

GAZETTE

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Dalhousie University Student Newspaper

Free

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guns and education
in Chiapas

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DSU Dalhousie Student Union

SOCIETY ROUNDTABLE

All society Presidents, Vice Presidents and Treasurers are encouraged to attend this information session on society resources, funding and much more on **Wednesday November 1 at 6:30pm in the McInnes Room.**

Applications are still being accepted for the **Chief Returning Officer.** For more information call Rosanne at **494 1277**

DSU COUNCIL MEETING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 AT 1PM.

Oktoberfest in the SUB from **October 25th to the 28th.** For more info call 494 1281

FREE WORKSHOPS IN THE ART OF MEDITATION

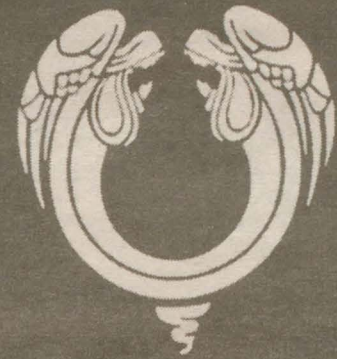
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"A" AND "C" SOCIETY AUDITS ARE DUE!!

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GOOD TIMES, AFTER THE GAME

OCTOBER 28, 2000

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED MATCH

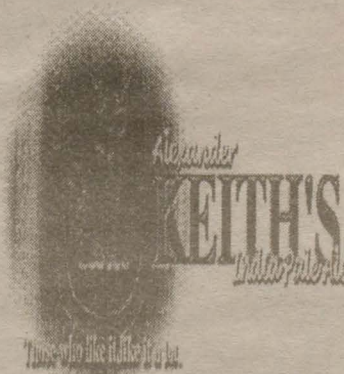
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Imprisoned brain sparks deluge of postcards

CASA campaign off to good start at Dalhousie

by donna lee

the gazette

It was one of those things that was not overly publicized — posters advertising the mysterious "Hostage Brain" only alluded to its pending arrival.

So, when the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) sent its "Hostage Brain" to Dalhousie on Oct. 18, quite a few students took notice.

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), a member of CASA, hosted the "hostage brain" in the Student Union Building lobby to crowds of

incredulous passers-by.

The brain, a convincing replica, represented what DSU president Steven Cote called "Canada's renewable resource...being held hostage" by a lack of government funding, rising university fees and mounting student debt. The brain campaign also addressed the deterioration of campus buildings and systems due to a lack of funding.

"If we don't do something now, we will see our best brains flee the country to escape this imprisonment," added CASA national director Mark Kissel, in a press

release dated Oct. 16. "Those who don't leave will be trapped, their potential forever wasted."

The presentation also launched the DSU's involvement in CASA's national postcard campaign.

Under the campaign, member schools will send postcards of protest to their Members of Parliament (MP). Each postcard, signed by individual concerned students, will demand action on the federal level.

The DSU reported that Dalhousie collected the second-highest number of postcards in one day among CASA schools. On Oct. 18

alone, 693 signed postcards were signed. To date, a total of 850 to 1000 cards have been collected.

The amount of support by Dalhousie students surpassed some organizers' expectations.

"SMU had 300 cards in one day, and the University of Lethbridge had 400," said Chrystal MacAulay, DSU's Vice-President Student Advocacy, "so I was expecting around 300 [postcards]. That seemed to be the national average. I was pleasantly surprised."

While MacAulay said she received mostly positive feedback regarding the postcard campaign, she recognized some opposition from some students.

"I've had three really interesting discussions with students who refused to sign the postcards because they don't think education is underfunded," she said, citing cases in which students were not in

financial debt and did not think education was affected by funding cuts.

As part of the campaign, the DSU has been mailing signed postcards to the MP representing Dalhousie. The cards will be mailed in increments, on a daily basis, all year round.

Before the federal election was called last weekend, that MP was federal NDP leader Alexa McDonough. MacAulay said the DSU intends to continue their daily mail-outs.

"Right now I'm sending ten postcards to our MP," she said, adding, "There will still be postcards...the only difference is that if there's a new person [elected as MP], they'll be faced with a mountain of postcards and the continuous onslaught of cards everyday."

"Basically," she explained, "we go with CASA's motto — we don't do one day of action; we lobby 365 days a year."

Kelly victorious in mayoral race

by jay nathwani

the gazette

On Saturday, Oct. 21, voters in Halifax Regional Municipality elected Peter Kelly as their mayor, with 55 percent support.

Kelly brings 15 years of experience as an elected representative to the job. At 43 years of age, he also brings a younger face to the position previously held by mayor Walter Fitzgerald.

Kelly was first elected as a councillor for Bedford in 1985. From 1991 until the 1996 amalgamation he served as mayor of Bedford. He has since served as a councillor in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM).

The issue that was most prominent in voters' minds was education, with 19 percent indicating it as their primary concern.

At issue was whether the city should use property tax revenue for supplementary education funding. Kelly said that he was not opposed, but his position would be dependent on the results of the plebiscite on the issue, which was held election night. A slim majority of voters indicated that they supported higher property taxes. Kelly subsequently indicated his support for the measure, which would see property taxes rise in Halifax County and Bedford, which do not yet support supplementary education funding.

"As politicians, it is our role and responsibility to hear from the public, especially on tax issues," said Kelly. "That is why it is before the public. I've always said that the people should decide. It should be their decision."

Kelly was criticized for seeming hypocritical with respect to his stand on another major issue of the election:

the 1996 amalgamation of various municipalities into the HRM. Mayor of Bedford at the time of the amalgamation, Kelly vehemently opposed it, and is now assuming the position that most requires advocacy on the part of the amalgamated city.

Kelly explained this apparent change in his politics.



"I fought amalgamation because the residents demanded that of me. That was my role and that was my responsibility. Now that amalgamation's

here, we have to work with it."

He suggested that city council hold public information or "accountability" sessions around the city a few times each year to promote unity and prevent community isolation from its workings.

Kelly also used the argument of being a democratic representative to respond to criticisms that he has interests of only Bedford in mind,

continued on page 5

J.J. Rossy's

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Ravers footloose in downtown Halifax DJ's angry about being shut out of public venues

by graham simms

the gazette

Halifax DJ's spun dance music last Thursday afternoon in downtown's Parade Square to protest the city's lack of cooperation in dealing with raves and specifically their closing of the Pavillion to all night music concerts.

DJ Nick Nonsense, owner of Revolution Records and event organizer DJ Bob Bagnell, spoke to the crowd of at least 300 dancing young people.

"The Pavillion was a nice alternative to the big mega-uber-rave. There have never been any safety problems. The biggest problem is too many people showing up," said Nonsense.

City Recreation Department official, Bob Naus and Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) implemented a ban on all night music concerts from being held at city owned venues while new municipal regulations addressing raves are worked out.

With public venues outlawed, and almost no private landlords in Halifax willing to rent their space, with the

exception of Electropolis, promoters are forced to use sub-standard locations outside of the city.

"Privately owned venues don't want to allow access to these types of events," said Nonsense. "The Forum, Exhibition Park and community buildings could be ideal because they've got proper fire exits, bathrooms and running water."

Council member Steve Streach (Musquodoboit-Eastern Shore) has been spearheading the rave-regulation committee and has studied the regulations in other Canadian cities that pertain to raves. By-laws on the table include minimum age requirement for ticket holders, promoters applying six weeks in advance with detailed security plans and a background check on promoters.

Nick Nonsense encourages safety issues to be included in the by-laws and believes it would be constructive if promoters were consulted in the drafting of the by-laws.

"Consult the people who are already in the business. The rave promoters are willing to jump through

— or discuss jumping through — flaming hoops... Some of the regulations are really important. No one in the scene has a problem with security plans. But a six week security plan for the Pavillion is not necessary. For the larger parties, yes — it's common sense," said Nonsense

The rave industry in Halifax has exploded in the last decade as attendance grew from a few hundred to a few thousand kids per party. Recently the money machine has attracted irresponsible new promoters with little experience and this is the cause of the majority of rave-related problems.

"When a rave is organized properly there's no problem. As the scene grew some people saw a get rich quick scheme. They didn't have to worry about running water and bathrooms, etc. They've ruined it for everybody else. They don't have enough of the spirit to police themselves, resulting in overcrowding, no toilets or running water. Regulate these types of things. For those who've been doing it legitimately, it's frustrating. New young promoters with lots of money, who don't know anything about putting on raves for thousands of kids but want to turn their \$20,000 into \$30,000. We want the kids to come back healthy happy and safe. Most people who have been doing a good job promoting have been ravers themselves. The new people are not. It's business," said Nonsense.

So far the results of the local government interference have been forcing raves to be held outside the city and in decreased revenues in the music related business. A teen was killed and others injured when their car crashed on the winding road en route to the Christopher Lawrence rave held in Musquodoboit Harbour last August.

Ironically, this is Councilman Streach's home turf.

"I would submit that there's already been one death and several near accidents because of this and the city is impeding the growth and progress of the dance scene — possibly the best scene in the country. Every DJ is working less, sound system companies are working less, my store's business has gone down directly as a result of this," said Nonsense.

Routed ravers recently rally to resist reduced rave areas and request regulations.

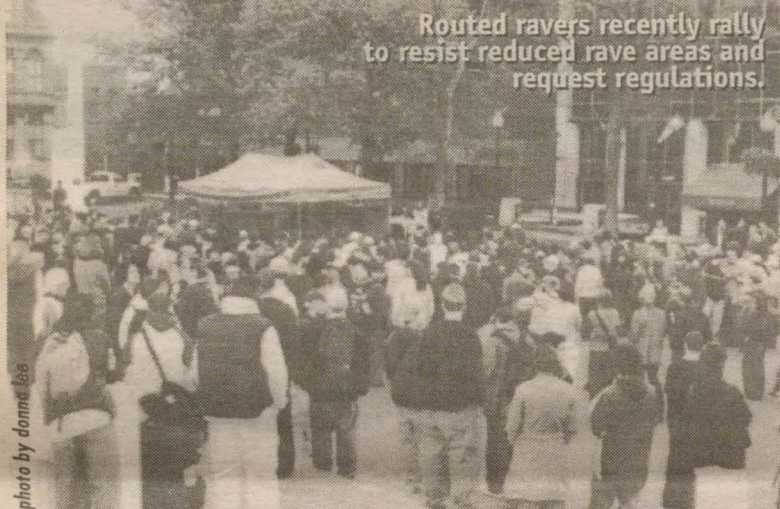


photo by donna lee

john travolta lisa kudrow

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National News

compiled from the Canadian University Press newswire by Wendy Sawatzky

CANADA'S LARGEST STUDENT UNION FRAUD UNCOVERED
MONTREAL (CUP) — Criminal charges were laid last week in connection with a shocking internal fraud involving the Concordia Student Union (CSU). The fraud is believed to be one of the worst corruption incidents to ever befall a student association at a Canadian university.

On Oct. 4, CSU president Rob Green discovered that approximately \$196,000 had disappeared from the Student Union's account. Upon making the discovery, Green and the CSU retained the services of a forensic accountant and proceeded to suspend the suspected individual, widely believed to be a high-ranking member of the CSU's executive.

A Montreal Police investigation is expected to be completed by the end of November.

Preliminary discussions have been held with Concordia administrators to arrange for financing to replace the stolen funds. In the meantime, CSU officials are looking into preventative measures to ensure that there will not be a repeat of the offence.

Both police investigators and CSU officials refused to elaborate any further on the details of the fraud or the suspect's identity.

POLICE ARREST SUSPECT IN YORK CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULTS

TORONTO (CUP) — Toronto police have arrested a suspect in connection with several sexual attacks on the campus of York University. Philip Foremsky, 18, was arrested shortly before 5:00 p.m. Oct. 12 at his parents' home near the campus. Foremsky faces 11 charges, including five counts of sexual assault, two counts of robbery, and single counts of sexual assault with a weapon, forcible confinement, threatening death, and threatening bodily harm.

Between July 21 and Sept. 29, there were seven sex attacks reported in the York University area. Each incident occurred during the day and involved a teen riding a BMX Mountain bicycle.

Foremsky was remanded into police custody last weekend.

SFU WHIZ BREAKS MATHEMATICAL RECORD — AGAIN
BURNABY, B.C. (CUP) — Simon Fraser University mathematics student Colin Percival has set a new record by calculating the famous pi equation to its quadrillionth bit.

Over 1,700 computers from 56 different countries were involved in the feat, each donating its "idle" computing capacity to aid in the calculations.

Percival also held the previous two records for pi equation calculation. At age 19, he has been attending SFU since the age of 13.

"Calculating pi has been something that people have done for a long time," says Percival. "It's not one of the more mature things that mathematicians do. It sort of falls along the same lines of people modifying their cars to get 400 horsepower instead of 380."

After graduating at the end of this semester, Percival plans to fill an eight-month break with more research, and then will likely venture on to the campus of Oxford University next fall to begin work on his PhD.

CONCORDIA CAFETERIAS COULD GO VEGAN

MONTREAL (CUP) — The People's Potato, a student-run collective which serves free meals to Concordia students and faculty, is interested in securing the contract to operate all university food services. If successful, they would take over cafeterias and snack bars from their current operator, Sodexo Marriott Services, in June 2001.

The group is asking students to sign a petition, hoping to bring the issue to a general assembly.

Opponents question the group's ability to run the food services operation for the five years the contract requires, and doubts the general student population's acceptance of a completely meatless menu. As well, it may be illegal for the People's Potato to compete in such a process because of their association with the student union.

CASA'S BRAIN HITS THE ROAD

VANCOUVER (CUP) — A replica of a preserved brain has begun a tour of 18 campuses this month with a message for politicians. During the "Hostage Brain Canada Tour," the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations' (CASA) national director is traveling to each of the organization's member schools, along with the brain in a jar and pre-written postcards to be signed by students and sent to a local member of Parliament. CASA is calling on Ottawa to restore funding to the Canadian Health and Social Transfer (CHST) to 1995 levels, increase funding to campus infrastructure, and reduce student debt. The CHST is the primary way that the federal government funds education. The campaign is due to culminate in a five-day lobbying session in Ottawa later this month.

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS LAUNCHES NEW MAGAZINE

MONTREAL (CUP) — Last week, Canadian University Press (CUP), a co-operative of 75 student newspapers across Canada, launched *Agent* into the already saturated realm of *Campus.ca*, *Campus Reel* and the Ontario-based *Student Body*.

Agent has a circulation of 130,000, mostly inserted into CUP member newspapers and *Globe and Mail* student subscriptions.

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Kelly Mayor

continued from page 3

saying that in any elected position he represents his constituents; now that he his mayor, he will represent all Haligonians.

Ken Ozmon, a candidate for mayor, criticized Kelly's positions as being too reliant on polls and plebiscites. This after Kelly disputed the recommendation of the Utility and Review Board that the number of councilors be cut by saying that the people should decide.

Kelly has opposed Sunday shopping, referring to the provincial government's decision against it and arguing that people should not have to work on a day when they have religious and family obligations.

He supported expanding bus routes and making buses more "people-

oriented." He also supported studying the viability of commuter rail.

Kelly also supported cleaning up Halifax's polluted harbour, into which millions of litres of untreated sewage are dumped each day. He stated that he wanted it to be done cost-effectively, and he thought that this might involve the public rather than private sector building a sewage treatment plant. Two private bids are currently being studied.

Kelly drew strength in his campaign from his relative youth, and public perception that mayor Fitzgerald was a member of the old boys' club. He fought the campaign on a budget of only \$40 000, but he was well organized and ahead of his rivals from the beginning. He began his campaign in June, before other candidates had even declared their intention to run. His campaign centred on issues rather than personalities, and he was

reluctant to criticize his opponents directly.

