



The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper Since 1868

Can love survive peak oil?

Alumnus' film debuts at AFF

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King's Rugby gets wet, pg 18



DALHOUSIE
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UNION

DSU Weekly Dispatch

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

Dalhousie Student Union Sustainability Office Green Week

September 27 – October 1, 2010

This year the Dalhousie Student Union Sustainability Office is proud to bring you Green Week!

This promises to be a week long event that will be full of fun activities aimed at promoting and fostering a sense of awareness around sustainable issues and practices. We hope that students, faculty and staff of the Dalhousie community will take part in some of the many events being planned DSUSO. We encourage that everyone begin learning about and taking steps towards making our campus and community greener!

For a complete list of events, visit the DSUSO website at www.dsuso.ca.

Speakers Series

Thursday, September 30

The DSU is proud to present the first installment of its annual Speaker Series. The first presentation will be brought to you in partnership with the Dalhousie Student Union Sustainability Office and the Dalhousie College of Sustainability.

Come see Sarah Elton, author of *The Locavore*, in Ondaatje Hall in the McCain Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Building. The presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

For more information, contact you DSU Vice President, Academic and External, Rob LeForte at dsuvspe@dal.ca.

Volunteers Needed!

The DSU is looking for volunteers to help run it's on campus Food Bank, which serves the needs of students, faculty and staff. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact your Vice President (Internal), Kayla Kurin, at dsuvpi@dal.ca.

DSU Health and Dental Plan

Remember to check out your health and dental benefits with the new 2010-2011 DSU Student VIP Health and Dental Plan by visiting www.studentvip.ca/dsu.

Still looking to opt out? Visit www.dsu.ca on the Health and Dental Plan page for more information. The deadline to opt out is September 24, 2010 at 4:30PM.



Signal Hill playing a sold out crowd at the Grawood Campus Pub.

Photo by
Josh Senman

Check us out on the web
www.dsu.ca

September 24 - September 30, 2010 •

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The Dalhousie Gazette

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the fine print.

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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, Overheard 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

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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.

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Laura Conrad News Editor



Raise the rates: Cut your water waste

James Hutt went for 30 days using only 25 litres of water per day



Washing clothes, flushing the toilet and taking showers were all obstacles for Hutt during his 30 day challenge. ••• Photo by Miguel Cortel

**Greg Conrad
Zane Woodford**
News Contributors

While most students at Dalhousie were trying to consume as much liquid as possible during frosh week, James Hutt was doing the exact opposite.

On Aug. 17, Hutt, an International Development student at Dalhousie, took up a challenge to only use 25 litres of water or less per day for 30 days, finishing on Sept. 15.

"The World Health Organization says that between 20 and 50 (litres) are for daily human needs. So, I wanted to make it something challenging, something toward the lower end of that scale, but also something that was still do-able," says Hutt.

Hutt did, however, encounter some obstacles in the course of this challenge.

Things that people do every day, like flushing the toilet, taking a shower or washing clothes were not plausible for Hutt if he wanted to stay within his 25 litre per day limit. He had to flush the toilet using small amounts of recycled water, take sponge baths, and wash his clothes manually.

"I've got a video on my blog where it's midnight and I'm washing all these clothes in my tub by hand. That was probably my lowest point," says Hutt.

Hutt is an advocate for sustainable consumption of water, and is water coordinator at the Sierra Club Atlantic, a non-profit organization whose goal is to get people moving on sustainability. He is trying to raise awareness about the amount of water Canadians consume.

"If we don't change our habits, we won't stay water rich. If we're using 330 litres per day, and some people can't

even get 20, then what kind of world are we creating," he says.

Canada is "water rich." It has a huge percentage of the world's fresh water and Hutt is extremely concerned with the rate at which Canadians consume it. The national average is 328 litres per person, per day – the second highest in the world – and in Nova Scotia, the average is a whopping 351 litres per day.

As the water coordinator at the Sierra Club, Hutt works with community groups to try to get them active on water-related issues in the Atlantic region. He recently put on a conference to try to get the Atlantic Provinces to work together and tackle these water issues.

Currently he is attending Utility Review Board hearings where the Halifax Water Commission is trying to raise its rates. There are four parts to a water bill: a base rate, a consumption rate, and two environmental charges. Hutt, on behalf of the Sierra Club, is lobbying for the water consumption portion of the rates to be raised.

"For the consumption rate you only get charged something like 40 cents for one thousand litres of water, which is nothing. We believe that the consumption rate should be a higher percentage of the bill."

Hutt has a blog on the Sierra Club's website (atlantic.sierraclub.ca/en/james) where he documented all 30 days of his challenge. He is glad to have been able to raise awareness about a topic he is so passionate about.

"We are consuming at a rate that can't sustain itself. Most people just aren't conscious of the fact that we use that much water, or that we're wasting that much." ☺

Dalhousie still facing residence shortage

By second week of classes, 40 people still without a room

Lynette MacLeod
News Contributor

Some Dalhousie students who thought they would have a room in residences will have to wait out some of the school year living in common areas.

A representative from the Dal residence and housing office, Heather Sutherland, says that there were 67 students at the start of the school year sleeping in common areas like residence lounges. This happened as a result of an overbooking of residence rooms. Residence halls common areas in Howe Hall and four other residences were affected. Some of these common rooms are still being used to house the overflow.

Emily Stewart, a fourth-year student and residence assistant, says the lack of space is creating some problems in the residences. She says that because the lounges and other common spaces have been converted into sleeping areas, students have to find another place to get together.

"We are having a problem with people drinking in the hallways," says Stewart.

Dalhousie had the same issue with lack of space last year. Stewart said roughly 150 students were without a room and it took until about the end of first semester to completely resolve the problem.

According to Stewart, the number of students without rooms this year is much smaller than last year because new spaces opened up in O'Brien Hall. Also, Dal is also no longer providing housing for nearby Nova Scotia College of Art and Design students.

First-year Dal student, Makayla Tosh, is one of the lucky ones to have a room. But like some of her fellow students, she says if she didn't get a space she would just have to "put up with it until I had a spot."

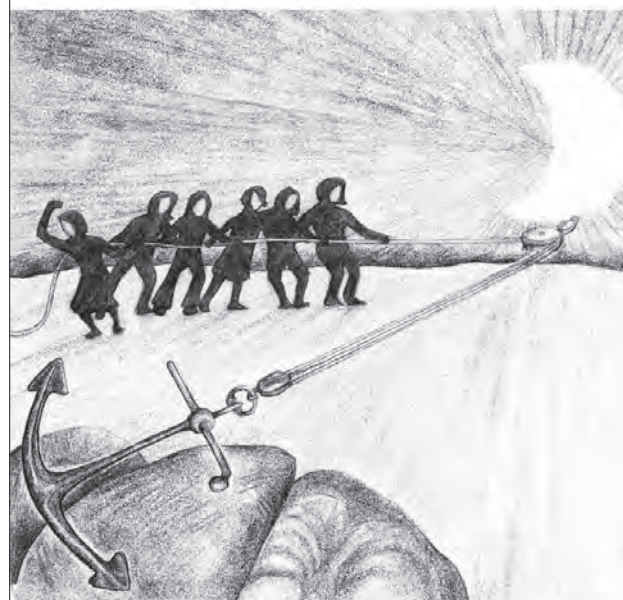
The Dalhousie website says: "Living in residence is one of the best ways to become part of the Dalhousie community. That's why we guarantee rooms will be available for any new Dalhousie undergraduate student who wants to live on campus, and completes the residence application process by August 1st."

Sutherland says no undergraduate student who applied before the Aug. 1 deadline is without a room.

Students who are misplaced do not have to pay residence fees until they are given a permanent room, but they do still have to pay for the meal plan.

By the time the second week of classes began, there were less than 40 students staying in common areas. Sutherland says they expect to have the issue resolved and everyone to their own room by Thanksgiving. ☺

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Dal concerned over swarmings

Campus security on alert following attacks



Students who don't want to walk home at night can catch a ride in the Tiger Patrol shuttle. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

Lisa Delaney
News Contributor

As Dalhousie students returned to the city over Labour Day weekend, one downtown neighbourhood became the victim of what has been described as random violence.

On Sept. 3 an individual approached a couple on Maitland Street, asking for a cigarette. When the couple declined, a group of at least five other males in their late teens to early twenties appeared and brutally attacked them. Since that incident there have been reports of at least six similar attacks in the area.

All of these incidents appear to be centred within the downtown core of Halifax, with attacks occurring on Barrington, Charles, Davison, Agricola and Gerrish Streets. Each assault has involved a group of up to fifteen males ranging from approximately 14 to 24 years of age. It also appears that all of the attacks are taking place in the mid-to late evening and are all being carried out in the same manner.

In almost every attack, one member of the group approaches and distracts the intended victims, allowing for the

rest of the group to emerge and surprise their targets. A handful of these assaults have involved the use of weapons such as broom handles and tree branches. The swarmers have sent their victims to hospital for injuries including broken bones and concussions.

On Sept. 15, Halifax Police held the first of a number of city hall meetings to inform the public about the details of the case. Police have assured the public that their goal is to investigate and find the parties responsible for the attacks.

Virginia Korn, a Dalhousie student, has recently moved to a downtown Halifax neighbourhood and is concerned about the violence.

"It doesn't really change my behaviour, but I wouldn't walk alone in that area," says Korn.

Despite the severity of the attacks, Korn stresses that she feels safe on campus. She says, "I don't feel a threat there, it's pretty safe."

Mike Burns, a representative for Dalhousie Security, says that the university is in constant communication with Halifax police regarding these disturbances.

"They provide us with security bulletins, not related specifically to

campus, to keep us informed," says Burns.

As well, Mr. Burns stresses that campus security is very aware of the violence that has taken place in the downtown area over the last number of weeks. With a student population of more than 15,000, campus safety is a top priority for the university.

He says, "Campus is a safe place—we have security officers out there patrolling."

Dalhousie Security Services recommends a number of ways to protect yourself from potential threats. When on campus, students should make use of services such as the Tiger Shuttle Bus Services and Tiger Patrol.

For more information visit the Dalhousie Security web page at dal.ca/security.htm. It is important that students be aware of where they are travelling. Security advises avoiding the use of headphones, and concealing any valuable items.

Dalhousie Security officers are on campus as a resource to keep student safe. If you notice anything that seems out of the ordinary, please call the emergency security telephone line at 494-4109. ☎

Dalhousie students stand up to poverty

Students from the IDS department get active for a Make Poverty History campaign



Demonstrators gathered outside of the S.U.B. to raise awareness about global poverty. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

Torey Ellis
News Contributor

The students of Dalhousie's International Development Studies (IDS) program have taken it upon themselves to scold who they call "apathetic" world leaders.

Approximately 30 people gathered in front of the Student Union Building on Sept. 16 in a silent protest to bring the neglected Millennium Development Goals to the attention of students.

Professor Bob Huish says the goal is "to raise important questions to those in government, but also to raise questions on campus. To say "we shouldn't accept this."

Heads turned in the Dawgfather line-up as the activists snapped in unison without saying a word. Snapping turned to clapping and a crowd began to gather.

After the demonstration, petitions, letters and phones were available to contact the Canadian government.

"Basically, we're not content with the status quo," says Huish, who led the students alongside John Cameron, chair of the IDS program.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were minimum standards agreed upon by world leaders in 2000. The eight goals, which include work on hunger, gender inequality, HIV/AIDS, and education, were to be met by 2015.

This demonstration was a subset of Make Poverty History's campaign, an international operation aimed at eradicating suffering worldwide by bringing attention to these goals.

As it stands now, the vast majority of the MDGs will not come close to being met.

Some issues – such as hunger and extreme poverty in western Asia—have actually deteriorated since 2000.

On Sept. 17 through to 19, many activists worldwide participated in fundraisers and demonstrations similar to this one, aimed at telling their leaders

what they think.

The timing is far from arbitrary—they are protesting just before the UN summit in New York, which happened between Sept. 20-22.

In a meeting Sept. 14 to create a Dal action plan organized by IDS students, Cameron and Huish challenged students to chastise world leaders for spending millions of dollars on war in lieu of achieving these goals. After lengthy discussion, students decided on the "flash mob" protest to grab attention combined with information and action. Passersby could make free calls to the offices of the Prime Minister, Defense Minister Peter MacKay and Minister of International Cooperation Bev Oda.

It's "very easy activism," says third-year student Leanna Winberg. "(People) don't have to commit too much time."

Winberg is a seasoned activist, as an executive for War Child Dalhousie, and says that the basic goal of the demonstration is to gain strength in numbers.

"No one is really enforcing (the world leaders), which is why we need to hold them accountable," she says.

It's "deplorable," Winberg adds, that such a large developed country as Canada can take so little action—the Make Poverty History website lists Canada as 16th out of 22 donor countries contributing to the goals.

Canada also has a higher poverty rate than most developed countries and emits some of the most greenhouse gases.

That's why "when we say international, we mean international," says Huish. The Make Poverty History campaign is aimed at helping Canada as well as the rest of the world.

"The more that we can get students active and involved, the better we'll all be for it," says Huish, "after all, some of the greatest movements of our time have started on a university campus." ☎

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Consumers greened and preened at Atlantic Eco Expo

Two fourth-years organized the largest green consumer trade show in Atlantic Canada



Oh, all the things you can buy! ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

Katrina Pyne
News Contributor

The booths are set up. The models are getting ready behind the catwalk. The distant sounds of Moby S. Loop- the recycling robots can be heard from across the room.

Day two of the Second Atlantic Eco Expo is cranking up and people slowly start to wander into the exhibit area.

The Atlantic Eco-Expo is the largest green consumer trade show in Atlantic Canada. Running from Sept. 18-19 in the Cunard Centre. It is designed to share ideas, products, services and initiatives. The event acts as a networking opportunity and a place to connect, learn and inspire one another. And buy.

Casey Binkley and Jordan Ekers are fourth-year business students at Dalhousie. The Atlantic Eco-Expo began as a class project in their third year. Now, they run the show.

For Binkley the biggest challenge has always been attendance. He says he hopes to see 10,000 people go through the expo over the course of the weekend.

