut-bustingly amusing interactions between characters that make *The Lot*, with its budget of \$45, more fun to watch than the overwhelming majority of A-list Hollywood comedies.

Thanks to the overwhelming

community interest, *The Lot* has started to generate some media buzz, including several interviews with local news organizations, and a recent trip to the set of the Z103.5 morning show.

"At the moment we're focused on wrapping up filming of the pilot," said Sidhu. "We'll be premiering it at Empire Theatres Sackville in early 2009, and after that we're thinking of submitting it in the Nova Scotia Film Festival."

Ultimately, the boys at Harsh Knuckle would love to see *The Lot* picked up by a television network as a weekly half-hour program. Until then, they encourage everyone interested in the project to check out their Facebook group "The Lot - And Indie Movie," the bizarrely titled command centre for news, trailers and all things Harsh Knuckle.

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WRITE FOR THE
GAZETTE

Josh Ritter goes to church

SANDI RANKADUWA
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

The inaugural night of this year's Pop Explosion brought one of this generation's most talented young songwriters to perform a sold-out show at St. Matthew's United Church.

A small chorus of voices from the audience began to sing a familiar tune as soon as Josh Ritter stepped in front of the microphone: "Happy birthday, dear Josh; happy birthday to you."

Ritter, newly 32, bashfully thanked the audience and flashed an infectious grin that would remain throughout the evening.

Accompanied only by his guitar, the indie-folk rock singer began the show. Ritter affably mentioned that the last time he was in Halifax, he performed at a venue "surrounded by five different pizza places" — the now-defunct Stage Nine. It was for this reason, perhaps, that Ritter put the church to full use.

In homage to Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, Ritter had the audience members with floor seats stand and sing the folksy, fanciful refrain of "Empty Hearts" to those seated in the balconies. At another point, Ritter asked for the lights to be turned off. As he crooned his way through

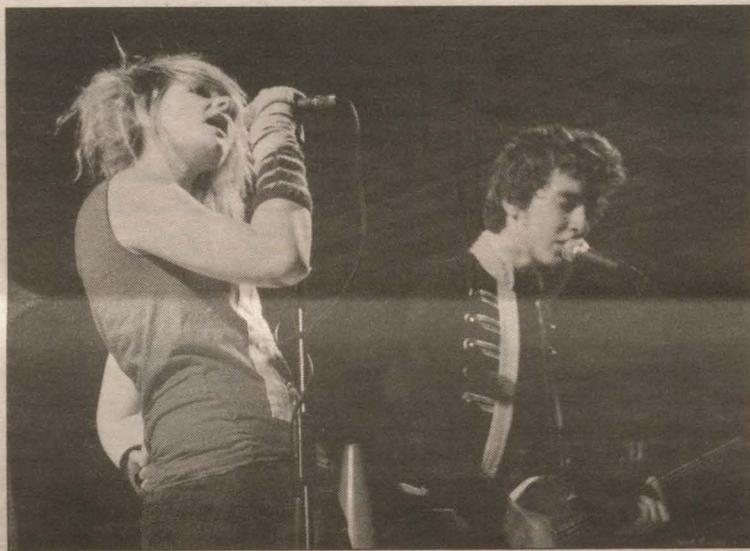
"Wings," a haunting ballad that references 19th Century northern Idaho, the church was engulfed in complete darkness, except for the faint evening light percolating through stained glass windows overhead.

During one of many candid moments, Ritter mentioned that his home of Idaho is also where Republican vice-presidential nominee Sarah Palin hails from.

"I always knew we'd have something to do with the end of the world," he joked.

And while some of his songs dance with apocalyptic ideas, such as "The Temptation of Adam," tunes about the in-between were what resonated most. "Girl in the War," an allegorical song about uncertainty, has the disciples Peter and Paul questioning the rationale in holding unwavering world views while a man fears for the safety of his lover, who is serving in the war.

Ritter never told the audience what to think; he simply presented stories to encourage thought. And while the young troubadour rightly sung about how we have grown to be more "cynical than our politicians," it seemed that the crowd left the show calmed and content, with a reborn hope for what could be.



HILARY BEAUMONT/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The young band haunted St. Matthew's United Church on Oct. 23.

Spiral Beach opens like a headliner

MATT RITCHIE
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

After driving several hours from Montreal, Spiral Beach band members arrived in Halifax to play their first show here in a year at St. Matthew's United Church. But the opening slot of the Two Hours Traffic show didn't guarantee a big crowd. Before the show got under way only about 50 to 75 people had filled the pews. Meanwhile, the band members stood in the freezing church courtyard looking jubilant in their colourful clothes, chatting amongst themselves.

At the strike of eight o'clock, the members of Spiral Beach walked into the church and down the aisle to their instruments. The stage looked sparser than it had for previous concerts. The only visual clues to the band's usual grand stage set up were a few pylons and a Spiral Beach sign. That aside, it was obvious after journeying back and forth through eastern North America over the past week that they weren't here to win anyone over with glitz and glamour.

