

Gazette

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

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Issue 137:05



THE CHALLENGERS

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U-PASS BLOGS
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DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION



www.dsu.ca

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.

The DSU gives out \$40,000 in Grants to students and societies each year. Each student is eligible for up to \$100 per semester and each ratified society is eligible for up to \$1000 per semester. For more information, contact Tamara Conrod, DSU VP (Internal) at dsuvpi@dal.ca.

The DSU, in partnership with Dalhousie University, would like to invite you to the

Halifax Regional Municipality Candidates' Debate.

October 14th at 7:00pm-9:00pm in University Hall, MacDonald Building. Doors open at 6:30pm. Come and ask questions of the Mayoral and Councillor candidates.

Reception to follow. For further information, contact Curtis McGrath, President at dsupres@dal.ca or 494-1277.

DSU Council Meeting

The next meeting of the DSU Council will be on October 13th at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers.

Anyone interested in getting involved with Social Life on Campus by joining the Community Affairs Committee, contact Mark Szepes, VP (Student Life) at dsuvpsl@dal.ca

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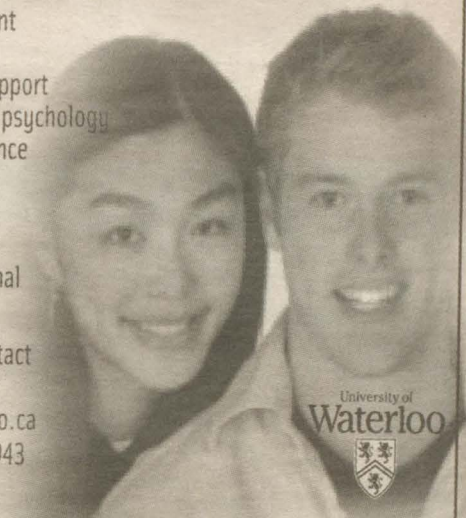
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Editorial

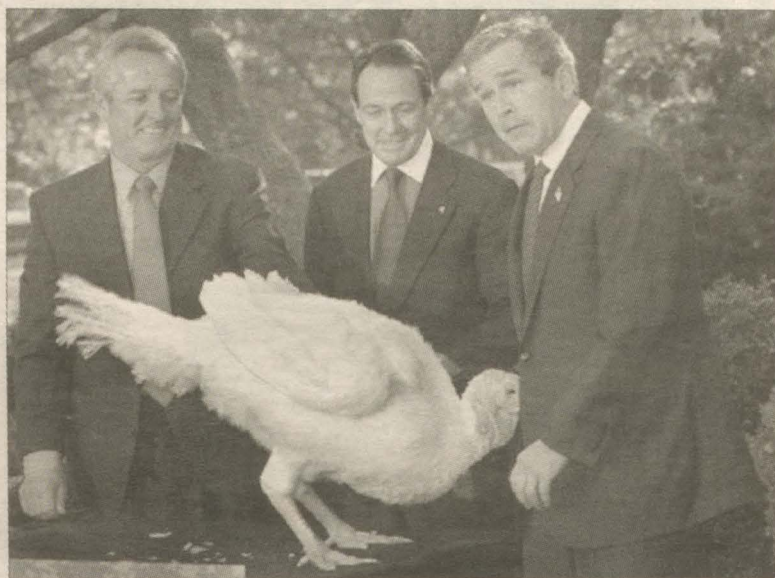
Quentin Casey
Editor-in-Chief

Just over a week ago, I called my girlfriend, Eva, on a Thursday night and asked her what she felt like doing. She replied that she'd like to see a movie. I suspected she would answer in this way as I had suggested the idea earlier in the week. But I had since changed my mind after realizing that the U.S. presidential debate was going to be on TV that night. I now really wanted to watch George W. compete in an on-the-spot battle of wits with the quick thinking and Yale educated John Kerry. Eva's response to this was a feisty: "I'm not American, so why would I care about the debate?" *Damn*, I thought. *Outsmarted again.*

But the reality is that many of us Canadians actually do care and watch the political goings-on south of the 49th parallel intently. It's hard to escape overhearing random citizens discussing U.S. politics—from the intricacies of their foreign policy to the fact that George Bush is a full-fledged idiot. We loudly voice our opinions on who should be president (the battle cry has so far been for John Kerry), as if our opinions have some sort of meaning or affect on the eventual outcome.

Why is this? Why do we follow the U.S. so closely when, in fact, few of us give a rat's ass about our own political system? I certainly haven't heard anyone lately debating the possibility of Paul Martin's minority government crumbling into another federal election. The sad fact is that the U.S. political landscape possesses, for better or for worse, many elements that its Canadian counterpart doesn't.

First is the fact that we are engulfed in American news and culture. It is hard to escape Americana, whether it comes from news on CNN or mov-



Relevance to the article? None. Funny? Yes.

ies from Hollywood. As former Prime Minister Kim Campbell said: "images of America are so pervasive in this global village that it is almost as if instead of the world immigrating to America, America has emigrated to the world, allowing people to aspire

The biggest difference between little old Canada and the States is that American politicians are more than politicians—they're celebrities.

to be Americans even in distant countries." America's biggest export is pop-culture, and we buy a lot of it.

Secondly, the U.S. holds such a powerful position in the world that its decisions and actions affect us—and the rest of the world—greatly. When America moves, even if only slightly, we feel it. To say that the presidential outcome has no bearing on our country is to deny the ever-growing power of the world's most dominant nation.

But the biggest difference between little old Canada and the States is that American politicians are more than politicians—they're celebrities. A friend of mine attending school in Florida told me that when John Kerry

came to speak at a Democratic rally in August, the line-up to get in spanned three city blocks. In the end, a huge convention centre was filled with people desperate to hear Kerry speak. In contrast, I doubt that any more than 100 people gathered to see

Stephen Harper speak at any of his campaign rallies in our last federal election.

The difference is that American politicians become something closer to movie stars than simply Senators, Governors or Presidents (need I even mention Arnold Schwarzenegger?). American politicians become, like the U.S. itself, larger than life. They come to symbolize something more than just the political office.

All of this aside, I know that come Nov. 2 I will be in front of the tube, watching carefully as Americans choose their (hopefully) new president. In the meantime, I will try not to heed the happenings south of the border—but I fear it's a lost cause.

Gazette

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COVER

Warhol appropriation all up in this shit. Loukas.

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I never thought I'd reach a point in my life when I would be come disenchanted with jerking off.



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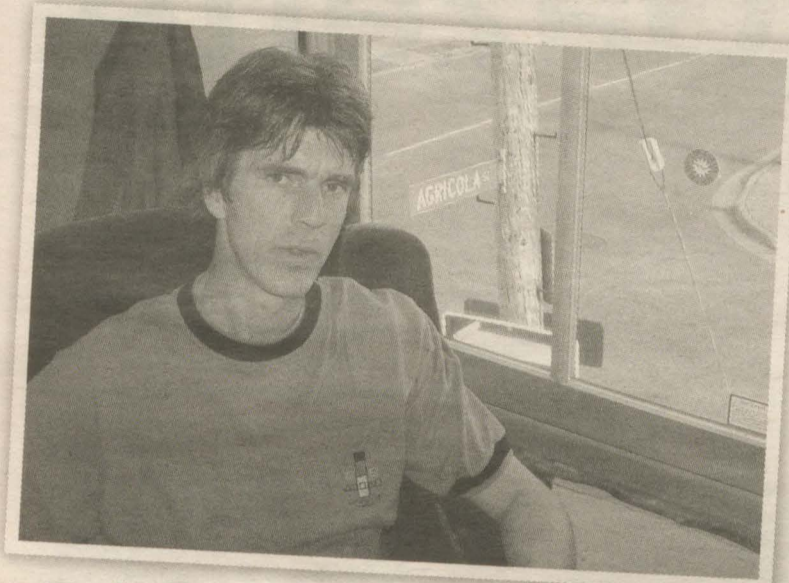
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THE CHALLENGERS



Ernie Brennan

Michelle Cameirao
Staff Contributor

Ernie Brennan, a Ketch Harbour native, former HRM employee and furniture craftsman, is campaigning to replace Halifax Regional Municipality Mayor Peter Kelly when voters head to the polls on Oct. 16.

Compared to his competitors, Brennan has taken a more colourful approach to his campaign. "The first day I showed up at Town Hall with my dog Daisy to announce my intention to run for mayor, I brought a wheelbarrow of documents that expressed my frustration with the apathy for reinforcing the rules and regulations of council," says Brennan. Daisy, his nine-year-old Jack Russell terrier, has been one of Brennan's closest companions on the campaign trail; Brennan described his pet as a "female with attitude."

"The big challenge is not winning or losing, it is influencing positive change in the system," he says. One such positive change is to offer more support to students. "The city has to support its universities and colleges," he says, including through the creation of more affordable housing, he added.

Students may also benefit from Brennan's plans to increase job opportunity and security, while returning a sense of community identity to HRM. "I would like to increase opportunities for employment and would like to avoid contracting work out of HRM."

Brennan does express his discontent with a particular aspect of student life, the anti-smoking by-laws enforced by the city and Dalhousie University: "Dal's by-laws against smoking are unreasonable." In terms of the wider city by-law, Brennan says that "people should have the opportunity to smoke in reasonable comfort whether in or out, with ventilation to clear the smoke."

Brennan says he has a left-of-center ideology, in comparison to some of his more conservative competitors. "The basic fundamental core to my platform is to provide leadership and direction with council, to ensure we are doing our job as elected officials," he says. "We should be taking

HRM into the direction based on the constituents' inputs."

Brennan envisions city council as "a castle of 24 people and the mayor is one vote just like everyone else." Brennan believes that city council should have a prominent role in all decisions made within HRM. "We need to also have an efficient council to complement the position of mayor. The mayor should be a collaborator, drawing on many people's knowledge," he says.

Brennan thinks that his past experiences working within the HRM have prepared him to be part of this collaboration. "I have worked within many different areas of HRM, such as a planning technician, economic development officer and community coordinator with the [former] Halifax county," he says.

The candidate has clear positions on two of the most important election issues, Sunday shopping and the harbour clean up.

Brennan is not an advocate of Sunday shopping. "At least [on] Sundays people can relax and chill out," he says, adding that he is concerned that Sunday shopping will hurt small businesses and the people who depend on them. "The flea market and the corner stores will be devastated ... Nova Scotia is unique in that it doesn't have Sunday shopping, let's not contaminate one more day with shopping."

As for the harbour, Brennan does not foresee a solution in the immediate future. "In our lifetime we can't expect it to be pristine," he says. "Let's build on small successes and look at a solution that will get people in the water and use it, not in 20 years but in two years." His proposal is to clean up various areas of the harbour, such as the Bedford Basin and the Northwest Arm, to eventually allow people to swim safely.

For Brennan, the first step to addressing these issues is getting to the polls to vote. "To not vote doesn't mean you can't complain," he says, "but there is an opportunity to vote for new direction in this city. The student population of HRM has the power to elect the next mayor of HRM."

Mike Flemming

Reid Southwick
Staff Contributor



Mike Flemming has been dedicated to serving student interests on the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) for four years—and he now wants a promotion so he can serve them in City Hall.

"Education should be seen as an investment, not a cost," he says. "Schools are an integral part of the fabric of our community."

Flemming plans to recruit young leaders from university student unions and high school councils, in both rural and urban areas, to sit on a student advisory council to bring concerns of the youth to city council.

The project will be one of his top priorities if he captures the majority of the vote in the coming election, and he sees a council forming as early as next January.

Flemming is also committed to addressing the imbalance of funding that schools receive from government.

He plans to use the authority of the mayor's office to lobby the province to place limits on tuition fees.

"Municipal politicians have a responsibility as a leader of the community to speak up and address these issues," he says. "I'm not a fence-sitter. I have no problem with standing up on principle."

Flemming also says he would work with the HRSB and the province to generate more funding for public schools.

The Municipal Government Act, which governs all municipalities in Nova Scotia, provides only major centres such as Halifax and Dartmouth with the ability to increase property taxes to fund additional education programs. And since the money has to be spent where it is collected, the former Halifax county and surrounding areas are left hat-in-hand.

This imbalance is part of a

wider problem, says Flemming. Amalgamation in 1996 marginalized many of the smaller communities and consequently made citizens feel "disenfranchised,"

he says.

For example, residents of Mooseland in the former Halifax County do not have a fire department, streetlights or even access to water and sewer but they still have the same tax rate as residents of Musquodoboit Harbour, who have full access to those facilities, he says.

Dartmouth has also lost a major part of its

cultural heritage. The Natal Day celebrations which were originally centred around Lake Banook and featured talent shows and fairs, were reduced to a parade and a shared fireworks display when the municipalities united, he says.

Flemming says it would be too expensive to split HRM back into its previous municipalities, but he would instead employ a task force to hear the concerns of residents from all corners and return to city council with recommendations for a revamped amalgamation.

Flemming is also committed to holding a minimum of six town hall meetings throughout HRM every year so council can better accommodate the interests of the wider communities. "People feel a greater connection when you take the extra mile to hear them and this will pay immeasurable dividends in making people feel included."

If elected, Fleming says he would bring the grassroots to City Hall. "I'm a proven alternative to Mayor Kelly," he says. "I know what it's like to struggle. I've had days when I worked in the morning to put food on the table at night."

Flemming has been in the driver's seat for 30 years. He knows how to hold down a job. He has gone from waiting on taxi stands to serving a 14-year term behind the wheel of a Metro Transit bus.

And he says he would not move from his trailer park in Eastern Passage even if the majority of the votes swing his way on Oct. 16.

"The only thing that will change will be my job description."

Victor Syperek

Reid Southwick
Staff Contributor

The Economy Shoe Shop patio is bursting at the seams. Tables, lined with shimmering decanters and frothy pitchers, can barely hold against the swell of patrons looking for seats.

The brick sidewalk is marked with overflowing planters that continue along the electric, magnetic Argyle St.

This is mayoral candidate Victor Syperek's "vibrant downtown." But he has only scratched the surface of his plans for Halifax.

"My influence changed Argyle St.," he says. "And I can do that to the whole city."

For Syperek, the development and preservation of Argyle Street have not been enough, and the entire city needs a development plan.

"HRM is becoming renowned for its sloppy development," Syperek says.

Universities must also play a role in the development of HRM and its economy, he says.

"If the schools left or in any way became less important in HRM, the city would be doomed. We need to keep encouraging students to stay here."