"Ideally, the whole city will show up," says Binkley.

For the business and organizations that have set up booths, attendance is crucial for the Eco Expo's success.

Simone Mackenzie was found holding up the fort at the Green P booth.

"We're really here for awareness and exposure of our products," says Mackenzie. "Exposure, exposure, exposure!"

Binkley says environmental ownership should be split equally between consumers and business owners. He

says he sees more going-green initiative in business organizations than in the average customer.

"It's great having like-minded individuals under one roof. Booth to booth, everything is completely green focused," he says.

The Eco-Expo itself serves a dual purpose. It focuses on engaging business with the public, and with each other.

"The organizers have done a lot of promo this year, we certainly hope their efforts pan out," says Alleson Kase of the Tammachat Natural Textiles booth. It's Kase's first year with a booth in the Eco Expo. Tammachat Natural Textiles imports fair trade handcrafted naturally dyed scarves from rural women in Thailand and Laos.

"We are a part of the movement of socially responsible businesses that are looking at the triple-p bottom line: people and planet, before profit," says Kase.

Kase excitedly points out that some of Tammachat's scarves and bags will be featured in the Eco-Fashion Show.

"A lot of people think that being environmentally responsible means you have to go around looking like you're wearing a burlap bag," says Kase. "I think people will be very pleasantly surprised to see how fashionable good practice can be."

Perhaps a bit behind schedule, music for the fashion show was finally heard. Thirty seats were filled in a space prepared to seat several hundred. Nonetheless, on a stage decorated with pine trees, models wearing everything from heels to moccasins to no shoes at all stomped it out on the catwalk. Earth tones rocked most of the sustainable

outfits.

Another attraction at the expo was at the Extreme Group booth, the Eco Expo's presenting sponsor. People could sponsor and watch the live planting of a tree via a webcam in Lawrencetown by simultaneously making a pledge to a sustainable practice such as no longer buying water bottles. Natalie Fleming was eager to talk about their set up.

.....
"It's great having like-minded individuals under one roof. Booth to booth, everything is completely green focused."
.....

"The people who have been to our booth have just been so excited to see it in real time. It's live, it's all about action and change," says Flemming.

An excited young girl was on the other end of the camera holding up signs thanking the sponsor personally for their donation while another volunteer was seen planting the tree in the background. The whole thing was live-tweeted.

Once the tree was in the ground, they both gave the thumbs up.

"This way, they see that even their small contribution is a part of something bigger," says Fleming. "They are making a difference." ☺

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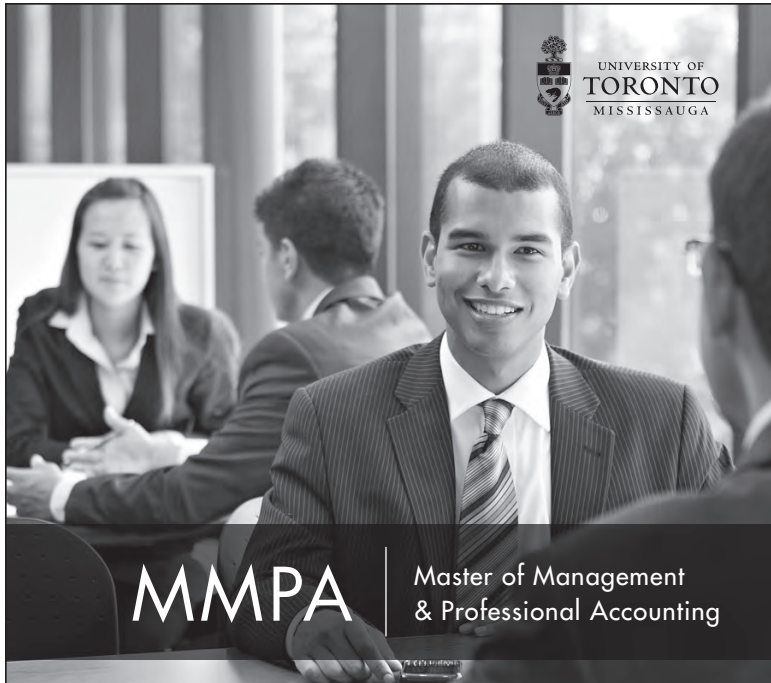
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gazette opinions welcomes any opinion backed up with facts, but we don't publish rants. E-mail Katie at opinions@dalgazette.com to contribute.

Katie Toth Opinions Editor



The Sex Collective presents: Casual Sex

When protecting yourself from STIs,
don't forget to protect your feelings



When in doubt make sure you can get yourself off. ••• Photo by Miguel Cortel

Hayley Gray The Sex Collective

You might have already mastered the refined art of casual sex. For many, however, such attempts in the incestuous world of residence and university life have left them hurt, uncomfortable, or feeling like it just wasn't worth the drama.

When we get our STI talks, we're always told that "there is no such thing as safe sex, but you can take precautions to have safer sex." This tactic can also be applied to your emotional safety when it comes to sex. So how, as the kids say nowadays, do you bring your emotional condom? Fun, drama-free sexy times are possible, with a bit of self-knowledge and some helpful tips.

The study of casual sex is complex. Dr. Marla Eisenberg, at the University of Minnesota, found that individuals engaging in casual sex were no less psychologically healthy than individuals in committed relationships. That being said, Catherine Grello at the University of Tennessee found that women engaging in casual sex were more likely to suffer from depressive symptoms than men.

In Grello's study, when asked about their last casual sex encounter, 18 per cent of women believed it to be "the beginning of a sexual relationship," where as only three per cent of men held that belief. On the flip side, twice as many men as women believed it was the start of a "casual sex relationship."

I think these studies should be looked at critically, and I believe that much of the neurochemical differences between

men and women are a result of our environments and social experiences. However, there does seem to be a large difference between men and women with their beliefs around casual sex. Within hetero relationships, this is often where the hurt, discomfort and drama can fester.

"How, as the kids say nowadays, do you bring your emotional condom?"

Differences in the post-orgasm brains of men and women are not as distinct as one might think: we all get surges of prolactin and oxytocin released during orgasm. However, these two neurochemicals can display different effects when teamed up with high levels of testosterone in men and a smaller amount of testosterone in women. Often, males report feeling satiated and sleepy post-coitus, whereas females feel bonded and ready for more.

But in keeping with my dislike of gender binaries, the best advice I can give is to be aware and considerate, whatever your junk looks like. Know that you might feel like ignoring the person lying on top, beside, behind or across from you. With this in mind, make an

effort to be respectful and affectionate.

Also, be aware that you might have feelings of attachment and bonding: know that they are fluid and might just be in the moment.

If you didn't orgasm, acknowledge that you might become frustrated and irritable. You are responsible for your orgasm, so don't waste your time on resentment.

Before you go into casual *anything*, you need to be critically assessing your standpoint. If you are looking for a more long-term relationship, don't agree to casual sex. You're just going to feel like crap post-orgasm, when all you want to do is bond with someone you've agreed to engage with casually.

Be respectful and take hints. If someone doesn't want you crashing in their bed, peace out. If you sext someone and they are busy, remind yourself that you are not in a relationship with them: you don't get to make yourself their priority. If you see your casual conspirator in the cafeteria a day later, be polite and ask how class was.

But most importantly, if at the end of the night it turns out to just be you, make sure that you're ready to get yourself off.

As much as Katie Toth loves her sex column, she can't talk about dildos forever. Thus, she's passed the torch to a new, rotating collective of sex-positive folks (including herself!) who'll offer unique and diverse perspectives. Have a story pitch? A sex-related question? Want to join the team? Email opinions@dalgazette.ca. ☺

Tuition myths déjà vu O'Neill Report recycles dated, discredited myths to justify tuition fee hikes

Gabe Hoogers
Opinions Contributor

Last Friday, after eight months of anticipation and \$95,000 of government funding, former Bank of Montreal economist Tim O'Neill released his Report on the Nova Scotia University System. The report, commissioned by the Nova Scotia government, relies heavily on debunked theories about tuition fees and their impact on access to education to justify the complete de-regulation of tuition fees in the province.

According to O'Neill, the path to an equitable university system is through higher fees and higher debt. It doesn't take a PhD to understand the absurdity of such an approach.

Currently, average undergraduate tuition fees in Nova Scotia are \$5,495. That's \$357 above the national average. Nova Scotia graduate students pay the highest tuition fees in the country, at a staggering \$7,350.

Students in Nova Scotia paid the highest tuition fees for 20 years until last fall which resulted in an average student debt of nearly \$30,000, the highest in the country.

According to a 2010 Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) report, of those Maritimes students who borrowed more than \$30,000, 21 per cent still owed at least that amount five years after graduation.

The central recommendation contained in O'Neill's 188 page report is that the provincial government lift the current three-year tuition fee freeze. The report advocates for the complete de-regulation of tuition fees, thus letting each university set their own fees with no government control. We need only look to the sky-high fees paid by international students and those in medicine, dentistry, law and engineering to see the negative affects de-regulation could have. To pay for these fee increases the report recommends that the amount of money a student can borrow through the student loans program be increased, or even unlimited.

In an NDP e-newsletter sent out just hours after the release, Premier Dexter called O'Neill's recommendations "innovative and strategic." There is nothing innovative about O'Neill's recommendations to de-regulate tuition fees and increase student loan limits.

In 2005, former Ontario Premier Bob Rae produced a review that recommended de-regulating tuition fees and targeted and increased financial aid. The Ontario government used the Rae Review to justify ending a two-year tuition fee freeze and allowing fees to increase between 4.5 and 8 per cent, per year. As a result, Ontario now boasts the highest tuition fees in the country.

O'Neill uses three major arguments to justify de-regulation and tuition fee hikes.

He argues that high fees have moderate to no impact on low-income participation in post-secondary education, that low fees serve as a subsidy to students from high-income backgrounds, and that the individual benefit of a university degree far outweighs the cost.

Students have heard, and discredited, these myths before. There is plenty of research both nationally and here on the East Coast that directly contradicts both O'Neill and Dexter's assertion that high fees and high loans somehow improve access.

According to the Canadian Association of University Teachers, youth aged 18-24 with parents earning more than \$100,000 were almost twice as likely to have been enrolled in university than those whose parents earning \$25,000.

A 2007 study from the Maritimes Provinces Higher Education Commission states that "tuition fees seem to influence students' choice of institution. This appears to be an important factor explaining the increasing number of Maritimers studying at the Memorial University of Newfoundland." Students in Newfoundland and Labrador pay the lowest tuition fees in the country. Tuition fees in that province have been frozen and reduced since 1999, and are currently just over half of those in Nova Scotia.

The government may control the provincial purse-strings, but students have two important tools in the fight for accessible post-secondary education in Nova Scotia: public opinion and our strength in numbers.

In a recent national Harris Decima poll, 90 per cent of Atlantic Canadians said that they supported either a freeze or reduction in tuition fees; that's the highest percentage in the country. Governments ignore groups that pose no political threat to them, but by working together, students have been able to win many important victories at both the provincial and national level, including our current tuition fee freeze.

So arm yourself with arguments against the 'high-tuition fees, high student loan' model proposed by O'Neill. Spread the word; write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper. Get involved in the campaign to make post-secondary education a priority in this province; sign the petition to increase funding and grants and reduce tuition fees.

Because education is a right, and we can't afford to give up the fight. ☺

Gabe Hoogers is the Nova Scotia Representative of the Canadian Federation of Students. The Federation is Canada's largest students' organization, uniting more than 500,000 university and college students from all ten provinces.

Editor's Note: Katie Toth is the Women's Representative of the CFS-NS Executive.

Confessions of two thoughtuletarians

A recipe for conscious consumption



Now, I think I've found a balance: eating in season so I can support local farmers, and indulging in meat on special occasions (as long as it's local, organic, and free-range). ••• Photo by Miguel Cortel

Emma Kiley
Rachel Deloughery
Sustainability Columnists

We all eat, but most of us don't really know what we are eating. More and more people are realizing the importance of understanding where our food comes from and what a balanced, sustainable food system means. The two of us are gradually learning to appreciate the food we are eating.

We became what we call "thoughtuletarians" not by blindly following a specific practice, but by appreciating the food around us. It all started by asking way too many questions about every meal we eat!

Rachel: I live for good food. I'll inhale anything with butter as the main ingredient (i.e. croissants from Two If By Sea Café in Dartmouth. Unreal). As a kid, I ate honeycomb with a spoon (and I'm not talking about the cereal). I savour my vegetables: roasted roots in the winter, fresh greens in the summer. I also believe bacon can improve any

dish; my definition of good food has always included the meaty bits. So how did I end up here? Turning down slices of 'The Works' from Alexandra's, and calling myself a vegetarian?

Emma: My love of food has been a roller-coaster ride to say the least. From a young age my mom and I made breakfast smoothies with tofu and flax oil so I could learn the value of healthy eating. Now that I am on my own and educating myself about food, I have realized 'healthy food' isn't always healthy, and that 'health' definitely isn't the only thing that matters when it comes to food choices.

Put 2 cups of non-fiction in a medium bowl

Rachel: The first time I was really confronted by the image of an industrial slaughterhouse was when I read *Fast Food Nation*. It showed me the vast unawareness that North Americans enjoy. We eat without knowing, or ever wanting to know, where that burger we're distractedly devouring came from.

Emma: Not long after watching

Food Inc., I began to toy with the idea of vegetarianism. The film helped me recognize that there is a problem with our food system. It also introduced me to Michael Pollen – author of *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. Reading that book took my interest and understanding of the issue to a new level.

Add ¼ cup of impassioned speech

Rachel: Ann Cooper's TED talk "Reinventing the school lunch" got me worked up about how little is being invested into children's food education. It made me wonder about the future. If "C" no longer stands for "Carrot" in a kids first alphabet, then will we lose that incredible orange vegetable? It's intolerable to me that something so inherent to our well-being is no longer considered important enough to teach children about. I dread to think what that ignorance means for the foodscape of the future.

Stir in several million tonnes of greenhouse gasses

misses farming" and "Urban hives make better honey" contain fascinating information, tinted with the personal insights that make it relatable.