The band kicked off the show racing through most of the opening tracks from the recently released Ball. The trio careened across the stage, screaming into the mics and throwing some improvisation into the songs they've been playing over the past year.

The band members highlighted their set with some of the new tracks they've been working on over the past few months. The songs show Spiral Beach is stepping into a more 1960s rock n' roll frame of mind.

They ended the show with the atmospheric "We Saw Ghosts", which turned the church from a psychedelic rock show into one of the most haunting venues at this year's Pop Explosion. The reverb shook the balconies of the church while jaws dropped at the band's excellent use of the venue's acoustics.

When asked what he thought of the venue, drummer Daniel Woodhead jokingly replied "well, I'd have to actually see a show here to tell you, right?"

All kidding aside, the sound at the church was the best since Final Fantasy came to town. But the band doesn't have time to savour such trivialities.

"We have to leave right now for Ottawa," tour manager Ryan Tonkin said. "We're going to be driving with toothpicks in our eyes to stay awake," he joked.

As the all ages crowd filtered out of the venue, one jaded hipster looked at his friend and commented "it may be lame, but I fucking love watching those kids play."

If it's wrong to like the most solid band to perform at the church in ages, I don't want to be right.

'Secret stuff' with Holy Fuck

JASON COHANIM
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

There aren't many times when you can get away with printing blatant profanity in a widely circulated publication, even if it is a university newspaper, but Holy Fuck's performance at the Marquee this past Thursday for the Pop Explosion opened many doors for the band's final stop on its latest worldwide tour.

The band's airtight performance was solidified from the opening track as the musicians blasted full force into their signature style of face melting, synth hammering cosmic dance rock. Throwing convention to the wind, they worked their way through an insanely diverse array of unconventional instruments such as modified soundboards, laser guns, toy keyboards and, to quote drummer Matt Schulz, "secret, secret stuff."

Holy Fuck continued performing an experimental music circus for an entire set, running through extended jam versions of many of the tracks from their 2007 album *LP* and rocked a complete encore to appease the full house of devoted fans that just were not ready to stop dancing.

This was the second time I'd had the pleasure of experiencing Holy Fuck's live show and it is no wonder these guys have built up such a huge international following. Yet, it came as a total shock to me that they came out with such a banging show, because they don't rehearse any of their sets.

"Someone will just introduce a sound or a beat, and we'll play it live," says Schulz. "We don't rehearse. If you can keep people dancing and change it up, that's the key."

As bassist Matt McQuaid says, Holy Fuck's philosophy of "noise, dancing and exhilaration" has thrown the band into the Canadian



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Pardon their French: Holy Fuck give an "airtight" performance at the Marquee.

music spotlight. *LP* was named to the short list for this year's Polaris Music Prize. For the band, the Polaris Prize nomination was a way to get more legitimacy in the eyes of music fans, many of which have been unable to get past their controversial name.

"Hopefully people can realize that it's a positive force," says Schulz. "There is nothing wicked or negative attached to our band. It's really just about fun and creation."

Holy Fuck is soon heading back into the studio to work on its new album, to be released this spring.

When Holy Fuck started out in 2004, the band members were known for trying to push the boundaries of sensory perception rock, using their live shows as soundtracks to wild visual projections, and for not having a single tangible song on their ros-

ter. Their improvisational style has clearly stayed with them and manifested their eccentric live shows that often start out with recognizable hooks from their album but drift away into wild improvised jams that evolve into entirely new works.

As far as their show at the Marquee last week, it is hard to say what really went down. What I know for sure is that between four guys and their array of keyboards, drums and toys, Holy Fuck was able to transform the Marquee from a run of the mill music venue into ground zero for what I hope to be the closest to a nuclear explosion I will ever have to experience. As official reviews and proper descriptions go, their music and live shows can really be summed up in just two clichéd words: holy fuck!

Pinhole pictures connect with photo celebration

ROSIE JACOBS
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Art galleries all over the city are joining in the celebration of local photography at Photopolis.

Geri Nolan-Hilfiker is a local photographer who is exhibiting her work at the event, which runs from Oct. 1 to Nov. 15. She says Photopolis will help photographers and audiences alike celebrate photography in Nova Scotia.

"I think it is fabulous to have a celebration of any artistic medium," she says. "It is so important for the understanding of the richness and diversity of the artists who live and work here."

Upon entering Hilfiker's exhibit at the Anna Leonowens Gallery, I am overwhelmed by the stark simplicity of the white walls and grey-painted flooring but as I began to explore her photographs, I realized her show was not so simple.

Her show, entitled *The Minas Basin: Element of Light*, consisted of odd collections of photographs, all taken with a pinhole camera, mixing black and white with colourful photographs.

A pinhole camera is a light-tight box that holds film on one side and has a tiny hole to emit light on the other. When the light enters the tiny hole, the film creates an image that is sketched on by the light.

"For me, pinhole imagery represents a kind of gesture towards hyper-realism is a natural setting," says Hilfiker. "It has its own way of allowing light to expose film which often reveals unique characteristics about



GERI NOLAN-HILFIKER PHOTO

Local photographer Geri Nolan-Hilfiker's pinhole imagery is a "gesture towards hyper-realism."

its subject."

