

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

Gazette

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Issue 137:01



Get Frosh'd

Frosh Week
 CKDU Love
 Sarah Harmer
 Janice Ashworth

Report Card: The Stolen Minks
 5 Questions: Matt Terauds
 Sartorial Eloquence: Wildflower
 Burn Baby Burn
 Super Sex in the Super City

DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION



Check out the DSU website at

www.dsu.ca

**Health Plan Opt out deadline:
October 1st, 2004**

Society Info

Ratification: If you are interested in starting a society on campus you can contact Tamara Conrod, Vice-President (Internal) at the DSU Council Office, at dsuvpi@dal.ca or 494-1276. All societies ratified last year must re-ratify. Deadline for ratifications is October 31st, 2004.

Audits: It's time for all A and C level societies to get audited! Bring your society's cheque book, deposit book, general ledger, bank statements, bank reconciliation, and transaction records to Jonathan Wilson, Vice-President (Finance & Operations) at the DSU Council Offices, at dsuvpfo@dal.ca or 494-1278.

Want to sit on DSU Council?

The DSU is recruiting for:

- Member at Large
- Member at Large (Graduate Student)

For further info contact Mark Szepes, Vice-President (Student Life) at the DSU Council Offices, at dsuvpsl@dal.ca or 494-1281.

DSU Handbook

Available for Free at the SUB Info Desk

DSU Council Meeting

The next meeting of the DSU Council will be on September 15th at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers.

RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE

My name is Alice and I remember everything.



In Theatres September 10th



www.grawood.com

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FRIDAY SEPT 10
Alexander Kieth's
welcome back bash
FUSION FRIDAY 9:00 PM

TUESDAY SEP 14

World Cup Hockey
Final on the big screens

WEDNESDAY SEPT 15

9:00 PM
Open Mic

THURSDAY SEPT 16

Shinerama
Benefit Concert
featuring
Human, The Contact & Rudy

9:00 PM

FRIDAY SEPT 17

7\$
FUSION FRIDAY

TUESDAY SEPT 21

Dinner & A Movie
SPIDERMAN 2

WEDNESDAY SEPT 22

GRAWOOD CONCERT SERIES 1

THE SALADS

THURSDAY SEPT 23

Therapy Thursday

FRIDAY SEPT 24

TOGA PARTY
FUSION FRIDAY

WEDNESDAY SEPT 29

Arbitrate lol
MIKE'S HARD ROCKIN'
WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY SEPT 30

Therapy Thursday
BEACH BASH
with PopJoy

Editorial

Quentin Casey
Editor-In-Chief

The telltale signs of a new academic year are in the air.

The warm ocean breezes of summer have been replaced with a cool north wind that will slowly bring the leaves to the ground. The seemingly unending days of July and August have shortened, and a new crop of university students has invaded the South End of Halifax.

The honour of welcoming all students to our campus on behalf of the *Gazette* is particularly special for me because my youngest brother, Tom, is beginning his university career in Dal's esteemed commerce program.

So, without further ado, welcome to Dalhousie, one of the premier universities in Canada. It's a place that can offer you as much as you are willing to seek from it—academically, professionally and socially. Many great people have walked the hallowed halls of Dal, and, if you choose to work hard, Dalhousie can be your springboard to success too.

But with this welcome comes a warning: in many ways your first year of university will be a bitch. I need only offer my experience as a freshman to prove this point.

After graduating from the cushy lair known as high school, I enrolled in the foundation year program at King's College. My goal, like that of any other good King's student, was to become a learned, well-read connoisseur of fine wines and cheeses. Having breezed through high school, I figured university would be no different.

But problems formed immediately: I didn't apply myself to reading the mountain of books required and my grades quickly reflected my uncanny ability to fall asleep on the couch with the Epic of Gilgamesh open on my stomach. Six weeks, two C papers and one fully read book later I dropped out of King's completely.

The news was extremely

disappointing for my family, especially my mother, who has a predisposition to worry too much. Nevertheless, I retreated with my proverbial tail between my legs and spent the remainder of the year working at a local car dealership owned by a friend. It was a rough time and I was filled with doubts about my future.

But the experience ultimately changed my perception of school entirely. I realized that opportunities were not to be squandered. In short, it hit me that I'm one



Dalhousie is a place that can offer you as much as you are willing to seek from it—academically, professionally and socially

lucky bastard. After a year out of school, my head was cleared, my motivation had returned and I was ready to go back.

I reentered Dal as a first year arts student and things went differently: I actually wanted to be here. I also found my way into classes with professors who genuinely inspired me to apply myself. And I became involved with the *Gazette*. Finally, school was enjoyable.

In the end, everything has worked out better than I ever could have imagined. I finished my undergrad degree, I'm now doing graduate work and I'm running the Dal student newspaper.

The only mental scar that

remains is a lingering desire to insult King's and/or those who attend it whenever the situation presents itself. For example, what's the difference between God and a King's student? God doesn't think he's a King's student.

Sorry, I can't help it—I'm still just a tad bitter.

Stories like mine are a dime a dozen. I'm not the first to struggle in my initial swing at university and I won't be the last. Nevertheless, I offer the following

“words of wisdom” to my brother and the frosh of 2004: your first year at university will no doubt be filled with difficult moments in which you will doubt your abilities, perhaps even question your place at Dal altogether. You will undoubtedly receive at least one bad grade (if not a number of them) that may cause you to beg the question: “do I even belong here?” The answer is yes—but hopefully you won't have to drop out to come to this conclusion.

Remember that in the end the good—great memories, new best friends and new opportunities—will surely outweigh the bad. I can almost guarantee it.

Good luck and, again, welcome to Dalhousie.

Gazette

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COVER

Frosh week and starting school are all about fun. This lovely gent is also

all about fun, strutting his shit at the Dal Frosh Week Mocktail Party. You sir, are all party. Photo: Quentin Casey, Illustrator: Loukas Crowther

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If you are interested in contributing to the Gazette, feel free to email us your article to: gazette@dal.ca or better yet come to our weekly volunteer meetings every Monday at 4:30 Room 312, Dal SUB.

Her ass is a space ship I want to ride.



Upcoming Events...

Employer Information Sessions:

- Deloitte & Touche
September 17th
- CIBC
September 23rd
- Imperial Oil / Exxon Mobil
September 27th

For complete details, please go to
www.dal.ca/sec

Halifax Career Fair

- September 27th

For complete details, please go to
www.halifaxcareerfair.ns.ca

THIS WEEK'S JOB NEWS

Welcome to the 04/05 Academic Year!!

At the Student Employment Centre...
Your success is our success!

Dalhousie Student Employment Centre can help you succeed in your job search. This can mean part-time work, internships or full-time career building opportunities... and don't forget about volunteering as a way to strengthen your employability skills. You'll get directions and leads to employment opportunities regionally, nationally and internationally, so you can find the position – and the place – that's right for you.

4th Floor Student Union Building, Room 446
Tel: 902-494-3537
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One President to Another

Neal Cody
News Junky

Curtis McGrath was named DSU president in last spring's election after incumbent president Kevin Wasko was disqualified. The vote tally counted Wasko defeating McGrath by 54 per cent to 46 per cent on the third ballot, but in a dramatic turn of events, Wasko was disqualified on grounds of exceeding the campaign fine limit.

One of Wasko's campaign workers sent a mass email to a list of students after the campaigning period had finished, incurring a \$75 penalty. McGrath appealed this decision and the DSU judicial board decided that Wasko should be fined more—\$200 to be exact—for sending too many bulk emails during and after the campaign period. According to DSU campaign rules, candidates are only allowed to accumulate \$160 in fines. Wasko's fine amount exceeded this limit, thereby disqualifying him. McGrath, the runner-up, took his place in accordance with the DSU constitution.

"I want to make it clear that this is not personal," McGrath

said at the time. "I do know that it will take some time for things to settle and for all of us to accept the outcome." Looking back, McGrath said it was a difficult experience, but that the DSU council banded together in dealing with the problem. "The council was in trying circumstances where we weren't comfortable with the situation, but we got together and worked on the task at hand."

Former president Wasko is also working hard. "I am, of course, disappointed with how things have turned out," he said after his request for an additional hearing was denied, "but [I] have started to move on with being a regular student." Wasko remains an active member within the DSU—he is a vice-chair for orientation week—and said that although he still doesn't agree with the judicial board's decision, he has "learned to deal with [it]" and "accept the consequences."

According to a councillor, who wouldn't agree to be interviewed unless he or she remained unnamed, tempers in the council are high and its members are divided about 50/50 on the issue. "Half are really happy and the other half are

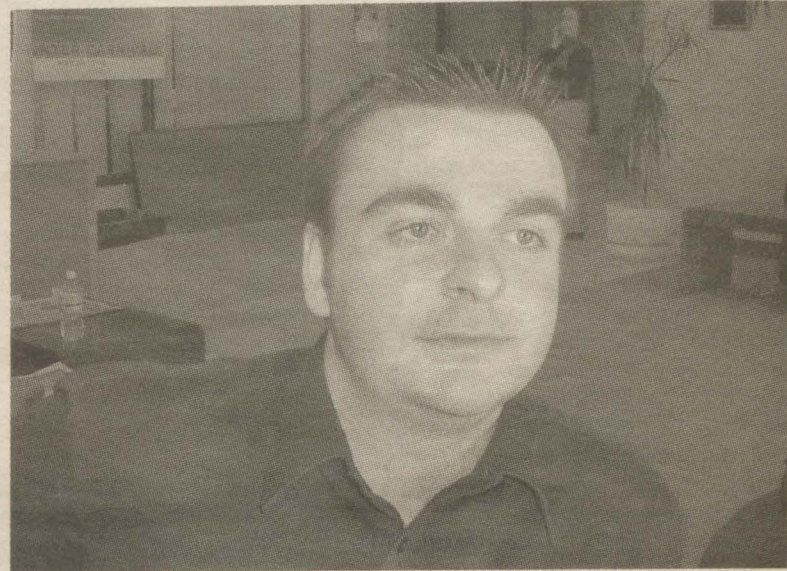
pissed off," the councillor said. "I think some people just don't want to give [Curtis] a chance; I think they're being stubborn." The councillor described the situation as "turbulent."

McGrath says that at this year's executive retreat (where outgoing executives ease the new members into the job), Wasko made a commitment to the council to move forward. "Kevin and I have had a chance to speak since the elections and we've moved beyond them," said McGrath. "He has lots of talents and I respect him."

Wasko said he believes that although the incoming council may have had to deal with some extra stress, he feels they dealt with it extremely well and seem to be functioning well. "I just hope that things go well with them," he said, "[and] that the DSU can continue to be effective in what it seeks to achieve this year."

The post-campaigning violations seen last spring will not be a problem in the next election says who?

Chief Returning Officer Will Szubielski has made a number of recommendations in his final



DSU president Curtis McGrath

report that will be implemented by the 2005 election. Campaigning will be allowed during the voting period, email restrictions will be eased, candidate websites will be permitted and all voting next year will be done electronically—either online or on a laptop at a polling station. Szubielski said that electronic voting reduces the number of spoiled ballots, costs almost nothing compared to paper ballots, and can be counted more quickly.

If last April's election had been held under this system, fewer candidates—including Wasko—would have been disqualified. "We handed out a lot of fines for post-campaigning violations," Szubielski said, "and each time the fine was \$75—that's pretty ridiculous for a poster. It's hard to differentiate between campaigning and getting out the vote, and we definitely shouldn't be stopping people from [voting]."

Dal Energy

Students, executives and employees come together during orientation week

Chris McClusky
Staff Contributor

If the old adage that "what goes around comes around" can be expressed in more engaging terms than our annual frosh week rituals, I would like to hear them.

We've all been there.

Many of us coming from smaller towns to the "big city" face the nerve-wracking feeling of being away from mum and dad for the first time, being anointed with the appropriate frosh name, the ludicrously early

wake-ups, permanent residents bracing themselves for the onslaught of the legions of eager Shinerama volunteers and the incessant screaming and clapping of 18-year-olds that help us in the realization that we should give up the never ending struggle to be as ridiculously hip as Von Dutch himself.

Welcome to university. You've just been frosh'd.

A total of 2200 new students converged onto campus this past Sunday, decked out in their

student Evan Aldred.

"I was president in Henderson House last year so I kind of ran the whole deal," he says. "I'll have to bite my tongue a few times because it's going to be different being an RA, but it'll be fun at the same time."

On the other side of the spectrum, hundreds of volunteers, including frosh leaders have been maintaining a high level of adrenalin while resident assistants are being counted on to help new students with the shift

Jeremy Eastwood, residence life manager of Howe Hall, says this is also true of his staff.

"For me, and I think for our staff, it's the energy of the students that are arriving that you feed off—it's not the coffee or any sort of other artificial stimulant we give them," he says, laughing. "It's definitely the students and they're certainly very excited to be here."

A grueling week, there's no doubt about that. But when you're starting to flag a bit in the energy, you see people running around and excited, so it gets you going again."

The university-wide fervor is easy to sustain, but it's also vital: helping new students while creating an atmosphere suitable for fostering an amazing start to one's university career is important, says orientation week organizer and DSU vice-president of student life Mark Szepes.

"I want to see every single frosh have a good time, I want to see every first-year student enjoy their experience and want to be at Dalhousie for the next four years... and want to be involved and want to be a frosh leader in the future," he says.

For new students, creating a great first impression during the first week of university is largely the responsibility of the Dal community.

"The first week is everything and it's what sets the tone for the rest of the year," says second-year resident assistant Alain d'Entremont. "I want to make sure that through the help of council everyone gets to know each other and trust each other so it builds a community."

"I really like to be involved because it played such a substantial part in getting me accustomed to a city I found really huge

distinguishing tie-dies, for the first week of their post-secondary careers. It is a week meticulously planned by students, as well as former students, who come back year after year in an attempt recapture the remarkable experiences they've had in the past.

"I really like to be involved because it played such a substantial part in getting me accustomed to a city I found really huge," says Howe Hall representative Allan O'Brien. "Being from somewhere where libraries are literally on buses and travel to your school, I know how hard it can be."

More than a few former frosh come back to help new students adjust to campus life every year. Having to hold emotion back can be an arduous task at times, says first-time resident assistant (RA) and third-year Dalhousie

environment. You've no doubt already come across an excited leader revving up his or her group for another event. This year's timetable includes academic programming, a broomball tournament, a screening of the movie "The Day After Tomorrow" as well as nationally acclaimed performances from hypnotist Tony Lee, sex expert Sue Johansson and a concert in the quad featuring the Trews, In-Flight Safety and the Contact.

