



## Mr. Yip & Mr. Wildsmith: remembering their favourite parts

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## Our Town: some ideas about what it means to truly live

pg > 13



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## Government to win over Dal's prized Med. school grads

by christopher harbor  
the gazette

In response to a severe shortage of doctors in rural areas of Nova Scotia, the provincial government has announced new initiatives to keep Dalhousie graduates working in the province.

Last week, Health Minister Jamie Muir announced a debt assistance plan for medical graduates that offers a bonus of \$15,000 per year to those students who decide to practice in certain areas of rural Nova Scotia. The plan, however, will only be available to five physicians per year.

The announcement comes amidst fierce competition from provinces throughout Canada for medical school graduates. In Alberta, doctors are voting on a large pay increase, which could see pay raises of 22 percent over doctors in Nova Scotia.

"It's an ongoing daily eight to ten hour battle to keep doctors here," said Frank Peters, the Physician Recruiter for Nova Scotia. Mr. Peters, who has been recruiting physicians for over five years, believes that, despite the struggle, Nova Scotia has been "very successful in keeping a good number of doctors," compared to other provinces.

"The plethora of post-secondary institutions is a big draw for physicians with young families," Mr. Peters said.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia is (CPSN) not as optimistic. According to the CPSN's annual report, "Current public policies with regard to physician training and recruitment are in dire need of review."

The college has been lobbying the government to take action on the issue of recruitment for over three years, as it anticipates "serious consequences with regard to the health and morale of the physician workforce" in the near future.

In addition to the government's debt assistance program, the Dalhousie Medical School will expand enrollment into its undergraduate medical program by accepting eight more students annually for the next three years. The medical school is in the process of consulting staff and students to determine what effect the increased enrollment will have on the school, or if any new faculty will be hired.

James Ross, a first year medical school student at Dalhousie, says that he wouldn't consider leaving Nova Scotia to practice, even

if other province were offering incentives.

"I think the majority of doctors don't go into [medicine] because they want to be rich," he said, "I'd like to stay in Nova Scotia".

Mr. Ross disagrees with the approach the Nova Scotia government takes in its relations with doctors.

The health minister "makes [doctors] sound like they're greedy, manipulative people," he said, "I guess that's politics — but most doctors aren't politicians"

## Canadian troops keep peace in East Africa

by sofia kalormakis  
the gazette

Canadian peacekeepers are trading in hand guns for hand shakes in Senafe, East Africa, said the Chief of staff for the Land Force Atlantic Army (LFAA) in a news conference on Jan. 31.

Lt.-Col. Bryan Bailey said more than 500 Canadian soldiers joined Dutch troops on the border between Eritrea and Ethiopia after the Dutch government and the UN asked for Canada's co-operation. The soldiers, most of whom were trained in Gagetown, New Brunswick, are policing a 25 km strip of land between the two countries as part of Canada's newest overseas mission, Operation Eclipse. The operation jump-started on Jan. 11.

After a bloody two-year war between the two countries left 100,000 people dead, the UN proposed an agreement that secured peace in the area. Canada is there as the Netherland's peacekeeping partner in a rapid-response to their request for an experienced and impartial party.

Although the war ended in June, Operation Eclipse got on its way quickly. Canadian troops began training in October, arrived

in Eritrea in December and were ready for duty by the middle of January. The engineers were in charge of preparing the camps for the rest of the troops, supervising construction, deactivating mines and getting rid of toxic waste on the campsites.

"By the first of January, when the troops arrived, the camps were fully functional," Bailey said. "They were all very impressed that they had electricity, water, some basic overhead structure with which to accommodate them."

While the soldiers set up communications, running water and electricity, Bailey said their real forte lies in their character as an unbiased mediator.

"I think the fact that the Dutch government approached Canada to participate with them, reflects the high demand and the excellent reputation that Canada has acquired for peacekeeping throughout its recent history," Bailey said.

The soldiers are equipped with more than just guns. Although English is spoken in both countries, Canadian soldiers were given a one-day language course that taught them how to

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# Earth's inter-stellar quarrantine is being lifted, says Vancouver futurist

## EXOPOLITICS links Earth to Universal politics

by graham simms

the gazette

America's military will suffer "ignominious defeat" by extraterrestrials if it continues to persue its agenda of weapons proliferation into space because it is contrary to the laws of the

universe to militarize space, says Alfred Lambremont Webre, a Vancouver based futurist; author; Yale educated eco-lawyer and White House liason.

Webre's new book, *Exopolitics*, describes a new branch of human knowledge — exopolitics, which is the politics

of the universe.

"Exopolitics provides the institutional framework for earth's integration into Universe society. That process is now ongoing and will accelerate as exopolitical realities are awakened in humankind. Exopolitics is the study of law, government and politics that will liberate human society," Webre said in an interview this week.

Webre believes that the proposed 'Star Wars' missile defence system is actually an offensive weapon to be used against extraterrestrial UFO's in an attempt by earth's ruling elite to stall mankind's merger with the rest of the universe.

"Star Wars and the militarization of space is part of the information war against the integration with Universe society. Star Wars is an "inside code word" for this war among the military planners. The issue is whether our space technology will be in accord with Universal principles, or controlled by a military empire. The USA will ultimately suffer ignominious defeat by Universe society should it persist as a space military power."

In 1977 President Carter attempted to discern and disclose the reality of the UFO phenomenon to the public and Webre, then a futurist with the Centre for the Study of Social Policy at Stanford Research Institute, (SRI), was tasked with formulating and developing the proposed study with the Carter White House on extraterrestrial communication. According to Webre, if that study had not been "brutally terminated" by the intervention of the SRI-Pentagon liason in September 1977, "we would most probably be now acting under 25 years of open disclosure. The differences could be incalculable, with the degree of power and authority to open up interaction and get beyond the

continued on page 5

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# National News

from the Canadian University Press newswire  
by Wendy Sawatzky

### Ryerson opens first working students centre

TORONTO (CUP) — Ryerson Polytechnic University's student association opened Canada's first centre for working students this week.

Over 70 percent of Ryerson students work at the same time as going to school and a student association spokesperson says they are looking for answers to questions on issues such as workplace safety, overtime pay and sexual harassment.

"We want young workers at Ryerson to be educated on their rights," he said.

The centre offers a library that provides information and resource material on many workplace issues. It's also asking for a \$100,000 research grant from Workers' Safety and Insurance, which will be used for a film documentary about the centre and two Ryerson surveys about workplace safety and young workers.

Although it is the first centre of its kind on any college or university campus in Canada, York University, the University of Toronto and George Brown College have approved or begun to develop their own working students' centres.

### Rugby players avoid public hearing on hazing party

FREDERICTON (CUP) — The University of New Brunswick has reached a settlement with the Ironmen Rugby Football Club, avoiding an open hearing on a "rookie" party that left a student hospitalized for a week.

In a prepared statement issued earlier this week, the university said the 38 members of club plead guilty to one alcohol-related charge at a summary hearing under the university's student disciplinary code.

The charge stems from a Sept. 23 hazing party on campus that left a 17-year-old with alcohol poisoning.

The university release further stated that under the confidentiality provisions of the student disciplinary code, the university isn't permitted to disclose further information about any sanctions imposed on the students. The lawyer representing the Rugby Football Club members also refused to comment.

The rugby team captain also had a prepared statement released by the university.

"We realize that our actions were inappropriate and inexcusable," he wrote. "At the end of the day, I am glad that we still have our friend and teammate with us, alive and well."

### Free trade protesters hoping for exam deferrals

MONTREAL (CUP) — McGill University students heading to Quebec City for April's planned protests against hemispheric trade talks say they should not be penalized for missing final exams while they take part in demonstrations.

The activists hope to convince McGill's senate to pass a motion similar to the one voted on at Concordia University on Jan. 19, calling on professors to accommodate students whose exam schedules coincide with a planned meeting of countries discussing the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). McGill has been a hotbed for activist groups like FTAA Alert, who are organizing protests for Quebec City.

A student spokesperson said that many of the initiatives that will be discussed by FTAA member countries pose threats to accessible public education and that universities should promote students' participation in the planned protests. He said universities should encourage students to participate in these sorts of demonstrations.

Quebec City will host the summit from April 20 to 22. The summit will bring government and finance officials from across North and South America to the province's capital to discuss the potential for a free trade agreement that would incorporate over 800-million people and \$11-trillion in GDP.

The protests planned to greet the event are expected to be on a similar scale to the demonstrations that dominated World Trade Organization talks in Seattle thirteen months ago, and Windsor's summer meeting of the Organization of American States.

### Carleton strike likely averted

OTTAWA (CUP) — Carleton University narrowly avoided a strike last week as 1,200 teaching and research assistants reached an agreement with the administration just one hour before a strike deadline.

Negotiators from the university and Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 4600 came to a tentative settlement on Jan. 31. The tentative agreement between CUPE and Carleton is subject to ratification by both sides. It is expected that CUPE membership will ratify the agreement at the start of next week, while Carleton will ratify the deal at the next board of governors meeting in mid-February.

If the settlement is approved by both parties, the teaching and research assistants will have succeeded in receiving their main demand — a 75 percent tuition indexation rate.

Tuition indexing ensures that salaries increase in direct proportion with rising tuition. A Carleton teaching or research assistant's salary will now increase 75 cents for each additional dollar increase in tuition. A union spokesperson said indexation was important to members because tuition has risen 113 percent at the university over the past decade.

York University was the first university in Canada to offer tuition indexation. Assistants held on to indexation throughout a three-month strike earlier this year.

### Degrassi producers claim rights to student's Web site

TORONTO (CUP) — A University of Waterloo graduate student is in a domain name dispute with the owners of *Degrassi*, Canada's popular, award-winning teen drama.

Mark Polger created an unofficial *Degrassi* Web site in 1998 under the domain name of www.degrassi.ca. Since Feb. 2000, Epitome pictures has sent him e-mails, called him and visited him, requesting the domain name, in part so that they can use it to launch their new series called *Degrassi, the Next Generation*.

In mid-January, *Degrassi* producers issued Polger a 16-page statement of claim. Polger refuses to give up the name, arguing that it is associated with his Web site.

Polger, who also owns www.degrassi.org and www.degrassiweb.ca, has created a *Degrassi* mailing list with over 2,000 subscribers from Canada, the U.S., the U.K., France, Israel, and Australia. He also organized a *Degrassi* convention in 1999 at Centennial College near Toronto where the show was filmed. Polger claims that without his hard work on his Web site, the mailing list, and the convention, Epitome Pictures wouldn't have a market to work with.

Although negotiations are ongoing, neither side has stepped into a courtroom.

continued from page 4

zero-sum game of the death forces that now enforce the embargo against [disclosure]."

Open contact with advanced non-terrestrials could quickly advance human society says Webre, through the resolution of our ecological crises, by allowing world peace, and by releasing mankind from the inter-stellar and information quarantines imposed by earth's secretive rulers.


"New energy non-polluting energy sources — of human design and application could at last be made available without their inventors fearing assassination by petroleum and nuclear interests. Our petroleum civilization would be stalemated and obsolete. Universe society's laws and institutions prohibit war as a conflict resolution mechanism. The ruling terrestrial elites — and their lower non-terrestrial allies have historically used war as a key means of production and power."

With between 25 and 50 percent of adults in North America believing in the reality of extraterrestrial presence on earth (Gallup and Zogby polls,) Webre

does not think that humanity will have trouble absorbing the new post-reality shock. However the disinformation war being waged against extraterrestrials and disclosure is slowing things down.


He expects an eventual grassroots exopolitical movement like the Peace movement of the 1960's-80's that will bypass the usual power channels.

"The difficulty is not the human population — it is the networks of human governments and ownership of petroleum and nuclear that are in the hands of retrogressive forces. The ruling terrestrial elites...are actively carrying out a 50-year information war against our integration with Universe society... The task of our generation is to make exopolitics at the grassroots level. Where are the concerts on behalf of integration with the Universe? Where are the artists, the activists, the students, the writers, the militants? Answer — they are coping with the effects of the information war and the embargo against even thinking that non-terrestrial civilizations [exist.]The only way out is through' the saying goes. Well, we didnt get through under Carter, so now we must get through at the grassroots."



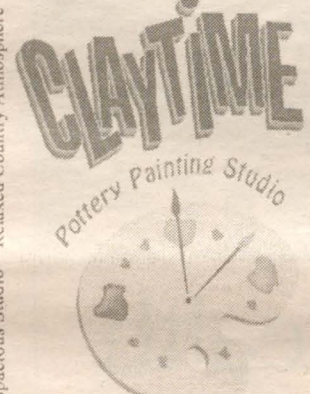
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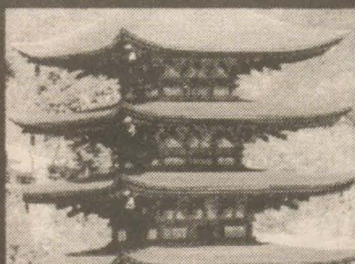


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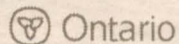
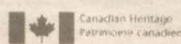
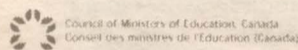
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## Canadian troops

continued from page 3

greet people. Bailey said the troops have consciously adopted the Canadian hand-shake, so both countries know the soldiers are

not choosing one culture's hand gesture over another.