While Sarah continues to keep up with her blog, this year she also released *Locavore*, which has received high praise from across Canada. Her book focuses on eating locally (and therefore seasonally), and the positive effects of eating this way for social, environmental and local economic sustainability. The book has an emphasis on finding solutions, rather than noting problems.

Elton travelled across Canada to meet the people, and see the places, that attempt to cultivate a sustainable future. She sums up the importance of the local food movement when she says: "...the issues bound up in local food speak to people of all backgrounds. It doesn't matter where you work, where you live, what your background is or how much money you make, chances are you care about where your food comes from...as I saw when I travelled across the country, there is not one kind of person who

A United Nations report named the livestock sector the largest contributor of greenhouse gases worldwide (18 per cent). Feeding and raising livestock is responsible for the release of more GHGs than transportation: all the cars, buses, trucks and airplanes travelling the globe put together.

Pinch of peer pressure, to taste

Emma: My third year at Dalhousie consisted of many discussions with friends and classmates about sustainable food production, especially with respect to meat. I felt like a hypocrite and decided it was time for me to stop talking the talk and finally do something. Insert Mission Vegetarianism: I would stop eating meat until I could find a better balance.

Rachel: One of my co-op terms was spent with Clean Nova Scotia, an environmental non-governmental organization. One afternoon, a lively Lunch & Learn on the topic of recycling ended in a challenge to further reduce personal consumption. One person announced, "I love avocados, but I'm going to give them up, because they get shipped so far to get here!" At that moment I silently made a deal with myself that the bacon sitting in my fridge would be the last meat I would purchase for a year.

Drizzle on 3 tbsp. of ecological realism

Rachel: In that first year, I still had a soft spot for delicious fishes. That went out the window when I took Conservation Biology, taught by instructors who are also internationally recognized marine conservation researchers. Turns out these scientists don't have much optimism that fish populations, let alone entire oceanic ecosystems, can recover from the damage they've sustained. All of a sudden the unanswered questions were too numerous, and the consequences too dire, to keep ordering Rainbow Rolls.

Simmer on low heat until ready to eat

Emma: Four months of meatless meals went by and I started re-evaluating once again. Thoughts floated through my mind: "people have always eaten meat!" and "we are omnivores, after all..."

I have gone from eating what I thought was the grocery store version of "healthy," to feeling guilty for eating anything non-organic, to cutting out beef, chicken, pork and fish. Now, I think I've found something close to a balance: eating in season so I can support local

farmers, and indulging in meat on special occasions (as long as it's local, organic, and free-range).

Of course I make exceptions: nobody is perfect! I've become more engaged with my food by cooking more, asking questions before I buy things at the market, and even preserving peaches and pickles for this winter.

.....
"Think twice before you pick up that fast-food hamburger or Tim Horton's donut. Do you know where it's been?"
.....

Rachel: One night earlier this summer I tuned the radio in the car to the CBC and was immediately captivated by a special called "Have your meat and eat it too". Interviews with farmers, authors, and food activists gave me a new appreciation for the vast disconnect between the dynamics of natural systems and our industrialized versions of agricultural production.

The broadcast reminded me of what I think we all know at some level: good food includes animals. In fact, our furry friends are integral for creating self-sustaining farms. Which means that making them off-limits isn't really solving the problem. Instead, it sounds like hope might lie in the direction of responsibly-raised meat. We should also be eating less of it, and facing a higher price tag.

Food is what keeps us all going. Knowing how your food was grown (or raised) is the best thing you can do for your own health, and the health of food systems around the world. Anything absorbed by your food travels down the food chain, into your body, and into the air, water, and soil. So think twice before you pick up that fast-food hamburger or Tim Horton's donut. Do you know where it's been?

For a while, our meat-eating days were behind us. It now seems like they might be ahead of us, too. We're figuring out that eating with our brains, as well as our taste buds, is important for creating positive change. We are thoughtuletarians. Are you? ☺

Keeping it local with Sarah Elton

Highlighting Green Week's keynote speaker

Emma Kiley
Rachel Deloughery
Sustainability Columnists

Sarah Elton, author of *Locavore: From farmers' fields to rooftop gardens - How Canadians are changing the way we eat*, is coming to Dalhousie for Green Week. Her keynote address is on Thursday, Sept. 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the Ondaatje Auditorium of the McCain Building. The talk promises to be an eye-opening and inspirational look at Canada's growing fascination with feeding itself. The list of upcoming appearances on her website includes mention of the fact that Elton is "really looking forward to being the keynote speaker for Dalhousie University's Green Week."

On May 9, 2008, Sarah Elton, "a journalist as well as a food writer" begins blogging about her journey as a "locavore" living in Toronto, with her husband and their two daughters. The topics she covers include recipes and her struggles to stay food-conscious.

Posts with titles like "My taxi driver

cares about local food. The issues speak to all of us."

Look for @thelocavore on Twitter, too. Some recent tweets talk about where to find great Korean food in downtown Toronto, and whether locally grown figs exist in Manitoba. Creating conversation about these topics seems to be part of the plan. The more that people are talking about pickling, greenhouses, and rooftop gardens, the more people might feel capable of taking food matters into their own hands!

Make sure you check out the Green Week screening of *Food Inc.* on Monday evening to understand some of the issues our food systems are facing. Then, be part of the audience on Thursday, when Sarah will remind us that all is not lost! She'll talk about people who are embracing the challenges, and being empowered by eating locally. ☺

Food Inc. will be screened on Monday, Sept. 27th at 7:00pm. Sarah Elton will speak on Thursday, Sept. 30th at 7:00pm. Both events are in the Ondaatje Auditorium, in the McCain.

.....
"It doesn't matter where you work, where you live, what your background is or how much money you make, chances are you care about where your food comes from."
.....

opinions

Death and dying

How a summer job and a book changed my life forever

Timothy Disher
Opinions Contributor

Up until recently I felt embarrassed about what I labelled as some sort of sub human indifference when it came to death. I was ashamed by this response until just this summer, when a student job as a patient attendant and Mitch Albom's *Tuesdays with Morrie* helped me understand a different side of dying. My attitudes towards death changed. Rather than perceiving it as something depressing and largely negative, I now see death as a spiritual experience.

My first experience with death came when my Grandfather passed while I was in my first year of college. My grandfather's wake was closed casket and kept to close friends and family. While I could tell that what I was going through was different from the people around me, it was during a private moment after the guests had left that I realized just how differently I was affected.

The casket was opened to allow us all a chance to say goodbye and my brother and I were the last in line. This was the first time I saw my big brother cry. I expected the same wave of sadness when I placed my own hand on my grandfather's body, but it never came. In my life, I've never felt as uncomfortable in my own skin as when I walked into the hallway to find everyone in tears. I was afraid that people would think I was cold or - worse still - that I didn't love him.

When I first applied for a patient attendant position at a local hospital, I did so because it sounded like a straightforward, flexible, summer job.

I'd pick my own shifts, had no minimum hour requirements and no need to ask for time off for vacations. We were told that some shifts would be with terminal patients, but at the time I never really gave it much thought, since my past experience assured me I wouldn't be affected.

For privacy reasons we aren't communicated anything but the bare necessities about our patients when we accept a shift. Even still, the first time I worked a shift with a terminal patient, I had a sense there was something different. You get used to nurses and family members saying certain things

("You'll be out of here soon", or "We can't wait to have you back home"), and that wasn't happening. My suspicions were quickly confirmed over the next 12 hours.

When people hear that as part of my job I'm exposed to this type of experience they usually express sympathy for me, and say how hard it must be. What I find much more difficult, however, is explaining why I look forward to these shifts most of all.

When I work with a patient who is dying, something magical happens. From the moment I step into that room until the moment I leave, I exist in a state of total calm. Within the first minutes after I take my seat at the bedside, I begin to feel my insecurities melt away as the outside world shrinks until it's just me and him. In my day to day, I often feel uncomfortable in moments of intimacy, but here I never hesitate to offer a comforting touch or what I can

only hope is a soothing singing voice. These are some of the few moments in my life that I have felt comfortable giving in completely to love. They are also moments I will always cherish.

In the best-selling book *Tuesdays with Morrie*, death is presented as an opportunity to reflect on what's important. It creates a world where life is akin to a wrestling match between opposites, where "love wins." The paperback copy of *Tuesdays* that my friend gave me is 192 pages but one sentence will stick with until the end of my life: "Death ends a life, not a relationship." This quote speaks to me because I've found that by looking back at my memories with grown-up eyes, I can learn more about both my Grandfather and myself.

The relationship that continues between me and my patients is a different one. An observer would rightly ask how it could be possible to develop

any sort of relationship, since the types of things we traditionally associate with starting one are sparse, if existent at all. Looking beyond the surface, you will find that we've shared our life stories with the subtle squeeze of a hand, the hint of a tear or smile punctuating the saddest and happiest moments. When I leave the room I feel as if I've taken a piece of them with me, a concept I struggle to articulate at a time when it seems that "spirituality" is a bad word.

There is a special bond that develops between my patients and I, something palpably different than I experience anywhere else in my life. This summer I came to believe that while birth offers an opportunity to marvel at the miracle of life, death provides a different side of the same coin. By forcing us to reflect on life's brevity, death serves to remind us of what is truly important. At the end of the day, when all is said and done, "love wins. Love always wins." ☺



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Secularism and xenophobia not the same

While I agree for the most part with David Bush's piece regarding Park51, I was troubled to read his thoughts on the regulation of dress.

He writes: "Supporters of regulating dress and architecture or beefing up border patrols often couch their arguments in women's rights, protecting jobs, and the protection of secular values. These arguments don't hold water. Xenophobic laws aren't about justice for others or about protection secularism. They are simply about the anxieties of 'non-foreigners.'"

While it is easy to lump justifications all together and then paint them with the xenophobia brush, the reality is a little more nuanced.

For example, modern Turkey was founded on the idea of secularism, and as a result, headscarves, certain mustaches, the fez and long beards were all banned in public institutions. This was in 1923. Even in present-day Turkey, many universities and public offices require the removal of headscarves upon entering.

Xenophobic? Clearly not. Yet when France enacts a ban on headscarves, and more recently, on face coverings, the gut response is to yell "Islamaphobia!"

Is the act of limiting this expression of religion only valid when the majority of the population adheres to the religion in question? Can Turkey do it, since the majority of the country is Muslim, yet France

cannot, since Muslims are a minority? Both claim secularism as their justification.

There's a double standard at play, and this is what really doesn't hold water.

Secularism and xenophobia aren't the same, so let's not treat them that way.

—Leyland Cecco

Sexual history is not a human right

What constitutes a human right? The Charter of Rights and Freedoms makes it fairly clear what rights are afforded to me as a Canadian. One human right is the expectation of safety. Another is freedom of sexual orientation. Katie Toth's column ("This is not a sex column", Sept. 17) however, confuses sexual orientation, a right, with sexual history, a choice.

The article's first error is stating that only men who've had sex with men (MSM) are forbidden from donating blood. In fact, women who've had sex with a man who has had sex with a man are forbidden as well, as outlined in questions 15 and 22 here: [blood.ca/CentreApps/Internet/UW_V502_MainEngine.nsf/resources/Can-I-Donate/\\$file/ROD_2010-01-27.pdf](http://blood.ca/CentreApps/Internet/UW_V502_MainEngine.nsf/resources/Can-I-Donate/$file/ROD_2010-01-27.pdf)

Canadian Blood Services is backed by the facts, and the far and away most common reason for HIV contraction is men having sex with men. They can't screen out 100 per cent of the tainted blood, so they cut to the chase and don't collect suspect blood. Could there be a solution that would allow the MSM community to donate blood? Sure.

A deferral period of a year for anyone not in a single-partner relationship would probably do the trick. But the thesis was that this is a violation of human rights,

and donating blood is not a human right. I'll give Toth some credit though, as receiving blood isn't explicitly a right either, but the CBS needs to ensure a safe supply, in order to avoid the tainted blood scandal of the late 1980s that caused thousands of patients to contract HIV and Hepatitis C.

The plaintiff in the case that sparked the ruling Toth criticizes is a man named Kyle Freeman. He donated blood multiple times during a time in which he was having sex with men, and lied about it. While his blood isn't infected, that group has the highest infection rate of anyone, so we can't take that chance.

My right to safety is a real right, and if a government agency is allowed to operate in a way that is injurious to public safety, that needs to be stopped. The CBS' policy isn't perfect, but it's keeping HIV out of our blood supply, and when I need a transfusion, that's all I want to know.

—Ben Wedge

Partisan propaganda popping up on campus

I saw a Young Liberal advertisement on campus which stated, "Jack Layton & Stephen Harper - standing together to dismantle Canadian gun laws." When I looked up the advertisement online, I saw the French language advertisement as well. These advertisements are false and misleading.

Layton voted against the bill to scrap Canada's long gun registry. Layton has vigorously campaigned for strict gun control legislation throughout his entire career in politics. For the Liberals to suggest that Layton is in cahoots with Harper is a completely false.

Here are the facts, rather than the

Liberal propaganda. A Conservative backbencher, Candice Hoepfner, introduced a private member's bill, Bill C-391 An Act to Amend the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act (Repeal of the Long-Gun Registry), in the fall of 2009. Typically, MPs are free to vote their conscious on private members bills in Parliament. After second reading, Bill C-391 passed the vote in the House of Commons. Eight members of the Liberal Party and 12 members of the NDP supported the Bill at that time.

This bill has split Canadians along the urban/rural divide. Urban voters tend to support the gun registry. Police agencies have voiced their support of the registry, stating that it has served as a useful tool in criminal investigations. Conversely, rural voters view the registry as a bureaucratic boondoggle which is grossly over budget, has failed to live up to lofty expectations, and represents an unjust governmental infringement on personal liberty.

After passing second reading, the Bill was submitted to committee scrutiny. In committee, NDP members attempted to bridge the urban/rural cleavage. Rather than using the divisive tactics that permeate the present federal political arena, NDP members sought to present solutions that would work for all Canadians. Numerous amendments which would save the registry while improving its effectiveness and efficiency have been forwarded by NDP members.

There is little doubt that this issue presents a great deal of political difficulty for the NDP. The NDP represents many rural and urban ridings across Canada.