This idea is powerfully communicated in her work. The pinhole produces a diluted setting that juxtaposes strikingly, vibrant greens, blues and oranges with blurred lighting and fuzzy lines.

As I begin to circulate the room, I almost forget the whitewashed walls as the dream-like presentation of colors leak into reality, leaving me to explore the shores of Minas Basin alone.

"I just want people to see how beautiful this place is, how locally characteristic it can be and how diverse it is in this particular place," says Hilfiker. "The shores along the Minas Basin are one of Nova Scotia's best kept secrets."

As I leave her exhibit, I certainly feel that I had explored this basin myself. I departed with a warm feeling of summer even though the autumn wind was howling outside.

Meet Meaghan

Halifax welcomes Ontario singer

DANIEL BLÉNICH
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Meaghan Smith's nostalgic sound saturated The Carleton House on Oct. 25 as a part of the Halifax Pop Explosion.

The young songstress now makes her living performing in front of packed rooms, but Smith's own foray into musical performance comes as a surprise even to her.

"I never ever, ever imagined that I'd ever be doing this because I had really bad stage fright the whole time I was growing up," she says.

Always artistic, Smith pursued her love of art and drawing before music became her main focus.

"I opted to go to school for animation in pursuit of my drawing, but I couldn't fight the urge to sing my songs," Smith says. "Eventually I worked up the courage to put on secret concerts for a few friends in the stairwells of the animation building."

Through animation, Smith eventually made her way from London, Ont. to Halifax.

"I kind of saw it as a fresh start," says Smith. "Nobody knew me so that's when I started going to open mics and playing in front of strangers. It took me a couple of years but eventually I got over my stage fright."

Smith attributes her success to positive Halifax crowds.

"They're up for listening to new stuff and supporting it," says Smith.

Combining her strong vocals with the sounds of big band swing and cool jazz only begins to describe Smith's repertoire. Her album *The Cricket's Quartet* is not bound by any particular genre of music.

"There's so much creation happening, I think genres are fading, thank goodness," says Smith. "Everybody listens to everything. It's kind of like anything goes, it's so creative



DANIEL BLÉNICH/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Meaghan Smith brings fresh sound to her own fresh start.

and so freeing to be in the music industry at this time."

The album features an eight-piece horn section, guitars, keys, upright bass, a clarinet, some flutes and even an omnichord. The album also features collaborations with DJ Kid Koala who can be heard scratching over a string quartet giving the album a truly hip and unique sound.

Smith finds musical inspiration from a myriad of places.

"It's not just music that influences me; its books and movies and literature," she says.

Smith also credits art and animation as well as personal experiences to her musical creativity. With regards to musical influences, Smith is the champion of Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday. She admires the music of decades from 1920 through to 1940.

"(Those) times when things were pure and simple," say Smith. "The

real, true, amazing, talented people who were not aided by pitch corrections and all the crazy stuff we have happening now in music. And I won't knock people that use it. Whatever floats your boat, but it's just not for me."

That same desire for musical authenticity and independence is seen in *The Cricket's Quartet*. While Smith is currently signed with Sire records, she created *The Cricket's Quartet* independently with producer Les Cooper.

"The awesome thing is that anybody can make a CD and put it out there, which is basically what I did," says Smith. "Before the record deal happened my record was already made. I had saved up my own money and made it myself. It is really a testament; anybody can do it, if you want it bad enough, and put it on the Internet. It's an amazing time to be in the music industry."

Human trade

Dal Art Gallery exhibits social conscience

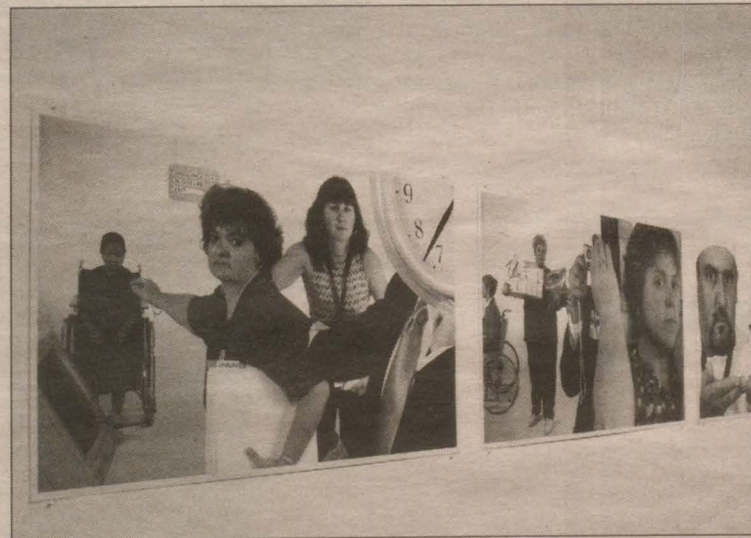
SEAMUS BUTLER
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Small white pins support large glossy prints. The message: it is not the size of the individual support that matters, but the strength when gathered together.

