

Dalhousie's Student Newspaper since 1868

Gazette



**DI OLYMPICS:
THE GOOD, THE BAD
& THE UGLY
11-12.**

**INTERVIEW:
TOM TRAVES
06.**

**DISHING OUT
\$110 FOR A
U-PASS
05.**



DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION



Council for the Promotion of Diversity on Campus
Next meeting is Thursday October 21st at 6:30pm in Council Chambers SUB!!! Everybody is welcome.

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.

DSU Honour Awards

The DSU is currently accepting applications for:
Malcolm Honour Awards; Gold "D"s; Certificates of Distinction; Valedictorian

Only those students who are graduating in the fall 2004 convocation are eligible for these awards. The application is available at www.dsu.ca as well as in the DSU Council Offices 222 in the SUB.

The Deadline for applications is **Friday, October 8th 2004 5:00pm**. Please submit completed application to room 222 on the second floor of the SUB

DSU Council Meeting

The next meeting of the DSU Council will be on **October 27th 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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DJ IV

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Editorial

Catherine Cooper
Editor-in-Chief

I have never done this before, but I am going to come right out and admit that I have never voted in a federal, provincial or municipal election. My co-editor, Quentin Casey, tells me that this is a "disgrace," and I am appropriately ashamed. In fact, I am so ashamed of my failure to vote that this year I told people I had voted in the federal election even though I hadn't. Lame, I know.

As a person who has never voted, I am in no position to write an editorial encouraging people to vote in this month's municipal election. However, I may be able to provide some insight into why people don't vote and explain why I have decided that this election will be my first time joining the 22 per cent of Canadians between the ages of 18 and 24 who make it to the polls.

Most people would say that the number one reason people don't vote is that they are lazy and apathetic. Add "too busy" to the list and it's probably not too far off the mark.

I have managed for months without light in certain rooms of my apartment because I felt that it was too much of a hassle to change a light bulb—forget learning about the candidates, deciding who to vote for, figuring out where to vote, walking down there, waiting in line... but I don't think that these things are the products of laziness—it's a matter of priorities.

I am a busy person, and apparently I felt that I could do without having a say in who runs this city/province/country just as well as I could

do without light in my bedroom.

I think that my priorities would have been different—that is, I would have made voting a priority—if I had felt that it would actually make a significant difference.

I never felt that it made much of a difference who you voted for because things wouldn't be radically different either way. Of course, I realised that in certain elec-

as Quentin wrote in the *Herald* this summer (June 17, 2004), Canadian youth "[fail] to comprehend the efforts of the past that have created the comfortable way of life we experience today."

From what I know about the mayoral candidates and their platforms, it probably won't make an earth shattering difference no matter who wins. I doubt that having any one of them as mayor would

"If more people in our demographic vote, issues that are important to us are more likely to be taken into consideration by those in positions of power."

tions, such as the federal election this year and the upcoming U.S. Presidential election, there are major differences between the candidates and one should vote simply to keep one of the candidates out of power.

This doesn't explain why I didn't vote in the federal election this year, but it was the closest I have ever come to voting, which is something.

People often say, as Ernie Brennan did in last week's *Gazette*: "To not vote means you can't complain." To this I always respond that I never do complain.

In fact, I'm sure that I complain fairly often about things that might have been different had a different person been voted into power.

The problem is that many people, myself included, do not make the connection between the way things are and how that came to be that way, just as they don't recognise or value their role in that process. Furthermore,

radically change our everyday lives. But they all have different opinions and priorities, and I think that it is worth voting for the person whose priorities are similar to your own.

So, if you have a burning desire to swim in the harbour or shop every day of the week, make sure you vote for the person who wants to make that happen for you.

Also, if more people in our demographic vote, issues that are important to us are more likely to be taken into consideration by those in positions of power.

More importantly, I have realised that it's a mistake not to vote because it creates and perpetuates a feeling of helplessness, which leads to apathy.

Getting interested in the issues and deciding what is important to you is empowering, and I'm sure that actually voting will be even more so.

Now all I have to do is figure out where to go.

Gazette

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www.signalnoise.com

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

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<http://www.dalgazette.ca/forum>

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



Upcoming Events...

Employer Information Sessions:

- Hudson Bay Company – October 18
- RBC – October 19
- Lafarge – October 21

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

Health Professions Job Fair

November 5
McInnes Room, SUB

THIS WEEK'S JOB NEWS

HBC's Management Trainee Program

Preparing to enter the job market? With such a vast array of opportunities, where do you begin? The **Hudson's Bay Company** Management Trainee Program is designed to develop leaders of tomorrow. It will provide you with an opportunity to learn and grow at a rapid rate, landing you in a leadership role upon graduation. This program builds on the skills you have developed at school and teaches you about the wonders of the world of retail.

To learn more about this exciting career, attend our information session on October 18th, 12:00 - 2:00pm in room 224 of the SUB or visit www.hbc.com/hbc/careers/hbc/campus.

SUB, 446 - 902-494-3537
student.employment@dal.ca – www.dal.ca/sec

Dalhousie's "See Differently" Open House First In Over Ten Years

Katie Maskell
Kevin Wasko
Staff Contributors

Dalhousie is opening its doors Oct. 22 and 23 to everyone who wants to see what the university has to offer. With a price tag of roughly \$100,000 and an expected 4,000 to 6,000 participants, the campus-wide "See Differently" open house is the first in over a decade and promises to show every aspect of life at Dal.

There are over 200 different activities being offered to all members of the public and the Dal community. About 40 different classes will be open to the public on Friday, Oct. 22, special lectures will be held, labs will be open, and tours of the facilities will be offered.

"We're publicly funded and we want to show the public what we have," says Mary Anne White, co-chair of the open house program.

"We're opening our doors for everyone to see. We want to show what we're doing so that there's a better understanding for potential students of what we do here."

Dalhousie Student Union president Curtis McGrath says the open house is both a recruit-

ment tool and a way to enhance Dalhousie's reputation within the greater Halifax community. "The programming is geared towards both prospective students and members of the community that live near Dalhousie," says McGrath. "It will showcase the campus to the public while supporting recruitment activities of the university."

To attract potential students, the Sociology and Social Anthropology department has planned a presentation and lecture titled "Why sociology and social anthropology? The student perspective," with pizza and pop provided. "We're going to talk about why to do it [sociology]," says Professor Lindsay DuBois, department coordinator for the open house.

"We want to help the university recruit students to Dal. We want to attract good and interested students."

However, the focus of "See Differently" is not just on academics. Maritime Noon on CBC radio will be broadcasting live, the chemistry department will be putting on a "magic" show, and there will be a community breakfast held on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 9:00 a.m. For visitors who want a blast from the television past, Snake and Joey of Degraasi

High fame will be dropping by on Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Ondaatje Hall. And to showcase the Dal Tigers' athletic prowess, both the men's and women's varsity soccer teams will be taking on St. FX.

There is also going to be a competition for Nova Scotia's high school students called "Reach for Dalhousie," where they have a chance at winning their first-year tuition.

Jen Frail, a fourth-year marine biology student, is impressed by plans for the upcoming event. As president of Dal's Golden Key International Honour Society chapter, Frail will be involved with the expo taking place on Friday afternoon. The open house "provides everyone with a hands-on and up-close experience of Dal that cannot be accomplished through pamphlets and brochures," says Frail. "Being able to have all departments available for two whole days is a huge undertaking, and the coordinators of this open house are doing an amazing job."

Volunteers for the Open House are still welcome, and can contact Gaye Wishart at gaye.wishart@dal.ca. Go to www.openhouse.dal.ca for more information on volunteering and for a full Open House schedule of events.



District 15 candidate Nathaniel Smith does some pre-election promotion

Studying, Campaigning All in a Day's Work for Nathaniel Smith

Jenn Casey
Staff Contributor

October is midterm time for most university students, but Nathaniel Smith has more on his plate than studying: the 20-year-old Saint Mary's University student is running for Halifax city council.

Smith is a candidate for District 15, comprising Fairview and Clayton Park. He declared himself a candidate because Russell Walker, his adversary, has been running unopposed since 1995.

"I'm a firm believer in the democratic process and I think for anyone to run unopposed is wrong," says the talkative Smith. He is also an advocate of youth involvement in government, and he says he doesn't see enough young faces making decisions for the future.

"Halifax Regional Municipality is currently in a 25-year regional planning stage," says Smith. "I believe that it's crucial

for people our age that are going to be functioning in this city in 25 years, be involved in [that plan] and right now we're not."

Despite his enthusiasm, Smith's youth is causing some surprise and concern from the electorate.

"Every second door, they look at the pamphlet and they're like, 'Really? Are you old enough? Are you still in high school?'" he recalls, laughing.

Jokes aside, there are only two qualifications to be considered a candidate for city council: you have to be old enough to vote and you must be a Canadian citizen.

And that is what he tells the skeptics.

"I think I'm capable of doing the job. I've got the ability, I've got the education, I have the ability to be rational," he says. "If I can give you the best years of my life, I'm willing to do that. And if

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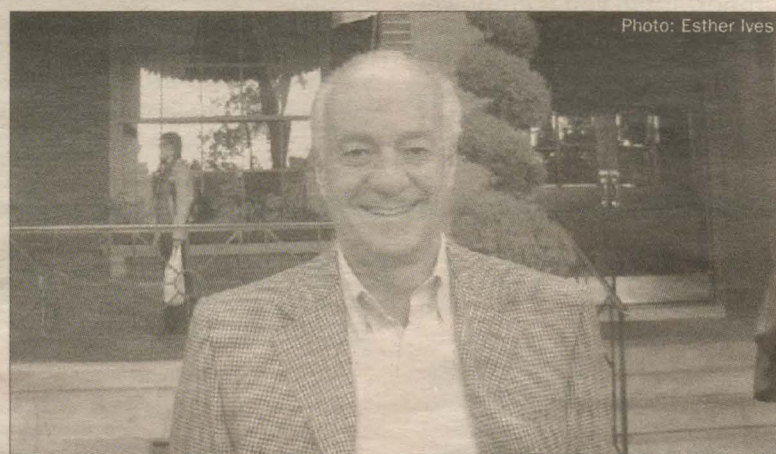
Killam Lecture Brings After-Hours Fiesta to Ondaatje Hall

Esther Ives
Staff Contributor

Dalhousie's auditoriums are not often filled with attentive listeners after dusk, but the Dorothy J. Killam lecture series has changed that. The second of three lectures in this year's series, "Mexico: Our Other North American Neighbour" attracted a crowd of students and locals—including former Nova Scotia Premier Russell McLellan—to the Marion McCain building on Tuesday, Oct. 5, where Mexican diplomat Andrés Rozental spoke about the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

In his presentation, "Canada, Mexico and the Future of North America," Rozental argued that Canada and Mexico "still have a limited view of each other," despite the implementation of NAFTA almost 10 years ago. NAFTA has certainly fostered a deeper integration of the Canadian and Mexican economies, said Rozental, who pointed out that trade between the two countries "has risen 300 per cent" in the last decade.