Layton has stated that he will not whip his caucus (force NDP MPs to vote along a single party line or face discipline) on third reading of the Bill.

As is the convention, NDP MPs will be free to represent the views of his/her constituents on this private member's bill. Isn't this what a representative democracy is supposed to look like?

Ignatieff, capitalizing on the perceived weakness of the NDP on this issue, has decided to whip his Liberal caucus for the third reading of Bill C-391, further focusing attention on the NDP's apparent division. It seems that Ignatieff can easily disregard the views of eight of his own MPs so that he can play this political game.

Layton, dating back to his first campaigns in Torontonion municipal elections, has always been a strong proponent of strict gun control legislation. For example, in the wake of the massacre at École Polytechnique, Layton helped found the White Ribbon Campaign, an organization dedicated to ending violence against women and calling on the government to enact effective gun control legislation. Not for a moment has Layton abandoned his lifelong support of gun control during the present debate. He has tirelessly met with his dissenting MPs to discuss the registry issue in depth.

His efforts have come to fruition. Many NDP MPs who supported the bill on second reading have announced that after consultation with their constituents and Layton that they will not support the bill at third reading. In fact, Layton now claims that he has the numbers to defeat the bill. Far from "standing together" with Harper to "dismantle Canadian gun laws" or being "against the registry of firearms," Layton and the NDP are spending a great deal of political capital to save the registry.

—Paul Bender

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Fairy tales can come true Cast of *Light is the Day* worth a thousand words



Erika Ellsworth, Tim Mitchell and Corey Hincey can't help but act in character when they're together. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

Bethany Horne Copy Editor

Calling them stars is a bit of a stretch. Last summer, if you had run into one of them at a party, a rock show, or a gallery opening in Halifax, you might have been dazzled by their good looks, but not by their celebrity.

But all that may change. By agreeing to be in Laura Dawe's first feature film, *Light is the Day*, Tim Mitchell, Corey Hincey and Erika Ellsworth became actors, and Sept. 24 they sashay up an Atlantic Film Fest (AFF) red carpet to their very own movie premiere. Halifame, at least, seems inevitable.

Due to the last-minute nature of the frantic, AFF deadline-driven editing process, the actors haven't even seen the result of all their hard work. But they say there's no way the movie will be able to compare to the experience they had filming it.

"Watching it is going to be the poop in the toilet," Ellsworth says, near the end of a long conversation I had with all three actors the weekend before the premiere. "I feel like I'm still digesting."

The three laugh, and perhaps to clarify what his cast member means, Hincey explains:

"Doing it was so valuable. It was really the experience that was so much of it. And I hope that conveys somehow. I hope people can look for that."

In the film, Mitchell's character, Charlie, owns a house in the country. Hincey plays Michael, Charlie's childhood friend, and Ellsworth plays Painter, Michael's girlfriend. The couple leave the city—which is falling apart as food prices skyrocket in the wake of peak oil—to join

Charlie, and the three set out to make it through the winter on their own.

As the world crumbles outside their bubble, their mini-tribe doesn't fare much better.

Michael, in particular, has a rough time (not to give too much away). Hincey says his cast members got to play "very likeable characters," while he had to put in "really long days of playing an asshole."

As well as having to play arguably the most challenging role, Hincey helped edit the movie's sound.

.....
"Just from this movie trip, I was like, 'This crutch is gone. I'm a new person!'"

"None of the lines started at silence. So I spent a good three, really long, days going through and trying to equalize the dialogue." He doesn't know how it turned out.

"I'm really nervous about that. Not only am I nervous about my performance, I'm really nervous about the sound."

This crossover between actors and crew was out of necessity. Mitchell says there were many times when Dawe would look at him in desperation and say "Tim, we are not going to be able to make this movie." It was all hands on deck to make this indie film possible, and is the reason why all three actors say

the making of *Light is the Day*, is a story as worthy of the big screen as the film itself.

"We were having 20-hour days. This was the hardest I had ever worked in my entire life. This was like two full time jobs: no sleep, no pay. Worse than slave labour," says Mitchell, tongue in cheek.

Hincey jumps in: "On the other extreme, actors get paid very well and they do very little. In an independent film, it works out to be so much more work. It makes you crazy for a while. It's so mentally taxing. It's so good to go through that."

The small cast and crew weren't the only ones who put their hearts into this movie.

Thanks in large part to Dawe's fierce self-advocacy, a significant percentage of the Halifax arts community ended up contributing in some way to the project, as well. Bands donated songs, hordes descended on her fundraising parties, and people chipped in skills, props or money when they heard of the need. As a co-worker last year to both Mitchell and Dawe (whose Gazette salaries helped pay their rent while they gallivanted off to Pictou), I sent Dawe a small amount of money to put towards an emergency truck rental.

Before this movie, Hincey had some experience acting in theatre productions, and Mitchell says he had been in some musicals in high school, but Ellsworth says, "I'd never acted before in my life. I was never even aware of my outer self."

She says she just met Dawe at a party one night and confessed how sad she was to realize she was never going to be in the fairy tales she used to dream

of as a kid.

"And she said, 'Hey I'm making a movie—want to audition?' So I guess it was a form of that. Fairy tale, reality. Fantasy."

She feels like she changed as a person during the making of the film, and is only now returning to her "real self."

Hincey, who joined the cast to add a film experience to his theatre-based acting resume, had almost the opposite experience.

"I was always a pretty timid, quiet person, and I had to do some stuff (as Michael) that was really pretty intense. So I learned how to connect more with myself so that I didn't take that feeling with me," he says. "If I had to do a really intense scene, I learned how to leave that behind and connect with that essence or that core of who I am, which I feel that I'm better at in general now."

Mitchell says making the movie changed him in two ways: first, it made him think he might not mind being an actor again, and secondly, through a fluke, it helped him get over a five-year dependence on anti-depressants.

"We were going out (to the shoot) and I didn't get my prescription filled ... and we were going out for a week. I didn't know any doctors out there. We went out, and we did the shoot, and I basically just stopped taking them, cold turkey."

"On the last day, I remember telling Corey in the car on the ride home, 'Dude, I think I'm just going to stop taking them.'"

That was a year ago, and he hasn't turned back.

.....
"Pretend that the rope isn't there, so that you can really enjoy it. Our imagination goes so much beyond CGI."

"Just from this movie trip, I was like, 'This crutch is gone. I'm a new person!' ... It was probably before the first shoot. There was a lot of drinking on that shoot. I was drunk the whole time."

Hincey hopes people watch this movie differently than they normally would. He uses a theatre metaphor to explain it:

"If you watch a performance, and the performance is of somebody flying, but they're wearing a rope, you have to go the step yourself and use your imagination, and pretend that the rope isn't there, so that you can really enjoy it. Our imagination goes so much beyond CGI."

"The movie and our acting is 50 per cent of the movie. The other 50 is the audience, and it's their observation and their ability to use their own imaginations."

"You have to do your best to crop

out the harness. And I really hope that people do that when they see this. For their own experience and for their own pleasure, that they actually work a little bit," Hincey says. "The audience is fully capable of this."

"I see movies sometimes too, and I look for little things like that — inconsistencies, or weird things — but this movie's going to have a lot of that. When you look at the size of the crew, compared to a movie you hold highly in your mind —"

Mitchell chimes in: "Like *Aliens*."

"— There's so much money. Why can't we just express ourselves, and have a story, and act it out?"

If you can't catch the movie today, Sept. 24, at 9:25 p.m. at Park Lane, there will be another Halifax showing announced on the Facebook group. DVDs of *Light is the Day* will also be available at Video Difference, eventually.

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Events

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- Green Trivia
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- Clothing Swap
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INFORMATION SESSION

Date: **6 October** 10:00am - 11:00am
 Venue: Council Chambers,
 2nd Floor, Dalhousie Student Union Building
 Dalhousie University
 Presenter: Assoc Prof Denis Jones d.p.jones@griffith.edu.au

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Hamachi Sushi

6:45pm

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6:45pm

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Hamachi Sushi

6:45pm

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Me

6:46pm

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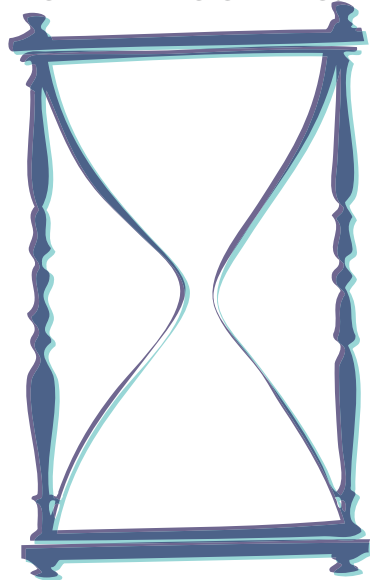
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STREETER

Question: *How do you make sustainability sexy?*



"I make everything sexy."

Jeff Sturgeon
2nd year Social Work



"No pants Fridays—less laundry."

Ali Azzopardi
4th year English and History



"The more I drink, the sexier it gets. More bottles to recycle."

Andrew Klar
4th year English



"Shower with a friend"

Jelani Banks
2nd year Biology



"I take broken, rusty bike parts and make sexy, functional art work."

Dave Abrams
1st year Law



"I don't. There's nothing sexy about it."

Ronnie Milley
2nd year Political Science



"Candle lit dinner, with no clothes on, while eating local foods—on a double date."

Jayde Tynes
2nd year Commerce



"You could always pull a Lady Gaga and wear a meat dress."

Marie David
4th year Journalism

Streeter by Samantha Dumford and Corey Davison

OVERHEARD AT DAL

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On Vernon Street:

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In the DalCard line-up on the day before classes started:

"Ten bucks says everyone in pyjamas drops out in the first week."

In the Risley cafe:

Person 1: He's classy up top and casual on the bottom.
Person 2: It's like a garment mullet!

Girl 1: I hate fucking chemistry!
Girl 2: So stop fucking it.

Overheard at King's in Prince Hall:

"I like the dumb girl on Glee. She reminds me of you."

arts&culture.

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E-mail Rebecca or Erica at
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Rebecca Spence Arts Editor

Xavier Rudd brings Koonyum Sun from down under Australian promotes positive energy with Halifax performance

Sagar Jha
Arts Contributor

On Sept. 17, a vastly diverse crowd filed into the Halifax Forum's Multipurpose Room looking for a euphoric escape. Xavier Rudd was going to be the one to deliver it.

If you've never heard Rudd's music, you absolutely must. No other artist blends such cultural instruments as didgeridoos, tablas, and slide guitars better than Rudd. His music isn't just cultured, it also boasts messages of environmentalism, peace and Aboriginal rights.

The Australian singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist is currently on tour promoting his latest album, *Koonyum Sun*. The album was released under his new band name, Xavier Rudd and Izintaba. The group consists of bassist Tio Moloantoa and percussionist Andile Nqubezelo. The three have an

incredible chemistry that yields a distinct and colourful sound.

Rudd seems to love the East coast and the East coast loves him right back. He performed two years ago at the Evolve Festival in Antigonish, where he received an overwhelmingly positive response. This time, Rudd took to a much smaller stage, creating an intimate cultural experience for his fans.

The trio kicked things off with the song "The Mother" from his 2005 album, *Food in the Belly*. The opening track set the tone for the entire concert as it had strong drum lines, catchy slide guitar riffs and smooth bass lines. Of course, the song also contained Rudd's two most defining characteristics: the didgeridoo and messages of respecting Mother Earth.

The rest of the set was a choppy blend of both fast-paced hard rocking songs and some of Rudd's more mellow

acoustic songs. The group transitioned between both styles of music in an abrupt manner. It was as if each song could stand on its own as a piece of art. The band had limited interaction with the audience, but they really didn't need any. Their stage presence was enough. Their genuine smiles and high levels of energy were enough to keep the crowd interested.

Their extended jamming had to have been the highlight. The group performed songs like "Mana" and "Message Stick," which featured Rudd alternating between two didgeridoos while also performing his own percussive elements. Rudd played both instruments simultaneously for the entire song. For about 12 minutes, he exhibited his incredibly unique and captivating style of music.

Another highlight of the concert was how Rudd at times would stand back

and let Izintaba shine. At one moment, Nqubezelo was the only person performing for a solid five minutes. The percussionist had the entire audience listening as he pounded out some of the most complex beats and drum fills imaginable.

Shortly after, Moloantoa took over and laid down some bass lines with incredibly complex intricacies. Watching Rudd take a step back and letting his band showcase their talent really spoke to his character. Despite being a successful artist, he is still an incredibly humble human being.

The band closed the set with the fast-paced and complex song "Footprint" off their 2007 album, *White Moth*. They left the crowd energized and hungry for more. Rudd performed an encore, which was the most mellow and intimate part of the show. He did two acoustic songs, "Whirlpool" and "Land Rights." Both songs were done with only Rudd on stage. He stood in the centre for the first time and poured his heart out to the Halifax audience. He closed the show with his very well known track, "Let Me Be" from his 2004 album *Solace*.

As the jubilant crowd left the Forum, it seems that all in attendance could agree it was a night to remember.



The multi-talented Rudd.
••• Photo by Sagar Jha

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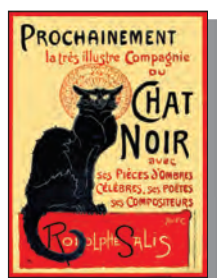
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Introducing The Avenues

Coming soon: a high energy, foot stompin', beer drinkin' experience

Jess Spoto
Arts Contributor

Headed for the East Coast with a foot stompin' show, The Avenues are a group of Canadian boys who love nothing more than having a good time. This three-piece band brings a high energy, alternative country-dance party all the way from Peterborough, Ontario. With their musical mixes of country twang, bluegrass beats, folk rhythms, The Avenues are a collaboration of instruments and harmonies.

The Avenues, formed in winter 2009, are Chris Culgin (guitar/vocals), Benji Rowland (foot bass pedals/banjo/accordion/vocals) and Josh Fewings (drums/percussion). The sound of this vibrant instrumental combo? An authentic, feel good, "let's drink" energy that will make everyone want to dance.