If elected, the restaurateur says he'd be committed to sitting down with university officials and addressing their concerns. He would like to see universities expand their facilities to offer affordable space which graduates could share, to begin their research or establish their own companies.

Under Syperek's plan, these young entrepreneurs would not have to take the risk of signing a five-year lease.

Occupants would pay monthly leases, which would increase incrementally as workers became more successful.

"That's when the city would step in and take a bit of risk with these students or young entrepreneurs," he says, adding that property tax breaks would be considered to lower costs.

The provincially-owned InNOVAcop is an organization that already provides resources for new businesses, Syperek says, and is interested in his idea.

He would also look to renovate vacant buildings throughout the municipality to further expand the facilities.

When asked about the costs of his project, Syperek is confident: "Good ideas in business don't have to be funded, they need aid in getting started but they make money," he says. "Hundreds of students would start businesses in the city and the economic spin-off would be a bigger tax base and more reasons for people to want to live here."

Continued on Next Page...

DSU Notebook

Frustration with graduate, undergraduate council representation

Brittany Curran
Staff Contributor

The inner workings of societies were exposed at the Dalhousie Student Union's most recent council meeting, held on Sept. 29.

Jill Houlihan, the DSU's vice-president of education, promoted the Nov. 24 "Wall of Debt" event on Parliament Hill. The wall will be made out of postcards that have students' names and amounts of debt inscribed on them. These postcards will be mailed out to students across the country on Oct. 9 to fill out and return in time for the event. The "Wall of Debt" campaign is an initiative of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) and the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA).

Alan Hill continued the discussion of graduate student representation that began at the first September council meeting, "Grad students aren't being represented fairly," said Hill, a graduate student himself. "CASA doesn't have the structure in place to respond to grad student

issues."

On a similar note, there was frustration with the high percentage of undergrads involved in the DSU. "The DSU is watered down by undergraduates," said Laura Boswall, the Law Student Society representative.

However, there may be a reason for the ratio of undergraduate to graduate students. "There was a grad student rep position available, but it was not filled due to lack of interest," said Jenny Cooper, an Arts and Social Sciences representative. Graduate studies representative Dennis Stavrou said that this alleged lack of interest was due to poor advertising. Further discussion on this issue was scheduled for a later date.

The Law Student Society's (LSS) recent breach of society alcohol policies provoked a heated discussion. According to the Dalhousie Society Review, the LSS had an off-campus event and a pub crawl, which violated the Dalhousie Student Union society policy's risk management section because LSS did not notify the DSU of these events in advance.

LSS members and other law students who attended the meeting defended their society, claiming that the policy is confusing. The society review suggested punishment for the LSS. If it is approved, the society would be prohibited from having on-campus and off-campus alcoholic-related events for the rest of the fall term.

Jacob Deng, who spoke at the meeting, gave a presentation on a non-profit organization called "Wings of Hope," which aims to benefit war-affected children. Deng is directing this project in particular to increase awareness of children in Sudan, his home country. "There is no opportunity to go to school there," he said. By promoting this organization in Canada, what Deng calls "the land of opportunity," students and fellow Canadians can help those who are less privileged. "How should we help? That is my mission," said Deng. The organization creates "education projects" including the construction and restoration of schools. Deng thinks Dal students are up to the challenge of helping Sudanese children. "Why not Dalhousie? This is the best place I know."



As a member of the board of governors for the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD), Syperek is interested in enriching the culture of HRM.

The board is proposing to develop a second campus in Dartmouth, near the ferry terminal. Facilities may include residences; large metal, sculpting and wood-working shops; and a "world class" art gallery. Syperek already has a reputation for his contributions to the artistic look of the city. The newsboy at The Daily Grind on Spring Garden Rd., the boxer and basketball player in the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame on Grafton Street and the unicorn on Bishop's Landing are some of his creations.

For four years he has also been the east coast representative for

VideoFACT, a Toronto-based organization that provides funding for music video production. "I've brought about \$1 million worth of video work into Halifax," he says.

As the chief owner of four successful businesses, Syperek is accustomed to the rewards for taking risks. Now he is ready to take initiative at City Hall. "We need someone to stick their neck out and say, 'Let's do this,'" he says. "I'm running for mayor because I love this city and it needs some polishing up."

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Students Asked, Danny Graham Answered

A News Commentary

Sarah Vanderwolf
Staff Contributor

Why does Nova Scotia have the highest tuition in Canada? Danny Graham, MLA for Halifax Citadel, visited Dalhousie Student Union Building on Sept. 28 to speak with students on this pressing issue. I was still stinging from writing a gigantic check to pay for my tuition the previous week, as I'm sure the other students present, including Dalhousie Student Union president Curtis McGrath and DSU vice-president of education Jill Houlihan, were too.

Graham discussed tuition and other student troubles with great articulation and empathy. As a graduate of Dal's law school, he was clearly once up the same creek as the rest of us are now. "The cost of university education is becoming increasingly out of reach... We need to find real ways to make [education] more accessible to you," he said.

The provincial government's recent record for making education more accessible to its students is abysmal. Despite increases in the student popula-

tion, the province provided only \$205 million towards post-secondary education in this fiscal year, compared to \$211 million in 1992. The government of Nova Scotia pays for just 41.9 per cent of university operating costs, the lowest in Canada. The high density of universities in this province, combined with the burden of financing health care, are two major reasons for this lack of funding.

While funding is a major concern for students, so is loan accessibility. According to a recent Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives report, the Nova Scotia government eliminated its loan remission program following the creation of the Millennium Scholarship Foundation in 2000, which made Nova Scotia "the only province without a non-repayable student financial assistance program."

This decision "violated the spirit of the agreement made with the foundation that millennium funding would be used to create additional student aid, not simply replace a provincial program." In an attempt to compensate students for the loss of

the loan remission program, the government established a debt reduction program in spring 2003, with a budget of \$5.1 million. The actual worth of this program is questionable, however, since this money is available exclusively to students who have already graduated and offers no assistance to those struggling to complete a degree.

Graham advised students to become politically active to try and solve post-secondary education accessibility.

Clearly, an annual protest march to the Nova Scotia legislature is not enough to solve the problem—as *Gazette* editor-in-chief Quentin Casey pointed out in an editorial last year. Graham suggested that the time to act is now, as the provincial legislative assembly will be sitting for at least the next several weeks.

Graham also remarked that for anyone who cares about "the dreams of the people in your community, investing in post-secondary education simply makes sense." As so many governments in Canada have yet to realize, education is an investment and not a liability. Univer-

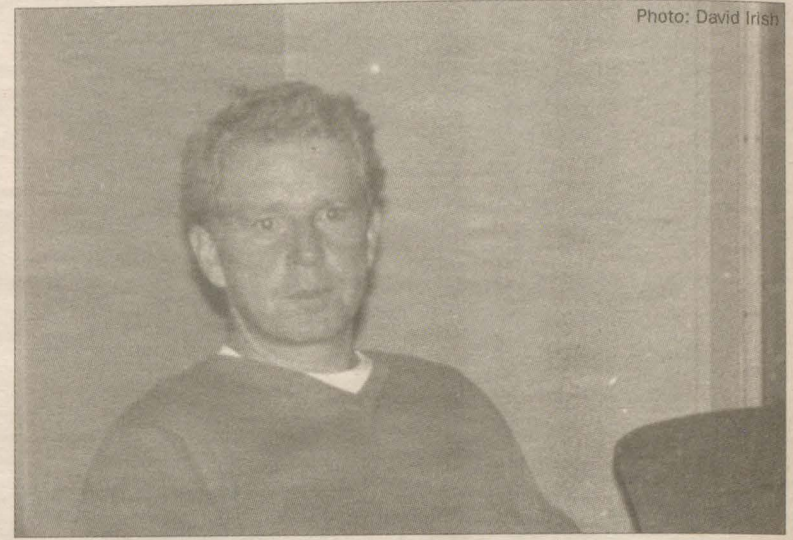


Photo: David Irish

Danny Graham gives Dal students his undivided attention.

sity students make a huge contribution to the local economy each year, and continue to do so after graduation. Universities contribute \$1 billion to the Nova Scotia economy and employ 17,000 Nova Scotians.

Having a large population of skilled and highly-educated people is unquestionably advantageous for society, and in the last five years, 80,000 jobs have become available for those with a post-secondary education, while 25,000 jobs available for those

with only a high school education or less have disappeared. The bottom line is that Nova Scotia needs to provide affordable post-secondary education.

Graham half-joking, half-serious, suggested students walk around the legislative house with a recent headline from *The Chronicle Herald*, "Nova Scotia dead last in university funding," taped to their foreheads. I think a more viable solution would be to move to Sweden, where post-secondary education is free.

Mexican Presidential Candidate Draws Crowd at Lecture Series

Laura Hynes & Esther Ives
Staff Contributors

Whether it was the complimentary beer, catering by International Development Studies students or the guest speaker, it's hard to say—but one thing is certain: a lecture on Mexico can definitely bring in a crowd.

Nearly 600 people came to Ondaatje hall on Sept. 30 to hear prominent Mexican politician Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, the first

lecturer featured in this year's much-anticipated Dorothy J. Killam Lecture Series.

Cárdenas took to the podium after cordial introductions from Dr. John Kirk, the series organizer and a professor in Dal's Spanish department, and from Graeme Clarke, head of the Mexico division in Canada's foreign affairs department. Cárdenas addressed the theme of "Mexico and the challenges of the 21st century" during his lecture, exploring such

topics as Mexico's foreign policy, immigration, globalization, the state of Mexico's political economy and its need for growth and development. While he acknowledged that NAFTA's impact on Mexico has been mixed, he called for the development of a closer Mexican-Canadian partnership so that "the two countries [can] work closer together to put more pressure on the U.S."

During what became the highlight of the evening, the audience

took advantage of Cárdenas's political experience in a question period, testing his professional capacity to remain calm under pressure. Many of the audience's questions dealt with Mexico's history of political corruption. But the crowd could not arouse Cárdenas who, when pressed for his views of the current governing party—the National Action Party, known as PAN—calmly replied, "the party has not been strict enough to condemn cor-

ruption."

However, the integrity of Cárdenas's own party—the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD)—has also come under recent scrutiny. In March, evidence implicating senior PRD officials of accepting undisclosed campaign contributions surfaced in the media. When Cárdenas was asked in an interview with the *Gazette* whether his decision the

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Students Divided on Sunday Shopping



Time will tell which parking lot will have more cars on a Sunday.

Katie Maskell
Staff Contributor

The fate of Sunday shopping in Nova Scotia will be decided on Oct. 16, when voters make their choice in a province-wide plebiscite to be held at the same time as municipal and school board elections. Nova Scotia is one of the last places in Canada that prohibits year-round Sunday shopping and the issue has provoked a long and controversial debate among many Nova Scotians—including time-crunched students who work in retail.

"I'm totally against Sunday shopping," said third-year Dalhousie sociology student Christine Bhola, who works at Mic Mac Mall. "Mall workers should have at least one day off in a week. Isn't that what the Lord intended?"

Many religious groups agree with Bhola, including Save Our Sundays. Along with Dare to be Different, another organization on the "no" side of the debate, Save Our Sundays is working to prevent retail businesses from

opening on Sundays.

"There are six days and six nights of shopping and retail and we want a day of rest," said Tony Lohnes, spokesperson for Save Our Sundays and Dare to Be Different. "We find it unfair. If we're going to be a seven day society it has to be wide open — there's no school or university or dentist or government offices opened on Sundays."

But for every vocal "no" campaigner, a "yes" proponent is not far behind. Nova Scotians for Shopping Choice represents those in favour of Sunday shopping.

The organization is "a group of likeminded people, some of whom are business operators and some who are stay-at-home moms," said Danny Hewitt, co-chair of the group.

Their belief is that the government should not make the choice of whether or not stores may open on Sundays, because the choice should belong to the public. "People might not be able to get there during the week, like stay-at-home [parents] or stu-

dents," said Hewitt. "The government shouldn't be telling us when we can or cannot shop."

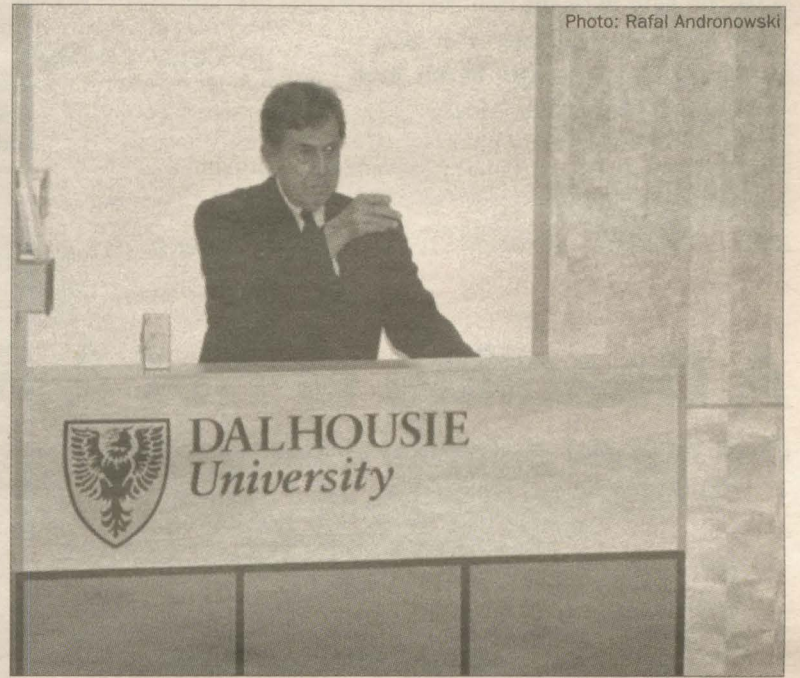
A group has also been organized to speak on behalf of students who support Sunday shopping, called Students for Shopping Choice.

"[These students] believe that businesspersons should have the right to operate businesses at their choosing, and that consumers should have the opportunity to spend their money when they see fit," said Ryan O'Connor, a Dal law student and chair of the organization. His group believes that Sunday shopping would be an economic boon to the province.

Lohnes says that "choice" is the wrong word for his opponents to use when promoting Sunday shopping. "Nova Scotians for Shopping Choice isn't a choice," he said. "It is taking away choice."

Even after the final results are in, it is clear that the issue will not be settled—there will still be plenty of disagreement about Sunday shopping.

Mexico Lecture Series, con't...