However, he also implied that the agreement still contains numerous problems. Rozental thinks it is time for the govern-



Andrés Rozental is happy to be visiting Canada, one of Mexico's NAFTA's partners

ments of Canada, the United States and Mexico to consider broadening the agreement's focus. "Little has been achieved, I think, in advancing the idea of partnership," said Rozental. He believes that Canada needs to change its perspective on the agreement so that the three countries can achieve their common goals. "Canada has taken the view that trilateralism is inconsistent with its special relationship with the United States," said Rozental, but "...Sept. 11 has presented us with a great opportunity to work closer together to ensure the integrity and security of our homeland."

Rozental also proposed that

Canada and the United States invest in Mexico. "One billion dollars over five years would solve most of the development problems of Mexico," he said.

After his lecture, Rozental fielded questions about poverty in Mexico, human rights and protection of natural resources.

Rozental's many accomplishments include a 30-year-long career as a diplomat, and a newer career as president of his international consulting firm, Rozental & Asociados. He is a leading authority on Mexico's foreign policy and is the current president of the Mexican Council on Foreign

Continued on Next Page...

INTERACT WITH THE GAZETTE

Give feedback, join the chat, debate, pontificate, whatever.

www.dalgazette.ca/forum

"I think I'm capable of doing the job," con't...

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you're willing to accept that, then go ahead."

A major issue for Smith is the disregard for the city's universities that some councilors seem to have.

"This really bothers me as a student," he says. "One of the councilors is on record as saying that St. Mary's and Dalhousie Universities are public nuisances."

"I believe that it's crucial for people our age that are going to be functioning in this city in 25 years, be involved in [that plan] and right now we're not."

- Nathaniel Smith, council candidate

es. They have called where we live student ghettos."

Smith doesn't believe this is good practice for the councilors, especially when the population of one of Halifax's universities alone could sway the decision of the vote.

"The majority of students in that district live there for nine out of the 12 months," he says. "They are basically flipping off a large majority of their electorate."

Smith is not new to media at-

tention either. In 2000, he was in the national spotlight when he worked to get a graveyard in Prospect that was in danger of development, claimed as historic land.

"I made a big fuss about it and I got Bill Estabrooks, the MLA for that area, involved," he says, smiling.

The candidate offers some advice to his fellow young adults who are considering running for public office.

Opting Out of U-Pass May Not Be an Option

Esther Ives
Staff Contributor

University officials are hoping that Dalhousie students will have a metro bus pass included in their tuition fees by next September.

"We're in active discussions with Metro Transit over the U-Pass," said Eric McKee, vice-president of student services. "We're still discussing with Metro Transit whether they can absorb the extra riders for September of 2005. At this point, they need to buy additional busses," he said.

But do all students stand to benefit from the U-Pass if it is implemented? Shawn MacPhee, a third-year sociology student, takes the bus to and from school five days a week. He currently spends \$408 per year on Metro Transit's monthly student passes. His situation obviously makes the idea of a U-Pass—which is estimated at costing each student \$110 per year—very desirable.

"I think that most students would benefit [from a U-pass]," he said, "as long as there was also the option of opting out."

Similarly, Dalhousie Student Union president Curtis McGrath said he sympathizes with students who would not use the public transportation system.

"An opt-out would be desirable, particularly for the 2,000 students that we have living on campus, but the way that universal bus passes are structured... it wouldn't work."

Both the DSU and Student Services believe that an opt-out system would defeat the entire purpose of adopting a universal bus pass because it would increase the price of the pass for

students choosing not to opt-out.

"If it's going to be done it would be a mandatory, across the board pass—the way it is at St. Mary's University," said McKee. He pointed out, however, that

an issue, even for those students who think now that they would not benefit from the deal. McKee said that the results from a U-Pass poll conducted by Student Services last January yielded some unexpected results.

"If it's going to be done it would be a mandatory, across the board pass—the way it is at St. Mary's University."

- Eric McKee, vice-president of Student Services

exceptions could be made for students away on work terms or exchange programs.

Metro Transit also sees the need for some exceptions. "The U-Pass price is set based on 100 per cent participation, as it is offering a much reduced fare for students, but some groups, such as graduate students, could opt out," said Lori Patterson, manager of Metro Transit's public affairs department.

Despite the controversy, opting out of the pass may not be

"I was surprised to find out that even students in residence say that they probably take the bus once or twice a week," said McKee.

Students who only take the bus twice a week during the school year would still save \$16 if they participated in the U-Pass program.

From the university's point of view, the benefits of the U-Pass would far outweigh its \$110 cost. The question now is: can Metro Transit deliver?

Diplomacy "easy transition" for Rozenthal

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Relations. In 2000, he was named Ambassador at Large and Special Presidential Envoy by Mexican President Vicente Fox.

Rozenthal, who holds a BA and MA in economics, said his transition into diplomacy "was natural." He credits his career choice to the influence of his parents—his father was a diplomat, and his mother was a translator for the UN—and to the guidance of several political science professors he encountered while studying at the University of Pennsylvania. "I'd been very attracted by the multi-cultural, multi-lingual experience of living in different parts of the world," said Rozenthal, in an interview with the Gazette.

While he said that diplomacy "was an easy transition" in his case, he acknowledged that today's competitive environment means a career in diplomacy is not an easy path. "It's a very difficult period for young people today," Rozenthal said.

Rozenthal's advice for today's students includes adding extracurricular activities, travel experiences and language skills to one's resume. "In this globalised world, language is very important...In addition to English, you need another language...especially if you want to be involved in international affairs—whether it's business, teaching or diplo-

macy."


The final lecture in the series, featuring poet Homero Aridjis, will be held in Ondaatje Hall, Marion McCain building, on Thursday, Oct. 21 at 8:00 p.m. A film by Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu will be shown in room 2198, McCain building, on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.


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Dalhousie University

Thursday
October 14

Info Table
10am to 3pm
Main Lobby
Student Union Building

Info Session
4pm to 5pm
Rm 316
Student Union Building



Tom Traves: State of the University

Dal's president talks about rising tuition, labour disputes

Quentin Casey
Editor-in-Chief

It is often the case that perception does not equal reality: one gets to know someone from a distance—a public figure, politician or celebrity—and one's perception can be very different from who that person actually is.

Case in point: Dalhousie president Tom Traves.

When the possibility of an interview with Tom Traves came up in the *Gazette* office, rumours and speculation started flying. Some thought that a sit-down interview would never be granted. Others thought that we might get an interview, but only if the questions were pre-approved. By all accounts, it seemed that Tom Traves was an elusive boss shielded by an army of secretaries and PR mouthpieces.

Nothing could have been further from the truth.

An interview with Traves was easily secured, and within minutes of sitting down face-to-face it became clear that our president has a genuine passion for Dalhousie University.

In his nearly 10 years at the top of the Dalhousie administration, Traves has placed this passion at the centre of his efforts to make Dal a premier educational institution. And in his opinion, the university has made great strides toward achieving this goal: this year's labour negotiations shouldn't result in a faculty strike, and although tuition is on the rise, Dal is now more focused on student funding.

Yet the most significant transformation during his tenure is something students might not initially notice.

"I would say that the biggest change is a psychological change. When I came to the university, we had been struggling for many years with financial problems, with a lack of government support, perhaps even hostility toward the university ... We had been forced into a strong defense of the status quo, which was necessary to protect the long-term

interests of the university, but at the same time threw a wet blanket over creative thinking," he says.

"It seems to me that we have moved on in a much more positive way. Since then we have managed to secure a lot of [financial] support ... And today, though we're certainly not out of the woods by any means in terms of the challenges we face, I think there is a positive sense of momentum after moving forward with lots of initiatives."

Problems still facing Dal are largely financial—a fact that comes as no surprise to students who shell out record tuition fees each year. Dal tuition increased 7.25 per cent last year, and eight per cent the year before. Though Traves sympathizes with students' struggles with growing fees and debt, he does not see much changing in the near future.

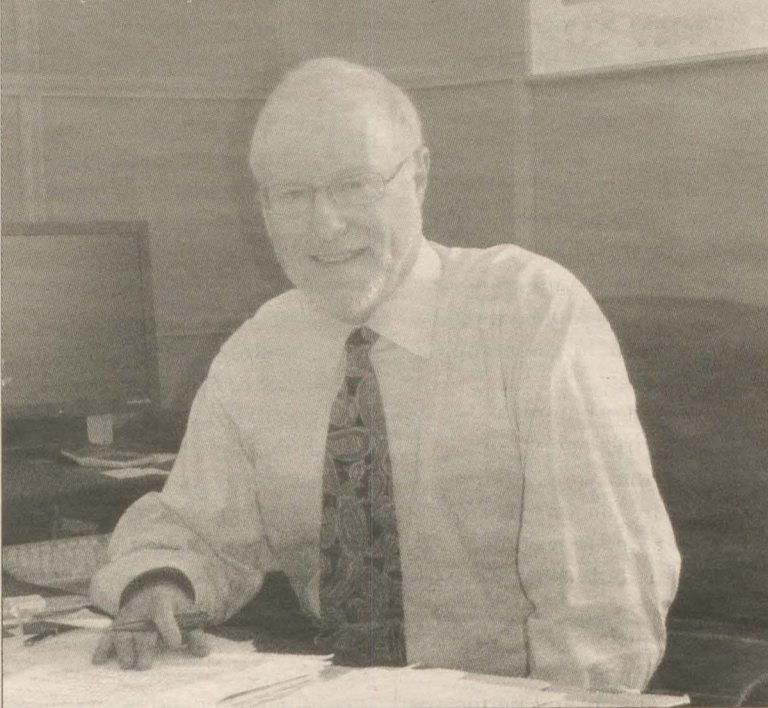
"Realistically, I don't see any significant change in the pattern of tuition increases. I hope that we can moderate the amounts involved. The simple reality is that universities are very expensive places to operate," says Traves.

