

GAZETTE

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Dalhousie University Student Newspaper

free



rob krause: tall man @ smallman

> 10

echinacia: good herb

> 3

**DSU delegates Q&A:
page 16**

News > 3 Dalendar > 5 Streeter > 7 Feedback > 9
Arts > 10 Focus > 17 Sciences > 18 Sports > 19

DSU Dalhousie Student Union

DSU ELECTIONS 2001
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NSSAC CAMPAIGN DAY
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COUNCIL MEETING
Sunday, March 4 at 1pm in Council
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JOB OPPORTUNITY
The position available is that of SUMMER
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STUDENT APPRECIATION NIGHT
 Nominations are now open for the
 following awards:
Unsung Hero
Society Member of the Year
Academic Society of the Year
Non-Academic Society of the Year
 Submit nomination letters to Shawn
 Tracey, room 218, SUB.
Deadline for nominations is Monday,
March 19 at 4pm.
 For more info cal 494 1281.

EUROPE ON A BUDGET



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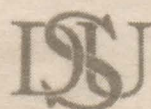
March 9th, 2001

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Echinacea may strengthen immune system

by jonathan dieli colburn
the gazette

Rather than rush off to the doctor's office after getting a seasonal cold, a growing number of consumers are relying on natural sourced medicines like Echinacea to treat illness. In the US last year consumers spent \$500 million on Echinacea alone.

Dr. Tim Lee, a researcher at Dalhousie Medical School in Transplantation and Immunology has been working with Echinacea for more than three years and has found that Echinacea has potential therapeutic applications in several medical areas.

"There are no good therapeutics to up regulate what we call the innate or primitive immune response," said Lee. "That immune response is very much involved in fighting off bacterial infections and some viral infections."

Cells need to be in a state called macrophage in order to fight off bacterial infections. Following preliminary work done by a group in Germany, Lee has found that certain species of Echinacea can stimulate this process. The group in Germany was injecting Echinacea into mice to test the efficacy of the root, but most consumers take the herb orally, so Dr. Lee both

injected the herb and fed it to mice in his experiments.

"Clearly you can feed the Echinacea to animals and get a heightened immune response," said Dr. Lee, "however we don't know what the active ingredient is, so it's impossible [to] know what's working in there."

Once the researchers working with Dr. Lee can collect evidence identifying the active ingredient and the mechanism of action, the results of the research will be ready for publication and clinical trials with human patients.

"Up to now there's been no clinical trial that's used an Echinacea product that's been tested in a pre-clinical laboratory to show efficacy in the test tube and in animals and then used in a clinical trial," said Lee.

Tests up to this point, either successes or failures, have been unable to show the real value of Echinacea treatments.

Dr. Lee's own inspiration into this kind of research didn't come from lab reports, however.

"My mother was taking it," said Dr. Lee, "she'd been taking it for a year and she normally gets three or four colds, but with Echinacea she hadn't got any colds the entire year before."

He met with Dr. Ron Carr, his fellow researcher at the medical

school, who had also developed an interest in the herbal treatments and the two of them launched into a project of their own.

Funding for herbal medicine research is difficult to come by. Pharmaceutical companies can't patent any products or results produced in the research. The Canadian federal government has been slow to provide any money for research into natural medicine. The Canadian Institute of Health Research, (CIHR) has recently formed as a funding body, but is still in its infancy, having only recently named a board of directors.

The Office of Natural Health Products was given three million dollars for research, said Lee, but so far is not distributing any of it, and may be seeking a partnership with the CIHR. Dr. Lee has had to make natural medicine a side project in addition to his major research, because of an inability to secure more funding.

Natural medicine has been on the rise over the past decade, and Lee thinks it may have something to do with today's medical tactics being unable to treat major diseases.

"I think it parallels a fall in confidence in traditional medicine," said Lee. "I think that has arisen from the fact that we

still don't have a good treatment for arthritis, we still don't have a good treatment for autoimmune disease, and we still don't have a good treatment for cancer."

"The target that we've got for it right now is drug resistant bacteria, which is a big problem right now," said Lee. Since penicillin was developed, strains of bacteria are becoming immune to antibiotic treatments that humans have developed.

"Basically, what doctors do is stabilize you and hope for the best, because if they've run out of antibiotics, they've run out of everything. So what we're suggesting is that perhaps we'll be able to provide a therapeutic for drug resistant bacteria."

Lee was encouraged about this plan when mice given Echinacea were able to cure a bacterial infection called listeria.

More and more patients are considering herbal treatments as complimentary rather than

alternative medicine, said Lee, who notes that people using only herbal treatments make up a very small part of the population.

"Someone who has a cold coming on will take Echinacea, if it gets worse, they'll go to the doctor," said Lee. "People who have a rheumatoid arthritis will still go to their rheumatologist, but they also might take an herbal treatment that someone recommends to them."

Lee is also a founder of the Natural Sourced Medicine Research Network, which held a meeting in Halifax last year. Health Canada funded the meeting, and the gathered scientists worked to set research priorities in the area natural medicine.

Lee recommends that anyone thinking of taking an herbal remedy see a naturopathic physician trained to make recommendations in this area.

Lee also suggests consulting a pharmacist regarding questions about which herbs to take.

Just breathe — Talk of scent-free zones increases

by nadine ricketts,

TORONTO (CUP) — Rose Haskell doesn't remember when her symptoms first started. She recalls one incident during her daughter's fourth birthday party, where blowing up balloons caused her lips to become numb.

"At first I was irritated by cherry or watermelon candy," said the 43-year-old insurance broker. "I then noticed that I was irritated by latex products and now it's to the point where I can't walk down a grocery store's detergent aisle."

Haskell's symptoms include an instant headache and disorientation leading to irritability and anger. Her sensitivity to scented products became increasingly worse in her workplace, when she realized that co-workers unintentionally triggered her symptoms.

"I had to ask the offending people not to wear perfume around me anymore," she said "Although the person did stop wearing it, the fragrance was still on her purse and her coat, which caused the same reaction."

For Haskell's own health, her boss decided to take action to ensure she was still able to work without fragrance irritation.

"I've been banished to the kitchen," Haskell joked "That way I won't be affected by smelling everyone else's perfumes, detergents or deodorants."

Banning fragrances

An increasing number of Canadians are reporting perfume sensitivities otherwise known as Multiple Chemical Sensitivity

(MCS). Their symptoms include anything from headaches to nausea and can be triggered by any personal care products with added fragrance. For Haskell, her symptoms were usually triggered when she was in close proximity to anyone using any sort of scented product.

One solution many sufferers have offered is the development of scent-free zones: areas in public places where the use of fragrance products are prohibited. Increased cases of sufferers have prompted several school boards to develop their own policy on scented products and some schools have developed scent-free zones which prohibit students from wearing any scented products while in the classroom. If the policy is violated students can face anything from a warning to suspension. In Ontario, The York Region District School Board, just north of Toronto, currently does not have a policy regarding the creation of scent-free areas and is not looking into developing one for the future, according to the director's office.

"We're not asking anyone to stop wearing perfume," said Gloria Shanks, coordinator for the Atlantic branch of the Allergy/Asthma Information Association. Her association is committed to seeing more scent-free zones in public places such as schools and government offices.

"All we are asking is that people do not wear perfume around people who are sensitive."

Shanks suffers from MCS herself, which limits the amount

of places she can visit, such as department stores. She believes that people have the freedom to wear whichever perfume they want, but use discretion, especially in the workplace.

Link between MCS and perfume

According to a letter released by Health Canada, little medical information exists that links MCS to any agents found in scented products. Health Canada has no plans to develop a policy in the area of MCS.

Carl Carter, director of communications for the Scented Products Education and Information Association of Canada (SPEIAC) agrees with the Health Canada letter. Carter believes that too many people are misinformed about the perfume industry. SPEIAC is launching a national

campaign to correct the misconceptions people have about the ingredients of their favourite perfumes.

"There has been a lot of rumours going around that wearing perfume is like pouring gasoline on yourself," said Carter "That is ridiculous. It's surprising the lack of a role science is playing in scent-free policies."

Carter does believe people face adverse reactions to perfume but not due to the perfume itself.

"I think a lot of people fear the products which induces their reaction," he said. "The media contributes to the problem by publishing ingredient lists which sound worse than they really are."

According to SPEIAC,

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Scent free

continued from page 3

ingredients found in manufactured colognes and perfumes such as ethyl alcohol are actually found in very minute forms in the plant world. Ethyl alcohol is obtained by the fermentation of natural grains. "People forget that perfumes are regulated in Canada," said

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Carter. "These new scent-free zone policies just seem to be the 'er vogue' thing to do."

Carter believes that perfume-loving individuals should respect people who do have sensitivities by wearing a scent within their own "scent circle."

A scent circle is defined as a circle about an arm's length from the body. If a fragrance can be smelled beyond a person's scent circle, then the person has applied too much perfume.

Physical symptoms or psychological hysteria?

Dr. Arthur Leznoss, an immunologist at Toronto's St. Michael's Hospital, has written many articles dealing with perfume sensitivity and believes that the common physical ailments experienced by people with MCS is actually

psychological rather than triggered by the actual cologne. "There have been studies where asthmatics have inhaled higher concentrations of perfume with their noses clipped and there have been no changes to their breathing functions, the only difference is that they weren't aware of the smell."

Dr. Leznoss believes people might be hyperventilating when faced with the smell of perfume, which gives the impression of an adverse reaction.

Leznoss blames the misinformation by the media on the increase of Canadians suffering from MCS.

"It's due to the media's

irresponsible exposure to this issue that gives people the idea that perfumes are a very bad thing," he said.

Carter agrees with Leznoss and points to aromatherapy, the therapeutic use of essential oils and herbs from flowers, which is linked to benefiting people's sleeping habits.

"There is very little data to prove perfume is bad, even to asthmatics. The sufferer's reaction is similar to people afraid of spiders, nothing physical but psychological," he said.

The Allergy/Asthma Information Association's Gloria Shanks strongly disagrees with Carter.

"This is not psychological. I can't go into scented candle stores because I get headaches and I know many, many others who have the exact same reaction," said Shanks.

"I wholeheartedly agree with scent-free zones. We should treat people living with MCS the same way as we treat people with food allergies. We should be sensitive to them and not do things that will cause them discomfort," she said.

Meanwhile, confined to the kitchen of her workplace during the day, Rose Haskell is not sure what effect her new surroundings will have on her interactions with her co-workers.

"This is my first week being in the kitchen. Ask me next week ... maybe by then I'll have an opinion."

National News

from the Canadian University Press newswire
by Wendy Sawatzky

University of Toronto students consider ousting Sodexho

TORONTO (CUP) — Students at the University of Toronto are considering a referendum on whether a food services provider accused of poor labour relations and a connection to the private prison industry should stay on campus.

Students from the university's Ontario Public Interest Research Group, (OPIRG), organized a public forum Wednesday at the University of Toronto on Sodexho Marriot, a provider of campus food services on 60 Canadian campuses, including U of T.

The students say the company doesn't treat its employees well and is 48 per cent owned by the French multinational Sodexho Alliance, which owns 11 per cent of Corrections Corporation of America, a for-profit prison company. They argue that any financial involvement in the private prison industry is unethical.

A spokesperson for the Canadian division of Sodexho Marriott says their business is limited to the food industry and does not manage or build prisons. Sodexho Alliance released a statement saying it intends to sell its stake in the prison company.

Colleges and universities across the United States are organizing sit-ins and boycotts to remove Sodexho Marriott from their campuses. New York State University at Albany, Goucher College and James Madison University have succeeded in that goal.