Cárdenas addresses a question from the audience on Tuesday.

Continued from Previous Page...

following month to resign from his post within the party had anything to do with the scandals, he said no. He explained that he felt it necessary to resign after his proposal to have all members of the party's national council tender their resignations went unsupported.

Still, Cárdenas is not cynical, and wants to increase youth involvement in Mexican politics. "There aren't as many [students involved] as desired," he said in an interview, comparing his country's situation to Canada's, where many young people are politically apathetic. He said he believes that today's youth gravitate toward outlets that offer immediate action—such as protests—and they are discouraged from partaking in political parties where progress and change take more time and patience.

Another area of concern for Cárdenas involves Mexican students studying abroad, including in Canada. Creating a legal process, which would allow Mexican citizens residing abroad to vote in Mexico's federal elections, has been a mandate of the PDR since

the party was founded in 1989. "According to the Constitution, they can vote," said Cárdenas. He denounced Mexico's current and previous administrations for their failures to enact the necessary laws that would establish and regulate an electoral system for those Mexicans away from home during election time. Extending the franchise to Mexicans living abroad "could have an impact" on the 2006 federal elections, Cárdenas explained.

Despite his recent resignation from holding an official party Cárdenas plans to retire any time soon. "I will be promoting a project of sovereignty, of democratic changes, of giving attention with priority to the people's needs," he said. "And that is regardless of whether I participate as candidate or if I have an election post. That's my personal commitment."

Other events in this year's series include: a lecture from Mexican poet and acclaimed novelist, Homero Aridjis, on Oct. 21 at in Ondaatje Hall, 8:00 p.m.; films by directors Luis Bunel (Oct. 6), Paul Leduc (Oct. 13), and Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu (Oct. 20) in Room 2198 of the McCain Building, 7:30 p.m.

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To the guy who picked me up off the ground and threw me into the back of a pickup truck thus chipping two of my teeth

Was that really necessary? I mean, it wasn't even your girlfriend I was walking with... it was your boss's. It's nice to see

that hitmen still get work these days... oh what's that? You did it for free? Well that's quite charitable of you. Maybe you can help me with my dental bill next! I swear I would tell you off harder if I didn't have to work beside you four days out of the week.

To the girl at Stage Nine who freaked out on Chris LaRoche for his anti-King's comments in Streeter, then started yelling at me when she found out that I was the opinions editor. Reality's a hard thing to grasp sometimes. To believe

that Chris is clever enough to come up with all those Streeter comments by himself is an exercise in lunacy. We have an elite panel of philosophers, novelists, Nobel Prize laureates, ex-presidents and trapeze artists who discuss what he's going to say every week. It's not my fault they all hate King's.

Vent (Li Dong / Opinions Editor)

A Deadline Is Not A Suggestion?

Our helpful guide to getting an extension on your essay

Li Dong
Opinions Editor

Let's paint a picture here. It's 12:37 a.m. on Friday morning and your essay is due in seven hours. Meanwhile, you're staring blankly at your computer monitor like it was a magic eye illustration.

You look down at your Windows task bar and to the right of the START button there's a box that still says, "Document 1" because you haven't done enough work on Word as to merit saving and naming yet. Besides that, there are three games of Spider Solitaire still active... and you're not even close to winning any of them. Does this sound familiar? Wouldn't it be nice to have just one more day to work on the essay? Or even one more hour? Surely there's some middle ground that can be reached between you and your Prof, right?

Maybe you've been down on your luck. Maybe you've had an extra shift dropped on you recently at work. Or maybe you blew away the entire evening trying to convince your roommate to *not* go see *The Village* because the dialogue in the film made you want to dry-heave... whatever your reasons for being behind may be, here are some tips to keep in mind when asking for that precious extra time from your professors.

Ask in Advance

"The worst thing to do is to leave it to the last moment," says a Dal sociology professor, "if you phone the night before and leave a voice message it would have a less likely chance of working."

By asking ahead of time, you show your professor that you have thought thoroughly about the situation and have planned things out accordingly. However, be careful with what upcoming conflicting event you cite as your excuse.

Ex. "I'm anticipating a flight to my grandfather's funeral on Thursday." (Good)

Ex. "I'm anticipating that my computer will crash on Thursday." (Bad)

Play the Player

It's important to pick your battles when asking for a favour of this sort. Suppose you have four essays due on the same day... which professor should you ask for leniency?

"If the professor's a real stickler, you'll be able to tell from their outline," says a history professor, "it's all in the outline."

Aside from taking notice of the outline, trust your instincts when seizing up a prof. Do they smile lots? Crack a lot of jokes? Talk about how lazy they were in university? Look like they're wrapped in a cloud of romantic love? These are often signs of a so-called "soft" professor.

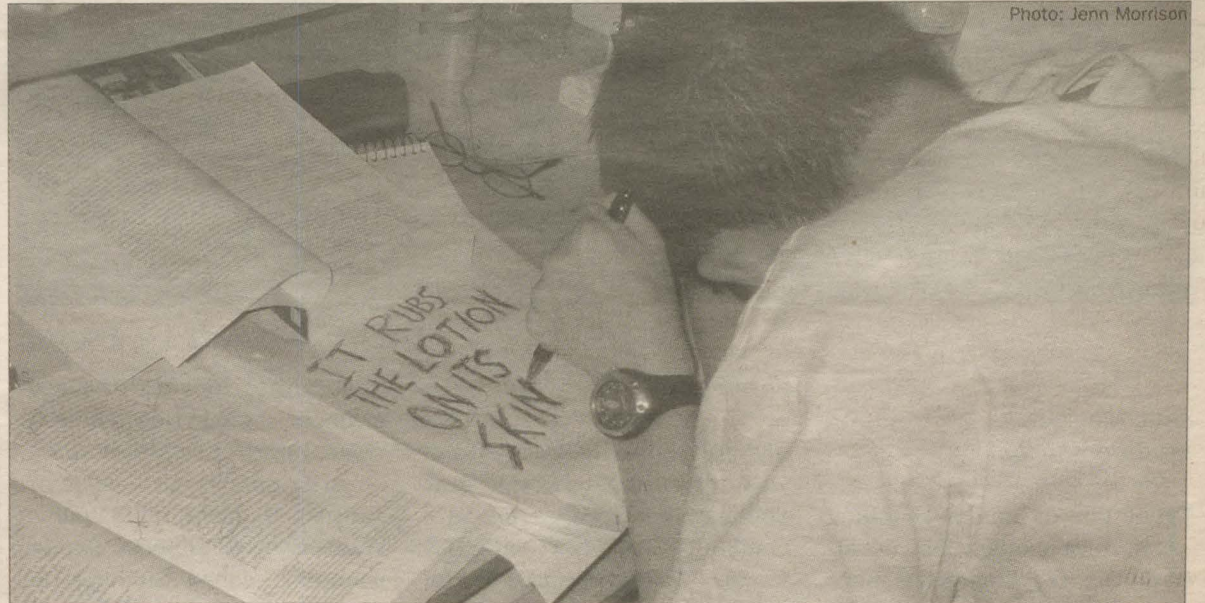


Photo: Jenn Morrison

Looks like this student's term paper could use an extension... or two.

Oh yeah, and if you ever come across a professor whose daughter is getting married the day an essay is due, immediately ask for an extension. Professors are not allowed to refuse favors on the day of their daughter's wedding... I think it says that somewhere on their PhD certificate.

Don't Bullshit

"We understand that 70 per cent of students coming up with excuses are probably full of it," says a history professor—and citing illness without supporting evidence won't work.

It would be to your advantage to simply be straightforward with your current problems and hope for the best, although, as one English professor puts it, "[Your

argument] must sound plausible."

Professors also have mixed feelings about the effectiveness of crying. Some believe that it's inappropriate for professors to comment on a student's personal life, while others say that it would be a very uncomfortable position to be in. Really though, have you ever tried staying angry at a crying girl?

Take Good Notes

Every single professor approached on the subject agreed on one point, and some say it works even better than crying: Notes from the doctor are always good. Any type of formal documentation proving that you cannot hand in the essay within the time allotted makes the professor's decision easier.

Whereas before, the professor would have to judge based on the strength of your argument, your sincerity and his/her own schedule... a note relieves them of all that messy "thinking about stuff" and allows them to lean back and

chillax.

Face Your Fears

"Don't e-mail, go face-to-face and tell them that you need an extension and they'll probably say yes," says a history prof.

Meanwhile, around the *Gazette* office, the upper-years have agreed that knowing your prof personally (but more importantly, having *them know you*) can raise your grade as much as one whole letter. Eventually, classes get so small that your professor might as well know your face and name... but for now, when asking for an extension, go up and find their office, look them in the eye, and for God's sake, don't blink!

Believe it or not, professors are human beings too. Nobody knows what goes on in the minds of these grown-ups—but I'm guessing they've got limits on their sense of charity (for, do not forget, an extension is by definition a *favour*) as anyone else. In any case, it never hurts to ask. Otherwise, good luck with that *Spider Solitaire*.

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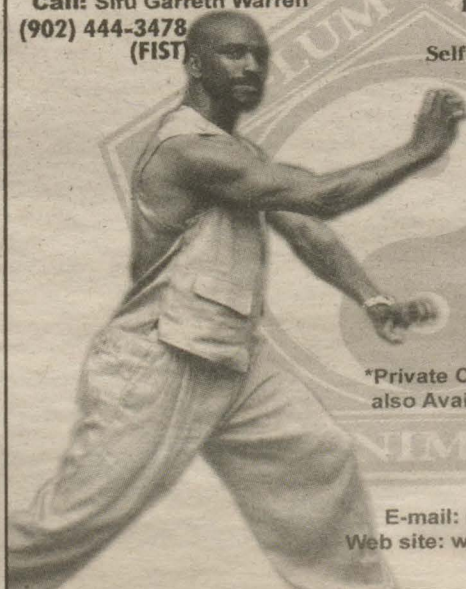
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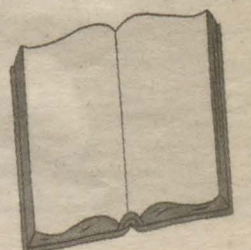
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The Internet is my Soapbox

Online web-journals simulate popularity

Greg Hughes
Staff Contributor

Take this newspaper and shove it, the blogger says.

In case you're one of the few still uncertain what this thing called a blog is, a blog—short for “weblog”—is an online journal that features the daily rants, misgivings and witticisms of netizens.

Blogs often overflow with banality. The minutia of daily life—how drunk Jen was on Saturday night, the sexual predilections of George W. Bush, how “hot” that certain professor is when waxing philosophical about Marxist-Leninist economics—is captured for the wired world to see.

Most of these blogs are rarely, if ever, read by anyone of note. Yet in an age of instant information access and .jpeg gratification, blogs are ego trips unencumbered. Having the freedom to post anything online is akin to singing Celine Dion tunes at karaoke night at the Oasis—everybody's just barely tolerating you, and it's only because they have to.

What's most amazing about the “blogosphere” is the sheer shamelessness these folks show when they post their most intimate thoughts online. It's a curious aspect of human nature, which we're very uneasy about telling folks in person about who's sleeping with whom, yet we're more than willing to tell everyone online.

A quick glance through blogscanada.ca and it becomes obvious what blogs are really for: telling the world why S&M balances the universe, why men are dogs without a tail and other

half-serious sexual commentary.

Still, blogs are becoming a very big deal. And behold, they might actually be gaining—gasp!—influence in the corridors of power.

Take the U.S. Presidential election. This year, bloggers far and wide were given media accreditation for the first time at both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions. Real money is being made off of blogs like Andrew Sullivan, Atrios and

ed to the tilt with advertising, commentary and nasty gossip.

Politicians beware: you think Clinton's sex scandal was bad? You better not have dirty laundry out to air when Wonkette comes after you.

Cox's blog landed her a gig with MTV and appearances on MSNBC. She's now a kind of Gen-X friendly pundit, a sassier, female version of Jon Stewart. Sans the major television deal.

Yet in spite of Cox's success,

6 Having the freedom to post anything online is akin to singing Celine Dion tunes at karaoke night at the Oasis—everybody's barely tolerating you, and it's only because they have to.

Wonkette—politically-cheeky, ironic forums that are read by thousands of political insiders, mainstream journalists and policy wonks alike. Instapundit, a conservative blog, is de rigueur reading for the White House.

Yet perhaps the biggest change that blogs have brought to journalism is that they have started to break down the traditional “star system” of mass media.

Today, if you're tech-savvy, smart and have an original voice, you can become a self-made media pundit.

Take wonkette.com, a self-described “gossipy” site for politicos and tattlers alike. Run by Ana Marie Cox, a twenty-something former PhD student, Wonkette has become a tongue-in-cheek, sometimes raunchy forum for political debate.

Her site, which draws in excess of 100,000 hits a day, is load-

she's done the online equivalent of winning the Lotto Super 7.

Rarely do bloggers hit the big time; the internet—filled up with porn, porn and more porn—is still struggling to define itself as a serious medium.

One question remains: why are millions of people doing this? Are they geeks? Losers? Vacuous morons with nothing else to do but rant about why they think Lindsay Lohan is better than Hilary Duff?

Well, the truth is that blogging remains, by and large, an exercise in vanity.

Blogs are self-reflexive entities, full of badly written, unedited rants that rarely inform in as much as they annoy.

So before you go to www.blogger.com and start up your own self-involved diatribes, remember this:

No one reads them. Not even you.