Rising costs have forced the administration to secure additional funds, he says: everything from increases in salaries to library acquisition fees to rising oil costs. But the main problem is a lack of government funding. According to Traves, who hails from Winnipeg, the N.S. government invests the least amount of money per university student out of any province in Canada.

"Our provincial government operating grant has probably dropped ... by about 25 per cent in the past decade ... and so students have been forced to pick up all the slack of lost government income and rising costs," he says.

Under Traves' plan, the university's response to the pain of rising costs is twofold: lobby the provincial government for more long-term funding (talks are scheduled over the next few months) and increase student funding.

Photo: Quentin Casey



Dr. Traves feels the university has progressed in the right direction during his time in office.

"We have been investing a lot of money at Dalhousie in increasing student financial support," he says. "We now spend over \$34 million a year on scholarships, bursaries and jobs for students on campus. \$34 million a year is equal to about 40 per cent of all the tuition income that we take in. So a significant part of the money that we take in from stu-

in some cases that pocket might be pretty empty."

Traves' own salary of \$242,586 has come under fire in light of the ever-rising cost of tuition. When some students are paying more than \$6,500 for a year of undergraduate study, a salary in the range of a quarter million dollars can seem lavish.

"My salary is determined in a

Realistically I don't see any significant change in the pattern of tuition increases. I hope that we can moderate the amounts involved. The simple reality is that universities are very expensive places to operate.

dents, effectively we give back to students."

Increased funding aside, Traves realizes that the financial future of the student body isn't bright. "Of course, the more fees go up the more of a burden it is on students who have to pay it, or their families who have to help them pay it and we're all aware of student debt levels. So it's a matter of concern," he says.

"Next year when someone has to pay the fees, they still have to dig deep into their pockets and

competitive market," says Traves. "I don't expect to make more than the average, in terms of the responsibilities I carry, and I don't expect I would make substantially less. Since the time of my initial appointment my salary has gone up essentially in lockstep with the salaries that we pay to all of our professors," he says. "I'm not suggesting for a second that I'm underpaid—I'm very well-paid for what I do ... But that's the rate for this type of job."

Another one of Dal's current

problems concerns labour disputes with university employees. Due to faculty strikes in 1998 and 2002, and a teaching assistant strike last spring, students are bracing themselves for the possibility of another strike this academic year.

But Traves, a history professor by trade who holds degrees from the University of Manitoba and York, is optimistic about ongoing negotiations with the DFA. "I don't see a strike on the horizon this year ... We know full well that if we gave in to every demand, and therefore avoided any labour disruption, the people who would fundamentally pay the cost of those demands would be our students ... with even higher tuition fees. That said, I don't think that it would be fair to insist that everybody who works at the university has to sacrifice a decent wage in order to have low tuition fees. We obviously have to find a balance between these two competing demands."

"I would say that the possibilities for good, positive labour relations at Dalhousie now are much better than they've been for many years. I don't expect any labour disruptions this year."

While there are still difficulties facing the university, Traves foresees prosperity in the future. Exciting new projects are on the horizon, he says—such as a desperately-needed new medical research building, increased funding for student services and a campus-wide landscaping effort to improve the look of the university. Traves is proud of the shape Dal has taken over his decade at the helm. "I think that I'm most pleased about the fact that we have developed a long-term strategy for the university of how to improve our fortunes and how to continue the positive development of our academic activities and reputation," he says.

"We've moved from a fairly bleak perspective of our prospects to one in which we've encouraged people to dream big dreams, and to have very ambitious aspirations."



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Homesickness

Telus ads say you're a sissy for wanting your mommy. Maybe they never went away to university.

Meera Gupta
Health Contributor

It's setting in. You're at university and it's starting to get hard. There's a chill in the air, work is piling up and your roommate has stopped talking, opting instead to argue with his stuffed animals.

This is not what you expected. Worst of all, there's this achy, swishy feeling that sweeps from your stomach up to form a tight little knot in your throat.

There is no denying it: you're homesick.

You miss your parents, your friends, your dog, even your annoying little siblings.

Basically, you want to pack up your bags, catch the next train, plane or steamboat out of this hellhole and forget it ever happened—or you went home for Thanksgiving and didn't want to come back. You're not even concerned about what everyone back home will think.

They're all still there, aren't they? Obviously they will understand.

If this sounds like you, stop packing and heed this: *You are not alone. You are perfectly normal and there are many other students feeling exactly like you. Most importantly, for most of you, this feeling will not last.*

The best cure for homesickness is probably one of the hardest pills to swallow: patience. You need to wait these feelings out. "Get involved in something, anything. Don't withdraw and stay in your room," says Judy Hayashi, director of Dalhousie's counseling services.

It's important to meet people and enjoy yourself, not stay under your covers listening to Crazy terrorize his Care Bears.

It could be as easy as going

to class early and striking up a conversation with a classmate—okay, so you already tried that with the pony-tailed, gum-popping girl who looked at you like you were a lunatic when you asked her how she found the tutorial the day before.

Well, try again. And if you keep trying, your attempts will eventually fall on ears who belong to somebody sane and willing to find out who you are.

Give yourself a realistic deadline. For instance, say you'll stick it out until Christmas. If things haven't gotten any better, you'll reconsider whether university is for you.

"Your life is bigger than what's troubling you in the moment. You need to keep reminding yourself that you haven't yet established yourself here, but you will," says Hayashi.

Students are here for about four years and then they can leave, Hayashi says—why not take these four years to experiment?

Try things you've never tried, be someone you've always wanted to be.

If you don't like what you've done, or become, you get to leave in the end anyway.

Don't give up on your dreams too quickly.

Remember all the reasons you wanted to come to university—and be reassured that it can all become a reality, in time.

If you have been feeling down for two weeks or more, crying more than usual, sleeping differently or feeling hopeless or suicidal, you should speak to a professional. You can make an appointment with a psychologist at counseling services by calling 494-2081, or dropping by their office on the fourth floor of the Student Union Building.

Graduates, Undergraduates bicker over union representation

Jenn Morrison
News Editor

The Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS) is holding a referendum on Oct. 25 and 26 asking grad students to form an independent student union—but the Dalhousie Student Union is disputing the association's rationale and authority.

According to Nova Scotia law, the DSU is the voice of all students at the university. But DAGS, representing 2,000 of Dal's 3,200 graduate students, thinks that the DSU is not doing enough to address their concerns.

"Under the current system, the undergraduate voice will always be heard and will always make the decisions," said Alan Hill, DAGS vice-president of external. The association is currently an A-level society within the DSU and represents graduate students in science, arts and social sciences, management, health professions, computer science and architecture. DAGS does not represent MBA students or engineers, among others, but according to the association's plans all graduate students are eligible to vote in the referendum.

"Part of the problem is that whenever DAGS tries to do something on behalf of graduate students, we always get the response of, 'You don't represent all graduate students, you know, maybe other graduate students don't feel the same way as you guys do.' So a big part of [the referendum] is unifying representation of graduate students," said Hill.

DSU president Curtis McGrath, himself a graduate student, said DAGS does not have the authority to hold the referendum. "First of all, it's not really a referendum, it's a plebiscite," said McGrath, explaining that a referendum's results are binding, while a plebiscite's are not. "Secondly, they [DAGS] have no authority to administer a refer-

endum of all graduate students because their constituents are not all graduate students. The only organization capable of administering the referendum is the DSU."

McGrath also said DAGS is violating the spirit of a DSU decision, made at the Sept. 29 DSU Council meeting, to form a new committee to examine the association's grievances and propose possible solutions to Council.

"A cynical graduate student might take a look at this committee and say, 'This is just another stalling tactic,'" said Hill. Whether the committee is effective or not, Hill said the referendum will go ahead. "In labour-management negotiations, the strongest bargaining chip the labour side can bring to the table is to have a successful strike vote behind them, and what's what this referendum will be. Otherwise, they [the DSU] would say, 'Here's our offer, take it or leave it, there's nothing you can do about it,'" he said.

For McGrath, comparing labour negotiations to DAGS-DSU discussions is like "comparing apples and oranges."

According to Hill, there are three main issues that warrant a referendum: internal representation, external representation and fees and services. He said that the DSU has cut graduate student representation on the DSU Council this year, but McGrath disagrees, saying that the drop in the number of graduate seats on council reflects the fact DAGS doesn't represent all graduate students.

The process to fill the single graduate member-at-large position is ongoing.

Hill also said that graduate students are unhappy because their seat on the senate is now elected by the entire university population, 80 per cent of which is undergraduate. "It's absurd, because a candidate could well run under the platform of, 'I won't represent graduate students at

all, I'll do my best to represent undergraduate concerns' and be elected, and that's outrageous," said Hill.

McGrath said that the DSU previously allowed the DAGS president to sit on the senate, but that changed because a former president frequently shirked responsibilities. "The DSU had no means of making this person accountable, as he was accountable to DAGS and not to us, so that was another piece of the puzzle," McGrath said.

Hill and DAGS president Dennis Stavrou also expressed frustration with DSU fees and services, and the DSU's membership in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations—which does "virtually no lobbying on behalf of graduate students," said Hill.

Despite DSU concerns, DAGS is still promoting the referendum. Hill said that a "yes" vote, which he is expecting, would set in motion myriad consequences.


For one, the provincial legislation designating the DSU as the representative body of all Dal students would have to be amended, and new legislation would be needed to incorporate a graduate student union.

Secondly, a new graduate student union would have to deal with finances—like collecting levies, administering the Grad House and negotiating use of the Student Union Building.

McGrath questions whether DAGS is even prepared to hold the vote.

"Who would administer this referendum? Who will provide a list of graduate students? Does DAGS intend to appoint a CRO [Chief Returning Officer] who is unbiased and impartial? Who will protect security and integrity of the balloting process?" he asked.

The DSU president is planning to meet with DAGS representatives, but the possibility remains that the DSU may try to postpone or stop the referendum: "Anything is possible."