Lobby groups unhappy with online learning report

OTTAWA (CUP) — Lobby groups are criticizing last week's landmark report on electronic learning, saying it pays little attention to the concerns of professors and students — those most affected by technological change in education.

In mid-February, the Advisory Committee for Online Learning presented its report, which included 39 recommendations to aid the public and private sector in approaching online learning.

An advisory committee spokesperson said the recommendations were composed with the teacher-learner relationship in mind. He said the report was intended to show how technology could be used as a tool to enhance the current educational system.

However, a Canadian Federation of Students spokesperson said he was upset there was no student representatives on the committee and the only representation from the academia was a handful of current university presidents who used to be professors.

The president of the Canadian Association of University Teachers called the advisory committee an "online cheerleading squad of vested interest." He said his organization is opposed to many of the recommendations ignore some recent research which indicates online classes cost more to facilitate and have a higher dropout rate.

Vancouver college students boycott Coke

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Students at Capilano College have begun a boycott of Coke products to protest the school's confidential exclusivity deal with the soft drink manufacturer.

The Capilano Courier, the Vancouver college's student newspaper placed a large fridge filled with non-Coke products in the centre of the student lounge in early February.

Students were able to take the products after placing a donation in a box next to the fridge. A newspaper spokesperson said the protest is the paper's way of breaking the monopoly on campus.

But a college representative said the newspaper's actions don't violate the contract with Coke because students don't actually purchase the drinks in the fridge. He said Coke understands what the students are doing and they are not planning to pursue legal action against them.

Capilano and Coca-Cola signed an exclusive, confidential, ten-year agreement in 1997. In 1999, the Courier, in conjunction with several other campus newspapers, filed a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to get the details of the contract released to the public. They have not yet heard the results of their request.

The University of British Columbia was the first Canadian university to sign an exclusive deal with Coke in 1995, when the university, the Alma Mater Society (AMS), and the soft drink company agreed to a ten-year confidential contract.

A 1995 FOI request by the UBC campus paper was rejected by commissioner at the time, who ruled that because UBC and Coke agreed to a confidential contract, it must remain arguing that the hearing was conducted improperly. A second request, filed in late 1999 by the Ubyssy, is currently awaiting a ruling by the current commissioner.

UBC fights cybersquatter

VANCOUVER (CUP) — The University of British Columbia has filed legal action against a "cybersquatter" who registered an Internet domain with the university's name in it.

Stephen Noton, owner of both the company Foresightful.com and the domain name www.universityofbritishcolumbia.com said he registers domain names that are variations or misspellings of actual Web sites, or even the exact names of companies lacking an Internet presence.

He then tries to sell the domain names to the companies or institutions involved.

Noton says that there is nothing wrong with his actions. He says the university could have bought the domain name originally if they were interested, or they could have paid him \$750 US and gotten the site back in 30 days.

UBC's senior legal counsel said that the university's name is a registered trademark. He says trademark laws are on the university's side in the case.

Recently, Future Shop paid Noton \$1,049 US for the site futureshop.ca, a misspelling of their official site name, instead of attempting legal action. To encourage Future Shop to buy the company, Noton had linked the site to a competitor of the electronics company.



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March 1 - 7

CAUT is stepping up its campaign work in 2001 with the launch in Halifax on March 9-10 of the first in a series of cross-country hearings on the state of post-secondary education in Canada. A Townhall meeting will take place from 7:30 pm — 10 p.m. on March 9 in Room 117, Sir James Dunn Building, Dalhousie University.

Leading Social Change Workshop will be held March 1 from 7 p.m. — 9 p.m. in Room 304 of the Weldon Law Building. All welcome.

Daniel Blake Rubenstein will talk on **"Environmental Accounting and Auditing"**. He is a chartered accountant, auditor, author and Commissioner at the Office of the Auditor General. It will take place on March 2, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in Room 112, Faculty of Management Building.

Halifax in Motion-

Transportation and Land Use, A public Forum at Halifax Hall, City Hall, will be held on March 7, 8, 9.

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

School of Occupational Therapy, **application deadline is extended** for B.Sc. (Occupational Therapy) to Mon. April 2, 2001, for Sept. 2001 admission. For info or application package: www.occtherapy.dal.ca; email occupational.therapy@dal.ca; phone 494-8804.

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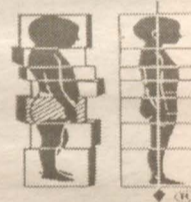
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The Student Employment Centre, through Dalhousie Career Portfolio Project, is introducing a new service for graduate students. Graduate Student Employment Services (GSES) is being developed to deliver comprehensive career development and employment 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, SUB, 4th floor.**

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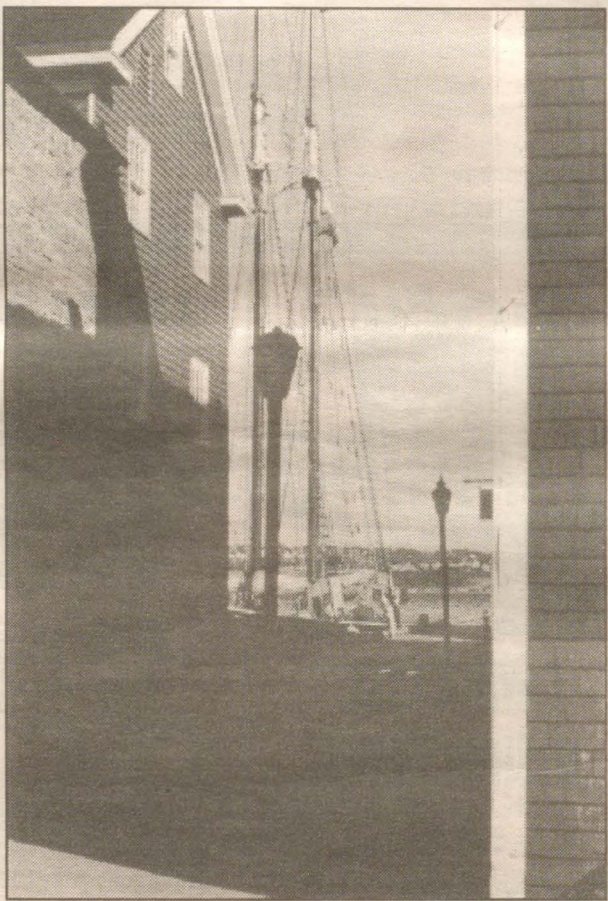
My journey began just 10 minutes from Howe Hall when a bee confronted me; we seemed to have the same craving for my chocolate bar.



As the season changes, bright yellow spots begin to stain the emerald slope. For a few weeks this yellow parade unveils its splendor allowing no one to overlook its charm.

The Beauty Around Us

photos and text by Elizabeth Drobac



A majestic figure appeared from behind the deceiving foreshadow. Tall and slender, precise and smooth, a vessel, that with many more sailors over our Atlantic shores will sail the high seas.



The only hues that can be found are the ocean's aqua the churns in teh waves, and the pastel of distant homes - a silent relief.



The Atlantic Fishery Museum is a main tourist attraction in Lunenburg. Carrying on with centuries of tradition its rich colour defines the motif of this small town.

Streeter brings you questions with words you may not recognize.

This week Streeter asks: **What is your aesthetic opinion of the new Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences (Faculty ASS) building?**



"Honestly I think every day that Dal could have done a much better job. It seems to be the same architecture plan as the rest of the buildings, but not culturally intact with the rest of Halifax. Especially compared to the new FIP building which is a real classic design."

Julie Cook, Sociology and IDS, 4th year.



"Couldn't they come up with better siding? I don't like the way they did the windows on the front, that's because they smoke while they work!...The courtyard is a big waste of space, like the centre of the computer science building."

Assorted attractive butt-suckers sitting on the air vent in front of the Killam Library.



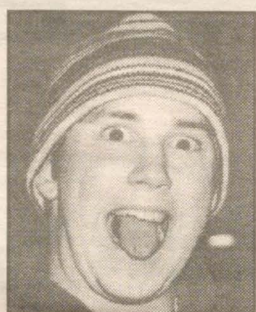
"Generally, not good. The front is stark but at least it has continuity with other buildings, at least in terms of colour. The side — vinyl plastic is dreadful in terms of colour and quality, especially over time. The building is in a sense symbolic of Arts and Social Science at Dalhousie and so makes a statement of the worth of those fields but it's just another non descript building."

Glen Drover, Professor Social Work.



"My godfather is the architect. It could be designed a lot better. It doesn't match any other of the buildings on campus."

Jonathan Burton, Math, 1st year.



"Well, its got a long way to go. It's not too bad. The courtyard looks real good. When its all done you should judge. It's not ugly art...the Cohn's uglier than this, by far."

Dude



"Beautiful, absolutely beautiful. Doesn't really fit in with the rest of the buildings though..."

Andrew McKenzie, 1st Year, Biology.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



dis photigwaf is bi patwick bwackie

Vanessa's Closet

advice from someone completely unqualified by vanessa owen

Dear Vanessa,

I am well on to my way to having a serious relationship with my professor. I have never met anyone more like me than him and I have so much fun whenever we go out. The problem is that he has a girlfriend that he has been living with for two years and if we get caught he loses his job and I get kicked out of school. But I think that makes the relationship that much more exciting. What should I do?
Having A Blast

Dear Blast-off,

While you're out having your good time be sure to have as much unprotected sex as possible, especially with intravenous drug users and gay male prostitutes. Be sure to buy plenty of potent heroin, shoot up with your professor man near a school and be sure to offer it up to any of the school kids who might happen by. Get liquored up, gobble down some barbiturates and go on a road trip. Ignore any hallucinations that might manifest, especially if it's a group of nuns bicycling in the roadway. If you really care for this guy, try Russian Roulette as an exciting pre-coital bedroom game. Doing all of these things is the only way to ensure that you two behave even more irresponsible than you are now.

Dear Vanessa,

I love Juliet...will she love me forever?
Romeo

Dear Romeo,

No. At some yet-to-be-known time in the future she will die. Her flesh and organs will decompose; her bones will gradually bleach and decay. At that point the corporeal entity you know as Juliet will cease to exist. And that's if you are lucky. Nothing but nothing in this vast universe lasts forever, so forget all that torch-song top 40 radio *Titanic*-inspired love ballad bullshit and face the facts. Our mere existence, let alone love between two sweet creatures, is only a fleeting moment to be enjoyed and savored and let go of when it finally does end, however that may be. Such is the way of this realm.

Dear Vanessa,

I'm always too shy to talk dirty to my boyfriend... what are some things that I can say to make him horny? I never know what to say whenever I get the chance
Bashful

Dear Bashful,

If the "dirty" words frighten you perhaps you could try the "it's not the dirt but the delivery" approach. There's plenty of nasty stuff you can say to stir his serpent without resorting to the blue language — not that there's anything wrong with using a well placed "cock" or "pussy". As I've eluded to, the key is in the delivery. To make it easy, pull your man close and with your best breathy whisper say "I've been a naughty girl." Instant hard-on. Be prepared when making this admission, as you may be asked how, exactly, you've been naughty. The best response I've heard to date is, "Why don't you find out for yourself." Mmmm baby, he'll be like rock candy in your hands. Or mouth. Or whatever. If you are of age, a stiff drink can make this talk a little easier, as would a toke or two. Regardless of your age and position in the drug war, you cannot go wrong by playing Prince's "Sexy Mather Fucker" for a little inspiration.