"I love frosh week, that's why I come to Dalhousie really," says frosh leader Cheryl McLennan. "My frosh leader last year told me to chill out so you can keep your energy going for seven days, but I was like no, you did not just say that, I am totally taking it to another level. There are at least enough people at any time that have enough energy that you can just stay with it."

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TA Strike Positive, Says Union

Jenn Morrison
News Editor

More than three months after Dalhousie teaching assistants signed a new contract with the administration—ending a five-week-long strike that disrupted summer classes—both university and union representatives are putting a positive spin on the settlement.

"I can't stress it enough that when all is said and done, we did very well... We had never mobilized the TAs before, and we accomplished so much," said Bernard Firanski, the TA vice-president for Studley campus. Likewise, assistant vice-president of personnel services Michael Roughneen said that he believes the conclusion was favourable to both parties.

The result of the strike is that teaching assistants (TAs) at Dal will get an 18 per cent wage increase over three years.

Statements of satisfaction from either side gloss over months of difficulty that began last winter. After a late start getting TAs strike-ready, the union and the university did not see eye-to-eye during conciliation on the outstanding issues of the precedent system (which was disadvantageous to new students), a retroactive pay increase and the TA pay increase. The union had already signed off on Dal's offer for part-time faculty and markers/demonstrators;

all three groups share the same contract.

Dal TAs originally asked for a 100 per cent pay increase, but eventually dropped their request down to 60 per cent and then 31 per cent. Union representatives stressed that Dal TAs are paid less than virtually any others in Canada.

Roughneen said that the university did not take comparisons between Dal TAs and other Canadian TAs lightly.

"I don't think [they are] entirely accurate," he said. "You have to look in much more detail at the arrangements at other institutions, and at what Dal has done for graduate students." The university takes the view that "when you package everything together, [it has] a competitive arrangement"—one that is appropriate for the local market, he said.

A strike vote was held in March with "yes" as the result. The precedent system and retroactive pay issues were soon resolved.

The resolution of those two issues meant that the strike would only be predicated on the TA pay increase, which was a different basis than the one presented to members at the original strike vote meeting.

"It was strongly urged by CUPE national to have our members vote on every little change from there on... Members wondered why they would have to

vote on every little stupid thing and it was annoying," said Firanski.

During the negotiation process, the university proposed implementing a tiered pay system for TAs that would pay PhD students more than Master's students, and those students more than undergraduates.

The university's two-tiered system—different pay rates for graduate and undergraduate students—was also rejected.

According to Alan Hill, the president of CUPE local 3912, the university made another new offer on the last day of conciliation—but also wanted a new ratification vote. Such a vote had the potential to delay the strike until the end of exams. The union denied this request.

The union offered to go to binding arbitration on the last day of conciliation. In such a move, an independent arbiter would listen to both sides' arguments and then make a decision on a binding settlement. Hill said that the union willingly took its chances on the offer, but knew the university would never accept binding arbitration.

The TA strike officially began on April 23, more than a month after the strike vote, disrupting several exams. "The main objective was for disrupting summer classes, especially on the Sexton Campus. It's smaller, and there was more opportunity to control access points," said Firanski.

But union members were often uneasy about hurting summer students. "Life doesn't guarantee anything. We had to balance the needs of TAs versus those of students, and it's never an easy decision, especially if students are inconvenienced," said Firanski.

Students were not the only ones hurt by the strike. One of the main picketing tactics used by TAs was blocking traffic—a risky business after cars hit several union members.

At Dalplex, one driver took his car through the picket line, and a striker was thrown onto the hood of the car. Another woman on the picket line was stuck on the hood of a car for a block. After these incidents, the strike strategy changed to an information-style picket on the Studley and Sexton campuses.

After several weeks of striking, the union was willing to put the strike to bed, making a unanimous decision to accept the university's final offer: an 18 per cent wage increase over three years, retroactive to September, 2003, with an \$18 per hour pay rate.

"We got as much as we could get, we made a lot of gains... So many people were locked on the idea of pay, and not the best deal we could get, with the tools available," said Firanski. Although the team advised union members to accept the offer, the vote on the new contract was met with more

conflict. Around 230 people came to the decision meeting "out of nowhere," according to Firanski. The union had to switch rooms for the meeting because of the huge turnout.

A second vote was scheduled for the following week, requested

We got as much as we could get, we made a lot of gains

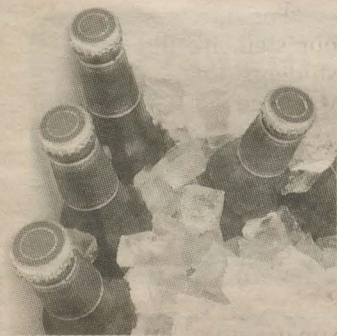
by CUPE national because the organization had qualms with the room change taken during the first vote. A "yes" decision on the proposed contract was finally confirmed by May 28.

"We were very successful, said Firanski. "We organized our membership, got a 'yes' strike vote, set up picket lines, and made TAs aware and willing to stand up for themselves."

From the university standpoint, Roughneen said, "both parties were trying to affect an agreement, which was fortunately achieved."

The biggest accomplishment for the union, Firanski says, was the mobilization of support. "No one had organized TAs yet—ever. We are a young union, and this was only our second contract," he said, adamant about making TAs proud of their work and their accomplishments. "Unless we have pride in the gains we make, we won't have the strength to make further gains."

Beer Wars on Campus



Neal Cody
News Junky

Dalhousie Athletics has signed a three-year deal with Molson Canada to provide financial support and sponsorship for varsity and club sports. But the new contract is only the latest battle in the campus Beer Wars.

The new deal will see Molson take over exclusivity rights for advertising and marketing from its rival, Labatt Brewing Company Ltd. The new partnership may include Molson logos on school uniforms, Molson signage at athletic events and the sale of Molson products during games.

"We're thrilled about this partnership," said Andrea Bowie, a public relations person with Molson Canada. "We'll be supporting the athletics department financially, as well as providing interesting promotional opportunities... the next time you go to a Dal basketball game, you'll be able to order a Molson." Molson would not disclose the financial

details regarding the deal.

"It's a first step for us with Molson," said Al Scott, Dal's director of athletics and recreational services. "We were treated very well for many years by [Labatts], but when the contract was up, Molson came in with an unbelievable offer. I think they're very excited about this," he said.

Molson is trying to increase its East Coast presence in competition with Labatts, which owns several popular local brands such as Keith's and Oland's. The two companies have a roughly equal share in most Canadian markets, except for the Maritimes, where Labatts does significantly better.

Dal has traditionally partnered itself with Labatts; unofficial arrangements between Dal residences and Labatts were in place before Molson muscled its way into the market four years ago. Molson now sponsors Howe Hall and Risley Hall, among others.

The Dalhousie Student Union, on the other hand, deals mostly with Oland's for special events. The DSU represents student interests and also runs the Grawood and T-Room.

"The DSU does not have exclusivity with any beer company like we do with Pepsi [for soft drinks]," said DSU President Curtis McGrath. "The campus bars stock all major brands. Oland's sponsors special events and programming, such as con-

certs, and provides responsible beverage training to our employees."

Although the DSU does not limit itself to dealing with just one company, McGrath adds that "Molson has not been involved directly in sponsorship of DSU events recently."

Although Keith's usually sponsors Dal's frosh week, this year's orientation has been alcohol-free. According to McGrath, the DSU decided not to accept sponsorship from a beer company in order to follow the "dry week" theme. The DSU is also introducing a wet/dry bracelet system to let underage students into drinking establishments that normally wouldn't permit them while preventing them from consuming alcohol.

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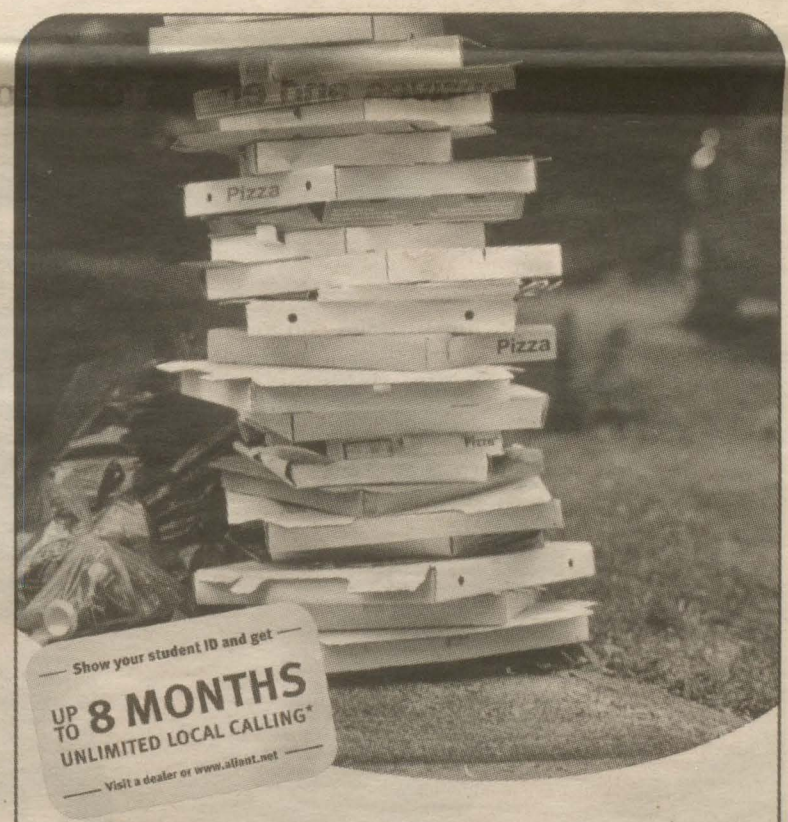
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Ye ugle, creep in, blastit wonner:

Getting rid of the Underpants Crab Curse

Meera Gupta
Health Contributor

Ahh, the first week of school. It's a time to reflect on past summer days and on days of learning to come. A time to enjoy the faint waft of Pink Pearls, Hillroys and Campfire notebooks that are so inspiringly arranged on your desk.

For some, it's also a time for activities not so serene. Yes, it is the first week of university. And while most of us are here to get something that resembles an education so we can "make something of ourselves," we are also here to do something with ourselves. Namely, drink ourselves into varying degrees of stupor and stalk the new skin on campus.

While we're at it, a number of us will have uninvited visitors intrude upon the natural flora and fauna of our young, precious bodies. You know what I'm talking about—the itch, the burn, the little bugs that now call your Hanes "home." STDs, now more commonly referred to as STI's because nooo, it's not a "disease." If you have bugs in your undies, it's just an itty bitty "infection". But tomato, tomato, um, you know what I mean... you still have bugs in your undies. You've got mail. I mean, you've got crabs.

The intruders are parasites called Pediculosis Pubis by the parasitological world. If you were

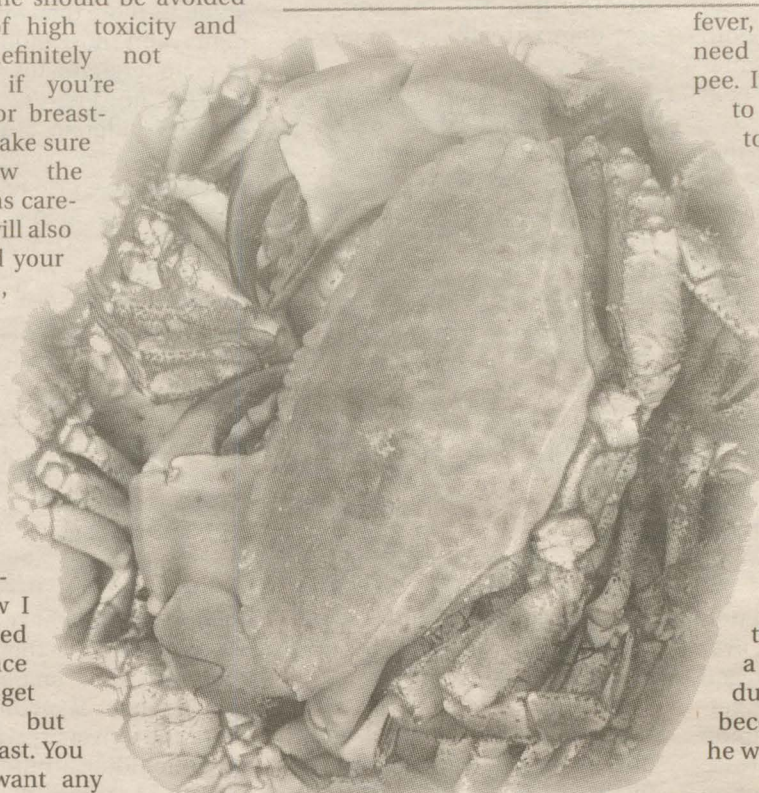
to take a magnifying glass to your pubes, you would notice that the little buggers have claws and kind of resemble crabs—hence their more common name. If you've got an itchy, burning pubic area, you may have some of these little creeps organizing orgy sessions in order to set up a Crabtown in your southern district, erecting signs reading "Crabtown. Population: You." You might also notice bluish spots on your pelvic area or thighs and bites or dried blood spots in your undies, evidence that they're messy eaters. How did you get them? Probably by mashing pelvises with someone already populated. Condoms don't help in protecting you from crabs, either. Don't be too relieved if you abstain from sex, however. You can get them from sharing a towel, undergarments or clothing with someone who has them.

So now that you do have Pediculosis Pubis, how do you nab the crab?

Well, if you're pretty sure it's crabs you've got and not scabies (a rash usually in skin folds, between fingers or on wrists, elbows, abdomen and around the genitals), you can pick up a medication from the drug store without a prescription. You can also see a doctor if you're not sure (Dalhousie student health clinic, 494-2171.) At the pharmacy, ask for Nix Cream Rinse.

Other products for crab treatment include Lice-Enz, R&C Shampoo and Kwellada lotion or shampoo, which contains a product called lindane. Products with lindane should be avoided because of high toxicity and should definitely not be used if you're pregnant or breastfeeding. Make sure you follow the instructions carefully. You will also have to rid your clothing, bedding, etc. of the bug. You can do this by washing everything in hot, soapy water. I know I don't need to convince you to get treatment, but try to act fast. You wouldn't want any crabs migrating up to other boggy marshes on your vast bodily terrain—such as your armpits, eyelashes and eyebrows. The cutie at the bar may bugger off if he or she sees crabs doing nosedives off of your eyelashes into your rum and coke.

So now that you do have Pediculosis Pubis, how do you nab the crab?



fever, genital discharge and the need to cringe every time you pee. It may also be a good idea to see a doctor as follow-up to make sure they're gone. Make sure you get an STI screen: crabs can be an indicator of other infections like Chlamydia, gonorrhea and HIV.