On exhibition at the Dalhousie Art Gallery is a collection of works by artists Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge. The installation, dubbed *Working Culture*, is a collection of works spanning almost 30 years of these two artists' exceptionally thought-provoking pieces.

The newest piece in the exhibit "The Fall of Water" is a play on Pieter Brueghel's "The Fall of the Rebel Angels." A highly compacted piece on a grand scale, "The Fall of Water" is a commentary on the bottled water industry and the corporations that control it. Observers of the work may spend a chunk of their time in the gallery deciphering and connecting all the elements the artists employ.

Beds are prominent in this collection. They are a symbol for where we feel most vulnerable. Condé and Beveridge explore the journey from the crib to the marriage bed and finally to the deathbed. In each work, Condé and Beveridge offer a view through a window, framing the world so the viewer may see examples such as the birth of destruction with Hiroshima alongside the hand-penned view of energy taken solely from hydro. The 1985/86 photographic-based work "No Immediate Threat," also deals with the ongoing safe energy battle between Ontario nuclear



SUZANNA DE RIDDER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Audiences can explore working culture in the Dallery's new exhibit.

and hydro.

Beveridge and Condé not only examine injustice in their works, but they connect it through human factors. They offer images of unions that support Canadian industries and the people whose children and spouses must live and work in unsafe environments.

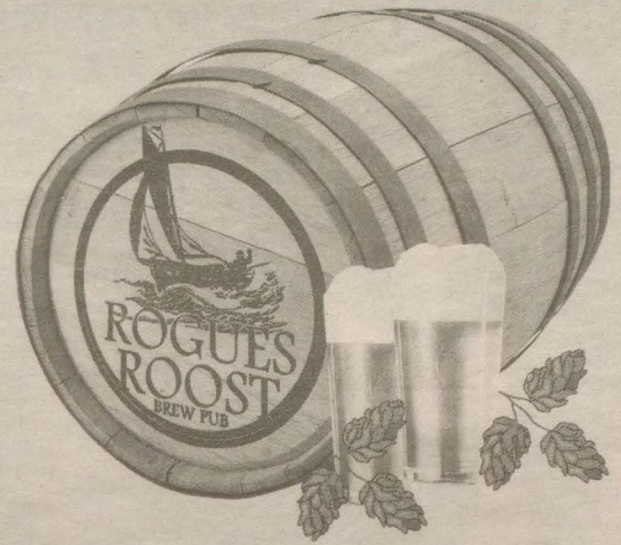
In Condé and Beveridge's 1990/91 set "No Power Greater," the artists comment on the replacement of unionism with corporate identity; a stranglehold on the heart strings of the worker, usurped by the serpent of industry. In the group of photos, workers hold the engine of industry together, it is tangled in with their solidarity, they cannot escape but

are compelled to resist.

The diverse collection of these artists' artwork was a selection by Jan Allen, curator for the Agnes Etherington Art Centre in Kingston, Ont. The exhibition is a package borrowed from the gallery at Queen's University.

The broad scope of these pieces is amazing. From a works of social marketing to parodies of classical renaissance, there is content and form for every kind of art lover. *Working Culture* is an exhibit not to be missed, and should be viewed by everyone who has felt the plight of the working class.

Working Culture runs at the Dalhousie Art Gallery until Nov. 23.



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WRITE FOR THE DAL GAZETTE
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JOHN PACKMAN / DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Tigers' forward Aaron Lewicki dives in front of the net to stop a loose puck at Saturday's game.

Tigers win over UPEI

NICK KHATTAR
SPORTS EDITOR

The Dalhousie men's hockey team is now 2-2 and tied for sixth position in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) league after a loss and a win last weekend. The Tigers lost 5-2 at home on Friday against University of New Brunswick in a game that could have been much worse. The Reds beat The Tigers 49-14. Dal's goalie Josh Disher has so far been the team's saving grace, making 78 saves over the weekend. Scoring for the Tigers on Friday were rookies Trevor Mackenzie and Chad McCaffrey. The UNB Reds currently sit third in the AUS and are ranked fourth nationally.

Saturday's game was expected to be a lopsided showdown against the AUS's first place UPEI Panthers. The Panthers, ranked seventh nationally, got their first loss of the regular season as the Tigers won 4-3 in overtime.

The game started at a faster pace than usual, and it looked like it could get out of hand quickly as the Panthers got on the score board just three minutes into the first period, when Vince Scott scored his first goal of the season.

Eight minutes later, Dal's production line of Mackenzie, McCaffrey and Sweeney tied up the

game. Mackenzie managed to route through a mess in front of the Panthers and spank a bouncing puck past a confused Wayne Savage.

The Tigers did a good job of staying out of the penalty box for most of the game, but they need to work on defensive positioning. Near the end of the second period Dal was caught making a bad line change and after a long distance pass from Panthers' goalie Wayne Savage, Dal goalie Disher was left alone against three Panthers. After a quick head fake, UPEI's Jordan Knox went high over Disher's shoulder to give the Panthers the lead. Less than a minute later, Dal's defencemen were caught pinching and again left Disher alone against the Panthers' Vince Scott, who showed some fancy hand work as he went high and into the corner on a nice deek to backhand.