Dear Vanessa,

A man walks into the welfare office to see if he can receive welfare money. The social worker says he must have the ages of his three children. The man says the product of his children is 36. The worker says he needs more information. The man looks out the window and says the sum of his children is the same as the house number across the street. The worker says he still needs more information. The man says his oldest child likes chocolate. What are the ages of his children?
Math Whiz

Math Whiz

Dear Bonehead,

And I ask: "If a hen-and-a-half can lay an egg-and-a-half in a day-and-a-half, how long would it take for a monkey with a wooden leg to kick the seeds out of a dill pickle?"

Dear Vanessa,

Last year I went to a party. I got very drunk. And I had much fun all night. I had sex with four different guys. Now I am pregnant and I don't know who the father is. All guys but one is willing to take the responsibility of being this baby's father. But I'm still young and I don't want my parents knowing I had sex with four guys, got pregnant and now don't know who the Dad is. They know I'm pregnant, but they don't know that I don't know who the Dad is. What should I do? Get a DNA test? Go on Rikki Lake? What?
Mama Mia

Dear Mama Mia,

I used to have this great book around here somewhere that went on in great length about the importance of accepting responsibility for your actions; even if it meant having to do some disagreeable things like admitting to your parents you made it with four guys in one night. But I can't seem to find it. You wouldn't happen to have a copy? No, I don't think you would.

Send your questions to: vanessacloset@hotmail.com

252 million reasons not to watch sports

Let's talk about irony. The other day I was reading the paper and these were the headlines that greeted me on the inside. "Two hundred and fifty million dollar man reports to Spring training for Texas" and on the page next to it "Hunger-stricken Africa sees no hope in sight". Hmm... I

know I'm not the smartest kid on the block but something's just not right here. How is that we let the Texas Rangers pay two hundred fifty-two million dollars (twenty-five point two million for ten years) to one of their players to catch a frigging ball while we let an entire nation starve? I just don't understand how all this is allowed. This shortstop is now the highest paid athlete in history, and for what? He goes out for about half a year and hits balls. Wait, he catches them too! Oh, I was just informed he also runs,

spits, and scratches his nuts. No, he doesn't rush into burning buildings and save lives, he doesn't enforce the law with his life, nor does he make life and death decisions on the operating table. He plays baseball.

He's getting paid more than Wayne Gretzky, Michael Jordan, and Joe Montana when they played their respective sports. He's making more than the entire Montreal Expos roster! This guy's making more than all the player's salaries combined on one of the Major League Baseball teams! What is going on here? Sure, give the guy some credit. He hits hard and runs fast, hell he catches good too. Geez, I guess we ought to pay him millions. He does what any six year-old would do for free.

"I'm almost embarrassed and ashamed of this contract," the player said at spring training. "Here I am, all my life I've enjoyed playing the role of the underdog, and all of a sudden I have this 252 tag over my head."

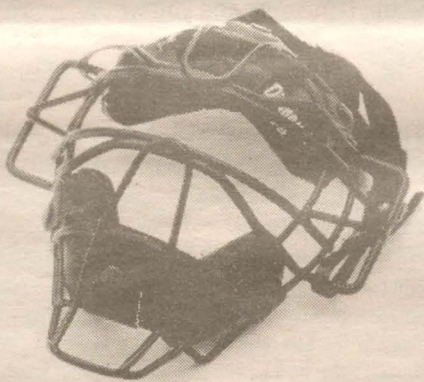
Oh gee... he makes it sound like he was "forced" against his will to sign that contract. Good thing he's "almost" embarrassed and ashamed, that makes him seem more down to earth. Golly, with one-liners like this Rodriguez, you could be a comedian.

Whose fault is this anyway? I tell you whose fault it is. It's mine. I own nine NFL jerseys, and a Yankees hat. It's yours. You own all that commercial sports shit, endorsing teams. And your neighbour too. He paid the grand to see the NHL All-Star game and then a few more hundred for those season tickets. And that guy across the street? He paid the \$4.50 for that chilidog. Don't you get it? We did this.

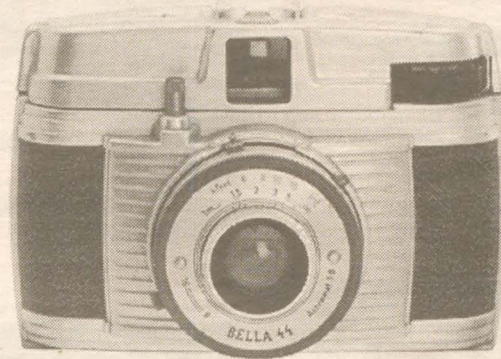
We let them charge us to see our passions, we let them sell us the team shit, and we're the ones who made these athletes Gods. We made them more important than firefighters, doctors, cops, and continents. We bitch and complain about the high salaries, like Shaq's hundred-plus million to put a ball in a basket, but then we're the people who pay his salary. When we watch the games, buy the gear, and support the players, we're chucking our hard-earned dollars right into the athletes pockets. They get paid by the money we give them. That's bullshit! And it's our fault.

I'd love to say boycott the games and things, but I'll be the first one back watching them. I can't live without my football. See I'm fucked. And it's me who fucked me over.

Krishna Parmar



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The Gazette

Gosh darn, we made a boo-boo. Last week's Focus article "The importance of Black History Month" consisted of the words of Issac Saney, who was inadvertently identified only as Issac in the article, which was based on an interview by editor Graham Simms. Our apologies to Mr. Saney.

Here's the cover again, only smaller.

Get some glasses.



THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

editorial board

Volume 133, no. 20

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

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

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Tobacco tax a positive move

A boost in taxes is not often something to be applauded, but the doctors of Nova Scotia regard the proposed hike on cigarettes as a positive move for everyone. If you haven't yet heard, we in Nova Scotia have the highest smoking rates and more youth smoking than any other province. We also endure the illness, suffering, and economic burdens that accompany such high smoking rates.

Raising taxes is undeniably an effective way to reduce smoking and is especially effective among youth. A Dec., 2000 report from Cancer Care Nova Scotia states that a \$10 increase in the price of a carton of cigarettes translates to a 17.5 per cent drop in

consumption among youth.

Raising tobacco taxes for fear of increased smuggling should not be an issue. Things have changed since the last time tobacco taxes were raised and the potential for smuggling has greatly decreased. The Canadian Cancer Society's Nova Scotia division has recently written that tobacco prices in the states along the US border are now far higher than in Canada. It is the same case for several of the Western provinces. Matching those high rates would be an obvious step to preventing smuggling.

Even if any possibility of a smuggling increase existed, it would be greatly offset by the decrease in youth smoking that is

documented to be inversely proportional to the price of cigarettes. And reducing the numbers of youth who smoke now also means fewer adults smoking in the future.

Our health care system cannot afford to ignore the huge outlay of funds required to treat the ill effects of smoking. The total cost of tobacco use in Nova Scotia is estimated at \$168 million per year. The Medical Society of Nova Scotia urges those responsible for tobacco taxation to take action.

Sincerely,
 Louise Cloutier, MD, CCFP, FCFP
 President
 Medical Society of Nova Scotia
 doctorsNS.com

Room with a view

Def'n: What's a Whinger?

Have you ever sat in class, mostly drifting into la la land (and enjoying it), wondering what is going to be on the test next week? What format it is, what the questions will be like, what are the essay topics? Or are you like me and really don't care or are just too lazy to ask? Or too embarrassed? Or perhaps just permanently timid? Or maybe, really, really smart.....

Smart, you say, how could you be smart when you NEED to know these things in order to pass? Well, here's an observation or two. First, there are the "whingers" and second there are the Professors who succumb to "whinging". You need both to do REALLY well. Let me explain.

The Oxford Concise defines Whinger as "a short sword or Dirk or long knife". Of course Youth Culture does wonderful things to words and in fact creates many colourful and explicit words not normally printed in Oxford (or anywhere else for that matter). Therefore, I will enlighten the readers with what I think is the most current definition: The art form known as "Whinging" can most commonly be referred to as the act of whining without appearing to whine, so as to let the Whinger appear honest, forthright and with conviction, even if he/she is not. It is another well known fact that every university course has at least two whingers. How do I know this? Trust me and you will see.

Let's situate ourselves: It's the week before a test and the lecturer has just kindly let us know that the test is next week and that the format will be multiple choice and essay questions, he hasn't decided the mix and will be between 15 and 150 marks, depending on how his weekend goes, and that it will cover all of the material covered so far and may contain material from the future, it depends on how he gets on in next weeks lecture. You see a hand rise and someone asks a question:

Whinger 1: Is that 15 or 150 marks, I didn't get that?

Lecturer: Oh, all right 50 marks.

Whinger 2: Essay Questions? I missed that too...

Lecturer: Did I say essay questions? That must be my other class in Eastern Methodological Approaches to Vegetarianism. No, this one is Multiple Choice.

Whinger 1 (again): That's great sir, but we have only covered chapter one in the textbook. Will the test be on Chapter one only?

Lecturer: Yes, oh sorry I forgot. Yes the test is on Chapter one specifically pages two to seven, 19-23 and all the questions in the Chapter review.

And so on. So have you been here before? Did you or did you not appreciate these guys/gals? How did you feel afterwards? Was it like great sex or something? I think that the average whinger is under-rated, misunderstood and terribly unappreciated. The next time you are in a situation where you can really appreciate the style and charisma, the wholesale slaughter of your ego (what if he made fun of your question in front of the whole class?), the quickness of thought why don't you say thank you? Why not walk right up to that person and say: "that was the best case of whinging I have ever seen! Party on dude.." or something similar. What about Dalhousie "week of the whinger" or the "support your whingers" fun day? Wouldn't this be really great? Don't you just think this is great?

Did I really write this drivel or what? Say nothing if you will but these people make my day and I bet that even though you won't admit it, you appreciate them too. Think about it and join me in celebrating the act of "whinging".

Unknown

RANT OR RAVE

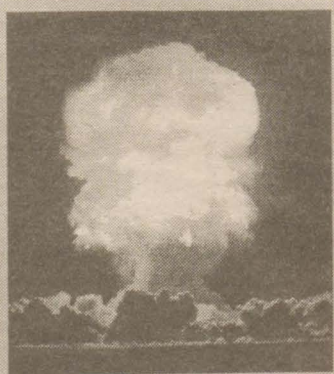
Duke Nukem



The opinion of the International Court of Justice ("World Court") came in response to a request from the United Nations General Assembly. The Court found that the threat or use of nuclear weapons "would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict." However, the Court was unable to make a determination "in an extreme circumstance of self-defence, in which the very survival of a State would be at stake."

In general, the Court based its ruling on the body of international law protecting civilian populations. Its analysis cited specifically Hague II and IV, the Nuremberg Principles, and the Geneva Conventions.

JVS



Have an opinion? Got something to say?

Tell somebody who cares.

Send email to: 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 311 SUB. 700 word limit, may be edited for clarity and length.

SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES

by malcolm kempt

the gazette

Rob Krause is seven and a half feet tall and weighs just over three hundred and fifty pounds. It seems ironic that the independent music label he started four years ago would be called Smallman Records.

Actually, that first part of the article is a total lie. I've never even seen the mysterious Mr. Krause; but do know that his independent record label is currently scorching hot and bringing its cross-Canada tour to our quaint little seaside city. Although Halifax is often overlooked by major labels in the touring process, it has been confirmed as the second stop on an insane tour that stretches from Cape Breton Island to Vancouver Island with forty-three shows in only forty-five days. This kick-ass event, called the Stick It To The Man Tour 2001, includes three of Canada's best independent bands. The aggressive melodic pop gods, .moneen., will share a triple-bill with popular punk metal hybrids Layaway Plan and Choke and are sure to draw a huge crowd for every venue on their route.