Look, don't worry—there are worse things in the world than having crabs. I think. If you have decided to isolate yourself from society while you proceed with crab-o-cide, why not reflect on the words of Robert Burns, a famous Scottish poet living in the 1700s. Burns noticed a louse on a lady's bonnet during a church sermon and becoming so revolted by it that he wrote this tiny poem:

Ye ugle, creepin, blastit wonner,
Detested, shunned by saunt an' sinner,
How daur ye set your fit upon her,
Sae fine a lady.
Gae somewhere else and seek your dinner,
On some poor body.

If you've been scratching your crotch like there's no tomorrow, you may have caused a secondary infection due to skin breakage and will need to see a doctor. Signs of infection include large red patches of skin, pus,

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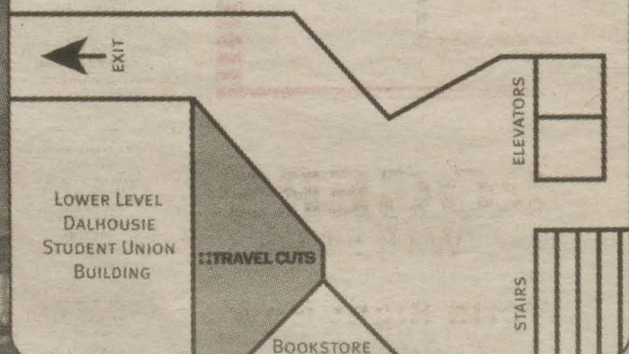
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Alternative Orientation Aims

Helping students connect with the community

Meribeth Deen
News Contributor

Mark Szepes and Kristen Howe agree: a successful orientation Week brings people together and provides a positive encounter with university life for first-year students. As DSU vice-president of student life, Szepes has been in charge of a

Radical Harvest emerged as part of Howe's efforts to raise awareness of food-related issues and from her summer job with the Atlantic Canadian Organic Regional Network.

"The need to eat is universal, and the decisions we all make on a daily basis have a huge impact," she said, adding that an understanding of the impact

to a farm with the King's College environmental group. With all this in mind, it seemed logical to inform first-year students in particular about the food options available to them right away, so she made plans for an organic farmer to give a talk during orientation week.

When other groups heard about Howe's plan to contribute to orientation week, a broader event aimed at raising awareness of various issues among first-year students was organized. Sonia Edworthy, an urban planning student and member of the Society of Undergrad Planners, jumped aboard with the creation of a green map of Halifax to help those new to the city find such things as parks, public libraries, independent restaurants and coffee shops, and places where local organic foods can be purchased at an affordable price.

Radical Harvest stands to raise awareness of many is-

issues for incoming Dal students. Between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Friday, eight information booths will be set up in the Student Union Building, and Food Not Bombs will be serving free food at Seymour Green.

Members of the Otesha Youth Bike Project, a group that cycled across Canada last year giving presentations on social and environmental issues to elementary and high school students, will also stop by Seymour Green to perform street theatre and hand out information regarding next year's trip. After the Otesha presentation, farmer Jen Melanson from SunRoot Organic Farms will speak about the impact of eating and community connections through food.

Edworthy said she likes the idea of Radical Harvest because she considers the stereotypical frosh week to be an alienating experience for many people and a way of institutionalizing

a mob mentality. In her vision of a different sort of orientation week, she drew inspiration from a zine called the "Official [Dis]orientation Manual" published by the Infoshop resource centre at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Szepes will consider this year's frosh week a success if the weather's great, the first-year students participating have a good time and they decide to stick it out for another few years at Dal. If some of those students attend the alternative orientation activities and decide to get involved in the community, and find that they have the resources to make informed decisions about their lives, Howe will consider her event a success.

She is expecting that it will be successful, and is hoping Radical Harvest becomes an annual, and a very mainstream, part of the evolving Dalhousie orientation week.

[She's] hoping radical harvest becomes an annual, and a very mainstream, part of the evolving Dalhousie orientation week.

slew of activities with that goal in mind. Howe, who organized Radical Harvest—an alternative orientation event on Friday September 10 that is independent of the DSU—hopes to fulfill an additional mandate for the week: help students become active members of the community beyond campus.

made by these decisions is especially important for students who are away from home for the first time and have not yet formed food-purchasing habits. Her own decision to eat as much local organic food as possible came after a year of residence food, the bewilderment of feeding herself for the first time and a weekend trip

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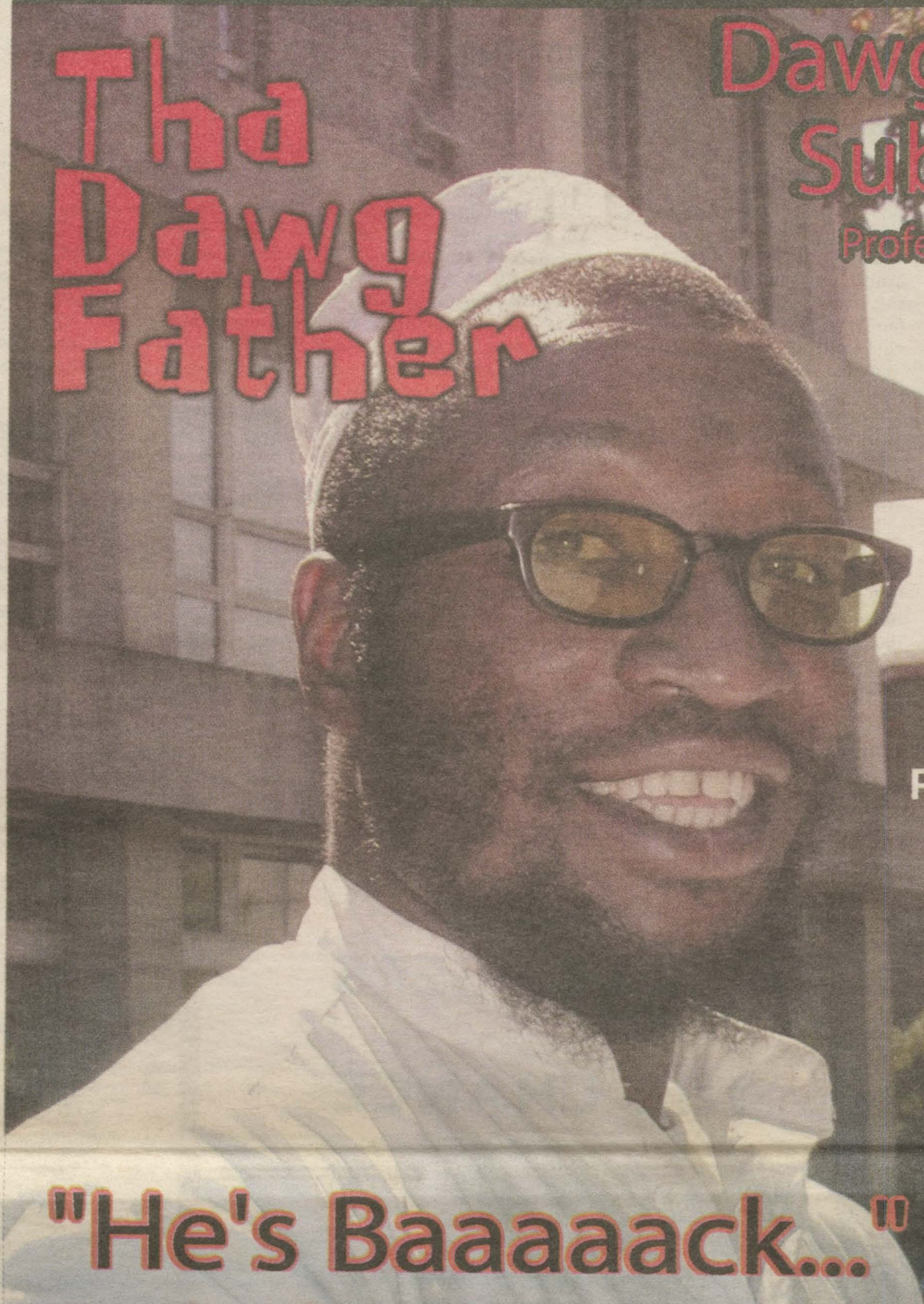
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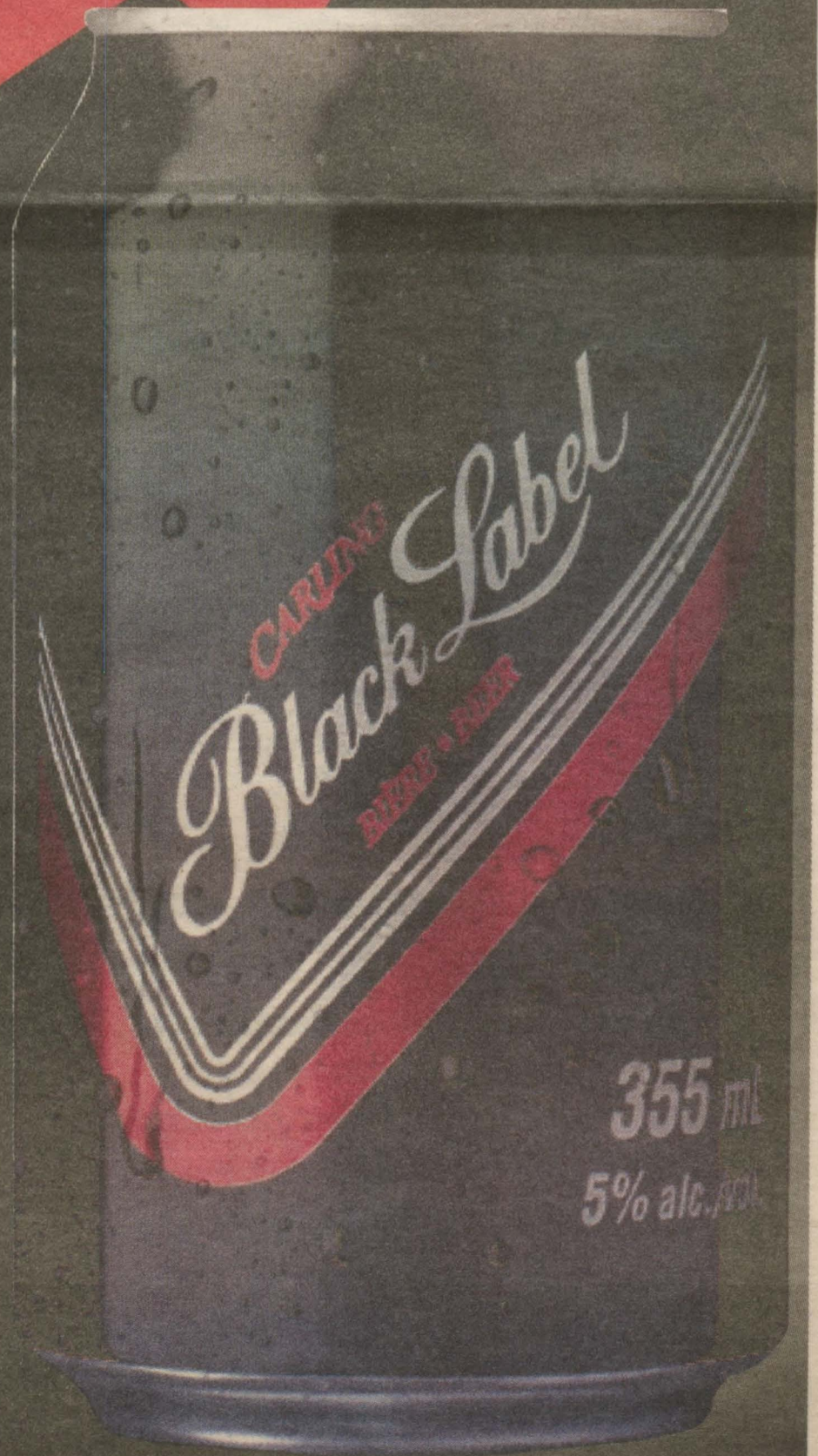
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Is that thing recording?

Are You Having A Sophomoric Crisis?

Bad marks, not Porsches

Lauren Davie
Opinions Contributor

I am a third-year student here at Dalhousie. Just like everybody else, I am trying to create a life—or at least make some sense out of the life that I am currently living. I write this with the purpose of providing some comfort and solace to those who feel like they don't know what they are doing here and for those who feel like nothing is tied down tight enough.

In September of my sophomore year, I arrived back at Dal confident and full of purpose. I was ready to do well in my studies, but then all of a sudden I turned a corner at the beginning of October. My confidence in my studies had disappeared, my purpose had vanished and I could no longer remember what "purpose" even felt like. I was

still having a great time with my friends, going out and still loving the independence that came with living in an apartment, but academically I became lost. I would hand in assignments and write tests, but the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow was no longer visible. School had become a never-ending path that I just couldn't bring myself to care about. I felt like a child at a dinner party attended to by doctors, lawyers, historians and biologists, and I was barely able to reach above the dinner table. Everyone around me seemed to enjoy what they were working towards. Perhaps they didn't know what specific career they wanted, but I felt like they all had some type of direction, whereas I was all over the map.

As the weeks went by, each one faster than the last, things were getting worse. I didn't even

want to go to class. I barely studied for tests, and essays were becoming horrific, thoughtless pieces I would write at two or three in the morning. I would call my mother almost every other day in tears due to my

couldn't commit myself to any of these options. The truth was I was tired of school. I even contemplated dropping out and taking an indefinite period of time off to figure out if this was really what I wanted to do. I just didn't

I felt like a child at a dinner party attended to by doctors, lawyers, historians and biologists, and I was barely able to reach above the dinner table.

constant confusion and lack of focus. I couldn't really express how I felt to my friends for fear that no one would understand—I didn't even know what was happening myself.

By the end of October, I was thinking of alternatives such as cooking school, design college or traveling to Europe just for the sake of getting away—but I

want to feel lost or unmotivated.

After further contemplation and even more distressing conversations with my mother (who was extremely helpful considering she was once a career counselor to students much like myself), I decided to make an appointment with an academic advisor. I talked with the advisor and decided to change my pro-

gram to a three-year degree with a concentration. The idea that I would only have to be in school for one more year seemed perfect to me. My mantra became, "one more year, one more year." I went home for winter break and told my friends and family about this brilliant decision. Their first reaction was concern that I wasn't having a good time here, but that couldn't have been further from the truth. I adore my life at Dal: I have the best friends, a great apartment and I love Halifax. I just want to get my degree and start my life. I came back after the break ready to endure another semester of school: "one more year, one more year." Let's just say that my mantra was not as effective this time as it was first semester. My grades took a turn for the worse, and I couldn't

Continued on Next Page...