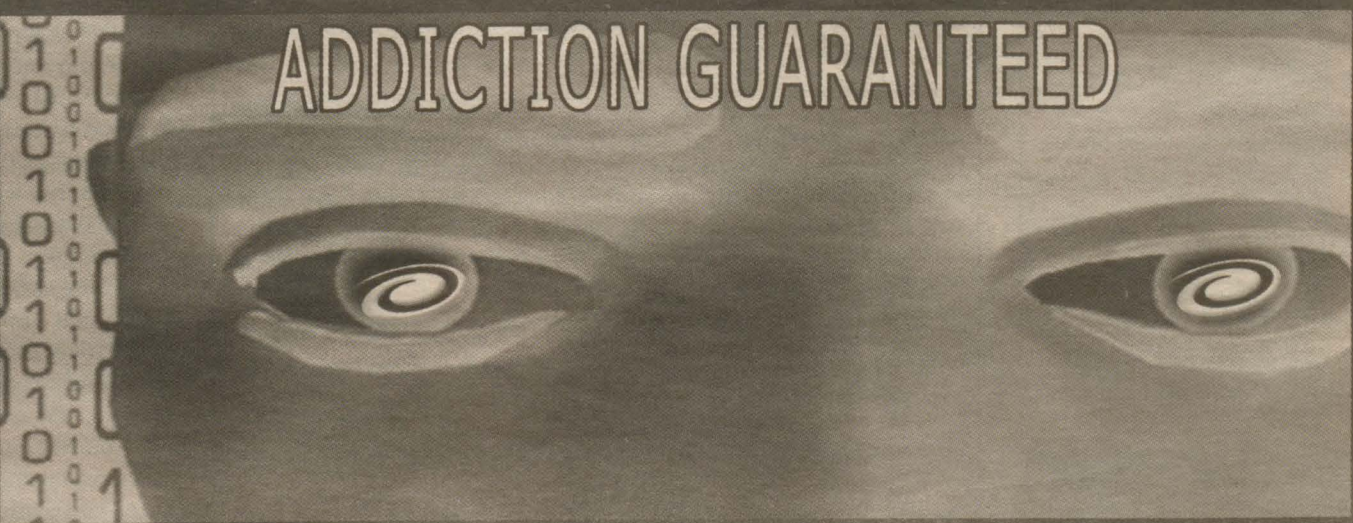
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Dear University Etiquette

It seems my attempts at being friendly are resulting in more frustration than if I had just shut my mouth. Why do I insist on introducing myself to everyone I meet in class only to turn off my ears as soon as they tell me their names? Then as each day passes and I get further from the "what's your name" stage, I am forced to stare at these new

faces blankly, running random names through my mind probing for some memory of Mary or Margaret—or maybe it was Mandy? I'll have to be creative in my name-finding ways. My friend once asked to check out her nameless friend's student I.D. to finally discover the mystery John Hancock. Brilliant, my dear. Brilliant. - N.L.

Dear Passerby

I think we've reached that point in our relationship that a mere hello and pass is not adequate. Stop walking past me with your I'm-on-a-mission gaze and your wave that wasn't even in my direction. I took the time to stop and turn. You should have done the same. I was left hanging there to poke through my bag in an attempt to justify my stop. - N.L.

Dear Mr. Pilot of Flight AC8972

Myself and the other passengers really got a kick out of fearing for our lives, I particularly enjoyed wondering if I was going to defecate myself while sober. But I digress. Actually, you did an amazing job in your four attempts at landing in those winds. Mother nature, fuck you for that ride from hell in what I thought was going to be a 73-foot-long coffin. - L.C.

Vent (Nadine LaRoche / Loukas Crowther)

The Taser Treatment

How far will the city go to keep university students quiet?

Christina Stefanski
Opinions Contributor

House parties in residential areas have lost much of their appeal thanks to the city's noise bylaw—a fact that occurred to me while attending a house party on Edward St. in mid-September. Around 1 a.m., while hanging out outside, I was startled by four police cruisers abruptly pulling up and parking in front of me. Police officers soon marched up to the front door of the house, demanding that people who did not live there leave immediately.

A neighbour had apparently called the police, complaining about noise.

Andrew Marciniak, a fellow student, went outside and asked one of the police officers who was not in full uniform whether he was a police officer—four other officers then slammed Marciniak down on the pavement, tasing him repeatedly. Once Marciniak was in the patrol car, the police inexplicably tasered him again.

Should police be using this kind excessive force to make university students understand the consequences of breaking the noise by-law? Bystanders at the party, including myself, undoubtedly believe that law-en-

forcement officers overreacted when they tasered Marciniak. Police authorities were unable to provide me with a statement after I tried to speak with them several times.

I believe a taser is a necessary tool for the police to use as a non-lethal force for people

what acceptable noise levels are. Gouge suggests that noise complaints should be based on the violation of a certain decibel level.

"There should be a reasonable level of noise that is not up to the discretion of citizens," he says.

Four other officers then slammed Marciniak down on the pavement, tasing him repeatedly. Once Marciniak was in the patrol car, police inexplicably tasered him again.

who are armed with weapons. But when someone is clearly not threatening anyone, it seems unnecessary to use a taser to tame him. The consequences of violating the noise by-law seem drastic when this treatment is involved, used that particular night not as an absolutely necessary means of restraint but simply to scare students into respecting the residential area noise by-law.

Marciniak's roommate, Joel Hunking, witnessed the tasing treatment. Hunking says the use of tasers was "an intimidation tactic."

Dan Gouge, the host of the Sept. 12 party, claims that the noise by-law seems to be "violating [his] rights as a citizen because it's too vague." The by-law ensures that all residents get rest at night—yet it's difficult to judge

Is it possible to accommodate the needs of both sides of the residential community? We cannot lose sight of the fact that this problem is a two-way street. Living in a residential area gives students the opportunity to engage in a civilized community where they can learn how to be independent.

Students must respect their neighbours and keep in mind what may be considered disturbing during the middle of the night; full-time residents need to recognize that university students are also city residents, with no interest in destroying their living space; the community as a whole must realize that students want to be accepted in their area without having to fear the drastic consequences violating the noise by-law brings.



Photo: stock.xchng

Sweet Macintosh or wormy apple?

Forbidden Fruit

No student can resist the Siren song of the Macintosh

Kevin Wasko
Staff Contributor

There is a great debate that has plagued computer users on campuses across the country for years—that between the advocates of the personal computer and those that support the use of Apple computers.

The two schools of computing have sparked controversy as to which computer is better, which is more user friendly and which offers better bang for your buck. For many students, using an Apple may seem like a daunting task. Users of the personal computer are often intimidated by the Macintosh system because it is different and seems foreign.

For some, it's like trying to carry on a conversation in a foreign language they're only somewhat familiar with.

For years I was one of those people. Like many other students here at Dal, I learned to use a personal computer and Windows at my elementary school; when my parents invested in our family's first computer, it was a PC. And like other students, the practice of using a personal computer and avoiding Apples at all cost carried on into my university years.

This fall I was in need of a new computer and wanted to purchase a laptop. I looked at different brands of PCs, but soon

became curious about Apple computers—opening a Pandora's box in the computer tech world.

I sought the opinion of students I knew were "Mac users," aiming to find out why it was that other people I knew were opposed to Macs, and even afraid of them.

After several months of contemplation, I finally took the plunge. I headed over to PCPC, Dal's computer shop, and purchased an iBook G4. Yes, I had been swayed by the "Mac users" I knew and the favorable research I had obtained (not to mention the sleek, modern design of the iBook).

I have spent the last few weeks learning by trial and error how to use an Apple. I have navigated my way through the OS X operating system and discovered the differences that exist between it and Windows XP.

I have experienced "eureka" moments—and feelings of defeat. Through these experiences, I have been able to use my computer to train my mind to think in a different way.

It did not take long for me to gain an appreciation for my Mac—and I will not be switching back to a PC anytime soon. As one of my friends put it, "the Macintosh computer is like a beer. It looks good, it smells good, and you'll step over your own mother just to get one."

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Letters

RE: "How to Seduce a Girl In Your Class"

The feature article in the Sept. 30 issue of the *Sextant* ought to be titled "How to Seduce a Girl in your Class: A Recipe for Date Rape." The article is clogged with all the core assumptions behind the mentality that says sexual violence against women is "natural" or at the very least "OK."

When I read the "How to" piece, I was reminded of an individual who came in to the centre recently, seeking advice because someone he knew had been date raped—and what do you know, the instance followed practically the same six steps Karen Smith outlines.

If statistics in Canada remain similar to those reported by the American National Institute of Justice, over 250 women are likely to be sexually assaulted on Dalhousie campus this academic year alone. So my concern—about the ways this article contributes to the same attitudes and assumptions that perpetuate sexual abuse—comes from a very real place.

Assumption #1: All girls "want it just as much as you want to give it to them." The idea that all women "want it" has for years

been used to disenfranchise female victims of sexual violence who choose to take legal action against their attackers. The "no means no" campaign against date rape was created to combat this attitude. Just because you want to "give it to them" does not mean they want it.

Assumption #2: All girls want guys, and want to "bang" guys. Not all women are interested in being with or being pursued by men. The heterosexist assumptions in this article are rampant, and contribute to a culture of sexual harassment and degradation. (Also, pushing your crotch toward a women's ass is not acceptable for anyone, in any location—and that includes the "good-looking guys at bars.")

Assumption #3: A woman is only valuable insofar as she is helpful (i.e., with assignments) or willing to "bang" you. This idea undermines the value and worth of women as people.

Assumption #4: Alcohol "helps". Where do I even begin? Alcohol and/or drugs are not acceptable ways to "seduce"—or more accurately, coerce—a woman into having sex with you.