"Last year, Smallman records put together a tour with three of our bands in Western Canada," said co-founder Rob Krause, from the label's head office in Winnipeg. "We just wanted to have fun and snowboard so we set up the tour around that idea. We played Jasper, Whistler, Lake Louise, Fernie...essentially every ski hill in the area. It was great. We got to board almost every day and play almost every night."

The tour was so successful and fun that Krause and his partner Jason decided to plan a tour for the following year that spanned the entire country.

"We always get tons of e-mail from the East Coast complaining that our bands never come out that way, so we wanted to make sure that we got everyone covered," explained Krause. "Most of the shows are all ages, which is something we hold as very important. All three bands have been in Halifax before and did quite well; plus we have a great relationship with the folks at the Pavilion, in Glace Bay, Fredericton and Saint John."

Saskatchewan's Layaway Plan and Ontario's .moneen. are both using the tour to promote the release of their new full-length albums. The CD's are scheduled to be released in major record stores on March 6, but

who's who @ smallman:

What do you do when your girlfriend's friend doesn't like your band? Simple. You name it after her. Toronto's .moneen. did exactly that and now are spreading her interesting moniker, along with their unique sound, across the continent.

"We're driving into New York, right now," explained vocalist/guitarist Kenny Bridges from his cell phone in the band's tour bus. "We've got a show with Choke in Long Island this afternoon."

Like all of their labelmates on Smallman, .moneen. feels like it has been on the road forever. In our brief conversation about the band, Bridges tries to convey the insanity that comes with constant touring.

"Our first show on this American tour would have to be the most interesting thing that's happened so far on this trip. We show up to play and the lady putting on the show tells us that this local songwriter/performer genius named Anthony is going to open for us. We're like, OK, This dude is like 15 and shows up with a giant moustache and tight vinyl pants. He's got his Dad on drums and his Dad's friend on bass. He plays this crazy thrashin' R&B stuff - all originals, no covers - standing on the stool and shit... for four hours. It was insane. I can't think of a better way to start a tour than that."

It seems as if that tour will never end for .moneen., who are traveling with fellow Smallmen and punk rock purveyors Choke. The two bands will finish their US tour in only a few days before their journey northward towards us begins. This final leg of their journey will wrap up just in time to meet Saskatchewan's Layaway Plan in Fredericton on Thursday, March 1. After several gigs in the Atlantic provinces, the bands will quickly work their way back out west rocking venue after venue in record time.

Of the three bands on this tour, .moneen. has the sound that best fits into the emo category that has recently become so popular.

"Any excuse for Kenny to cry!" said a bandmate from the back of the bus as Bridges attempted to avoid his band being pigeonholed. "It doesn't really matter. I mean if we are going to get lumped in with something, emo is OK, I guess, but I'd rather not be labeled."

Others would disagree with the new blanket term that resembles 'alternative,' in its all-encompassing redundancy.

"I think the emo label is kind of stupid, I mean, it's short for emotional, and what music isn't emotional?" said Layaway Plan's vocalist/guitarist Terry Ovans from his home in Moose Jaw. He is quick to brush off the term but even quicker to support his fellow touring partners.

Ovans' band was first signed to Smallman records four years ago as the inaugural member of its stable. The band's interesting blend of Southern Californian punk and speed metal has earned them many fans and kept label interest strong. One over-hyped millennium, two albums and eight million gigs later, Layaway plan is poised to release its third album just in time for the upcoming tour.

The fourteen track *Solutions to Substance* LP will be released simultaneously with .moneen.'s *The Theory of Harmanial Value* album next Tuesday. Both bands are ready to do whatever it takes to push their album as far as it will go, even if it means giving up the idea of having a social life in favor of endless touring.

"We are booked solid for the next seven months," said Ovans — a sense of both anticipation and dread in his voice. "After the Stick It To The Man tour, we are planning to head down to California for a while, if all goes well."

It is this touring and an intense live show that makes Ovans' band a success story.

Like Layaway Plan, .moneen. has a live performance that brings the intensity of MC5, or maybe the on-stage power of At The Drive In, to the minds of many spectators and fans.

"We try to capture our live sound as best we can. There's anger and a lot of sarcasm," explained Bridges when asked how this live show can be captured during recording and what lies behind this intensity.

"The theme of death on the new album happened kind of subconsciously. We try to be honest in our music and our playing and it either comes out as honest or kinda scary. I hope that makes sense... [laughter]," said Bridges.

If you get the chance to see either of these bands live, and I hope you're lucky enough to do so, it will all make sense... a brilliant, loud, intense, punishing, dreamy and dizzying kind of sense that will leave you bris-ed and confused but wanting more.



Small men: Layaway Plan, a smallman band.



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XWEB THE GAZETTE
communications group Halifax student newspaper @312 in the SUB

continued on next page

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Canada



continued from previous page

advanced copies will be available at the Halifax show this week. Edmonton's Choke will be tagging along to remind listeners across the country why they're considered one of the best punk bands in Canada. Local fans of emo, melodic rock, fusion and punk will want to be in attendance for one of the back-to-back shows at the Pavilion and the Marquee Club on Friday, March 2. The early show will accommodate the kiddies with an all ages gig while the boozehounds will have to wait until after dark to thrash about.

Meanwhile, back on the label...the bands of Smallman have been very successful in the past year and have even bigger plans for 2001. In addition to this mammoth new tour, the label is promoting new full-length CD's from three of its five artists as well as a compilation album, *Across the Water*, featuring collaborations from Swedish and Canadian musicians. Yes...you did read the word 'Swedish'. A lot of industry buzz is also circling around the up-coming release of the innovative debut album from Winnipeg's Nicole Nicole. Hailed as one of Canada's most outrageous and enigmatic new artists, Nicole Nicole is the latest acquisition by Smallman Records. You just wait for the album...just wait for it!

Formed only four years ago, Smallman Records has become a juggernaut of Canadian independent music in record time. Its bands toured relentlessly across the United States and Canada while participating in major festivals and lending support to such heavyweights as A.F.I., Diesel Boy, Gob, Bad Religion and No Use For A Name. The label has certainly come a long way from its humble beginnings. It currently provides a home for five artists including Vancouver's Another Joe as well as being the starting point for the ever-popular Winnipeg outfit Guy Smiley.

The company started in response to label difficulties which Krause's co-founder's band, 12 Eyes, was encountering. Both men felt that their love of music and experience in the industry would allow them to create a label that would successfully promote bands. A large concern for the duo was the ability to address the concerns of musicians without slipping into a strictly business approach found in many major labels. Their goal was to run the label as a source of income and to find bands they love to work with in order to give them the opportunities that were unavailable to them.

"The label has grown with every year and is now a full-time thing for both Jason and me," explained Krause. "It was a hobby for both of us until January of last year. I had worked for a half-year with my law degree before going full-time with Smallman and Jason just quit his job as a production manager for an entertainment company to come here. We have a ton of amazing volunteers who help us get everything done...it's on the verge of becoming a big business with employees."

Krause explains that the name of the label came from Jason's former girlfriend. During a run-in with a particularly creepy and aggressive man at a bar, she finally snapped after realizing she wasn't going to be left alone. "O.K., smallman...bring it on!" she screamed. The guy thought she was completely crazy and left her alone. The story was related to the co-founders shortly after it happened and the rest, as they say, is history. "We laughed really hard when



moneen, my moneen.

we heard the story and it just kinda stuck with us. It's a good name for us because it's very unassuming. How seriously can you take a label called Smallman? We just like to answer the phone "Hello...Smallman".

The growing label is very internet-friendly with an extensive website at <smallmanrecords.com>. The page features contests for merchandise, band bios, tour news, photos. The Stick It To The Man 2001

Tour will have an online diary that will be updated on a daily basis by the bands. Anyone interested in checking out the music featured the label can download MP3's of all the artists at this site. If you like what you hear — or trust this paper enough when we tell you when stuff totally kicks ass — join the Smallman fan club and bolt down to the Marquee this Friday night for a live show that you won't soon forget.

THE PLANET Entertainment

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Underground initiations

by ryan delehanty

the gazette

Well there are some great new CD's in local record stores right now. **Steve Malkmus, Le Tigre, Arab Strap, Tortoise, Low, Frank Black** and **Rainer Maria** all have new releases in stores now. **Kool Keith's** classic album *Sex Style* has just been reissued, and now features a bonus track, and music video to watch on your computer. Just announced **The Apples In Stereo** will be releasing a new live album from a January 2000 concert in Chicago. The album will only be available online through www.emusic.com, where it can be downloaded for the price of \$8.99.

I thought this week I'd take the time to inform you of some good music resources to learn more about the bands I mention, and any other small band you

may be curious about. Available at bookstores are two great record guides, **The fifth edition of The Trouser Press Guide to 90's Rock**, and the second edition of **Rock: The Rough Guide** are the best I've seen. **The Trouser Press Guide** is my favorite although it only covers up to 1996, and only has information on bands that have been active in the '90's. What it does contain are great biographies, discographies and great critical album reviews for over 2,000 popular and obscure bands. **Rock: The Rough Guide** covers up to 1998, and also has entries for older bands. Again it features biographies and reviews for each band it covers, but also doesn't delve as far into the obscure, and covers lots of shitty mainstream bands, but you can read up on classics like **T-Rex** and **Can** which the **Trouser Press Guide** omits. Unfortunately both books are expensive and will cost

you about \$35 Canadian. I definitely think the **Trouser Press Guide** is worth the money, and comes in handy on used record store expeditions, so if you see a CD by a band you want to hear, you can check to see if it's one of their better discs, before picking it up.

Of course a great resource for hearing new bands is **Napster**, although it might not be a good resource for much longer. The downside of **Napster** is that its quality depends on who is online, and what songs they have. When I first checked out **Napster** last spring, there were barely any good songs online, now of course there are tons of great bands. But I wonder if all the cool people are going to leave and take their MP3's with them when **Napster** starts charging a user fee. Although I haven't checked it out yet, I hear **Gnutella** is a decent file-sharing program quite similar to **Napster**, except there isn't any central server and hence no one for the record companies to sue. Take a look at gnutella.wego.com for more info.

Radio is another great source for finding cool bands. CKDU has some incredible programs, and although I'm not familiar with all of the programs, **The Look** (Thursdays 10:30 p.m.-12a.m.), and **I'd Rather Eat Glass** (Friday's 6-7 p.m.) are two of my favorites. **CBC Radio 2** (102.7fm) has great

programming nightly starting at 1a.m., Monday through Friday is **Brave New Waves**, a show focusing on new underground music, and on Saturday and Sunday nights **RadioEscapade** a similarly minded show with a rotating cast of hosts. Both these shows can be heard online in realaudio at www.cbc.ca.

Online there's a wealth of great radio stations and programs. Two of the highest quality programs I've heard are **Fresh Air** (search.npr.org/freshair) which features interviews with interesting authors, filmmakers and musicians. You might have to search through the archives, but there are interviews with **Le Tigre**, and tons of interesting people. **WFMU-FM** has some great shows that can be listened to online at www.wfmufm.org. Be Sure to listen this Friday March 2 from 9 p.m.-12 a.m. when **Doug Gillard** and **Jon McCann** from **Guided by Voices** will be on and playing songs from the upcoming **GBV** album *Isolation Drills*. Also upcoming on **WFMU** are the **New Pornographers** on March 8 from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. who will play songs from their new album as well as some **Sparks** and **Fleetwood Mac** covers. Another great site with a number of pre-recorded shows you can listen to is **Brave New World** (www.bravenewworld.net) which features some great bands, interviews and live performances.