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understand what was wrong. Due to my confusion, frustration and lack of focus, I started going out more and not making the wisest decisions. I felt as though I were on a downward spiral with nothing to hang on to.

I wasn't as vocal about my confusion second semester. My friends all seemed sure of what they were doing with their lives: they were focused and studying around the clock. I would look at my notes and textbooks and feel nothing. I had now lost all of my motivation. Even my mantra couldn't get me out of this one. By the end of my sophomore year, my grades reflected the state I was in academically and socially. Over summer school (yes, that clever mantra of mine landed me in summer school), a strange feeling came over me. I realized that I only had one

more year now. Graduation was so close I could taste it, but I was not ready to leave this life and step into the real world. I began mourning the life I was still living because I wasn't sure what I wanted to do with the rest of my life. I felt compelled to stay here and learn more about who I am.

It is difficult to describe what happened next, but all of sudden I was determined to stay and do well. I wanted to graduate with all of my friends, go out on "school nights" and live in a cramped apartment with three other people. A wave of motivation, commitment and focus came over me—so much so that throughout summer school I was in the library before my 10 a.m. class and then afterwards until the library closed. I even changed my program back to a four-year degree with a minor. I couldn't put my academic calendar down or stop thinking about grad school—and this all

occurred over the course of two months.

I also began making smarter, more thoughtful decisions again. I could recognize myself once more, which felt great. My friends were not used to this new person who was now so academically inclined. I told them about my quarter-life crisis, and being the good friends that they are, they understood. In fact, they did more than understand—they completely related. Almost every person I had talked to about what had happened over the past school year knew exactly what I was talking about. "You too?" they exclaimed, bewildered. It was as if we were all part of the same secret club in which no one knew any of the other members.

Some of the people I talked to changed their program entirely, a couple of people changed to a three-year program and some decided to take some time off from school. I kept thinking to

myself, "why didn't anyone say anything?"

The one thing we all had in common was that this happened to everyone in their second year of university. Coincidence? Maybe, but I write this to make public what I have aptly named the sophomore crisis (although I'm sure the same situation could occur with students in various stages of their university careers). If I had known that others felt the same way that I did, I would have found the comfort and solace I had been searching for.

Whether you decide to stay in the same program or even the same school, it is important to research your options: there are many out there. I completely understand those of you who cannot be in school any longer because you want to start your life, but what's odd is that this is your life, exams and all. Your life is unfolding as you read this, and whether you are having the

sophomoric crisis or not, it is necessary to enjoy and believe in what you are doing. If you don't, then what's the point of it all? If you are feeling dispassionate or lost, you must know that you are not alone—and that everyone experiences the same feelings at one point or another. There

It was as if we were all part of a secret club in which no one knew any of the other members

is no prescribed drug or plain answer to these feelings of conflict, but the result is different for every person. It is important to remember that the sophomore crisis will pass, and you will get your bearings once again, most likely becoming a more interesting person in the process. You see, in the end, the thing about being lost is that you can be lost anywhere.

UCC? G.T.A.?

A Guide to the T-dot O-dot

Greg Hughes
Opinions Contributor

My name is Greg, and I am an Upper Canadian. That's right, I'm from the Toronto area. And I, along with a couple thousand of my fellow Hog-towners, am ready to invade Dalhousie and King's College.

"Oh no," you're probably thinking—yet another "poor me, I'm from Toronto and the Maritimers don't get me" article.

But wait—if you're a smart, enlightened person, you already know the obvious: learning always stops ignorance dead in its tracks. So here's my opinion, with emphasis on "my": I'm here to provide you with a secret, irony-drenched guide to Torontonians at Dal and King's. You can thank me later.

Even if you're not from Toronto (or if you've never visited), you've probably heard all the stories about the land of Maple Leafs, Mel Lastman and Money. Toronto is a self-proclaimed "world-class" city, automatically disqualifying it from actually being a "world-class" city.

It hosts the corporate headquarters of the big banks—corporations not exactly known to be in alliance with the interests of university students. Toronto has made expensive bids for the Olympics twice in the last 15 years, and lost both times.

And, of course, there's the nagging issue of city slang. If you're from Vancouver, for example, you're really from "Van City." At least Vancouver's got a cool moniker.

Toronto? You're from the "T-dot O-dot." Only in Toronto would slang sound like an email address. Not cool.

Now what about the students from Toronto? I'm sure you've met a few already. You can always tell.

First off, they will tell you where they live in Toronto. Yet Toronto kids use a mysterious geopolitical language that only a few outsiders know about.

When someone says, "I'm from Toronto," always ask: "Toronto or the G.T.A.?" Nine times out of ten, you'll find that that

worldly roommate of yours—the one who thinks Plato is "wise," has Man Ray posters on his or her wall and thinks Gord Downie is less a man than a poetic God—isn't actually from Toronto. Get used to these towns: Mississauga, Oshawa and Pickering. Toronto they aren't.

Then comes the school one previously attended. If you're a lucky frosh, you can throw terms like "UCC" or "havergal" around with impunity. For the

Garden Road seems so much like Queen West.

Or how hardcore we must be to be drinking shots of Jagermeister at the Wardroom, when folks from Saskatoon or Moncton are cleaning our clocks with their copious consumption of Keith's honey brown.

In any case, Toronto's road to salvation is in your hands, non-Toronto people. We're from a city that's been through a lot in the last year, such as SARS, a

“ “ Only in Toronto would slang sound like an email address.

uninitiated, these are names of very rich Toronto private schools with revenue streams that would make the Nova Scotia government drool with envy. Believe me, these folks are here too.

And lastly comes the shopping. We brandy terms like "Queen West" around, telling anyone and everyone how Spring

blackout and the Toronto Blue Jays' endless ineptitude.

In my mind, we're ready for a lesson in the ways of Halifax. We're ready to put the Toronto stereotypes to bed. We're ready to take a hit of Maritime life with humility, passion and grace.

Well maybe not the grace—the Wardroom's opening shortly.

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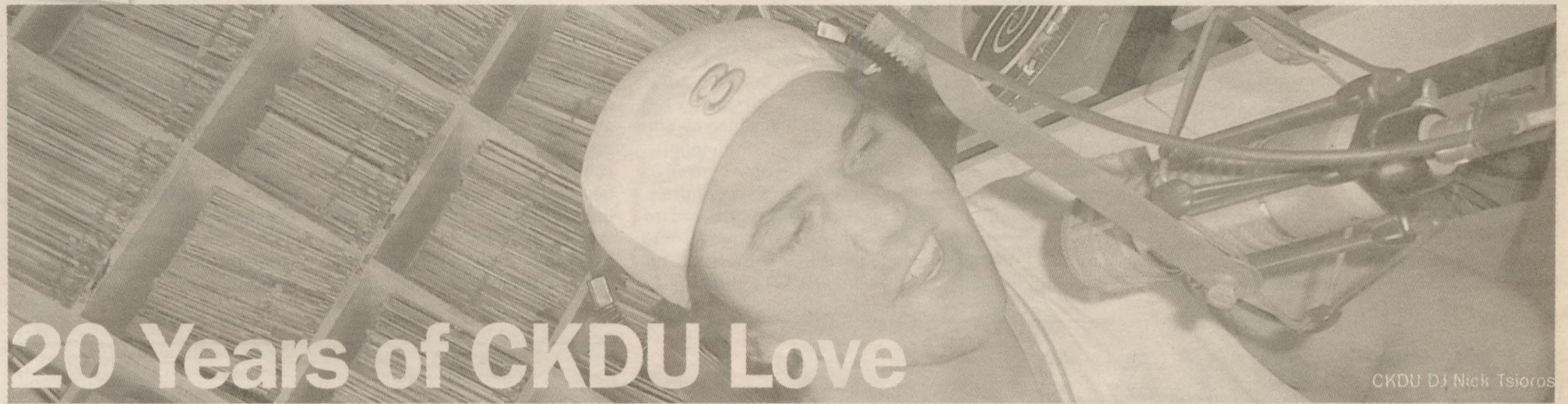
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CKDU Broadcasting Live

Friday September 10th, CKDU will be broadcasting live from the Grawood from 1 pm - 5 pm. Hip-hop, latin/salsa and local/indie rock. 4 pm to 5 pm features a free fully plugged-in performance by Wintersleep, courtesy of John Bruhm's Border Crossings radio show.

Hot Spots



20 Years of CKDU Love

CKDU DJ Nick Tsioros

Natalie Pendergast
 Arts Editor

CKDU, Dalhousie's only radio station, has been pumping its musical nads through the airwaves of this city since 1984. That's as long as most of us students have been alive—but while we've spent the last two decades hunched over books and binders, CKDU has been building up anticipation for its 2004 birthday bash. This year marks CKDU's 20th anniversary as an FM radio station—that is, a Fucking Magnificent radio station.

Although CKDU has been Dal's official radio society since the 1970s, it wasn't until the mid-80s that it was able to expand from close-circuit, on-campus airplay. Since then, the campus/community station has kept listeners happy from Dartmouth to Bedford.

Jessica Whyte, CKDU's music director, is eager to spread the word about the station's success. To celebrate its birthday, CKDU's staff has planned droves of activities for students and

listeners, including a CKDU anniversary party at various venues downtown.

"We're trying to get in touch with a bunch of people who used to be involved with CKDU and bring the old and the new together," says CKDU station manager Shelley Robinson. The station's staff is also working on a project with the Centre For Art Tapes that will include some multimedia festivities. Whyte and Robinson say that the anniversary events are taking place this year in lieu of the station's annual funding drive in late January. "We're going to have tons of shows," says Robinson.

CKDU is also putting on a seven-night chart history dandy that will cover 20 years of the CKDU charts, says Whyte. "We'll do the number one from each month, which will probably take five or six nights," she says.

As an "alternative" radio station, CKDU is forbidden from playing anything remotely mainstream. "Part of our license dictates that we provide an alternative to commercial radio stations

Q104, C100, and public radio CBC," says Robinson. CKDU's license agreement is with the Canadian Radio Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), a division of the federal government that deals with the regulation of all broadcast media.

"We have a 'promise of performance' with the CRTC which is kind of general to campus/community radio stations because we are a whole sector," Robinson says. There are about 200 of these types of stations across the country, she says. Criteria for the licensing of campus/community stations include being accessible to the community, playing diverse kinds of music and abstaining from playing hits. "Typically, we're allowed [to play] 10 per cent hits," says Robinson, "and a 'hit' is anything that has ever been in the top 40. Ever."

In order to become a certified FM radio station, CKDU bushwhacked through a rigorous CRTC application process. The station needed better equipment and more funding, both of

which it eventually got from the Dalhousie Student Union.

Over the past 20 years, CKDU has had to deal with a lot of CRTC's red tape and restrictive content control. This even resulted in a brief moment of national fame for CKDU: "It was right around 1994 or 1995 and there was a program called 'All Gay All Day' that was put on by a first-year student here at Dal," says Robinson. "Somebody called in a complaint to the CRTC, and there was a hearing about it."

Robinson remembers a major media blitz and a post-carding campaign directed against the CRTC that came as a result of the broadcast. "It became a campaign for all the campus/community radio stations to broadcast 'All Gay All Day' the next year, across the country," she says.

In the end, the CRTC reversed its content restrictions and CKDU has since been its less censored self. It shows: with its freedom intact, CKDU's diverse programming is thriving. "We have all genres from Greek to Egyptian, to Arab, to hip-hop,

to rock and weird electro," says Whyte. "I think the majority of shows though tend to fall into the hip-hop and kind of indie-rock, indie-pop [genre.]" She adds that many radio shows are spoken word and feature no music at all. These shows, usually airing between 5 and 6 p.m., and at noon, are sometimes syndicated. "They play on tens of other stations not only across the country, but across the continent."

CKDU's variety is not just limited to programming content—personalities within the radio station are just as unique. Part of the station's artistic edge is attributed to the fact that it broadcasts live in an unscripted media. "We have hosts who are grumpy people and they do awesome shows, but they don't sound totally cheerful when they are doing the show, so that's part of the difference," Robinson explains. "Q104 tries so hard to be cool and to sound funny, and when that happens on CKDU it's because it's really happening, it's not because someone's like, 'okay, I have to make a penis joke now.'"

CKDU sets itself apart from other stations by avoiding mainstream taste. "On commercial radio I'll hear a song that I'd heard thousands of times and at first I'll go, 'I love this song!'" says Robinson. "But really, I just recognize the song. People don't have that [problem] with CKDU."

In the future, Robinson and Whyte hope to increase CKDU's broadcasting power. "If we went as high as 2000 watts, you'd be able to pick us up as far as the valley," says Whyte.

The staff also hopes to see more volunteers join the society. "We have an orientation session every week and it rotates days every time," Whyte says. "If you can't make it one week on Tuesday at 2 p.m., it might be Wednesday at 4 p.m. the next week."

This Sunday, September 12, CKDU is offering a one-time only all day train-a-thon. "It's five or six training sessions, and you can get them all done in one day," says Whyte, "and there's going to be pizza."

To check out schedules, meeting times, and orientation packages, go to www.ckdu.ca. To listen to CKDU, tune into 97.5 on the FM dial.

www.thewakingeyes.com

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It's In Her Nature

Sarah Harmer speaks about her music and her passion for the environment



Chris McClusky
Staff Contributor

Sarah Harmer may be best known for her melancholy lyrics and serene vocals—but according to her, she's just as interested in ecological and political awareness.

"I am fascinated by the wild and natural systems," explains the internationally acclaimed artist who has lived much of her life in the tranquility of rural surroundings. "I feel there's lots of work to be done, and things as citizens we have to recognize."

Personal journal entries on her website (www.sarahharmer.com) bring attention to ecological issues of interest to her, as well as associated events. These include northern Nova Scotia's annual Evolve Festival and the Friends of Red River Valley—an aid collaboration for an area in the Niagara

region of Ontario associated with being the home for many rare species of plants and animals.

"Citing things locally is as important as it ever was," Harmer says. "Politics is life and not in a deeply bureaucratic sense, but at a spiritual level. The more we

I feel there's lots of work to be done, and things as citizens we have to recognize.

communicate and the more we act non-aggressively and cooperatively... it's the way it has to be."

Although she may not express her feelings overtly in her art, this "cooperative" Harmer speaks of is something she definitely makes the effort to contribute to in everyday life.

"This tour I wanted to use better, environmentally friendly geo-consumption, what thousands of people are doing," she says. "I like to make music for people who are working hard to live with values and principles while (co-exist) in a natural world and respecting the planet. I like to make music for those types of people, and other people too."