Influenced by a wide range of artists, staple bands include Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Johnny Cash, and Fred Eaglesmith. The Avenues, however, are not your typical cowboys.

Filling their music with storytelling and western vibes, their self-titled, first album is a party album. Themes of simple living

and real life experiences boom through their lyrics. For example, the track "Living in a tent," is about how Benji and Chris literally did just that. In large, the songs are about naturalizing.

Drummer Josh Fewings says he feels as though The Avenues make music that everyone can enjoy.

"The upbeat tone of the album makes it friendly for a wide range of listeners. Individuals of all ages could appreciate it, which is hard to find in a lot of new music that can be considered too busy for older generations," he says.

The 10-track debut album, which will be available for purchase at their upcoming show, was mixed and mastered by the band themselves. The album is said to have transcribed onto it the sweat and hard work that was endured while recording in Chris' house during a June heat wave.

The Avenues' music is a return to the basics: a simple yet solid Canadian sound. The instruments played are rooted in Canadian heritage and relatable to listeners. Fewings talks about how the banjo may remind someone of their grandpa for instance, or how "everyone and their father own a guitar." In essence, the songs are meant to feel real, be relatable, and trigger good time memories. "It's like sitting around a campfire kind of music," he says.

As believers in the grassroots movement, the boys prefer society at a local level. In favor of street busking

and against big-box stores, Fewings explains how one of their songs is about being in a foreign city, seeing a Wal Mart or Zellers and how at that moment it feels as though you could be just about anywhere due to corporate standardization. The importance of character is something The Avenues strongly believe in. One fun fact is that these guys prefer to ride their bikes whenever possible. Eco-friendly, indie-supporting, and musically talented!

While pumped up to hit the East Coast, the boys are no strangers to Halifax. Playing Gus' this past June, Fewings says that the Maritimes are beautiful, but all they had time for while in town was to check out the harbourfront, hit up the liquor store, and play their show that night. He did however manage to lose five dollars in 15 seconds on Gus' famous VLT.

So what should you expect at their

upcoming show?

The Avenues are devoted to getting people pumped up and trying to ensure everyone has a good time. Fewings describes their shows as "bringing kitchen parties to the bar," and known to be dancing stampedes.

"We like easing people into the music, make it welcoming and fun but at the same time we know how to use throttle to keep people dancing," he says.

The exchange of energy from the audience is what pushes the guys to play as tight as possible, and with songs lyrics like "Let's do something illegal tonight" it shouldn't be hard to create the house party vibe that their live shows aim for.

Fewings says that "if someone comes to the bar and their beer just isn't tasting good, we'll make their beer taste great!"

Be sure to check out *The Avenues* on Sept. 30, 9 p.m., at Gus' Pub. ☎

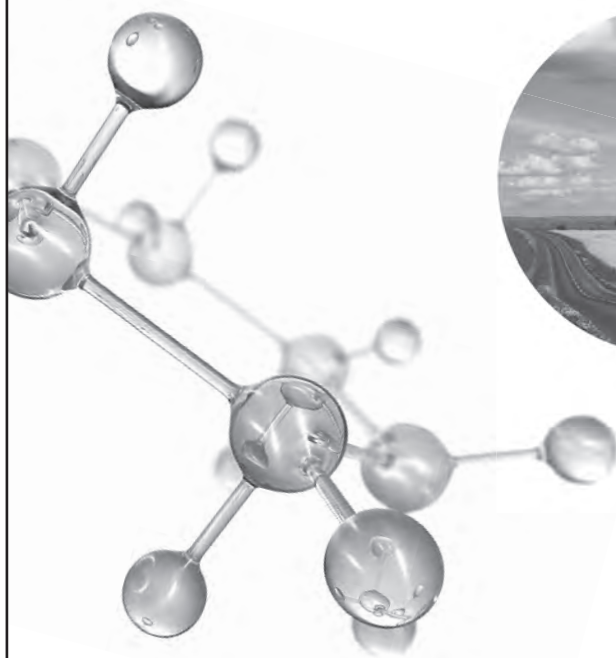
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arts&culture

Goggles Project offers new perspective

Traveling theatre troupe calls on universities to step up for sustainability

Rebecca Spence
Arts & Culture Editor

Sarah McCarthy had her first "goggles moment" one day when she was walking around at Purcell's Cove.

"It's beautiful there," she says. "But then you look down and there are used condoms and tampon applicators."

It was at this moment that McCarthy, a Halifax-based actor, realized that what we flush down our toilets ends up in our harbour, "landing among the ducks."

Now McCarthy, 27, is embarking on a cross-Canada tour with the Goggles Project, a theatre troupe committed to attracting attention to the topic of sustainability.

"The goggles are a joke in a way because it's saying we have to see through the refuse to get some perspective," says Gary Markle, the group's creative director.

Throughout the 20-minute show, the actors share their various goggle moments with the audience. From realizing that your own professors don't know where their drinking water comes from to discovering that your university invests its pension money in unsustainable resources, each goggle moment was written from professor Tara Wright's real personal experiences.

Wright is the co-creator of the Goggles Project and an associate professor of Environmental Science at Dalhousie. She commissioned a two-year study on

sustainability in higher education back in 2005, which was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). After obtaining a second SSHRC grant, she was able to bring her research to life in an interactive, engaging medium.

"They've actually started realizing that if you do research and all you do is write journal articles, not a lot of your message is going to get out," says Wright, 37. "So they started supporting innovative activities to get research out into the public."

Although she wrote the background of the script, she says that the Goggles Project only came to life through workshops with Gary Markle.

"We're modeling it after guerilla theatre," says Markle, an assistant professor at NSCAD. "It's a kind of theatre that can change how we think."

By Oct. 1 the Goggles Project will have visited nine cities, where they will have performed 32 shows at 18 different university and college campuses.

The four-person cast performed their first seven shows right here in Halifax last week: one at the Nova Scotia Community College, one at St. Mary's University, four at Dalhousie, and one at NSCAD. The actors found that the energy at St. Mary's was "fantastic", while the students at NSCAD were "a bit too cool for school." At Dalhousie, though, they were happy to be greeted by students who were open and

receptive to their message.

"At Dal it's been great to have people that are so interested in the subject matter," says McCarthy. "People were actually listening."

Mike Chandler, another member of the cast, agrees. "There's nothing better than getting people excited about what you're doing," he says. "That's really rewarding."

Dr. Wright thinks that it's important that the troupe performs in public places on campus so that they can reach people who would not normally come to listen to an environmental message. She also acknowledges that this kind of effort is about promoting a cultural change.

"You can tell people what's wrong with the planet until you're blue in the face," she says. "But until people actually feel the message and feel that they need to change their life, then not a lot is going to happen. I feel that cultural change coming."

The Goggle Project actors were all certainly attracted to the show's environmental message when they first got involved this past July.

"I'm particularly interested in doing theatre that has a social message behind it," says Chandler, a Halifax-based actor and filmmaker.

Sara Campbell, trained in Gaulier Clown, Lecoq Movement, and Physical Theatre, was already involved in the sustainable, organic food movement in Cape Breton when she auditioned for the Goggles Project.

Tyler Burns, who at 23 is the troupe's youngest performer, loves that he has an opportunity to promote a good cause and engage with students across the country. He also thinks that theatre is great way to communicate a message.

"Something like a flash video would have been cool but wouldn't have a person-to-person interaction," he says. "To go around the country and interact with these people on a personal level, the message is going to get across a lot



Goggles Project holds the planet in high regard. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

more clearly. It's going to hopefully leave more of an imprint than a video would."

So what is next for the Goggles Project once the tour wraps up in Vancouver?

"Broadway," jokes Markle.

Actually, Wright hopes to be able to leverage more funding to do this tour again. She also hopes that the Goggles Project could go beyond universities and perform at workshops and conferences. This will mostly depend on whether she can get more funding from the SSHRC, which seems to be a reasonable possibility.

"The beauty of the Goggles Project is that you don't have to let scholarly information just sit on a shelf," says Wright. "You can actually bring it out for people and have them engage in it. That's really our aim." ☺

For a complete tour schedule and additional information, visit gogglesproject.org

pop quiz.

1. How many months does it take the Earth to regenerate the resources that humans deplete in 12 months?

- A. Two months
B. Six months
C. Seventeen months

2. If the planet was divided up amongst the 6.5 billion people who inhabit it, each person would have 2.1 hectares to themselves. As it is, how many hectares does the average Canadian use?

- A. 1.2 hectares
B. 7.1 hectares
C. 15 hectares

3. If everyone around the world lived the lifestyle that Canadians do, how many planet earths would we need to support us?

- A. 2
B. 4
C. 8

Answers 1. C, 2. B, 3. B

Comeback Kid heads East

Rock band set to perform in Halifax this October

Mick Côté
Arts Contributor

The Winnipeg-based band, Comeback Kid, is on the road promoting their new album *Symptoms + Cures*.

The five-piece rock band is setting out to play in Halifax on Oct. 1, before heading south-of-the-border for the American leg of their tour.

"We're gonna be incorporating the old stuff and the new stuff and play songs off of each record in order to keep everybody happy," said Jeremy Hierbert, the band's guitarist.

With four albums in hand, Comeback Kid gained an important reputation in the punk-rock scene, ending up on Alternative Press' top 100 bands to know in 2005.

The group's move from Canada's record label, Smallman Records, to Distort Entertainment did not seem to affect the band's formula. Their sound is still deeply rooted within the hardcore rock vein with bands in the likes of

Bleeding Through and Cancer Bats.

"Smallman Records folded, we needed to find a new home in Canada," said the guitarist. "When you're comfortable somewhere, you've got to adapt to whatever change comes your way."

"We're in a pretty good position because record label respect that we know what we're doing. A lot of younger bands get pushed around and are expected to release albums every 18 months and there's no sitting around," said Hierbert. "Record labels just want to shit records out sometimes. That's not really how we operate."

In fact, their record was carefully crafted taking in consideration the dynamics of the band's guitarist-turned-vocalist, Andrew Neufeld. After Scott Wade's departure from the band in 2006, Neufeld grabbed hold of the mic and raked his vocal cords raw for the last two albums.

"We just kinda record them as we feel ready. We don't want to have anything get in the creative process and have a

release date to look ahead to. When the music's flowing, you get it on tape, demo it and you got it," said Hierbert.

Symptoms + Cures, the most recent addition to their discography, received a nine-out-of-ten review from *Rock Sound* magazine, one of Britain's leading rock-music magazines.

Comeback Kid's sound is tighter than ever before, dragging the listener into a mosh-pit of anthemic-fisted-hand-choruses and hard-hitting-head-bashing-riffs.

The ten-year run cannot entirely be given up to the band's drive. The band members are constantly learning new things from their surroundings.

"There's so many factors with being on the road and in the music industry," said Hierbert, 34. "I guess I am one of the older people still on the road. I still see Comeback Kid trying to break out and make it happen. We're just mid-career but I've definitely learned a lot and picked up things from other bands you meet." ☺

Commercial art

Jack Bishop's Urban Sprawl exhibit paints a haunting landscape of consumerism

Nick Laugher
Arts Contributor

A suffocating haze of neon lights and skyscrapers lingers in the circulated air of Gallery Page and Strange. Infrastructure and industry beg for bones, burrowing rabidly into the foundation. With a steadfast force of morose nostalgia, artist Jack Bishop descends once more upon the scene for his second solo exhibition at the gallery.

The exhibit *Urban Sprawl* unleashes a volley of frantic, iconic images of consumerism with a scathing simplicity. The Saint John native's disdain and apprehension for modern gluttony and consumption cry out in vain from the walls, reverberating with a despondent echo from the very oil harnessed to craft the critical onslaught.

The NSCAD alumnus' paintings sigh with resentment and despair, foaming at the mouth with an unsettling juxtaposition of modernity and community. On the surface of his painting "12 Gas Stations," lies a serene, angelic Atlantic skyline. Deceptively, the white, graceful flakes flutter uselessly downward, struggling to obscure a claustrophobic barrage of gas stations huddled ominously in waiting. Swarms of commercialism slowly begin to seep into the painting as true, sinister intentions are unearthed, leaving only the unpleasant taste of a superfluous charcoal-grey.

Bishop's work is highly subversive: marrying a very understated, simplistic style with the creeping antagonistic bite of modern city sprawl and dramatic over-development. The artist's humble brush-strokes lull you into a tranquil nostalgia, anaesthetized for the

sickening breath of sterility that begins clawing its way – silently – up your neck. Serenity begins selling its soul for hollow, vague apparitions and haunting skeletal remnants of a golden age. Concrete bones and shells of steel grin devilishly, calcifying in your heart as a foreboding sense of despair now takes root in the ashes of a simpler time. Bishop's work wears a disturbing sense of prophecy on its sleeves.

"Bishop's work is highly subversive: marrying a very understated, simplistic style with the creeping antagonistic bite of modern city sprawl and dramatic over-development."

Paintings like "A Bigger Mini-Mall" are enveloped in a dark, unfortunate humour: the hyperbolic repetition of chain stores and fast food outlets inciting a chuckle until we realize we're knee deep in the terrifying truth and ubiquity of mass-consumption. The desolate "Stary Night Stripmall" gloats knowingly, bathed in the spectral frailty

of the natural world. The naked sky, an endangered aura of diligent stars, slowly dissipates under an onslaught of fluorescent advertising and favoured space. The sky is chimerical as it struggles viciously to reconcile this strange, strained duality.

Bishop's work takes a savage, brooding turn on pieces like "McEsso w/ Purple Sky" as the noxious, dizzying colours tear their way into the foreground, forgoing the subtle uneasiness in favour of a shockingly poignant ambient mist, riddled with anxiety and nausea. It seeps into the pores of the painting, a sickle-like shine of ill intent. The demonic, vermilion reds of "9 Drive-Thru" glare out from over a jagged, saw-tooth mass of fast-food buildings. Viruses masquerading as vehicles begin infiltrating the scene, cultivating the distrust of an expanding desolation.