For **Ween** fans check out www.weenradio.com which is all **Ween** all the time. The site only contains live or unreleased tracks, so you're sure to hear something you've never heard before. Currently in heavy rotation are **Ween's** takes on **Billy Joel's** "Piano Man" and **Prince's** "Purple Rain". **Kitty-Yo** (www.kitty-yo.de) a fantastic record label, which is home to **Peaches** and some other great bands, actually lets you listen to any album from their catalogue in its entirety using the shockwave player. **Matador Records**, has also just started an online radio service where you can check out a number of tracks off their new albums.

Well, hopefully that should be enough to keep you busy for the next week. Please send any donations, haiku's or erotic stories to undergroundinitiations@hotmail.com.

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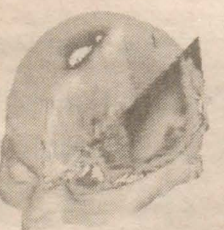
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CD REVIEWS

New Found Glory — *Drive-Thru*
(MCA)

I enjoy punkrock. I also like doing jack shit. So when the offer came to write a review, and in return, receive New Found Glory's latest release, I was struck by a serious crisis. Was NFG's self-titled major label debut really worth getting off my fat ass? Quite simply, yes. The band fills their album with songs about heartbreak and sadness, all of it will make your soul tremble. These guys delve far into the pop punk genre, keeping the fast beats, but using more than three chords. Some of the later tracks end up sounding like filler, but if you're a fan, you'll love them just as much. Jordan Pundik's vocals are desperate almost to the point of whining, but it comes off all too well. "Hit or Miss", the best song from their last album, serves as a metaphor for this album, it re-appears here remade and polished up. Unfortunately it loses it's edge in the translation, and while they don't return to their former glory, on *Drive-Thru*, it's still great music for angst ridden teenagers. — Craig

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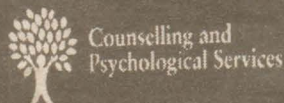


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Pocket Dwellers journey to Hali once again

by jason kun

the gazette

Two weeks ago, a rumour fell from the grapevine: a band with live bass, keys, drums, saxophone, guitar, an MC and a DJ from Ottawa was to play the spirit soaked Marquee stage. On Friday, Feb. 16, 2001 the Pocket Dwellers arrived in Halifax for their fourth philharmonic representation. They have been touring for the month and a half promoting their new full length LP, *Digitally Organic*, released last year, their EP released in 98, and their DJ's LP.

The live show attracted heads of all genres and dress that

eventually overfilled the dance floor and slowly pressured the seated partakers to move back or join in. The crowd, rambunctious with the anticipation of spring break's coming days of laze and haze, were already whoop-whooping when I sauntered in through the swinging doors.

The Pocket Dwellers' sound was full, multifaceted and made all listeners pay attention to the dramatics onstage. The drummer, Marco Raposo, played constant, hard hitting, shape-shifting beats that seemed to lay the setting for inevitably good lyrical play and/or saxophone solos. MC Nigel Williams led the band with a

strong and consistent flow. Williams stepped down for an interval while the instrumental elements of the Pocket Dwellers combined to conceive some hard-funk fusion while the crowd danced in unison. The two saxophonists Dennis Passley and unknown, played carefully, blowing out a dialogue on top of the musical setting of David Leitao on keys and Gord Shields on the bass. Leitao was watchful from his keyboard position and subtly accentuated on the rhythms provided by Christian McKibbin on guitar and Shields, who played layered, high density, dirty funk basslines. On top of all that raw organic instrumentalism, the Dwellers had one more card in their back pocket — DJ Sheldon Moore. Otherwise known as DJ Serious, Moore was cutting samples and tweaking effects with surreal and natural ease over the unquantized beat of the band.

Backstage with the band, I connected with bassist, Gord Shields, who would describe their big band theory.

"We all have different approaches to music...but what makes the band work? Getting eight or nine people to communicate..." said Shields.. The members met on the common ground of music school and have seen hip-hop culture evolve over

the last decade.

Dennis Passley, saxophonist, actually fell away from hip-hop after the wave of creativity in the early 90's subsided and all that remained were hard rocks and small fry trying to be big fish. Dennis has spent "only the last three years getting back into hip-hop." He believes the conscious and innovative elements in this musical form have been reborn because the culture of the music is recognizing that "the music is for all people, also a release but in a lot of cases artists are not practicing what they preach".

When asked how they thought Mike Harris's policies would affect the Pocket Dwellers in their home province of Ontario, the saxophonist shrugged "...they can't kill the arts..." but also indicated that planning for more sustainable music and art programs needed to be solidified in schools.

The Pocket Dwellers are in the process of making a video and expanding on their website — www.pocketdwellers.com to have their music reach out to the masses. Like their approaches to touring and traveling,

Shields believes that as a collective of musicians and comrades, "we've been doing it long enough that we're only getting better and better."

Classics, I says...

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

by ryan delehanty

Book — *Buddy Babylon*, Scott Thompson with Paul Bellini

I know this is supposed to be a section for classics, but I consider this to be the very funniest book I've read. *Buddy Babylon* is an autobiography of the infamous *Kids in the Hall* character Buddy Cole written by the man who portrayed Buddy Cole, Scott Thompson, and his towel-clad friend Paul Bellini. This book is absolutely hysterical, I used to get into trouble when I would read it at work, constantly laughing out loud while on the phone with customers. If you are at all easily embarrassed I would suggest that you read this in the privacy of your own home. I really can't convince you how funny this book is in the space provided, so I decided to include a little snippet from the book:

"I was armed with a fake ID from my brother Yves, who wanted me to buy him some skin magazines of women lactating. I was always amazed that my brother knew what he wanted at a young age, whereas I still don't know. With me, it depends on when you ask me. One moment I'm completely into skinheads who want to beat me up, and the next moment I just want a flavoured coffee with a theatre administrator in a quiet cafe." How can you not be curious to find out what happens next?

Movie — *Midnight Cowboy*

Originally released in 1969 with an X rating, it went on to win Best Picture at that year's Academy Awards. Starring Dustin Hoffman and Jon Voight, and directed by John Schlesinger, *Midnight Cowboy* tells the story of young naive Texan Joe Buck (Voight) who may not be a far-real cowboy, but is one heck of a stud. Buck decides he's had enough of washing dishes and moves to New York City because there are a thousand women there just waiting for his brand of lovin'. Unfortunately Buck has some trouble getting work as a jigalo, and has to room with Rizzo (Hoffman) a sleazy small time con-artist. They develop a friendship, as Rizzo begins to manage Buck, and they try to forge a better life in a cold and cruel city. *Midnight Cowboy* features a great soundtrack by Harry Nilsson and is as cutting edge and touching today, as it was when it was first released.

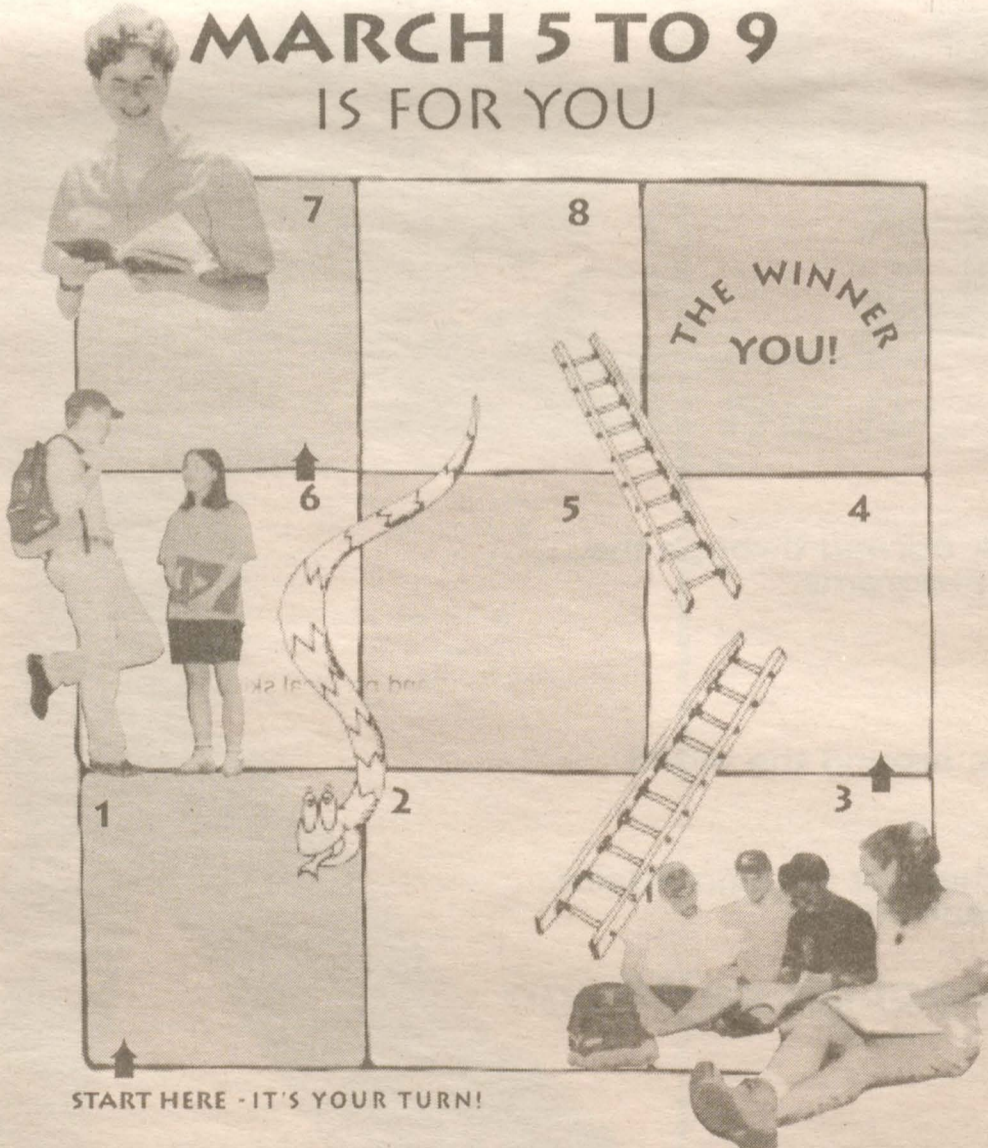
Album — *69 Love Songs* — Magnetic Fields

Stephen Merritt's amazing concept album was released in 1999 and has instantly become a classic. Over the course of three discs, Merritt has spread 69 songs about love in all its interesting and diverse incarnations. The fact that he manages to keep each song fresh and unique both musically and lyrically over the course of the album is a testament to Merritt's tremendous song-writing skill. In my opinion the biggest triumph is that, over the course of 69 songs, Merritt does not ONCE stumble upon a silly love cliché. The lyrics are brilliant and play with the existing clichés without slipping into using them, you can tell that he took great care, and effort in writing the lyrics for these songs. Another thing that keeps the album fresh is that he sometimes passes the vocal duties off to someone else, when their voice will better suit the nature of the song. Musically, the album is brilliant, the music in each song suits the subject matter perfectly, and is constantly entertaining. The album is available in a box set with an excellent booklet containing an interview with Merritt, or separately as three single CD volumes.