Sarah Harmer and her band will serenade Dal campus on Friday, September 10 and Saturday, September 11, the latter show being added as a result of high demand on ticket. The tour is in support of her latest album, *All of Our Names*, which was released following a four-year hiatus from recording. During those four years, Harmer garnered quite a bit of attention in the U.S., including *Time Magazine* calling *You Were Here* one of the 10 best releases of the year 2000, props

from Rolling Stone and appearances on many highly watched talk shows, including "the Late Show" with David Letterman. *You Were Here* sold almost as many copies in the states as it did in Canada (100,000 at home as compared to 80,000 south of the border), and, if this was not enough, it wasn't all Harmer engulfed herself in.

"I did some singing on other peoples' records, that's for sure," Harmer once said about how her art has changed after a four-year gap between CD releases. "I toured for a few years after and also took some time off... the new record is more laid back and I have different tastes."

The difference in Harmer's direction is evident: with an increase in country influences, *All of Our Names* remains a close relative to its predecessor. It is still a serene album designed to

take it easy, listen to with your eyes closed and get carried away in your thoughts.

There is also a connection between Harmer and our fair city—the song "Uniform Grey" was written while on a stop in Halifax with Thrush Hermit many years ago. Harmer's guitarist Mike O'Neill also fairly recognized locally as a result of his independent work.

Halifax is just one of the many cities Sarah Harmer will visit in the next couple of months. She's saying goodbye to the calm, peaceful settings she calls home to pay visit to 29 confirmed dates stretching from St. John's, Nfld. to Seattle, Wash. How does an environment-loving, gentle personality like Harmer deal with the rigors of the road?

"It's all good," she says, laughing. "I think you should ask me again in seven weeks."

Dal Society of the Week

The Good Humor Society

Natalie Pendergast
Arts Editor

Each week the *Gazette* profiles a Dalhousie society that stands out from the rest, be it distinctively fun, social, interesting or unique. This week the award goes to the Good Humor Society, founded in 2003.

Drew Pierce, co-founder of the society (GHS), was kind enough to enlighten us with information about GHS.

Gazette: What does your society do for students?

D.P.: "The GHS provides Dal students with the most high quality access to humor appreciation resources possible. We hold weekly meetings and occasional screenings for humorous media."

Gazette: Do you have an executive council? If not, who is in charge and what do they do on a weekly basis?

D.P.: "Our current executive council is Drew Pierce, president, Jordan Q. Powell, vice-president finance, and Jud Flom, vice-president management. We will be appointing a new council this

fall, if anyone is interested."

Gazette: Why are you called the Good Humor Society?

D.P.: "We are called the Good Humor Society because we enjoy good humor. The whole point of the society is to promote laughter and any student is welcome to come hang with us and share jokes--no matter how offensive."

Gazette: What are your policies?

D.P.: "Our policies are quite open... except that we don't allow anyone to come who is different from us in any way."

Gazette: What qualities do you look for in your members?

D.P.: "We look to recruit members who enjoy humor in any form."

Gazette: Is there any kind of acceptance process for students to join?

D.P.: "There is no process. Just come to the cobra pit and talk with us, or email Gord at gordm.acmillan@hotmail.com."

Gazette: What's in store for the future of the GHS?

D.P.: "Next year we're planning on having more movie/TV series nights... I believe we're planning a (Dave) Chappelle night, an "Aqua Teen Hunger Force" night, a "Reno 911" night and a "Sealab 2021" night for the next semester... email Gord for more information."

Gazette: Any funny stories from the past you'd like to share?

D.P.: "One of our members was just kicked off the my.dal buy/sell website for posting a cadaver for sale and 'wanted: fume hood.' She also claims to have made a posting for a midget Adidas jumpsuit with matching Von Dutch hat. She drinks a lot and tends to do some weird things so we'll keep it anonymous."

If this society appeals to you, email Drew Pierce at dfpierce@dal.ca for information about joining.

The GHS is an E-level society in the DSU. To find out more info about societies log on to <http://www.dsu.ca/studentlife.asp?cmPageID=208>.

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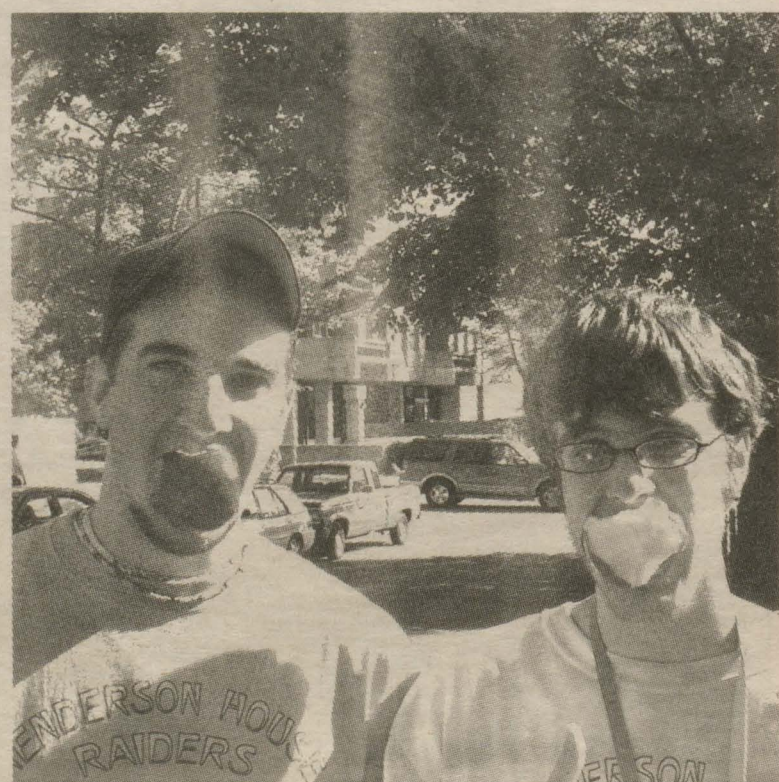
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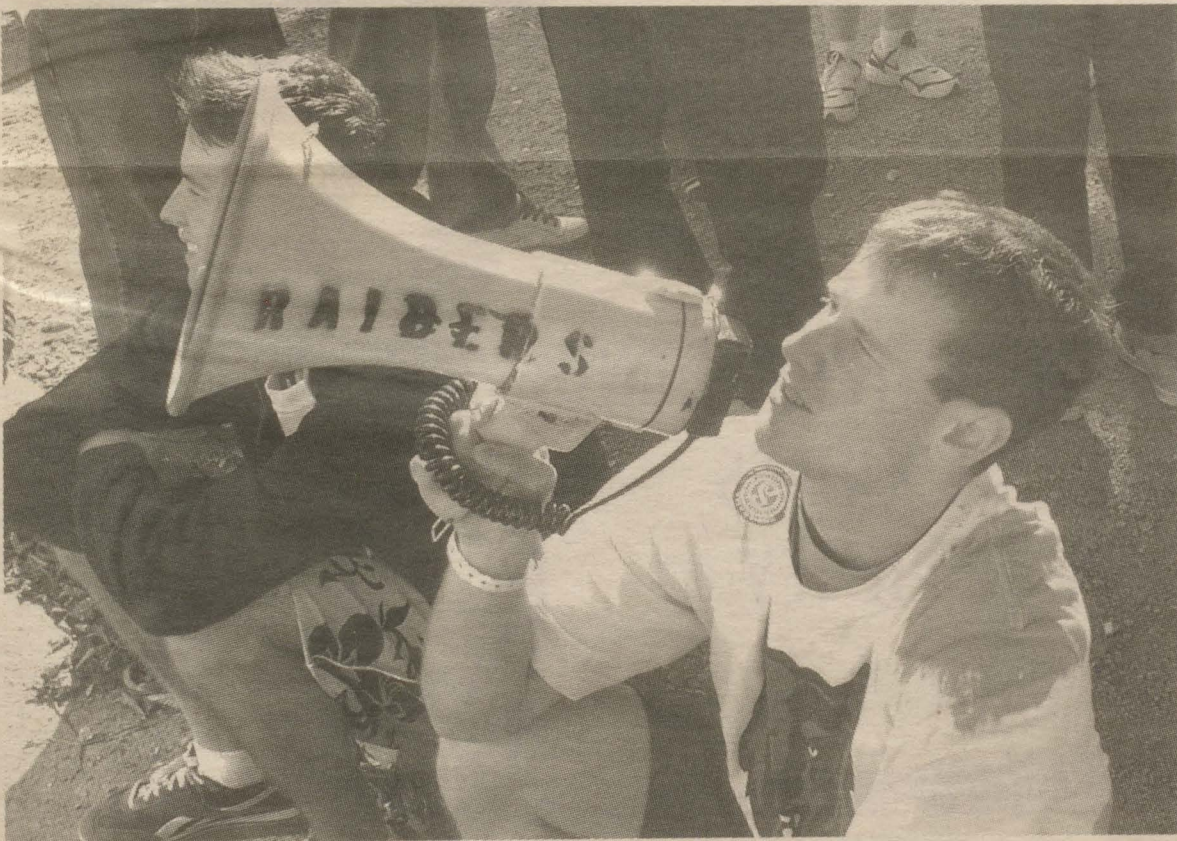
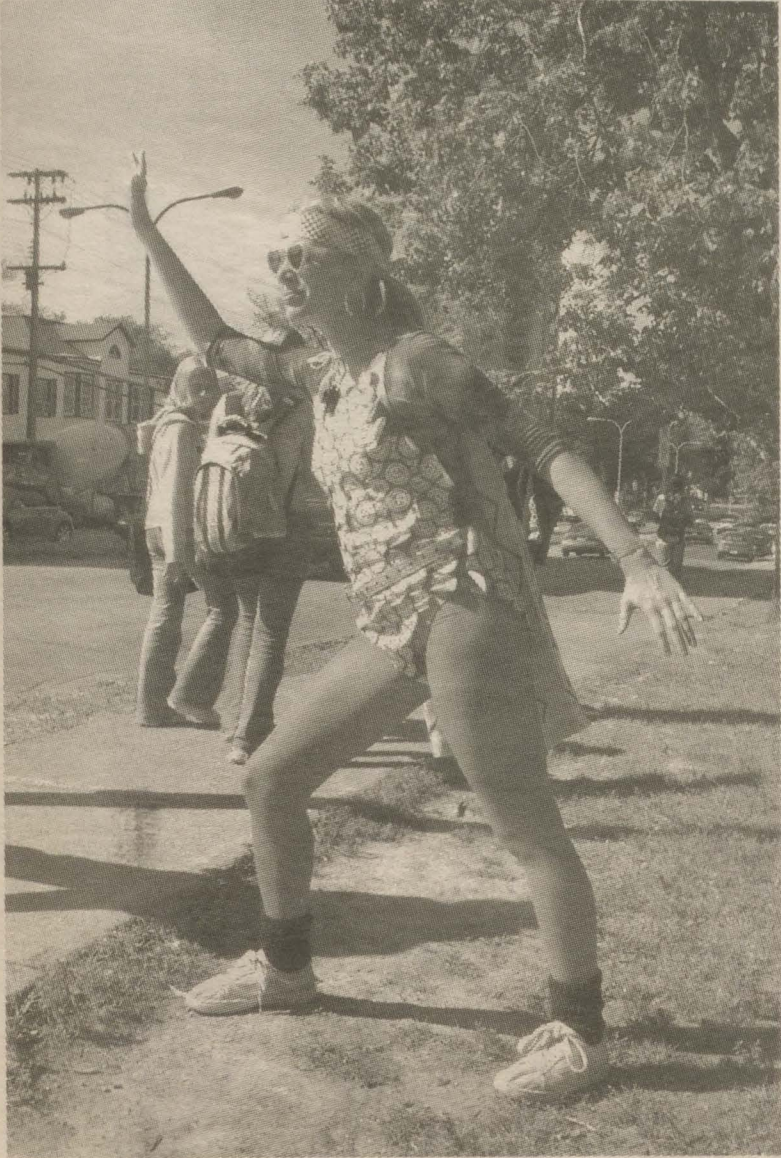
UNIVERSITY AVENUE

This is the first installment of our new weekly feature, "University Avenue." Our aim is to visually capture a different event, topic or place each week. In short, it will be a feast for the eyes. Oh, and for regular readers of the National Post—yes, we owe our inspiration to "Avenue."

Only a week ago, this campus was slumbering like an old dog on a hot day. Now, suddenly, Dal is alive, humming like a hive of beer-soaked bees. Returning students are back on campus for another academic year, while more than 1600 freshmen have invaded our fair Dalhousie. Frosh'd 2004 has been a major success, with events ranging from the Amazing Race to Beach Bash to Mocktail Night at the Grawood. But most impressive of all was the annual Shinerama, the all-day collection of funds in support of Cystic Fibrosis. Kicked off with a visit from Lieutenant Governor Myra Freeman, this year's Shinerama raised \$64,100—another impressive haul for a very worthy cause. In case you missed it, enjoy the sights of frosh week in all its glory. For better or for worse, this is the future of Dal.

Words: Quentin Casey
 Photos by: Quentin Casey, Loukas Crowther







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Streeter

What's the first thing you plan to do after you get settled on campus?

Li Dong *Opinions Editor*



Meet people... I guess?
- Jeana Hanlon,
first-year arts



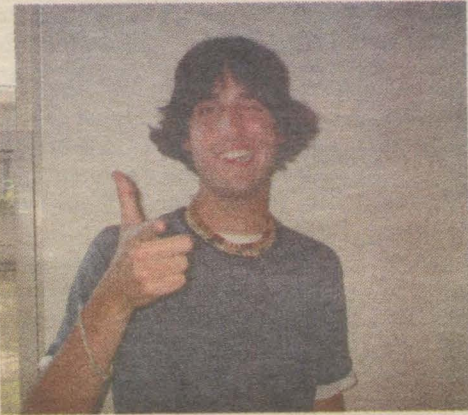
I'm trying to find information on
the war child group. What they do is
amazing, and I loved working with
them last year.
- Mehan Hiltz, first-year arts



I want to start a girl's baseball team.
It kinda sucks that there's ballet
and no baseball.
- Jacquelynn Holley,
first-year sciences



Have some Keith's... then some more.
- James Kelly,
first-year commerce



Find many hunnies!
- Rob Haineault,
first-year engineering



Have fun, make friends,
drink some beer.
- Katelyn Scott,
first-year arts



Well, we just got these from the
brewery—a nice 25 minute walk
uphill—so I guess we're
gonna drink them.
- Jon Grosman, first-year arts



Organize my hair gel collection.
- Chris LaRoche,
first-year panhandling

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Treading Walters

One Student's Theatrical Triumph

Natalie Pendergast
Arts Editor

Murray Walters knows every rut on the road to success. The third-year Dalhousie theatre student has struggled more than the average starving actor—not only has he had to deal with harsh criticism, impossible rehearsal schedules, and rejection after rejection, he is also disadvantaged in another way: Walters has Cerebral Palsy, which means that he walks with a limp, sometimes severe. Despite this, he bears his cross with pride and wears a smile throughout the hardships.