"The greetings are very important," Bailey said. "You've got to be able to go out and talk to people because it goes a long way to enhancing the trust of the locals."

The Canadian engineers finished building the last of three camps in Eritrea last week and they are returning home this month because they have

completed their part in the rapid deployment mission so quickly.

The troops have been busy patrolling the disputed border, de-mining and mediating prisoner exchange. Bradley said the rapid-response team will keep conflict down until regular UN peacekeepers get there.

The rest of the Canadian troops will stay in Ethiopia and Eritrea until June, when regular UN peacekeepers will take over.

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## Feb 7-14

**Engineering Calcium Phosphates for Tissue Regeneration and Drug Delivery**  
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**Who is Jesus — Man or God**, a debate, will be held Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Theatre A of the Tupper Building.

**Give Food for fines at the Killam Library.** From Feb. 11-18, anyone owing the Library up to \$10 in overdue fines can clear their debts by donating food. All the food will go to the Metro Food Bank. For more information contact Tina Usmiani at 494-6794.

**Blood Donor Clinics** will be held Feb. 12-13 in the MacInnes Room of the Dalhousie SUB 12-3 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. and Feb. 16 in the Tupper Building Cafeteria from 9:30 a.m.-12p.m. All Donors require signed ID.

**The Bluenose Cat Club** will be hosting their 30th Championship and Household Pet Cat Show on March 17 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. For more information call Janet Burke at 463-7717 or David Langille at 865-0966.

**Technology and Change: Utopia or Dystopia** will take place on Feb. 15 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Lord Dalhousie Room of the A&A.

**A Corporate, Environmental and Social Responsibility Workshop** will be held on Feb. 10 from 7 p.m. — 10 p.m. at room 41, 1322 Robie St.

**Page to Stage with Wendy Lill** will be presented by Eastern Front Theatre and the Alderney Gate Library on Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. in the Helen Creighton Room of the Alderney Gate Library.

**Dr. Jonathan Weinberg will present "The Rake Progresses: David Hockney and Late Modernism"** as a NSCAD Public Lecture Series on Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Bell Auditorium.

**Activists Wanted** for the Sierra Club of Canada for evenings 3:30-9:30 p.m. 2-5 days a week, \$8.33/hr. Call Cyndi at 453-4522.

**The Dalhousie Chapter of WUSV** is hosting a series of workshops and lectures about issues and opportunities locally and abroad concerning volunteer work, on Feb. 10 at the A&A Building at 9 a.m. The cost is \$10, which includes breakfast and lunch.

## Classifieds

Small Furnished Bachelor Apt. Henry St. Near Dal Law school. Utilities included \$338 per month 425-5843

One large furnished bedroom, Jubilee Rd. (shared accommodations) \$520. all-inclusive, free parking. Call 429-8661.

**Are you connected?** Internet users wanted! \$25 — \$75/hour www.showmethebucks.net

**JOIN OUR TEAM** & Make a Difference in a Child's Life. 5 great children summer camps in NY, ME, PA, and WV seek General Counselors & Group Leaders, plus Activity specialists who can teach/coach: tennis, swimming, water-skiing, sailing, caving, mountain biking, canoeing, windsurfing, woodworking, theatre, arts, photography, video, website design, fitness, golf, gymnastics, dance, volleyball, basketball, roller-hockey, lacrosse, baseball, and soccer. Nurses and kitchen and operation staff also needed. June 16-Aug. 16. Benefits include training, room and board, laundry, and travel stipend. Apply on-line at www.horizoncamps.com, or call 1(800) 544-5448.

Free apartment. Confined woman seeks responsible live-in helper to assist with cooking and light housekeeping. Offers private, fully-furnished 1 bedroom w/separate entry, central downtown location close to Dal & hospitals. Drivers license an asset, females only. Please call Florence at 423-4526.

**International Language Institute**



www.ili-halifax.com/celtc

## Teach English Abroad!

ILI invites applications for places in a new program leading to the ILI Certificate in English Language Teaching to Children (CELTC). Following a four-week, intensive program, trainees complete an internship in an ILI-associated school in Korea. Under a one-year contract, teaching interns receive

- a monthly salary of Cdn\$2300.
- return airfare from Halifax
- placement accommodation
- contract completion bonus
- contract renewal option
- renewal increase of \$300/month

Applicants must love to work with children, have exemplary English language skills, and have a university degree or two-year college diploma. New courses every month. The CELTC training fee is \$600.

For details and an application call

**429-3636**

5151 Terminal Rd, 8F, Halifax B3J 1A1 Fax 429-2900 E-mail: study@ili-halifax.com

## STEP DANCING CLASSES

Jigs! Strathspeys! Reels!



Call Shannon at 431-6632  
Classes begin: February 15, 2001

## Calnen Photography

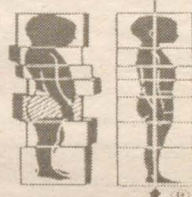
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fareast@auracom.com

## Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A.

Lakeside Residential Girls Camp in Maine—Visas Arranged

**Counselors:** Combined childcare/teaching. Must be able to teach or lead one or more of the following activities: gymnastics, tennis, swim, sail, canoe, water ski, arts (including stained glass, sewing, jewelry, wood, photo), dance, music, theatre, archery, wilderness trips, field sports, equestrian.

**Service Workers:** kitchen, laundry, housekeeping, maintenance & grounds.

Non-smokers. June 17 to August 23. Attractive salary (US) plus travel allowance.

Visit our camp on our photo website: <http://homepage.mac.com/kippewaforgirls/>

**To Apply:** Applications are available on our website: [www.kippewa.com](http://www.kippewa.com) or contact us at the numbers listed below for a staff brochure and application.

Kippewa, Box 340, Westwood, Massachusetts, 02090-0340, U.S.A.  
e-mail: [kippewa@tiac.net](mailto:kippewa@tiac.net) | tel: 781-762-8291 | fax: 781-255-7167



DALHOUSIE University

## STUDENT EMPLOYMENT NEWS

**Dalhousie's Student Employment Centre** is your one-stop student employment location. Offering on- and off-campus employment opportunities as well as permanent placements, summer and part-time. SEC services are available to Dalhousie, DalTech and Kings students as well as recent Dalhousie graduates. **Visit us on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the SUB, 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, or on our web site [www.dal.ca/sec](http://www.dal.ca/sec).** The Dalhousie Tutoring Service and Dalhousie Student Volunteer Bureau are also services of the Student Employment Centre and are located next to the Centre in the SUB. Visit your Student Employment Centre today!

### NEW SERVICE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS!

The Student Employment Centre, through Dalhousie Career Portfolio Project, is introducing a new service for graduate students. Graduate Student Employment Services (GSES) is being developed to deliver comprehensive career development and employment services to graduate students. GSES is now in the developmental stage and your input is important as the service evolves in response to student and employer needs. Contact the GSES Coordinator, Quenta Tynes 494-2688, E-mail: [quenta.tynes@dal.ca](mailto:quenta.tynes@dal.ca), SUB 4th Floor

### WAL-MART CANADA

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATES FROM PREVIOUS POSTING

Presentation: "Launch Your Career Successfully"  
Wednesday, February 07, 2001 - Room 307, SUB  
Time: 4:00 - 5:00 pm. (Interviews: Feb 8)  
(See job posting for further details. Must sign up to attend)

**Camp Winadu and Camp Danbee**, Camps located in Western Mass. USA, will be on campus on January 31, 2001 for a drop in Information Session.  
**Camp Winadu - Room 307, 11:00 - 3:30 pm, SUB**  
**Camp Danbee - Room 316, 11:00 - 3:30 pm, SUB**  
Looking for students with skills in all land and water sports, art, photography, computers, nature. Also openings for office and clerical work. (See job posting on Student Employment Centre website for more details)

Graduate View 2000 is a benchmarking study that will provide employers with insight into how today's graduating university students reflect upon contemporary employment issues. The survey is designed to examine a number of areas, including - Attitudes - Demographic make-up - Perceptions of industries and companies - Media habits and much more If you are in or nearing your final year (graduating in 2000, 2001, or 2002) of a Business, Computer Science or Engineering program we want your view. Please visit [www.graduateview.com](http://www.graduateview.com)

## All rejoice for Jesus Denial Week

Apparently, Jesus Awareness Week was recently. Unfortunately, I missed all the talks, and intentionally avoided any written material that came along with the informative tribute to Jesus and pals, but I couldn't avoid it completely.

I don't have a serious problem with the campus scene to be used as an informative medium for people with valid intellectual concerns. It is a system that supplies real substance for students to ponder, with a sometimes slanted but always comprehensive offering on anything from encouraging the ban of the use of landmines to films on animal-food production. These things are designed to stimulate people into pondering serious moral and social issues, and give back to the campus intellectual community simply by existing.

And then there is Jesus Awareness Week. A period of time devoted to promoting Christianity to students on Dal campus, and elsewhere.

Not to be cynical, but what purpose does Jesus Awareness Week serve, other than to push beliefs onto people who don't take the Jesus medicine? Dalhousie has a large percentage of people who are not Christian, and a large percentage of people who respect religious beliefs without needing any awareness.

I think believing in God is fine for anyone else, just like anyone who wants to inhale exhaust fumes isn't going to distract me much. So I have no

**The organized aspect of religion has been the detriment to humanity's progress for hundreds of years, so why keep up the deliberate integration of everyone into your beliefs?**

problems with the Dalhousie Navigators and other religious groups holding their beliefs sacred but to me, things like Jesus Awareness Week do little other

than prove that Christianity needs to assimilate in order to have value. God means nothing if everyone doesn't believe.

To further remove any merit or credibility to the cause of spreading the religious word, the marketing department at Jesus Worldwide headquarters came up with a hip and trendy slogan for this years Jesus Awareness Week. Borrowing from the painfully inappropriate line from Eminem's "Real Slim Shady," the Dalhousie disciples used "Will the real Jesus please stand up" to push Christ on campus.

I'm not joking. The posters actually say that, and whereas this is a religious affair, it is safe to assume that this was not done for the sake of humor. That makes it look like Jesus is being dressed up with 'witty' catch phrases to increase appeal to young, hip university students, like those heinous bathroom ads or "Sunny D" commercials.

If you are going to extend your own spirituality to people who don't want to hear it (ie: me), at least try and reduce the abrasiveness and preposterousness to a minimum.

The belief in God may very well have given millions of people comfort, and the church can be a good contributor to the community, but not when its ideals are being packaged like cheap wares and forced into the face of people with their own concerns. I think that the organized aspect of religion has been the detriment to humanity's progress for hundreds of years, so why keep up the deliberate integration of everyone into your beliefs?

True belief shouldn't need to be substantiated by spreading the religious rhetoric to those who don't care. What separates this kind of blanket poster and concentrated advertising of Jesus from the Jehovah's Witness, who are so dogmatic and ignorant of the reality of human thought that they cannot leave people alone in their own houses?

**What separates a cult from a religion? A religion is a set of spiritual beliefs that a person holds strongly, that dictates their actions. A cult is a group that all believe in the same set of ideals, and act according to the wishes of a governing entity.**

What separates a cult from a religion? A religion is a set of spiritual beliefs that a person holds strongly, that dictates their actions. A cult is a group that all believe in the same set of ideals, and act according to the wishes of a governing entity. Personal beliefs versus the manipulation of people to get them into your racket.

Jesus is there for anyone to learn about, and worship in their own way. There should be no need for religious groups to try and spread the word — respect peoples decision and personal views on the world, and they will respect yours. Nothing positive is gained from this kind of blanketing, except that some weaker minded people might begin to think that their religion is nothing without being part of a cult.

I have no problems with religion, I have no problem with religious people. I respect their beliefs, providing they are not placed in front of me with the hint that I am wrong in not following those beliefs. I resent a week dedicated to Jesus on my campus, because it is not necessary. God belongs to each religious person, and Jesus and preaching belong in church.

If someone wants to improve their knowledge of Christ, they can go to a church, or obtain a Bible. If their religious right allows them to force Christianity down the throats of non-Christians during Jesus Awareness Week, then anyone should have the same right to put off a Jesus Denial Week.

Of course, if anyone were as pretentious and reactionary enough to do that, they'd get grilled for their beliefs. Thank God they're considerate enough not to.

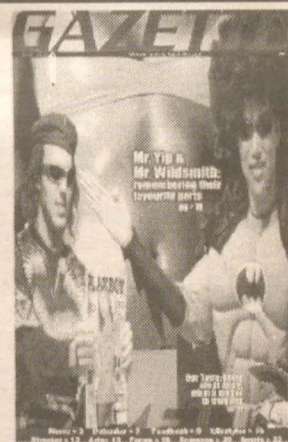
Patrick Blackie

## SUBMISSIONS INVITED FOR COMMENTARY

Email submissions to [commentary@Xweb1.com](mailto:commentary@Xweb1.com) or swing by The Gazette office.

Room 312 SUB.  
Call 494 2507 for info.

The commentary section is an open forum aiming for pieces in the 1500 word area.