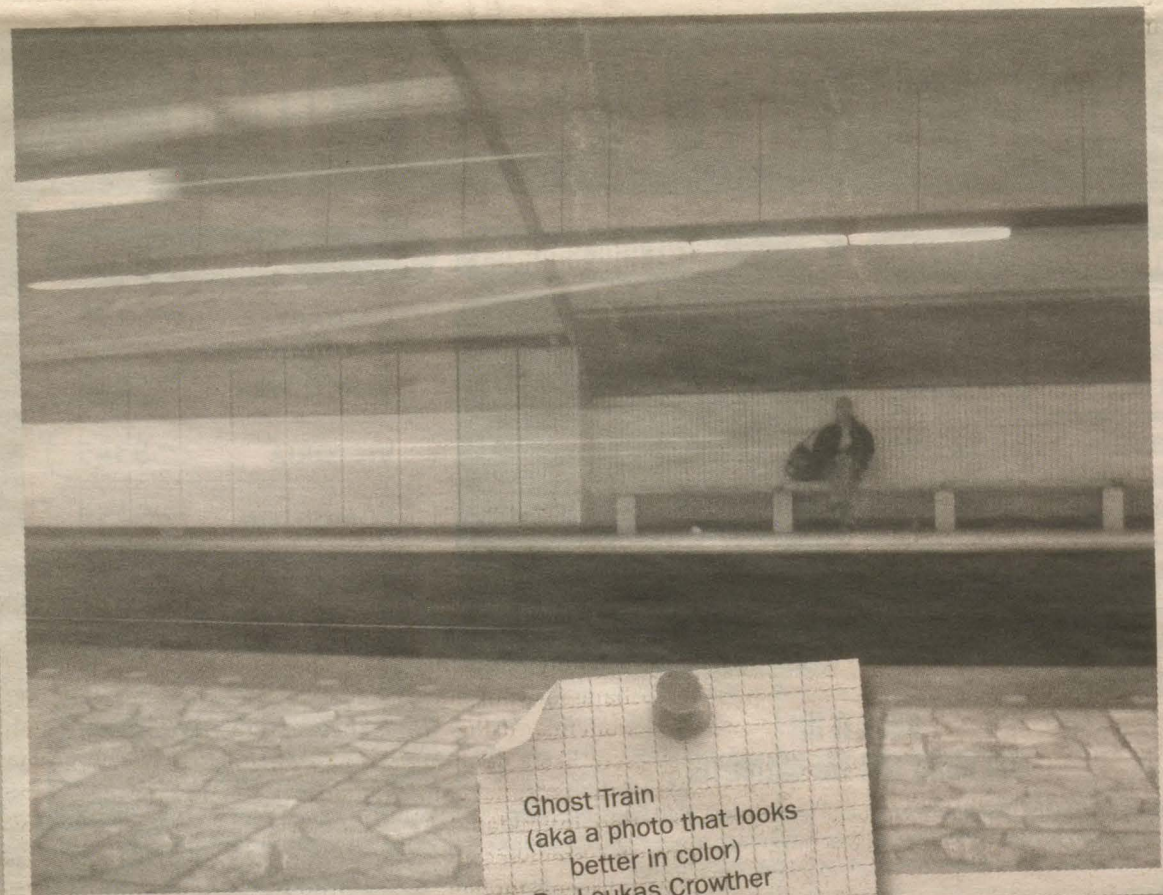
If she doesn't want to have sex sober, do not assume that getting her drunk will make her change her mind.

Assumption #5: Women exist for the sake of male pleasure. In the article, it is suggested that men should "do a good job" so that the girl they "bang" will tell all her friends and then there will be more women lined up. What about doing a good job to please your partner instead of in selfish furtherance (which is hurting to begin with if the word 'bang' is even in your vocabulary) of your own sexual acclaim?

This entire article degrades women and contributes to a campus culture in which women are harassed, devalued, and sexually assaulted. The *Sextant* and the *Gazette* ought to be publishing articles that will help stop sexual violence against women—not articles that continue to perpetuate the attitudes and assumptions that contribute to it.

Signed,
Jess Abramson, Director, Dalhousie Women's Centre
Cassandra Birch, Board Member, Dalhousie Women's Centre

Photo of the Week



Ghost Train
(aka a photo that looks better in color)
By: Loukas Crowther

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TOP 20	WEEKS ON CHART
19	1	TIM HORTON'S RIM MARRIAGE PROPOSAL We're guessing two months before she rrrrrrrolls out the divorrrrrrce papers.	4
42	2	BEING SO POOR THAT YOU'VE RESORTED TO MAKING YOUR OWN BOOZE These people turned into gods when natural disasters were tag-teaming Halifax.*	17
2	3	ACCUSING A MINORITY OF RACISM This is like the definition of an uphill battle dude... let it go.	9
14	4	INCLUDING HARBOUR CLEANUP IN YOUR ELECTION PLATFORM About as heroic as George W. Bush's war record.	2
30	5	SEEING EVERYONE FROM HIGH SCHOOL OVER THANKSGIVING WEEKEND Renewing your sense of why you left in the first place.	22
3	6	THE INADEQUACIES OF THE POSTER SALE How about more <i>inspirational people</i> and a little less <i>preschoolers making out</i> .	5
34	7	MAKING JUDGMENTS ABOUT PEOPLE BASED ON THEIR CHOICE OF RING TONES As stupid as presuming a hardcore Harley Davidson biker is gay.	11
10	8	NEXT TIME YOU'RE SPOONING WITH SOMEONE The Big Spoon is always the cheating spoon... always.	3
1	9	LADIES WALKING AROUND WITH "DAL" PRINTED ACROSS THEIR BUTTS We'd say something about the new marketing campaign not including <i>assvertising</i> , but that would be dumb.	20
4	10	OVERUSE OF THE WORD "DAWG" Unless you're the proprietor of hotdogs or mocking your own lameness, refrain from trying to pull this one off more than once a week.	10
20	11	DRINKING IN THE SHOWER SO YOU DON'T LOSE YOUR BUZZ What's more troubling is that you've still got to get dressed and go to class this morning!	34
5	12	SUNDAY SHOPPING: COULD IT BE TRUE? We doubt God rested much on the seventh day anyway... his all-knowing, omnipotent mom woke him up and dragged him to church like everyone else.	6
16	13	DID YOU KNOW THAT "LASER" STANDS FOR "LIGHT AMPLIFICATION (BY THE) STIMULATED EMISSION (OF) RADIATION?" Did you know that no one cares?	19
-	14	HERMAPHRODITIC FISH FOUND IN COLORADO Denver ain't got nothing on the Halifax Harbour. +	1
7	15	WHAT'S WITH NAMING A MOVIE "LADDER 49"? We must have somehow slept through the 48 equally-bad prequels.	4
48	16	LOUIS VUITTON PURSES GETTING NO RESPECT Every girl who sees one assumes it's fake. Every guy who sees one assumes it's <i>just</i> a purse.	12
10	17	DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES FINALLY CAPITALIZING ON THEIR MASS APPEAL Desperate single <i>Sex and the City</i> women now have something to look forward to.	41
6	18	THE SLIGHT, BUT NOTICEABLE BREAK YOU HAVE INBETWEEN MIDTERMS Alice Cooper, anyone?	18
29	19	BUSH HOLDING HIS OWN AGAINST JOHN KERRY'S ATTACKS Dude's defense was so tight it was practically waterproof.	33
21	20	GIRLS HATE TO ADMIT THAT ONE GUY IS BETTER LOOKING THAN ANOTHER GUY "Like, they've just got <i>totally</i> different things goin' on, m'kay?"	7

Legend: * = Biggest Jump, + = Newcomer

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Streeter

Who are you voting for in the U.S. Presidential election?



I'm voting for Kerry only so that when Bush loses, I can go up to him and say, "You're fired!" God I love that.
- Donald Trump, toupee with legs



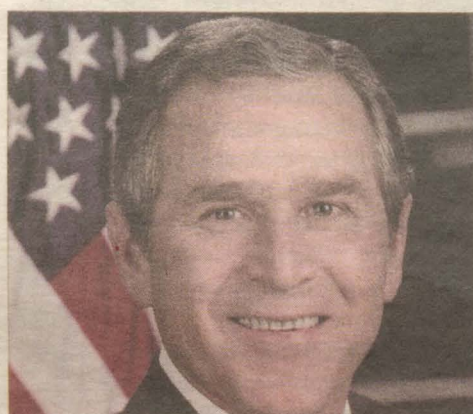
I'm voting for Bush 'cause his daughters are wicked cool, and they aren't all smart-talkin' like those Kerry sluts!
- Hilary Duff, slowly being overshadowed by her sister



Election?
- Derek Zoolander, male model



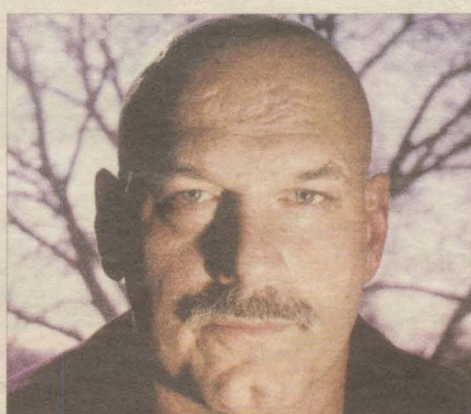
I'm still undecided... no really.
- Michael Moore, trying to take over the world



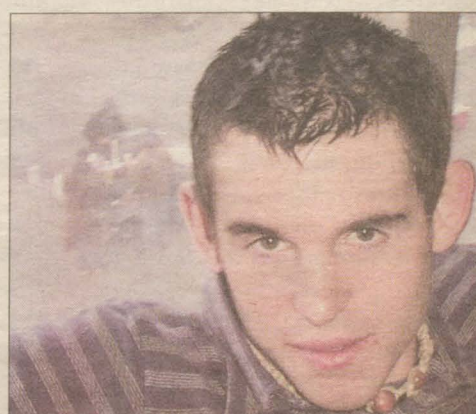
Dick Cheney. He's done a great job.
- George W. Bush, hail-to-the-chief



Jim Carrey. I think he would be great, being a Vietnam vet and all.
- Anna Nicole Smith, busy half-wit

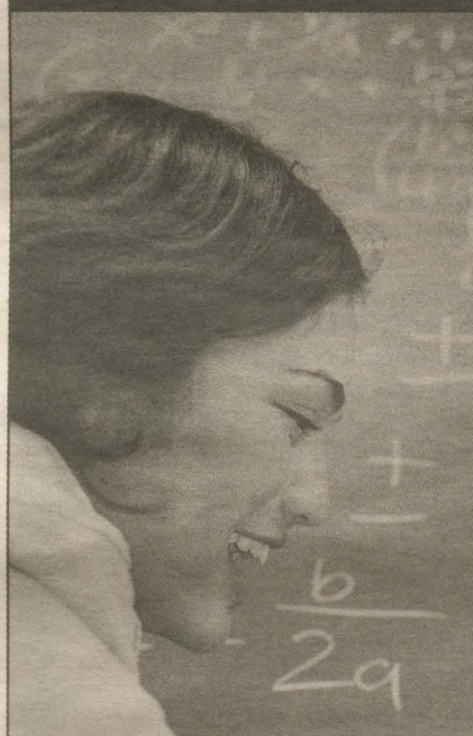


George W. Bush. I'm not votin' for John Kerry—that New England lush.
- Jesse Ventura, former governor, current nincompoop



Kerry. His daughter's friggin' hot.
- Chris LaRoche, unfortunately pasty Francophone

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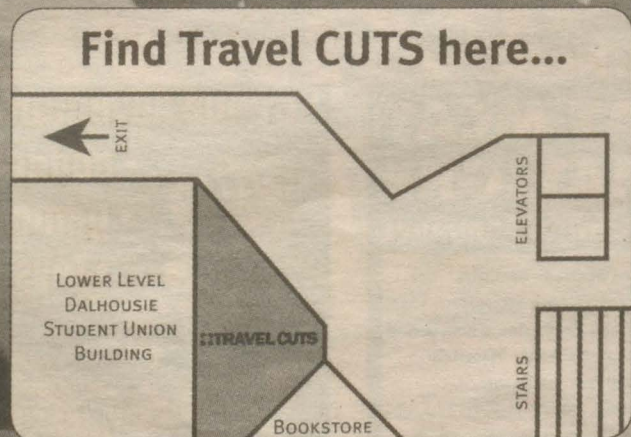
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Take me Down to the Paradise City

(Where the grass is green and the Jesus-worshippers are pretty): The Franklin Graham Festival runs from Oct. 15 to 17 at the Halifax Metro Centre.