Walters is not the typical interviewee. Before I even finished shaking his hand, the first question of the interview had already been asked—by him. “Do you act?” After I explained that I don’t do much acting anymore, he looked me square in the eyes and said, “You are acting right now.” It became clear at that moment that the interview was going to be dominated by Walters; for the next hour and a half he babbled like a brook about winning the lead in his new Fringe Festival play, “Starbreak Hotel,” growing up with a disability and his plans for the future.

“Starbreak Hotel,” written by two former Dal theatre students, Al Bergeron and Dave Lavine, will be debuting at this year’s annual Atlantic Fringe Festival. “It’s a drama with bits of comedy in it,” says Walters, describing the play, “I mean it’s pretty creepy.” He says it is written around the theme of the Eagles classic, “Hotel California.”

“My character, Peter Browning, is having a mid-life crisis. He’s a [script] editor for the movies but he doesn’t like to admit [this] because it’s boring, so he lies to pick up girls.” According to Walters, Peter Browning gets fed up with his life and decides to make some changes. The repercussions of the choices he makes unfold with every new character he meets. Along his travels, Browning experiences a world so unlike his own that he doesn’t know whether to embrace it or to run in the other direction.

“A lot of the time I don’t think of myself as a lead actor,” Walters says, “you know, I walk with a limp.” Taking the role is particularly triumphant for him because the script does not call for the character to have a limp or a disability in any way. Not only is this role the first lead Walters will ever play, it is also one of his first characters who isn’t scripted as sharing his unique walk. In an



Left to right: Actors Paul Rogers, Christina Flemming, Lauren Messervy, Dave Lavine, John Wimberly, Murray Walters

number one weighing factor for success, Walters beat the odds and won the lead through sheer talent and acting ability.

On the other hand, having a disability often gives Walters an advantage. “It’s never gotten me down; I get roles because of it. It’s crazy.” Walters usually has little competition at auditions that call for a character to walk with a limp. Sometimes the way he walks is a differentiating signature for the young thespian.

“This is a character trait like how John Wayne had a side-stepping walk,” says Walters. “Generally when I’m playing a role, I just adapt the character to my disability and work with it.”

As in most comedies, the cast of “Starbreak Hotel” is made up of common theatre stereotypes: a tramp, or a suit, etc., with the exception of the protagonist—a very normal, real and boring character intended to relate more closely with audiences.

“When I go up there I don’t feel like I’m doing anything special because I’m just being myself,” says Walters. The directors of the play advise Walters to present Browning as a “typical Joe” and to just be himself. “You think that playing yourself is easy because when you watch Seinfeld you’re like, ‘oh Jerry Seinfeld’s playing Jerry Seinfeld,’ but in fact, he’s not.” Walters explains that the “Starbreak” role is difficult because although he is instructed to act like himself, he is still a character actor—different from being in a typecast position.

Walters can’t help but smile to himself as he lists the many roles he’s conquered, some of which include Dr. Seaward in “Dracula,” the taxi man in “Cabaret,” Mr. Fizzywig in “the Christmas

Carol,” and Captain Highliner in “the Halifax Feast Dinner Theatre.” As for his future, Walter says he has a few film auditions but he is happiest on stage, “where the adrenaline is.”

Despite his knack for stage performance, Walters admits that being in the spotlight hasn’t always been easy. “The toughest part was just getting by my disability,” he says. “I’ve had to gain confidence.” When he first revealed to family and friends that he was interested in being on stage, Walters was disheartened by a less-than-positive response. “I was told a lot of times that I was stupid and that I was living in a dream world.”

Walters remembers a time when he was working as an extra on a play and one of the director’s assistants needed background pedestrians for a scene. “[He said], ‘We need six extras to do this scene,’ and then he pointed to me and he was like, ‘no, not you.’ I felt like shit. Not me because of the way I walk, right?”

But Walters has learned not to let people’s opinions bother him or get in his way. “Sometimes when I’m walking by certain people, especially girls, I worry. I wonder what they are thinking. But most of the time I don’t feel that way.” He says that once he changed the way he thought of himself, he noticed that others’ opinions of him changed as well. “Have you ever seen ‘Starsky and Hutch?’ Well you just got to ‘do it,’” he says. “You have to work on not worrying too much what people think about you. You just have to raise yourself above it.”

“Starbreak Hotel” is playing at St. Matthew’s Church on Barrington Street from September 2-12. Tickets are \$5 each.

Report Card

The Stolen Minks

Date: Saturday, September 4, 2004

Venue: The Khyber

Reporter: Shawna Lipton

Stage Presence: A+

Audience Reaction: A

Sound: B

Effort: A

Rock-Out-Ability: B+

A few months ago, the Stolen Minks’ practice routing consisted mainly of drinking pink champagne. These days the girls are performing regularly and are in demand as an opening act for some of the best bands in Halifax. The Minks’ brand of danceable rockabilly music is simple and fun. Their lyrics encourage drinking, dancing, and kissing at the drive in. Their repertoire and stage performance get better with every show. They are sure to make you smile, as my friend Dave put it: “Look they’re girls and they’re doing stuff.” The Stolen Minks are a good time for all and definitely an act to look out for in the future.

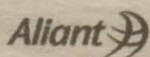


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Jugs, boobs, knockers, melons, milkshakes, guns, headlights, titties, milk bags, mounds, lemons, grapefruits, cannons—whatever you call them, breasts are something that we can't escape from in our sexual culture. It is no secret that for many men and women, breasts are a popular part of a woman's body. Our culture has kept breasts taboo by not letting women walk around topless on a hot summer's day, but the fashion industry continually designs clothing that show off a woman's chest. This juxtaposition presents a very precarious situation that leads to an all-out obsession with women's breasts.

Of course, I don't want to get on a soapbox and objectify a woman's body. However, breasts are a very important part of sex play and also serve a natural function during child rearing. There are important facts everyone should know about breasts, including appreciating and respecting breasts, and more serious concerns such as cancer.

Breast appreciation is something that applies to both men and women. For women, it is important to respect your body and

learn to enjoy what you have. For men, it is important to accept your partner for what she has. This isn't just a mental exercise, but something that can be reinforced in the bedroom. Tell your girlfriend how great her body looks, and how her breasts compliment the rest of the package. Feel free to caress and kiss your partner's breasts, and reassure her that you are happy with what she has. Often times, if a woman feels inadequate about her breast size, it can come as a tremendous relief to hear that they are okay and sexy. Talking about her breasts will not only make your sex life hotter—it will also make the both of you closer as a unit. If you enjoy talking about breasts together, you can also extend this type of activity to cover other areas of the body—and don't just focus on the sexual parts. Compliment one another about other features you find attractive: eyes, lips, legs and hands are all good examples of areas to explore.

Buxom women such as Dolly Parton, Pamela Anderson and Carmen Electra have sensationalized big breasts and made many lesser-endowed females envious. This is compounded by the fact that larger-breasted women dominate pornography

and modeling, giving the impression that the large bosom is the desirable bosom. It should come as no surprise that breast augmentation surgery has been booming in Canada: more and more women are opting to have their chests surgically reconstructed every year. The American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) reported that over the last decade, breast augmentation surgery has increased in popularity by 600 per cent. The ASPS states that most women who have the procedure done are most likely insecure over their natural breast size, and those age 19 to 35 represent one-quarter of the total number. It is also worthwhile to note that despite refinements in the procedure, there are still many risks associated with augmentation such as post-surgical discomfort and chances of scarring. On average, breast augmentation costs CDN \$5,000.

It isn't just size that matters: on the flip side of enjoying breasts, we also need to be conscious of things like breast cancer. This condition affects both men and women, so it is important that we all take the time to routinely check for any lumps or abnormalities in this part of




Breasts, the two objects that consume 3/4 of a man's thoughts

the body. The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation reports that in 2004 there will be 21,200 women and 145 men diagnosed with breast cancer. Almost one-quarter of these diagnoses will be fatal; early detection can dramatically improve chances for survival. If you are unsure how to perform a breast exam or think that you may need to have a lump looked at, please consult your doctor as soon as possible. To help reduce the chances of getting breast cancer, you should refrain from smoking, eat health-

ily and regularly engage in physical activity.

In closing, I would like to use the familiar adage about the grass being greener on the other side of the fence. If you feel your bust is too small, remember that women with larger breasts often find their assets to be a strain on their back and want them reduced. Learn to love and care for your body by accepting what you've got—and never forget that regardless of gender and age, we all need to keep our breasts healthy.




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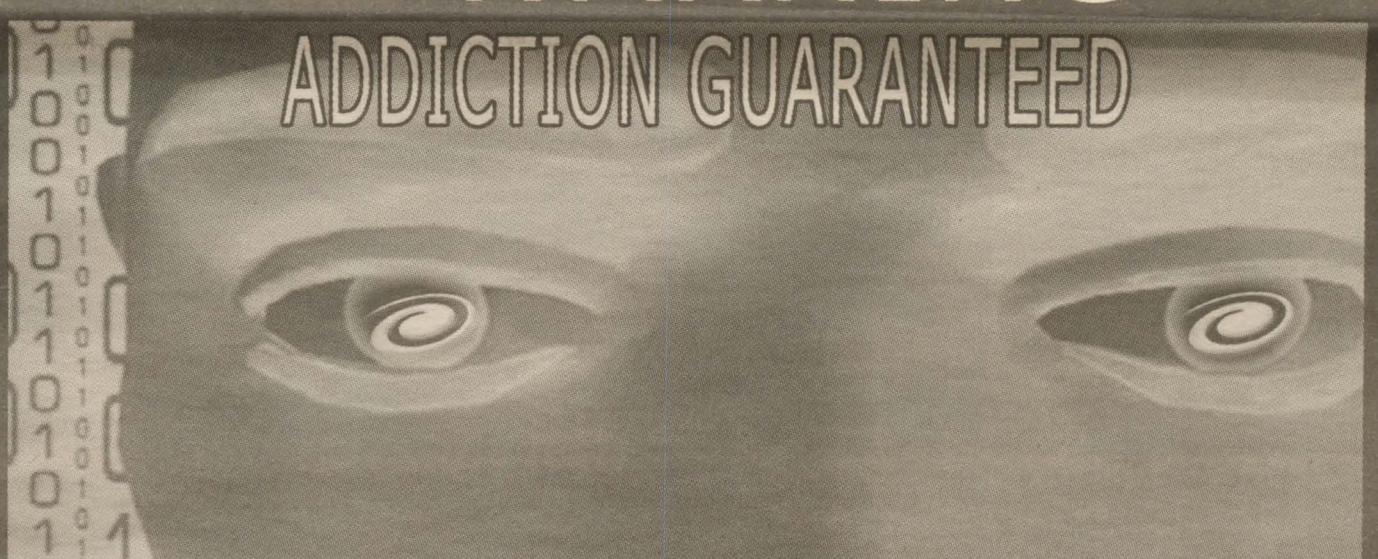
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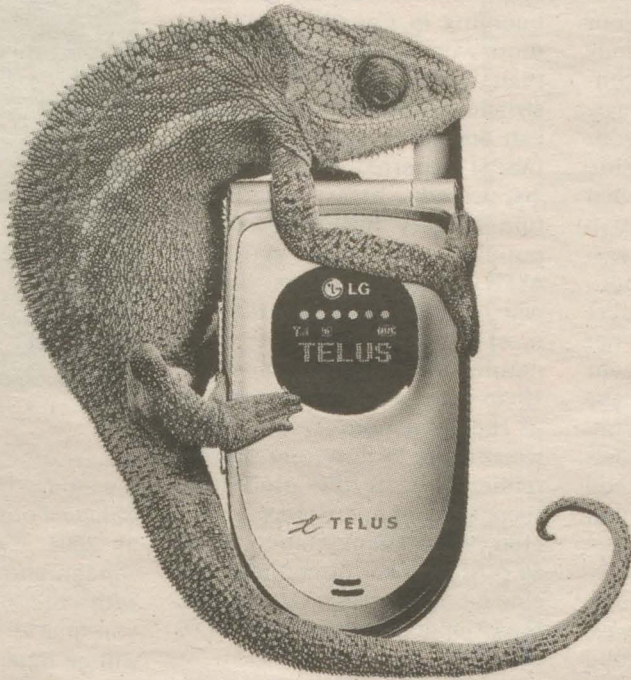
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Sartorial Eloquence

Wildflower Clothing

Nadine LaRoche
Staff Contributor

Bordering the top edge of Wildflower's turquoise walls are the words "dream, vision, passion," repeated over and over in gold cursive writing. Jill Strong, owner of the Clyde Street boutique, says these words reflect just how the store started. "We had to have a dream, and then we envisioned that dream," says Strong, "and I think in order to be successful, you have to be passionate about what you're doing."

Six years ago, Strong landed in Halifax from Edmonton to find what she calls a "void" in the marketplace for clothing. With a degree in education but no sign of a job, Strong considered something that had always been a pipe dream: opening up her own clothing store. "I don't think it was ever something we really thought about doing,"

rier of Lululemon. The store will be carrying Lulu's typical athletic wear, including the signature Groove Pant, as well as yoga mats and carriers, headbands, water bottles, underwear, track suits, velour suits and bags.

The Lululemon craze is far from a passing trend, says Strong. "Its great for just about anybody," she says. "Whether you're a student, a young professional, an athlete or a mom out walking the dog." Along with being functional, Strong says Lulu is a good fit on every body shape.

"In fashion, a lot of times, you have to be a certain body type to wear clothing," she says. "It's nice to have something that fits everyone."

Wildflower doesn't stop at clothing when it comes to dressing Halifax's trendsetters. Strong brings in several accessory lines that range from jewelry to handbags. Expect Matt & Nat mer-

\$45, Foxy is perfect for students to pick up gifts for their friends. Like Matt & Nat, Foxy Originals is another fashion chameleon.

"It can look very cutesy," says Strong, "but if you have that one piece with a white blouse, like the red design with the blossoms on it, it looks quite sharp." Mimi & Marge is another all-ages jewelry line, although its all-silver design appeals to a more sophisticated clientele than the multi-colored Foxy, she says.

Original designs from Viola Blanca and Jenna Herbut give the store an artsy twist. Viola Blanca uses fabric to create accessories such as ties, cummerbunds, cuffs, necklaces, flower brooches and raw silk belts.