Remember the Bunny Wars? The boyz iz back in town.

The boyz by Chris Sullivan, the bod by Will.

## THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

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Volume 133, no. 18

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For advertising information, call 494-6532.

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](http://is2.dal.ca/~gazette)



# Math 1120: Calculus for Business Students

(drum roll/trumpet)

So here I am in a lecture with about 50 other people, all around 16 years old with various metal pins stuck through different parts of their anatomy, hats on backwards, parachute pants hung low and CelTel holsters at the ready. The professor arrives and I had figured that everyone else would stop talking when the prof started. I was wrong. It took upwards of 15 minutes before the only voice I heard was the professor's.

Say, didn't I take this course 18 years ago? Okay, so it sounds familiar, PAY ATTENTION!, Remember, Jean Chretien is paying you to be here and pass this course so buck up.

RING! RING! (my god it's not my phone!! Whew, mine's off.)

Tell me that's not a cel-Tel ringing four people over from me (snob). I look and sure enough, there is the orange haired guy with the pierced eyebrow scrambling to answer his phone. Am I the only one who thinks this is stupidly ridiculous and improper? I cannot fathom the looks from the other people but a few seem to disapprove. I can remember professors throwing people out of classes for beeping watches let alone idle chatter and telephone conversations. Perhaps I'M getting old, I never seemed to notice these things before...

Afterwards, I exchange a few words with the professor (after all, we are almost the same age) and make a dash for the SUB. It is here I eat a sandwich, call home to check on my wife and kids and buy a math book which probably

costs near what my entire textbook budget was 18 years ago. Was I this responsible and organized 20 years ago? I don't think so... Now I have only minutes to get to my next class in a building across the campus I have never been to. This one should be better, it's a third year course in history: youth culture.

So here I am, in another lecture hall but this time it seems odd. Why is that? Could it be I am the only male with 120 women? Maybe I am in the wrong room? Is this women's studies or something? How do I leave... (fool, you sat in the front row...). OK, I am in trouble now! It's the right class...

It's actually a pretty decent class and looks very interesting. At one point the professor, oblivious to the extra age and

experience he had within its doors, made some comments about how he was too old and we were too young to understand the early sixties and seventies.

I bit my lip, it hurt. So later I went down and spoke with professor Cross, who of course is reading this, and just had to let him know that if he requires some "inside" perspective I was available, having lied about my age to enlist in his class.

So, day one is over. Didn't we used to meet for beers and socialize for hours at some smoky pub somewhere? I found myself calling home from Canadian Tire wondering if we needed more garbage bags and plastic storage containers. It really hit home when I got home and found four children and dog all running around at a great rate of knots

and all I wanted to do was look at my new math book. My wife smiled. She knew better!

You know that nice hot cup of tea you look forward to with a cookie or two after the kids are in bed? Well, mine now includes a math textbook and some reading on Arabic culture. It's a little different from last year but still the same somehow.

I am excited and looking forward to tomorrow and many long nights ahead. I hope to meet many new people, (at my age that's exciting), learn new things and, most of all, participate. If it's one thing that 20 years in the workforce has taught me: appreciate what you have, while you have it. Tomorrow you will be on the street wishing you were back at school. Trust me, I know.

Kristoff K. D. Langland

## A veggie grows in the city

Dear Mr. Lord,

Sorry. Please accept our sincerest apologies for any misunderstanding that may have arisen as a result of Jay Nathwani's article in the *Gazette* concerning Seymour Green organic community garden on Jan. 25, 2001.

Comments made about the move in location were in answer to a question regarding the history of the garden. Comments made about the shed were in the context of discussing building plans for the upcoming summer. Since the platform for the shed is in good shape we intend to use it in building a weatherproof shed. We are very thankful for this since we didn't have any shed before, nor did we have a space to build it at the old site.

We are also more than thankful for the other things Dalhousie has done for us, although admittedly there is difficulty with continuity of

membership and there are no longer any active members involved who were active in 1996 when the garden began, and therefore no one who was around for Dalhousie's help in the beginning. Having had that aid pointed out, we would like to extend coudos to facilities management for its forward thinking in believing the gardener as a "good idea and an initiative worthy of support."

There are, however, several members still active who were active during the change to the new site. Members dug all the new beds by hand and spread the organic topsoil purchased by NSPIRG. Roto-tilling and topsoil were declined at that time because they were not in keeping with the organic/community nature of the group. Specifically, there were environmental concerns regarding the roto-tiller and the composition of the topsoil which was offered.

This is not to say that we are not grateful for the new site. We acknowledge that the new

site is conveniently close to the old site, allowing us, with enough hose attachments to reach the original water source which is an essential and invaluable resource. We are also thankful for the grounds keeping that has been provided for the areas between the plots and the new site.

Our apologies for not having mentioned all of these services provided by Dalhousie in the interview. The stated purpose of the article to the interviewee was to inform people about the garden and the list of services provided by Dalhousie was admittedly incomplete. Once again, there was no intention to be remiss in acknowledging the contributions of Dalhousie's facilities management. The NSPIRG is proud of Dalhousie for allowing a garden on campus and we hope to work in cooperation with facilities management for a long time to come.

Member's of Seymour Green Organic Community Garden.

# Have an opinion?

Got something to say? Tell somebody who cares.

Send email to: [gazette@is2.dal.ca](mailto:gazette@is2.dal.ca) subject heading set to "FEEDBACK," or swing by the Gazette office before Monday at 6pm to get in the next issue, room 312 SUB. 700 word limit, may be edited for clarity and length.

## RANT OR RAVE

### Surviving Temptation Island

There is something about so called "real" TV that bothers me on a fundamental level. Being presumably non-scripted and spontaneous, some may say that "real" TV is as good as television gets. I disagree. To me television is, in most cases, pure entertainment. Shows, movies shorts are all stories - written with a purpose intended to entertain or to educate. I feel somehow cheated or duped after watching an episode of one of the "real" shows as aired in prime time hours. TV shows as stories supplement certain aspects of life and allow the watcher to catch a guided glimpse into the lives of other people, I would assume this has been so since the invention of language giving a medium for the transmission of stories from one person to another, stories being related in different mediums as technology allows.

This doesn't seem to be the case with real TV.

Real TV is more of a substitute than a supplement. The scripts of such shows are the product of spontaneous, or at least semi-spontaneous, interactions of real people acting out their lives in the best way they can under contrived circumstances. There is no point, moral or premeditated motive, to the actions in real TV. Watching an episode of *Temptation Island* feels like spying on a group of people vacationing in Cuba or some such place. I find this idea to be as entertaining as it is twisted. I find my own life and social interactions to be fulfilling enough that I'm not compelled to care about, let alone waste a couple of hours a week on, watching those of others. Real TV lacks the thought and writing that regular programs are based on. Interest for such television relies solely on what these people do in strange situations vaguely resembling real life, not writing. If I want to see people cheat on their partners or bicker over how to build a tee-pee, I'll go to the Grawood on a Thursday night or join a camping club.

Jeremy Sears

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## WIN MOVIE PASSES

to see

## VALENTINE

Come to The Dandelion Café, Saturday Feb. 10 after 9pm, for a chance to win a pass for 2. Little Miss Moffat hosts an evening of live music.

Limit one pass/entry per entrant, quantities limited, winners will be randomly chosen during Little Miss Moffat event, winner must be on premises to claim prize, seating limited, \$2. cover charge to benefit performing musicians.



## THE DANDELION

Every Wednesday @ 9: Al Tuck & guests live.  
5986 Spring Garden. Great food, licensed.



## THE PLANET

Entertainment

Thursday, Feb. 8th  
Tribute- Best of the 60's & 70's

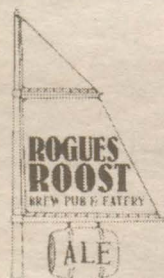
Friday, Feb. 9th  
Ed Reynolds

Saturday, Feb. 10th  
Grand Theft Bus

Mondays- Open Mic

Tuesdays- Ryan Evans Group

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

## Vanessa's Closet

advice from someone  
completely unqualified  
by vanessa owen

Dear Vanessa,

I have two questions for your masterful mind. Here they are: Has anyone ever dug to China? I've tried but after a few miles, I just gave up. My second question is: What happens to people who sail off the edge of the earth? My parents did and I thought they died, but every once in a while I get a letter from them telling me they are doing fine. Could it be that they were just trying to get away from me? I've seen the edge of the earth and I don't think anybody could live through it.

Disturbed :

Dear Disturbed,

Well, I had to consult with some clever people on this one. Most of them advised me to just throw your letter away, but I don't take advice well. So I decided to have a go at it.

OK, first the flat edge of the world. The way I understand it, the edge of the world, which is near Toronto, Ontario is subject to the same gravitational laws as everywhere else in the world. When a boat sails near the edge it suddenly starts moving faster and faster until it hits the edge, flips over, and then is suddenly stuck like a fly on the wall to the "bottom" or "underside". By this time most people who are on the boat are near death from motion sickness and haven't been able to follow the sudden shift well at all. So most people haven't seen it and therefore it's sort of an unintentional secret that still surprises many people. Plus the added benefit that most people would rather be dead than be in Toronto in the first place is another clever ruse. People who have been to Toronto are not usually anxious to tell others that they have. This accounts for why they will often change the subject or leave entirely if anyone says anything like "been to Toronto? It's God's country!"

Are you going to be terribly upset to learn that your parents are in fact hiding from you? Are you surprised? Would anyone who has ever known you be surprised? I think not.

As to your question about digging through the Earth, it's pretty obvious that you became disillusioned much too quickly. My advice to you is to try again and to not give up till you are successful. Please. In fact, I dare you.

Dear Vanessa, (Queen of the Advice Column)

I am stressed over my schoolwork. I am a math/education major with a major advanced Calculus test on Friday, Homework due on Friday, a test on Monday, and also homework due on Monday. I am a really busy man who has trouble prioritizing schoolwork over extra-curricular activities with my fraternity!!

What do you suggest I do to put my life in order !!!

Stressed Out Student

Dear Stressed,

Oh buddy, you've come to the right place! The knowledge I'll impart to you will not only help you in the short term, but it will help you in the future when you become a teacher. Listen closely. Don't bathe so regularly. Start buying your clothing from second hand stores. Dump all your friends and social activities. Spend all your time outside of school on schoolwork. And constantly remind yourself that you have little money to spend on what few luxuries your meager life has to offer. Start focusing your cynicism and anger into a little ball and never let it out. NEVER!

Good. With the social life out of the way you should have plenty of time to finish all that schoolwork. And you'll be well on your way to developing a demeanor suitable for a teacher. Good luck to you in the future!

Send your questions to: [vanessacloset@hotmail.com](mailto:vanessacloset@hotmail.com)

\*\*NOMINATIONS PACKAGES AVAILABLE\*\*



## GENERAL ELECTIONS 2001

PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT TEAM  
VP COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
VP STUDENT ADVOCACY  
VP INTERNAL  
SENATE REPRESENTATIVES (3)  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS (2)

NOMINATIONS OPENING  
NOMINATIONS CLOSING  
CAMPAINING BEGINS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>

FORUMS (TIMES AND DATES TBA)

1. Tupper Link  
3. Howe Hall  
5. Shirreff Hall

2. Alumni Lounge  
4. SUB Lobby  
6. T-Room

CAMPAINING ENDS

FRIDAY, MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>

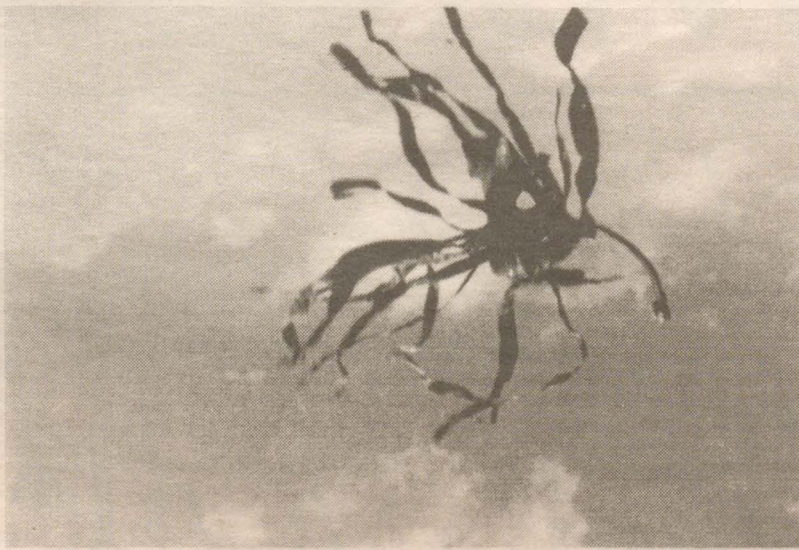
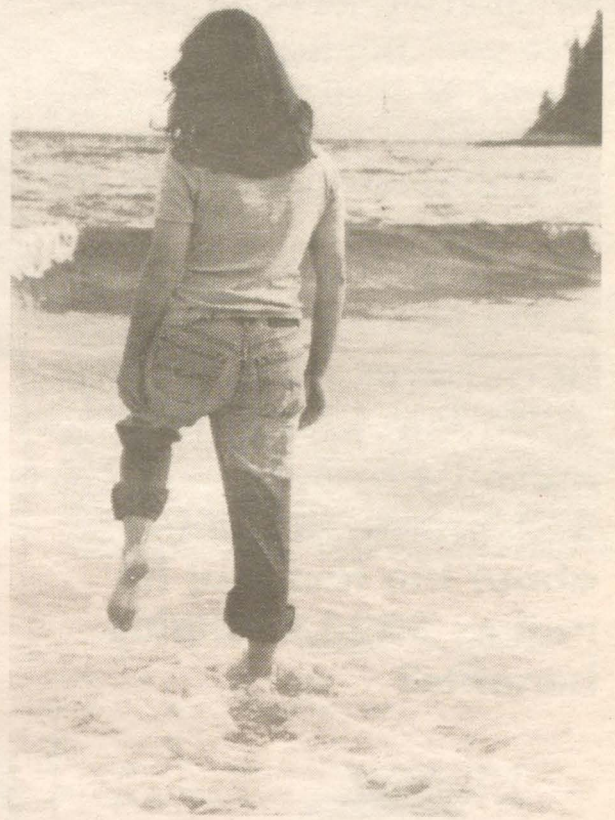
18 LOCATIONS FOR VOTING & ROVERS