Top 20

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK		WEEKS ON CHART
42	1	WAKING UP WITH CHIPPED TEETH AFTER A NIGHT OF DRINKING And joking with the dentist that it was “accidental.”*	12
3	2	HOT BEEF INJECTION Can only be used as a euphemism for either sex or hamburger, not both.	3
14	3	LOOKING UP “MISERABLE FAILURE” ON GOOGLE Makes you a full-blown threat to America.	6
23	4	HOW MUCH MONEY WOULD IT TAKE For you to strangle a puppy with your bare hands?	2
37	5	THE EXCITEMENT THAT PEOPLE GET FROM THEIR NEW G-MAIL ACCOUNTS Scares us.	9
20	6	LOSING THINGS, AND THEN BLAMING IT ON “THE FORGOTTEN” What the hell would they want with a shitty digital camera?	26
7	7	WALKING INTO THE DALPLEX AND SEEING A HUNDRED GIRLS LEARNING HOW TO KICK YOUR ASS Is strangely attractive.	4
4	8	THE SAME TWO GREEN AND BLUE HANDOUTS YOU GET IN EVERY ARTS CLASS We still don't get it... why is plagiarism wrong again?	31
17	9	EVERYONE LOVES MAGICAL TREVOR 'Cause his tricks are ever so clever. Look at him now, “disappearing” a cow...	22
26	10	SIXTY PER CENT OF THE DSU EXECUTIVE GETTIN' THEIR DRINK ON AT THE T-ROOM Sextant campus influence beyond sinking bridges.?	13
-	11	THE FEELING THAT EVERY PAIR OF EYES IS STARING AT YOU Walking through the front doors of the Killam—while realizing your fly may be down.	1
34	12	THE ONYX ON SPRING GARDEN Is this place a bar or a boudoir? Or how about an Iron Maiden?	16
6	13	THE SILENCE THAT OCCURS WHEN PROFS ASK QUESTIONS TO WHICH NO ONE KNOWS THE ANSWER Cue the loudmouth in 3, 2, 1...	5
33	14	TOMMY, LEADER OF THE RUGRATS; TOM TRAVES, PRESIDENT OF DAL Coincidence?	10
36	15	THE WINE/TRYPTOPHAN COMBO FOR THANKSGIVING Chemically-induced exhaustion when you're around family is soooo “Old Testament” humour.	22
2	16	IF A MAN INSISTS ON HAVING FRUIT WITH HIS BAR SHOT He shall be called “Daisy,” until given reason otherwise.	7
1	17	ALWAYS SPLIT ACES AND EIGHTS Deviation means certain, doom at the hands of the blackjack gods.	36
5	18	SKIPPING YOUR FIRST LECTURE/LAB/TUTORIAL OF THE YEAR What were we thinking when we registered for that 8:30 a.m. class?	24
7	19	RECEIVING DIDDY PROPS Infinitely better than receiving Desman props.	30
10	20	HAVING YOUR ASS HANDED TO YOU BY A GIRL DURING LITERARY LANDMARKS DISCUSSION Priceless.	53

Legend: * = Biggest Jump, + = Newcomer

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Running for a Cure: Pink Inspiration

Jenn Morrison
News Editor

"Who are you running for?" was the poignant question on every participant's t-shirt at Sunday's Run for the Cure, an annual Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation/CIBC fundraiser. The answers brought tears to my eyes before, during and after my five-kilometer run.

When I first arrived at Huskies stadium, just as the sun started to shine through the clouds, I saw a woman about my mother's age. She was running for her daughter. A nine-year-old child ran for his Mom. But it was the men's responses that sent chills down my spine. When I was burning out, close to the finish line, I noticed the shirt on the man just ahead of me. "I'm running for the love of my life: Emmie," it read. I desperately wanted to stop him and hear him talk about Emmie, whoever she was, but we were too focused. We had to keep going, because every step was bringing us closer to the cure.

Me, I was running for my Nanny. She died in September, 2000, and I did my first Run for the Cure a week later. Ever since, the event has held special sig-

nificance for me, the hardcore runner that I am, and members of my family, who religiously donate money each year.

Our efforts are bearing fruit. In 2003, over 160,000 Canadians in 40 communities participated in the Run for the Cure and raised more than \$16 million. Even in Halifax, where the run was cancelled because of Hurricane Juan, participants still raised \$580,000.

Because of such contributions and a publicity campaign that any Fortune 500 company

Because of such contributions and a publicity campaign that any Fortune 500 company would envy, great strides are being made in cancer research, many of it in Dalhousie labs.

would envy, great strides are being made in cancer research, many of it in Dalhousie labs. The average five-year survival rate for women with breast cancer is now 82 per cent, according to the Run for the Cure web site.

While the statistics are improving, the threat remains. Breast cancer is not a distant disease, and we are all at risk. Around 75 Canadian women be-

tween the ages of 20 and 29 are diagnosed with breast cancer every year, but when they reach 30 to 39, the number jumps to 850. Breast cancer is still the most frequently diagnosed cancer in Canadian women.

These women, and those who know them, came out in full force on Sunday, decked out in glittering wings, halos, and, of course, pink ribbons.

Most of our t-shirts were white, but there was an encouraging number of pink shirts,

worn by breast cancer survivors.

This disease has a human face, and it looks like my Nanny. It also looks like the pink-clad lady in front of me during the run. In a sense, the face of breast cancer is the face of every woman. But while the disease can tear families apart, they can be put back together by the legacies of those they've lost—or the ones in pink; the ones who have survived.

HRM Noise Policy Enforced

One man's tale of run-ins with the law

Dave McEwan
Opinions Contributor

"No person shall engage in any activity that unreasonably disturbs or tends to disturb the peace and tranquility of a neighbourhood" -Halifax Regional Municipal By-law N-200, Section 3 (1)

"This is ridiculous. There's just no other word." -Perturbed second-year management student

This bylaw factoid comes compliments of one of Halifax's finest. The said officer could be seen last week going door to door in student-populated neighbourhoods handing out leaflet flyers, innocuously titled: "Request for assistance to stop noise complaints in your neighbourhood."

Noise, eternal godforsaken noise has become a target that, in the eyes of the Halifax Police, must be eradicated by virtue of an overwhelming display of Law and Order in the student areas.

Is the word "overwhelming" an exaggeration? Only if you agree that Halifax on a Saturday night needs to be protected from a Dal kegger by no fewer than five cruisers and two paddy wagons. Or, if you agree that a dozen guys watching Team Canada in an epic contest justifies the dispatching of two officers to the location of the house, then I suppose "overwhelming" may be a tad off the deep end.

I suspect however, that there are many people at Dal like myself who enjoy all types of parties, get-togethers, festivities, shindigs and hootenannies. The university house party, immortalized by films such as *Animal House* and *Van Wilder*, is an essential part of student life in Halifax—arguably the quintessential Canadian student town.

I have been to parties where the eventual appearance of the police was probably not only jus-

Continued on Next Page...

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Continued from Previous Page...

tified, but required—these occasions pale in comparison to the number of times that police, the cops, the mounties, the 5-0, the fuzz have prematurely ended my evening, leaving me perplexed and frustrated.

Yet another conundrum presented by this police onslaught is the conduct of the officers at the scene. No, I am not referring to violations of the Charter or unreasonable arrests. I am referring

of dealing with the dregs of society. Perhaps this is unfair, but most male students (I being one) have enough trouble getting girls without the added competition of the boys in blue.

Yes, the prospect of many good, unfettered house parties this year seems bleak. However, I have reason to believe that there is light at the end of this treacherous tunnel: The other morning I was awakened by a combination of drilling and smashing noises while a large excavator tore up pavement. "Aha," I said to my-

The university house party, immortalized by films such as *Animal House* and *Van Wilder*, is an essential part of student life in Halifax.

to the officer, often only a few years older than most partiers, who, when confronted by scantily clad female arts students at a theme party, realizes that this assignment is infinitely more enjoyable and scenic than that

self, confident that this breach of my 'peace and tranquility' would initiate a massive police action, a helicopter perhaps.

I called the noise problem hotline and laid out my complaint. They never came.

Photo of the Week



The End of Rational Thought (aka Gazette Friday nights at Pitchman's)
By: Nadine LaRoche

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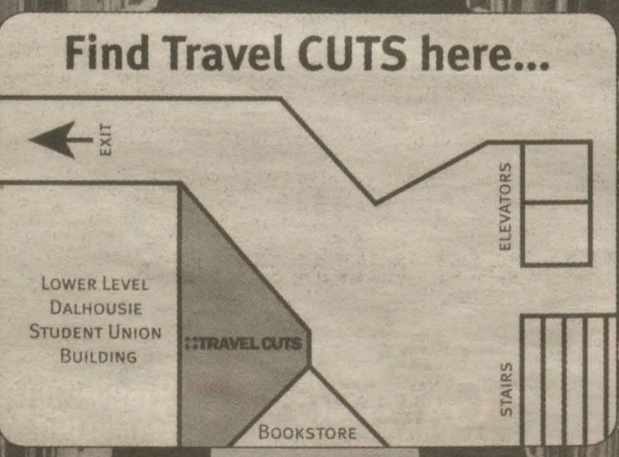
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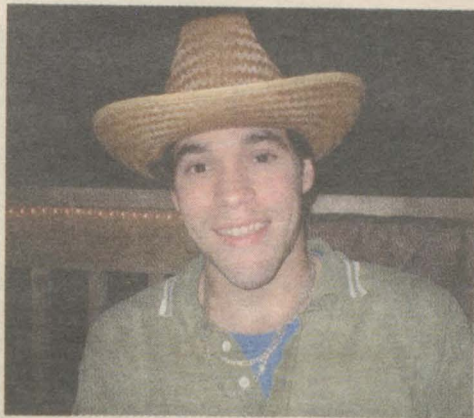
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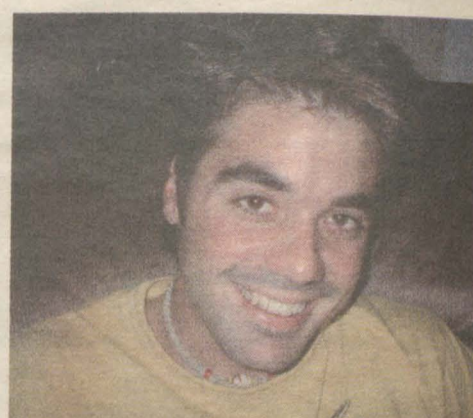
A man should be judged, not by the color of his skin, but by the size of his toe. - Josh McGraw, fourth-year physics



On the savannah of life, be not the cheetah, but the giraffe. - Reed Schneider, fourth-year oceanography



Huey Louis is God! - Matt Robichaud, fourth-year geology



You can pick your friends, and you can pick your nose... but you can't pick your friends' noses. - Shawn Goss, third-year geology



If you haven't wasted your youth, your youth has been wasted. - Alison Bailey, second-year kinesiology



I will go in this way, and find my own way. P.S. When does power-hour start? - Tamara Conrod, fourth-year kinesiology



Live everyday like it's your first and last... and always wear clean underwear. - Jenny Cooper, second-year theatre



"Do unto others as you would do unto yourself. But only if you're into self-mutilation." - Chris LaRoche, fifth-year sarcastic conceit

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DATE: October 12 - 15

TIME: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

PLACE: Main Lobby
Dalhousie SUB

www.knowthescore.ca

Hot Contest I

To enter to win free tickets to the Tragedies show on Oct. 8, please answer the following question: "Why are the Tragedies the worst band in Halifax?" Post your response on their message board at www.justfriends.ca or email them to thetragedies@yemenmail.com.

Hot Contest II

To enter to win free tickets to the Super Friendz at the Grawood on Friday, Oct. 15, answer this question: "Who is the lead singer of the Super Friendz?" Send your response to gazettearts@hotmail.com. There are four pairs of tickets to be won on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Hot Contest III

To enter to win free tickets to the Pilate show at the Grawood on Wednesday, Oct. 13, please answer this question: "Where is Boy from?" Send your response to gazettearts@hotmail.com. There are two pairs of tickets to be won on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Hot Contest IV

To enter to win free tickets to see Shaye live at the Rebecca Cohn this weekend, please answer this question: "Who is Rebecca Cohn?" Send your response to gazettearts@hotmail.com. Tickets will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Hot Spots

Rapid Eye Movement Won't Catch This

Manitoba indie group the Waking Eyes looking to rock Dalhousie

Natalie Pendergast
 Arts Editor

As their name attests, the Waking Eyes are definitely a band that will keep you up at night—all night, and you'll be getting your groove on the whole time. With the recent release of their sophomore album, *Video Sound* (Warner), these Steinbach, Man. natives have much to be dancing about. Pumping with retro-rock nostalgia, the record echoes influences like the Zombies and the Who. Not to be confused with the ever-trendy garage rock machine that includes artists like the Strokes and the Hives, the Waking Eyes belong to genre that is completely their own: modern-day classic rock.

"I think we draw from lots of the original rock music like Led Zeppelin," says vocalist Rusty Matyas. "We play songs that span over hundreds of different genres of music." According to Matyas, the group likes to explore new musical territory because, as he says, "it's just a lot of fun." But specific genre place-

ment has always been something the boys have tried to get away from: compared to their debut *Combing the Clouds* (Endearing 2001, described by the band as "nostalgic-pop-futuristic-psychedellic-art-rock"), *Video Sound* is miles away from the innocent and kooky sounds the band once played. "Our first album was more like [Canadian indie-rock bands]; now we've been together for three or four years and we've evolved into a retro-rock band," says Matyas. "Before, it was like lush melodies, but we come across much better live now."

Lush melodies are exactly what come to mind—and ears—upon listening to the Waking Eyes' older music. When Canadian indie favorites the Pets and Novillero disbanded a few years ago, Matt Peters, Myron Schultz, Rusty Matyas and drummers Dave Berthiaume and Steve Senkiw decided to join forces, name themselves after a Pink Floyd lyric, and revitalize the Winnipeg pop scene. The Waking Eyes have been a staple in the Canadian music fan's diet ever since. After

the release of their breakthrough album on Endearing Records, the band had a similar footing to label mates Projektor and Radiogram, opening for such indie giants as Apples in Stereo.

The Eyes have since evolved, now spreading their love to wider audiences. With a label switch from Endearing to Warner in 2003, the Eyes lost a member—Myron Schultz—and gained another—bassist Joey Penner. Now they play with the likes of Sam Roberts, the Trews and Finger Eleven—but Matyas insists the band isn't a product of stage-mates' nor their label's influences. "We recorded pretty much what we wanted to; it's just on a larger scale than it was with endearing records," he says. "A lot more time was put into the writing and recording of each song."

Now, Matyas admits, it's all about the live show.

"We wrote a couple of rock songs, a little more up-beat, a little more edge. And it became more fun to play those songs live; it was just a natural evolution to our songs." With songs



Matyas looks like the bastard son of Carrot top and Robert Smith. Left to Right: Matt Peters, Rusty Matyas, Myron Schultz and Dave Berthiaume.

like "Watch Your Money," the Eyes have no trouble getting fans to bust a move. "I think that people enjoy rocking out and getting sweaty," says Matyas, "It's everyone's goal to have critical and popular acclaim, but we don't even do that. I think if you play what you want and be yourself

people will like you... or at least I hope so."

The Waking Eyes and Quebec pop-punkers Simple Plan play the McInnis room, Student Union Building, on Thursday, Oct. 14. For more information on how to get tickets, click on the Grawood link at <http://www.dsu.ca/>.