She's Got Eyes of the Bluest Skies

The Kinetic Studio Series launches its 2004/2005 season with an evening of contemporary dance arranged by choreographers from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The show runs at the Sir James Dunn Theatre, Dalhousie Arts Centre, from Oct. 15 to 16 at 8:00 p.m.

When You Are Young...

And your heart is an open book, why not celebrate by going to see Robert Munsch? Who can forget the literary genius behind greats like *The Dark*, *Murmel Murmel Murmel*, and *The Paper Bag Princess*? Check it out at the Rebecca Cohn on Oct. 23, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Hot Spots

DJO Hopefuls Full of Inspiration:

DJ IV and Jay Welch gush about upcoming competition

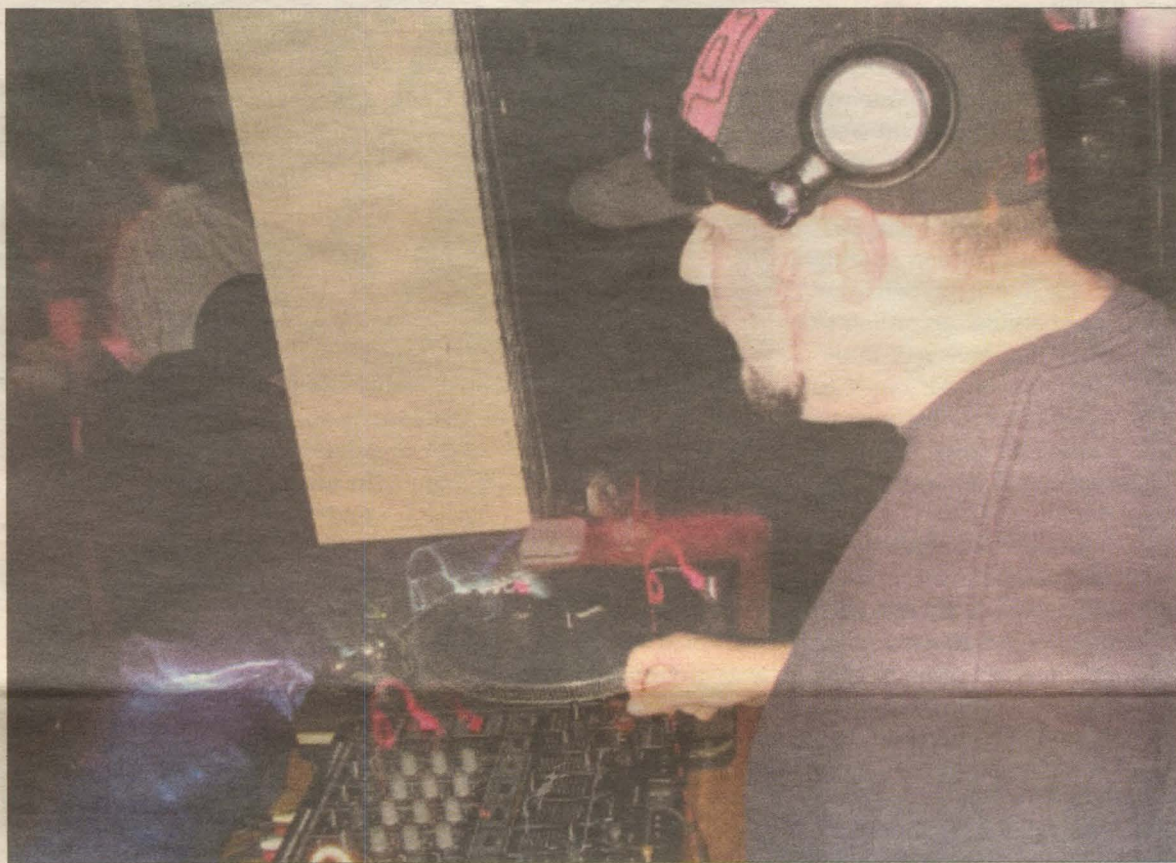
Bridgette Sullivan
 Staff Contributor

Although there's no torch or gazillion dollar stadium, no Al Gerrouj or Phelps, Halifax's seventh annual DJ Olympics are not to be missed. Starting Oct. 13, DJs, MCs, beatboxers and break-dancers will be ready to scratch, battle and break for judges, fans and even representatives for major record labels.

Brian Pelrine, also known as DJ IV, is among this year's competitors in the hip hop turntables

Pelrine enjoys the "great experience for DJs to get the chance to get out there and get some exposure." And while drawing a crowd is a great bonus, Pelrine says it's more satisfying to perform for a handful of incredibly enthusiastic and passionate fans than hundreds of drunk people who have little to no appreciation for the music.

While Welch fingers drums 'n' bass defending champ Cameron Harding as the man to beat, he is confident that his creative edge will propel him onto the podium



DJ IV keeps the crowd krunked up at the Attic.

"I'm going to totally flip the script and come at it with stuff people aren't going to expect."

-DJ IV

category, which requires DJs to scratch, juggle and show off their tricks during a period of six minutes. The category focuses more on a DJ's technical skills than his or her ability to keep the party hopping. Pelrine, who kicked off his career as a DJ five years ago after watching a friend scratch, was initially attracted to the style because it gave him "the ability to manipulate music."

These days, changing sequences of music to hatch unique and original creations is an element of the art that continues to inspire and motivate Pelrine, who is embarking on his fourth year of competition at the DJOs.

Jay Welch, a DJ in the drum 'n' bass category of the Olympics, is entering his third year of the competition and will be entertaining audiences with a style that he describes as high energy, but a little more laid-back and less aggressive than other artists. Welch, who has been scratching for the past six years, is looking forward to the "friendly" competition and is not overly concerned with the results.

"Regardless if I do well or not, most of the guys competing in it are my friends," says Welch. Most of the competitors' main goal is to simply gain more recognition for their genres of music while getting the crowd excited and revved up, he says.

It's also clear these two competitors savour the DJOs for many of the same reasons: "The DJOs allow me to play what I want and bring that out to people which is a fabulous opportunity," says Welch.

as it did last year when he captured a third-place finish. "I plan on coming with [a game plan] I hope is a little bit different than what everyone else is going to do," he says.

In the hip hop turntables arena, Pelrine feels that the defending champ Kuttin' Kracker will offer up some fierce competition, but like Welch, he is ready with some tricks up his sleeve.

"I'm just going to do everything the best I can with all the inspiration I've gotten over the past year and totally flip the script and come at it with stuff people aren't going to expect."

Of course both Pelrine and Welch appreciate the personal recognition and attention they receive from such an event. Pelrine has recently released a CD, *Exit O*, and Welch hopes to eventually get into production. But they feel that the primary purpose and ultimate goal of the DJO is to expose the public to a music scene that is not widely recognized and acknowledged in Halifax—and do so while encouraging a friendly rivalry amongst talented artists.

Athens may be over, but we don't have to wait another four years to watch the crème de la crème battle it out.

Jay Welch takes the stage for the drums 'n' bass qualifiers at the Attic, Oct. 13, 10:30 p.m.

Brian Pelrine, AKA DJ IV, plays the hip hop turntablist opening rounds at the Marquee Club on Oct. 14, 12:30 a.m..

The finals for both categories are at the Marquee, Oct. 16, 11:00 p.m. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.dj-o.com.

Beatboxer Making Noise at the DJ Olympics

Elling Lien
Arts Contributor

Think back. You're a kid and it's a dark, rainy, Sunday afternoon. You're bored, just hanging out on your own. You start making drum sounds with your mouth. You start grooving around in your living room for a while, until you really start getting into it, sound of explosions and electric guitars spitting from your mouth. Your mother who has been trying to read the newspaper snaps and tells you to stop making so much noise, "damn!" So you stop. Then you grow up, and you forget all about making noises with your mouth.

Then there's Eric McIntyre (AKA EMC), a two-time DJ Olympics (DJO) beatbox champion. He's sitting with me at the Second Cup on Spring Garden, making noises with his mouth. He's also in training for the 2004 DJO beatboxing competition coming up Oct. 15, and if he wins this year's competition, according to the DJO's "unpublished three-time rule," he will be forced to retire from further DJO competitions in that category, achieving the same legendary status as Skatch Bastid.

"I've always been able to beatbox," says McIntyre. "As a kid, I used to just call it my one man marching band, because I could hum and do drum sounds at the same time, like 'Mmmmbpmmmbpmm.' Combined with a love of rap music he's had since grade four, McIntyre's noisy talent eventually helped him become a major ingredient in Halifax's hip hop scene.

McIntyre started out as an MC around 1997. He was playing in the group Rhyme for Reason in 1999 when he suddenly rediscovered his beatboxing ability. "One day I was just fucking around on the microphone, and started trying to make drum sounds, and my DJ at the time was like 'Wow man, that sounds really good. You should keep trying to do that,'" McIntyre says. "So I started messing with it. Then I re-



Wikipedia.org describes beatboxing as "...the vocal percussion of hip-hop culture." EMC pictured above.

membered—Oh yeah! I can hum and do drums at once!"