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Reel Life

Chocolat

by mark evans

the gazette

True to its namesake, *Chocolat* is a mere trifle of a motion picture, tasty, sickly sweet, but in no way is it essential for survival. Irrelevant as it may be, it still manages to be mostly satisfying throughout its running time, offering a clever little tale that's as enjoyable as it is indulgent.

Our story opens in a quiet French village, where everything is always the same, certain things are not done, and life must always be quiet and stoic. The village seems to be isolated in the middle of nowhere, and the opening narration firmly gives the impression that this is supposed to be a sort of modern fairy tale.

The wind, which comes off as a too obvious metaphor for the wind of change, blows throughout the town, disrupting the Sunday mass. Not coincidentally, the wind brings with it two strangers, Vianne and Anouk Rocher (Juliette Binoche and Victoire Thivisol), a mother and daughter who quickly take up residence in a dingy building owned by a crusty old landlady played by Judi Dench.

Vianne's secret plan is to open a chocolate shop, which happily coincides with the start of Lent, meaning that she might as well be throwing stones through the stained glass windows of the church. Given that she does not worship either, Vianne soon sets herself at odds with the town's uptight mayor, the Comte de Reynaud (Alfred Molina). He quickly has the town's wimp of a preacher delivering oratory hellfire against the evils of chocolate.

Some townsfolk let their curiosity get the better of them, and they quickly find the chocolate of the shop has near mystical qualities for healing heart and soul. One of the main cases is that of Josephine Muscat, (Lina Olin), whose husband is an outright brute whose job in life is

to keep her firmly in her place. With a little gentle prodding, however, she finds the courage to escape her terrible fate.

Chocolat may have a message of some kind, but it certainly managed to elude me. It never aims to be more than a fable, and while it succeeds admirably as

entertainment, it never tries to be anything more than that. Not every movie

has to try and change the world, but *Chocolat* could really stand to have a little more depth at points.

Acting is serviceable. Alfred Molina plays the evil mayor role well, and Binoche is great as the spot of color in the gray French village. Judi Dench does fine work, but nothing that warranted her Oscar nomination, honestly. Her character is played well, but

has no major emotional range or any particular amount of depth. Lina Olin's character was far more interesting, as she started off very annoying, but then seemed to grow into an actual likeable character.

Parts of the movie come across a little forced. I won't reveal any of the surprises, but none of them are actually that surprising. Everything falls into place exactly as you'd expect, which isn't a bonus in any movie. *Chocolat* overcomes its shortcomings largely by virtue of its grace, elegance and sense of whimsy. The film is caught in a Catch-22; if it didn't pull some of its punches it would break the fantasy and lessen the movie's style. But on the other hand, by pulling those same punches it makes parts of the movie seem trite and predictable.

Bottom Line: Out of all the Best Picture nominees, *Chocolat* has the least chance of actually winning the prize, and is also the film least worthy of nomination. That speaks more to the quality of the other films than this one though, because this is, for the most part, an enchanting motion picture, with a definite touch of magic to it. *Wonder Boys* deserved this nomination, but *Chocolat* is solid, if not exceptional, escapist entertainment.



& the Cool Kids will be...

Friday, March 2 — It's a busy busy night. Start your night by going to the in theory CD release at the Grawood. Band member Steve Bowers also hosts **Grawood Open Mic Night**. Be there or be square.

Then hang a right and get over to the **Marquee** (or **The Pavilion** if you are under 19) to see **Layaway Plan, Choke** and **.moneen**. **.moneen** are the best live show I have ever seen, so it's totally worth your while to check them out. **Choke** are a crazy offtime punk that makes your head spin and **Layaway Plan** are soon to be one of my new favorite bands after I see them this weekend because their new disk is unreal.

THEN after all that, wisk yourself away to a magical place called the **Attic** for PEI's **Flush**. These crazy bastards are back again to rock your socks. They might not have won the ECMA, but they don't care so why should you?!

Saturday, March 3 — It's pop punk night in Halifax. The **Shoobox** cuties are opening for **Shyne Factory** at the **Marquee** opposite for **Arlibido** at the **Attic**. If I were you, I'd go to both! Spread the love all ovah!

Sunday March 4 — There's a benefit for Selwyn Sharples and Siobhan Murphy who lost everything in a house fire on Feb 17th. The line-up to envy all line-ups **Dave Hiltz, Shrine of American Martyr, Spinoza, The Boners, Jokes Over, Envision, The Plan, Slight Return, The Confidence Band** and **North of America**. Doors open at 5 p.m., suggested donation of five bucks. 100 percent goes to Selwyn and Siobhan so get on out there and support the cause.

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

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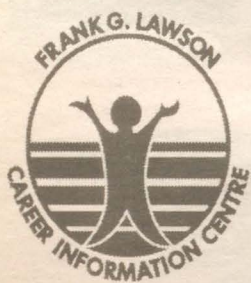
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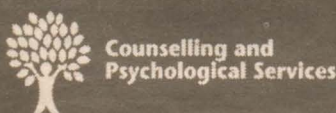
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Chuck Freeman (Board of Governors)

What do you intend to do for Dal students if elected?

I will ensure that the interests of students are not overlooked when the Board of Governors makes decisions.

How would you explain the traditionally low turnout in the DSU elections?

People are caught up in other things, and many don't understand what the DSU does well enough and so these people consider voting a waste of time.

Why are you running?

I'm genuinely interested in how the big decisions are made that affect this university. The Board of Governors makes these big decisions.

What is the single most important thing to Dal students?

Quality of Life.

How do you address accusations from Dal students that the DSU doesn't work in favor of Dal students?

I would ask these people what they would have us do instead of what we have been doing. While any interest in what the DSU does or even doesn't do is valuable feedback to the DSU, I think that more students should understand what the DSU does. If more people understood what the DSU does, then less of these general accusations would be made. With more detailed and helpful feedback, the Union would be given more of a sense of direction directly from students.

Curtis McGrath (Senate)

What do you intend to do for Dal students if elected?

I currently serve on the DSU as the Senate Rep and that is the position that I am running for in this election. At the present time I sit on the DSU, the University Senate, and DAPS — my Psychology Society. In the midst of this I sit on eight committees, have two jobs on campus and have lived in residence for two years. So, I am confident in my ability to represent students. I have worked really hard this year to communicate the important information about what's happening at this university to my fellow students. Probably the most important message that I could and have sent to students is the seriousness of academic honesty and an ethical work standard. Plagiarism is probably one of my biggest concerns. So, with all of that said and done I feel as though I am a sounding board there to resonate the views of students in such governing bodies as the Senate. I do not wish to make any false promises. The only promise that I make is to be a sincere and dedicated candidate who will carry forth the message of students with diligence and compassion.

How would you explain the traditionally low turnout in the DSU elections?

I feel that there is a general sense of apathy amongst the Dalhousie student community. I see the DSU organized events that relatively few students show up to, the public forums that few people attend and it really disheartens me. Then these people are upset because their student leaders aren't doing anything. Truth is they are! I have seen many colleagues spend hours in the SUB making banners to advertise events, planning the logistics of an event or just being vocal in some other medium regarding the concerns of students. I can't change how the students feel. The DSU is there for them.

It is their choice if they want to reap the benefits of its presence.

Why are you running?

I am running because I think that I am a qualified candidate given my past experience. I have been on the Senate scene

for a year now and know what it going on. In that time I have worked really hard and I feel that I am vocal enough to tell decision makers of this university just what it is that students are concerned about.

What is the single most important thing to Dal students?

The single most important thing for any student in an institution of this size is to be treated as a person and not a number.

How do you address accusations from Dal students that the DSU doesn't work in favor of Dal students?

This is certainly not true. I can say this because I have seen both ends of that coin. If you want to know what is happening just come to a council meeting. They are open meetings that are held biweekly on Sundays at 1 p.m.. Come out and tell us your concerns, email us, talk to societies...do what you can to bring your concerns to the forefront. We can only do what students empower us to do. We are your voice. Sit for hours in meetings every week for you. Tell us what your issues are and we will certainly address them!

Shawn Tracey & Joey McDonald (DSU President & Vice-President)

What do you intend to do for Dal students if elected?

For the past couple of years, the DSU has made an excellent name for itself externally, through its provincial and federal lobby groups, NSSAC and CASA. However, the students of Dalhousie seem mostly unaware of this. If elected, we intend to focus more internally, while maintaining our strong external ties. We want to bring the DSU out of the SUB, onto the campuses, and into the classrooms. We feel it is important to make the DSU more visible to the students it represents and works on behalf of.

Although running unopposed is great for us, it doesn't offer the students a choice, which is the reason behind these elections. Next year, we would also strive to provide at least three strong candidates for each Executive position.

We will not only represent students to the best of our abilities, but keep them informed of the issues that affect them.

How would you explain the traditionally low turnout in the DSU elections?

General lack of knowledge of the DSU issues and events. We're not expecting 100 percent voter turnout, but by keeping students informed, we hope to reverse this trend.

Why are you running?

Shawn — I have been involved with the DSU and its societies since my second year. I have been Chair of the Science Society, President and Chair of the Biology Association, as well as one of the student reps to the Board of Governors. I am currently the VP Community Affairs for the DSU. I have enjoyed my years at Dal and the DSU, but feel I have more to offer. With my experience, I feel I can not only be an excellent external lobbyist, but an informative, internal voice.

Joey — Being involved and developing a sense of community has always been important to me. I've thoroughly enjoyed my time here at Dal, and have got quite a lot out of this university. I feel that it's now my time to give back to the community and students of Dalhousie. I want to create a sense of pride in Dalhousie students and make their time here that much better.

What is the single most important thing to Dal students?

It would be hard not to say tuition. It sounds like such an easy answer, but is proven by the fact that last year's increase caused a reduction in enrolment by roughly 200 students. Paying the highest tuition in

the country hurts Dal's students and reputation. We have to work with the administration, not only to lobby the provincial government for increased funding to post-secondary education, but to find alternative methods of balancing Dal's budget other than putting it on the backs of students.

How do you address accusations from Dal students that the DSU doesn't work in favour of Dal students?

The DSU has always been here to attempt to provide students with the best possible representation and services. However, when the message of these activities and actions fails to reach the ears of students, those students assume that nothing is being done. We need to work to ensure that the link between students and its DSU remains strong and intact, so that students can remain knowledgeable and well-served.

Johanne Galarneau (Vice President Student Advocacy)

What do you intend to do for Dal students if elected?

VP Student Advocacy's portfolio handles all academic concerns of students both internal and external. Internally, VPSA voices student concerns on the Dalhousie senate, VPSA is also responsible for the student advocacy service, which is a service provided by the DSU that provides support and representation to students accused of academic offences. Course evaluation is also a high priority. This is the first year that evaluations have gone on-line. It has been off to a slow start this year but Dalhousie is just getting its feet on the ground with on-line services. With persistence and a strong working relationship with the students, faculty and administration, on-line evaluations will become a strong academic tool in the future.

Externally, VPSA is a voting member on our federal and provincial lobby groups CASA and NSSAC. We work together with the government to form policy regarding post-secondary education. We create policies such as replacing the student loan remission program to Youth employment. While no one can promise to lower tuition or fully relive student debt, I will strive to represent and protect the interests of Dalhousie students and make all students aware of the academic concerns both internally and externally.

How would you explain the traditionally low turnout in the DSU elections?