Russel Peters Hyucks It Up

Just for Laughs comic brings humour to Dal



Does this man look perturbed to you? That's because it's his job.

Natalie Pendergast
 Arts Editor

The melting ethnic pot that is a Canadian city can be a tough place to live if you're a first-generation Canadian just trying to "fit in." Many folks, however, use life's hurdles to their advantage and mold them into stand-up comic routines. Joining the ranks of legendary comedians like Jerry Seinfeld and Chris Rock, East-Indian Canadian Russel Peters makes his living turning racial minority foibles into on-stage hilarity.

The difference between Peters and his American contemporaries is that they have freedom of speech—up here, comedians have to be careful what they say. There is a finer line between mildly poking fun at ethnic groups and actually offending people. Always the opportunist, Peters even manages to cleverly work the humor of offending into his act. "The people that get offended are never the ones I'm talking about; it's always some

liberal white person," he says. "I actually talk about it in my set because people get upset on the behalf of other people, and the people they are getting offended for just think it's funny."

Stereotyping racial groups while not really upsetting anyone is an art Peters' has mastered. "You can also tell people's intentions when they say something potentially offensive," he says. "I have white friends who will go on stage after me and make fun of Indian people, and they are just doing it out of fun; I know that. It's all about motive."

Although in most cases an audience can sense if a comic is just poking fun or if he/she is really out to offend, Peters says there are a few rules of thumb to follow just to be on the safe side. "If you're going to do an impression of someone, or someone's accent, you have to be dead-on, or else it's an insult," he says. "You have to nail it 100 per cent—or don't do it at all."

Peters' routine is mostly about East-Indian Canadians,

but he still attracts a wide demographic of fans. Teenagers, in particular, enjoy his pop-cultural humor: as someone who is a hip hop scene veteran, Peters speaks their language. "I'll have a really wide cross-section of people who will come up to me and say they are fans since I speak in a hip hop lingo now and then," he

The people that get offended are never the ones I'm talking about; it's always some liberal white person.

says. "And then an old person will come up and say 'yeah I love your stuff' and I'm like, 'whoa, weird.'"

Russel Peters delivers his routine with the *Just For Laughs* 17-city tour, at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, on Oct. 14 and 15

Dal Theatre Aims to Enchant Audiences

Sarah Bridge
Arts Contributor

A bubbly schoolteacher, a young bureaucrat and a small French might seem to be a fairly boring setup for a romantic storyline. Boring, that is, until you add a ghost to the mix—and that is exactly what's been done with "the Enchanted," a theatrical production opening the 2004/2005 season at the Dalhousie Arts Centre.

"The Enchanted" is the first of four plays in Dal Theatre's season dealing with the overall theme of transformation.

Directed by Heinar Piller, the comedy is the work of French playwright Jean Giraudoux. Instead of being a typical love-triangle romance, however, Giraudoux's plot also addresses the dramatic contrast between life and death.

Set in 1917, "the Enchanted" takes place in a small French town turned upside down by the

presence of a young man's ghost. A schoolteacher, Isabel, is deeply intrigued by the phantom and becomes captivated by the idea of afterlife.

"[For Isabel], death is light," says fourth-year theatre student Carline Khoury, who plays the character.

"You float around, and there are no materialistic things." Enthrilled and awestruck with the possibility of such freedom, Isabel forms a special relationship with the spirit, visiting him nightly.

Another character rivals the ghost's affections for the lovely Isabel: a civil servant, known as "the supervisor" in the play, confronts the ghost in order to win Isabel's heart and save her life.

Although, as a bureaucrat, he should have a rather dull life disposition, this character shines in his search for "beauty in the simple things in life," says Matt Walker, a fourth-year theatre student who plays the character.

The play's love triangle is further complicated when an inspector arrives from Paris to investigate the case of the ghost. A stiff and orderly character, the inspector is a perfect contrast to the spirited, enthusiastic nature of the young Isabel.

Together, these characters form a unique and interesting cast, giving the ordinary love-triangle situation a lot more zing.

As for the props and costumes, Dal Theatre has setup the stage in a way that is true to the text, beautifully upholstered furniture embraces traditional French decoration.

Similarly, elegant black suits on the male characters and flowing ivory dresses on the women convincingly portray the play's early twentieth-century setting.

On the whole, "the Enchanted" manages to touch on deep tragedies while still maintaining a comedic element and sending audiences away with positive feelings towards life.

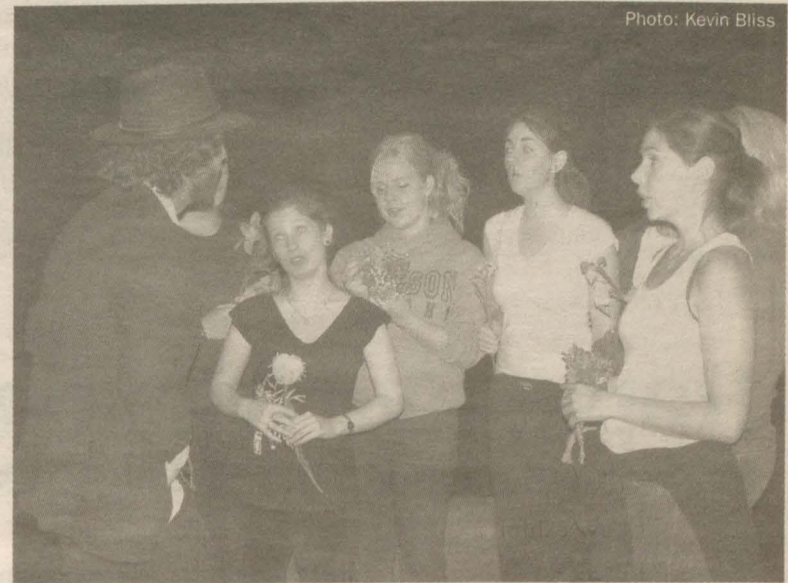


Photo: Kevin Bliss

They will look better with their costumes on, trust us.

"[It's] a very charming play about appreciating the excitement in life," says Walker.

"Essentially, in the end, life prevails," adds Khoury. "Hopefully, our work will pay off—and everyone will enjoy it."

"The Enchanted" opens at the David Mack Murray Studio on Wednesday, Oct. 13, at 8:00 p.m. and runs until the following Saturday. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the Dalhousie Arts Centre box office, or online at www.dal.ca/~cohn/box.html.

Definitely Not a Boy Band



Not a boy, not yet a man. Left to right: Maurie Kaufmann, Steve Payne, Stephan Kozmeniuk, Rolla Olak.

Natalie Pendergast
Arts Editor

The man behind the nationally acclaimed pop/rock group Boy, Stephan Kozmeniuk, is leaving his boyhood behind on their new album, *Every Page You Turn* (2004). After saying goodbye to the Yukon and doing what everyone who leaves the territories does—meet people—Kozmeniuk found a bunch of like-minded musicians and Boy, the solo artist, has since grown into Boy, the four-piece ensemble.

Like most young groups, Boy's sound has evolved by leaps and bounds since the release of Kozmeniuk's debut self-titled album in 2002. "The first record was

years and years ago," he says.

"It was something I did in high school." Featuring soft soda-pop ditties like "Joey" and "French Diplomacy," the record is a fun but alternative nod to radio pop with poetic lyrics that show the innocence of Kozmeniuk's tender age. In the new album, the lyrics still play a poignant role, but the music is edgier traditional rock. "We're influenced by the Beatles, the Stones, Neil Young, Tom Petty—the new album is where we've been going for so long," he says.

This wider landscape of rock moguls only became of interest to Kozmeniuk after leaving his home. His roots are in the Yukon music scene, which he says is a vi-

brant one loaded with bluegrass, blues and the counter-punk-movement. He also gives credit to his Dad's dusty old record collection that featured schools of old rock and blues legends.

"There was a whole plethora of different kinds of music that he listened to when he was growing up and I just adopted them as well," he says. "Soon afterwards I picked up a guitar and then moved on from there with a bunch of other stuff like drums and piano."

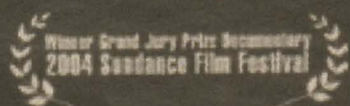
Kozmeniuk is happy to be on new ground with his band mates Maurie "Tank" Kaufmann, Steve Payne, Rolla Olak and new-ad-

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STAR-CROSSED FRIENDS AND BITTER RIVALS: THE BRIAN JONESTOWN MASSACRE VS THE DANDY WARHOLS



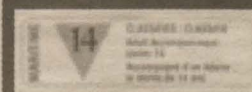
"A combustible rock chronicle"
--Time Out New York



"Raucous! This no-holds-barred tour of chaos becomes an unsettling look at the surprisingly thin line between clear-eyed success and blurry-eyed self-destruction." --New York Daily News

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Boy's new songs "a little nasty," says singer

Continued from Previous Page...

dition keyboardist James Robertson. He says he likes being able to share the glory and the stage with friends. "These guys just all came up with the recording you know it was just a bunch of friends all hanging around. It wasn't so self-indulgent as one person doing it." The lyrics, however, are something Kozmeniuk continues to write almost entirely by himself—and in the new album they exhibit a certain maturity that wasn't present in the first record. The young Boy hadn't yet tasted the pleasure and pain of love while he was still in high school, but after becoming a talented musician, he soon met a girl. "During [the writing of] the

second one I had a girlfriend who I broke up with right at the end, so there are a few songs that are a little nasty." But the poetics of Kozmeniuk's words are a testament to his frankness towards what life throws at him. "Lyrics always come from everything

world." Kozmeniuk says he is curious to see what the East Coast audiences are like compared to the bigger, central Canadian venues: "Toronto is a hard city to play because everybody is so jaded. But the smaller towns like on the East Coast, everyone is into the

"Toronto is a hard city to play because everybody is so jaded. But the smaller towns like on the east coast, everyone is into the fun loud rock and roll and having their minds blown."

—Stephan Kozmeniuk, lead singer Boy.

around you, everything you experience. It's about being honest; being yourself... people buy into honesty; it's not about bullshit." Boy's future plans include lots of touring, working on their next album, and "Trying to take over the

fun loud rock and roll and having their minds blown."

Boy, Pilate and Memory Bank all play the Grawood on Wednesday, Oct. 13 at 9 p.m. Boy will play an all-ages show at the New Pavilion on Friday, Oct. 15.



"Border Crossing is a labour of love," says show host Jon Bruhm.

Without Borders

CKDU alt-rock program *Border Crossing* not your average radio show

Lindsay Dobbin
Assistant Arts Editor

Radio advertisements and the program's website both make it clear: CKDU FM's *Border Crossing* is "the show about poop and boobs."

"I take the show seriously, but [my co-host Phil Raymond and I] have a sense of humour," says *Border Crossing*'s host, Jon Bruhm. "I don't think there are enough fun shows on the radio these days."

Bruhm's observation is correct: many of today's mainstream, music-focused radio shows sound flawless because they're more along the lines of preconceived marketing tools used to only to coincide with music. These shows may be entertaining, but they hardly invite listeners to feel part of the experience—they are programs that never show any sign of exhibit-

ing the idiosyncrasies displayed by every human being. And it's those rare idiosyncrasies that make listeners laugh, or cry, or laugh until they cry, depending on the moment.

With the advantage of *Border Crossing* being part of a campus-community radio station, Bruhm has freedom to express the uniqueness of his personality and show—and he revels in it.

This freedom of expression, coupled with Bruhm's passion for music, is perhaps the main reason why the show has been so successful; a listener can expect something different from the show every week, and it's always casual and informative.

Bruhm first became involved with CKDU in the spring of 2002 when his friend, Meg Pooley, invited him to co-host *Border Crossing*, which was her show at that time. "I had such a blast, and felt as though we had really good

on-air chemistry, and eventually weaseled my way into the sidekick chair on a more permanent basis," says Bruhm.

Although the show was originally geared towards playing lesser-known American and Canadian acts, Bruhm's knowledge of the Halifax music scene added a new dimension to the show. Pooley eventually left the show and, with Bruhm in the driver's seat, the show's focus shifted further towards the local music scene.

Even though Pooley no longer hosts the show, Bruhm acknowledges that the higher profile the show has achieved is a testament to Pooley's faith in it.

"It's always been her baby, and she told me from the start that the show had so much potential, and that it was her dream to one day see *Border Crossing* do some really cool things."

It is this continuum of pas-

Report Card Boy George

Date: Sept. 30, 2004

Venue: the Dome

Reporter: Talia Fanning

Stage Presence: B

Audience Reaction: A++

Sound: B+

Effort: C

Get-It-On-Ability: A

Swearing that I would never go back to the Dome after my last visit, I found myself there yet again last Thursday night, with a few hundred other patrons, waiting with excitement for Boy George to get behind the decks. He's not a pop star anymore—sad for those who loved him for "Do you really want to hurt me?"—luckily for everyone else, he's now a sought-after DJ. And his set was amazing: hard, fast and loud. House music pounded from the speakers for at least two hours as dancers and, albeit, a few die-hard Culture Club fans tried to keep up with the beat. As far as energetic performances go, apparently, just being Boy George is enough to get a crowd going. He was setup on a balcony with cameras feeding into the Dome's monitors—and that was about it. He did wave a couple times, but other than that he just concentrated on the records. Out of sheer exhaustion, my friend and I stopped dancing around 3:30 a.m., but she wasn't ready to leave. "I don't want to dance," she said. "I just want to stay and absorb that it's Boy George."

sion for the show that has been the driving force behind its success.

Bruhm recently launched an extensive and informative website for the show which includes playlists and past and upcoming performers and events. Bruhm agrees that it is these nonstop in-studio performances and interviews that add another unique element to the show:

"Some of the bands who have been on the show have said that being on *Border Crossing* is more like hanging out with me for an hour, as opposed to doing an interview," he says.

way to share some of the finer moments from *Border Crossing*."

The release of the third volume in the compilation series coincides with the radio program's third anniversary; to celebrate, Bruhm is hosting a show of live performances from the disc, aptly called *Live on Border Crossing—Live!*

"We're trying to recreate the CD live, in a cool atmosphere," Bruhm explains.

"We're holding it during the early evening on a weekday because this isn't your average show, and it's being held at Stage Nine—one of the coolest bars in

"Some of the bands who have been on the show have said that being on *Border Crossing* is more like hanging out with me for an hour, as opposed to doing an interview."