Wikipedia.org describes beatboxing as "...the vocal percussion of hip-hop culture. It is primarily concerned with the art of creating beats, rhythms, and melodies using the human mouth." Dipping into the general public's radar via Michael Winslow (of *Police Academy* fame) and jazz singer Bobby McFerrin, vocal percussion has been a recognized part of hip hop ever since Doug E Fresh and Slick Rick released "La Di Da Di" in the early '80s.

McIntyre was first introduced to the art through the Fat Boys. "When I heard them I thought beatboxing was like... 'What?'" he says. "I mean, the Fat Boys were cool and all, but just all that 'huh-uh-huh-uh-huh' [panting] that shit? I was just like nyaaah... Maybe not so cool."

Beatboxing quickly went off the radar in the late 80s, staying

in hip hop's until the its revival mid-'90s.

Rap, DJing, graffiti and breakdancing are generally considered the four main elements of hip hop—but these beatboxing

In the mid-'90s, Rahzel, a member of the Philadelphia hip hop group The Roots, released a solo album entitled *Make the Music 2000*. It was recognized as one of the first albums to focus

"Some people say clothes or style are the fifth element [of hip-hop], but no way man, beatboxing is number five. Beatboxing is huge now"

- Eric McIntyre, EMC

is perhaps even more prevalent than breakdancing in hip hop culture. Is it considered an element? McIntyre thinks so. "Beatboxing is definitely number five," he says. "Some people say clothes or style are the fifth element, but no way man, beatboxing is number five. Beatboxing is huge now ... And recently it seems to be getting a lot more attention because of people like Killa Kella and Rahzel."

primarily on beatboxing, eventually achieving popular success. On the album, Rahzel's awe-inspiring abilities produce up multiple sounds at once; he sings and beatboxes simultaneously—even simulating turntable scratches. When Rahzel did a Halifax show at the Palace a few years ago, McIntyre and Kaleb Simmons (who McIntyre calls Halifax's "undisputed beatbox champ") shared a stage with the Rahzel, nicknamed

the "Godfather of Noyze."

McIntyre is also one of the founding members of the five-man hip-hop group Second Front. Formed in the summer of 2003, Second Front is known on the East Coast for member involvement in the activist community, angry, thought-provoking rhymes and tight production skills. The group released its debut full-length album, *The Sound of Progress*, to great acclaim last December. The disc eventually broke into the national top twenty on *!earshot's* hip hop chart in April 2004.

"If Second Front's debut album is truly the sound of progress," writes *hiphopcanada.com* reviewer Troy Neilson, "Then I'm down to take some steps forward."

"We got some flack from some people who said we were more socially conscious than style-conscious," McIntyre says. "Some of the super hip hop heads said that, you know what I mean? And that's cool, whatever. Our main goal is to make good music with a message, and to keep it all our own. To just try and contribute something. And that's generally what we do, and we busted our asses to put out a really good album. And we're all really happy with it."

These days, McIntyre is a busy man. In addition to preparing for the DJ Olympic competition, he's working on Second Front's sophomore release, a solo album, and collaborating on a vocals-only album with another local beatboxer, Prolific.

With so much going on, and such little time to train specifically for the DJO, McIntyre might just need some sort of performance enhancer to keep up. His idea? "Booze!" he says. "I actually find you get tighter when you drink beer. I don't know what it is but it just starts to sound better. Maybe it's just in my head."

EMC plays the DJ Olympics EMCEE and Beatbox Battles at Stage Nine on Friday, Oct. 15, at 10 p.m. Admission is \$5.

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Alvarez: Burning Down the House

Vancouver DJ launches new Canadian label

Talia Fanning
Staff Contributor

Canadian DJ Christian Alvarez sees his new record label Delecto Recordings as the next logical step in his ascending career. If last Friday's show at the Marquee, featuring Halifax's Sonny D, Justin Time and vocalist Jessica Knight, is any indication, the new label should be eclectic, unique and a movement in a new sonic direction. As someone who sees life as progress through a series of stages, each differing from the last, this couldn't be any better for Alvarez.

"I guess I get bored easily," says the 27-year-old DJ. Alvarez, a Vancouver native, is on the fast track in the music industry. Though he says he's listened to

house music for a long time, it has only been four years since he first decided to try DJing. During that time, he's had releases with several labels, including *Illegal Beats*, *Function* and *Stoneyboy*. Two years later, he began producing the music himself. And now, he's on a world tour promoting his new label, Delecto Recordings, which will release its first album later this year. "I just decided to start a label, about four months ago," he says. "I've been a DJ, I've been a producer since 2002. I felt like I was ready for this."

The label is being promoted as a Canadian name, but Alvarez says he's open to anything.

"It's Canadian in that I'm starting it, and I'm Canadian, but it's going to have artists from all

over the world." Alvarez has big visions for the future, though he doesn't look old enough to be so serious. He says that his music is the one thing he really dedicates himself to.

And that dedication is paying off as the plans for the label are starting to come together. The first release will feature Olav Basoski, whom Alvarez says he was lucky to hook up with. Basoski has released albums since 1991 and runs the label Rootz Records; his name on the listing has already generated attention for the fledgling label.

Alvarez says he wants to keep his label small, showcasing only a few artists at a time. "I want to keep it to about three. I think if you have too many and the music scene changes then you can't

keep up."

Alvarez doesn't seem to follow the musical trends, either: his music is classified as house

sion, playing a number of instruments in a number of bands. Alvarez says that kind of lifestyle never had any appeal for him.

"I just decided to start a label, about four months ago... I've been a DJ, I've been a producer since 2002. I felt like I was ready for this."

- Christian Alvarez, founder of Delecto Records

or funky house, but he throws in a little bit of everything to keep the crowds on their feet. There are elements from soul, funk and dance music to keep his tracks unique and interesting. Alvarez says he has music in his blood. "My father was a musician, so this has always been in me."

His father was a more musician of more traditional persua-

"I intentionally deviated from the rock star lifestyle," he says. "I've lived pretty straight, so to speak."

Playing, producing and promoting have all caught up with Alvarez for the moment, and he's doing shows for the record launch all across the country. Watch for Delecto Recording's first release in the coming months.

Same Pages, New Chapters

Nicola Mulder's cultural exploration hits the Khyber

Elling Lien
Arts Contributor

"There's another story," says Canadian artist Nicola Mulder, recalling the bears in her life, "One time I was at my uncle's house in Prince Rupert and we were having lunch. There was all this meat on this tray and I said, 'Oh, I want that one.' My mom was like, 'Mmm, no.' But I was like

'Yeah, I want that one.' And my aunt said 'Sure, you go ahead and take that one Niki.' And afterwards my mom came up to me and said, 'You don't want to eat that, that's bear.'"

Mulder has been the artist-in-residence at the Khyber Cen-

ter work. Growing up in the city of Vancouver, however, she was far away from her mother's extended family, and felt separated from that part of her history. "My whole family history is kind of vague to me," says Mulder. "So this process is helping me find out more information about my family."

Mulder's mother had a difficult life growing up in an aboriginal community in the time of residential schools, and when it was not acceptable to feel proud of, or even practice, one's own culture. Mulder recognizes that time was not very long ago.

"We're just the next generation down from that," she says. "And those ideas are still kind of instilled within me and my sisters."

Her work. Growing up in the city of Vancouver, however, she was far away from her mother's extended family, and felt separated from that part of her history. "My whole family history is kind of vague to me," says Mulder. "So this process is helping me find out more information about my family."

Her hand-bound sketchbooks, which will be featured as part of the exhibit, are filled with simple line drawings of cast-iron skillets, fried bread, salmon, peas and bears. The wall drawings use this same visual language.

"I was really influenced by African-American quilt making, specifically crazy-quilts," says Mulder. "That's been one of my main influences with my work. Putting things together in an informal way. Just being improvisational. A lot of African-American quilts have been compared to jazz—the structure of jazz. I really enjoy that comparison, and I like to strive for that same kind of fluidity."

Mulder's other projects reach further out the doors of the gallery and on into the community; she teaches a first year continuing studies bookbinding course at NSCAD University and has done bookbinding projects with kids. "I did a project at the North End Library with a group of kids

who just started an after-school program," she says. "It was an hour long program and I taught them how to do a three-hole stab-bound book ... They're going to use them for library log books." Her long-term plan with classes like this is to have kids making books, and to have the library keep their own collection of artist books created by kids in the community.

Mulder sees her work as a cu-

mulative, progressive process: "I don't necessarily like the idea of something being a finished, polished product," she says. "That's not what it is. It's not a finished, polished product at all. It's constantly evolving. It's always changing into something else."

Nicola Mulder's exhibit, "The Same General Pattern of Development and Change," opens at the Khyber's second-floor studio on Monday, Oct. 18, at 6:30 p.m.

"A lot of African-American quilts have been compared to jazz—the structure of jazz. I really enjoy that comparison, and I like to strive for that same kind of fluidity."

-Nicola Mulder

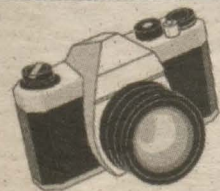
tre for the Arts since mid-August, where she has been working on a show of her wall drawings and hand-bound artist books entitled *The Same General Pattern of Development and Change*.

The work is part of her desire to reattach herself to her family history. "I'm half Dutch and I'm half Nisga'a nation, which is a nation from Northern B.C.," she says. She believes cultural identity should be a major part of

It's not necessarily not a sense of pride, but if you can come across as being white then you're better off. And I think that's true to a certain degree... Which is pretty fucked up, considering the time, and the year. I wanted to create a body of work that reflected my attempts to gain my cultural identity back."

For Mulder, food—especially her mother's cooking—triggers a lot of ideas about cultural iden-

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Lysistrada overcomes a chilly reception

Talia Fanning
Staff Contributor

The King's Theatre Society (KTS) put on their annual Classics in the Quad presentation last week. This year, the Greeks were forced to abandon their warring ways in Aristophanes' "Lysistrada." There is a certain timelessness about this story, in which a feisty Athenian woman convinces all the women in Athens and in Sparta to refuse sex to their husbands until a peace treaty can be reached.

The night of the performance, which is traditionally held on the steps of the King's library, temperatures dipped down to a chilly two degrees.

Despite the cold, the crowd, huddled in blankets, sleeping bags and sweaters, eagerly witnessed the hardships experienced by the men and abstaining the women, with funny and ridiculous results.