Kelly has a community college degree in hotel and restaurant management and an executive MBA from Saint Mary's University. He has been married to his wife Nancy for 11 years and they have two boys, ages ten and six.

Kelly has significant experience in municipal politics and his resounding victory has given him a strong mandate. He must now take effective action on the issues talked about during the campaign, and prove himself a good manager and mayor.

Results: Peter Kelly 48,541; Ken Ozmon 19,839; Walter Fitzgerald 18,448; Aaron Peters 1,951

Additional files from Chronicle Herald



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Who do we think we're fooling?

In most of our busy urban lives, we are all moving and working at such a pace that we seldom have time to enjoy the serenity and beauty of nature. In fact, our capitalist ambition and greed has led us to the point where we've consumed and destroyed the wilderness around us. Even if we were able to slow down and truly experience nature by non-intrusively becoming part of it, chances are that most of us would have to at least leave our neighborhood and probably the city we live in to do so. Trees and grassland are a novel site in the urban landscape — in some cities even the sky is scarce due to towering "metal trees" and concrete which have consumed and thoroughly digested the natural wilderness that once existed.

So what do we do when we get a chance to get away from the smog-filled, littered, noisy city, and decide it's time to experience nature? Most of us concoct a vacation to nature — we visit zoos, go to man-made beaches, and invade national parks. Reserves which should be ultimately left pristine and free from human influence become commercialized, fabricated versions of what we would like nature to be for us. Late last year the Canadian Nature Federation stated that Canada's most beloved outdoor destinations are among the country's most endangered national parks. They have become vacation hot-spots, which entirely defy the principle and purpose of creating national parks. They are supposed to be reserves for wilderness, not nature — theme resorts!

The internal pressures applied to these "sanctuaries" are compounded by the forces we apply outside them. Human urbanization (and the agriculture necessary to support our exploding numbers) is spreading like a plague, consuming land and resources, annihilating biodiversity. Referring to ten Canadian national parks on the Canadian Nature Federation's most endangered list, the Federation stated that these parks, that include Fundy, Banff, Elk Island, and others, suffer the most severely from human-caused stresses that are damaging to almost all parks. The factors which cause the most damage are those on the land just outside the parks, including logging, agriculture, and urbanization.

Significant internal stresses include damage by visitors such as fire, garbage, chemicals spills, and visitor and transportation infrastructure. Do we actually believe it when we consider these reserves viable contributions to conservation of land and endangered species? If so-called protected areas are suffering such high levels of destruction of biodiversity at human hands, what about unprotected areas? Are they any better off? The prognosis is dreary; nearly all unreserved forest lands in the tropics, the most biologically diverse part of the world, will soon be degraded or subject to intensive human activity.

This means that we are effectively destroying wilderness and biodiversity everywhere, even in areas we claim to be protecting.

So what can we do about it? For starters, we can stop lying to ourselves. Don't take your kids to the zoo so they can see what wild animals are really like, because it's a lie! Animals penned and caged in zoos are not representatives of their wild counterparts (if any still exist) — they are abused, institutionalized prisoners. Do not frequent natural parks which are actually exotic resorts in disguise, sacrificing wilderness for invasive and consumptive human behavior, activities and conveniences. We must reduce new development, and modify or remove the invasive human influences in nature reserves. When venturing out into the wilderness, reduce your impact on the environment by minimizing the trail you leave behind — leave harmful chemicals and waste at home.

Those, however, are just distal solutions. If we are truly committed to the conservation of biodiversity, we must generate proximal solutions, effectively changing our ethics in order to produce positive changes. We must develop an "ecological conscience". Instead of assuming a monetary or commercially-driven system of ethics, where things are only valued if they are useful to humans, we must adopt a system of ecological ethics, where we recognize all things for the intrinsic value they possess within themselves.

Aldo Leopold suggested a "land ethic" which changes the role of humans from conqueror of the land-community to members and citizens of it. This implies respect for fellow community members and also respect for the community (earth) itself. Consider your family. You respect and protect your other family members not because you own them, but because you love them. Now consider yourself a member of the (enormous) family of nature. Respect and protect your fellow members of this family for the same reasons. This is a mentality that truly promotes conservation of biodiversity.

Affecting this change in mentality is not an easy or simple task by any means. The place to begin is education for starters — implement the required awareness and action programs relating to nature conservation in the curriculum of all public school systems, beginning in elementary school, and continuing through middle and high schools.

Make nature conservation at least as important as social studies or math. It is real! No student will ever ask, "when will I ever use this?" because they'll be using it as they learn it. Don't let it be a neglected topic; it relates to all other areas of interest and can help illustrate connections between otherwise discrete subjects. Also, make individuals and companies accountable and responsible for damage they may cause, by requiring destructive behavior to be paid for with funds appropriated to furthering conservation efforts — think of it as a type of "land-community service". If we were educated about and responsible for our actions with respect to nature conservation we would be forced into having a more honest view of conservation efforts.

Ideally, we would come to consider ourselves part of nature instead of a dominant force over it.

Johneen Manning

LETTERS & OPINIONS

Zayid's "propaganda pumped sermon"

I attended a lecture hosted by the Palestinian student organizations of St. Marys and Dalhousie on Friday Oct. 13. The lecture was given by Dr. Zayid a professor at Dalhousie, a Palestinian by birth and a citizen of Canada since the 70s.

I have never felt so sick and frightened upon leaving a lecture before.

It was made clear in the introduction, that this was to be an Arab perspective that was presented and in no way a unilateral statement against the Jewish People. The introduction went even further to define the word anti-Semitism to point to the fact that both Jews and Arabs are both Semitic peoples as Semite is a reference to the historical ties of both peoples to the landmass of Palestine or modern Israel. Meaning, it would be ridiculous for Arabs to be anti-Semites, as it would mean being anti-themselves.

Below is a paraphrased summary of the more memorable parts of Dr. Zayid's lecture. I would like to make it clear that Dr. Zayid did have some relevant information to present. However, due to the inter-changeability of key terms used in the lecture, the emotionally charged atmosphere created and the overall tone of the lecture, I argue that Dr. Zayid was making a distinctly anti-Jewish statement. This indirect (indirect because it was presented under the guise of biased factual support) form of racism is extremely dangerous and furthers a growing extremist self determined right to hate and to use force as a method of self-defense.

Dr. Zayid's lecture thesis may be summarized as follows: *Israel is an illegal nation and as such should not be bargained with or given the same respect or privilege as legal nations. Israel is run and supported by the ideals of colonialism. Colonialism being the cornerstone of Zionism. What the Jewish leaders of Israel are doing to the Palestinian people can be compared to what the Nazis did to the*

Jews during the time of WW2. The Jews in fact learnt from all their past oppressors. For these reasons Israel's treatment of the Palestinians should in no way be supported from in or outside Israel.

Israel has occupied the territories of West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem illegally for 30+ years. Since 1967 Israel has defended its occupied territories, this is not an illegal act just as resisting an occupying force is not illegal.

The fundamental problem being a simple one: a foreign body came, took Palestinian land, homes and kicked them out using whatever means necessary. In 1948 Israel declared its nationhood and tried to enforce recognition among the people living within its boundaries of the international declaration of support for its birth. During the final days of British colonization of Palestine (pre 1948) the British mandate suggested a division of land into several different parts, both to be Arab and Jewish controlled. All Arab countries rejected this offer and continued to disregard Israel as a nation. From 1850 forward there has always been a Jewish population in Palestine. The land that Jewish immigrants settled on before and after 1948 was for the most part purchased legally.

Israel since its establishment has enslaved a whole nation of people living within its borders. Extremely bad treatment is different from enslavement. The denial of basic human rights versus unfair administrative treatment is very different. Palestinians do and maintain basic human rights and often a living standard. They do not however, gets the same treatment as most Israeli citizens. Israel is by far the only democracy in the Middle East and still behaves like one.

There exists intrinsic racism in Israel, furthered by Israeli government and many Jews in and outside Israel. True and there is outright racism from Palestinians and Arabs towards Jews in and outside of Israel. However, racism and violence is by no means Israel's national policy though there are many inconsistencies in how the country treats its Jewish vs. Arab population. Israel is far from

blameless in this respect. Israel has no written constitution because of its varied political and ethnic parties with the government. This causes problems of inequalities for Jews and Palestinians alike.

Is Israel carrying out: Systematic genocide? Mass gassing? Does Israel want to erase Palestinians from the face of the earth?

No. No. No. The Nazis did carry out these horrors systematically and consciously on millions of Jews and other minorities.

Dr. Zayid, throughout his lecture, rapidly fired off definitions, statistics and quotes from Arabs, Americans, Canadians and "Jewish friends" in support of his thesis almost always one sided, always extreme, always emotional and therefore giving a consistently misconstrued version of current events to his hungry audience. Dr. Zayid's lecture was not educational by nature it was a propaganda pumped sermon designed to fire up his audience. There is no shortage of bad doings between Israel vs. Palestinians, Palestinians vs. themselves or of the Palestinians vs. Israel. However the historical, political, religious, moral and legal areas of disagreement must be separated to come to any clear understanding or possible far in the future solution to this catastrophe.

Is there a solution to the Palestinian /Israeli conflict? No easy one. However there are many liberal voices from either side of the conflict attempting to reconstruct a positive dialogue and undo some of the damage done by extremists such as Dr. Zayid. The final point I would like to make is that "church" must be separated from state in Israel as a necessary first step. As long as Israel is internally and externally perceived as a Jewish state every non Jew who lives within Israel's borders will be treated like and feel like a second class citizen. This does not breed understanding, compassion, education or unity among the varied parties; all of which are much needed to come to any initial or lasting peace.

Ariella Kaufman

THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

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Volume 133, no. 7

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The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor and commentary. All letters will be printed up to four per week. The printing of additional letters will be at the discretion of the Feedback Editor. Letters may be edited for length above 300 words and we reserve the right to edit commentary.

All submissions must be e-mailed, or on a Mac or IBM 3 1/2 inch disk, in a "text" format. The deadline is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, the Gazette is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, the Gazette is published every Thursday by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all students of Dalhousie University are members. The Gazette exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. All editorial decisions are made collectively by the staff. To become voting staff members, individuals must contribute to four issues. Views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the editors or the collective staff. Unless otherwise noted, all text © 2000 the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. ISSN 0011-5819

is2.dal.ca/~gazette

I'm no skank

Dear Editor,

In regards to the article on "Chixdiggit versus the Smirnoff Skanks" by Catlin Kealey and Melanie Hawkins, I would like to make a few corrections to the errors in their article. As a true fan of punk, I very much enjoyed the article and the show.

However they made a mistake, more specifically on the area where they mentioned the "Smirnoff Skanks." I was one of those "Skanks" that night and the report on how I acted was one of the most ridiculous things I have ever read. If those girls had eyes in their heads, they would have noticed the fact that I was wearing black cargo pants, not a tight black skirt, and it was a camouflage top, not a black top, like they mentioned.

Another thing I noticed was they wrote that I "hand poured the shot into their awaiting mouths." I actually handed the drummer the shot, and he most certainly drank it him self.

I cannot comment on how my co-workers were acting, but I do not like being judged in such a way, especially in a distorted manner. They should have stuck to covering the band, not the Smirnoff reps. What a shame.

Julie Smith

Dear Ms. Smith,

In regards to your letter in response to "Chixdiggit versus the Smirnoff Skanks," The Gazette would like to clarify what we were trying to say. When we witness young scantily clad women running around The Marquee getting patrons to play games such as find the girl who is wearing the red thong for a free drink we find ourselves questioning the moral validity of your defense. We also did not say anything about you wearing a black top, since you are being a stickler for details. Thank you for your input.

Get to the heart of the matter

Dear Editor:

The Gazette's editorial "Staring into the cultural chasm," Oct. 19, by Amy Durant, is shallow, narrow-minded and totally lacking in sensitivity to human suffering. The current conflict between Palestinians and Israelis is a direct outcome of a calculated Zionist policy of systemic ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people from their homeland and illegal occupation of their land. The West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem have been under illegal Israeli occupation since 1967, in defiance of international law and Security Council resolutions. The Palestinians, under this oppressive illegal occupation, have been de-humanized and tortured; their land expropriated; their homes and villages demolished and totally denied

every aspect of human rights — as documented by Amnesty International, UN Human Rights Commission, and Israel's own human rights groups, including B'Tselem Human Rights group and Israeli Commission for Civil and Human Rights.

Over 135 people have been killed during the last three weeks, virtually all Palestinians and mostly school children. If all this suffering is of no interest to Ms. Durant, then we have a real problem in our young Canadian generation. Ms. Durant says: "Some wonder why Dal students are even demonstrating — leave that stuff over there, you're Canadian now, respect that". Alas, this is saddening. Since when has becoming a Canadian meant you have no interest in human rights outside the borders of Canada? It has been drummed into us that Canada and Canadians care about human rights and international legitimacy. That is why we send our troops to Europe and the Middle East. Altogether, we are saddened by this indifference and insensitivity and trust that this does not truly represent the opinions of the students of our university or *The Gazette's* editorial staff.

Yours sincerely
Ismail Zayid,
President,

Canada Palestine Association.

The Library's Response to the "DSS Position on Killam Library Amalgamation"

The previous edition of *The Gazette* contained a statement by Johanne Galameau, Chair of the Dalhousie Science Society and as representative of all Science students at Dalhousie, "vehemently opposed" to the amalgamation of the Science Library with the remainder of the Killam Library.

Although we respect the DSS's right to hold such a position it is difficult to accept when little of it is grounded in fact.

In essence, two service desks within the Killam Library have been combined into one in order to improve and extend services, not to reduce them. All questions are being knowledgeably handled as before and there have been no reports of unacceptable delays or line-ups. The quality of service remains the same. The Killam Library intends to use the opportunities offered by one major reference desk to extend and improve on-site services and to provide better access and instruction for the growing number of electronic resources and services.

There have been no changes in staffing: there are as many librarians dedicated directly to "Science Services" and to "SSH Services" as there were before the move.

Each staff member, however, augments the knowledge and

skills of the others to the benefit of the user. If a question requires the expertise of a subject specialist, help is as accessible today as it was before the combination of service points. Collections remain fully intact and distinguishable as always through the continued use of the Library of Congress classification system, which is used to organize all the library's collections. Both Science Services and Social Sciences and Humanities Services do not operate in a vacuum nor do they operate as separate libraries. The Killam Library as a whole enables these services. The Killam Library provides Novanet, Novanet Express, document delivery, collection organization and management, material acquisitions, circulation services, reserve services, system support, serials maintenance, and access to vast electronic resources. All of this supports the delivery of Killam reference services primarily in the areas of Science, Humanities, Social Sciences and Management. All of these services comprise a library.

The Science Library ceased to exist as a separate entity when a university decision was taken to close the Macdonald Library more than 10 years ago. This has had no measurable impact on the quality of the Science program offered at Dalhousie nor the resources available to it.

It can be well argued that the Science program would have suffered if collections and services had not been combined with those already existing in the Killam given the decline in financial resources available to the library and the relentless increase in material costs since the time of the closing.

The collections and services the library now delivers outside the library walls, are as important as those we deliver in the library. The resources we are making available from off-site locations, through consortial arrangements, from other libraries and from publishers, are as important as the resources available from within our own collections.

To suggest the bulk of resources available to Science are all located on the 2nd floor of the Killam, "the Science Section of the Killam Library," or that they require delivery from a separate desk, is a narrow and limiting view of the capacity the library actually has available. The combination of the reference desks in the Killam is only the first small step towards a larger plan to improve access and use of all collections, both off-site and on-site, electronic and print. It is a work in progress that could from time to time cause some inconvenience to some users. The library, as an academic service to the university, is using its knowledge, understanding of needs and resources, with the sole aim of improving services to our community. The creation of one service point has been done with only that goal in mind and, if given the chance, will prove itself in due time.