—Jon Bruhm, host, *Border Crossing*

Since the summer of 2002, Bruhm has released periodic limited edition compilation discs that feature live performances by some of this region's finest rock acts. Bruhm explains that the CDs' purpose is threefold:

"They're a fundraiser for the station, they're an outlet to spread the word about the bands and the show and they're a great

town."
Live on Border Crossing—Live!, featuring Matt Mays, members of *In-Flight Safety*, Bruhm's own band *CASH COW*, the *Ditchpigs*, the *Spincycle Squared*, *Cheval* and *Contrived*, takes stage at Stage Nine on Wednesday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3. For more information, visit <http://www.ckdu.ca/bordercrossing>.

SuperSex in the SuperCity: Hustler or Ho?

Dave Morin -Wentworth
Sexpert

What's the difference between a hustler and a ho? What makes prostitution and escorting so different? For many people, they are similar; in both professions the same commodity is being sold—sex.

One of the first things that went through my mind was why street prostitutes get hassled by police officers, whereas escorts seem to have diplomatic immunity. Eve, an escort from Minneapolis, Minnesota explains that "the police department simply doesn't have the resources to deal with us, and we are not on the street selling ass. Since people don't see us committing a crime, they don't care what we do." This isn't just a new phenomenon: for example, in the 1982 film *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*,

meet. Most agencies will even accept credit cards to make it extra convenient for the clients.

Where prostitution and escorting largely differ is with regards to the actual encounter itself. Oftentimes with prostitution a specific sexual act is negotiated and a price is agreed upon. From there, the prostitute and client find a place where they will take care of business.

Escorting is more drawn out. It normally begins with a dinner and can involve presents from perfume to jewellery. On most occasions, a repeat customer will get to know an escort and will be requested to bring specific gifts, such as lingerie or Belgian chocolates. This can be especially vexing if the client is married, as they will often spend more money and attention on their mistress than their wife. In the end, the escort and client will round out their

"We are not on the street selling ass. Since people don't see us committing a crime, they don't care what we do."
—Eve, Minneapolis escort

the plot centers on around the sexual liaison between a madam and the town sheriff.

If a person wants to find an escort or prostitute, they really don't have a lot of work to do. Finding prostitutes is as easy as driving along a street that is known as a walking district. Hollis St. would be an example of a walking district in Halifax. The escorting business works somewhat differently. Oftentimes the back pages of newspapers will feature advertisements under adult services headings. These ads range from anything including massage to companionship to sexual encounters. Escorts can also work out of an agency where clients phone in, book appointments and provide relative details such as when and where to

date with a sexual interlude. Although sex is never discussed, it is expected..

Some clients will prefer prostitutes, as it is quick and easy—whereas others will prefer an escort as they can have a more romantic time. They feel like they are on a proper date. Escorting has been growing in popularity, especially for businesswomen who enjoy an evening out with a gorgeous guy after a long day of number crunching and meetings. Also, with increased acceptance and prevalence of homosexual encounters, there are a growing number of male patrons looking for other males. In the end, everybody's reasons for going with an escort or prostitute can

Continued on Next Page...

All Roads Lead to Mazatlan

Travel: Kickin' it all cool—or hot—in Mexico



Nicole Trask
Arts Contributor

After an intense week of driving from the snowy streets of Toronto all the way to El Paso, Texas, my travel companions and I were just a tiny bit cranky. A journey to Mexico in February seemed like the ideal way to beat the winter blahs, and getting there was truly half the adventure.

My heart envisioned sunsets and warm water in Mexico, but once we reached the border, there was a lot of rough terrain to cover. The smaller and less frequently traveled border crossing we chose was a breeze as there were no lineups or hassles. Traveling through Mexico by car was exciting and loaded with surprises—the first occurring when we were stopped for an inspection two hours from the border. With our limited understanding of Spanish, it took us a while for us to realize that the men at the checkpoint wanted us out of the car. My eyes bulged at the sight of each man wielding a machine gun. This was it, we would be harassed, this would be our punishment for a painless border crossing, I thought to myself.

Nevertheless, after a quick search of our car (most likely for drugs), we were sent amicably on our way with a nod and a "muchos gracias."

A cautionary word o anyone thinking of bringing drugs into Mexico—you are just plain asking for it; drugs are pretty much

considered the root of all evil in the eyes of the law.

Armed with our "How to learn Spanish" talking CDs, we began to navigate the mountainous state of Chihuahua. Winter jackets were tossed into the Copper Canyon, a wonder of nature that makes the Grand Canyon pale in comparison.

While taking in the dizzying altitudes I often noted patches of snow and shuddered as I remembered the bleak Canadian winter left behind. I was yearning to be much further south.

After several more days of driving through treacherous windy roads in the Sierra Madre, these dreams would be realized.

At the end of a long day driving there is absolutely nothing better than sitting at an outdoor caf  sipping margaritas bigger than your head.

When driving through the mountains heading west, travelers are forced to take it slow and steady, and it feels like there is no end in sight. Quaint mountain villages lurk down dirt roads, good places to stop and buy crafts from the indigenous people, who sell their wares in families. A three-year-old who can barely speak but is already a hard-working soul is impossible to resist.

When we finally arrived in Mazatlan on the Pacific Coast, it was a sight to behold. The sun set as we peeled off layers, frantically dashing to Olas Altos Beach to dip our feet in the roaring surf. At the end of a long day driving there is absolutely nothing better than sitting at an outdoor caf  sipping margaritas bigger than your head.

Mazatlan can be quite touristy in the Zona Dorado, AKA "the Golden Zone," which is full of resorts and English-language bars catering to patrons with money to burn. We chose to stay in Old

Mazatlan—it's central, inexpensive and within walking distance of several beaches. Something not to be missed are the local markets; on the weekend there are endless outdoor markets everywhere, the mainstay being a huge indoor market near the zocolo. The market sells designer clothes, surpluses of fruits and vegetables, fish, cheese, leathers and herbs and spices. Even full pigs heads can be found on display!

Mexico can also be inexpensive if you learn to seek out the right places. Hotel Lerma, located between Serdan and Juarez, was simple and beautiful with big, clean rooms and a lovely court-

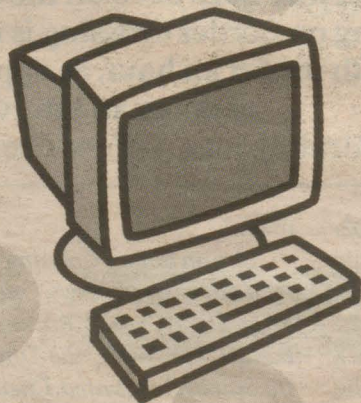
yard. The price was about the equivalent of CDN \$18 a night, and it's even cheaper if you book for a full week. For me, Mazatlan includes a melting pot of experiences that stimulate the senses:

The rank smell of scruffy stray dogs was always in the air as the surplus of canine hobos happily wander the streets; the sight of old cathedrals with their doors open to all; the sound of machismo catcalls and whistles that a passing gringa incites from frisky local men; the taste of hot tacos made fresh from a popular street vendor precariously located in the middle of traffic—I can still hear the music of mariachi bands wandering and singing for their supper.

These images portray the heart of Mexico. In search of waves, I was inevitably due to travel further south. Mazatlan, however, could very well be the perfect place to get lost in the hazy sun and tune out your troubles.

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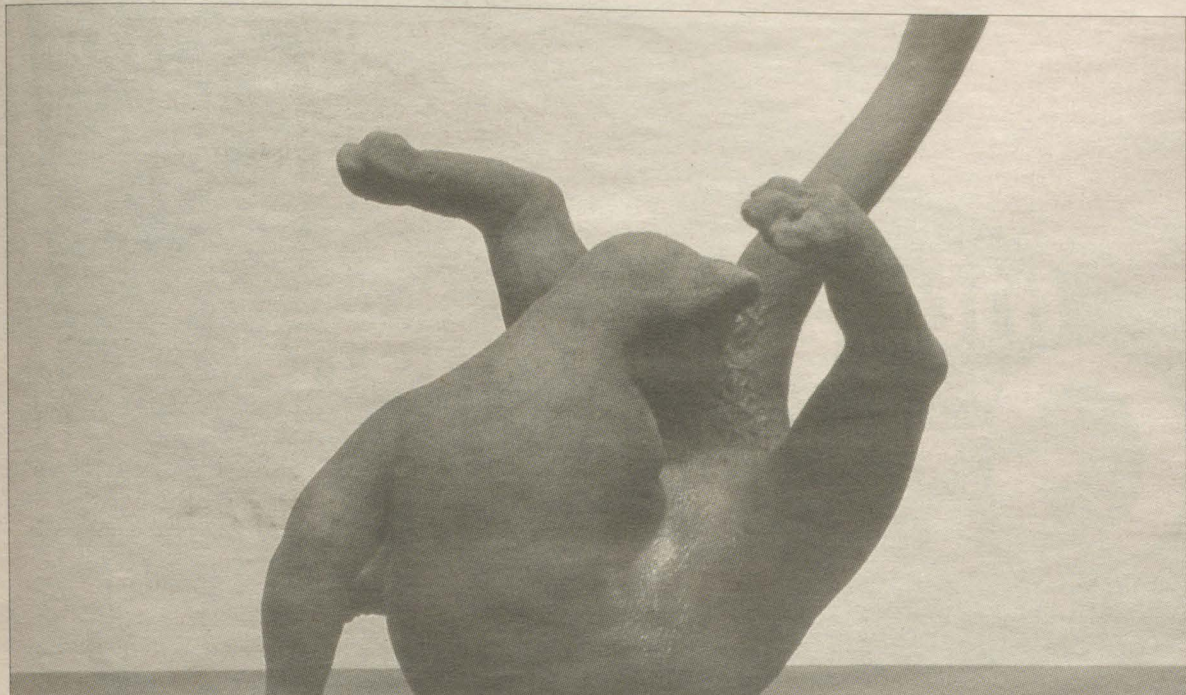


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Two Sides of Innocence

Controversial Dalhousie art exhibits examine youth, sexuality



Bridgette Sullivan
Staff Contributor

The world of modern art is certainly no stranger to controversy: Damien Hirst, a British artist, became famous for exhibits featuring dead sheep, sharks and cows preserved in formaldehyde, sometimes even split in two.

There's also Marcus Harvey, another artist who drew criticism for his portrait of child serial killer Myra Hindley, made with child handprints.

Beginning Oct. 15, the Dalhousie Art Gallery will showcase its very own venture into the world of controversial art with exhibits by Montreal artists Susan G. Scott and Stephen Schofield.

Susan Scott's exhibit shares the same name as the book that inspired her, *Les Enfants Terribles*, by Jean Cocteau. Those familiar with the story will recall that the subject matter was far from unremarkable; like the book, the series of paintings, sketches and writings by Scott depict youth and children engaged in activities showing the "dark side of innocence."

"Children are considered to be innocent yet the games children play are often quite complicated and certainly not," says gallery director Susan Gibson Garvey. She describes Scott's work as an exploration of rarely discussed ways in which children interact with adults, and each other. The recognition and acknowledgement of children as sexual beings—or anything other than innocent for that matter—has always been considered extremely precarious contention.

The physical paintings portraying these controversial scenes are extremely colorful and expressive works of oil, acrylic and pumice, a type of gritty paint used to create texture. As well as being figurative paintings—meaning they have distinguishable images in them—they are also very fluid and sensuous. "[The art] draws you in," says Gibson Garvey. "You want to look at it and touch it."

In addition to paintings, Scott's exhibit will display sketches and writings written directly on the walls of the gallery around the painting frames. "The relationship of the sketches to the paintings is very interesting because it makes the walls very animated, you don't know where the edges end," says Gibson Garvey.

Although the exhibit was inspired by Jean Cocteau's novel, the paintings and sketches are not illustrations directly relating to the work.

Rather, Scott's art deals with an entirely different experience that goes beyond the literary world—creating an interesting relationship between images and the written word.

Stephen Schofield's exhibit, titled "at play," features sculptures and drawings curated by Ian McKinnon, a previous gallery assistant. Some of the sculptures take on very realistic forms while others are more abstract structures with very surreal and eccentric feels to them. Gibson Garvey says that although Schofield's homosexuality has a noticeable influence on the pieces, the greater motivation behind the work was his concentration on youthful memories.

One particular series of sculptures consists of small figurines of men and cats, both of the same size, placed in rather interesting positions.

While the cats lick themselves in all sorts of areas, the young men observe the animals and sport underwear in complete disarray, one pair even on a young man's head. "You can interpret these things in loads of different ways," says Gibson Garvey. "But there's that dawning sense of physicality, just at that stage where you suddenly understand that you're a physical being."

In contrast to the perhaps unnerving and dark nature of Scott's exhibit, Schofield's works are joyful and deal with the self-discovery and realization. His strange, amusing pieces are full of nostalgia and innocence—despite often complicated and mutated forms they take on.

Although the gallery is displaying two completely separate exhibits by two different artists, there is a common theme of "youth and sexuality" running between them.

Gibson Garvey says that the subject matter of the art will appeal to the interests—and even personal experience—of Dal students and young people in general.

Regardless of opinion regarding the themes covered by the prominent Canadian artists, one can't help but appreciate the visual appeal of their unique creations and the steps they've taken to push the envelope.

"*Les Enfants Terribles*" and "at play" open at the Dalhousie Art Gallery on Friday, Oct. 15, at 6 p.m. Both artists will be present. Admission is free. For more information on the Dalhousie Art Gallery exhibits, visit www.art-gallery.dal.ca.

SuperSex, con't...



Continued from Previous Page...

vary. Some feel unattractive and feel that paying for sex is the only way they can have an encounter with a dazzling specimen. Others just like the effortless intimacy without the morning after follow-up.


As many know, acts of prostitution are illegal. Streetwalking is illegal across North America, but there is one area where laws have been challenged and legal access to prostitutes is permitted: in the state of Nevada, counties with low-populations can have broth-

els where sex workers are legally registered and are required to undergo frequent tests for sexually transmitted infections.

These bordellos are normally on the fringes of communities and cannot be found in urban centres like Reno and Las Vegas. The Pussycat Saloon in Winnemucca, Nevada is one of the state's oldest brothels, operating since 1889.

Being a port city, Halifax has a history of prostitution outdating the Pussycat, however staunch opposition will make legalized brothels unlikely in Nova Scotia for quite some time.