Dalhousie is a large, diverse community. The DSU has not been visible in past years. It is hard to reach over 13,000 undergrad and graduate students spanning three campuses. If they were not aware of the issues, the people who represent them, why would they vote? Hopefully that will change in the coming year.

Why are you running?

I've been involved with the DSU for the past three years. I currently sit on the Dalhousie Board of Governors as student representative; I also sat on the DSU as first year member at large. I am chair of the Science society, and current president and past VP of the economics society. I have been on all levels of governance at Dalhousie and I feel that I have the most knowledge and real experience for this position.

What is the single most important thing to Dal students?

I would hope that it would be to graduate from a good university with a creditable degree with low debt when they get out. The rising tuition rates are obviously a major concern of all students.

How do you address accusations from Dal students that the DSU doesn't work in favour of Dal students?

The DSU DOES work for Dal students, the problem is that the work and accomplishments of the DSU are not visible to all students. The well-being of students is the biggest concern of the DSU and it has been since 1866 and it will continue to be.

There's a new club in town

by amanda risser
the gazette

There's a new rave bar in town. It's actually the old Speak Easy's, above Ryan Duffy's on Spring Garden Road.

Speak Easy's was closed the first week of October until the second week of November to complete renovations. Those who frequented the old Speak Easy's may remember it as a place to go to have a few drinks, play some pool or just sit around and chat. Now it is a dance club.

Speak Easy's owner Steve Risley says there are various reasons for changing his bar's style.

"There [are] just so many pool tables in Halifax that it is spreading everybody so thin. We were doing some music acts that were growing in popularity and growing in popularity. And then we thought, well this seems to be what people want to do. We'll keep a couple of pool tables around so that we don't alienate those people, and put in a large dance and stage area."

Risley wanted to open a club that would have its own distinctive personality, setting it aside from all other bars in Halifax.

"Halifax has a lot of bars, but it doesn't have any sort of bars that are just trying to be a dance club. Speaks is kind of fashioned after a larger city club. Something that people are really accustomed to seeing when they are in Toronto or other places like that," said Risley.

Before renovations started, Risley researched colors with a local designer. Red ended up being the club's primary color. One side of the club is designed to portray a more relaxed atmosphere. Adjacent to the bar are two pool tables, a large screen television, and plenty of chairs and couches for customers to relax while having a few drinks. The other side, which is separated by hanging beads, opens up to the large dance and stage area. There are a few stools decorated in animal print cushions and small tables surrounding this open space, but it's obvious that the room was designed to accommodate those who like to go out and dance.

All of this, plus a 'state of the art' light and sound system adds to the club's atmosphere.

At the same time, it is this unique look combined with the electronic music they play that has many labeling Speaks as a rave bar. Risley says his bar doesn't fit the description.

"A rave is usually something that goes on all night, that's non-alcoholic. And raves are directed towards a younger crowd than in the bar crowd — the over 19 crowd. We do a lot of electronic music, which is the new style of music that's so popular with students today. I don't know if that constitutes it as a rave bar. That's what we're being told by our customers that they want to dance to."

On a business level, the problem with making such a drastic change from a 'rec-room bar' to a dance club, is that you're basically left starting from the bottom up again. After all, most people who go to a quieter bar do so to escape the noise from the more upbeat dance clubs.

But Risley reports that comments from past and present clientele have been mainly positive.

"We've had very positive comments, there's some that didn't like the change, but that happens."

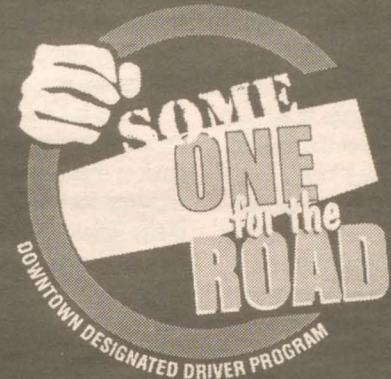
Besides the obvious interior makeover that the bar has experienced, its hours of operation and music style have also changed. Now that they are accommodating a later crowd they are no longer open for lunch.

Doors open at 9 p.m. every night, with the exception of Fridays when they open at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday's and Sunday's are big at the Speaks, featuring up and coming local DJ's. Thursday nights Michel Deveau steals the spot light with his jazzy undertones. Past Fridays and Saturdays have included such musical artists as Mir, Gene Ferris, Yellow Fever and The Harbour Sharks. Yellow Fever will be returning again the first weekend of March.



photos by mark benoit

"We'll keep a couple of pool tables around so that we don't alienate those people, and put in a large dance and stage area."



Participating Bars & Establishments

- Boomers Lounge, 1725 Grafton St.
- Breakers Billiards Club, 1661 Argyle St.
- Café Michele, 86 Portland St.
- Cheers Lounge, 1743 Grafton St.
- Docksiders Barbecue & Bar, Sheraton Halifax Hotel, 1919 Upper Water St.
- Dooley's, 1657 Barrington St.
- Granite Springs Golf Club, 4441 Prospect Rd.
- J.J. Rossy's, 1883 Granville St.
- Lawrence of Oregano Pub, 1726 Argyle St.
- Lower Deck Good Time Pub, Historic Properties
- Maxwell's Plum English Neighborhood Pub, 1600 Grafton St.
- Mercury Restaurant & Lounge, 5221 Sackville St.
- Merrill's Cafe & Lounge, 5171 George St.
- Mexicali Rosa's, 5680 Spring Garden Rd.
- My Apartment, 1740 Argyle St.
- Peddler's Pub, Barrington Place Mall
- The Planet & Rogue's Roost Restaurant & Brew Pub, 5435 Spring Garden Rd.
- The Attic, 1741 Grafton St.
- Thirsty Duck Pub & Eatery, 5472 Spring Garden Rd.
- Traders Lounge, Delta Barrington, 1875 Barrington St.
- Your Father's Moustache Pub & Eatery, 5686 Spring Garden Rd.



"We do a lot of electronic music, which is the new style of music that's so popular with students today."

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President Vice President Executive
Shawn Tracey and Joey McDonald

Vice President Portfolios

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Curtis McGrath
(By-election 1 Position)

Board of Governors Reps. (2)
Chuck Freeman
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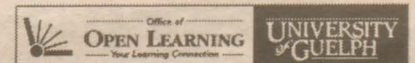
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Canada's first publicly funded needle exchange

by **patsy raynolds,**
the martlet

VICTORIA (CUP) — Street Outreach Services (SOS) is not on a street; it's in an alley, tucked away from the tourist strip of downtown Victoria.

At 3:30 p.m., it opens its doors, offering clean needles, donated food, and support services.

Over 1,500 clients pass through its doors each year. Outside a man waits in the rain for the doors to open, his corduroy jacket pulled close. "Is there soup today?" he asks. "Are there buns too?" Behind the counter Kate Thwaites, a street outreach worker, digs in a plastic bag grabbing one of the day-old hot dog buns donated by a local restaurant. The man smiles and thanks her.

On the front counter he sees a large Plexiglas box filled with dirty orange and white hypodermic needles.

"Oh man, that's gross," he said. "If you don't like it," Thwaites replied, "you don't have to look at it."

A client beside him drops off two needles in the box, and receives two

new ones in return. He grabs a small bottle of spring water and walks out.

The exchange is recorded on the computer's database using his personal identification code. Claire Dineen, coordinator of the centre, has the code memorized.

In full view, a bulletin board warns of the latest string of heroin overdoses. The pamphlet rack alongside it includes titles like "Tricks of the Trade: Health and Safety Tips for Street Workers," "Safer Needle Use: How to Shoot," and the popular "Bad Date Sheet" providing incriminating descriptions of abusive sex trade clients.

SOS is funded through the provincial Ministry of Health. Offering services that centre around a needle exchange for intravenous (IV) drug users, SOS has grown to be one of Canada's largest needle exchange programs.

Despite social stigma, SOS has expanded its services over the years, fulfilling its mandate to work with sex trade workers and IV drug users to lower the rate of HIV/AIDS. One of their greatest challenges is funding. With

almost 1,500 registered clients and a needle return rate of 105 percent, SOS struggles with a budget frozen since 1998. But they feel fortunate that a new Hepatitis C outreach worker, funded by Health Canada, will be hired this year.

"It is estimated that 80 percent of IV drug users have Hepatitis C," said Dineen.

Carried in the blood stream, Hepatitis C passes from one user to the next when they share needles.

"It is going to be very expensive when these people start getting sick."

Thwaites, a social work graduate who has worked at SOS for the past four years, believes in the philosophy of harm reduction.

"Our goal is to increase self-esteem and decrease isolation. Seeing a person as a whole functioning person, as opposed to just a drug addict or a prostitute," is part of SOS's mandate.

Harm reduction emerged during the 1980s with the advent of HIV and AIDS. Concerned with the person as a whole, harm reduction does not necessarily advocate abstinence as the ultimate goal. For those at SOS, harm

reduction is the idea of health promotion by decreasing risks associated with IV drug use. To do this, SOS provides user-friendly services and support including instructing proper needle use, vein care, promoting safe sex and providing HIV/AIDS education.

"The problem of drug addiction is very complex," said Dineen, who has been working at SOS for six years. "Our success is not necessarily about people stopping using drugs. Success could be people seeing that things can be different, or understanding how to use drugs more safely."

Jim Bishop, an addictions counsellor who works for Pacific Centre Family Services believes in a client-based approach. Each client is different, and has their own ideas of what will work best for them.

"A little bit of something is better than nothing," said Bishop. If a client begins withdrawing from cocaine, but continues to use alcohol, Bishop sees this as a step forward. While alcohol use may lead to a relapse, after several relapses, a client may or may not decide that they need to abstain from alcohol as well. But Bishop believes it is up to the client to make that decision.

"Who am I to say 'No, that won't work,' when I don't know that it won't."

Pacific Centre requires that an outpatient be sober while attending a counselling session. Sobriety during a session is not only about effectiveness and safety; it is also about respect for the counsellor. In-patient or residency programs such as those offered by Victoria Life Enrichment Society often require a minimum period of sobriety before attending. Victoria Life lacks the medical staff to deal with clients' potential withdrawal symptoms. In addition, they believe clients experiencing withdrawal symptoms such as shaking or confusion will not fully benefit from the program.

Some counsellors would balk at his client-based approach, but there appears to be a growing number who would agree with him. Of the 10 agencies the Alcohol and Drug Referral Service recommended to speak with, at least six have implemented client-specific, non-threatening approaches to drug and alcohol treatment.

SOS' mandate to connect with those working in the sex trade industry is an important part of the federal agenda. Providing education, condoms and support for prostitutes is a critical part of lowering these people's risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.

Activities have expanded over the years "to fill the gaps we see in public services," said Thwaites. With the needle exchange as the "hook," SOS provides other programs that extend the level of care beyond issues of HIV/AIDS. They offer access to support groups, free acupuncture, naturopathy, nursing, and a Tai Chi class. They also publish a zine

called "Ho's and Hypes."

The nursing care, funded by the Capital Health Region (CHR), is central to the effectiveness of implementing a harm reduction strategy at SOS.

Five days a week, on a part-time basis, nurses tend to SOS clients caring for everything from abscesses to sexually transmitted diseases to

counselling. Two nurses in Victoria, also hired by CHR, work strictly as street outreach nurses.

"I believe in needle availability, not [one for one] needle exchange," said one of the nurses, who asked to remain anonymous. "I do exchanges with dealers who have health concerns [for their clients]. It takes time to make these relationships, to build trust."