Bishop's *Urban Sprawl* is a whirlwind of honest, jarring images, coalescing to form an unfortunate glimpse into the mirror of our material selves. Sparkling sympathetically with a grim grin, Bishop's work is reluctantly sincere – regretful in its need for expression, taking cover behind a sparse backdrop of commercialized community. Without resulting to shallow scare tactics or leaning on facets of a fabricated post-apocalypse, Bishop sidesteps the unfortunate stigma of environmental preaching and sends a sincere and frightening image of the threat of the modern lifestyle thundering through our spines. ☹

Jack Bishop's "Urban Sprawl" will be on display at Gallery Page and Strange until Sept. 24.

Light is the Day

Laura Dawe's first film is a work of visual art

Cheryl Hann
Arts Contributor

Let's not call this a review. Let's call this a preview, and since Dalhousie grad Laura Dawe's first feature film, *Light is the Day* doesn't come out until later tonight, let's not spoil anything.

If you picked up last week's copy of *The Coast*, you already know the romantic DIY tale of how this movie was made. With its budget, actors and soundtrack taken from outside the system, *Light is the Day* is a bona fide testament to what can happen when you mix equal parts ambition, talent and aesthetic wherewithal. Throw in a dash of an incredibly supportive arts community, and you've got a pretty impressive film/cake.

Light is the Day (henceforth abbreviated *LITD*) makes full use of Dawe's artistic perspicacity. The movie opens with a credit sequence that's so good it will make you puke. It's like someone sent Jared Hess back in time to do the credits for *Pretty in Pink*.

Post-credit sequence, the film continues to deliver powerful right hooks, directly to your eyeballs. From tight shots of the most attractive people (stars Corey Hinchey, Erika Ellsworth and Tim Mitchell), to wide shots of the most wonderful, golden-in-the-sunlight scenery (shot outside a magical house in Pictou County), *LITD* never lets you forget Dawe's first love: painting. The director's background in visual art imbues the film with a kind of ethereal

charm that makes it easy for you to overlook any of Dawe's "Hey, this is my first film" mistakes.

The film is sincere, and though some of the dialogue feels stilted, it comes from a real place. The scenes in the movie where apocalyptic refugees Painter (Ellsworth), Michael (Hinchey) and Charlie (Mitchell) make drunken small talk around a fire are wonderful. Perhaps because everyone is actually drunk, and Dawe just let the camera roll.

And while it's true that the film's stars are non-actors, and that prior to this film, Dawe was a non-director (actually, she was the Gazette Arts editor for the 2009/10 season), it is equally true that, as the film progresses, everyone comes into their own.

And they do it to an uncontrollably rad soundtrack. *LITD* features music from atomically cool and uplifting local bands such as Cousins, Omon Ra, and OmmaCobba. It also features shout outs to a ton of super talented local artists, and a scene wherein (I'm pretty sure) Charlie masturbates to a picture of Ruby Jean front woman Rebekah Higgs ironing clothes.

But, even if you're not winked at directly by *LITD*, you should still check it out. It's really amazing what a close-knit group of like-minded people can accomplish with only \$15,000, a shared passion, and a lot of wine. ☹ *Light is the Day* screens at Park Lane this Friday, Sept. 24 at 9:30 p.m.. You can get tickets at atlantic.bside.com/2010/films/lightistheday_atlantic2010

Self-Serve

Artist explores cultural identity in new exhibit

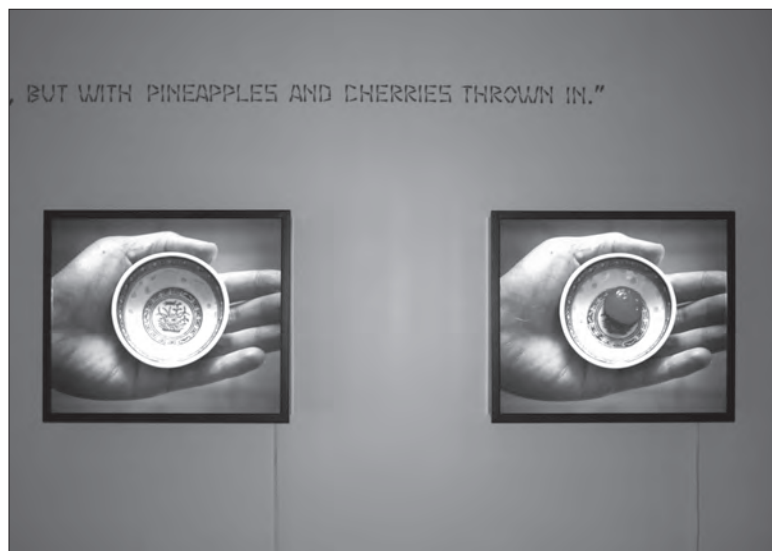
Delicious art.
••• Photo by Erica Eades

Erica Eades
Assistant Arts Editor

Walking into Eyelevel Gallery lately feels more like entering a Chinese buffet from the 1980s than a fine art gallery. And that's exactly the point.

Shelly Low's latest installation, *Buffet Toi & Moi*, draws from the artist's experiences growing up in Montreal in the early eighties, during which time her parents owned and operated a Chinese/Polynesian restaurant, "La Pagode Royale".

In Low's personal biography, she states she is "interested by the conundrum within cultural identity and ethnicity: whereby the desire of the



ethnic entrepreneur to assimilate into the economy eventually compromises their own cultural identity."

This idea is present in every aspect of Low's work. From the displays of ornately-painted dishes to the videos featuring blocks of Ramen noodles, the stereotypes of "authentic" Chinese culture are everywhere.

The most stirring demonstration of this concept appears as you first enter the gallery. There is a series of decorative plates on the wall with the words, "Nous ne mangions jamais cette nourriture a la maison" painted across them. It is followed by the English translation, "We never ate this food at home."

This addresses a key concept in Low's

work: the ironic way in which Chinese restaurants in Canada offer food they believe their customers expect in exchange for their business. In doing so, Low believes restaurant owners may be reinforcing certain stereotypes about their culture, rather than providing authentic cuisine.

There is a playfulness and humour to this exhibit that is immediately captivating. But Low also manages to invoke a poignant message about our relationship with cultural identity, and how falling victim to cultural stereotypes can affect our self-perception. ☹

Buffet Toi & Moi will be showing at Eyelevel Gallery at 2063 Gottingen St. until October 9, 2010.

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sports covers athletic events and topics relevant to Dalhousie. E-mail Dylan at sports@dalgazette.com to contribute.

Dylan Matthias Sports Editor



Neil Hooper and the King's rugby team were sprayed with a water gun after their game against Mount Allison University.
••• Photo by Pau Balite

King's athletics director soaked at Mount Allison Fan with water gun taints Mt. A win

Allyson Kenny
Sports Contributor

A disappointing start to the King's varsity rugby season took a bizarre turn on the Sept. 10, when the on-field efforts of the Blue Devils were overshadowed by a water gun-toting Mount Allison fan.

The women's side, leading for the majority of their game, eventually fell to Mount Allison 15-13. The men's side took a 32-0 beating.

A driving rain fell during the first match, but had subsided by the time the men's game finished. No wonder, then, that Neil Hooper, King's athletic director, initially thought the water was coming from the trees overhead.

"Then I saw a guy behind the fence with a super soaker. He literally soaked me to the skin. I think he may have reloaded, and then he hit the players. But the water on the team was minimal. The kid looked at us, said 'And I'll be back,' and left."

"Any incident like that is unfortunate," says Pierre Arsenault, Mount Allison's athletic director.

"It's not the intention of our program to have visiting teams come to Mount Allison and have experiences like that. It's certainly not representative of our program."

Hooper gives tremendous credit to the team for their handling of the incident. Relocating to the goal on the far side of the field, coaches quickly diffused the situation.

Hooper was the last one from King's to leave the field. Too drenched to comfortably make the drive from Sackville, New Brunswick to Halifax that night, he opted to stay at a hotel in Amherst.

Mount Allison and King's have an intense rivalry in rugby. The men have met each other in the finals for the past three years, with two of those games decided in overtime. Mount Allison have won all three championships.

"It could have been worse. I could have been hit with bricks, not water," Hooper says.

"Mount Allison is a fantastic school, and they have a fantastic athletic department. And fans are fans. It's in their nature to enthusiastically support the home team. But the safety of everyone involved has to be the number one priority."

King's staff and players have been subject to abuse at games in the past, including verbal harassment and objects being thrown at their bench. The trend is frustrating for Hooper.

"They could call us bad players, or a bad team. If they want to say King's sucks, that's fine. But making reference to a player's size, or personal aspects, we're fed up with having to deal with that. May the best team win, but regardless of who wins, you shouldn't have to deal with the impact of things that could change the

outcome of a game. In basketball, if fans are interfering with the game, the referee can actually stop the match. There's a zero-tolerance policy."

Mount Allison celebrated homecoming on the night of the rugby matches, so alcohol likely played a part in fuelling the violence directed towards Hooper and the King's team. Hooper indicated that the Mount Allison fan in question is known to both officials at that school and at King's.

"The notion of someone being able to come over there [near the King's players] and do that is disturbing. It forces me to come back here and rethink what we do [at King's and in the ACAA] in terms of security."

"Too drenched to comfortably make the drive from Sackville, NB to Halifax that night, he opted to stay at a hotel in Amherst."

The super soaker incident could have consequences well beyond the scope of Friday's games. The Atlantic College's Athletic Association (ACAA) will discuss the incident at their monthly meeting on Sept. 22. Likely changes include a mandate that there be a security presence at all further games, derogatory signs be banned or confiscated on site, and fans engaging in verbal abuse—regardless of which side they support—be ejected from the match.

Security guards at games seem to be a wise investment, but can schools afford it? Hooper hopes so.

"The experience you give, your public image, what price can you really put on that?"

King's next meets Mount Allison at home on Oct. 24 for their last regularly scheduled matches of the season. The outcome of those games will likely determine home field advantage in the finals. Provided the ACAA levels a safety mandate on Wednesday, security will be present for that match.

Neil Hooper doesn't foresee any trouble at home, and a large contingent of King's fans are expected to attend. He believes King's fans are some of the most respectful in the league.

Despite being shaken by the incident, he isn't sweating the small stuff leading up to Sept. 22.

"In the meantime," he says, "We've just ordered a few raincoats." ☔

2010-11

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SPORT/RETORT

Fan culture is a tricky thing

Dylan Matthias
Sports Editor

How much is too much?

Forgive the cliché, but it's something we're wondering around the Gazette this week.

Last week, we brought you a sit-down interview with Jeff Pond, president of Dal Football and his (and others') thoughts on how Dal could generate some fan support. This week, we bring you a story about fan culture gone overboard when Neil Hooper, King's athletics director, was sprayed with a water gun at a rugby game against Mount Allison.

“Passionate people occasionally do stupid things. They yell at players. They yell at the ref. They bring water guns to sporting events.”

We don't want to sensationalize this. It was a water gun, and Neil and the rugby teams will be just fine. Hooper has a point, though, when he says to sports reporter Allyson Kenny that it "could have been a brick, not water." And if a rowdy, probably drunk fan can get a brightly-coloured large water gun over to the bench, what else could be hidden?

ACAA rugby is a fantastic thing. Well-supported, high-quality university sport. It is a spectacle. It should be—that's why people come to see it. Last week, Jeff Pond suggested that Dalhousie games need to be "events." Spectacular events, even.

Gazette Sports agrees. I agree. I want to see fans cheer and jeer. I want Wickwire Field, the DalPlex, and Memorial Arena to be tough places to play. Why do I want that? Because

it's a story and we tell stories. And also because, somewhere deep down in my J-School-hardened soul, I want Dal to win.

Last year, I was elated that a residence group came out to support the Tigers soccer teams. They cheered and they taunted. For a short time, Wickwire was a tough place to play because players focused on fans and not on soccer. We accepted that, though. It was a good thing, and it showed us what we can be.

Where does that line get drawn? When there are students in a community, they act like young people. Young people can be rowdy. When we talk about building a community of support at Dal, we're building a community of students.

What kind of supporters are we? Everyone wants to see the Tigers win, which means the other team losing. The athletes are passionate and so are the fans. Both love their school. Passionate people, though, occasionally do stupid things. They yell at players. They yell at the ref. They bring water guns to sporting events. Somewhere in there is a line, and it may take an incident at Dal for it to be drawn clearly.

University sport is not simply a way for the intelligentsia of society to exercise their mind. That thinking is not only outdated, it's also a myth. The thinking that fans will simply come out and cheer on the Tigers belongs to that myth. The fans are invested in the game, too.

Next month, Dal will host homecoming. On one spectacular day, there will be a Dal rugby game followed by a soccer double-header and a Dal football game. It will be a festival of sport and community, an overload for sports-addicted Gazette writers like me and for students and alumni looking to celebrate Dal. If we're fortunate, everyone will leave with a sense of school pride, the Tigers will leave with several more points, and our reporters will retire to write out more 600-word match reports.

We all know, though, that what happened at Mount Allison could easily happen that night, too. It only takes one. We all—athletes, officials, leagues and fans have to decide what we're comfortable with and where we draw the line.

Ultimately, it's only a game. Sometimes, though, it seems like a lot more. ☹

Tigers lacrosse rout Laxmen

Acadia falls 16-2 to a strong Dal side

Ian Froese
Sports Contributor

The Tigers did not simply change their fortunes towards the positive, but did so drastically on Sept. 18 at Wickwire Field.

Following a night where Dalhousie fell to Saint Mary's University in a tense double overtime contest, eight goals in the second quarter sealed any opportunity the Acadia Laxmen had to prevail in a 16-2 victory for the Tigers' in their home opener. The performance gives the Tigers a record of 2-1.

"We didn't play our best game, but we didn't play our worst game either," said Dalhousie attacker David Gagnier. "We just had to work on some of our technical things, not getting too many penalties, stuff like that."

Gagnier led the team with three goals. He opened the scoring in dramatic fashion five minutes into the match by releasing the ball as he fell courtesy of a defender's check. He also potted the eventual game winner in the final five seconds of the quarter to give the Tigers a sturdy 3-0 lead.

As the score progressed keeping his squad concentrated on playing a solid team game was a challenge, according to Tigers' head coach Rob Griffith.