A & A  
LSC  
DALPLEX  
DUNN  
SHIRREFF HALL  
HOWE HALL  
TUPPER  
ALUMNI LOUNGE  
ARCHITECTURE

KELLOGG LIBRARY  
KILLAM LIBRARY  
SUB  
SEXTON  
FORREST  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMIN.  
WELDON  
COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING  
\*\*\* WEBELECT \*\*\*

\*\*\* ALL LOCATIONS OPEN 9-5 AND SELECTED LOCATIONS OPEN 9-9 \*\*\*  
VISIT THE DSU HOMEPAGE FOR ELECTIONS INFORMATION - [www.dal.ca/dsu](http://www.dal.ca/dsu)  
NOMINATION PACKAGES AND POLL CLERK APPLICATION -  
DALTECH SEXTON J126A OR DALHOUSIE SUB INFO/DSU OFFICE  
For more information contact CRO Doug Gordon @ [election@is2.dal.ca](mailto:election@is2.dal.ca) 459-1118

**VOTE March 5, 6, and 7**



Laura Scheibling, photographs.

Streeter works hard to give you, the Reader, a chance to respond to interesting, serious, even rude and nosy questions.

This week Streeter asks:

1. Do you know who Tom Traves is?
2. Do you know how much he makes?
3. What do you think about the fact that he makes \$223,672 plus benefits?



Stephanie Parigo  
2nd Year, St. Francis Xavier  
1. No  
2. No  
3. That's a lot of money for a president.

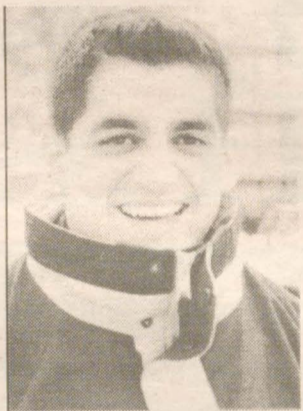


The Dawg Father  
Full Time Entrepeneur  
1. Of course, he's a customer.  
2. \$250,000. I know it's over the \$200,000 mark.  
3. He's got it going on. He lucked in but you know he's got to have lots of letters behind that name.

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



by Patrick Blackie



Steve Krishaswamy  
2nd year, Dentistry  
1. President  
2. No  
3. Holy shit! Are you going to quote that?



Erin Dudley  
2nd year, IDS  
1. No  
2. Don't have a clue  
3. We should have a football team



Fredrick Spence  
3rd Year, Economics  
1. The president of Dalhousie.  
2. \$100,000?  
3. He's depriving lots of professors and students.

# Left-OVERS BY: christopher-hemsworth.



BEING A MAD SCIENTIST HAD FINALLY GOTTEN TO DR. BLOOD.

# A closer look at their town

by ian macintyre

the gazette

You know those movies you always mean to rent, or that book you'll get around to reading someday, or that play you haven't

gotten around to seeing yet? For me, *Our Town* has long been one of those plays. After seeing the Dalhousie Theatre Department's production, I have realized the error of my procrastination.

Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* is being put on by Dalhousie's fourth year acting class, and receives direction from none other than Dal's own resident vocal guru, Susan Stackhouse. She has taken a great deal of care and effort crafting this performance, which is definitely one of the best Dalhousie plays in recent years. Not only is this interpretation fresh and innovative, but she has gotten some excellent performances from her actors

*Our Town* unfolds in the tiny, turn of the century town of Grover's Corner, New Hampshire. The narrator (Corey Lillington) takes the audience in and out of the lives of several of the town's residents as they grow up, interact, and eventually pass beyond the grave. It is within the simple, relaxed lives of the townsfolk that Wilder examines many profound ideas, such as love, marriage, death, and what it truly means to live one's life.

One of the most striking features of this performance is its innovative, minimalist set. While all of the actors are clothed in incredibly authentic-looking period costume, their set consists of nothing but a handful of tables, stools, or benches on the set, all painted totally black. While this seems odd at first, and definitely far from realistic, it allows the audience's focus to remain completely on the actors. As well, all of the props in the play are mimed, which not only draws even more focus to the action, but also creates a silence

and tension through the play that can practically be felt.

The seating for this production makes use of the space in a unique way. Rather than having the audience face the stage, they are instead seated in two sections surrounding the action. Upon entering the theatre, it may be surprising how little space the actors are given to work with. However as the play opens, the action quickly begins to take shape and expand, until even the audience can actually picture houses, dust covered streets, farms, and general stores.

This is due in no small part to the tremendous performances given by each and every actor in this play. Each character is played with a remarkable depth, giving the impression that not only are these real people being brought to life, but that each person's story could be a play unto it self. The narrator doesn't so much hold the play together as gently guide it, directing the audience's attention when necessary and calmly overseeing the rest of the action. Lillington's narrator, while engaging and assured, remains relaxed and peaceful, seeing that the rest of the play maintains this same pace.

As far as the rest of the townspeople's performances, there are too many to spotlight in this article. Of notable mention are the town's two young lovers Emily Webb, played by Jen MacDowell, and George Gibbs, played by Sean Jordan. Both actors bring their characters to life with exceptional skill and care. In MacDowell's

case, Emily is sweet, natural and genuine, whereas Jordan seems quite at home playing the enthusiastic and earnest George. Ryan Sadler, as Dr. Gibbs, displays his fatherly wisdom and patience with total realism and ease. On the other hand Kelci Archibald, in the role of Mrs. Gibbs, switches from a layered and complex portrayal in the first two acts, to intense and heavyhearted in the final act. Here, the story jumps forward several years, and Ms. Archibald, along with several of the other deceased town folk, sit motionless in the rafters above the stage. As they look down and discuss what is happening back in Grover's Corner, their restrained demeanors still display huge amounts of emotion.

The play unfolds with flawless pacing, so that by the time that the message of the story is laid out, it seems like hardly any time has passed at all. Ian Langois, who plays Wally Webb, describes the play as "so beautiful that it hurts. It's the kind of beauty that stabs you in the gut and doesn't let you go."

In the end, this play is not solely about beauty, or the citizens of Grover's Corner. It is about real people set against a vast space, and how they find their places in their own worlds. This performance delivers that theme perfectly, leaving you with a lot to think about after it is over.

*Our Town* plays nightly in Studio One of the Dalhousie Arts Centre through the rest of this week.



In the end, this play is not solely about beauty... it is about real people set against a vast space, and how they find their places in their own worlds.

photos by patrick blackie



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**...definition n.**  
also defined as

by haley stevens  
the gazette

This Week's Word is YEGG — n. a burglar, esp. a safebreaker

**Laura LeGrow**  
1st Year Arts  
Something to do with alcohol.

**Marc Beauchamp**  
1st Year Computer Science  
The Viking word for "joke".

**Mike Steeves**  
1st Year Science  
A form of a small mammal.

**Robert Tokarczyk**  
2nd Year commerce  
I don't know, a yak in an eggshell?

**Ryan Gray**  
1st Year Music  
A sadistic pleasure taken from licking toes.

**Rick Durand**  
Manager Grawood Lounge  
Short for Jaggermister.

**Meaghan MacNeil**  
1st Year Kenisiology  
Somebody rambling about nonsense.

**Phillipa Tucker**  
3rd Year Computer Science  
Sounds like Yoda's lost brother.

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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 chris sullivan  
the gazette

**Movie — Jaws**

From the opening scene, I'm hooked. You've got the drunk flirt boy trying to court the skinny dipping hippy girl. She gets eaten while he's passed out on the beach. What kind of shark would eat a fun loving hippy girl? A shark that doesn't give two shits, that's who.

So you have an island called Amity (Friendship) along the New England coast with some very key characters, the first being the big mean shark. Then you have Chief Brody who hates water, "It's only an island if you look at it from the water," Quinn, the shark fisherman "I'll catch this fish for ya' but it won't be easy," and Hooper. He's the shark expert "Why should I come to Australia when I have a Great White right here?"

Anyway, there's the usual political bullshit that results in a few people getting eaten and when the mayor realizes that he's just plain wrong about keeping the beaches open, a contract goes out to Quinn to kill the shark with Hooper and Brody.

With fantastic effects courtesy of George Lucas and Steven Spielberg, the ending is sure to leave you peeing in the water — not because you have to go but because you're just plain scared. "Smile you son of a bitch."

**Book — Lord of the Flies**

Seeing that I have witnessed first hand the disintegration of a group of kids (camp counselor), I choose this book because it's generally the way that it happens, not that I've lost any kids to spears or boulders. First you get the happy, everyone-gets-along mentality and then it all slowly starts to break down.

Anyway, the book contains wonderful visuals on a tropical island complete with a lagoon. The kids end up there because their plane has crashed and find themselves without adult rule. Slowly they start to disintegrate into dirty little pig killing animals and end up killing poor Simon, who I believe has some weird ESP shit going on.

Kids get killed, some by spear, one by boulder, poor Piggy.

In the end it all works out... or does it. "Suck's to your assmar."

**CD — Del tha Funkee Homosapien, I Wish My Brother George was Here**

I'm only choosing this one for nostalgia's sake. It's all about the sunny meadows if you true fans hear me. There is something to be said about an opening bit that incorporates beer and weed.

Also on this album is "Mr. Dabalina," a classic about your typical wannabe tag along who has no real identity. Moving along to such classics as "Pissing on Your Steps," "Hoodz Come in Dozens" and "Sleeping on my Couch," you'll be hard pressed to find more fun on one album.

So in the end, you can look back to your early days, and reminisce about being at some party where everyone was too drunk and high while "Mr. Dabalina played the jack ass much like a donkey."

"Hey yo Del, what the fuck is a Homosapien," Ice Cube asked? Del's response, "It's a human being fool, a funkee human being."

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photos by thomas edelson

# We almost missed it

The goings-on from last weekend in Halifax

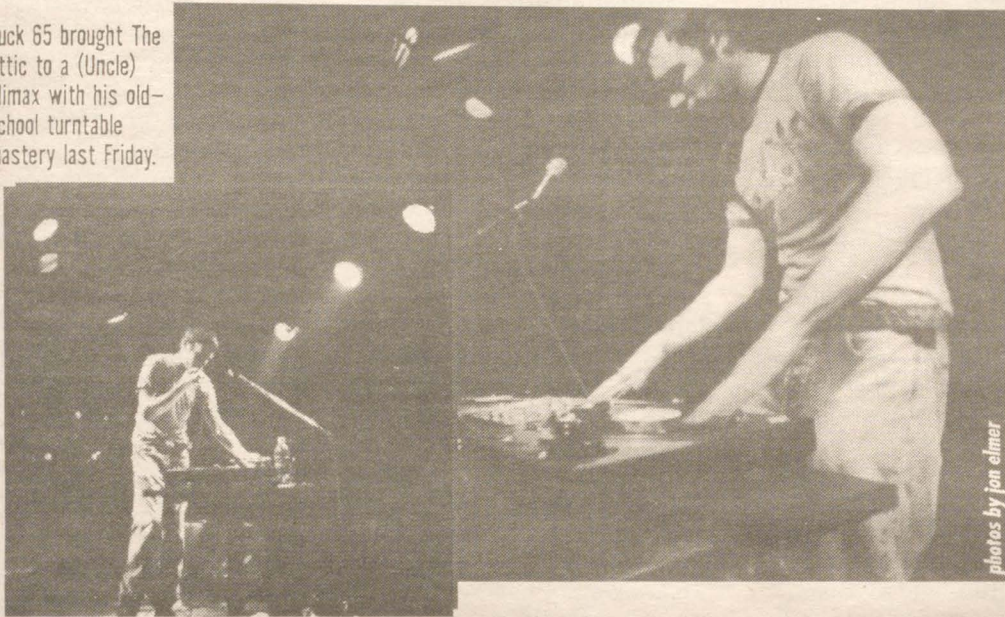
Canadian Rock institution 54-40 rocked out the Marquee for dozens of inebriated patrons last Saturday. No injuries were reported.



photos by mark bennett

My Other Brother Alice paid tribute to Alice Cooper with no visible mutilations or spontaneous combustion at The Attic on Saturday.