The dealers then become secondary distributors of the clean needles. Her house calls include showing people how to shoot safely, teaching vein care, treating STDs, dealing with mental health issues, and advocating for people's health and social well-being.

SOS began 12 years ago as a government make-work project. As the first publicly funded needle exchange in Canada two people were hired to walk the streets with backpacks distributing and collecting IV needles. After four years of working from the streets, the project moved to its first building in 1992.

"Location is important," said Dineen. "It's about being where the clients are." Situated in the downtown core is critical to SOS's success.

Unfortunately more programs are also needed in outlying areas.

"Our short-term goal is to have a mobile service where we can reach areas like Esquimalt, Saanich, Sooke and Port Renfrew. There is this expectation that [at present] we can serve all locations. This is preposterous."

Location can be a contentious issue with the public.

"The community reception is good in theory," said Dineen. A number of local businesses, shops and bakeries donate food and clothing. However, as Thwaites said, "there is a push by the mayor to eliminate visible poverty and we're a part of that."

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Top ten sports movies of all time

by **pete and clay**

the gazette

Clutch plays, high jinx and last minute heroics are what make sports stories so captivating. Action, drama, comedy — what else do you need? Nobody provides these stories better than our friends in Hollywood. Sports stories on the big screen are a magical combination. The blood, the sweat, the tears, a bag of popcorn and a massive pop to wash it all down. Wow. Sports movies just cannot be beat.

After days of research and much reflection, Pete and Clay bring you the definitive list of the top ten sports movies of all time. Get comfy and place your bets cause here we go:

10. *Herbie Rides Again* (1974)

Sport Involved: Rally Car Racing

How can one not love a movie whose featured character is a 1974 Volkswagen Beetle?

9. *The Karate Kid* (1984)

Sport Involved: Karate

One of the best martial arts

movies ever made. Pat Morita was at the pinnacle of his career, as the wise, yet misunderstood Mr. Miyagi, the man, who could catch flies with chopsticks. This movie gave new meaning to doing chores around the house. "Wax on, Wax off."

8. *Wildcats* (1986)

Sport Involved: Football

This much forgotten classic stars Goldie Hawn as a football coach in an inner city school. It also features Wesley Snipes and Woody Harrelson in the budding stages of their now legendary interracial romance (teaming up in "White Men Can't Jump" and "Money Train"). The movie is packed full of great one-liners and memorable moments.

7. *Jaws* (1975)

Sport Involved: Deep Sea Fishing

Three men out in the middle of the ocean, alone, hunt a 25-foot long great white shark. I would like to see the two guys from Canadian Sport Fishing do any better. You didn't even need to see the shark; the music was enough to terrify you. Pete still has trouble taking baths.

6. *Blue Chips* (1994)

Sport Involved: Basketball
Blue Chips is a great basketball movie that has been underrated. Shaquille O'Neal (aka Shaq, aka Kazaam aka Shaq Diesel) stars in this 1994 movie about the corruption of College Hoops. It makes you wonder how many fishing boats Dal has had to buy to get our varsity athletes. Shaq, Penny and Nover put in noteworthy performances but Nick Nolte steals the show.

5. *Happy Gilmore* (1996)

Sport Involved: Golf / Hockey

Adam Sandler does what every amateur golfer has always wanted to do: Take a running start and knock the sh*t out of the ball. "No Bob, the price is WRONG."

4. *Days of Thunder* (1990)

Sport Involved: Stock car racing

If you liked Top Gun then you gotta' love this one. Its non-stop action as Tom Cruise lights up Daytona. I mean who could forget the infamous wheelchair race. A true classic.

3. *Rudy* (1993)

Sport Involved: Football

I saw this movie on SuperStation one Sunday night and tried out for the SMU football team the next day.
2. *Field of Dreams* (1989)
Sport Involved: Baseball
As soon as Kevin Costner started to play catch with his dead dad, I turn into my Aunt at a wedding. It's a real tearjerker.

1. *Caddy Shack* (1980)

Sport Involved: Golf

Rodney Dangerfield: Funny.
Early Chevy Chase: Funny. Bill Murray: Comic Genius.

Dancing Groundhogs who contribute to the destruction of a golf course: Side Splitting.

Finally the honourable mention:

Back to the Future (1985)

Sport Involved:

Skateboarding
OK, so it's not actually a movie about sports. Some may say it's about time travel. Nevertheless, this movie is too good to be left out of any top ten list. "McFly, why don't you make like a tree and get outta here."

Behind the lines

Legendary Losers

by josh smith

In sports, major miscues are sometimes more memorable than the victories they produce

As you walk in through the doors and take in the surroundings, you can tell that you're in a truly sacred edifice. Images of Bill Buckner, Scott Norwood, Steve Smith and Ralph Branca overwhelm you. Plaques on the walls are dedicated to a University of Michigan-era Chris Webber, and the defenders on Columbia's '94 World Cup team. Within moments, it finally sinks in. You've entered the hallowed halls of the Professional Sports Hall of Shame.

Of course, if such a place were to really exist, its guests would go days without reaching the end of the tour. There have been hundreds of legendary mistakes in almost every sport. The amazing thing isn't just the number of bloopers. It's that these mistakes are often more meaningful than the winners they create. They're simply unforgettable.

Think about it. Nobody (outside Queens) considers the 1986 World Series a Mets victory. Bostonians shudder and try in vain to change the subject when somebody mentions 'Game Six' at the water cooler. In the now-legendary game, the Red Sox appear to have the championship all wrapped up. With just one out to go, and the champagne trays in place, things are looking great for Beantown. But wait. On the next play, first-baseman Bill Buckner loses his footing, the ball, the game, and eventually, the Series. All this, in just a fraction of a second. *Ouch.*

Then there is the tragic tale of former Buffalo Bills kicker Scott Norwood. With four seconds remaining in Super Bowl XXV, and his team within two points, his seemingly routine 35-yard field-goal attempt would win the Lombardi Trophy. It curves wide right. Bills lose. *Oy.* Who can forget the 1993 college basketball title game, in which a young Chris Webber costs Michigan the championship by calling a timeout? Good move, C-Webb. Just one problem. You have no timeouts. *Ugh.* And how about that woeful night in Edmonton in 1989, when in the heart of the post-season, against the rival Calgary Flames, Oiler's defense man Steve Smith scores the game-winning goal. For Calgary. *Somebody pass the Tylenol.*

There is something about losing this way that makes the people responsible either victims or scapegoats, and with most fans, it tends to be the latter. These fans are either heartless or misinformed. There's no question that these guys are true victims. Just imagine reaching the pinnacle of your sport, the moment you've been working towards for a lifetime, only to fall short in the most heartbreaking of ways. Then picture going through a lifetime of, "What happened, Buckner? Where your laces untied?" or, "How could you miss it, Norwood? Even my 84 year-old grandma could make that! Blindfolded!". Imagine having to face life after the letdown, trying to forget the moment that made you a household name, for all the wrong reasons.

By now, they have all learned to deal with the abandonment of their former fans. It comes with the territory. Oh, sure, they're doing alright for themselves. Many of their salaries were more than the gross national product of Angola. And yes, it would take about 237 years for most of us to earn that kind of a living. What can't be argued, though, is that they were, for a few glorious seconds, the focus of millions of people around the world. And most importantly, more people remember their mental lapses than the ones who actually won the games. Call it a blessing, call it a curse. Either way, whether they like it or not, they'll be forever remembered.

Got something to say? Have a great story idea? E-mail any opinions, comments or suggestions to Josh Smith, at misterknowitall@thegame.com. Speak your mind, and your thoughts will be considered for an upcoming column.

This Week's Games:

Men's Basketball

Dalhousie University @ Acadia University
Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2001 08:00 p.m.
Location: Acadia

Women's Basketball

Dalhousie University @ Dalhousie University
Friday, March 02, 2001 12:00 a.m.
Location: Atlantic University Sport Championships, March 2

Men's Basketball

Saint Mary's University @ Dalhousie University
Sunday, March 04, 2001 04:00 p.m.
Location: Dalhousie University, Dalplex

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Visit our web site at www.dal.ca/scicoop

CREATIVE WRITING PRIZES

Clare Murray Fooshee Poetry Prizes are open to full-time or part-time undergraduate students at Dalhousie or King's. Prizes are \$300, \$200, and \$100.

The Honourable W.H. Dennis Memorial Prizes for Poem(s), a prose short story, and an essay, are open to full-time undergraduate or graduate students at Dalhousie University. Prizes are \$200 and \$100 for poetry, \$200 for a prose short story, and \$200 for an essay.

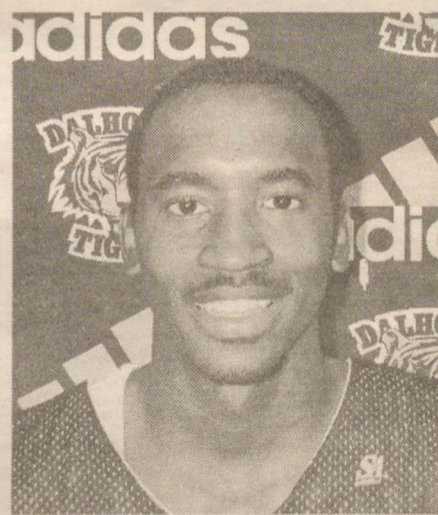
Deadline for all submissions is 6 April 2001

Pick up competition rules at:

Department of English
Dalhousie University
1434 Henry Street
Halifax, NS B3H 3J5

<http://www.dal.ca/~englwww/englwww.html>

PowerBar
ATHLETE
OF THE MONTH



In 8 games during the month of February rookie Oreine Davis averaged 14 pts, 6 rebounds, 6 assists and 2 steals as the starting point guard for the Tigers. He is currently the team leader in scoring, assists, steals, 3pt FG made and minutes played. Oreine is a native of Scarborough, Ont. and is a BA student.

Oreine's outstanding performance during the month of February makes him the Powerbar Athlete of the month! Congratulations, Oreine!



Put Yourself into

Our Picture of Health




And join our winning team. We've been rated as a leader in Canada's health care system for the second year in a row by the Canadian Institute of Health Information and Maclean's magazine. Today, Capital Health stands as the largest integrated academic health region in the country with several hospitals, care centres, public health programs, community services including home care and continuing care, and state-of-the-art facilities.

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
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 **MAIL YOUR RESUME TO:**
Regional Human Resources, 10th Floor, Harley Court Building,
10045 - 111 Street, Edmonton, AB T5K 2M5

 **FAX YOUR RESUME TO:**
1-780-408-5959

 **EMAIL YOUR RESUME TO:**
nro@cha.ab.ca

Visit our website and apply online at: www.cha.ab.ca

Healthier People in Healthier Communities

Capital health promotes a smoke-free environment.

All new employees to CH must provide a criminal records check in compliance with the Protection for Persons in Care Act. We thank all applicants in advance and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



**Edmonton, Alberta
is a great place to live.**

Edmonton has many fine qualities including one of the strongest economies in the country. Our cost of living is exceptional with affordable housing and no provincial sales tax.

Quality of life in Edmonton is equally attractive. Our river valley is the world's largest urban forest with elaborate, all-season trails, parks and golf courses. Banff National Park is a five-hour drive, and Jasper National Park is only a three-hour drive away. West Edmonton Mall is as popular a destination here in town.

We are home to professional and amateur sports teams and the largest volunteer recreation program in North America, as well as a vibrant and diverse multicultural arts community. All contribute to the spirit of our city, especially now as we prepare to host the 2001 World Championships in Athletics.



**Capital
Health**

www.dal.ca/~gazette