William R. Maes
University Librarian

RANT OR RAVE Embracing cyberspace

The internet is here. The internet is growing. Slowly but surely more and more people are connecting to the internet and exploring the vast archives of media available. Over the past few years of my life more and more of the people I know are obtaining internet access and using it on a regular basis as they should. You can find almost anything that is media related on-line. Most of my close friends and myself frequently use file sharing applications such as Napster, Audio Galaxy and ICQ to obtain and enjoy media files such as .mp3's (songs in a relatively small digital audio format), .mpg's (movies) and for purposes of communication. One major factor that contributes to and limits one's freedom of internet exploration is the speed at which your computer is connected. The faster your connection, is the faster you can access the information available on the net. For general web surfing and e-mail, a fast connection is not really essential. However, in order to use the internet at its current full potential a high speed connection is essential. Prior to this school year I had always connected to the internet over the phone lines. As I stated earlier this was fine for e-mail and surfing but as I began to realize the "power" of the internet, the phone line connection became increasingly annoying. Using Napster to download music files involved excruciatingly long waiting periods and access to video files and other large media files was virtually prohibited. Early in September I subscribed to MTT's DSL service "Mpowered".

Wow. I can potentially download music files now in seconds, entire albums in under five minutes (provided that the source of these files is connected as fast or faster than I am) and video files are now realizable download options. Ten years ago most people didn't know what the internet was. Five years ago most people had heard of it and had probably even used it for one purpose or another. Today there are more people using this tool of communication, doing things that were unheard of in the past. What's going to happen in five, ten, or even thirty years down the road? If our technology continues to evolve at the rate it has been, I think we will be seeing some major changes in the way we use computers, the way we communicate with each other and the way in which we obtain information about the world. With increasing connection speeds and faster computers the world will one day be literally at our fingertips, more so than it

is today. It's highly likely that our closest companion, dear old Mr. Television, will one day be collecting dust in some museum beside the once useful but now terribly obsolete telegraph. I see a future without telephones as we know them now, without television, without radio; a future lacking most or all forms of familiar information sharing and communication (video and audio cassettes, video stores, music stores, radios stations etc..) save one: the computer.

It is logical and obvious to suppose that one day, instead of sitting in front of the TV or listening to the radio exposing ourselves to an onslaught of content that is mostly boring and insulting to our I.Q.'s, we will simply connect to the Internet and download whichever movie, sitcom, concert, news-report, or song that we want to and when we want to. Imagine: one night you finish your homework at 7:30p.m. and would like to get a good night sleep before your 8:30a.m. class the next morning but would also like to watch *Seinfeld* before bed. Nowadays you have to wait for the TV network's preprogrammed time slot to roll around, I think it airs sometime around midnight, this time slot may or may not coincide with your schedule. In the future this problem will not exist. After your homework is completed, watching *Seinfeld* will involve no wait, simply download the episode to your computer and watch it, you can be sound asleep by 8:00!

Cellular phones in some locals are now able to connect wirelessly to the internet to check and send email, and to surf the web. Through communication tools such as ICQ and MSN messenger you can communicate with friends and associates in a text based format or, if your computer and connection speed is fast enough, you can speak to each other over the net (no long-distance charges) or even communicate through a video phone. Computers get smaller and better everyday. Maybe one day we'll all be using palm computers instead of desk or laptop computers, telephones, cellphones, books or any other type of information media.

I am eager to see what the future holds and how our tools of communication evolve. Hopefully someday soon a few dudes will realize the amazing potential of the internet and organize a site that makes accessing traditional media types (TV, radio, film etc.) that are available on the internet a useful, convenient and enjoyable experience all from one area on the internet.

Jeremy Sears

Bubble trouble, trouble

Dispelling misconceptions about Witches

by **johnen manning**
the gazette

Halloween is approaching — people's minds will soon turn to thoughts of Witches sporting big, hairy warts, zooming around on broomsticks accompanied by black cats and the ghosts and ghouls often associated with them.

Advertising, media, and the entertainment industry have perpetuated this popular

misconception that Witches are evil-worshipping, mischievous members of an anti-culture that should be avoided.

Sorry to disappoint you, but Witches do not go zipping around on deluxe broomsticks hexing people. The dreary images of Witches painted in many fantasy novels are pure fiction. Witches do exist, but not as they are depicted in movies or on television. Forget "Bewitched", "The Craft", and "Witches of Eastwick", real Witches dress in jeans, T-shirts, or any other

typical attire.

"We are not evil. We don't harm or seduce people. We are not dangerous. We are ordinary people like you. We have families, jobs, hopes, and dreams. We are not a cult. This religion is not a joke. We are not what you think we are from looking at TV. We are real. We laugh, we cry. We are serious. We have a sense of humour. You don't have to be afraid of us. We don't want to convert you. And please don't try to convert us. Just give us the same right we give you — to live in peace. We are much more similar to you than you think" says Margot Adler in her book *Drawing Down the Moon*.

Real Witches are actually Wiccans, or followers of the Neopagan religion of Wicca. Both men and women who follow the religion are typically called Witches — the term Wizard is not used.

While Wiccans generally consider themselves to be Witches, not all Witches are Wiccans — the terms "Witch" and "Witchcraft" can also refer to followers of many other faith traditions.

In fact, the terms Witch and Witchcraft may assume at least 17 different definitions — some of which are positive, others are neutral, but most of them have negative connotations. Many of these definitions are contradictory, even when they originate in the same culture. For example, a woman of incredible ugliness is often referred to as a witch, but so is a

woman of stunning beauty.

In no way do I expect to fully explain Wicca or other forms of Neopagan religion — just like any other faiths, they are far too complicated to be discussed entirely in one article, or even one book. However, I would like to dispel some of the misconceptions about who and what Witches and Neopagans are.

I merely wish to introduce you to these groups of faith so that you can further educate yourself and make decisions based on knowledge, not ignorance.

Wicca is a recently created Neopagan religion. It is based largely on connected symbols, seasonal days of celebration and the practices, beliefs, and deities from ancient Celtic society, supplemented with Masonic and ceremonial magic. The primary deities of worship from Celtic descent are a fertility Goddess (who goes by many names) and her consort, a horned God. No all-evil deity — called Satan, the Devil, or by any other name — exists in their system of Goddesses and Gods.

Although Wicca is a modern creation, some of its sources pre-date the Christian era by many centuries. Most Wiccans do not believe that their religion is a direct, continuous descendent of the earlier Celtic religion — they see it as a modern reconstruction.

What about magic? Spells are not about turning people into frogs or granting wishes. A spell is a set of actions and prayers that are performed in order to ask for divine assistance with some particular aspect of one's life. Wicca is as much about spells as Christianity is about prayers. They are an important part of how religion is practiced, but they are only an expression of the ideas that are the core of Wiccan belief.

Wicca is just one, although the largest, of a group of Neopagan religions. Other Neopagan faith

traditions besides Wicca include Druidism, Shamanism, Asatru (Norse Paganism), Sacred Ecology and Goddess Worship, to name a few. These religions are as distinct and diverse in their traditions and beliefs as are the different sects of Christianity, however they are all united by several common themes which classify them as Neopagan.

"Paganism is based on the worship of nature. Modern Paganism, or Neopaganism, incorporates twenty-first century knowledge with the traditions of ancient indigenous cultures," says Tara Miller, co-publisher of *Earth Spirit Newsletter*, in *Druidry Knowledge of the Oak*. "Pagans believe that no one belief system is correct and that each person should have the freedom to choose the path that is right for them."

Many Wiccans and other Neopagans refer to themselves as Pagans within their own community.

"Like any group, the occult has fanatics and conservatives. Unfortunately, immoral fanatics have made the biggest impression on society," says Miller. "The majority of pagans and mystics don't fit this horrible stereotype."

Neopagan religions' traditions' faiths were almost or completely destroyed in the past, and have since been reconstructed from ancient sources of information. While many Neopagan followers are solitary practitioners, others are involved in small groups, which various traditions call circles, covens, garths, groves, hearths, and kindreds. The majority of Neopagan religions have minimal or no hierarchical structure.

"Paganism is usually non-centralized, non-hierarchical, and doesn't possess a strict set of dogma," says Miller.

The Pagan Ethic says, "Do what thou wilt, but harm none." This is a positive morality, not a list of thou-shalt-nots. Each individual is

Vanessa's Closet

by **vanessa owen**
advice from someone completely unqualified

Dear Vanessa,

I love my boyfriend but he is awful in bed. He isn't aware of the concept of foreplay and that sex is supposed to last longer than one minute. I need to talk to him about it but don't know how to broach the subject. Any ideas?

Desperate

Dear Desperate,

The old two pump chump, eh? Obviously your BF is not that experienced in the bedroom and thus has the sexual rhythm of a downtown rush hour. But fear not, there are many, many ways to train this under-achiever. You can begin with the direct approach, "Hey Buddy, it's getting COLD in here, why don't you head SOUTH for the winter?" If that is not your style, then you can try buying some porn and making him watch the videos. Surely this will capture his attention and when you tell him to do it like Dirk Diggler in overdrive, he will get the point. As a last resort, you could always initiate the foreplay by performing certain oral acts on him and then saying how much you like it also. It will only be a matter of time girl, before you have him eating out of your...hand!

Dear Vanessa,

How do I get rid of my slack-assed, mooch of a roommate without cutting the friendship ties? He is not my friend, but my boyfriend's friend. I only accepted him as a roommate because he needed a place to stay and he was tired of living with his parents (at age 25) and I felt sorry for him. Now whenever I am not around or he thinks I don't see, he beats my 7-month old puppy. He is repulsive and he constantly sulks and whines if things don't go exactly his way. How in the world am I supposed to get rid of the asshole, nicely?

Angry and Repulsed

Dear Angry,

This jerk is beating your puppy, is repulsive, whines constantly and you are worried about how to "get rid of this asshole, NICELY?" Chick, you need to get your head examined! Tell the MotherF***ER to get the hell out of your house and if he ever so much as LOOKS at your pup in a malevolent way again you will slap animal abuse charges on his ass. The mooching and whining quite frankly are your problem, but when this loser starts picking on a poor, defenseless animal you should have the common sense to kick him out and protect your puppy. I am appalled that you have known that he was hurting your dog and you are wasting time writing to me for help. You don't deserve to be an animal owner. If you are still too much of a wimp to get rid of the roomie, tell your boyfriend that you think Mr. Animal Abuser is sexy and you want him BADLY. That ought to get your BF to get him out of there in a hurry.

Dear Vanessa,

What should I do when I love a man but he does not love me?

Troubled Heart

Dear T.H.,

Find another man. And buy a dildo.

Send your important questions to vanessascloset@Xweb.ns.ca

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(at least with yourself)



Recipe Showcase The Ultimate Autumn Desert

by **johnen manning**
the gazette

This is by far my favourite dessert. It's a true comfort dessert that warms you up during the frigid fall and winter weather. The topping is pure heaven, and the apple filling can be substituted with rhubarb (add sugar to sweeten), blueberries (add flour to thicken), or even cherry-pie filling.

I enjoy this dessert just as it is, straight from the oven, but some people choose to add a dollop of whip cream or ice-cream for that extra bit of flavor. Either way, it will melt in your mouth.

This recipe doubles easily.

Ingredients

Topping—

- 3/4 cup melted butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar (packed)
- 3/4 cup rolled oats

Filling—

- 4 cups peeled, cored, sliced apples (Macintosh/Cortland)

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Combine flour, brown sugar and rolled oats in a medium bowl. Add melted butter or margarine. Mix and squeeze with your hands to form the crumbly topping.

Spread sliced apples in an 8x8-inch baking dish, and cover completely with prepared topping. Bake for 30 minutes or until apple filling is bubbly and the topping is golden brown. This makes about six large servings.

Dig in and enjoy!

responsible for discovering his or her own nature and developing it fully, in harmony with the outer world. The Three-fold Law sets the tone for interpersonal conduct by saying, "All good that a person does to another returns three-fold this life; harm is also returned three-fold."

The Neopagan concept of divine power promotes gender equality. Many Neopagan faiths have a duotheistic or polytheistic belief system (they recognize a Goddess and God, and/or believe in many deities). The concept of Goddess and God as recognized expressions of the divine celebrate both female and male, rather than suppressing either of the feminine or masculine components of life.

These traditions also bear progressive attitudes toward the environment. There is an intense concern, closeness and respect for nature. Rather than the mainstream attitude of aggression and domination over nature, Neopagans revere the life force and its ever-renewing cycles of life and death. Miller explained that damaging the earth is sacrilegious because of the belief that the divine power resides in all things, human and natural. Most Neopagan beliefs are rooted in everyday, natural experience.

As a consequence of this bond with nature, Neopagans generally prefer to conduct their religious rituals outdoors where practical. Many do not practice their religion publicly because of the danger of abuse from very devout but misinformed Christians who have associated them with evil.

Neopagan religions traditionally observe four main seasonal days of celebration each year, associated with the equinoxes and solstices. They also celebrate four additional days, each between a solstice and equinox.

"Recently, Pagans have been holding more rites than just those associated with the eight season feasts," Miller explained.

They have introduced celebrations of passages of births, deaths or rebirth into the afterlife, marriages, graduation and personal accomplishments, as well as self-growth rituals for relinquishing conflict, depression, low self-esteem and many more.

Attaining knowledge is important for Neopagan traditions because of a belief that the divine mysteries are revealed through the intricate balance of physics, chemistry and biology that allow all life to exist. They also emphasize the use of holistic medicine, meditation and ritual as a form of prayer or enlightenment. There is a focus on the natural energy fields (called chakras or auras) that surround the human body, and use stones and crystals to balance these energies and learn about this world and beyond.

Wicca and other Neopagan religions are currently experiencing a rapid growth in Canada and the United States. Wicca is the eighth largest religion in the United States. Many



North Americans of European descent are attracted to Wicca in attempts to discover their ancestral heritage.

"[This resurgence of Pagan religions] may be interpreted as a response to an increased dissatisfaction with the way the world is going ecologically, spiritually, and materially; people are disillusioned by mainstream religion and the realization that materialism leaves an internal emptiness," suggests Miller.