Buck 65 brought The Attic to a (Uncle) Climax with his old-school turntable mastery last Friday.



photos by jon elmer

## And the Cool Kids will be...

**Thursday Feb 8** — Skratch Bastard is ripping up some vinyl for a new series at the Attic called **The Militia**. It should be hot.

**Friday Feb 9** — DEAD RED and EDGY are going to be tearing the roof off of the Attic. I wish I could go, it's going to be lots of fun! But I shall be drinking my face off, uhh I mean doing work, at the ECMAs in PEI.

**Saturday Feb 10** — It is off to the Mokka you go. The Urban Surf Kings are having a birthday party and guess how old they are — five! It seems like yesterday that they were just little babies crawling around, shitting in their pants and drooling.

**Sunday Feb 11** — Turn on your TV to CBC and watch the ECMAs. Local yokels like Shyne Factory and Mir are going to be on, so be sure to check it out.

If you're putting something on let us know — it might be cool enough for the cool kids...

gazette@is2.dal.ca

Caitlin Kealey

## Tossed Cookies

by malcolm jamal-warner III, esq.

You speak with an echo,  
One hundred years long,  
Every word is drowned by the noise of the  
previous one,  
I comprehend nothing.

Sometimes, everything moves so fast, I am stone  
deaf.  
Once and a while, people talk so low, I am deaf.  
Now and then. Answers seem so clear, I am blind.  
Occasionally, there is so much to write, I am  
illiterate.

Sometimes,  
Once and a while,  
Now and then,  
Occasionally,  
From time to time, but usually not,  
If a picture says a thousand words,  
Do a thousand words paint a picture?

Speak to me in riddles, speak to me in rhymes of gazette@is2.dal.ca

## Protecting our natural heritage

Jean Fau is a chief park warden for Parks Canada. He and his colleagues protect the plant and animal life in our national parks. They also help Canadians explore and enjoy these special places. This is just one of the hundreds of services provided by the Government of Canada.

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Canada



# Underground initiations

by ryan delehanty

the gazette

In this week's column, I'm going to give a brief history of one of the most amazing musicians the world has ever seen. (Before I get started on **Fela**, I just wanted to tell anyone who's reading this column to check out next week's, because I'll be free to divulge some HUGE news. I've received word that one of my favorite bands is reuniting and will be touring this April in Metro Centre size venues. I've got all this from a very good source, and since several of the details are not finalized yet, I've been asked to hold off talking about the reunion in detail until next week including tour info and other potential plans for this

dearly missed band.)

Now on to **Fela**.

**Fela Anikulapo-Kuti**, was born in Abeokuta, Nigeria, in 1938. At the age of 20 he was sent to London where he studied at the Trinity School of Music for five years. **Fela** returned to Nigeria in 1963, and began playing high life and jazz, fronting a band with Nigerian musicians he had played with in England. In 1969, in the midst of the Biafra war, **Fela** decided to take his band to the United States. In Los Angeles, he changed the group's name to **Fela Ransome-Kuti and Africa 70**.

At the club where they were playing, he met **Sandra Isodore**, who was a close friend to the **Black Panthers**. She introduced **Fela** to the

philosophy and writings of **Malcolm X**, **Eldridge Cleaver** and other Black activists and thinkers. Through which **Fela** became much more politically aware.

While in Los Angeles, **Fela** also found the inspiration he was seeking to create his own unique style of music, which he named AFRO-BEAT. Before leaving America, the band recorded some of these new songs. Back at home, **Fela** once again changed the name of the group, this time to **Fela Ransome-Kuti and Africa 70**.

His new sound was a hit at home, and **Fela** opened a club in the Empire Hotel, called the **Afro-Shrine**. At that time, he was still playing the trumpet, later changing to the saxophone and piano.

He started singing mostly in Pidgin English rather than in Yoruban, so as to be understood throughout Nigeria and neighbouring countries.

In his songs, he became more political — no longer singing about his favorite kinds of soup. He depicted social situations and discussed themes relating to Blackism and Africanism, encouraging a return to traditional African religions. Later he was to become satirical and sarcastic toward those in power, condemning both military and civilian regimes for their crimes of mismanagement, incompetence, theft, corruption and marginalization of the underprivileged.

In 1974, **Fela** built a fence around his house and declared it to be an independent state: the Kalakuta Republic. This act of defiance was soon to spread throughout the entire neighborhood as more and more people were inspired by **Fela's** stance. The authorities remained vigilant, fearing the potential power of this 'state within a state. On countless occasions, **Fela** was to suffer the consequences of his scathing denunciations with

arrests, imprisonment and beatings at the hands of the authorities.

With each incarceration and violent confrontation with the authorities, **Fela** became more outspoken, changing his family name from 'Ransome' to 'Anikulapo' (he who carries death in his pouch). His notoriety spread and his records began to sell in the millions. The population of the Kalakuta Republic grew and each night **Fela** would perform long concerts in his compound for the members of his compound and guests.

These concerts have become something of legend, as for hours **Fela's** band would play and everyone would partake in his own special marijuana concoction, **Goro**. **Fela** taught very few people how to make this, but it involved over a weeks preparation and the effects from downing a tablespoon of **Goro** were said to last almost as long.

**Fela** also inspired the professional jealousy of **James Brown**, when during a tour of Africa **Bootsy Collins** and the rest of **Brown's** band spent most of their free time at **Fela's** compound.

During a Lagos concert in 1977, **Fela** sang "zombie", a satire against the military, and, as **Fela** relates in "Unknown Soldier", a thousand soldiers attacked the "Kalakuta Republic," burning down his house and beating all of its occupants. The song says that, during the course of this attack, his mother was thrown from a first floor window and later died from her injuries. **Fela** of course struck back at the government on the anniversary of his mothers death, when he made an enormous replica of her coffin, and left it on the steps to a major government building. He recounts this story in his song "Coffin for Head of State".

**Fela** recounts one of his trumped up arrests in the

song "Expensive Shit". When the police attempted to arrest **Fela** for marijuana possession, **Fela** swallowed the evidence. He was arrested and held in a floating island cell, where the guards would regularly collect his excrement for testing. With the help of a friend **Fela's** feces constantly tested negative for THC, and he was later released. In the song **Fela** mocks the Nigerian police and ponders their fascination with his waste.

He then formed a new Kalakuta. There, **Fela**, more political than ever, went on to form his own party, "Movement of the People" (M.O.P.). He presented himself as a Presidential candidate in the 1979 elections that would return the country to civilian rule. His candidature was refused. Four years later, at the next elections, **Fela** once more stood for President, but was prevented from campaigning by the police, who again rampaged through his house, imprisoning and beating **Fela** and many of his followers. Any further Presidential aspirations were crushed when a coup brought Nigeria back to military rule.

**Fela** began his decline in the 80's. He was a constant topic in the tabloids as they discussed his antics, drug abuse and sexual prowess, and these indulgences lead to his death in August 1997 from AIDS-related heart failure.

**Fela's** son **Femi Kuti** is now the reigning king of Afro-beat, and has just released his debut album, with one track remixed by **The Roots**.

**Fela's** albums are being re-released two per disc by Universal Music. There are also two different box sets available and a 2-CD best of. Everything this man has released is absolutely amazing, and if you like jazz or just good music it's a must you pick some of this up.

Please email me at [undergroundinitiations@hotmail.com](mailto:undergroundinitiations@hotmail.com) with any comments, and next week I'll be back with the announcement of exactly which band is reuniting, and what that will entail.

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## QUOTABLE

"I get me brain medicine from the national elf." — Uncle Elroy.

"Every woman is a lesbian at heart. Some just more than others." — Anonymous.

"But it's not oatmeal." — The 'not oatmeal' guy.

"So what, I'm a drunk driving coke-head death penalty fanatic with a pension for farm animals. Too fuckin' late to do anything now." — George Bush Jr.\*

"Can't touch this." — Hammer.

"Send a pen and postage, get one of equal or lesser value." — [benspenexchange.com](http://benspenexchange.com)

\* not a real quote



# Reel Life

## Valentine

by mark evans

the gazette

One of my pet peeves is a motion picture that you regret seeing the more you think about it. *Valentine* scores a bull's eye in this category, a hum-drum lifeless corpse in a genre that typically tends to the mediocre even on its best days. Director Jamie Blanks previously helmed *Urban Legends*, and while that wasn't exactly Chaucer, it sure feels like it compared to his latest effort.

In the opening sequence some little twerp gets rejected at school dance, is cruelly tormented by several bullies, and then gets shipped off to reform school to become a horrible serial killer out for revenge. But not against the bullies who mistreated him, since that would make too much sense psychologically and it wouldn't attract the male demographic, but

against the mean nasty girls who wouldn't dance with him.

Naturally the villain comes calling 13 years later so the women are now adequately endowed enough to warrant sexy poses (not that this movie has any classic slasher T&A) and lots of running. It is of course around Valentine's Day, so the killer can walk around wearing a plastic cupid mask and not look out of place, just as it happens in my neighborhood around Valentine's. Scenes of running and screaming ensue, but all deliberately plotted so that they don't involve the audience in the slightest bit.

Call me heartless, but when snobby brats and their vapid jerk boyfriends start getting offed it's beyond my limited knowledge as to precisely why I should care. There

are a mere two characters in this entire film who seem even marginally nice, and one of them gets slaughtered in the first fifteen minutes. That's no surprise though, since there's a vaguely misogynistic air about this movie that makes the proceedings seem even cheaper than they already do.

To make things worse, I'm frankly astounded that a movie about vicious killings could be so boring. There is one death, out of about half a dozen or so, that manages to generate any tension whatsoever. That one death is great, and had the movie been filled with moments like this it would've been a whole different movie. Actually, come to think of it, it would have been *Scream*.

Nobody bothers to do anything terribly clever either. The killer seems to project an aura that quarters the

IQ points of his intended victim, thus enabling him to kill more effectively. One girl, who we're laughably shown preparing for a Med school final, gives up on a door as being locked after pushing on the handle and then bothering to give it a single quarter-turn.

And let me not forget the ending, which delivers a big "screw

you" to anybody who's been trying to deduce the killer for the past ninety minutes by helpfully suggesting two unrelated people as the killer, neither of whom entirely makes sense. In a further act of courtesy, the movie makes no steps towards any resolution of the killer's identity, except for a laughably cheap shot at the end, which is total nonsense given the climax.

My usual comments on the acting are going to hit a high point for brevity this week: none. Zip, zero, nada, zilch. The little kids in the opening flashback play the cruel children role admirably, but beyond that it's just plastic people

living their plastic lives dying plastic deaths. David Boreanaz can act, he does it on *Angel* all the time, so I'm not sure why he's so boring in this. Denise Richards, well, I will give her this, she's nothing if not consistent.

Bottom Line: *Valentine* is unforgivably dull. It isn't even fun to mock, since it comes across as more of a dying animal you want to put out of its misery. Boring killer, the worst conclusion of any film in recent memory, and tepid material. Honestly, a Freddy Prinze, Jr. movie is scarier than this.

So does he love it? He loves it not.



## CD REVIEWS



### Ben Watt and Jay Hannan — *Lazy Dog Compilation* (Virgin Records)

If any of you out there are as big a fan of Everything But The Girl like I am, you will LOVE this album. Ben Watt, the brilliance behind EBTG (with the nearly perfect Tracy Thorne,) is here giving a heavy dose of hard house music from his London Club, "Lazy Dog" — hence the name. Ahh, London House, is there anything else like it? I don't think so.

This CD was surely one of the best additions to my collection last year, my only regret is that I didn't review it earlier so y'all could go out there and get it. Any-hoo, Watt makes some wise remixes of his own work from EBTG, as well as new stuff from Lisa Shaw and Julien Jabre. Ahh. — Andrew



### Delerium — *Poem* (Netwerk)

Come and drown in the submissive vibes and deliciously spooky beats of Delerium's newest album, *Poem*. Every track on this album has a different feel and quality, as each features different performers — an eclectic array of talent ranging from the Mediaeval Babes to Matthew Sweet, each bringing a bit of their personal flare to each cut. The entire CD is arranged perfectly, the first songs starting off slow, almost reaching out to you, rubbing you in that oh so right way. The later tracks are faster and the rhythm increases more and more until you think that you can't take any more, and finally you reach "Myth" — the gorgeously dynamic climax. This track brings you to a point where you feel like you need a cigarette when you're done. "Myth", featuring Gregorian chant and meta-trance ambiance, includes the silky smooth vocals of Joanna Stevens bringing so much to the piece. — Andrew



### Alex Baird — *ish* (Chemical Sound)

The problem is — maybe this shouldn't be seen as a problem — there are so many female singer-songwriters out there right now that it's hard for any of them to set themselves apart from each other. Alanis did it with her unwavering anger, Sarah McLaughlin did it with Lilieth Fair and Dido did it with her association to famed rap star Eminem. Alex Baird tries to set herself apart, but has no raw anger, concert or even a famed connection. The only thing setting Alex Baird apart is a horribly written, cutesy bio. Song writing that leaves much to be desired, an OK voice — something non interruptive to put on while peeling potatoes or eating brussle sprouts, two things you probably don't want to do anyway. — Amy

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# Whatever happened to them there Playboys?

by chris sullivan

the gazette

Remember the *Playboy* Reps? You know, those guys that many loved to love and just as many loved to hate? Sure you do. Well, they have since gone underground and now go by the names of Mr. Guevara and Bruce Wayne. W.B. Wildsmith loves to parade around as Guevara, while his equally parable pal, Bruce Yip, gets his own kicks by calling himself Mr. Bruce Wayne. And parade they do. Both have tried to become normal everyday citizens. This is what they think about the whole thing.