Four minutes into the third period, UPEI's James Cooley got a game misconduct penalty for a hit from behind and had to leave the game. Angered by the call, UPEI's captain Rick Steadman expressed his negative feelings toward the referee who proceeded to send Steadman to the dressing room for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Dal would've had a two-man advantage, but shortly after all of the ruckus The Tigers' Mackenzie took

an interference penalty. It would not affect Dal's drive though, as Jeff Larsh scored for the Tigers a minute later.

The play went back and forth throughout the third with both teams exchanging shots and a few big hits. With eight minutes left in the period, McCaffrey tied the game on a beauty goal he scored after sneaking in past the Panthers' defense and slipping it through the legs of Savage.

In the dying minutes the Panthers applied serious pressure and loaded Disher with as many shots as he could handle, but Disher stayed solid as the game went into overtime. In a repeat of last week's win over St. Francis Xavier, Dal again took a bad penalty late in the third period, giving the Panthers a one-man advantage going into overtime.

The Panthers almost capitalized on the powerplay just 15 seconds into overtime when UPEI's Howie Martin got a shot by Disher that bounced off of the inside of the post. Less than a minute later, the overtime hero again was McCaffrey as he scored on a pass from Patrick Sweeney to give Dal the win.

The Tigers now sit three points behind the first place Panthers in the AUS. Dal plays at home again on Nov. 7 against St. Thomas University and Nov. 8 against the Universite de Moncton.

Men's soccer team headed to playoffs

ZACK WILSON
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Wes Hawley is "looking to score some goals."

The second-year commerce student is one of 23 players on Dalhousie's men's soccer team heading to Sackville, N.B. over the weekend, hoping to return with a provincial championship title.

The Tigers' starting striker has high hopes for this year's squad. Compared to last season, when Dal finished in the basement of the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) league, the gold and black rounded out this campaign with a record of 7-4-2 finishing third in the Maritimes.

"After last year's disappointment we've really turned around and proved to everyone what kind of team we have," Hawley says.

Hawley, second top scorer on the team, is still one of the younger guys on the squad. He knows experience is important to the team's success on the provincial stage. Soccer veterans such as Alan Dalton and John Ballantyne are familiar with tournaments of this magnitude. So is Ross Hagen, attacking midfielder and last year's most valuable player.

"Coming into playoffs, we're looking to players like him (Hagen) to really elevate their game, like he has been all season," Hawley says. "We're going to win the AUS champi-

onship and prove that we're the best team in Atlantic Canada... no doubt in my mind."

Last weekend the Tigers men rounded out the final two games of the regular season with a 2-1 loss to the AUS defending champs University of Cape Breton Capers and a 3-1 victory over St. Francis Xavier University.

Dal has failed to beat only one team this season that is set to participate in this weekend's tournament: The University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds, who tied Dal in the second game of the season. Dal has also allowed the fewest goals in the entire league, due in large part to the outstanding play of goalkeeper Ben Ur, who leads the AUS with six shutouts. The gold and black are set to open up the tournament with a game against Mount Allison University, a team that is only involved in this weekend's festivities because they are hosting the event. Both St. FX and Cape Breton have more points in the regular season but will have to watch the ticker for updates.

Hawley says his team can make it to this year's national championships in Ottawa.

"It's gonna be cold, wet with bad field conditions and it's gonna come down to who wants it more," he says. "We've just gotta play the way we have been all season."



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Dal's lacrosse team crushed the UNB Generals 20-2 at Wickwire Field Sunday.



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JOCK TALK:

ZACK WILSON
STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Athlete: Alex Heathcote
Sport: Intramural soccer
Team: The Green Goblins

1. Who would you rather: Uncle Jesse or Uncle Joey?
"Jesse for sure, he's a babe."

2. Does the Dawgfather give you a phat boy every time you see him?
"Unfortunately not, although he gave a free one to my roommate Tyler the other day."

3. Which Dal team do you think would win in the Beer Olympics?
"I hear Dal's women swim team can funnel three beers in three seconds. Very impressive."

4. What would you do for a Klondike bar?
"I'm more of a Wonderbar kind of girl."

5. Would you cut your hair into a Dog the Bounty Hunter-like mullet if it was mandatory for your team?

"Absolutely, I'd do anything for intramural soccer."

6. What is your favourite soccer movie?
"Definitely The Big Green the little fat goalie made the movie."

7. What are you going out as on Halloween?
"Sexy 19th Century steel conglomerate tycoon."

8. We're going to play a little word association. What's the first thing that pops into your head when I say the word "stiff"?
"Dank."

9. You lived in residence. Which cafeteria had the best fried bologna?
"Thank you, Zack, I know my fair share about meats and I'm going to have to go with Shirreff Hall on this one. It's delicious."