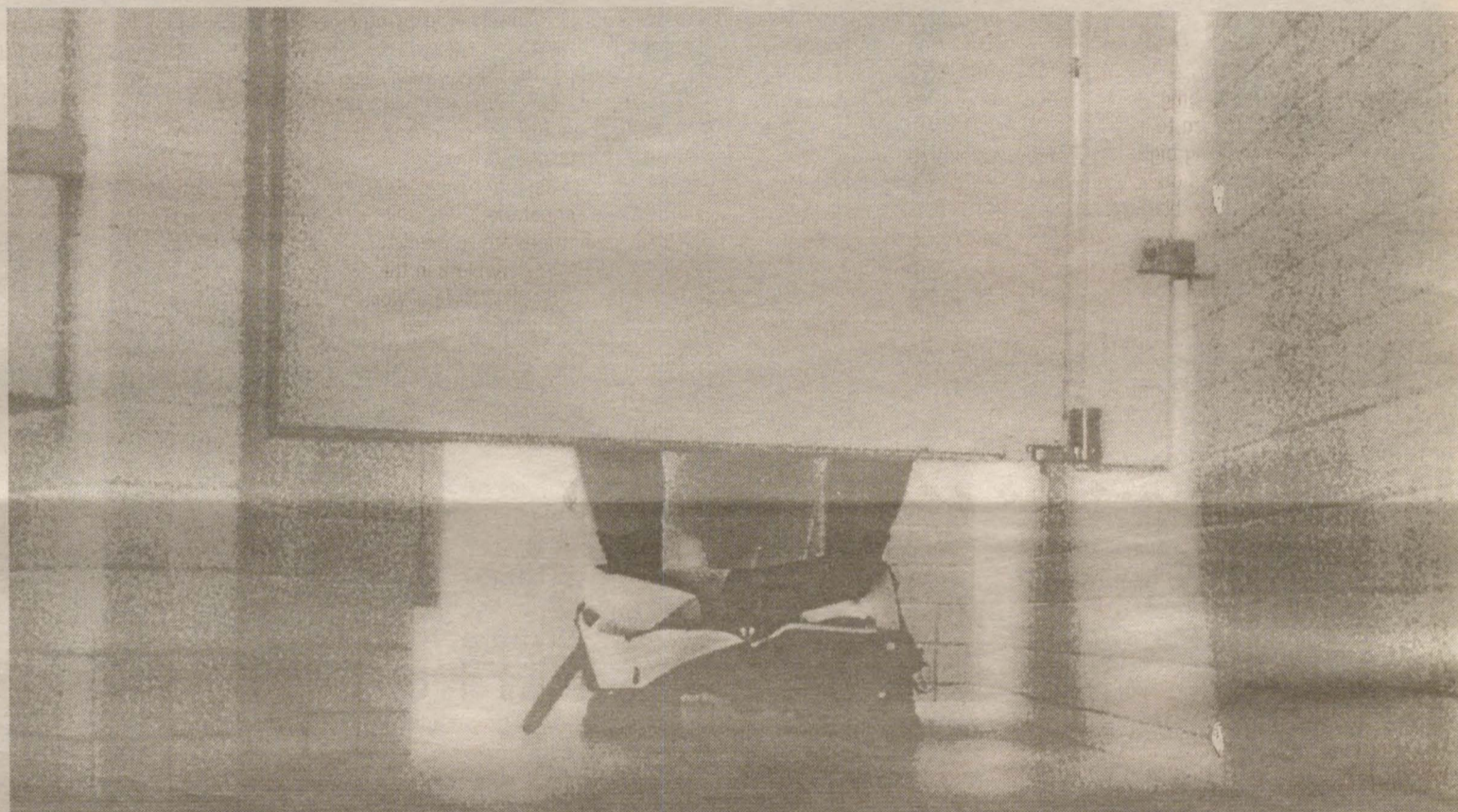
If nothing else, we should understand that we are fortunate to have such a diverse world, and respect and appreciate others for who they are and what they believe in.

Whether or not you choose to follow Neopagan traditions, it would certainly be useful in all circumstances of everyday life to follow their primary belief that everyone has the right to worship and live as they please so long as they are not harming others.

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...right?**

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The phone in the can.

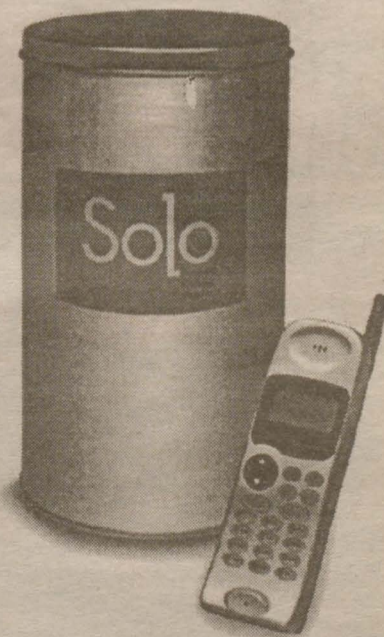
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Pentagrams:

Wiccans have adopted the upright pentacle/pentagram, since it was the symbol of Morgan, an ancient Celtic goddess. Many wear it as jewelry and use it on their altars. The symbol is frequently traced by hand using a ritual knife during Wiccan rituals. It is used to cast and banish their healing circles. Some Wiccans interpret the five points as representing earth, air, fire, water, and spirit — the five factors needed to sustain life. Others relate the points to the four directions and spirit. Some Wiccans and other Neopagans bless themselves and others with the sign of the pentagram. Their hand passes from their forehead to one hip, up to the opposite shoulder, across to the other shoulder, down to the opposite hip and back to the forehead.

This week
The Gazette asks:

How much
money
would you
have to
paid to
become a
porn star?



"Depends on how good the partner is!"

Robert Tokarczyk

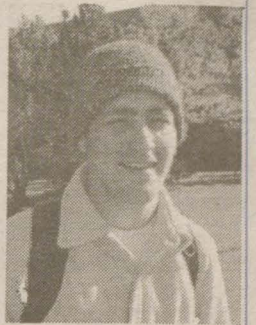
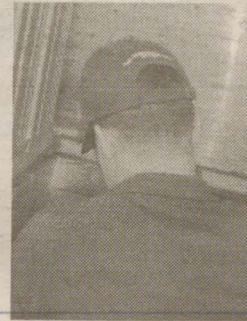


"I would never be a porn star! As sexy as I am, I would never do it."

April Bonia

"A thousand dollars a video — minimum!"

Peter Corkum



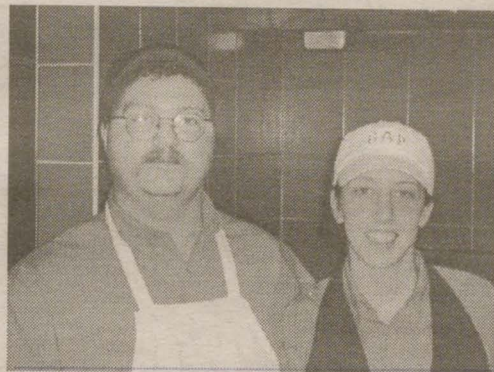
"As an issue of morality, you could not pay me any money, it's immoral!"

Mark Murray



"One dollar!"

Miss X



"I make videos — its hard to say. For [Katie] six to seven thousand per movie and if its 2 rated, ten thousand."

Raymond and Katie, cafeteria.

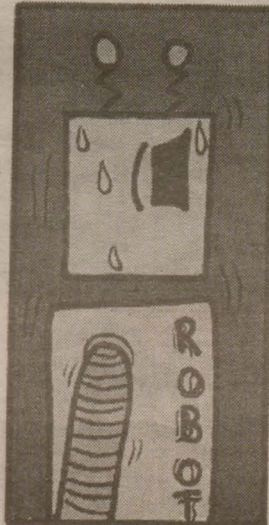
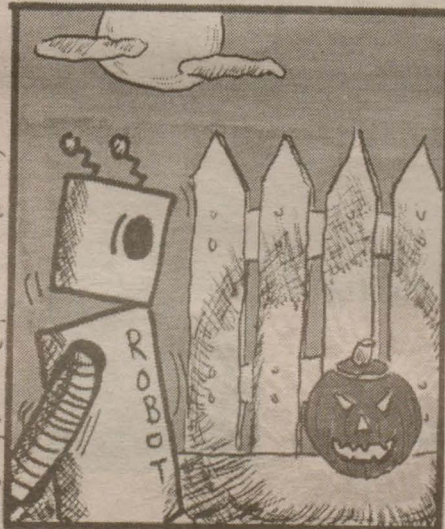
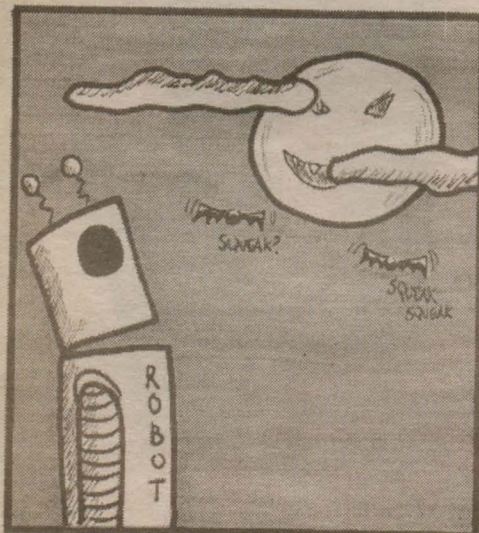
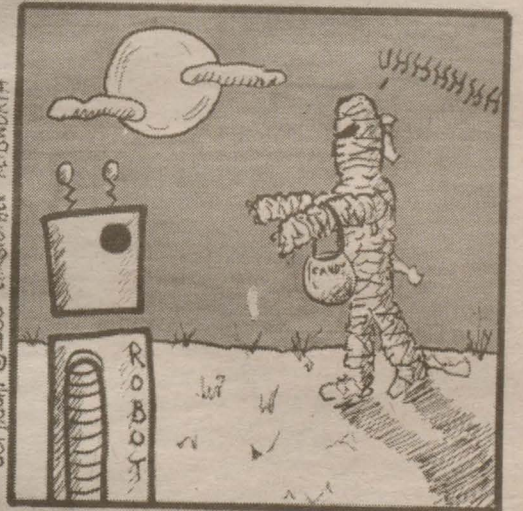
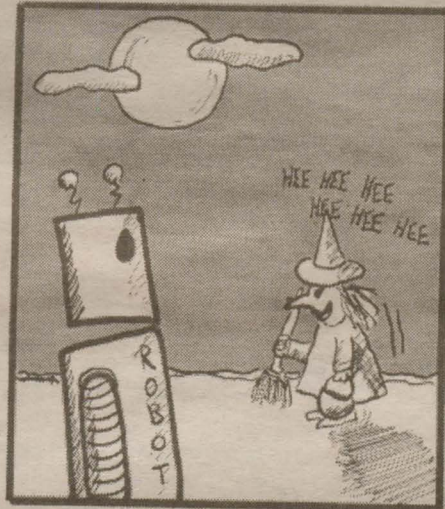
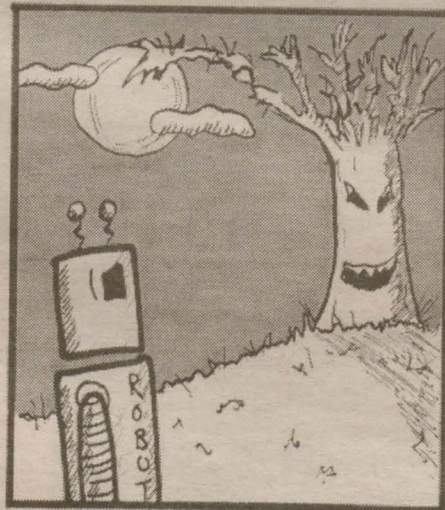
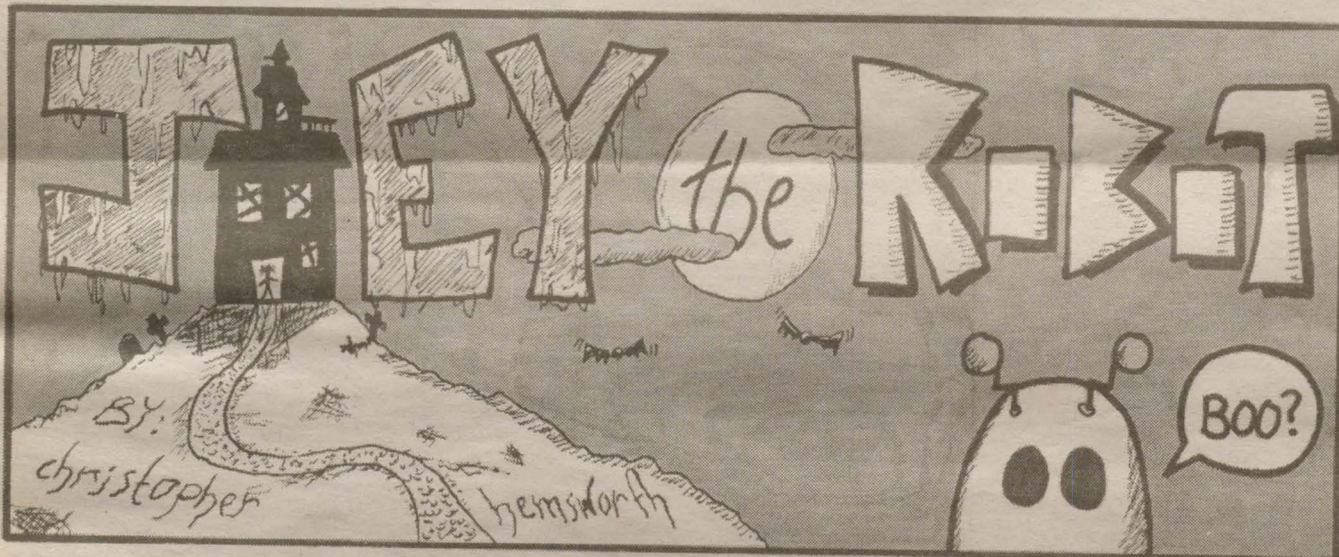
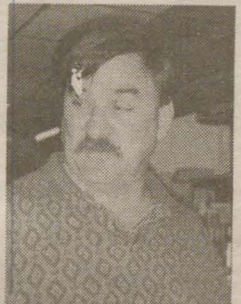


"More than my tuition!"

John Penny

"It would have to be lots of money. Like one million!"

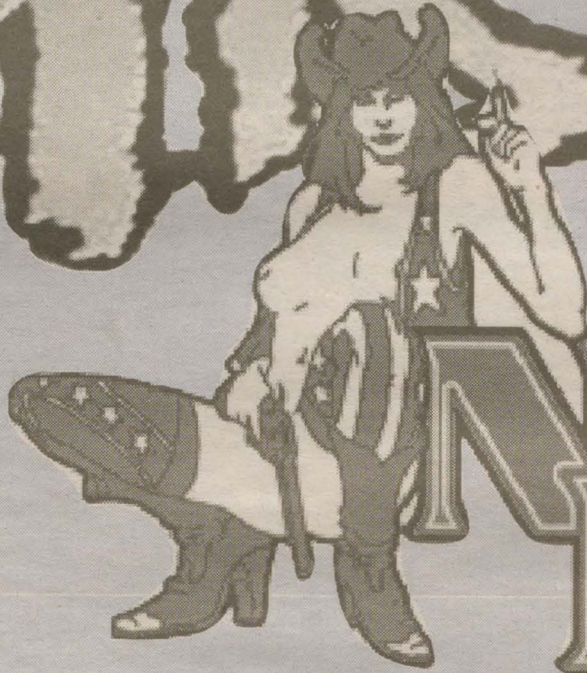
Rick



MADAFATS

& Nashville Pussy

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Jessica Rhaye

Rhaydiation levels...

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The Drawer Boy

Honesty in droves

> 13



GEARBOX

"Better than that Top-40 new wave shit..."

> 14



My hat does not smell of pussy

by rob broughton

the gazette

Call me crazy — I wore my cowboy hat to the Misfits show last Monday at the Forum. I thought it'd be fun — draw some stares, meet some chicks, evoke the odd rude comment that I could counter with fearsome intensity — all that good stuff. It didn't turn out that way, as my hat's tragic demise attests.

Prepaid tickets for the show were a steep \$30, rising to \$35 at the door. But this didn't keep the kids away, some coming from as far as Lunenburg and Pictou. Neither did the cancellation of Speeddealer, hard and fast rockers from the heart of Texas, who cut themselves out of the lineup to accept an offer to tour Europe with punk/metal crossover legends Motorhead. A choice as easy for them to make as it was disappointing for us Haligonian rock fiends, no doubt.

After Guy Smiley strutted their stuff for the crowd of hyperactive high schoolers, a good 15 minutes of sound check bass drum thumping commenced. The Forum's Multi-Purpose Centre (what a freakin' moniker, lemme tell ya) is a true blue bingo and flea market venue, but had the sound techs in fits. But worry not — all was forgiven when the South's cock-rock extraordinaires Nashville Pussy mounted the podium.