It all started when Mr. Wayne was watching a biography on Hugh Hefner in May of '98 and decided that it was time to get involved with the *Playboy* corporation. After looking on the website, Mr. Wayne applied for a position as a campus representative at Dalhousie. The title was granted and the rabbit finally came out of its hole and hopped into Halifax. Mr. Guevara jumped on the bunny soon after.

"I became a rep and didn't know what to do with it so began having parties," says Mr. Wayne. One of the main purposes of the *Playboy* parties that we were having was so that local DJs could gain some exposure.

Mr. Guevara agrees with their role

"It was almost to do what Hef did way back in the day (by showing black musicians on television). We were getting DJs into the party scene, into the bars, promoting different types of music that hadn't been mainstream."

After several parties at The Pit, Mr. Wayne's underground lair, the Velvet Olive caught wind of the *Playboys* and asked if they wanted to utilize their bar for future parties.

But at the same time, heat was growing amongst those who opposed the two 'Peddlers of Porn'.

Debates were held at Dal, which placed *Playboy* ideals against Feminist ideals.

"We were clearly out-matched. We didn't have the knowledge that we needed to hold our own ground and we basically got creamed," Mr. Wayne said. "At the time, I was like, 'what are these people talking about? They're out of control, they're out of context.' After working at *Playboy* for a year though, I think that a lot of the things that I heard through that year that I

There were a lot of people who had a good time but there were a lot of people who would tell us that it was the worst party they had ever been to.



photos by chris sullivan

It was almost to do what Hef did way back in the day ...



Their main argument was that we were attacking women, that we were reducing them down to a bunch of body parts...



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kind of brushed off and said 'whatever,' I think that I would loosen my stance now. I wouldn't agree with the feminists on everything but would agree with them on certain things. I think I remain more neutral on the topic than anything."

"Their main argument was that we were attacking women, that we were reducing them down to a bunch of body parts rather than individual people," said Mr. Guevara. "The experience taught me a lot about women's perspectives. After I did *Playboy*, I took a course at Dal about post modernism in feminist outlooks, and I gained a deeper insight as to why a lot of women had been saying things about objectification and I began to understand their view point a little more to the point where I wouldn't go back and do the same things that I'd done before. What's also changed is my outlook on such things as corporations on campus and whether they should or shouldn't be allowed. At the time, I didn't have a stand on it even though I was a part of it and now I feel like there's no place left for students out there with all the sponsors on campus."

So with every figure in the limelight, there are always highs and lows. These inevitable forms of fame/notoriety came in various forms for the two reps.

Mr. Wayne liked that he would be confronted with debates.

"I enjoyed having people come up to us on campus and say things like, 'You guys suck', and I would say, 'Well why do we suck?' Most of them would run away but others would challenge us and I really enjoyed it when people who knew what they were talking about challenged us because I had one perspective and I wanted to hear what they had to say.

"We learned how to say things in a more constructive manner, like we know what we feel and think but how do you we say it in such a manner that you don't get killed on every angle. You want

to minimize angles like a goalie."

Mr. Guevara did not enjoy the guilt by association, so to speak.

"One of the worst parts was having people on campus who didn't know us, already form stereotypes of us. As much as the feminists were saying that *Playboy* stereotypes women, they were stereotyping us as evil purveyors of porn and it was kind of hurtful, some of the tones and the looks that we would get when we walked around campus."

"I think one of the worst lows for me was the last party we had because we were in way over our heads financially," said Mr. Wayne. "There were certain people who helped us out and I feel bad that it all fell apart. There were a lot of people who had a good time but there were a lot of people who would tell us that it was the worst party they had ever been to."

But Mr. Guevara is a firm believer that we should never regret what we have done in the past.

"I don't regret what I did. It was an invaluable learning experience in promotions, public relations and marketing."

Mr. Wayne agrees.

"We wanted to gain the experience. We were tied in with the whole brand equity of *Playboy*. We could have done the same thing but not have been affiliated with *Playboy* and nothing would have happened. The fact that we slapped on the logo we had access to, that just created a whole new dimension."

"I think what we're trying to say is that if you have an idea and you want to go with it but you're kind of scared because of the ramifications, forget about it. Go for it, because it opens up a lot of doors and you can't jeopardize that," ends Mr. Wayne.

Oh, one more thing. Mr. Wayne wants to say that one of the best parts was having Hugh Hefner wa'k up to them at the *Playboy* Mansion, shake their hands and say, 'Aah, Mr. Yip and Mr. Wildsmith, finally we meet.'

# Piece.



The Gazette



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## Information Hash

### news & facts

by kip keen

#### Kangaroo Curry...

'Stinky' is the Western Grey Kangaroos nickname because they smell like curry.

#### Dominatrix's and Roo's...

Female kangaroos outnumber males five to one in a fully mature kangaroo population.

#### Kangaroo Dinkies...

What distinguishes a male kangaroo is his penis. His testes are in front of his penis and are contained in a preputial sac formed by an invagination of the skin at the base of his cloaca. When relaxed the penis is S shaped and the testes oval.

#### Vaginal Plugs!!!

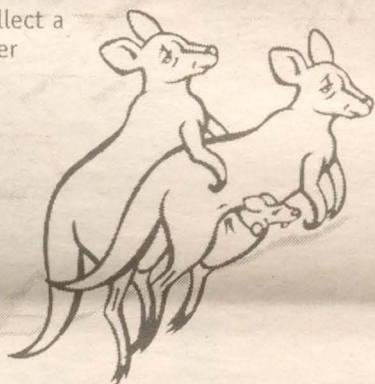
After the kangaroo male blows his load inside a kangaroo diva his semen coagulates, forming a vaginal plug. This ensures that other copulating kangaroos don't get her pregnant, and their own spermatozoa makes the trip upstream.

#### Getting it Kangy Style...

Male Red Kangaroos sniff a female roo's cloacal region to find out if she's ready and/or wants to do the dirty. If a female kangaroo is receptive to a male's flirtations she pees. The male will respond by either sniffing or rubbing his nose in the urine.

Sometimes a female will collect a crew of males waiting for her to be ready (ovulation.)

When finally the dominant male is received by the female he stands behind her and tucks his forearms in her thighs. While she stands in front of him, the male thrusts several times until ejaculation. Repeat sex is very rare.



## PEI only province without an abortion clinic

by sarah murphy  
and jessica beebe

the cadre

CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP) — Students at the University of Prince Edward Island are caught in a long-standing debate that has women seeking abortions off island and paying for it out of their own pocket.

On the 13-year anniversary of the legalization of abortion in Canada, PEI remains the only province that does not provide abortions within its borders. Island women seeking the procedure have to travel to New Brunswick or Nova Scotia.

But because out-of-province hospitals will not perform abortions unless deemed a medical emergency, PEI women must get an abortion at private clinics, the cost of which is not covered by the PEI government.

University of Prince Edward Island students have been referred to off-island abortion clinics, said Ruth Freeman, the university's Women's Centre co-ordinator. However, Moreen McGinnis, a campus health centre nurse, said she feels that if she gave information out such as the number of patients referred to off-island clinics, students would feel betrayed.

According to Statistics Canada, women between the age of 20 and 24 are most likely to choose abortion, with 32,326 women going through the procedure in 1998. Of the 110,331 abortions performed in the country that year, 149 were performed on PEI women.

Ann Wheatley, co-ordinator of PEI branch of the Canadian Abortion Right Action League, says her group hasn't lobbied the provincial government very much in recent years. Instead, they have

made their arguments through the media.

"We basically make the same points that it is wrong that PEI has been going against the Canada Health Act for so many years," said Wheatley.

Abortion in Canada was decriminalized on Jan. 28, 1988, when the Supreme Court of Canada declared the old abortion section of the Criminal Code unconstitutional under Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. However, that same year, the PEI government passed a resolution opposing abortions in the province unless the woman's life is in danger.

In the early 1990s Henry Morgentaler, the abortion doctor whose case cleared the way for legal abortion in 1988, took the provincial government to court, challenging PEI's refusal to pay for women's abortions at non-hospital facilities.

In 1995, the court struck down the government's funding regulation and ruled that the province must cover the physician fees portion of clinic costs, about 20 percent, for PEI residents. The judge found the government's regulation to be based on moral, rather than any health or cost controlling considerations, but the province successfully appealed the decision and the PEI Health Minister told Ottawa that abortion policy is the province's business.

Earlier this month, federal Health Minister Allan Rock told Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick, and PEI. It was time to cover the cost of abortions performed in private clinics.

PEI Health Minister Jamie Ballum sees no reason to change the island's policy on abortion.

"Our policy is that we cover it in an approved facility, which in our regulation is in a hospital,"

Ballum said in an interview with the CBC.

Ballum said he believes his province provides what the Canada Health Act calls "reasonable access," but if Ottawa does cut off transfer payments, he conceded that the province would be forced to re-examine its policies.

At UPEI, female students say they are hesitant to speak out about the issue. Calling the province conservative, one student said she sees a lack of education among her peers about abortion procedures.

"I'm sure people, on and off campus, are keeping quiet about [not having] abortion clinics because they don't want to piss off the same people who may employ them, rent to them, et cetera. They don't want to make a 'bad name' for themselves if they announce that they are pro-choice."

Malcolm Murray, a professor of philosophy at the university, said the decision not to provide abortions in PEI is a moral one.

"I think it's more of a religious issue than a fact that people are uneducated," he said. "The Island knows that they cannot prevent abortions, they're just choosing not to have a private clinic here...I think that many people feel that they should continue doing things as they always have. If it works well, stick with it. On the other hand, we should try to 'keep up with the times.'"

Access to abortion services varies widely from province to province and region to region. Only Newfoundland, Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta fully cover the cost of abortions performed in clinics. A very small number of clinics in several provinces are providing medical, non-surgical, abortions using the drugs methotrexate and misoprostol.

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## The Mind of Mr. Minimal



### The Milky whole.

Last week I caught a glimpse of an ad-to-be, promoting the sale of milk. The bulletin pictured a young, middle aged man posing shirtless, milk fell down on him as if a hundred open udders shuddered 50m above. Dairy industrialized, marketing specialized, the milk carton became the insignia of American households.

Natural design in mind, moo milk is suited for turning a 200 pound calf into a half-ton cow or bull, and to provide baby Holsteins with the natural hormones and antibiotics necessary for growth. Human babies that drink cow milk formula too early in their lives experience increased rates of pneumonia and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

Milk does have robust levels of calcium. Milk is full of protein — more than what the body likes for its proper metabolic balances. Excess protein in the diet creates an acid-forming load which the body counteracts by eliminating Calcium as part of the pH equilibration mechanism. The body then experiences a net loss of Calcium with milk intake due to the body's compensation of the protein overabundance.

Average American diets have ample sources of calcium. Retention of the calcium directly affects a condition known as osteoporosis, very common in older females, which results in degradation of bone structure through lack of calcium in the system. Excess protein consumption is the major factor causing calcium loss. If the body is dumping calcium in order to restore the pH balance gone acidic because of over-enthusiastic protein intake, drinking milk is not going to help.

And if you believe your system may be sensitive to cow antibiotics and other Holstein hormones then you're best off staying away from the cow's milk, and reverting to organic, soy, rice, and almond milks. These are delicious options that have been squeezed from a bean not a teet.

For a fully scientific explication of Osteoporosis caused by excessive Calcium go to <http://www.4.waisays.com/>.

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# Mind trips: toward a world of equality

by pascal gellrich  
the gazette

This battle begins at birth. A Mayan infant of the Guatemalan highlands is six times more likely to die in her first year of life than is her white, urban counterpart. The chance of her attending even one year of school is minimal. The likelihood of that child growing up to be literate in Spanish is one in five. After being denied these most basic of human rights, that child will grow up, probably to leave her family for many months at a time to work for a large landowner on land that formerly belonged to her people, provided such work can even be found. She will toil away for barely a living wage, exposed to the ravages of pesticides and hard manual labour, often exploited indirectly by coffee giants like Maxwell House and Nescafe.

Throughout her life as an indigenous woman she will be subjected to venomous racism and discrimination from the small white and ladino minority who render her powerless. Because of her rich cultural tradition, she will live to witness, and perhaps be inflicted with the dangers of violence, death threats, and senseless killings.

And finally, she will die an earlier death than others in her land, as a result of what she has endured. Perhaps it is a blessing in disguise. And when the thought of such a life becomes unfathomable for many of us living in a first world nation such as Canada, we realize that her fate will likely be the fate of her children as well.