These items draw in a different crowd than the other accessories lines, says Strong: the wilder side of Wildflower's clientele. Edmonton's Jenna Herbut also uses fabric for her signature Booty Beltz. These belt-sized scarves, made of a plethora of colours and patterns, have a silver clasp on one end and dainty beadwork on the other. Herbut's slogan, "No booty is quite like your booty," hints at her scarves' outlook of jazzing up outfits with a personal touch.

When Strong chooses merchandise to bring into the store, she keeps both herself and her customers in mind.

Strong's original method was to only buy what she liked—which seemed to work. Now that she's been in the business for a few years, Strong says she thinks of specific customers when she's buying. "If I see something that isn't for me," she says, "I'll think to myself, 'Oh, this customer would love it,' and bring one of it into the shop."

Wildflower can be found on 5553 Clyde Street, directly across the street from the Nova Scotia Liquor Boutique, and can be reached at 420-0364. It is open Monday through Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday: 10 p.m. to 6 p.m.

I think in order to be successful, you have to be passionate about what you're doing.
Jill Strong, Wildflower Owner

Strong says about herself and her former business partner Julie Livingstone. "But when I moved here and realized there was such a huge need for it, I thought, 'well, maybe Halifax could use this'."

After eight months of putting together a business plan, conducting research on university campuses and building supplier connections, Wildflower opened on May 12, 2000. The store, named for its blend of trendy and funky ("wild") with pretty, feminine and flowery ("flower"), found its niche quickly and successfully, says Strong. "I remember a lot of people coming and saying, 'Oh my God, Halifax totally needed this.'"

Strong first stocked Wildflower's shelves with the clothing lines Diesel, Powerline, Sinequanone, and Smoking Lily. It has since undergone several additions, including Lululemon, Naf Naf, J.Lo, Industry, Paper Denim & Cloth and Jessie May. These diverse lines give the store enough variety to appeal to many styles of dress: sporty, professional, conservative, trendy, urban and functional.

Canadian athletic-wear company Lululemon Athletica joined the Wildflower family just short of two years ago when a friend of Strong's brought a Lulu tank top back from Toronto. When Strong brought the athletic line into her store, it wasn't quite the über-trend it is now, she says. A few months after Lulu appeared on the Wildflower shelves, the line started to explode. "Honestly," she says, "I had no idea what I was getting myself into."

Wildflower is metro's only car-

chandise in the store come fall, including sleek wallets, practical purses, weekend bags, booties and a Bow Wow dog bag for those who like to carry their pooch in style. Matt & Nat's highlights include low prices on trendy clothing and a vegan vow to steer clear of leather. Matt & Nat appeals to all ends of the fashion spectrum, says Strong.

Wildflower's jewelry showcases are filled with several lines, including Foxy Originals and Mimi & Marge. Foxy, founded by two Toronto-based jewelry designers, Jen Kluger and Suzie Orol, is known for its bright colours and simple, almost geometric, designs. Strong has been carrying the line for about a year and says it is one of her store's most popular jewelry lines. With a price range between around \$25 and



The chair and the magazines are for boyfriends and other fellow shoppers to sit back relax making it a comfortable inviting place. (Above)



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Creative Featurette

Each week, the Gazette's arts and culture section showcases the creative work of one student on campus. These pieces range from poetry to comic strips to short stories and are as unique as the students that create them.

This week's feature is a poem.

Loathsome Neighbor

By Becky Mowat, fourth-year English.

The summer fills pants like brooding
and he watches from ten yards
He knows my schedule
he has memorized every inch
of me and my schedule
and wow, how thrilling.
Please watch a little closer
Stare a little bit harder.
Stare
Why don't you stare.
He watches her hang under garments
dripping wet
watching them dry as the pendulum
creeps by
and then back again
wet wet wet
Brick monuments stay still forever.
How similar are your eyes
from ten yards.
Dignity thins in humidity
as do hair lines, bikini lines
and the plots of the lives
of middle-aged loathsome men.

If you would like your creative work published please submit it to gazettearts@hotmail.com or drop by our weekly meetings, held every Monday at 4:30 p.m. in room 312 of the Student Union Building.

Burn Baby Burn Your Weekly Playlist

This week's edition of Burn Baby Burn is selected by the Gazette's own assistant arts and culture editor, Lindsay Dobbin.

Sufjan Stevens
"For the Widows in Paradise, For the Fatherless in Ypsilanti"

The Decemberists
"Gymnast, High Above the Ground"

Feist
"Gatekeeper"

Modest Mouse
"The World At Large"

Sarah Slean
"Lucky Me"

Polyphonic Spree
"Hold Me Now"

The Beach Boys
"God Only Knows"

John Southworth
"Constantinople"

The Burdocks
"Pop Cult"

The Hidden Cameras
"In the Union of Wine"

Elliott Brood
"Cadillac Dust"

Iron & Wine
"Cinder and Smoke"

Tilly and the Wall
"Fell Down the Stairs"

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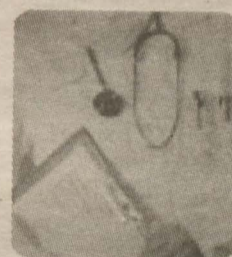
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November 1, 2004 Application deadline—first-year
May 2, 2005 Application deadline—upper years



TEAS www.ouac.on.ca/teas/
Teacher Education Application Service
December 1, 2004 Application deadline



ORPAS www.ouac.on.ca/orpas/
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Physical Therapy/Physiotherapy,
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Track and Field

For those interested, the first meeting for the Dalhousie track and field team will be held on Friday, September 10 at 5:30 p.m. in classroom 223 in the Dalplex. It's a great opportunity for people who may be looking to take their running careers to the next level, or for those just looking to try out their new track shoes. Bring a copy of your class schedule to the meet.

Calling All Sports Fans

The Gazette sports section is looking for new contributors. Come one, come all to the Monday meetings, 4:30 in the SUB.

Dalplex

Dalplex is now on fall hours. For information on programs and schedules contact the front desk at 494-3372.

Inside the locker room with ...

Matt Terauds ~ Men's Swimming Matt is a CIS silver and bronze medalist. He was last year's team MVP. Theresa-Anne Salah Staff Contributor

What would you consider to be an embarrassing situation? Waking up lying naked on the floor.

If you could change anything about yourself, what would it be? I'm really forgetful. I guess I'd be less forgetful.

In your opinion, the five best places in Halifax are where? I'd say Athens, the Dome, the market, the Argyle patio and anywhere but Dalplex.

What bores you to death? Figure Skating and spelling bees.

What valuable piece of advice would you pass on to someone? Don't pee into the wind.

Varsity trainers looking for new recruits



Photo: Michael Gorman

Michael Gorman Sports Editor

It takes a lot more than athletes to keep Dalhousie's varsity programs running. In the last

few years, athletic trainers have come to play a vital role in keeping Dal's finest in tip-top condition. Now the Dalhousie Athletic Trainers Association (DATA) is looking for new people to join

their ranks. The program is completely volunteer-based and anyone who is interested can be a part of it, the only requirement being CPR and first aid training.

Varsity co-ordinator, physiotherapist and DATA overseer Sarah Gordon says that while trainers might not be paid, being a part of DATA has other benefits such as exposure to the various areas of the health profession as well as being an asset to the trainers' futures.

"The trainers become a very important component of the team and the experience is great for building your resume, especially for people interested in getting into medicine or physio or athletic therapy," she says.

The aim of the program, which has been running for over 10 years, is to give medical care on site for athletes. Though trainers take courses in massage, stretching, and taping injuries, Gordon points out that they are not certified.

In the event of an injury during a game or practice, it is the trainer's job to stabilize the athlete until they can receive proper medical care. All 14 varsity teams are assigned a head trainer and one or two assistants. They attend all practices and home games, with the head trainer traveling to away games with his or her respective team.

While trainers are generally Dal students, Gordon says King's and Mount St. Vincent students have also participated in DATA, and in some cases they work with teams from those respective schools.

If you are interested in becoming involved in DATA, or would like more information, contact Sarah Gordon at the physio clinic in Dalplex.

DALHOUSIE BLACK & GOLD CLUB

The Black & Gold Club has been providing assistance to student-athletes at Dalhousie University for the past twenty years. The Club provides support through financial awards, tutorial programs, and sponsoring the annual athletic banquet. Now more than ever, these are vital tools necessary to recruit high level student-athletes in an increasingly competitive market.

As a Black & Gold event package member you receive 2 complimentary tickets for each Dalhousie Tigers home event, including exhibition and playoff events, for only \$175 for the entire 2004-05 season. Support the Tigers as a Black & Gold Club event package holder and enjoy over 80 events this year!

Sign up today for your 2004-05 Black & Gold Club membership by calling 494-3372 and enjoy a full season of Dalhousie Tigers action!

ATTENTION COACHES!

Are you looking to bring your team to a Tigers event so they can witness top quality university sport action? Select an event that you and your team would like to attend and call 494-2212 to arrange for your team to come and cheer on the Tigers and get inspired! A courtesy of Dalhousie Athletics! *Some conditions apply, please call for details!

PHONE NUMBERS

Table with 2 columns: Category and Phone Number. Includes Sports Information, Dalplex, Tigers Varsity Camps, Campus Recreation, Court Bookings, and Dial-A-Rox.

2004/05 DALHOUSIE BASKETBALL

Schedule table for Dalhousie Basketball from October to March, listing opponents, dates, and times.

2004/05 DALHOUSIE SOCCER

Schedule table for Dalhousie Soccer from September to November, listing opponents, dates, and times.



Dalplex Home of the Tigers!

2004/05 DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Schedule table for Dalhousie Women's Hockey from October to March, listing opponents, dates, and times.

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2004/05 DALHOUSIE VOLLEYBALL

Schedule table for Dalhousie Volleyball from October to March, listing opponents, dates, and times.

2004/05 DALHOUSIE SWIMMING

Schedule table for Dalhousie Swimming from October to February, listing events and dates.

dal athletic shop



2004/05 DALHOUSIE CROSS COUNTRY

Schedule table for Dalhousie Cross Country from September to November, listing events and dates.

2004/05 DALHOUSIE TRACK & FIELD

Schedule table for Dalhousie Track & Field from January to March, listing events and dates.

2004/05 DALHOUSIE MEN'S HOCKEY

Schedule table for Dalhousie Men's Hockey from October to March, listing opponents, dates, and times.





Photo: Nick Pearce

Cleared for Take Off

Michael Gorman
Sports Editor

Running loops through Point Pleasant Park, Dalhousie cross-country star Janice Ashworth easily forgets the whirlwind of a day she's had, focusing on what she enjoys most—running with her teammates.

Shortly after returning to Halifax from her hometown of Ottawa on September 2, Ashworth spent the day at the annual Dalhousie golf classic. From there, she made a mad dash for the first cross-country practice of the year at Point Pleasant Park, leaving the next day with the rest of her teammates for a weekend training session in New Glasgow.

Ashworth, an environmental science/international development studies major, made quite a debut as a rookie last year. She was the class of the conference for most of the season, proving it by winning the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) title in November of last year. She followed the AUS victory with a silver medal at the Canadian University cross-country championships. For her accomplishments, Ashworth was named team MVP and Dal rookie of the year. Always on her feet, Ashworth was unable to accept her awards in person—she and Dal cross-country coach Dan Hennigar were in Italy, where Ashworth was representing Canada at the World Championships for cross-country.

Despite all these accomplishments, Ashworth would rather talk about her team's third-place



Photo: Michael Gorman

"I'm not really a competitive runner," Janice Ashworth says. "I love the team and working hard."

finish over all at nationals, and the men's fourth-place finish; she is very optimistic about the team's chances this year. "We have a pretty strong team returning," she says. "We didn't get a lot of new people, but we have experience and a lot of good runners."

Ashworth is quick to mention teammates Hilary Burn and Leanna McLean, whom she credits for teaching her how to pace a race last year. Ashworth is also excited about the decision by nationally ranked Heather Hennigar to spend the year training at Dal.

Though Ashworth is one of the most successful athletes on campus, you'd never know it by talking to her. Ashworth admits that competing isn't her favourite part of running. She prefers not to feel expectations, confesses that she runs for the sheer pleasure of running and feeling fit, and would much

rather focus on the team aspect of cross-country.

"I'm not really a competitive runner," she says. "I love the team and working hard. I want to enjoy the group aspect of it as much as I can. Being a part of the team is my favourite part of running."

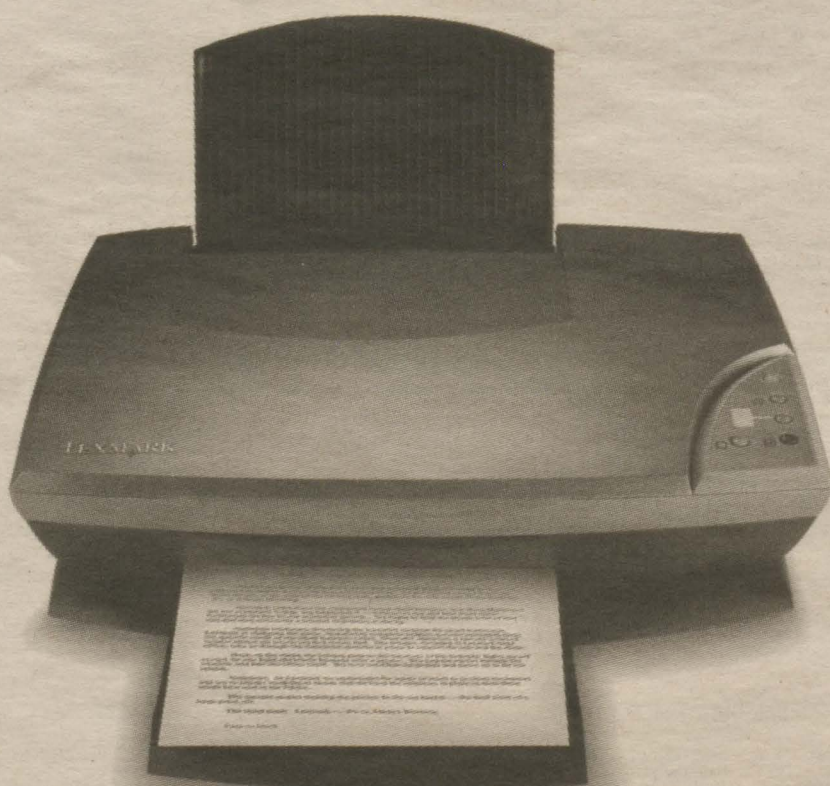
Talking to Ashworth, it becomes clear that she would be running, and loving to run, even if there was no success coming her way. "What gives me a real rush is finishing a great workout," she says. "Today's practice was great. It was my first time running with the team this year, and my first time in Point Pleasant since it reopened. It was really nice to be there. It looks great."

The first and only chance to see Ashworth run at Dal this year is September 18 at noon. Come see Ashworth have fun with her teammates—and do what she does best.