10. Where's the best place to find you on a Saturday night passed out in a pile of your own vomit?
"Is that before or after The Palace closes?"

Used sporting goods

Sports in brief

Skaters roll into town for cancer

On Nov. 1, a skateboarder's long journey will conclude right here in Halifax when Skate 4 Cancer founder Rob Dyer and his crew finish 7,685 kilometres of skateboarding against cancer.

Their arrival will be marked by a get-together at the Halifax Common's skate park on Nov. 1 at 4 p.m. It will feature a skate team demo from the Canada Element team, as well as a free barbecue and "secret bands."

For more info about Skate4Cancer or "Cure is Knowledge" you can check out their MySpace page at <http://www.myspace.com/skate4cancer>, or their official website at skate4cancer.com

Two N.S. students selected as CIS All Canadians

Truro's Justine McMillan, a runner on Acadia University's cross-country team, and Dalhousie volleyball team's Niklas Rademacher, were two of eight university athletes chosen last Thursday as Desjardins top eight Academic Canadian Inter-university Sport (CIS) all-Canadians for their performances last season.

Student athletes have to keep up an average of 80 per cent throughout the year while playing for a university's varsity team.

Dal's Rademacher graduated last spring from management with a 4.03 GPA. He was named Atlantic University Sport (AUS) player of the year and a first-team CIS all-Canadian three times and is currently playing professional volleyball in Germany.

Women's rugby trophy renamed after fallen hero

On Oct. 23, the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) renamed the women's rugby championship trophy in honour of Michelle Birks, a former St. Francis Xavier all-star who died last year of a heart arrhythmia. The previous year, in 2006, Birks helped lead the X-Women to a national rugby championship.

X-Women claim AUS championship flawlessly

The X-Women wrapped up yet another undefeated season with their 11th unprecedented Atlantic University Sport rugby championship title. The X-Women beat the Saint Mary's Huskies 52-0 at home last Saturday, coming about as close to perfection as possible, not letting another team score a single point on them all season. Lisa Gauthier led the X-Women scoring two tries, while Ghislaine Landry, Jamee George, Zoe Fielding, Tanya Boiteau, Amanda Bedard and Asya Bartley each had singles. Courtney Malcolm had six converts in the X-Women's win, while Gauthier was named the games most valuable player. The X-Women will now travel to the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, to play for the CIS championships starting Oct. 31. The X-Women claimed the CIS championship title in 2006.

Source: *The Chronicle Herald*

Mooseheads update

On Oct. 23, the Mooseheads pulled off their fifth win of the season beating the Baie-Comeau Drakkar 6-4. That energy did not carry over two days later to their game against the Chicoutimi Saguenéens. A season high crowd of 7,715 showed up to watch the Mooseheads fall 7-1, sporting pink jerseys in support of



Former Dal all-star Peter Corkum was inducted Oct. 23 to the N.S. Sports Hall of Fame.

the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. In the fourth minute of the second periods it seemed as though Mooseheads' Gerrard Grant gave Halifax a 2-1 lead. The referee rejected the goal due to interference on a Chicoutimi defenseman by Halifax winger Jessyko Bernard. Thirteen seconds later Chicoutimi scored and from there went for six unanswered goals.

Habs call in national women's team goaltender

Kim St. Pierre, the goaltender for Canada's national women's hockey team, was brought in to a Montreal Canadiens practice last Thursday. The 29-year-old was called to fill in for Carrey Price who was suffering the flu. St. Pierre played for McGill University's varsity men's hockey team in 2003/04 and was the first female goalie to win a regular season Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) hockey game.

N.S. Sports Hall of Fame welcomes former Tiger

World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax, former Dal alumni and super athlete, Peter Corkum was inducted into the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame. Corkum, the 2007 Dalhousie Sandy Young award winner, was inducted on Friday next to former NHLer Al MacInnis, three-time Olympic paddler Don Brien, and boxing legend Carroll Morgan.

Corkum was a Tigers all-star in football and hockey but also excelled in golf, and most prominently, curling. He participated in three Brier curling championships and was the coach for three different championship teams, which includes Mark Dacey's 2004 Brier win.

Acadia Axemen basketball team starts the season a man down

Last year's Canadian Interuniversity Sport basketball runners-up, the Acadia Axemen will be forced to start the season without last year's MVP, Leonel Saintil. Saintil has a

back injury and may not be in the line up until January.

Truro horse wins stakes

Truro owned, Somebeachsomewhere, the fastest three-year-old in harness racing history, claimed another victory last Saturday at the Messenger Stakes in New York. He won by a neck as he made his way past Shadow Play in the final half-mile. The race concludes pace racing's Triple Crown. It was Somebeachsomewhere's eighth straight win furthering his record to 18-1. The \$325,000 winner's share of the Messenger Stakes \$625,000 purse, brings the horse's 2008 winnings to \$2,075,003.

N.S. paralympic sailor gets award

Last Saturday, Paralympian gold medalist Paul Tingley, of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron was named as the Rolex Sailor of the Year by the Canadian Yachting Association. Tingley won gold in the solo 2.4-metre sailing class at the Beijing Paralympics.