Imagine that five of your 20 classmates from Grade One are either dead or dying today. The fact that an infant in Afghanistan, despite inhabiting the same place in the universe we like to call Earth, is 40 times more likely to die before turning one than her urban Canadian counterpart is something I find difficult to explain.

It brings up a question that has the potential to reach deep into the human soul, as one attempts to understand just why. Studies such as history, sociology, physics, oceanography, biology, political science, Western medicine, Chinese medicine, alternative medicine, and community health may offer deeper

insight into the burning questions.

The essential question, however, is intensely personal and leaves us, as individuals, to answer it. The world may offer many clues, but we must stand up to the podium and face our own conscience. It is a question that offers us the opportunity to explore the greatest and most unknown frontier: our mind itself. Who we are, how we are, when we are and, most importantly, why we are.

Perhaps we can begin to search for the answer in our own well-being. Health is a powerful tool for change, as all humans have experienced sickness. Infant mortality rates tend to be sobering figures. Little children dying of diseases caused by factors that are completely beyond their control is a heavy thought to many of us. Little do we realize that getting pneumonia could spell imminent death if we switched places with the Mayan woman mentioned earlier.

These children's first words are mere static in the world of men in suits and peasants in fields. The sun shines regardless on all of our faces. All of humanity, despite the vast differences demarcated by borders, religions, and cultures, knows the warmth of the sun. The light that it offers may be one of great hope to some. It should be an inspiration for us all. The question remains to be answered.

The statistics are numerous. Yet those gleaned from the death certificate of a dead baby in a remote land, then collected and processed in important centres, in high office buildings like the United Nations that gaze out over the vast Atlantic, crunched, shared, and finally spat out in the form of reports such as the World Bank's World Development Report may be a way of educating us.

Numbers, however, tend to adopt the lifestyle of the numerous bits of data that speed along the internet every second — ignored or deleted by the masses, and reacted to by the few. The search engines that are our minds must be continually updated and refined to deal with the copious amounts of information that we are exposed to by the worlds of media.

It is little surprise, therefore, that the earthquake in El Salvador in January is already likely erased from our minds. The larger, higher-on-the-Richter-scale quake that hit India, where many more lay dead, quickly shifted the media attention. "If it bleeds, it leads". Certainly a familiar chorus to many media organizations and their unknowing audiences around the globe. In true spirit, however, the Bush inauguration dominated any world

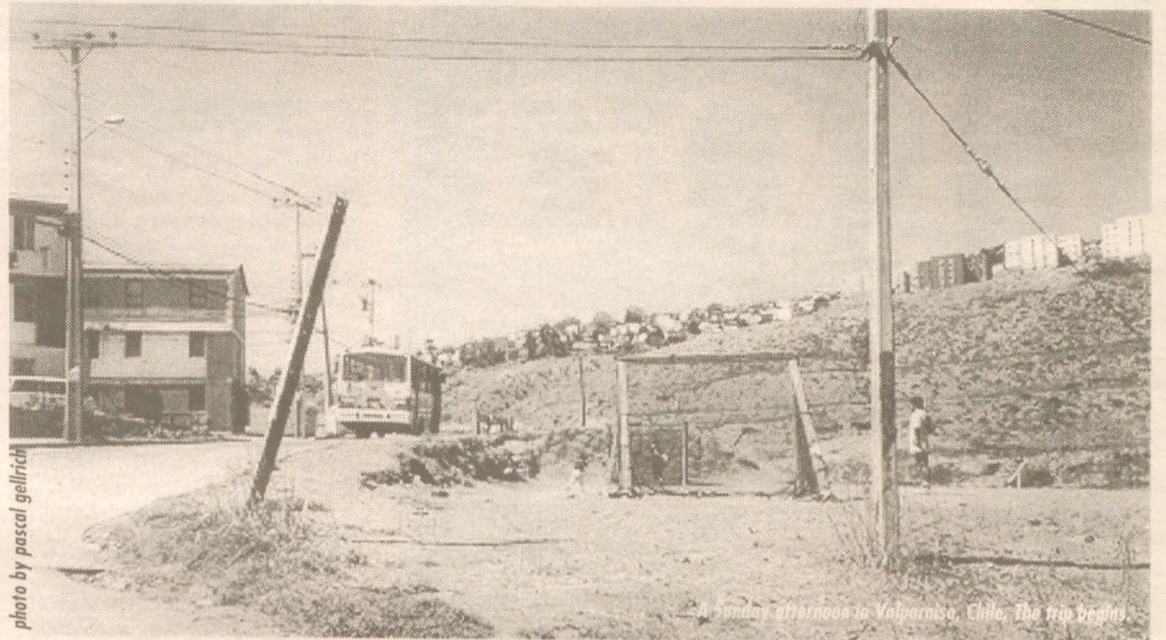


photo by pascal gellrich

Sunday afternoon in Valparaiso, Chile. The trip begins...

event two weeks ago, save for perhaps an imminent nuclear war narrowly shot down by the physical impossibilities of the old toy in Bush's sandbox: Star Wars.

A child suffering from diarrhea, a condition often fatal to the great majority of the world's infants, is unaware of the factors that will determine her early death. Her will to live though, is just as great as the infant suffering from pneumonia in a big crib in a large nursery in a luxury hospital, well-stocked with drugs, where bed-space alone can cost hundreds or even thousands of dollars a night. The latter's chances of survival, however, tend to be greater.

In the meantime, the impoverished child likely has only its genetics and parental love as weapons in the struggle to hold on to life. The idea of a public health system incorporating quality, equality, and a code of ethics, is clearly outlined in the constitutions of all countries of the Western Hemisphere, even extending to those with the highest income disparities, like the United States and Chile.

Yet, perhaps with the exception of socially progressive countries like Cuba, it is often no more than that. Doctors in the public health systems are attracted to the six-figure salaries offered in the private systems. Long lines and crowds easily signpost the public hospitals. A close friend in Chile with bone cancer would likely have died without the health insurance provided by her profession at a UN organization. Forty-two million US citizens do not have access to health care.

The continuing threats of war and violence and drugs and aerial pesticide spraying and missile attack and dirty water are left out of the picture for a moment when a child is close to death. The need is clear and evident, yet the prescription to fill

that need is hazy. There are no answers really, but there certainly are evident signposts in the world around us, on the road to a human equality, that may guide us to begin to think differently.

It is not simply a question of "us" and "them". The "other and remote" hits much closer to home than we like to think. From the rural villages of Africa, to the sprawling capitals, across the ocean to North America, even to Washington, the "world's most powerful city". A city where, for an instant, I might have believed that reality consisted of well-manicured lawns in Georgetown and symmetrically paved traffic circles, shadowed over by buildings with a height restriction.

Until a short drive to the Southeast one afternoon, with a tuberculosis (TB) worker, proved my thoughts wrong. Squalid living conditions, crack houses, no green spaces, high TB rates in the hospital — was this really the place people knew as "where-the-world-meets"?

The question is not only triggered in that place they call DC, with those apparently transparent multilateral institutions that seem to only be sucking money out of the world's poorest countries. Certainly not a fallacy, but there is also a case to be made to understanding the dynamics and workings of the present world economy, largely based on growth figures. It extends globally, even here in Halifax. Here in our town.

David Suzuki's concept of zero-growth seemed to be drowned out among the proceedings of an international health conference in Ottawa in November 1999. Similarly in June 2000, the inaugural meeting of the International Society for Equality in Health, in Havana was largely ignored. It did not make the news.

I think that change, when promoted gradually, is most effective. Old dogs cannot easily be

taught new tricks, although some do catch on. Change must be promoted persistently, and for this the continued shock value of scenes like Seattle and Washington, and the upcoming ones in Quebec, is certainly not ineffective.

If public outcry to events like the World Economic Forum in Davos, or the Summit of the Americas in Quebec are even covered by the media organizations, then the media becomes an important tool to make one realize that the social justice issues apparent almost everywhere in this world also speak for much of humanity, even us.

The threat on the news this Tuesday morning of a potential Ebola carrier in Canada may be somewhat of an awakening. But in a region of the world where in some places five out of ten people are living with HIV/AIDS, another very terminal disease in a country where access to highly cost-inflated pharmaceuticals such as those of Bristol-Myers Squibb is only possible for those who can pay more than twice their annual income per dose, a death from the painful agony of Ebola is perhaps just a darker shade of life or even a quick relief of sorts.

There is a lot more than the threat of an agonizing death with bleeding eyes and ears lurking in our backyard. It is up to us to explore the furthest reaches of the universe: our minds and souls. And to help build the mindcraft that will launch others into their own personal odysseys. We must remember to eventually return and share what we have learned with others.

Considerate actions sometimes speak louder than words. It may be the most important trip we take. Let us refer, without bias, to the signposts around us when the road is no longer paved. Let us try not to make a U-turn halfway. Eyes may be slow to open, but once they are, we will without a doubt be blinking faster than usual.

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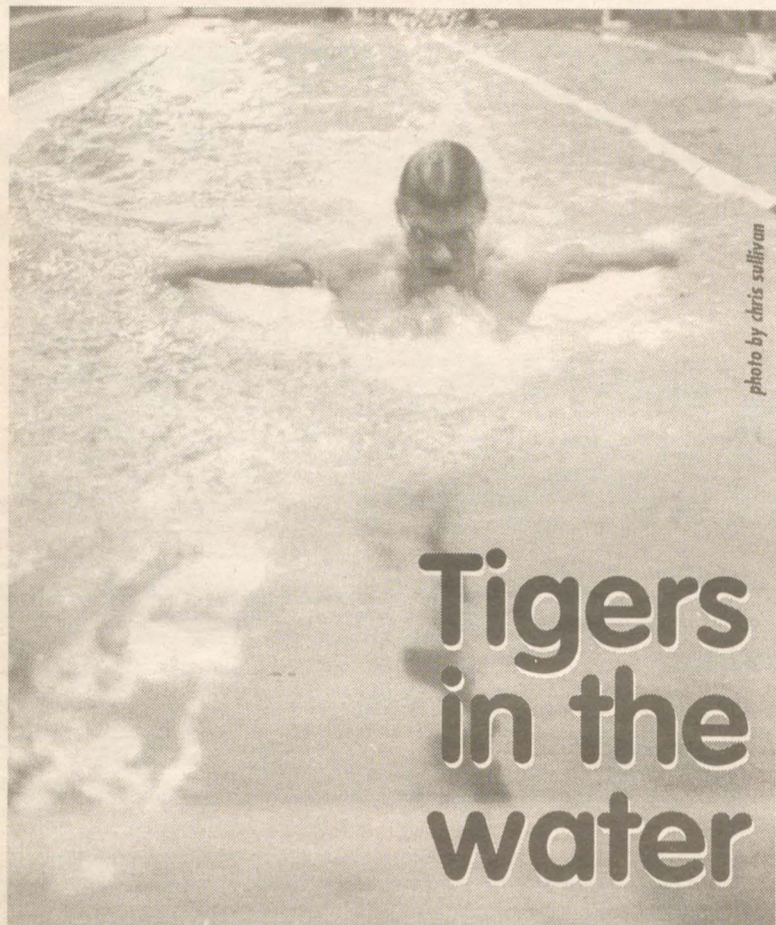


photo by chris sullivan

## Tigers in the water

by chris sullivan

the gazette

Dal swimmers talk about perversions, dating resembling swimming and the spirit of growling really loudly.

Dalplex is like a giant zoo to them. Members of Dal's swim team spend at least half of their entire lives immersed in the chlorine-laden pool and when they decide to get out, have taken the form of those prunes that your Grandmother eats so that she stays regular. They love it.

I asked a few of them about Tiger spirit and what it really means to them.

According to Chris Stewart, "Tiger spirit is a bunch of guys and girls who get really close in the course of a year we do a lot together go on trips together. We probably spend as much time with the team as we do with our families we really have a chance to bond over the course of a pretty long season. Tiger spirit is probably the friendship and bond that forms over the season."

Caitlin Peterson is another Tiger swimmer also going to the CIAU's.

"We're all working together as a group. Our team's pretty close. Swimming is an individual

sport but I guess its also working collectively."

Oskar (Oz) Stachowiak is the co-captain of the swim team.

"It's a bunch of guys and girls working off each other using enthusiasm and feats from one another. Basically we have a lot of team spirit and it just so happens that we're Tigers."

For years, there have been stories circulating throughout the city about Dal swimmers and the craziness/perversion that goes on within the group of semi-clad Tigers.

"It's a unique situation because you have boys and girls on the same team, spending a lot of time together in hotel rooms and exotic places like Florida and Barbados," says Stewart.

"Anything can happen. Its like *Temptation Island*."

Peterson adds that she's heard some pretty nasty things about swimmers.

"I don't think they're quite that bad. I guess since we walk around half naked all the time we don't feel very self conscious."

Stachowiak agrees there is an air of perversion within the team.

"I can't speak for myself but I'm sure there are a few bad apples within the bunch. I don't want to claim to be the biggest

perv on the team or anything. Some of us like to have the glove of love but I can't speak for everyone."