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Burn Baby Burn

Your Weekly Playlist

This week's Burn Baby Burn pays homage to multi-part rock tunes, with classical ditties book-ending the CD. - Chris LaRoche / Copy Editor

Aaron Copland

"Fanfare for the Common Man"

The Rolling Stones

"Can't You Hear Me Knocking"

Derek and the Dominoes

"Layla"

Jane's Addiction

"Three Days"

Soundgarden

"Jesus Christ Pose"

Metallica

"Orion"

U2

"Bad"

Yes

"Close to the Edge"

Sonic Youth

"The Sprawl"

Gyorgy Ligeti

"Lux Aeterna"

Bonus Track

Velvet Revolver ~ "Loving the Alien"



We've recently set up our own little spot on the web for all things related to the *Gazette*. If you've ever wanted to debate an article you read in the paper, deliver your opinions about what goes on in the paper and on campus without having to write an article or just chit-chat with us; sign up!

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 12, free

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October 13, \$5

The Attic

House/ Techno / Trance and Drum n' Bass Jungle qualifying heats

October 14, \$5

The Marquee

Hip Hop / Turntablist qualifying heats. Full Break-dance competition

October 15, \$5

Stage 9 - EMCEE

and BEATBOX Battles

October 16, \$8

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HALIFAX'S WEEKLY



Sartorial Eloquence



vogue vagabond: Miriah Brennan, 19, second-year International Development Studies and Spanish, Dalhousie.

couture obsession: second-hand jewelry, especially rings, and vintage blazers.

fashion icon: Gwen Stefani.

most embarrassing wardrobe item: "Oh my God! My burgundy plastic jacket!"

favorite label: no label.

shopping destination: Urban Outfitters, Value Village and the Black Market.

can't-live-without favorite: her brown velour blazer and her black-and-white polka-dot flower pin.

music that curves her style: "Bands like Broken Social Scene, Modest Mouse, Hot Hot Heat and my new obsession with Postal Service. Indie music or rock I guess; I hate categorizing it."

on Miriah: Shoes by Pink Ice. Tights from when she was 10. Skirt from Urban Outfitters. Tank by Club Monaco. Sweater by Pink Ice. Scarf from Elsie's. Blazer from her grandmother. Watch by Guess. Bracelets from the Black Market. Necklace from her grandmother. Earrings from the Black Market and Value Village. Hairclip from her childhood. Amber ring from Latvia. Hair by Life Spa and Keith at Kara's. Lip ring by Skintastic. Makeup by M·A·C Cosmetics, Christian Dior and Clinique.



words/photos
Nadine LaRoche
Fashion Enlightener

Spin Spin Sugar



Bowling For Soup *A Hangover You Don't Deserve*
Jive, 2004

Texan foursome Bowling For Soup are definitely members of the pop-punk club: as good as Sum 41, not quite as good as Blink 182, and still much better than Simple Plan. With pop culture referencing lyrics that poke innocent fun at mean girls, the "in" crowd, and the '80s, this album is just about perfect for anyone age 0-16. There is one song, however, that is a pleasure to listen to at any age. "Sad Sad Situation," like so many songs before it, is about an annoying relationship. But what makes it good is the intensity the band channels while belting it out. It's the only song that can be classified as punk rock on this pop-punk album, and it adds a little flare to an otherwise single-minded album. -N.P.



Green Day *American Idiot*
Reprise, 2004

Green Day may very well go down in history as the band that spawned one of the worst trends to ever hit MTV—the so-called "pop-punk" movement (think Blink 182 and Good Charlotte).

American Idiot finds Green Day doing their best to change this. Though the power-chord guitar attacks and whiny vocal deliveries Green Day blueprinted back in 1993 remain intact, *Idiot's* premise is a far cry from a bunch of random two-to-three-minute punk tunes.

Of course, *Idiot* is a bunch of two-to-three-minute punk tunes. But it's also a rock opera—a CD with a storyline that addresses contemporary issues—politics, economics, societal expectations, that sort of thing. Though "rock operas" and "pop-punk" might seem as different as tomatoes and turnip, it should be noted that the main proprietor of the rock opera—the Who—are often credited as being the first punk band. Even if you don't care for enlightenment of the pop-punk variety, the genius of Billy Joe & Co. is that they don't have to stretch their catchy formula all that much to channel rock opera-pretension. The result may very well be the defining Green Day album—or just an interesting experiment. One thing is for sure: *American Idiot* is thoroughly entertaining. -C.L.R.



Joss Stone *Mind Body and Soul*
EMI, 2004

Joss Stone is living proof that good things do happen to British people, and Joss Stone doesn't sound anything like a 17-year-old middle class British girl.

In her latest effort, *Mind Body and Soul*, Joss follows up on last year's *The Soul Sessions* with original songs and a handful of covers for good measure. Those who were impressed by *The Soul Sessions* though may not be so taken on this trip; before Joss subtly hit emotional and moving notes with her voice alone, but now she is surrounded by her supporting instruments and mellowed down into a far less moving album.

Almost every song is too upbeat to really take your attention and in addition they seem too long. Although there is definite creative energy at work giving Joss unique vocal melodies and song structure Joss still doesn't quite come through as well as she did on *The Soul Sessions*. There are still many good qualities on *Mind Body and Soul*, but much of the album is passable at best. -N.P.

Natalie Pendergast
Chris LaRoche
Danny Conrad
Loukas Crowther
Music Snobs



Faithless *No Roots*
BMG, 2004

Wow. Dance/electronic/experimental duo Faithless has defended its title as the group with the most unique approach to political music. The group's experimentation with synthesizer and computerized sounds has made me wonder if the phone is ringing or if the kettle is boiling several times throughout the album. Sometimes it sounds like there is an airplane flying overhead and like the toilet keeps flushing itself over and over again. *No Roots* is also an album of extremes. When there is spoken word or singing it all happens very fast with a lot of repetition, and then the ambient music begins and never stops. Dido is also featured here, which is nice. -N.P.



Butch Walker
Letters
Epic, 2004

Butch Walker's first stint on a major record label in the '90s left him out in the cold when he couldn't keep up with the evolving sounds of popular music. He did, however, do a good job of making it sound as though he walked out on the mainstream and chose the independent DIY road less traveled by; all the while blaming everything on Eddie Vedder. He has since jumped back on the bandwagon with his first solo release, *Left of Self-Centered* (Arista, 2002), followed quickly by this one. *Letters* is actually a catchy little package of crispy pop/rock. That's why it is too bad Walker seems so intent on pretending to be a hard rock, anti-authority bad boy. He's really a soft-sung lyricist with a pocket full of poser. What Walker says. And what Walker does are two different things; and what Walker sings, well that ain't half bad. -N.P.



Silvertide *Show and Tell*
J Records (BMG), 2004

Silvertide is a contemporary throwback to classic rock bands like Guns 'N' Roses and Led Zeppelin. Lead guitarist Nick Perry's impressive soloing and overall musicianship pay homage to riff rulers Izzy, Slash and Page—but Walt Lafty's vocals fall short of any comparison to Axl or Plant. Having opened for Van Halen and toured with Velvet Revolver earlier this year, Silvertide has left an impression on rock fans with icy songs like "Foxhole J.C." and "Mary Jayne." All in all, what we have here is a great rock band whose instrumentals seem to outshine its vocals. -N.P.



The Clash *London Calling* (reissue)
Epic/Legacy, 1979 (2004)

Here it is: the Clash's most famous re-release, often touted by mainstream rock critics as the most memorable (and certainly diverse) outing of the punk movement. Now, 25 years after *London Calling's* first impact in 1979, the album has been expanded to three discs and given a historic liner-note treatment. CD one contains the original album; CD two contains some newly discovered recordings of album material being rehearsed—dubbed the *Vanilla Tapes*—and the final disc is a DVD containing an assortment of clips, documentaries and live footage. The album itself sounds no different from the single-CD 2000 reissue—and while the liner notes, packaging and second and third discs are certainly fascinating, there is no reason why anyone but the most dedicated of Clash fans and chroniclers need buy this somewhat expensive set. -C.L.R.



DJ Krush *Jaku*
Red Ink, 2004

While Krush has been holding the title of abstract hip-hop master for many a year now, his nationality has never shown through in his music so much as it does now—*Jaku* is distinctly Japanese. His eighth album, *Jaku* finds Krush fusing Japanese folk tradition with understated hip-hop beats channeled from *Meiso* and *Milight* perfectly translating the Japanese art aesthetic of loose space. While the spotlight on trip-hop has dimmed a little, Krush's meditative atmospherics and minimalist rhythm sections are as finely honed as it gets. This album is as at home being the score of *Baraka* than it is in an urban Yakuza pulp film. -L.C.



Skye Sweetnam *Noise From the Basement*
Capitol, 2004

What can I say? Where do I begin? You should know that this is a poorly conceived pop album and has every fault that you can attach to it. It is nauseatingly catchy and over produced and anything you've come to expect from modern pop albums. Furthermore, it doesn't take more than a few glances to realize that Sweetnam is obviously copying Avril Lavigne's motifs; teenage conflicts, aggressive but banal lyrics, high school hierarchy and lots of boys. That said, there are some qualities to recommend in *Noise From the Basement*. Sweetnam's voice is clear and constantly changes effects throughout the album. Oftentimes the instruments are eclectic and unpredictable, constantly changing even within a single song. Sweetnam is at her best when she is playful in guitar and voice texture, but much of the CD is too watered down in so many ways it makes it hard for anyone to objectively enjoy *Noise From the Basement*. -D.C.

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2. Windsor (1)
3. Manitoba (4)
4. Western (8)
5. Queen's (6) & Victoria (7)
6. (-)
7. **Dalhousie (2)**
8. Waterloo (9)
9. Alberta (5)
10. Toronto (10)

National Cross Country Rankings (Women)

1. Guelph (1)
2. Western (3)
3. Calgary (2)
4. **Dalhousie (5)**
5. Victoria (7)
6. Toronto (6)
7. Manitoba (4)
8. McGill (9)
9. Queen's (10)
10. York (NR)

Sports Briefs

Tigers' keeper, Chris O'Connor sits at eighth position in CIS goaltending rankings.

Dalhousie's women's soccer team is ranked sixth overall in the country.

The men's hockey team opens their regular season at home against St. F.X. on Wed., Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. Tickets on sale at the Dal Athletic Shop Oct. 6. Call 902-494-3372 for more information.

The men's basketball team is hosting Ivy Leaguers Harvard University, on Mon. Oct. 11 at 1 p.m.

Cross Country Rankings

Everyone is chasing Paul Chafe

Jenn Casey
Staff Contributor

It's a gorgeous early Autumn afternoon and the Dalhousie cross-country team is warming up in front of Dalplex before their daily run.

Paul Chafe, their star member, sits contently on one of the large rocks that line the parking lot in his shorts and t-shirt.

"Can I say goofy things?" asks the 22-year-old runner. "I'm good at that!"

Chafe is good at saying goofy things because he doesn't take himself too seriously. What he has accomplished in races for Dal needs no braggart to advertise—it's turning heads all on its own.

Recovering from an injury-plagued summer, Chafe has re-

turned to the track with flare. He was involved in an exciting sprint finish to win the first Atlantic University Sport (AUS) meet last month.

"Matthew [Sheffield] and I had agreed to tie and then I sprinted past him at the end," says Chafe, smiling mischievously.

After the impressive victory, Chafe went on to finish fourth in the Western University Invitational, and fourteenth just last weekend in the Murray Keating Invitational at the University of Maine.

To say Chafe has been having a good season would be an understatement—but he hasn't always been a star runner.

One of three brothers, Chafe comes from humble beginnings in Sydenham, Ont., a small village of just outside of Kingston.

He started running cross-country in grade three, and was ranked seventy-second in his school.

"Everyone did [cross-country] in public school," Chafe says. "Everyone ran at lunch time."

He also says that he didn't really get into running seriously until his high school coach, Lesley Lawler, helped him along. "She really helped to me get interested," she says.

Along with cross-country, Chafe also was active in soccer right into high school; it wasn't until he came to Dalhousie that he made the decision to quit soccer to focus on running.

And what a good decision it was—last year Chafe was named second team All-Canadian, and finished eighth at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championships.

Now he is looking ahead to this year's CIS competition. "I expect as a team our performances will get better when Matt [Sheffield] gets back into things," he says, referring to his injured teammate.

"Individually I would hope to be first team [All-Canadian], and lead this team into a top three finish. That would be the goal."

Cross-country has the special characterization of being one of the sports in which teammates are also competitors, but it seems Chafe and the rest of the team like it that way.

"I think Mihira [Lakshman] summed it up the best when he said, 'I don't care if a St. F.X. guy passes me,' because we have to be top seven on our team to go to



In grade three, he was ranked 72 in his school. Now, he's

major, Chafe wants to become a schoolteacher after university. He still keeps up hopes of continuing to participate in the world of cross-country, though—by snagging a spot on the national team. Chafe's personal goal for this season?

"[To] put the cross back in cross-country"

"Just last week I saw some guy bag himself on one of those little posts that mark the side," says Chafe, laughing between words. "He cracked the post in half. It was hilarious."

A history and biology double

There are two more AUS meets ahead for the cross-country team, both away meets. You can cheer Paul Chafe and the rest of the team on at the AUS Championship on Sunday, Oct. 30 at 12:45 p.m. at St. Mary's University

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Athletes of the Week



Chris O'Connor
Soccer

Chris O'Connor is keeping the Dalhousie men's soccer Tigers in the hunt. O'Connor, a third-year recreation management student, had a great game on Friday, helping the team rebound from a tough 2-0 loss to the Memorial Seahawks last weekend. He made several key saves in Friday's match against St. F.X. to preserve the 1-0 win for the Tigers. O'Connor, a Vancouver, B.C. native, sits in seventh place on the CIS goaltending leaderboard with only five goals against in six games.



Janice Ashworth
Cross Country

Run, Janice, run! Janice Ashworth is this week's Dalhousie female Athlete of the Week. Ashworth recorded a personal best of 17:05.2 to earn silver honours at the thirteenth Annual Murray Keating Invitational, hosted by the University of Maine. Her time led the women's cross country team to a fifth-place team finish at the elite event. Ashworth is a sophomore runner from Dunrobin, Ont. and is last year's CIS cross country and track and field Rookie of the Year.

Women's Soccer Team Runs Streak To Seven

Mike Tweedale
Staff Contributor

With a win and a tie in their final two games before the Thanksgiving break, the Dalhousie Tigers find themselves in an enviable position: undefeated, atop the AUS eastern conference and ranked fourth in the country. Head coach Graham Chandler has his team playing well indeed—but despite this success, the Tigers insist that they have yet to play their best soccer.