Nashville Pussy was able to use the Forum's horrid sound system to their advantage, filling

the venue with a wall of attitude, mud, and hellfire. I was jerked out of my Pepsi and whisky (the Forum's specialty, but BYOW) induced reverie, and spurred to the pit. Lead shrieker, Blaine Cartwright's angelic (well, demonic, but I liked it anyway) lyric-belted, coupled with the babe-ilicious Ruyter Suys' guitar lickin' proved too much for my howdy hat. As I was carried on the hands of my rock n' roll loving brothers and sisters my hat toppled from my head, floated to the floor, and was stomped on by angst-ridden teens. Stomped on, the poor thing. Stomped on.

Nashville Pussy's set was tight and seamless, a good mix of material from their latest release *High as Hell* and 1997's *Let Them Eat Pussy*. The gaping void in my soul where my hat had once been was filled with rock n' roll, and hell — maybe I'm a better man for it. What better way to heal my wounds than to rock out to the soothing sounds of "First I Look at the Purse," "I'm the Man" and "Go Motherfucker Go"? I wasn't alone in diggin' Nashville Pussy's performance; the mosh pit was jumpin', and there was a palpable energy in the air.

It was a tough act to follow for old-punk turned new-punk tough guys the Misfits. I never saw the Misfits in their heyday — I was too busy being born when they were getting started — and I think it's fair to say they've slid some. Which I say with all due respect; 23 years of just being alive, minus the rock n' roll lifestyle, has seen me slide some.

And no doubt muscles, oil, dancing robots, skull make-up and plastic spikes were more groundbreaking before the likes of Gwar pushed the envelope further.

Unlike Nashville Pussy, the Misfits only got the pit truly jumping when they reached way back into their repertoire to their punk anthems. Losing their singer, Micheal Graves, at the border because of pending assault charges couldn't have helped either, nor did the Forum's terrible acoustics. All in all the show came close to failing to please — my favorite part of the set was when a kid

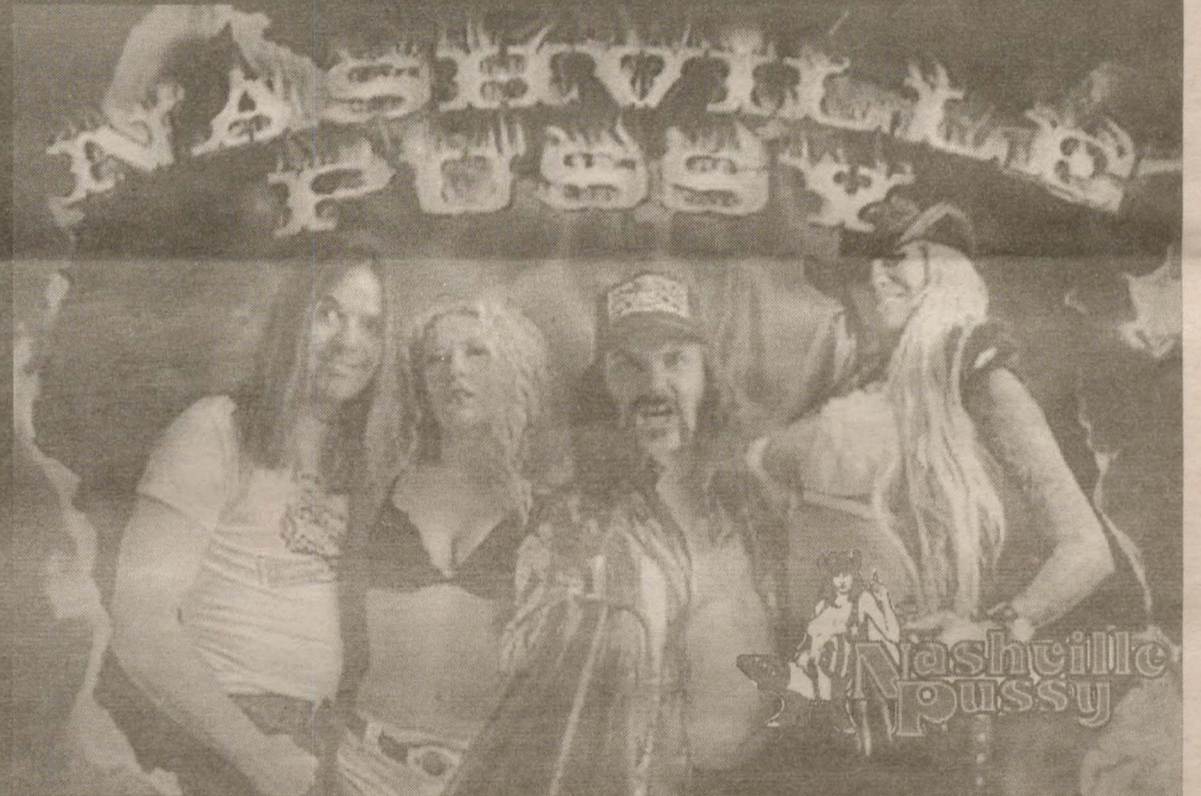
came stumbling out of the pit, puked, and then some other kid slipped in it. But the fact is when you've been around for as long as the Misfits, you can, for the most part, do no wrong.

There was a post-show hat-sighting to bring this review full circle. Outside was seen a kid with my hat, telling his friends a wonderfully imaginative, but completely falsified, story. His friends had missed Nashville Pussy's set, and in telling them that Nashville Pussy stole the show (true enough), he told them that Ruyter had worn my hat

onstage, and at show's end rubbed it on her...ahem...pussy, and then thrown it into the crowd. He enticed them to smell it: "C'mon smell it." They did so, cracked grins and said, "Yeah, it does smell like pussy!"

I shouldn't have to mention this but I will — my head definitely does NOT smell like pussy. The kids might not know the difference, but they do recognize the difference between a living breathing rock and roll and a nostalgia act, and these kids had it.

The kids are alright.



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Canada



The Drawer Boy: The Stage Was Built For This

by pamelasmith

the gazette

If getting ambushed by waves of honesty excites you, then *The Drawer Boy* is right up your alley.

Written by Michael Healey and directed by Mary Vingoe, this award winning play made its Atlantic Canada debut at the Alderney Landing Theater in Dartmouth last week.

The stage has been waiting for something like this to come along. In a welcome deviation from the norm, Michael Healey applies some refreshing strategies to his script. Through an obscure friendship, *The Drawer Boy* explores both the art of storytelling and the subjectivity of memory.

Christopher Shore plays Miles, a young city boy actor who shacks up with two aging farmers, Morgan and Angus, to research a play. Morgan (Richard Donat) is the gruff and tough counterpart to his more passive longtime

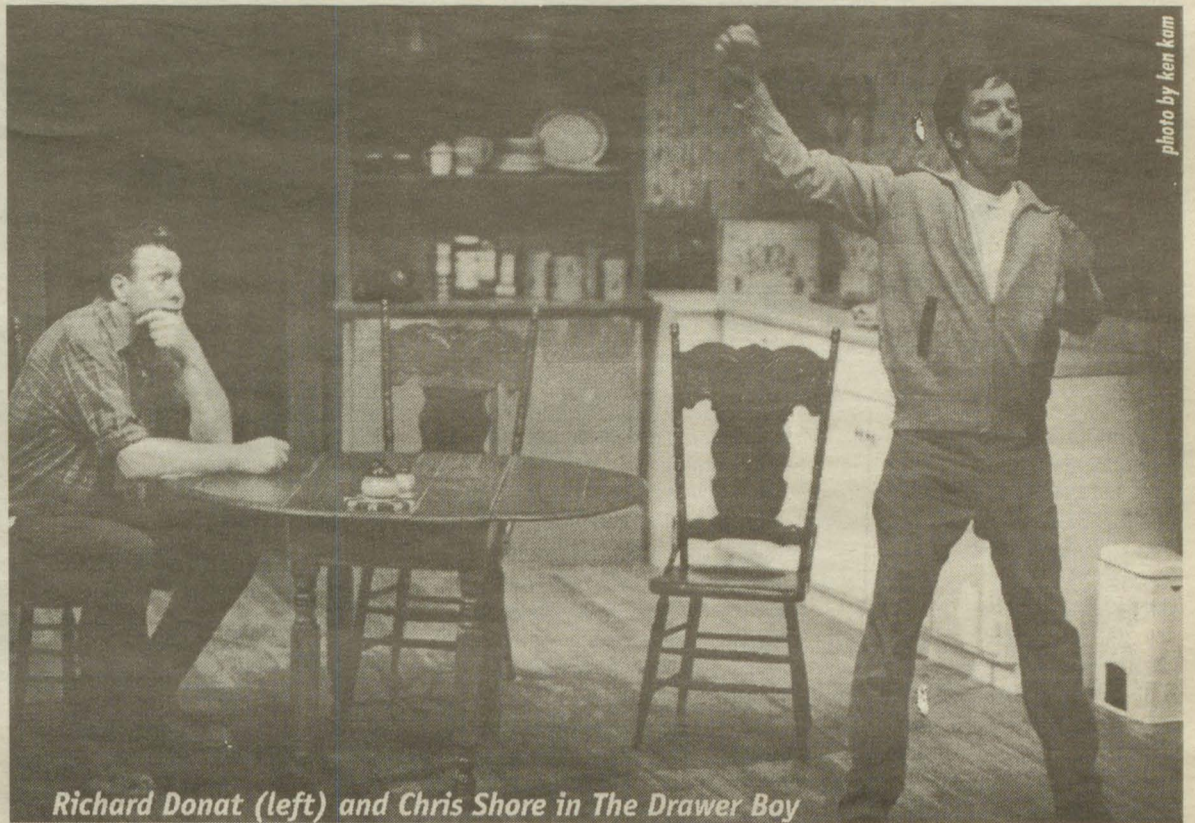
friend, Angus (John Dunsworth). Rather than learn about rural life, Miles gets an unexpected glimpse at the past that has kept these two old bachelors together for so long.

The story unfolds itself nicely, while an exceptional cast helps to suck the audience right into the tale. The actors used that little stage to its full-blast potential. Richard Donat's performance especially stands out. He does an incredible job at playing the bitchy-and-grouchy-but-a-marshmallow-on-the-inside old man.

I overheard some whispers from the back of the theatre. 'That guy's just like my gramps,' one of them said.

That guy is just like everybody's gramps, I thought. Donat couldn't have melded himself into that role any better — or, at the very least, he had me convinced.

With such a small cast, it would be a challenge to keep the clashing personalities together



Richard Donat (left) and Chris Shore in *The Drawer Boy*

photo by ken kam

enough to make it feel human, without going into that dreaded place known as overboard. The characters are as opposite to each other as humanly possible: the naive and quirky Miles, the dominant and cynical Morgan, and the simple and compliant Angus. The cast does a remarkable job at keeping it real. They brought the whole place to life and managed to set *The Drawer Boy* up in its well-deserved

emotional yo-yo stature.

Both amusing and melancholic, the audience reacted with an abundance of laughter and, toward the end, there wasn't a dry eye in sight.

Inspired by the 1972 making of *The Farm Show*, *The Drawer Boy* is beautifully written, thought-provoking, and pretty much kicks the pants off most other entertainment on the market right now. Probably the best play I've

seen in a long time, it's a surefire pleaser for anyone who has a soft spot for life's queer little ups and downs. I laughed, I cried, I stuck around for the other performance later that evening.

Unfortunately, I got you all worked up just to knock you back down. The play's last night in Halifax was October 22. Now let's all have a short moment of silence to pray for its return in the very near future.

Jessica Rhaye: a voice close to perfect

by danielmackillop

the gazette

Jessica Rhaye just released her first CD. The 23 year-old New Brunswickan plays music which uniquely blends folk, rock, and jazz, with a little bit of country added in. It is one of a kind, and her voice is amazing.

"I've always had a folksy sound," says Rhaye, "but when I got with the band, we tried different things. We tried to find what suited me best. When we went to the studio to record, that's when the sound just came out, and it was perfect. That's how I've always wanted to hear my music sound."

Her influences cover a variety of artists, including many Canadians, like Sarah McLaughlin, Celine Dion and Alanis Morissette.

Rhaye says she is the type of person who has difficulty expressing herself and explaining things sometimes. Music is her means of getting away from everything and articulating her feelings on certain things.

"I write about a lot of personal experiences I've encountered," she says, "I don't write a song once a week or anything like that. I have to be inspired. Sometimes I'll look through the eyes of somebody else to find what they're thinking about a certain situation."

Although Rhaye joined with her current band in December of 1999, she has been writing music since she was nine years old.

Her favorite song on the CD is "No More Me and You," which is about a difficult break-up with a boyfriend. She says the song illustrates what her music is all

about.

"I write in very free form, from the beginning, and then I write on my guitar. I'm not by any means a guitar player, but that is the tool that I use to write on, and that song has stayed the same ever since I've written it."

In the past, she has shared the stage with artists like Julian Austin, Great Big Sea and Glass Tiger. She also opened for Credence Clearwater Revival on a Maritime tour last year. Rhaye will be showcasing her talents at performances across the Maritimes through the fall.

"I kind of take each day as I go. I have a journal at home that I write down what I'd like to accomplish — different goals in my life. I'd like to get away and see how far I can go. The sky is the limit."

And the Cool Kids will be...

Friday Oct 27 is definitely a hard call. There are many things to do that will be super cool. If you like music like emo, then this is definitely your lucky day. Everyone's favourite Ontario emo band, **noneen**, is playing not one but two shows tonight. One all ages at the Pavilion and one at the Marquee along with **North of America**, **The Sycamores** and **The Plan**. I'm going to both! But if you aren't into that angst ridden stuff, try **Arlibido** at the Grawood on for size. These sexy rockers are bound to be a good time, and since the Grawood shuts at 1am you can wander/stagger down to the Attic after that for **Burt Neilson** and dance your little booty off to their most excellent funk.

Saturday Oct 28 — in the afternoon I vote you go to the Thirsty Duck and check out the matinee (4-7p.m.) **Tony Smith and the Mellotones** will rock your world with a huge band that has all the flavors of the musical instrument sphere. They cover James Brown like no one else can and have lots of great originals too. That night you should dress up funny and go to the Marquee for the spooky sounds of **Veda Hille**. She's joined by the calypso treat, **Piggy**.

I'm just going to warn everyone now. If you aren't at the **Flush CD release party** next **Friday (Nov 3)** at the Attic, then you've missed the highlight of the fall. These rocking, fun lovin' boys rip shit up every time they play. They are joined by **Edgy** and **Bucket Truck**. Sounds like a hard night of drinking ahead.

Caitlin Kealey

THE PLANET

Entertainment

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Every Monday**

**Ryan Evans & Special Guests
Every Tuesday**

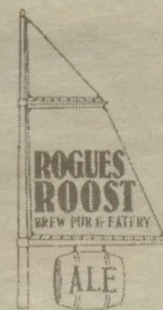
**Carol Ritchie Band with Roseanne Cousins
Friday 27th**

**Urban Surf Kings
Saturday 28th**

Corner of Spring Garden & Queen

**Open mic with
Daryl Parsons
Every Sunday**

"COME FOR THE BEER,
STAY FOR THE FOOD."



Both locations at Spring Garden & Queen

Gearbox: into gear

by **thomas cameron edelson**
the gazette

Too often people go to bars hoping to hear new and interesting music but get stuck listening to top-forty new-wave shit. Recently, I have been fortunate to have inside direction to what is a good show and worth seeing.

The most recent excursion took me to the Attic. I was pleasantly surprised to hear the quality of a new and rising band from St. John's, Nfld., called Gearbox. Currently on tour armed with their second album, *Songs for the Masses*, this group of five

friends brings new and needed creativity to the Halifax music circuit.