Blue Devils are ACAA soccer champs

After full time and two 15-minute overtime periods, the King's Blue Devils beat the Holland College Hurricanes 9-8 in penalty shots to win the Atlantic Colleges Athletic Association men's championships last Sunday. King's goalie Mike Beazley was awarded the player of the game.

This is the Blue Devils' first title since 2005 and they will now travel to Kamloops, B.C. to play in the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association in the national championships.

The women's Blue Devils were defeated by the lady Hurricanes 3-0 on Saturday in the semi finals. The Hurricanes went on to defeat Atlantic Baptist University 2-0 in the finals.

Sources: *Metro, Chronicle Herald, Dal Athletics*

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THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER



October 30 - Guerrilla Soul
October 31 - Halloween Trivia and Costume Party
November 6 - The Living Dandies
November 7 - Science vs. Engineering Trivia

Midterms

Anna West
3rd Year Materials Engineering

No matter your discipline, I'm sure everyone dreads midterms. They happen right in the middle of the semester, hence the name MID-terms, but in a lot of cases, they happen twice a semester...so should those not be called TRI terms? It really is a trick, thinking you'll have one midterm half way through the semester, and then having two just a few short weeks apart. They always seem so far away until you look at your calendar and realize that they are looming in the very near future. And doesn't it always happen that no matter what you're taking, or how many classes you have, all your midterms happen at once? Well, that really wouldn't be so bad if you also didn't have your regular class schedule, which really isn't that regular when you compare it to others' in different programs, but far more comparable to a full time job...except with weird hours and strange breaks. But it's so much more on top of that.

With classes come homework assignments, lab reports, essays, etc... So when midterms hit, you've got everything that you usually have on your plate... times two. Because, of course, professors don't let up with the assignments or readings, rather they try to challenge you even further by scheduling a midterm at an odd time, in an out-of-the-ordinary room just to see if you can remember who is where and when. Once everyone gets their seat, it's time for the races to begin. Ready, Set, GO! You flip over your test and start writing wildly. I think professors find pleasure in giving midterms that are far too long for the time provided. And of course, you can always count on a question not just test your knowledge or memorizing abilities, but a question to test your understanding; a question to take a concept and go above and beyond what was ever covered in class and apply it; a question designed to make you think outside the box.

Wouldn't it be nice if midterms were done like exams? In some cases their value is pretty close, so why not their

execution? Have a week free of classes, once a semester (or twice if everyone agrees to adopt the tri terms), that is set strictly for midterms. That means no homework assignments, no readings and no labs. Because, in my opinion, exam week is far less stressful than the rest of the semester. With only one subject to focus on it gets all my time and attention, unless I choose differently. I don't feel rushed, I know exactly where the test will be, as they're always in the same place, and there would be no concern about interfering with, or working around, students' schedules.

There is a simple answer to this: midterms aren't necessarily tests of knowledge, but a test of time management, stress control, prioritization and endurance. Because in the real world that is what everyday life will bring forward; maybe we shouldn't become so comfortable with that box because in the real world things are almost never done by the book.

Chem Eng Conference

Gaston Vlau
5th Year Materials Engineering

From Oct. 19th to Oct 22nd, the Canadian Society of Chemical Engineering (CSCHE) held their 58th annual conference in Ottawa, Ontario. This is a wonderful opportunity for undergraduates, graduates and professional engineers to come together and discuss their studies and ideas on the industry today and tomorrow.

The conference started off Sunday morning with registrations and students competitions which included presentations from last year's top 3 Project Designs. As the day wore on, industry representatives were there to give talks to the students about their company and participate in the career fair.

Monday was the true beginning of the conference. It was then that we learned this year's theme was Sus-

tainability, and there were opportunities to hear ideas on this. Organizations involved in the conference were looking at producing electricity from municipal waste (Plasco Energy Group, plascoenergygroup.com to find out more) and bio-fuels (cellulosic ethanol) from the non-food portions of the agriculture business (logen Corporation, logen.ca to find out more). Monday saw a round-table discussion on the future of energy, in which multiple facets of business and government were involved. The options of energy discussed were Petroleum, Nuclear, Hydro, Wind, Solar and Municipal Waste. All speakers made interesting points concerning the options used, and available to Canadians and the world. Everyone seemed to agree that the current rate of consumption of petroleum products for electricity, fuel, and more, would lead to a global energy crisis within the next century. The speaker for nuclear energy made reference to the excess of uranium and thorium available for use in nuclear facilities, which has the capacity to power the

globe for thousands of years.

One concern I had though, while listening to the presentation on how electricity is provided throughout the Canadian provinces, is how much Nova Scotia depends on Hydrocarbons. Currently 90% of NS energy is produced through fossil fuels. However, this could change with the announcement of a \$2.6M project given to Scotian Windfields (Chronicle Herald, Oct. 21st) from the Nova Scotia government. This is one but many steps towards a greener Nova Scotia.