This past weekend, the Tigers welcomed the Memorial University Seahawks for a pair of games at Wickwire field. Results so far this year stacked the odds heavily in favour of Chandler's troops, who went in with a 12-2-2 regular season record versus the Seahawks. While the Seahawks find themselves fighting for their playoff lives and battling for the eastern division's third and final playoff spot, the first-place Tigers are looking to secure home field playoff advantage.

Following Saturday's 2-1 victory with a scoreless draw on Sunday, however, Dalhousie could only manage to take 4 of 6 possible points. But veteran striker Chrissie Henderson re-sounds unconditionally that "It's definitely going to get better."

Midway through the regular season, the Tigers' defence has given up only four goals. Goal-keeper Amanda Verhaeghe has been spectacular in net. A fully extended diving block in the season's second game against Acadia preserved a confidence building 2-1 victory, setting the tone



Katie Hollinshead skirmishes with a MUN forward in last weekend's game.

for the following games. With unrelenting challenges for possession, Dal's defensive platoon has made a point of completely smothered opposing strikers and dominating ball possession in their own end. Coach Chandler prefers a "three defender, one sweeper backfield formation," and he is fortunate enough to have players who are willing to buy into the tactic. The tireless Sophia Hopkins voices this commitment, saying: "there are four of us [defenders] and we support each other... were all in charge back there."

Going into the holiday weekend, nearly half of the Tigers' goal production has come from the midfield. With the first two-goal game of her university career, team captain Laura Scharf single-handedly beat archrival St. Mary's on Sept. 19. With three

goals in seven games, Scharf has already equalled her total offensive output from the 2003 season. Also contributing from the midfield is Leah Kutcher, a player talented enough to catch the attention of the University of Minnesota recruiters. After playing her first post-secondary season on full scholarship south of the border, Kutcher decided to return to Canada and pursue her future at Dal; coach Chandler candidly remarks that the team is "fortunate that she decided to come back."

Although Dal is the top-ranked team in the AUS, they are only tied with Mount Allison for fifth in league scoring, trailing UPEI (who have an eye-popping 21 goals in nine games) UCCB, St. Mary's and Memorial. Leanne Huck has been productive, contributing five goals so far this season, including the winner in Saturday's game against the Seahawks. The opening goal came from Henderson, who marked her first tally of the season, and

Baseball Tigers Eye Nationals



Michael Gorman
Sports Editor

Dalhousie's little-known baseball team is one step away from competing in the national championships—and, says Dalhousie infielder John Biggar, the fact that most people don't even know Dal has a baseball team is no reflection on the team's level of play.

"People usually find out [the school has a baseball team] from players on the team," he says. "They ask if we're varsity and when they find out we aren't, they think we aren't that good. But we're not a joke."

Dal is a member of the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association (CIBA) and this weekend they will travel to the University of New Brunswick for a best-two-out-of-three series against defending national champs UNB. At stake is a trip to Kingston, Ont. to represent the Atlantic conference.

Biggar says it won't be easy, but he thinks his team is up to the challenge. "They're always the team to beat," he says. "But in the four years I've been here this is the best team I've played on. We have a good group of older players and some very strong rookies."

Dal, like the rest of the teams in the CIBA, carries a roster of 25 players. They are a member

of the Atlantic conference along with UNB, St. Mary's and UCCB. Teams have been playing four games each weekend since Sept. 4. Biggar says the level of play and quality of players is a lot higher than most people would think. "We have really good baseball [in the league]," he says. "But like Canadian ball in general, there isn't a lot of recognition." Biggar says play quality is aided by the CIBA not having an age limit as well as allowing players that have been drafted by pro teams to compete.

A lot has gone into Dal being so close to competing for a national championship, and Biggar is quick to credit the team's coaching staff of Justin Turple and Ian Bower. Bower, a former player, was a member of the Dal team that won the national title in 1996. Because the team isn't funded the way varsity level teams are, Biggar says the team relies on fundraising and player fees. Coaches are also volunteers whose commitment shows true passion. "A lot of the money the team needs to operate comes out of the coaches' pockets," says Biggar. "We spend the year raising money to pay them back." You've got to think a trip to nationals would be a great way to pay back the coaching staff.

You can follow the Tigers' progress online at www.ciba-abic.org.



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Atlantic Team/Équipe	GP/PJ	W/V	L/D	T/N	GF	GA	+/-	PTS
East								
Dalhousie	7	5	0	2	10	3	7	17
Saint Mary's	7	4	2	1	13	8	5	13
St. FX.	8	3	1	4	6	5	1	13
Memorial	9	2	4	3	12	15	-3	9
Acadia	9	1	4	4	8	11	-3	7
West								
UPEI	9	6	1	2	21	7	14	20
UCCB	8	4	3	1	15	7	8	13
Mount Allison	8	3	4	1	12	15	-3	10
UNB	8	3	5	0	8	16	-8	9
Moncton	9	1	8	0	7	25	-18	3

AUS SOCCER STANDINGS [MEN]

East								
Saint Mary's	7	5	0	2	14	1	13	17
Memorial	8	4	3	1	17	9	8	13
Dalhousie	6	3	3	0	11	5	6	9
St. FX.	6	2	4	0	6	9	-3	6
West								
Mount Allison	8	6	1	1	19	8	11	19
UPEI	8	4	2	2	23	10	13	14
UNB	7	2	2	3	10	8	2	9
UCCB	6	0	3	3	6	15	-9	3
Moncton	8	0	8	0	4	45	-41	0



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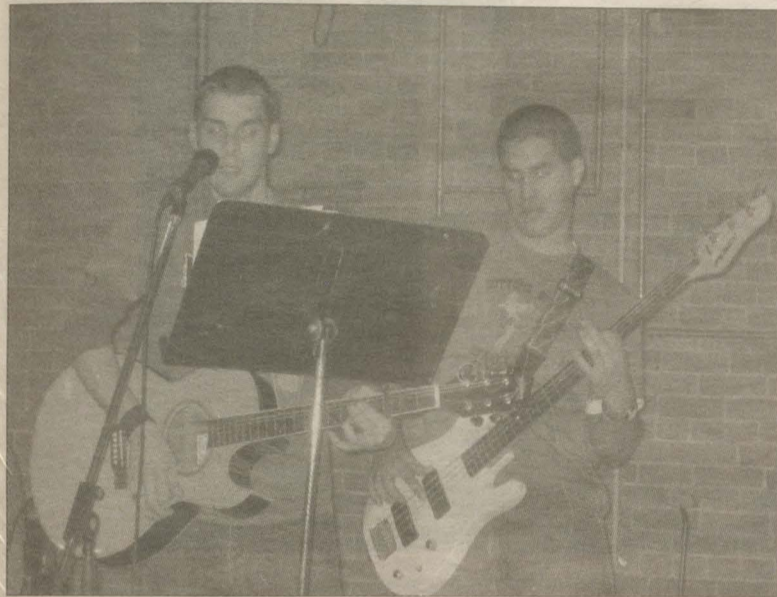
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SEXTANT

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Dalhousie's Official Engineering Student Newspaper

Drinkin' It Up at the T-Room

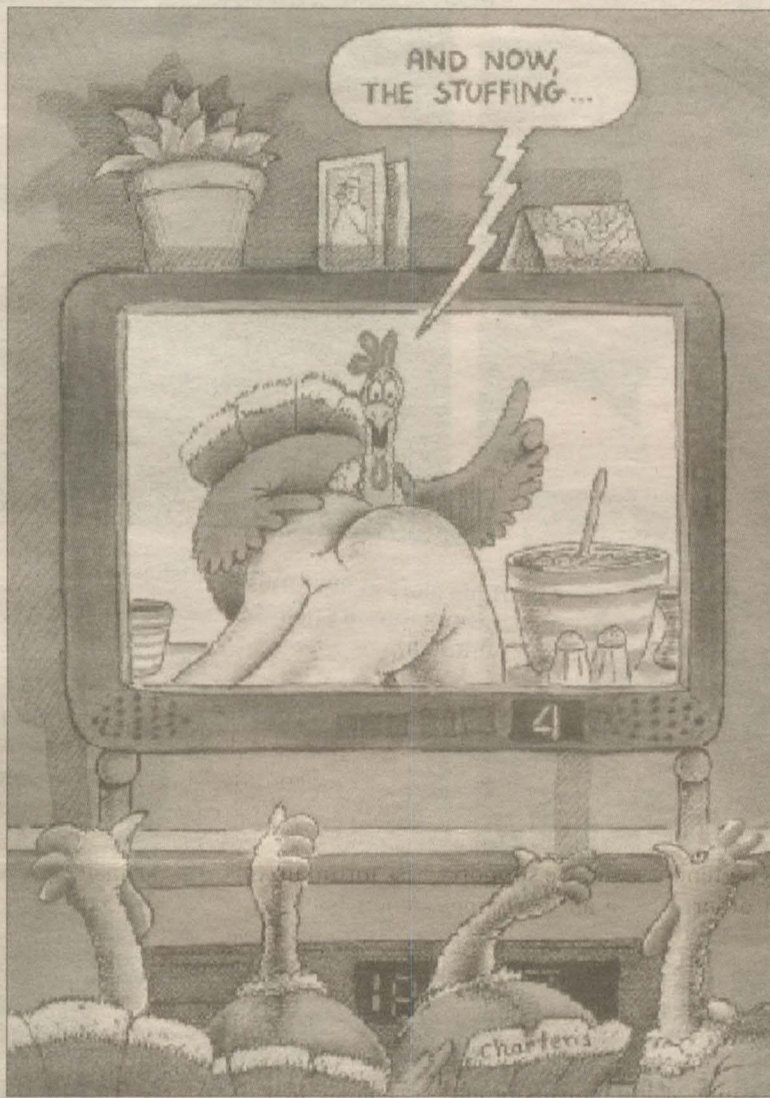


One of these guys is playing a guitar without the amp in an attempt to win a \$5 dollar bet... thanks for the picture "skin-dawg."



Hey! Just checking for assholes?

Thanks for Giving



crap. If you think you like mashed potatoes, you're wrong. You like the butter that is mixed in by the kilo (a kilo is about 2 pounds, for those of you from Ontario). There's some nutritional value in potatoes, but I think I'd rather have an apple.

Stuffing is great, I can't even knock it. I want it on the side though, I don't want to eat anything out of anything's ass.

Cranberry sauce? What the hell is that shit? If cranberries were good, people would eat them out of a basket. I've yet to see anyone eating fresh cranberries. I know everyone just buys the canned ones. This sickness is placed in front of me with grooves in the side as if I'm about to eat some red-jelly cat food. At least you're eating it out of a dish as opposed to straight out of the can. Even if the person takes the time to cut it up... cut up cat food is still cat food.

There's more than one type of gravy. I've seen it to many times people putting beef gravy on my fucking turkey. Putting beef gravy on my turkey is about as appetizing as deep-frying milk—but even if I can stop them from putting that beef gravy on my turkey, I'm still sitting there with dry turkey.

Since I have a day off from school, my profs think it's a good idea to give me extra work because, "we're behind and have to catch up." It's not my fault the class is behind, you dink. If a boss at work gave me extra work to be done on a holiday for no pay, I'd set up my boss with my friend who has herpes.

Karen Smith
Sextant Contributor

I didn't do any research for this article. I don't care why thanksgiving started, or why we eat the garbage we eat on that day. All I know is it gives me a day off school, and I'm thankful for that.

But I do have some problems

with it.

For starters, I don't like turkey. It's drier than chicken, and not as tasty as duck. If I eat anything turkey on thanksgiving, it'll be a hot-turkey sandwich and I'll pay the extra 75 cents at the restaurant for all white meat. And if you're going to cook the turkey yourself, you have to do all that work.

Mashed potatoes taste like

Aunt Emily Like Italics

Although the following submission may not be the view of the Sextant or myself, I really enjoyed reading it... but I hope I never run into this person on the street. This submission really made my day.

Bon Appetite,
Billy Clyburn
Sextant Editor

L.S.M.
Based on a True Story

I think I was about seven when Uncle Obediah came into the living room. He saw

the horrible mess we had made, shrugged his shoulders and sat down to read the Sunday paper.

When, on the other hand, Aunt Emily saw our awesome pillow fort, she flew into a rage that woke us up.

We sneaked in slippers to the top of the stairs to eavesdrop; half giggling and half scared.

"If their parents had any sense, their children wouldn't make such big messes! My God, Obe, we're not babysitting these *hooligans* ever

again! My God!" she shouted. Aunt Emily loved italics.

"And my *scissors!* They've been cutting *paper* with my *good scissors!*"

The back of Uncle Obediah's newspaper grunted in agreement.

What's the point of this story? Well, you'll see in a moment that it's an intelligent literary device designed to point out the hypocrisies of society. We didn't know what hypocrisy was back then, of course. That was before our University days of Higher Learning.

I was seven, remember. And I was huddled at the top of the stairs, listening to Aunt Emily complaining.

Apparently we were such a stress on her "*delicate*" peace of mind that she had been "*forced*" into having two cups of coffee instead of one! ("My God!") I don't know for sure if Aunt Emily knew we were listening, but I have my suspicions that she was being so loud as to "teach us a *lesson*" about cleanliness.

It had little effect on us, and absolutely none, appar-

ently, on Uncle Obediah—who continued flipping his paper while guiltlessly beginning his second cup of coffee.

It was some weeks after this incident (and this is where the ironic part is—did I mention that the article is also about irony?) that Aunt Emily was involved in a tragic car accident.

This time, *she* left a bloody mess all over the highway—and did absolutely nothing to clean it up.

University Avenue



A morning glory at my window satisfies me more than the metaphysics of books.
Walt Whitman



When you have only two pennies left in the world, buy a loaf of bread with one, and a lily with the other.
Chinese Proverb

Why do people give each other flowers? To celebrate various important occasions, they're killing living creatures? Why restrict it to plants? "Sweetheart, let's make-up. Have this deceased squirrel."
The Washington Post

Bread feeds the body, indeed, but flowers feed also the soul.
The Qur'an



Send me dead flowers by the mail,
Send me dead flowers to my wedding,
And I won't forget to put roses on your grave.
Mick Jagger/K. Richards



Give me odorous at sunrise a garden of beautiful flowers where I can walk undisturbed.
Walt Whitman

photos:
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