Songs for the Masses has great variety in music. The album is complete with genres from the I'm-mad-at-my-girlfriend feeling, to the homespun tracks that incorporate their own attitudes and instruments from growing up in Newfoundland. Some tracks include funky organs, nice female vocals, harmonicas, trumpets and boron skin drum.

This is a young group that can organize themselves musically to mesh all styles for their own benefit. Kalem Mahoney, the lead singer for

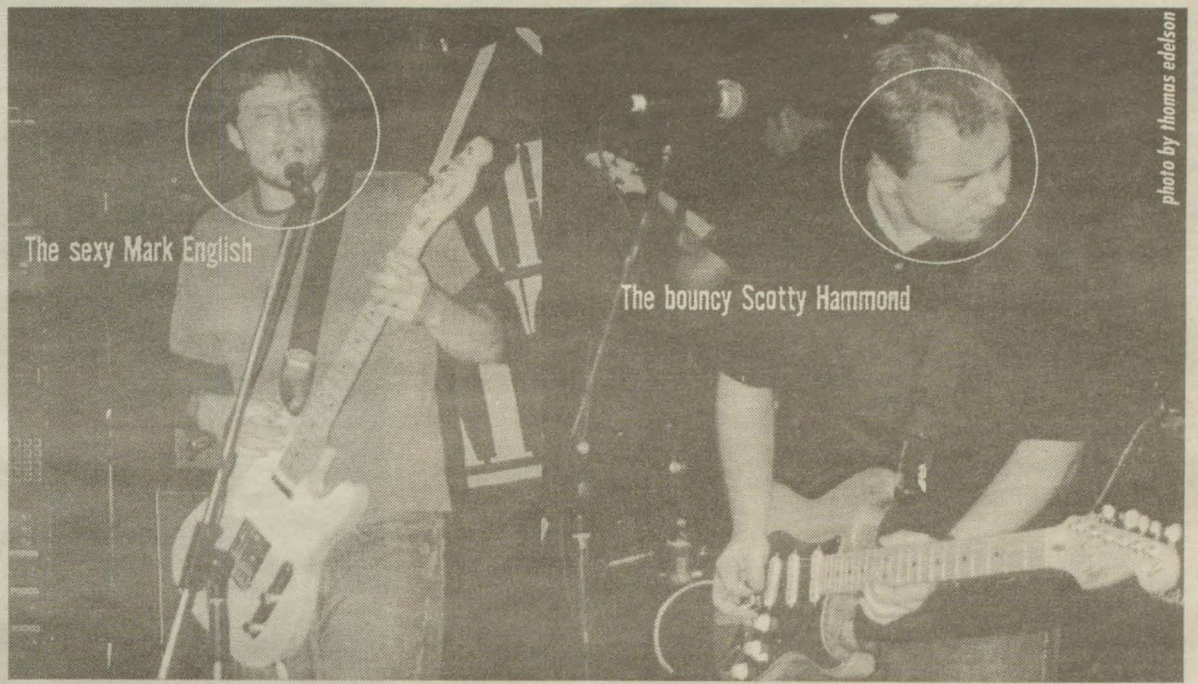


photo by thomas edelson

the group, told me a story before their show started: They were playing in a bar one night and someone asked from the crowd: When you guys

gonna play some Newfoundland music?

"This is Newfoundland music," replied Mahoney.

In St. John's, six years ago during their high school years, they formed the current band.

Gearbox is five members who have been friends since kindergarten, Kalem Mahoney, Mark English, Scott Hammond and twin brothers, Steven and Scott Tizzard.

The band that was playing before the Gearbox show had started late and finished the same way. Before the interview was over, I could see their anxiety building, the itch to rock was spreading.

Mahoney told me that their ultimate goal was to continue playing music and having fun with it. Fame

and fortune wasn't mentioned, but I suspect it was lingering in the back of all their minds.

During their show, I could tell just by listening that every musician knew their instrument well.

The guitars lace through each other and the drums are loud and clear behind Mahoney's up-front voice.

Ideally, we should all have some moral responsibility not to screw the smaller bands using the Internet. Burn Ricky Martin all you like but to be fair to those that need it, buy the disc. You won't be unhappy.

Not all Newfie music is about Daddy the Drunken Sailor or fishing boats

Check these guys out. They're good.

CD REVIEWS

Barenaked Ladies Maroon

Barenaked Ladies
Maroon

Barenaked Ladies have done it again. Their seventh album, *Maroon* is an impressive collection of 12 brand new original songs. With such poignant hits as "Too Little Too Late" to the upbeat "Pinch me", the Ladies have successfully negotiated the terrain of pop music with style and humor.

This follows on the heels of their quadruple platinum-selling *Stunt*.

With *Maroon*, Barenaked Ladies enter the 21st century in a decidedly more introspective mood, although theirs is the hummable kind of introspection you can dance to. On Barenaked Ladies first record of the new millennium, the band members are still having the time of their life, but this time they're speaking frankly about their life and times.

A remarkably upbeat album musically, for all its thematic weight lyrically, *Maroon*

investigates and celebrates the events of life — both good and bad that make it worth living. — Vanessa

Nature — For All Seasons (Columbia)



You might know Nature from his guest appearances on The Firm album, a collaboration featuring established rappers Nas, AZ, and Foxy Brown.

If not, consider *For All Seasons* your fair warning. It's been three years since the lackluster *Firm* venture, but Nature's performance on this LP sets him apart from his dismal debut vehicle.

Lyrically, Nature is on point. Though a self-proclaimed 'thug', he largely avoids the misogynistic, gun-toting, drug-slinging cliches that riddle today's rap. His lyrics are clever, insightful, and humorous in turn, and Nature definitely knows how to tell a story. At times, Nate is even reminiscent of vintage Nasty Nas.

If anything about this album can be criticized, it is not Nature himself, but the beats he raps over. The tracks, laced primarily by TrackMasters Poke and Tone and their crew, are average for the most part — with a few notable exceptions like "Man's World" and "Ultimate High." But

with the caliber of performance Nature turns out, some tighter beats could have made this very good album classic.

All in all the album is very 'listenable' from beginning to end, and though the sole guest is Nas on "Ultimate High," Nature is more than capable of holding down the remaining tracks solo. Any fan of good rap music should not come away from "For All Seasons" disappointed. — Chisulo

MARDI GRAS — BB SuperSmell

MARDI GRAS
— BB

When you listen to this you're gonna want to put on your zoot suit and start drinking that bathtub gin. These German white guys funk and groove their way through American Dixieland jazz with style and grace.

As if the music wasn't good enough, this disc comes with a very cool interactive CDROM. Players wander the streets avoiding killer alligators in search of individual band members, while listening to snippets from the album and viewing videos. Find the band members in their homes and play their instruments. You can fuck up their finely crafted songs, or jam along with them. When you're done, listen and watch as Doktor Wenz covers Ry Cooder's "He's Got to Go."

Almost as good as the Dirty Dozen Brass Band (and that's saying a lot), the *Mardi Gras* — BB will have you marching in the streets, and your girlfriend flashing strangers in exchange for cheap plastic trinkets. They're called "Mardi Gras" for a damn good reason. — Jason

.moneen.

Emo that is ready to destroy your everything

by **caitlin kealey**
the gazette

Word of mouth, mp3s, impressing the pants off of fans at live shows and constant touring is moneen's secret weapon. This relatively new band from Brampton, Ontario has only one four song EP but has managed to tour incessantly in the past year and a half to promote themselves. They are hitting Halifax this Friday (Oct 27) at both the Pavilion and the Marquee.

Moneen's CD sales are suffering because of Napster and mp3s, but Kenny Bridges (vocals/guitar) sees the bright side of the kids downloading their music without paying for it.

"We're getting ripped off left, right and center," says Bridges. "Then we were like that's cool though, because at least it's not getting downloaded and lost in their computers. They actually listen to it, people are coming up to us and are all like 'oh I really like your stuff' and I'm all like 'how the hell do you know our stuff' and they all say that they downloaded it. I'm totally down with that."

At first, moneen was unhappy about the way their CD sales were going. They then realized that having people at the shows knowing the songs, without having sold high

numbers of CDs, results in better shows.

"That's the business side that we all hate, we wish it wasn't there but it's a necessary evil," says Bridges. "If I could eliminate it and just play basement shows all of my life I would. If you have some kind of potential it's inevitable that a band will get bigger and they'll get more of a following and they'll go play bigger shows. But if we get too caught up in the business side then our band is going to die faster than friggin' Guns and Roses. We're too young to get wrapped up in that stuff."

Their high energy show does not translate into a recorded CD, making seeing them live a completely different experience.

"Last night we got put on a last minute show with The Plain White T's and we only got to play two songs," says Bridges. "It was funny because it was just two songs but we played like we were playing a million songs as hard as we could. And after [the show] people were looking at us like what the hell is wrong with you people? At the end of our last song I was on top of the bass amp with my back broken and Chris's cabinet was pushed over and it was just like insanity. So I don't think there's any way we could capture that on CD."

But they are going to try, they return to the studio after this round of touring, to record their first full length album in January.



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Classics, I says...

Each week we ask a different person to share their idea on a classic book, movie, and CD.

by jodi magliaro
the gazette

Book

Interview with the Vampire, Anne Rice

I first read this book when I was in grade five. I found it in my sister's room and the title just caught my attention. I had no idea that it would end up having such an impact on my views and opinions on the value of human life. Now, if you've never read the book you may think that it is your typical vampire blood bath novel and could not have such a significant message behind it — well, all I can say is read it because you would change your opinion immediately.

The story is told by Louis, a 200 year old vampire who tells his story to a young interviewer. He tells of his desire for death and how a young vampire, Lestat accepted the challenge and gave him "the dark gift". The novel forces you to question your own mortality, the nature of good and evil, and the classic search for immortality. I would recommend this book to anybody who actually likes a novel you have to think about and read over again just to grasp it's concept.

Movie

Braveheart

I have watched this movie at least ten times, and I ball my eyes out at the end EVERYTIME! Now you may think that's because I'm just a big sap — and I'm sure that's part of it — but when he yells "mercy" who couldn't break down and cry? Mel Gibson did an amazing job and should have at least been nominated for an Oscar. The three hour length, unlike Titanic, didn't get annoying and the movie needed every minute of it. One of the best quotes I've ever heard is from Braveheart — "Every man dies, not every man really lives." I also loved how he won the battles by using his head — "we need sticks, long sticks" and he actually fought for something meaningful — freedom. Mel Gibson can never live up to Braveheart. That movie proved that he's not just a pretty face. He's a pretty face who can act too.

C.D.

See Spot Run

Some people may not know who these guys are, (you're probably thinking "shouldn't that be under favourite book"?). Their music is really fun and quite original. I first saw them in a bar in Sydney and I couldn't believe how good they were. I thought "why are these guys playing in a bar in Cape Breton? They don't suck." I love their song "Au Naturel", but I can't really say that I disliked any of the songs on the album. Their sound is very unique and a lot of fun to dance to. It doesn't hurt that they're crazy guys to hang out with. Although they've been around for a while, I don't think they've been given the recognition they deserve. Their sound is great and, like Jazzberry Ram, they are not strictly in one genre of music. They have variety — a nice selection of songs that will appeal to all.

Energetic and action packed: The Burdocks and Neuseiland

by ryan delehanty

the gazette

With Robert Plants' screams echoing through the Marquee Club on Friday night the four young members of The Burdocks quietly took the stage. They didn't stay quiet for long as they immediately launched into a set that was loud, energetic and action packed. The lead singer showed a great stage presence that combines the moves of Joel Plaskett with the looks of a young Robert Pollard.

I was also equally impressed by the antics of their new bass player who looks to have had little trouble getting accustomed to his new bandmates. The two crashed into each other, rolled around on the stage and equally amused both themselves and the crowd.

Stage antics certainly weren't the only reason to enjoy The Burdocks on Friday night — they also displayed an interesting collection of indie rock songs with some catchy pop melodies and the occasional hint of math rock.

I very much enjoyed their fondness for screaming, especially in

the harmonies between the bass player and lead singer and in their song "Radiotron." They ended their set brilliantly with a fantastic jam featuring some great keyboard effects that continued on long after the band had left the stage.

Although I was impressed with their performance, I am much more excited to see where their sound is in a year's time. They have great potential as a band and still have yet to hit their peak. Hopefully, they will begin to expand on the little hint of math rock present in their set and explore the works of Polvo or Halifax's own North of America, as I think the band's talents would be best suited to this style more than straight forward indie pop.

I won't rush out to the next Burdocks show, but this definitely wasn't my last, as I'll be keeping my eyes open for their next record release.

After the Burdocks I began to get prepared for Tigre Benvie who I haven't had the pleasure of seeing in quite a while.

Unfortunately, not only was Mr. Robert Benvie not in the Marquee Club

on Friday night, he wasn't even in the province. Benvie was enjoying the sights and sounds of Montreal while opening a show for Mike O'Neill and Sarah Harmer.

My disappointment didn't last long as Neuseiland hit the stage with a feedback laden "5 Easy Pieces," one of their more rockin' numbers.

Neuseiland consists of former Super Friendz, Charles Austin and Drew Yamada on guitar, Andrew Glencross on those fantastic sounding keyboards, Tim Stewart on bass, and Joel Plaskett, formerly of Thrush Hermit, on drums. Austin, Glencross and Yamada all take turns on the microphone singing both lead and backup vocals.

Neuseiland put on a more mature and reserved set than The Burdocks playing through a lot of their older songs as well as several new tunes. The new songs, such as "Pity Sake" and "Heavy Metal," will be included on their second album, which they will be recording with ex-hermit Ian McGettigan this winter. The latter song features a great heavy riff surrounded by the haunting Neuseiland keyboards we've all come to love so much.

The keyboards are what define the Neuseiland sound and musically

distance them from their contemporaries. They possess an eerie and ethereal quality, which immediately transforms Neuseiland's alternative pop into something very unique.

Unfortunately, although their songs don't sound like any other bands, they do often sound alike, but with repeated listening the nuances and individuality of the various songs begin to seep through. "Robots of Me" inspired a small outbreak of dancing in the crowd with its offbeat and somewhat funky keyboards.

The band took a short break after a great song featuring a guitar riff reminiscent of Led Zeppelin's "Cashmere" and a very energetic jam, before returning a few minutes later for an encore. Austin sang the lovely "Wanna Want To" off their first album, which ended with his banging the butt of the guitar into the stage leaving it screaming in agony as several fans banged on the strings while Neuseiland made its departure.

Both bands put on entertaining shows and with a new Neuseiland album on the horizon, and the promise shown by The Burdocks I can only believe that their future shows will be even better.

This Is Your Life Guy Smiley

by caitlin kealey

the gazette

Past the big security guard, the stage, the other bands' dressing rooms, out the door, up some stairs and down a long hall past the hockey rink to Guy Smiley's dressing room was a bit of a long walk.

As the opening band for the Misfits and Nashville Pussy last Monday at the Halifax Forum, the Winnipeggers were not fazed as they waited for their deli tray and a place to shower after a grueling set.

Guy Smiley formed back in 1992, but has seen big lineup changes recently. Kun (vocals) was joined by Kevin Feeleus (bass) about five months ago and they united with Kun's brother, Jason (guitar), and Sam Osland (drums) only three weeks before going on tour with the Misfits. Although the band parted on good terms with their old drummer, who took a teaching position, Kun had nothing nice to say about the other two members.

"I'm happy that the other two guys fucked off. It was time for a change," says Kun.

Change seems to be the main theme for Guy Smiley lately. They are in the process of looking for a new label. Their last album, *Alkaline*, was put out on a few different labels including Smallman Records and Epitaph.