I believe this conference has opened the minds for many in attendance over the multiple opportunities presented to us as not only Engineers, but Chemical Engineers. With the stereotypical view of us being all about Fossil Fuels and not worrying about the environment, it seems to be a good time graduating with the opportunities for many interesting and green projects to help re-shape our country and world.

Top 3 - Political Rants

JF Nowlan
Sextant Contributor Extraordinaire

I'm graduating in December and the world these days is about two things, money and politics. Therefore, for the sake of understanding the world I live in, here are my 3 rants on the recent week's political news.

3) Dion got fired. Although I've never voted Liberal, the election showed the party Dion was not going to be the next Prime Minister any time soon. My question is why was he ever considered? Less we forget he was projected to finish 4th heading into the last day of the Liberal Leadership Convention. It was a last minute deal between the party members that placed Dion as the leader of the party. The Liberals need to find a leader, with charisma and less confrontational. The Conservatives play dirty politics better than anyone else on the Canadian political landscape. Therefore, the next leader needs to be crafty and intelligent, to be above

the standard politician we've recently elected.

2) Sarah Palin for VP. I think it was Abe "Grandpa" Simpson who said it best when asked if his son could be president: "You, President? This is the greatest country in the world. We've got a whole system set up to prevent people like you from ever becoming president. Quit your daydreaming, melonhead!" As a testament to the clusterf@#k 8 year presidency of George "Dubya" Bush, another system has failed again. Let's be honest, does anyone truly believe Palin is qualified to lead a country of 350 million people, \$10 trillion in debt engaged in a war being led on two fronts? The correct answer is no. The fact is Senator John McCain made an irresponsible decision. At any time until the election, if he questions Barrack Obama's judgement, the worst decision made thus far is sitting to McCain's Right.

1) Stephen Harper. Look, I am going to be honest, I have told a lie. But, for a Prime Minister to pass a law stating to have a fix election date, than dissolve parliament to try and

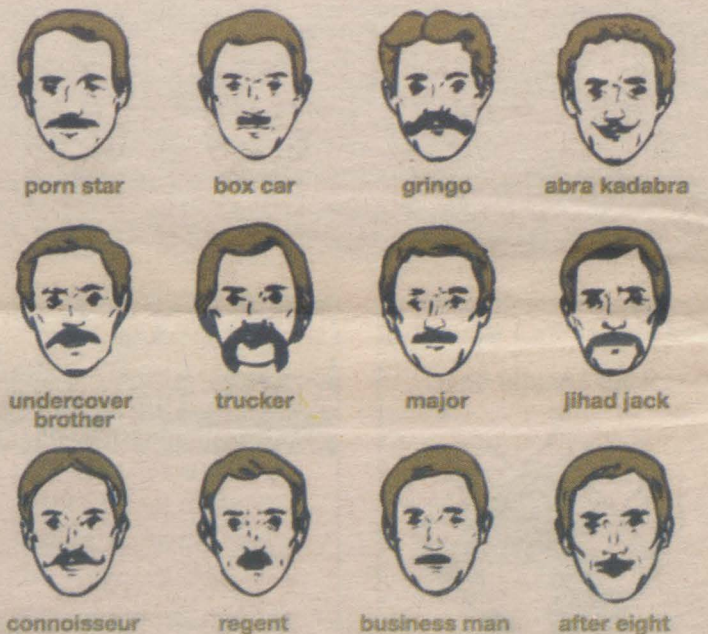
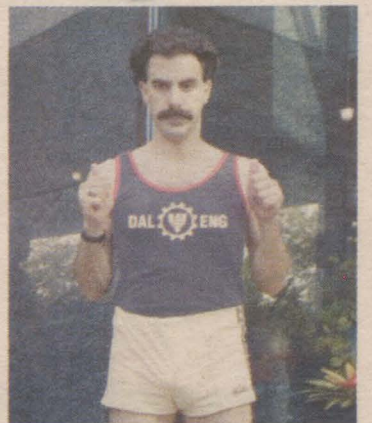
snatch a majority mandate immoral. The election cost Canadians \$300 million dollars and changed little in the political landscape of Canada. He's even forced me to thank the Bloc Quebecois for preventing the majority win. Harper and his Conservatives have no plan for Canada or Canadians. They are remaining status quo when the major events that have shifted the economic landscape demand innovative solutions. The recently announced 6-point economic plan is to travel to Europe and the US to discuss the issues to find a common solution. What about analyzing our country's economics and find solutions that make sense for Canadians? We have economist, good ones too, surely they can establish a plan to help the Canadian economy. I understand that the issues facing our society today are linked to a global landscape; using a smorgasbord of ideas from other countries is taking the easy way out. Anyone who has associated themselves with President Bush, their judgement comes into question.

DALENG PRESENTS Movember

Have you ever felt cold, alone, or just empty on your upper lip? This your opportunity to finally show your post-pubescent self and be proud of that new voice and hair growth.

Be clean-shaven by November 1st and start growing your 'stache!! Progress pictures are highly encouraged and can be sent to sextant@dal.ca.

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