So now that we don't have to worry about being conscious in our tell-all suits, we can get down to the real juice. What is the feeling of swimming hard comparable to?

It took Chris a few minutes to find an answer but he found a good one.

"Swimming is comparable to dating because you have to put in a lot of hard work, effort, time and commitment but in the end, hopefully it's all worth your while."

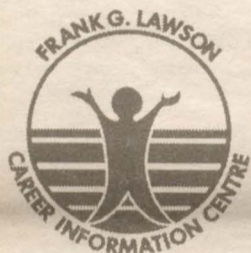
Peterson veers towards the comparison to sweet flavor. She says it's like, "a good desert. It's very rewarding and everything is focused on you."

Oscar gets right into it and just says it like it is.

"Training hard is comparable to hell because it hurts, but then you get the pleasure at the end. [It's] just like masturbating or also rubbing your athletes foot with your sock."

You wannabe swim cats out there roaming the streets can catch the swimmers this weekend at Dalplex for the AUAAs, splashing and kicking from Friday to Sunday. The Finals will start at 5 p.m. on Feb. 11.

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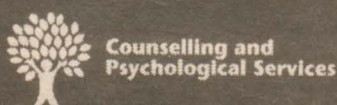
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## Soccer team going to England

by mike ayyash

the gazette

Twenty-five years ago, Dalhousie Men's Soccer Coach Pat Nearing made a trip to England as an exchange student. He experienced the soccer-crazed English culture and made memories that have lasted a lifetime. Now, he's giving 18 young student athletes the chance to make their own memories in the land that created the game of soccer.

A crew of 18 players and four coaches representing Dalhousie will be flying to North England on Feb. 15. They will spend a busy ten days playing five competitive games against some of the top amateur teams in the region.

Coach Nearing rates the competition very highly.

"They're better than our usual CIAU team," said Nearing.

Dal's last game against the Wigan Town Selects promises to be the most challenging one, as the top amateur league canceled their weekend games to put together an all-star team that will host and play the Tigers.

"That's going to be our toughest game," said coach Nearing. "They have some excellent players in that league."

The third game against Guiseley Town, a semi-professional team, also promises to be a good one. Other games include two university teams and an amateur league second division team.

Despite the great competition that awaits the team, the results of these games are almost irrelevant to the purpose of the trip.

"It would be nice to get good

results and win a couple of games but our main goal [is] to gain experience from the trip and expose the players to a new culture as we test ourselves against top opposition," said Nearing.

The sports team did a lot of fundraising to pay for the trip. A successful auction held at Dal University club raised over \$6000. Revenues from the Dalhousie summer camps and spring soccer league along with individual efforts from the players also helped the team raise the necessary funds. They will have cheap accommodation in a Boy Scout dormitory holding 40 beds. Two local pubs are just around the corner which are a key ingredient of the English experience.

Chris Coxon, a fourth year versatile midfielder, is excited about the trip.

"We've really been looking forward to it since the beginning of the year. We're training three times a week and playing in the indoor league to stay fit. We're all really excited," said Coxon.

Coxon and the team are also excited about the chance to attend three professional games, including a Champions League fixture between Manchester United and last year's finalist, Valencia at one of the greatest sporting venues in the world, Old Trafford in Manchester.

"Most of the guys have never seen a game at the pro level before. It would be a great experience for any soccer fan," said Coxon.

Nearing hopes to have a similar trip once every two or three years. Along with the experience for the current squad of players, it would also serve as a great recruiting tool for the program, as a trip like this would surely attract some of the top prospects to the Dal program.

"My philosophy is to provide the student athletes at Dal with a great education. Sports and traveling is a tremendous way of doing that. They will come back with stories they will never forget."

### AVIS.

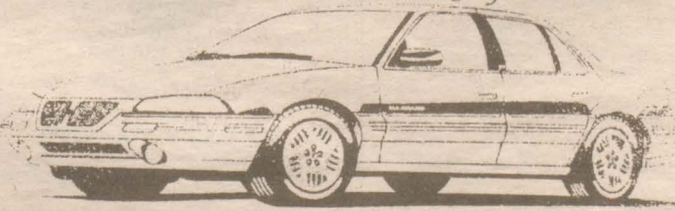
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# XFL ... what the hell?

pete and clay

the gazette

Circle the trailers 'cause the circus has come to town. Hot pants, push-up bras, fireworks and continual sideshows were abundant as the XFL launched its inaugural broadcast. What was missing was anything worth watching.

On Saturday night the Las Vegas Outlaws did battle with the New York / New Jersey Hitmen. The Outlaws crushed their opponents, shutting them out 19-0. In the other game, the Orlando Rage edged out the Chicago Enforcers 29-33.

In the past few months the league has inundated viewers with promos promising a 'new' game — one that would go where none had gone before — hard hitting, smash-mouth, behind the scenes, sex driven football.

The problem is that bad football will always be bad football. You can dress up Bill Gates as much as you want but he'll never be Harrison Ford.

No matter what you do, the XFL will never offer as good football as the NFL or, for that matter, the CFL.

It was difficult to pay attention to the action on the field. It felt like a sport made for a generation suffering from ADD.

The field was equipped with 27 cameras including two cameramen dressed in battle armor. These modern-day gladiators ran on and off the field to provide the viewers with close up shots of the action. The quick cuts between shots were enough to make even one with the strongest of stomachs seasick.

Everyone in the game was also equipped with a microphone. One could eavesdrop on everything that was happening on the field — trash talking, play calls, referee conferences and sounds from the huddles.

Drew Donaldson, a former walk-on football player for UBC, said "This game offers more gimmicks than McDonalds and more smoke and mirrors than David Copperfield."

Donaldson, like many other fans, was not impressed

Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura took time out of his hectic schedule to add his colour commentary to the game. Two things seemed obvious from the start:

1. Ventura is the biggest fan of the XFL;

2. He doesn't get out much.

At the slightest hint of excitement, Ventura was out of his seat raving about the action on the field. John McLean, the golden man on the mic for Dal's volleyball team, offered to show Ventura the ropes.

"He could learn a lot from an expert like me," McLean candidly remarked.

The cheerleaders have been promoted as one of the main selling points for the league and as such were paraded front and centre on Saturday. The Vegas cheerleaders opened the night dancing to the song "I like girls."

In another display of the league's class, one of the Vegas cheerleaders remarked that "quarterback Ryan Clement knows how to score." After which Clement commented on his ability to split the defense and penetrate.

Sarah Vingoe, a former member of the SMU cheerleading team, was horrified by the flagrant display of flesh.

"The XFL cheerleaders were a disgrace to anyone who has ever been a part of power cheerleading. The sport is not about slapping your ass and wearing tight clothes," said Vingoe.

Vince McMahon, in an interview after the game announced that the league would be paying particular concern to what the fans want.

The response is resounding — axe it.

## This Weeks games:

**Women's Volleyball**  
Dalhousie University @ Acadia University  
Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2001 08:00 p.m.  
Location: Acadia

**Men's Swimming**  
Atlantic University Sport Championships  
Dalplex, Halifax  
Friday, Feb. 9, 2001

**Women's Swimming**  
Atlantic University Sport Championships  
Dalplex, Halifax  
Friday, Feb. 9, 2001

**Women's Volleyball**  
Saint Mary's University @ Dalhousie University  
Friday, Feb. 9, 2001 06:00 p.m.  
Location: Dalhousie University, Dalplex

**Men's Hockey**  
Acadia University @ Dalhousie University  
Friday, Feb. 09, 2001 07:00 p.m.  
Location: Dalhousie Memorial Arena

**Men's Volleyball**  
Université de Moncton @ Dalhousie University  
Friday, Feb. 09, 2001 08:00 p.m.  
Location: Dalhousie University

**Women's Basketball**  
Acadia University @ Dalhousie University  
Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001 06:00 p.m.  
Location: Dalhousie University, Dalplex

**Men's Volleyball**  
Memorial University of Newfoundland @ Dalhousie University  
Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001 07:00 p.m.  
Location: Dalhousie University, Dalplex

**Men's Hockey**  
Dalhousie University @ Saint Mary's University  
Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001 07:00 p.m.  
Location: Saint Mary's University, Alumni Arena

**Men's Basketball**  
Acadia University @ Dalhousie University  
Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001 08:00 p.m.  
Location: Dalhousie University, Dalplex



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# Behind the lines

## The envelope, please...

With the NBA and NHL at mid-season, it's time to honour their best.

by josh smith

As the basketball and hockey seasons reach their halfway points, both leagues have many interesting storylines. With the Golden Globe Awards recently handed out, along with the upcoming Grammy and Academy Awards, what better time to reward the best of the leagues' first halves. So here are, in no particular order, your first-half award winners:

**Best Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series** — The situation down in Tampa is one of the most laughable in the league, so it is only fitting that this award goes to one of the brightest young stars on the underachieving Lightning, Brad Richards. The former QMJHL Most Valuable Player and Halifax Mooseheads' rival has exploded in his rookie campaign in South Florida, playing alongside former Rimouski teammate Vincent Lecavalier. Through the first half of the season, he leads all rookies in scoring. Watch for Richards and the Lightning to slightly improve over the second half of the season. The Rookie-of-the-Year candidate will succeed wherever he plays, and it helps that he is on a line with former junior line-mate and first round draft-pick Lecavalier.

**Best New Drama** — With the drama in Philadelphia between 76ers head coach Larry Brown and star Allen Iverson slowly fading, there's a new conflict gripping the attention of the NBA. The defending-champion Los Angeles Lakers are in turmoil. With their two superstars, Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal, they are a team made up of one too many egos. They have an experienced head coach, Phil Jackson, who appears to be struggling trying to keep them both satisfied. There are even rumors of secret signals used by Shaq to keep the ball from Bryant. Can Bryant and O'Neal co-exist? Will one of them be traded to a city willing to give them the team? Does journeyman Horace Grant still have what it takes to contribute to another championship? Stay tuned...

**Lifetime Achievement** — He may not have room for it on his mantle, but there is no question he truly deserves this one. Your winner, without a doubt, is Mario Lemieux. As if his first stint wasn't great enough, he has re-emerged in the NHL and, after only weeks of action, is dominating like his days of old. Don't be surprised if, come season's end, he is in the points race, even though he has played in about thirty less games than the rest of the league.

**Best Foreign Film** — As expected, there were many great players from across the pond, making it tough to reward them all. Runners-up included highlight show regulars such as the Panthers' Pavel Bure and Red Wings' defenseman Niklas Lidstrom. The winner, however, comes from the NBA, as Sacramento Kings' small forward Peja Stojakovic takes home the honor. The Croatian sensation has emerged as a budding superstar, and is having a break-out season, averaging 19.2 points per game, to go along with his tireless work ethic. Stojakovic is ready to embrace his new role as 'Mr. Clutch', and is truly the best import in sports.

**Best Director** — Great directors know how to harness the skills of their stars, generate great chemistry, and create a successful product. The same goes in sports, where the best coaches can have those very same effects on their team. The top bench boss to this point has been Vancouver Canucks' head coach Marc Crawford. After last year's losing season, the routinely dreadful Canucks have since been elevated to a winning level, under Crawford's leadership. The Canucks sit in second place in the Northwest Division, and have more points than the defending Stanley Cup champion New Jersey Devils. If Vancouver continues its current torrid pace, they will make the playoffs, and Marc Crawford will deserve the Jack Adams Trophy for Coach of the Year.

Well, there you have it. Congratulations to the winners, and here's to hoping they don't get too relaxed over the All-Star Break. Be sure to watch for all of them, as, by year's end, more significant awards could be on the way.

# Power Play!



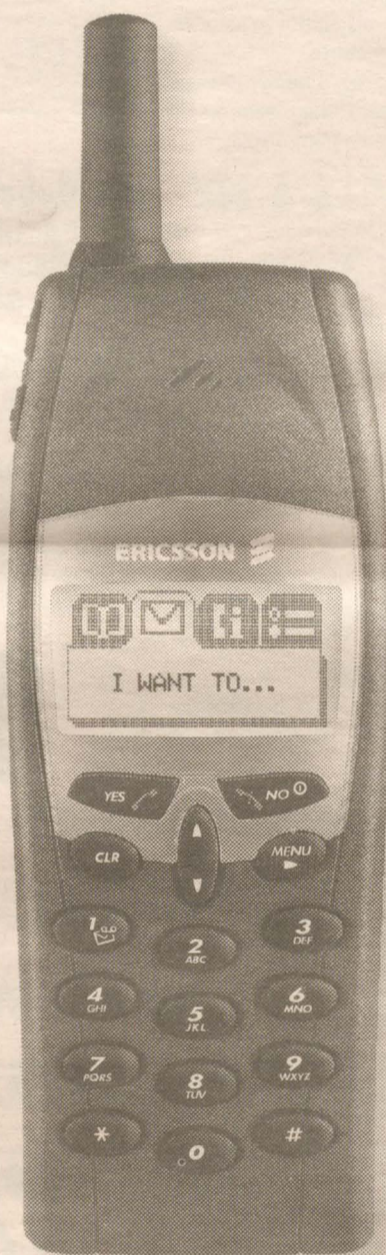
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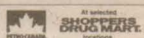


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