The band was signed to Epitaph after a seven nation European tour with H2O. During the H2O tour, the band blew Epitaph's mind, and the 'big cheese' record label of the punk world offered them a record deal.

It's not surprising that the band impressed Epitaph. Their live show includes much high energy jumping and screaming. Kun shows an amazing stage presence and even got down off the high stage to interact with the crowd who was shut off from the front of the stage by a large barrier.

Guy Smiley's existing deals made it that they could not sign a worldwide deal with Epitaph. But now their deal with Smallman has come to an amicable end and they are looking to move forward.

"We would have left Smallman in a second because there was much more money at Epitaph. Smallman would have wanted us to leave. It does a world of good for a smaller label and bands when one of their bands get signed. We wouldn't re-release the old albums so people would have to buy from them and it would be good for the other bands on the label too," says Kun.

Kun adds that they are heading into the studio soon to record a new album, although he would not say which labels they are in the process of talking with about releasing the next album. After that they will be going back on tour. They plan to tour Canada again in the spring and hopefully go to Japan and Australia. With their constant touring and diligent work Guy Smiley has aspirations.

"We want to write our best album and tour all over the world. We still have to work normal day jobs when we aren't on tour. But I think it's important to keep working hard," says Kun.

"I second that motion," added Osland.

Their success so far hasn't gone to their heads, that's for sure. Being buried deep in the building and talking to a student reporter, Guy Smiley were still having a good time. When asked about what they thought of the controversy surrounding Napster they gave the stock answer about it being good for smaller indie bands.

"At our level it's nothing but good, the fact that so many people have access to our music is good," says Kun.

"Ask us in ten years when we're bitching about our deli tray not being here yet (laugh) then we'll make Napster the scapegoat like the rockstars do," adds Feeleus.

Dead Red all fired up

by repo kempt

the gazette

"Ya gotta buy me beer to make me stop!" shouted guitarist Fabian O'Brian over the cheers of the Marquee Club crowd last Saturday night. His not-so-seductive striptease — which he labeled a "love handle dance" — was one of the rare moments of on-stage banter from Halifax punk rock trio Dead Red.

The members of the band are firm believers in the "less talk more rock" school of performance. Stopping only twice in their 45 minute set, the three musicians made sure that their followers got the most for their money.

"We only stop long enough to take a quick drink...if we stop at all," says drummer Peter MacMillan.

Ending their set with a rip-roaring cover of "Suspect Device," Dead Red left the audience all fired-up and ready for Newfoundland headliners Bucket Truck.

Anyone who thinks that hardcore punk rock can't extend its reach beyond the Pavilion and into the Halifax bar scene is wrong.

Dead Red is a band on the verge of success. Moving from St. John's to Halifax in the mid-1990's and establishing its current line-up in the summer of 1997, the band has been honing its chops by playing regularly in Halifax over the past three years.

With a continually increasing fan base and a relentless live show, Halifax's premier punk rock band is preparing to release a full-length CD sometime before Christmas. The eighteen track album,

tentatively titled *Standard Issue*, will feature re-recorded versions of all songs previously released on their debut cassette, in addition to eight new original songs.

"It's gonna be loud and heavy," says MacMillan with a smile, "just like our live show."

In keeping with the punk rock "do-it-yourself" tradition, the band has opted to record the new album on their own.

Bassist and lead vocalist Francis Hall assures fans of the band that the album is completed and only finishing touches on the vocal tracks must be done before its release. Having studied recording in university and at the Center for Art Tapes, the band hoped to capture its live power and maintain creative control by using computer software to record in Hall's home studio.

An early copy of the album burned to disc (sans vocals) provided by the band confirms the high quality and "live energy" of the recording.

Saturday night's Marquee Club show with Buckettruck and Antigonish dated grunge rock imports Willowdale was just another step forward in building up the popularity of the band. Hopefully, the powerful live show of Dead Red and word of mouth will lead to shifting units and the possibility of label interest when the band releases *Standard Issue* in the coming months.

Members of the band guarantee listeners a record release party before the end of December and they have several gigs in downtown Halifax coming up next month. So get on down there and check them out.

The Mexican Revolution

Part 1



photos by heather o'keefe

by **chris arsenault**
the gazette

I spent 15 days this summer building a school with a group of armed revolutionaries in Chiapas, Mexico. The area is populated with impoverished peasants, fighting for their land and freedom.

Canadian Students Taking Action in Chiapas (STAC) worked with American based schools to send 35 volunteers into an autonomous community deep in the Lanacodon jungle. The program, which lasted two weeks, changed the volunteers for life.

My adventure began with a five-hour hike through cornfields carved from the humid Lanacodon Jungle.

Life in a Zapatista community isn't for those expecting four-star comforts. There are no beds, no stoves, or running water. Volunteers sleep on a dirt floor or in hammocks under a corrugated-iron roof without walls. Stray dogs or pigs would often wander into our quarters looking for

cover from late night downpours. This especially irritated the people sleeping on the floor.

There is a decided lack of basic facilities — we had to bathe in the same water as the local farm animals and there is no running water in the town.

None of those pigs ended up on the dinner table.

We lived on 18 pesos a day — the equivalent of about three dollars. Our diet consisted mostly of beans, tortillas, coffee and occasionally corn or other vegetables. But good meals came from a kitchen that consisted of two fire pits and four rusty pots. Volunteer cooks rose at 6 a.m. to boil water and prepare breakfast.

The volunteers included young activists, teachers and disenfranchised intellectuals from Mexico, the United States, Canada and Britain. Many of the volunteers were drawn to Mexico because of the romantic appeal of the Zapatista movement: impoverished peasants fighting against all odds, for land and freedom.

Chiapas is a diverse, resource-rich state with a population of more than three million people, including many indigenous people. It has been entangled in a sometimes low, but all too often high intensity civil war for the last six years. Wealthy landowners awoke on New Year's Day 1994 to find an army of over 2000 armed peasants in control of nearly half the state, including the capital San Cristobal de Las Casas.

The Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) rebelled with the war cry "Ya Basta" or "enough." They were fed up with the feudal distribution of land and government mismanagement. They wanted to own their land, like the constitution guaranteed, as well as some autonomy from the Mexican government.

The government was embarrassed by this action and the army counter-attacked. The Zapatistas sat down to peace talks less than a week after the uprising began, however, not before the eyes of the world focused on this once obscure state in Southern Mexico.

Conditions in Chiapas helped spawn the Schools for Chiapas (SFC) in 1995. Since then SFC has sent 20 caravans of volunteers, each with about 30 participants, representing 12 countries. STAC began its activities in 1999, and sends a Canadian contingent yearly, while informing Canadians about the struggle in Chiapas.

It costs \$280 US per person to go, which includes food, lodging, and bus transportation from Mexico City to Chiapas. One hundred dollars went directly towards building supplies and other aid for the community.

While in Chiapas, we spent most of our time at The Francisco Gomez encampment, a community centre that provides basic services to the surrounding rural population. The Gomez Camp, consists of a kitchen, an outhouse, an office, a church and a few iron-roofed accommodations buried deep within Zapatista territory. Local people living in mud huts with thatched roofs carved this centre out of the jungle, with a little help from donations. Right now there is a one-room primary school to serve 800 families, with mostly volunteer teachers. There are no proper health care facilities within a four-hour radius.

The dry cement mix for the school had to be trucked five hours on a rusty pick-up truck from Ocosingo, the nearest Zapatista-friendly town. After local people made cinder blocks from the mix, volunteers carried them half a mile down to the school site. The Francisco Gomez community is 5200 ft above sea level; we struggled in the thin air and 30 degree heat.

Chiapas as a state consists of high mountains with dense rainforest and little development. Small stores owned mostly by rural women, sell everything from tortillas to nail polish on the highway-side. There are some large cities, like the historic

capital, San Cristobal de Las Casas although most of the state's populations grow corn in the rural areas.

There is no data on exactly how much land the Zapatistas control.

Before arriving at Francisco Gomez we visited Oventic Agualistics, where SFC has already built a school, library, basketball court, and a medical clinic. Most of the buildings in this nearly completed camp have electric power, siphoned from the huge steel transmitters leading to Mexico City.

Ivan, a young SFC co-ordinator assured us this wasn't stealing.

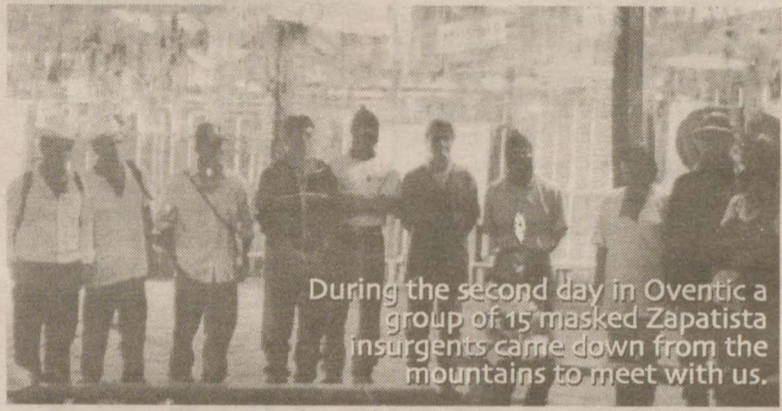
"Chiapas produces 60 percent of Mexico City's hydro-electric power, yet

can get a fair education in an autonomous Zapatista controlled school."

While the unnamed soldier talked, we sat silently in a wooden auditorium. The walls were painted with murals of past revolutionaries, like the late Emiliano Zapata, a peasant hero who fought and died in the 1910 revolution. The Zapatistas are fighting in his name for the same land and freedom their ancestors fought for 90 years ago.

Smoke from filter-less cigarettes spread throughout the auditorium as the masked man continued to speak.

"After a generation we will



During the second day in Oventic a group of 15 masked Zapatista insurgents came down from the mountains to meet with us.

none of the rural people have power or running water. This is just one of the injustices you'll find in this place."

There wasn't much work to do in Oventic, so we used those two days to get to know each other, and become used to the conditions.

During the second day in Oventic a group of 15 masked Zapatista insurgents came down from the mountains to meet with us. These men and women risk their lives on an everyday basis because they believe in and fight for the Zapatista revolution.

gather a team of indigenous and international historians, and then together we will re-write history. The conquistadors destroyed our history, culture and religion, we will reclaim it."

Many of the volunteers described the encounter as surreal. For the men and women who spend their lives fighting in the jungle, it was reality.

The Mexican Revolution will be continued in The Gazette, Nov. 2.

Even without much formal education they had ambitious plans for education in Chiapas. Only one of the men spoke Spanish; the rest spoke Tzotil (Zoutzeel) an indigenous language. With the help of some translation from the Mexican side of our group, they told us about their hopes for the future.

"First we must build enough schools to educate all the children in Zapatista Chiapas. Once this can be done we will open the schools to the international community so anyone

Students Taking Action in Chiapas (STAC)

chiapasbrigade@hotmail.com
422.9771

Chiapas Slide Show: November 7th
Please call for details



Heather O'Keefe helps with harvests during her Chiapas experience.

BRANN WESTER

This week's puzzle:

Shady Sam and Shifty Sid scaled the wall of the Badass Bighouse and quickly faded into the darkness. They headed due North at a steady trot and by morning, exhausted, hungry and thirsty, found themselves on the deserted North shore of the Isle of Bile. As they staggered along the shore they came across what certainly must have seemed a mirage. Sitting on the sand in front of them was a two litre can, filled to the brim with ice cold beer. As it turned out, it wasn't a mirage and herein lies the problem. Shady and Shifty have only one can to drink from, and absolutely nothing around to measure the depth or amount of beer. How can they share the can of beer so that they each can be certain of getting EXACTLY half?

Send your answer to CDCONTEST@Xweb.ns.ca for your chance to win a free CD. Two winners will be randomly selected from the correct answers.

Last week's answer was:

In the Antarctic, it is too cold for a virus to survive. Therefore the penguins develop no immunity to such diseases. When they come to the more temperate regions, they catch cold and die.

The winner is:
Jonathan E. Mulock.

Pick up prizes at room 312 SUB, Mondays at 4:30.

Reducing campus impact on the environment

by **andrew angus**

the gazette

Two representatives from the Sierra Youth Coalition Dalhousie Group and the King's Environmental Group attended a training session at the end of September at the University of Victoria and Royal Roads University on Vancouver Island, BC. The focus of this session was to help these two groups collaborate with other to build a strong national network of people working to create more sustainable campuses at Canadian universities.

We learned about exciting programs across the country that effectively reduced the impact that universities have on the environment while lowering operating costs for the university.

Schools presented examples of some excellent programs, which have had tremendous success in reducing the ecological impact of various universities. The University of Victoria's UPASS project allows the UVIC student card to work as a bus pass for the school year. This project, coupled with another program to increase carpooling, has helped reduce the number of cars on campus thereby cutting down on University of Victoria's share of our nation's greenhouse gas emissions.

The University of British Columbia has designed an ecologically friendly

building for the same cost as a conventional building.

Yukon College uses wind turbines that produce electricity for one of their buildings.

Closer to home, Mount Allison University has recently completed an audit of the entire campus as part of the creation of a Sustainability Management System.

The University of Acadia has created a very effective program to improve recycling and composting in their residences and academic buildings.

All this was very interesting but some presentations and discussions were hard to relate to. How can you tell people to act in a more sustainable manner?

Sustainability is not something that is easy to pursue in our everyday lives. After all, we generally have no idea of where our food comes from, who made our clothes or even how the recycling program in Halifax is supposed to work.

Perhaps if we did know all these things we could do a life cycle analysis of what we purchase and how we use it and figure out ways to reduce our impact on our environment while maintaining a strong economy where our society is productive and healthy. In this way we could really figure out whether we are acting in a sustainable manner.

One speaker, John Ryan, simplified the whole idea of sustainability into seven easy steps that we can use in our

everyday lives. The Bicycle can reduce the emission of greenhouse gases that are emitted by the millions of cars in Canada. The condom can help to stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies creating a healthier more productive society. The ceiling fan is a fantastic way to reduce our use of electricity, as is the clothesline. Using a clothesline uses no electricity and therefore does not emit any greenhouse gases. The clothesline is a great example of solar power at its best.

Pad Thai is another great way to reduce our impact on the environment. By lowering the amount of meat we eat and lowering where we eat on the food chain we can use resources in a more sustainable way. The public library reduces the use of paper and thus the destructive logging practices and paper mills that lessen biodiversity and pollute our streams and rivers. Finally the ladybug is a great way to get away to control pests on our lawns and gardens as well as in agriculture and to lessen the use of harmful pesticides and herbicides. By implementing these steps we can work together to create a healthier planet.

For more information about the Sierra Youth Coalition's Sustainable Campus Project contact Amelia Clarke acl Clarke@is2.dal.ca. At King's please contact kingsenviro@hotmail.com.

Researchers receive more than \$10 million

by **jonathan dieli colburn**

the gazette

If you think that all your science professors do is give lectures on cellular mitosis and grade your term papers, you had better think again. Researchers at Dal easily have between them \$10 million to pursue their own research.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) is just one organisation funding our scientists, and last May they awarded over \$6.7 million to Dal projects.

NSERC supports both basic university research through research grants and project research through partnerships of universities with industry. For instance, last year Dr. Graham Gagnon was funded to research the problem of contaminated town reservoirs and the elimination of carcinogenic trihalomethanes from public water, a problem that concerns most public water plants on the continent.

The organization expected to provide more than \$550 million last year to postsecondary research, which is nine percent of the federal governments spending on science and technology, and 33 percent of all university research. The money pays for research and fieldwork, and buys equipment and supplies. Researchers work with professors from other countries and support students who are working toward higher degrees.