The Dalhousie Tigers take on Montreal University in last week's 1-1 exhibition game. Leanne Huck scored for Dal while Angela Donato used her head to keep a Montreal defender at bay.

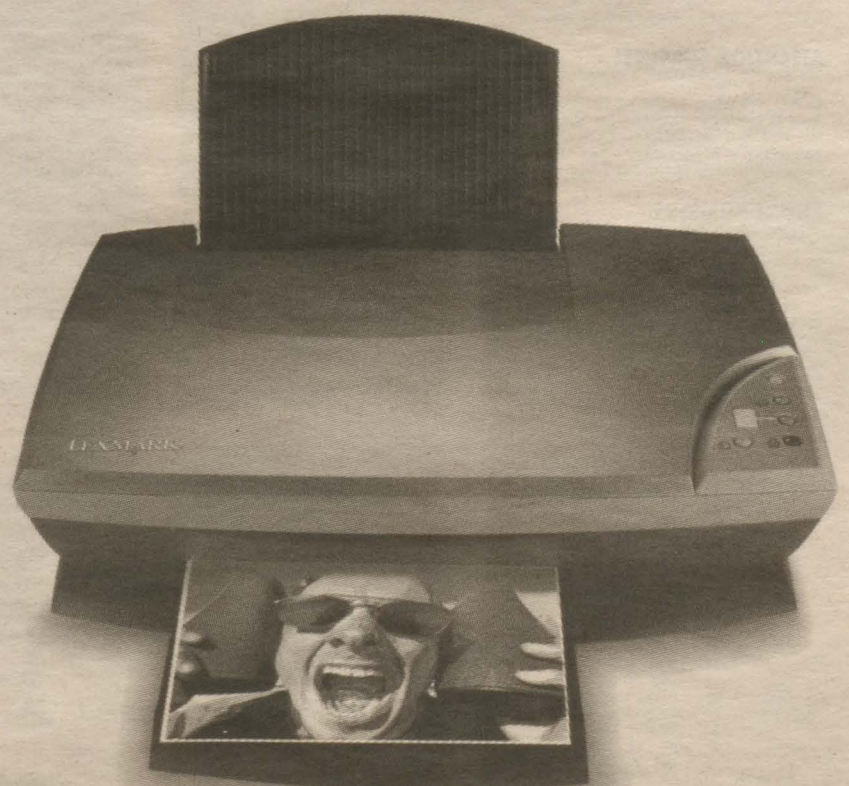
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Canada's Olympic Medal Legacy

J.W. Wildsmith
Sports Contributor

The summer Olympic Games are over, and with them the grumbling over our country's slim production of 12 medals. It seems that another quality can be added to the list of what makes us Canadian—bitching about our sporting programs for two weeks every four years. After that two-week period, we as a nation return our attention to our health care, education and taxes.

Perhaps all of the negative attention is somewhat unfounded.

We have two major factors working against us: 1. Canada is a middle-of-the-pack country in terms of population. 2. Canada is a cold country that is buried under ice and snow for at least a third of the year.

When we evaluate our performance it must be through this spectrum. Of the countries that collected more medals than Canada, only six had a smaller population. Of those six, only the Netherlands has a similar climate. The top three countries in the medal count were the U.S. (CIA World Factbook, population 293 million, 2004 est., 103

medals), Russia (population 144 million, 2004 est., 92 medals) and China (population 1.3 billion, 2004 Est., 63 medals). Simple demographics dictate that we have no business taking more medal than those countries.

The environment has shaped human development for thousands of years—so why should we expect sport to be an exception? It is very difficult to do a number of summer sports in Canada because of our winter. Have you every tried to kayak on a frozen lake, bike on slushy road or run on an icy track? As a result, we as a country are forced

to build indoor complexes that are much more expensive and therefore restrict public access. Between restricted access and reduced training opportunities we are at a disadvantage.

Many like to compare our results with Australia because we share similar social and economic backgrounds. But what Australians have that Canadians don't is a warm climate that allows them to capitalize on their natural advantages. All it takes is a quick trip around Australia to see that the average Australian has a different lifestyle than the average Canadian. There are public rock

pools, bike and running tracks and football fields all over Australia. The average Australian is involved in summer Olympic sports all year round and supports summer sports in between Olympic years, while the only sport the average Canadian supports full time is hockey.

Our strength, as a nation, is the winter Olympics, while Australia just recently won their first winter Olympic gold—a fluke in speed skating. Instead of complaining about our lack of domination in the summer Olympics, we should celebrate our great winter Olympic performances.

A Dream Come True: A Dalhousie Coach Goes to the Olympics

J.W. Wildsmith
Sports Contributor

While most coaches in the CIS were finishing up their recruiting drive for the upcoming year and watching the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens on TV, David Fry, coach of Dalhousie's varsity swimming teams, was

living an Olympic dream. This dream wasn't the usual Olympic dream, in which the underdog, typically the dreamer, overcomes all odds and achieves narrow victory. Fry's Olympic dream was one that involved adulthood, preparation over victory, commitment, self-improvement and performance.

It is these lessons that Fry tried to pass on when he was asked by the Bermudian Olympic committee to coach Bermuda's swim team. Fry became involved with Bermuda swimming last summer when he was asked to coach Keira Aitken at the World Championships of swimming in Barcelona. Aitken had just

finished her second year at Dalhousie and a decision was made to keep Fry as her coach.

Keira, a native Bermudian, qualified for the Olympics in her pet event, the 100-metre backstroke, at the Pan American Games in 2002. While coaching Aitken for this single Olympic race, Fry stressed that he didn't

want Aitken to get caught up in the immense pressure that comes from the media when you are competing for your country at the highest level or be distracted by the famous athletes sharing her pool.

Despite the excitement of

Continued on Page 26...

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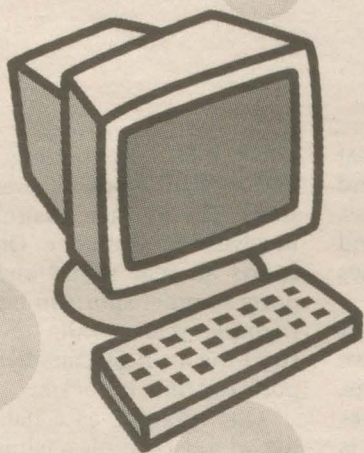
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Coach looking forward to this upcoming year....

...Continued from Page 25

the opening ceremonies, the highlight of Fry's Olympic experience came from Aitken's race. While Aitken went through her pre-race routine, Fry cheered from the stands. Moments later, his cheer was echoed by Bermuda's Chef de Mission and minister of sport, as well as members of Aitken's family and friends. The delegation would have more to cheer about a short time later after Aitken won her heat and set a Bermudan national record. But Fry's main concern was still Aitken's ability to control

her nerves, stick to the race plan and deliver her personal best time—by over a second.

Now that Fry is back and coaching in Canada, he is preparing for the upcoming varsity season.

Will his Olympic experience change his coaching?

"No," says Fry, nonchalantly. "My philosophy will remain the same, to try to help each athlete improve. The experience will give me more to draw on to help each athlete." Fry is now waiting with anticipation and excitement for the upcoming season—and a chance to continue to improve as a coach.

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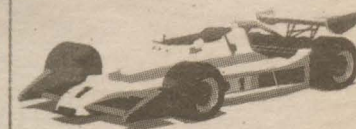


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Warning

Chris Fedora
Sextant Editor

For those who have not yet been exposed to the *Sextant*: whether you are a new student or a returning one who has just gotten over their illiteracy (that's how I like to think of anyone who was here last year and didn't read my paper... it helps me sleep at night thinking the only reason people ignored me was because they lacked the ability to read), I must warn you about the content you are about to read. The following page has been, and always will be, a satirical collection of articles and ramblings, intended for students, staff and (sometimes) faculty that require a break from the day to day

stress that often overtakes our brains while we are here at this pocket-gouging institution we call Dalhousie.

Last year, we at the *Sextant* got into trouble on a regular basis for some of the material we published, even landing in the middle of a "controversy" that shot-putted us onto the ATV Evening News for two whole nights. Well, a lot of other papers and writers may have learned from this incident had it happened to them... but not us here at the *Sextant*. I still stick my finger in the car cigarette lighter to see how fast it heats up, so there's no way we're gonna learn from that. Nope, we are going to continue to write whatever pops into our heads while we are trying to pretend to study, or look blankly at our profs while they ramble on.



We are engineering students, and while we realize that a lot of other faculties have it hard, not many of you have to put up with six or seven classes and as many labs per term. Rambling here is

our way of letting off steam and providing some real anti-stimulation for the rest of you students. You might have read that last little bit and wondered how we here at the *Sextant* could find

time to do this paper and our six or seven courses a term. Well, I never said we were A students, or B students or even C students... D for done folks, for some of us anyway. Two-point-0 and go.

I Graduated Here's Fedora!!! Last Year

Karen Smith
Sextant Contributor

I graduated last year. I have my iron ring, I have my student debt, and I even have a gmail account, yet I lack one important thing: a job.

It's not that I haven't been trying (I know that was a double negative, but it works), my resume has gone out to many places which have either no need for someone with my skills, or no vacancies. So I have figured out places engineers might be able to start their own businesses. These jobs pay quite well.

Depending on your discipline of engineering, here are some ideas for the budding entrepreneur in you:

Industrial
With your people skills you could manage a team of very efficient terrorists.

Mechanical
With your mechanical history, you could design a vibrator that would put all other vibrators out of business.

Environmental
With your spin skills you could

become an activist to prevent building a plant to employ 500 people. All this for the sake of saving a fern. People will actually donate money to this stuff. Or you could prostitute.

Chemical:
Two words: Meth lab. Or prostitute in a meth lab.

Metallurgical:
None needed. All you bastards seem to have jobs.

Mining:
You can stay in school for the rest of your life... Fedora's doing it.

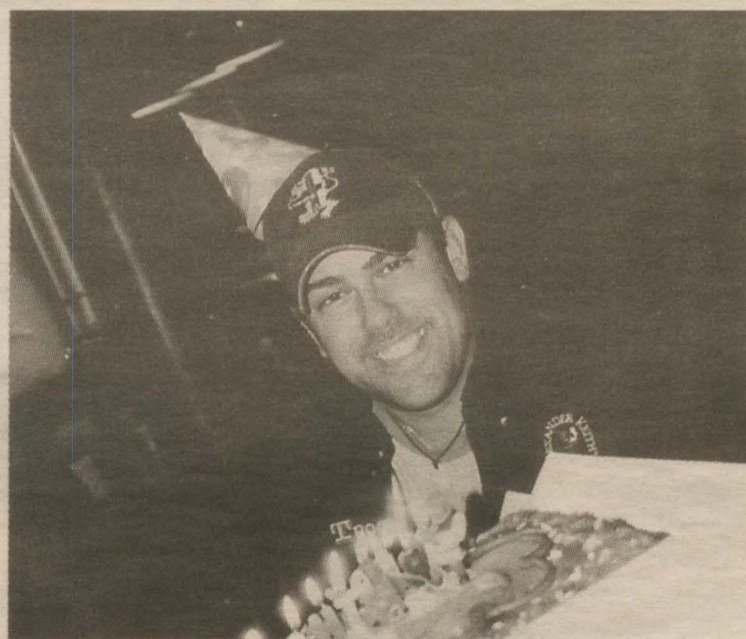
Electrical:
You are least likely to have social skills. Use your knowledge of electronics and the Internet to start a porn site. Challenge: you have to find women willing to have sex in front of you.

Civil:
With your knowledge of structures, form an alliance with the industrial terrorist consultants.

Overall:
If you're not ambitious enough to get a regular engineering job, don't worry. You can always make a living doing something a little shady.

Karen Smith
Sextant Contributor

Ok, ok, I know I was supposed to be done. I was supposed to be gone... but just like that bad genital rash you had after frosh week last year (that may show up again after this year's), I just won't go away soon enough. Bully Clyburn will be taking over the helm here this year, but because of logistical problems, I am gonna handle this first issue. After that, I will become a contributing editing consultant/writer for Billy's team. I will be around campus this year, and the reasons for this are the subject of my first semi-rant of the year. I don't want this article to be a continuous wine or raging rant about how I got screwed over, although it might turn out that way. Rather, I would like all of you "soon to be grads" or those planning on finishing your degrees to read this story and learn from it. I don't want Dalhousie to screw you over like they screwed me. I know I am not the only one that this has happened to. As many of you know, I was supposed to graduate last year and head off to greener pastures. But those plans were cut short just after exams by the fact that I was apparently one credit short of graduation. I was unaware of any such oversight in my records when I applied to graduate in NOVEMBER. I



went about my merry way the whole second term, my eyes on the prize, with only a few short months to go. I was even selected as valedictorian for the engineering class toward the end of the winter term. Everything was going great! Exams finished and I began to prepare my speech for graduation. Then, one morning, I opened an email from the school telling me I was ineligible to graduate because I was missing a course. I was blown away, shocked, confused... what course could I possibly be missing? It turned out to be a technical elective—basically any course I wanted that the department would approve. A friggin' technical elective people!!!! I fought and tried everything I could to get to that graduation, but the

administration would not budge. Graduation came along and after telling everyone I was going to be delivering the valedictory address, I was nowhere to be found. I was, in fact, at home lying in bed looking at my ceiling. Now I am back here for one more course and I don't even have to go to class for it—it's a research course. So, I really hope the rest of you use the half hour or so it takes to make sure you have all the credits you need to graduate. Or at least find out if you are on the right track—Dal isn't going to do it. They are happy to have you back for another year, and to take more of your money. All this free time means one thing though... I have all the time in the world to write articles for the *Sextant*—and get in a lot more trouble!

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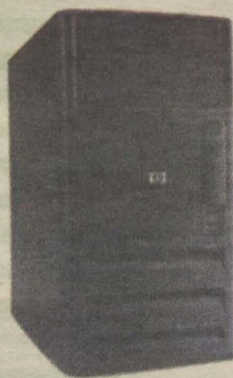


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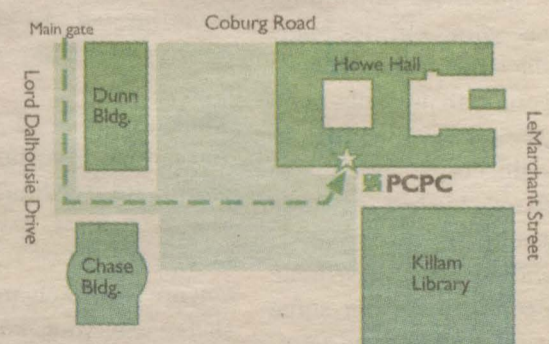


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