"I think we kind of knew what our competition would be today. But once we got focused towards our common goal then it was a bit more fun [for us] to play."

The second quarter removed any fears from the Tigers' faithful that they would see the nail biter they witnessed the day before. Thirty seconds into it, Brendan Clark added a fourth goal by cutting to the front of the net through a struggling Laxmen defense and goaltender. With only three substitutes, Acadia lacked the Tigers' depth and it showed as the Dalhousie squad capitalized again and again on many of their chances in front of the opposing net.

Rob Harrison, Tom Allen, Jack Inglis and Dan Schow gave the home team an 8-0 lead before Acadian attacker Blake Jeffrey gave the visiting side something to cheer about 12 minutes into the quarter. The goal brought life to the Laxmen as they responded with an increased physical presence.

The Tigers were not interested in this adjustment and followed it with three



Dalhousie overwhelmed the Laxmen last Saturday. ••• Photo by Pau Balite

extra goals in under three minutes. Brandon Fournier, Keegan Witton and Stephen Fyfe helped turn the contest into an 11-1 rout after the half.

In the second half, the script was altered as goals did not trickle in for the Tigers with the same enthusiasm.

"It's probably a combination of (Acadia) just trying to play a little tighter on defence and we were rolling our lines, playing all four lines evenly. It's good to get those guys on the field as well," said Griffith.

Acadia midfielder Scott Gobel crept past the Tigers' defense in the quarter's fifth minute to pot the Laxmen's second goal and make the score 12-2. It was nevertheless the last time Tigers goalie Mike Cowan would see one past him. The team in front of him then added markers by Brendan Clark and a second

for Witton.

"Not to say anything bad about Acadia, but SMU is a bigger challenge for us this year, same with X," Gagnier said after the match. He ended the scoring with the game's final marker to give the Tigers a 16-2 victory.

Midfielder Dan Schow drew raves from the coaching staff for his two-goal effort and was awarded with the game ball. ☺

The Tigers are in action twice this weekend. A rematch of last year's championship game is on Sat. Sept. 25 at 5 p.m. versus St. Francis Xavier, and Sunday morning they will battle Mount Allison at 10 a.m. Both games are at Wickwire Field.

LIVE WELL THIS WEEK AT DAL!

Dalhousie University's Department of Athletics and Recreational Services offers Dal students plenty of opportunities to get active, meet up with friends, show your competitive spirit and take your mind off the books! You can also head to Dalplex with your student ID and unwind while staying healthy.

FRIDAY September 24

DAL Tigers Women's Volleyball Tournament
StFX vs. SMU, 6pm
DAL vs. ACA, 8pm

SATURDAY September 25

DAL Tigers Women's Volleyball Tournament
StFX vs. ACA, 10am
SMU vs. DAL, 12pm
StFX vs. UNB, 3pm
SMU vs. ACA, 5pm
DAL vs. UNB, 7:30pm

DAL Tigers Cross Country Invitational
W 12pm, M 12:45pm
Point Pleasant Park

Intramural Ultimate Frisbee Tournament
10am-4pm

SUNDAY September 26

DAL Tigers Women's Volleyball Tournament
SMU vs. UNB, 10am
StFX vs. DAL, 12pm
ACA vs. UNB, 2:30pm

Dal Lacrosse Home Game, 6pm

MONDAY September 27

Want to try a group fitness class but don't know the moves? Come to **Fitness 101 @ Dalplex** from 6:30-7:30pm and we'll teach you!



TUESDAY September 28

Intramural Registration Deadline for Hockey Leagues



WEDNESDAY September 29

DAL Men's Hockey vs. ACA, 9pm (Exh)

THURSDAY September 30

Try Boot Camp @ Dalplex, 5:30-6:30pm FREE for Dal student members!



Dal Football returns after 34 years

Tigers down defending champions in opener



A sight we haven't seen in a long while. 34 years is over. ••• Photo courtesy of Dal Football Club

Henry Whitfield
Sports Contributor

The wait is finally over.

The Dalhousie Tigers Football team played their first game in 34 years, defeating the Atlantic Football league champion UNB Redbombers in a thrilling 22-19 victory that had those in attendance on the edge of their seat throughout the game.

Trick plays, punt return touchdowns, big defensive plays and interceptions; this game had it all.

Despite playing their first game in more than three decades, the Tigers showed no nerves and their defensive line settled in early, shutting down the Redbombers and putting their offense on the field.

Quarterback Brendan Festeryga wrote history with his first play on the

field, connecting with receiver Darko Stasevic on his first throw. Stasevic quickly took over and stormed his way into the end zone, sending his team and fans into celebration with the team's first touchdown.

Bryce Wade, former high school all-star, picked off three interceptions and converted a sneaky two-point conversion. Dalhousie Tiger Football President Jeff Pond was full of praise for the player. "He's fantastic ... Bryce is one of our defensive captains and he definitely showed his leadership on the field."

However, it was Greg Pelly and his 104-yard kickoff return that had fans and players on both sides talking. With just six minutes remaining and his team facing a 19-15 deficit, Pelly took off down the field and weaved his way through a sea of players to put his team in the

lead for good.

"The team was full of energy and the game was highly entertaining," said Pond. "It was great to see all the effort put in since the winter was coming through.

"Seeing the team run onto the field was amazing; it was a spectacular moment for all of us who have been working on this project since the beginning."

The Dalhousie Tigers Football team heads to PEI next weekend to face Holland College, the AFL's other expansion team, before coming home to play them in their home opener at Wickwire field on Oct. 2.

Disclosure: Dalhousie Gazette editor-in-chief Joel Tichinoff is a member of the Dal Football team.

Profile: Ben Ur

Men's soccer 'keeper a Chelsea fan

Arfa Ayub
Sports Contributor

For a guy who was "stuck" in nets because he was not good at playing striker, Ben Ur has sure made things work out in his favour.

"That's probably the best way to explain it," said Ur, goalkeeper of the Dalhousie Tigers men's soccer team.

In 2008, Ur led his team to the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) championship. He hopes to repeat that feat once again this season.

"We have been pretty good so far. It's a bit early in the season. I would say we have stuff that we can improve on but we are a very good team in the middle and it looks promising," he says. In 2008 Ur was named to the AUS second all star team.

Ur is from Halifax but his parents are from England, where soccer is as big as

hockey in Canada.

"It's kind of bred into me, I guess. It's one of those things where I got brought into it at a very young age and just played it ever since."

He has been playing soccer for 12 years. But "football," as they call it in England, isn't his only sport.

"I love hockey. Big hockey fan. Grew up playing that as well," he says.

His favourite NHL team are the Colorado Avalanche because growing up he was a big fan of Ray Bourque. As for soccer, Ur's favourite soccer team is Chelsea because "my parents are from that area, and it's the team I grew up cheering for."

Currently, Ur is in his fourth year of play with the Tigers. He is majoring in arts. Ur's favourite memory as a Tiger is "winning the AUS championship two years ago. That's definitely up there."

Ur is listed at 6'2". His armspan is, by our estimate, six feet.
••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

Sports Briefs

MacDonald, Clarke transfer to King's

Just after we published our frosh issue previewing the Tigers, Colleen MacDonald left for King's, less than 24 hours before the season began. She debuted this weekend for the Blue Devils. Joining her is Gillian Clarke.

Also, men's soccer defender Zach Bauld has joined SMU.

UNB hockey taking Alberta

A 10-2 win over the Calgary Dinos, followed up by 6-2 and 6-1 wins over Univ. of Alberta and Calgary again have AUS fans wondering just how good UNB Varsity Reds are going to be this year after being de-throned by St. Mary's last spring.

King's slow start continues

The King's Blue Devils soccer teams had a decidedly mixed weekend.

The men lost 1-0 to St. Thomas on Saturday on a penalty kick, then responded to beat UNB Saint John with a Sam Burtleon goal in the first half. They lost Chris Etmanski to a second yellow card late in the game.

The women defeated St. Thomas 2-1, and then drew 0-0 with UNB Saint John in a game where they peppered UNBSJ keeper with shots.

Women's Soccer: Huskies hold Panthers

The Huskies spoiled the home opener party for UPEI with a Kelly Burgess goal. Cheslie McInnis equalized five minutes after Burgess' goal to give both teams a share of the points.

Men's Soccer: Mt. A, SMU and X take wins

The Mount Allison Mounties got a crucial three points in their quest to make the playoffs, defeating Acadia 2-1.

St. Mary's rolled over a tricky UPEI side 3-0. X put four past Moncton to complete a Saturday of blowouts.

ACAA Soccer: Holland College women win big

Holland College's women's soccer team scored 15 goals this weekend, putting 11 past Crandall University and then sending NSAC home with a 4-0 loss.

In men's soccer, UNB Saint John defeated the Mount 2-1 on Saturday and Holland College beat NSAC 2-0 on Sunday.

—Dylan Matthias
Sports Editor

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Quashed but in good spirits

Ian Froese meets the squash club

Ian Froese
Sports Contributor

I rested my hands on top of my knees and embarrassingly looked at the ground below, if only for a second. Why am I already exhausted? I motion towards my left forearm at the place where a watch should be and call out to my comrade, "What time is it?" He chuckles and I follow suit. Little does he know, I was not entirely joking.

This was the sight nearly 30 minutes after yours truly participated in an introductory squash training session at the Dalplex racquet courts.

"Squash players are probably, I think, the third ranked in the professional level in terms of overall fitness. Lots of people don't realize it's a demanding sport," said David Westwood, president of the Dalhousie Squash Club.

I may not have agreed when he uttered this statement prior to my attempt, but I am a believer now. It's a game very much dependent on footwork and anticipation.

For the uninitiated, squash is played by two players (four if it is a doubles match) in a four-walled enclosure; the walls are glass in some courts. Participants equipped with a racquet hit the small rubber ball to the portion of the front wall designated for play. The competitors will then alternate shots until the rally falters. The ball can hit any of the "in" areas on the other three walls as long as it ultimately reaches the front wall.

Sporting my gym clothes, a pair of goggles, and a racquet, I walked inside the court confident I would impress the club president. My instructor began the session by displaying the proper technique for hitting the ball. It appeared simple enough. With my experience of playing tennis and badminton, I did not think smacking the ball required much talent.

Of course you could probably see this coming, but once it was my opportunity to connect my racquet with the ball, things did not go according to plan.

The miniature-sized squash balls, about 40mm in diameter, deceived me frequently. On a regular basis, I swung for the home run and instead found myself twirling around without contacting the ball. I was quickly frustrated at my newfound dilemma.

Unable to master that challenge, I graduated with less than flying colours into attempting a regulated game where a point is rewarded to the winner of each rally.

This was where I, being a beginner, recognized a further surprise: the lack of bounce in the playing ball.

"If you're used to playing tennis, it takes a long time to get in the habit of getting really low and getting underneath the ball," Westwood answered. "Most people find it challenging at first because they don't realize exactly how hard they have to hit it." He is also an associate professor of kinesiology at Dalhousie.

Appreciating the physics of the ball is one thing, but competing against a veteran of the sport was another entirely.

Westwood was gracious while I suffered defeat on nearly every rally. Regardless of if the ball landed towards me, was fired to the back corner, or was a short drop shot, I flailed my arms and legs in every which direction to propel myself to the ball's target. Usually I came up short as I instinctively delayed my movements following each shot I took. The second or so I lost could not be recovered in time for me to reach the ball.

Although my body was drained in what was probably record time, I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. If you are interested in following my sweat-drenched footsteps, do not attend one of the regular court times asking for a teacher, but rather contact Westwood for a free lesson through his email: david.a.westwood@gmail.com. If the lesson has you hooked, consider joining the 85-member club for \$35 if you attend classes at Dalhousie or \$45 for non-students. For further details on everything squash, direct your web browser to dalsquash.org. ☎

Men's Tigers fall to 10-man Capers

Rajkovic penalty gives Cape Breton the win



2009 AUS champions Cape Breton beat Dalhousie at home Sept. 18. ••• Photo by Martina Marien

Arfa Ayub
Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie Tiger's men's soccer team lost their third game of the season to the Cape Breton Capers, last year's AUS champions.

"We expected them to be a great team, it didn't matter that they went 0-2 last weekend. They won the league last year and they had a bunch of returning players and we knew it was going to be a great game," said Ross Hagen.

This was a matchup of two teams who are predicted to finish near the top of the AUS standings. The powerful Capers, though, had struggled on their first weekend, having lost both their home game, which means they sat near the bottom of AUS standings, and were in

need of a win.

A bizarre event occurred in the first half. Cape Breton goalkeeper Chris Tournidis came way out of his net and handled the ball outside the box and was sent off for denying a goal-scoring opportunity. Defender Shayne Hollis was swapped out for a replacement keeper, Jonah Gardikiotis, and play resumed.

The first half of the game was an even half for both teams. The Tigers nearly scored twice, with one of those chances coming from Hagen, who has been having a stellar season and who nearly scored his fifth goal of the season in three games.

Despite the chances for both teams by the end of the first half the score remained 0-0.

The lone goal of the game came in

the 56th minute scored by the Capers. Kerry Weymann conceded a penalty and Silvano Rajkovic beat keeper Ben Ur to make it 1-0. After scoring the goal the Capers started to take control of the game and fired shot after shot at Ur.

In the last few minutes of the game the Tigers made a few desperate attempts to tie the game but had nothing to show for it.

The Tigers have struggled this season to score goals. After beating Acadia 2-0, they have been held by both Moncton and Cape Breton.

"Both teams had some good chances, we just didn't finish ours today and we will have to work on that for the future," said Hagen. ☎



Dalhousie's Jeanette Huck scored Sept. 18 against Cape Breton
••• Photo by Martina Marien

Tigers defeat powerful Capers

Women put two past 2007 national champions

Arfa Ayub
Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie Tiger's women's soccer team beat the Cape Breton Capers 2-0 last Saturday at Wickwire field, sending the Capers home with a 1-2 record.

"I thought the first half was a little rough, but I think after we switched up the formation and every one played together in the second half it turned into

a really great game," said Katie Richard.