Just last January, NSERC granted more than half a million dollars for two researchers at Dalhousie, adding to the dozens already working on projects on campus.

• Dr. Roy Duncan of the

Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Dalhousie University will receive \$297,959 over three years to study small membrane proteins and find ways to incorporate them into cell components called "liposomes." These liposomes might be used to deliver anti-cancer and anti-microbial drugs inside the cell.

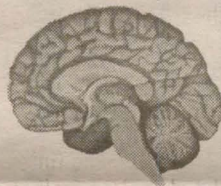
• Dr. Zhizhang Chen of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Dalhousie University will receive \$370,992 over three years to research the development of new design software and transceivers that can lower the cost of wireless and satellite communication products, while improving their efficiency.

In a local context, the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation (NSHRF) also awarded grants to 34 additional researchers, these awards amounting to \$4.3 million to be put to use in health research. One of the researchers, Mr. Stephen Gleich, featured in *The Gazette* last month is working on a project to prevent depression episodes in first year university students.

The Nova Scotia legislature created the NSHRF in 1998, and the grants go to working to further health care, health policy and health promotion throughout the province. While areas of health research that concern Nova Scotians are the intended beneficiaries, researchers gain by having the opportunity to work with others across different disciplines and institutions, and the province has the chance to stay abreast of any research that could economically benefit the region.

Scientific and environmental research at Dal is seemingly limitless.

The Mind of Mr. Minimal



Knonede,

People have become disgusting. Not in physical appearance, nor through their habits, but more so in the fact that society has lost belief in itself. It is rare to find an individual doing what motivates and enthuses them. Instead, people are eschewing their passion and believing in what is fed to them through the meat grinder known as media. Every person has a duty to passion. Everyone must fill the world with righteousness. Humankind will be free. Not free to own, or have, but free to be. Do what you believe in, do what you want.

Knonede,

I can't operate any longer, Rusell's words haunt my thoughts throughout the day. "We can never know the innate qualities of objects" he said. This leaves me looking at the sun in awe, feeling life screaming at me, a cold shower rushing over my senses.

C. Pleez

B. Haardekore and C. Pleez,

Thank you for such enlightening and stirring letters. I know not a proper response or comment to your ideas. This last week has left my energy levels low and I would offer some words of comfort, but I sense that you may seek more than a soulful explanation of the machinery you call media.

Instead I wish to take this opportunity to discuss some of the propagated untruths that hover above us like unavoidable billboard advertisements.

The human brain experiences most of its growth during its first years of development. Brains essentially reach adult size by the time humans are two years old. The rapid growth in the first 24 months of a baby's life leaves a baby extremely vulnerable to disease and infection.

To combat this vulnerability, breast milk contains 'colostrums', which carry immunoglobulins that increase the newborn's immunity against viral and bacterial infections.

What many mothers do not realize is that it is their own milk which provides immunological protection against viruses and bacteria, protection that cannot be provided by a cow's milk formula.

Soon after birth, in hospitals across the world, babies are fed free formula thanks to philanthropic corporations, and then mother's return home with free samples of commercial infant food.

Unfortunately, the packaging reminds mother's to clean and sterilize the water and the bottles, but many mothers across the world cannot read. Furthermore, clean water and sufficient fuel to boil water is not always accessible.

Once a mother stops breast feeding, even for a few days, her body receives signals telling her to slow and eventually cease milk production, making the baby completely dependent on formula. At the same time, mothers may find that they cannot afford expensive formulas, yet must continue feeding their babies the formulas.

The aim of the donated formula campaigns is to create a dependence on formula while attempting to disregard the benefits of breast feeding.

Bottle fed babies suffer from more pneumonia, middle-ear infections, meningitis, thrush and viral illnesses. In comparison to breast-fed babies, the risk of bottle fed babies being infected by influenza and spinal is 16 times greater.

Many of us have heard of 'sudden infant death syndrome'. It takes the lives of babies with seemingly no discernible cause. This type of death occurs twice as often in infants who are bottle fed than in those that are breast fed. Although the phenomenon itself is a mystery, the increased occurrence of the deaths is directly related to bottle-feeding.

And Nestle.

This seemingly friendly company which distributes chocolate treats is also the biggest advocate of hospital formula campaigns. The International Baby Food Action Network's (IBFAN) survey found that Nestle is spending many millions of dollars each year to gain access to Third World maternity hospitals and that the company blatantly pays physicians and medical personnel to pass on free samples to new mothers.

What can we do? We can start by boycotting all Nestle products such as Coffee Mate and Taster's Choice. We can call Nestle (toll free) at 1-800-637-8537 and let them know that we are boycotting all their products and the reasons why. Do not be discouraged by the friendly electronic voices on the other end of the line.

The phone calls will add up.

If you wish to learn more about the Infant Formula Scam, pick up *Diet for a New World* by John Robbins, or send me an email at mr_minimal@hotmail.com.

Do you have any subjects of interest you would like to see stripped naked by The Mind of Mr. Minimal? How about some creative work?

Send me an electronic message or pay respect to Mr. Minimal and meet him in person by dropping off a submission at *The Gazette*, on Mondays @ 4:30.

B. Haardekore

Information Hash news & facts

Kicking the habit

by **kip keen**

Zyban: The number one non-nicotine based prescription method to kick the habit. Mostly composed of the chemical Bupropion.

According to the makers of Zyban, a severe overdose of up to 17500 mg., compared to a normal 300 mg. dose, creates "hallucinations, loss of consciousness...stupor, coma, and respiratory failure."

Its a drug of some sort, they think...

The pharmacological report on the drug announces that the "mechanism by which Zyban enhances the ability of patients to abstain from smoking is unknown."

Their figures show that 40 percent of those on Zyban reported insomnia compared to 18 of Zyban placebo.

After 26 weeks off of Zyban the patient test group had a 19 percent quitting success rate.

11 percent of the placebo group were still off of nicotine after the same period.

A new drugless treatment based on being a Zyban placebo has been suggested by *The Gazette* environment section.

Eight percent of those on Zyban reported being constipated.

Three percent of those in the placebo group said they were also constipated.

Nicotine Anonymous Says

Affiliated to Alcoholics Anonymous, Nicotine Anonymous has a twelve step program, some of which steps are:

1. We admitted we were powerless over nicotine — that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Corporations poking holes...

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) 1997 results on nicotine content in cigarettes "produced numbers about twice as high as those found by the Federal Trade Commission."

Says the MA Department of Public Health —

The FTC method did not take filter blocking into account because their tests did not simulate a smoker's fingers covering up holes on filter. These holes are placed on light and ultra light cig's to decrease smoke intake. The FTC method also did tests based on 60 second puff intervals, in opposition to 30 second intervals used in the MDPH tests, which they believe are more accurate.

Ask a smoker.

But I smoke ultra lights, so it's alright...

The MDPH reports that, in general, the difference between light and ultralight cigarettes is not in the tobacco, but through the number of holes poked in the filter. Unfortunately, 50% of these holes are often covered up, canceling out much of the difference.

The American Cancer Society says that one in five U.S. deaths are due to smoking. That's 400,000 people a year.

Gazette Scoreboard

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

(Exhibition) Edmonton Journal Invitational in Alberta
 Alberta Calgary 86, Dalhousie 81
 Dalhousie 94, Ryerson 36

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Men's Wildcard Challenge (Friday)
 Guelph 53 vs. Acadia 57
 GUELPH: A. Giberson 13 pts, 6 reb.
 ACADIA: R. Brenton 16 pts, 9 reb.
 Brock 64 vs. Saint Mary's 75
 BROCK: J. Duncan 16 pts, 6 assists.
 SMU: J. Taussig 20 pts, 7 reb.
 McMaster 88 vs. Dalhousie 54
 McMaster: G. Hewitt 12 pts, 9 reb.
 DAL: R. Aubourg 19 pts, 9 reb.
 McMaster 72, Acadia 69
 Dalhousie 81, Brock 74
 Saint Mary's 72, Guelph 68

FIELD HOCKEY

SMU 0 @ UNB 1
 UNB: Heather Goodland
 Saint Mary's 1 @ UNB 2
 UNB: Tina Cormier, Heather Goodland
 SMU: Tanya Andrews

MEN'S HOCKEY

Saint Mary's 2 @ StFX 3
 SFX: G. Loranger, T. Smith, P. Andrea
 SMU: T. Kennedy, B. Morgan
 Moncton 5 @ St. Thomas 7
 UDM: S. Huot 2, S. Castonguay, C. Drolet, C. Prudhomme
 STU: A. Proskurnicki 3, M. Zultek 2, D. Tiveron, M. Hanson.
 UNB 4 @ UPEI 4 (OT)
 StFX 7 @ Dalhousie 3
 SFX: D. Flaman 3, Y. Evola 2, P. Andrea, D. Stock
 DAL: C. Pittman 2, C. Tellum
 Acadia 1 @ Saint Mary's 4
 SMU: K. Delaney, S. Gallace, J. Byrnes, B. Manley
 ACA: J. Bennett

WOMEN'S SOCCER

UNB 0 @ Moncton 2
 UDM: M. Allain, M. Leblanc
 Dalhousie 1 @ Acadia 0
 DAL: E. Howell
 UPEI 3 @ UCCB 4
 - UCCB: M. Desjardins 2, J. Delahunt, C. Pittman
 - UPEI: Lana Birch 3
 Memorial 1 @ UNB 0
 - MUN: F. Curtis
 Mt. Allison 0 @ StFX 0
 - SFX: B. McCharles - shutout - MTA: T. Vouriot - shutout

MEN'S SOCCER

UNB 2 @ Moncton 0
 - UNB: Y. Losier, J. Crossland Dalhousie 2 @ Acadia 1
 - DAL: A. Bishop, J. Fraelic
 - ACA: P. Lawrence

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

(Exhibition)
 Martlet Invitational @ McGill
 Montreal 3, Dalhousie 0 (25-11,25-7,25-9)
 Saskatchewan 3, Dalhousie 0 (25-11,25-7,25-9)
 (Exhibition)
 UNB Invitational Moncton 3, Saint Mary's 2 (21-25, 25-17,25-19,25-27,15-9)
 UPEI 3, StFX 1 (21-25,25-19,25-15,25-15)
 UCCB 3, UNB 1 (25-16,21-25,25-23,25-18)
 Acadia 3, Mount Allison 0 (25-21,25-19,25-20)
 (UNB Invitational)
 Moncton 3, StFX 2 (26-24, 20-25, 25-14, 22-25, 15-12)
 Saint Mary's 3, UPEI 0 (25-22, 25-19, 25-20)
 UNB 3, Mt. Allison 1 (21-25, 25-18, 25-15, 25-22)
 Acadia 3, UCCB 0 (25-21, 25-12, 25-11)
 Moncton 3, UPEI 0 (25-19, 25-17, 25-19)
 Saint Mary's 3, StFX 0 (25-12, 25-18, 28-26)
 UNB 3, Acadia 1 (20-25, 25-20, 25-23, 25-23)
 Mt. Allison 3, UCCB 0 (26-24, 25-15, 25-19)
 Consolation Semifinals
 UCCB 3, UPEI 1 (19-25,25-13,25-17,25-22)
 Mount Allison 3, StFX 1 (25-21,10-25,25-23,25-13)
 Championship Semifinals
 Acadia 3, Moncton 2 (25-23,25-18,17-25,18-25,15-11)
 Saint Mary's 3, UNB 0 (25-21,25-21,25-15)

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

(Exhibition)
 Queen's Invitational
 Toronto 3, Dalhousie 0 (25-19,25-16,25-21)
 Laval 3, Dalhousie 0 (25-15,26-24,25-17)
 (Queen's Invitational)
 Queen's 3, Dalhousie 1
 Sherbrooke College 3, Dalhousie 2

FOOTBALL

StFX 10 @ Mt Allison 9
 Saint Mary's 29 @ Acadia 12
 RUGBY (F) (Atlantic)
 Quarter-finals
 Dalhousie 0 @ StFX 74
 Acadia 12 @ Saint Mary's 0



Big win for Dalhousie track team

By tyson dyck

the gazette

Under skies more suitable to Australia than to Fredericton, Dalhousie's Men's Cross-Country team ran to a first place finish a few Saturdays ago. The meet, hosted by UNB, featured schools from the Maritime provinces and the New England states. It was designed so that the men ran 10km and the women, 5 km. Dal's men's team not only won the team points total, but did so easily, winning by 19 points, upsetting third-ranked Memorial, and proving themselves national contenders.

Drawing inspiration from CBC's rhythmic gymnastic coverage, four Tiger runners finished within the top ten with Tom Wallace (3rd), Curtis Archibald (5th), Mark Gardiner (6th), and rookie Stanley Chaisson (8th). Coaches Al Yarr and Dan Hennigar were pleased with the results.

Yarr, in a pre-race pep talk in which he referred to distance running legend, Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj, told the team to run a fast first 5km. They did, and then added a stellar last 5km, crushing the competition, including the third ranked team in the country.

Archibald, who finished fifth, was elated at the team's standing. "Since Memorial was ranked third in the country, and since we



spanked them, we should be a force to be reckoned with."

Indeed, the Tigers, already strong, hope to shave more time off their races in the upcoming weeks. As coach Hennigar said, "MUN will still be tough at the AUS championships for the men but so long as we keep up the type of work ethic the team has demonstrated over the past month we'll be ready for whatever they have to offer," said Coach Hennigar.

The women's team also had a strong performance, finishing third in team points, and only narrowly trailing UNB and SFX. Edie Baxter finished fourth overall and was the top runner on the women's team.

The next five Dal runners finished within ten seconds of each other. As a pack, they were able to pick off runner after runner ahead of them. A tactic not unlike the Flying V of Mighty Ducks fame, "the pack" is a dreaded weapon in cross-country races that the women's team used well. Drawing inspiration from each

other, the women's team gained momentum during Saturday's race which will hopefully carry them through the next month.

Coach Hennigar remains impressed with the team.

"Our women are progressing phenomenally considering most of them are completely new to the sport." After their impressive weekend showing, they are "on course to be a contender at the championships next month."

The women's team will defend their Atlantic Conference championship this week. From the rigorous training that they've endured, they should enter this race as a major threat. The UNB course, with similar terrain to Point Pleasant Park, minus the rotting beetle carcasses, will host the men and women's Atlantic Conference finals on October 29.

"Both teams have progressed really well over the last two weeks," said Hennigar, "and I think will continue to develop."

Notice to students who want to write sports articles

by c.j. foote

the gazette

Here at the Gazette we're inviting you to get involved in Sports writing. If you become a sports writer you'll get good experience in journalism in the sports area, free admission to any game you want, and get an excellent reference from the Gazette. Also, keep in mind that you don't have to write solely about a game or event. You can write about sports in general, about some controversy going on, an interview, or a critique of a sport or athlete. The possibilities are really endless. If you are interested in writing email me at CJ_Foote@hotmail.com or stop by the gazette office on the third floor of the sub at 4:30 on Mondays.

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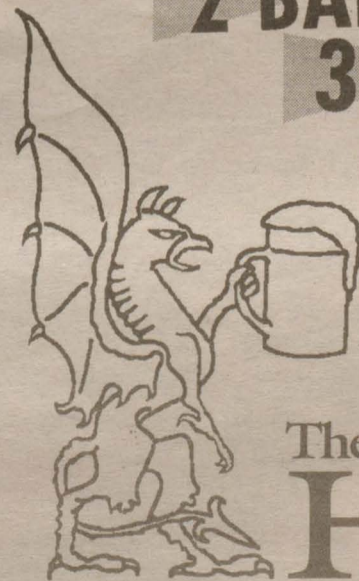
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