It was a tale of two halves for Jack Hutchison, head coach of the Tigers. The first half of the game was not a good one for him. The Capers were the dominant team and the Tigers just couldn't find their game.

"The girls couldn't string three passes together, it was rushing and everything. The second half was: settle the ball down. People started to get in position and have confidence in one another and the game in the second half got very easy and it was really nice to watch, on our behalf," said Hutchison.

Jeanette Huck opened the scoring in the 54th minute, when the ball bounced off the crossbar. Huck took advantage and kicked the ball in the net. With the Tigers struggling to score this season, the goal could not have come at a better time.

The second goal of the game was scored by Richard, in the 75th minute. Only a few minutes after scoring her first goal Richard nearly made it 3-0 for the Tigers but her shot missed the net.

"I think we came out strong, but we just didn't carry our momentum until

the end," said Nichole Morrison of the Capers.

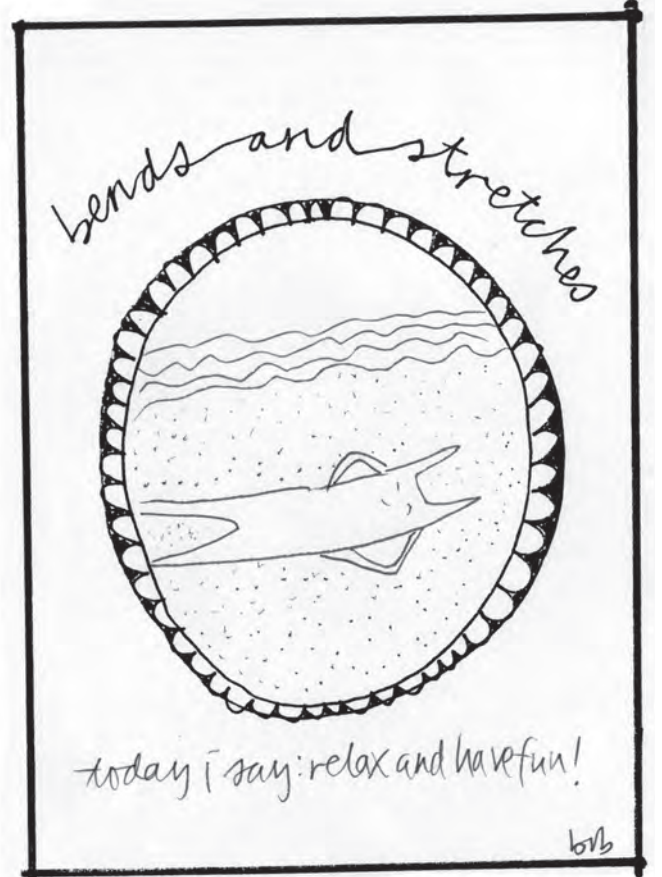
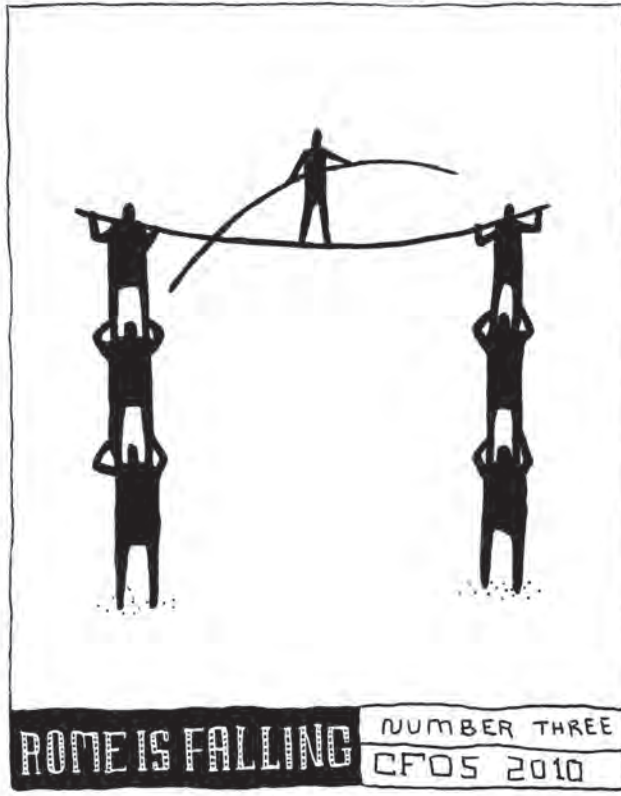
The Capers were missing Alyssa Budhoo and Sabina Solymar, arguably two of their best forwards.

"I know they lost a lot of players but we didn't underestimate them at all, they do have good players coming up, we were just ready to play our game," said Richard.

Although the Tigers were expecting the Capers to come out strong they did not prepare any differently then they would have for any other game said Hutchison.

"Our quote this week was not to be better than your opponents but to be better than yourselves so that was where our focus was: improving our game in the things that we have to do. We are still early in the season, only 3 games in, it's still September and like I say to the girls: I don't want my best game to be in the second week of September, we have to continue to improve individually and as a team. Improve our personal performance. We were very, very concentrated on what we had to do." ☎

comics.



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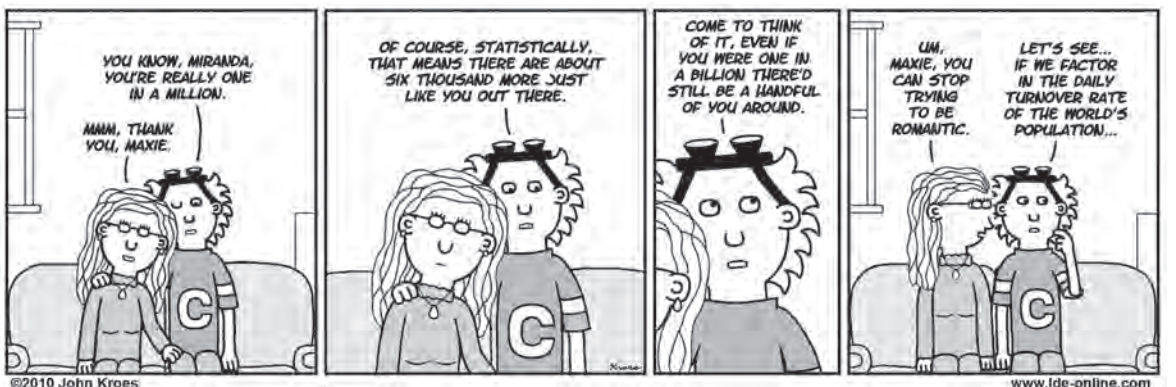
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THE GOSSIP GEEK

Gossip Geek here: your one and only source into the scandalous lives of Sexton's engineers.

With school back in, you didn't hear it from us, but in every girl's life there comes a moment when she realizes her mother may be more messed up than she is. Spotted: two ladies, older than Stan singing Karaoke at the TRoom. Will cougars continue to prowl the TRoom? I hope so.. the party definitely followed them in and out the doors.

Spotted: CK curling up with some trash in the mech lab.. lets hope she cleans up before her next class. As a famed literary liar once told Oprah, memory is subjective. Memories can be embellished. Or denied. But as James Frey knows all too well, the truth always comes out.

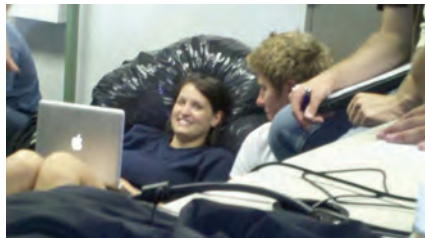
This just in from the Pogue Fado Facebook album.. CC getting cozy on the dance floor with a mystery lady. Who is she? Will she return? Has he found love at an Irish Pub? Send me all the deets! And who am I? That's one secret I'll never tell.. unless you get me drunk.

You know you love me!

xoxo Gossip Geek

Got some juicy pics? Deets? Ridiculous fake rumours?

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Endothermic

Exothermic

The T-Room

Being left out of the Gazette

Category 4 Hurricanes

Category 4 blow outs

Frag for Cancer

Getting Pwned by N00bs!

Fireworks at Dalfest

Seeing my student fees go up in flames

Matt Mays

Marianas Trench

Putting the Sex in Sexton Putting the Stud in Studley

FIGHTING FOR TAXPAYERS



Mike Kennedy
B.A. 2011

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation has entered Atlantic Canada with a bang. On September 15 the national taxpayers advocacy group launched its first-ever Atlantic Office with the release of a report damning Nova Scotia MLAs for their pension perks and benefits, followed the day after by a second report highlighting the same shameful practice in New Brunswick.

Politicians beware; we have not seen an organization so committed to shaming government at every opportunity in defense of the (often defenseless) taxpayer.

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) is a federally incorporated, not-for-profit citizen's group dedicated to lower taxes, less waste and accountable government. The CTF is proudly 100% free of government funding, relying on the financial support of more than 70,000 Canadians who are fed up with government run amok.

Celebrating 20 years of operation, the CTF is no stranger to Canadian politics. In 1989 a small group of people in Saskatchewan decided they were through with sitting idle as tax-and-spend governments continued to push deeper into taxpayers' pockets. They decided to organize, and they fought back. In 1990, they merged with a like-minded group in Alberta to form the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.

From those humble beginnings the CTF went on

to leave their footprint at every legislature in the land, advocating lower taxes, pointing out government waste and holding politicians to account. And they have been successful on several fronts in rallying ordinary citizens to force reform.

In the 1990s the CTF lead the charge on governments to balance budgets. The CTF commissioned the construction of a debt clock – 12 feet long, 8-and-a-half feet high – with changeable faceplates for the federal and each provincial government. The clock displayed the per-second increase in debt along with increasing debt for the average family of four. The clock was toured across the country and made headlines wherever it was set up. First in several provinces and later federally, the country as a whole gradually moved from red ink to black ink.

And now, Atlantic Canada marks the opening of a new frontier in the battle between spend-crazed politicians and ordinary citizens who have to foot the bill. "After years of government overspending and a taxing, we need a group to motivate Nova Scotians to organize and demand real change from government," says CTF Atlantic Director Kevin Lacey. Whether its politicians gouging the taxpayers' trough, a reckless spending spree or an unanswered question, the CTF sees its role as a facilitator between the citizen and their government.

This "help you to help yourself" method to activism is unique in Atlantic Canada. The region has often had to rely on the opinion of a hot-headed reporter, an ivory tower guru or (*shudders*) a

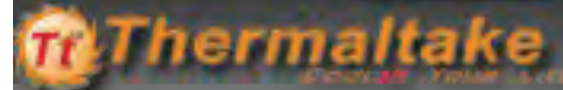
rival political party to define their voice. Not anymore. For the CTF to be successful, ordinary Atlantic Canadians must organize at the grassroots level to demand change in favour of lower taxes and less spending.

So, dear citizen, it's up to you to take advantage of this new opportunity to stand up and fight for your right to party; if by party we mean to push government out of our lives. Aren't the two the same?

Michael Kennedy is a former intern with the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, and is currently the executive director of the Dalhousie Liberty Society. The views expressed in this article are his own, and do not necessarily represent those of the Sextant Publishing Society.



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THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2010

EDITOR IN CHIEF: BEN WEDGE

DON'T HURT THE AUs!



Robert Newcombe
Industrial '13

Acadia, SMU, NSAC, St. FX, CBU, UPEI are all Maritime Universities that feed into Dalhousie's engineering program at Sexton Campus. Six schools that combine into one which may have the smartest students (and possibly the most beer consumed per student on average) in Atlantic Canada. Since everyone loves lists, I'm going to list off the advantages for the "AU Feeding Program" that is already in place.

- Less money - Not ripping on Dalhousie at all but it's a friggin expensive school. Going to one of the other five schools for your first two (or maybe three) years is going to put more money in your pocket (which can be saved, spent, gambled or invested into alcohol).
- Fewer students - Dalhousie has 16,000 students or so? I don't care how many professors you have, you're still going to have larger class sizes. AC for example has 800 students and an engineering class size of 10. More

teacher interaction can often lead to more learning. This often leads to an easier transition from high school to university.

- More selection - Having a choice of where to go for your first two years is a luxury that us engineers may take for granted. Whether you want to stay close to home, move further away from home, live in the middle of nowhere (sorry X), or go with some friends... you have that choice.
- More friends - Going to another school for a couple years you make friends and contacts that you will have for the rest of your life. You're able to keep those friends, plus make more buddies at Dal. Plus you got a spot to visit when you need a break from Hali.
- Better res life - Let's face it... Truro and Sydney are horrible places to go out to the bars "downtown". Antigonish and Wolfville can't really compare to the city either. This is why the residence life is that much better. Because people aren't going to the bars, it makes for some pretty sweet residence/house parties that go

all night long.

- The "Sloppy" Factor - This may only apply to some but how often can you get hammered out of your mind downtown and not pay a fine or get beat up at the end of the night? Get hammered out of your mind at res or a house party, you might get beat up still but you usually have that buddy looking out for you and the cops are hardly ever involved.

A lot of these points are more directed to first years and undergrads who are looking to enter university taking an engineering degree, but I believe a lot of people can relate to this list, especially the ones coming from different schools other than Dal. I, coming from AC, had a ball in res, on campus and in the surrounding area that was occupied by students. Truro is a pretty shitty town for nightlife (although Split Crow is expanding to Truro, which has the students hornier than a 3-balled cat) but it really doesn't matter when you have such a close knit group of students at a smaller school. Not having a choice of schools first year, that's forcing an owl to jog at noon.

CO-OP CORNER

Things to Remember:

- The co-op website offers many tips and is very informative. The website is: www.engandcompcoop.dal.ca
- Round 1: Going on now. Check PlacePro



Trivia every Friday!

WORD OF THE WEEK

Engcest (n):

A frowned upon act of hooking up with (or dating) a fellow engineer. Honestly though, who wants two engineers in the same bed, ever?

Engcest is even worse when within the same discipline. Life can get awkward when your class of 20 people includes people you've slept with. Seriously though. Just don't do it.

Editors' note: Word of the Week is a humour column defining common engineering terms. If you have any complaints or suggestions, please email sextant@dal.ca Obviously, we prefer suggestions.

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