Lysistrada forcefully leads her followers into the Parthenon, wherein they barricade themselves, refusing to go home to their husbands and homes until the warring armies reach a compromise. Costumes were designed to give the audience a vivid impression of the effects on the men of the city as the women, dressed to impress, flaunt the



Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Want to know what's going on with this KTS member at large? So do we.

prize for peace.

This play, first performed in 411 B.C., was chosen for a number of reasons, according to Ashley Menzies, the president of the KTS. She says the Classics in the Quad plays want to be entertaining, not tragic. "We were looking for a comedy," she said. "Lysistrada is fun and light but it's a smart play."

The play is also a commentary on the turmoil of the world. It has loaned its name to an anti-war movement, begun in 2002, which uses non-violence and a people-over-profits approach to world politics. Though they don't advocate a world scale denial of sexual activity, the Lysistrada

Project stands for peace and balance, with an emphasis on the rights of women everywhere.

Menzies says the idea has promise. Though she says she doesn't hold out too much hope, perhaps there is one person who can save the world. "Maybe Laura Bush is our last hope," she mused.

Whether this avenue will be considered by the White House staff remains to be seen. The play, however, was funny and well rehearsed. The night was cold, but in bare feet and togas, the actors were lively and (possibly because the beer was on hand half an hour before the show) the audience enjoyed it.

SuperSex in the SuperCity: Sexual Healing Q&A

Dave Morin -Wentworth
Sexpert

It's that time again. Once again, students have brought forward some very interesting and stimulating questions about sex, sexuality and romance. Let's dip into the mailbox!

Q: What happens if a person with an already high sex drive takes Viagra? -G.N.

A: Since Bob Dole, an 81-year-old man, is the spokesperson for Viagra, I have no idea why young men think it is also something for them to use. The bottom line is that this prescription medication is aimed at combating erectile difficulties. However, unlike bingo and walkers, this aspect of the geriatric lifestyle has found a niche amongst young, sexually active males.

Since Viagra's pharmaceutical debut in 1998, the International Journal of Impotence Research reported that recreational use of the drug amongst young men has tripled. Dr. Ira Sharlip, a San Francisco area urologist, also points out that despite being relatively harmless in healthy young males, Viagra in conjunction with nitro-glycerine medication



for heart problems can result in a dramatic drop in blood pressure, causing a risk for cardiac arrest. In a less-fatal example, a 25-year-old American student fainted after taking the pill while enjoying a romantic interlude in a hot tub.

Why do younger guys use Viagra? Reasons vary from one individual to the next, but performance anxiety is the most commonly reported cause. If you are anxious about having sex with your partner then try talking with him or her before going the prescription route. For guys that are simply horny and want a hard dick, they will find that Viagra will

Continued on Next Page...

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It's that time again, starting Oct. 12th. The 7th annual instalment of the DJO's will take over 3 Night Clubs, The Dalhousie Student Union Lobby and CKDU's airwaves with 5 consecutive days of the best and brightest EMCEE's, Dancers, Beatboxers and DJ's in the Maritimes, vying for the coveted gold medal and the bragging rights that go along with it.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 12, free
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October 13, \$5
The Attic
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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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SuperSex: Penis sizes often exaggerated

Continued from Previous Page...

cut their refractory period (the time between ejaculation and another erection) in half, from 20 minutes to 10 minutes. However, guys, heed the warnings that are out there. Having good sex isn't about endurance and stamina; it is about being intimate with your partner.

Q: What is the average size of an erect penis? Has it gone up since our parents' generation? -T.M.

A: Ansell, a company that produces a leading brand of condoms, did one of the most recent studies about penis size in 2001. Ansell sent trained medical staff to Cancún, Mexico where they measured 300 erect penises at a popular nightclub. They found that the average length of an erect penis was 5.877 inches. They also measured girth, reporting an average of 4.972 inches. This study can be trusted, as it has a larger sample than any previous report. It is also valuable as trained,

knowledgeable staff conducted all measurements. Oftentimes, males will overstate their penis length in self-administered questionnaires.

What Ansell's study lacks is a cross-cultural comparison. This is important because, as many people know, there is a social conception that black men are larger than white guys. An online poll found that average size varies across cultural background. Black men came out on top, with an average size of 6.89 inches. Second in line are Caucasians with 6.22 inches, Hispanics with 6.15 inches, First Nation/ Native with 5.66 inches and Asians with 5.33 inches.

As for comparison between our generation and that of our parents, it is a very difficult question to field.

Most earlier penis size studies relied on self-reports, and as I've discussed, men tend to exaggerate their size. Sometimes they want to seem more macho, in other cases, they don't know how to measure. Some guys will start

from the head to the base; others will start from the urethra to the pubic mound.

Obviously, these methods cannot be considered scientific, and there is no definitive comparison. Several decades ago, the Alfred C. Kinsey Institute for Sex Research studied a sample of white college men and found that the reported average was 6.16 inches, about a quarter inch greater than the Ansell study.

In playing devil's advocate, I'd like to remind readers that it isn't size that matters.

First, the upper two-thirds of the vagina have no nerve endings whatsoever. The only pleasure derived from a well-endowed partner is a psychological thrill. In other words, a big penis may make you feel more naughty, but "upsizing" will not stimulate any more nerve endings than your standard, run-of-the-mill penis. Finally, remember that there is no such thing as a "normal" penis size. Penises, like breasts, come in all different shapes and sizes.

Just Friendly

New Halifax record label combines like-minded musicians

Lindsay Dobbin
Arts Editor

Halifax has a long a storied history—the capital and largest city in the Maritime provinces, Halifax was founded in 1749 and served as an important naval base in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and both World Wars. And as of the cold winter of 2004, Halifax now serves as a base for an ever-expanding collective of people with a common interest in music. This collective calls itself Just Friends Records.

But don't be fooled—Just Friends isn't just a record label. It's a community where each individual has his or her own talents and specialties and, when collaborating, they explore new ground with the creative combination of these individual skills. In other words, the sum of all the parts is pretty fantastic.

Home to bands the Sweet Tenders, Brent Randall & his Pinecones, the Tragedies, the Maughams and Laura Peek & the Winning Hearts, Just Friends Records is a force to be reckoned with. With albums doing well on the college radio charts and live shows in high attendance, I had to find out for myself how it got to this point.

Rewind four years and one can find the beginnings of this creative group. Co-creator Dave Ewenson says the formation of Just Friends was very casual because he knew Brent Randall through their involvement in the same bands. The two happened

upon Mat Dunlap because of his involvement in music photography and graphic design. "[Mat] would help us out with our band photos and all of us worked together in promoting music," Ewenson says.

This joint involvement in promotion led to the idea that by creating a more formal collective it may be advantageous.

"It seems silly to play in a band and to not have some sort of connection," says Ewenson.

"Being in a collective is more formal and you feel energized to play shows because it's helping everybody not just yourself. You don't feel so small in the idea that there are so many bands out there."

The three co-creators of Just Friends began to meet other like-minded artists (the Maughams and the Tragedies) who had a heavy involvement in the local music scene and this further pushed them towards forming Just Friends.

Brent Randall & his Pinecones debut release in early 2004 marked the first formal release and the official launch of Just Friends Records.

The Just Friends crew put a lot of work behind promoting that album; Dunlap notes that they learned a lot about the music scene and industry because of it: "That's when we started taking ourselves a bit more seriously," he says.

From a friendly collaboration years ago, Just Friends has now evolved into a formal collective. They have a t-shirt and button



From left to right: Just Friends co-creators Mat Dunlap and Dave Ewenson (Brent Randall not present) and Just Friendster Joel Goguen

line, releases by The Sweet Tenders, Brent Randall & his Pinecones, The Tragedies, and Laura Peek & the Winning Hearts and many new projects in the works including new albums from the Maughams and the Sweet Tenders in the future.

To celebrate their history and current roster, Just Friends are releasing a compilation record featuring "new stand out tracks" by all the bands that comprise

the collective, plus their most recent addition, the GCO.

To be aptly titled *Class of 2004*, the compilation will also feature Brent Randall & his Pinecones' new video, "In Horse Drawn Delight."

Instead of using tracks from albums that the bands have already recorded, all of the bands went in and recorded their tunes during one long day at Ultra-magnetic Studios in Halifax

with Charles Austin. According to Dunlap, it was a community event: "It certainly brought all the bands together."

To celebrate the release of the compilation Just Friends Records are having an all ages party at The Pavilion on Sunday, Oct. 17. The show will feature performances by Laura Peek & the Winning Hearts, the Tragedies, City Field and Brent Randall & his Pinecones. Admission is \$6.

Burn Baby Burn

Your Weekly Playlist

Flogging Jogging Music
Burned by Natalie Pendergast

Gloria Estefan
"Conga"

Morrissey
"Irish Blood, English Heart"

Audrey II
"Feed Me (Little Shop of Horrors)"

The Unicorns
"Tuff Ghost"

Depeche Mode
"People Are People"

Death Cab For Cutie
"This Charming Man" (Smiths' cover)

The Pixies
"Vamos"

Michael Sembello
"Maniac"

Oprah's Jugz
"I Scored With My Dad (And it Wasn't Half Bad)"

Nina Sky Feat. Jabba
"Move Your Body"

The Pogues
"Farewell to Nova Scotia"

The Tuesdays
"If the Phone Doesn't Ring You Know it's Me"

Sartorial Eloquence

Dal student invests in sweats



Michael Thompson, founder of EMTE Gear, shows off his wears.

Nadine LaRoche
Fashion Critiquette

Hoping to be the next Donald Trump? Why not start in fashion like 22-year-old Michael Thompson has done? Thompson, a fourth-year political science and philosophy student, recently launched his own clothing label, EMTE Gear, as a first step towards his dream of Trump-like business success.

"I'm an entrepreneur," says Thompson. "I'm always thinking about business; I just love it. Donald Trump is my hero." Thompson's label is online-based and aims to remedy what he calls the problem of stagnant clothing options across Canada and else-

where. All of the clothing is made in North America, sweatshop free and printed locally. EMTE carries both men's and women's casual clothing from yoga pants for the ladies to trendy zip-ups for the guys—clothing Halifax students should need, says Thompson.

"It's all simple stuff," he says. "It's all practical. It's not in-your-face logo. I thought there would be a market for that kind of stuff out here." The vision for EMTE came to Thompson last summer, but he didn't go through with it at the time. He says it was a lot more work to set up than he had imagined, and it wasn't really a priority. A year later, Thompson decided to carry out his clothing label vision.

Thomson says that not getting into the political science honours program—which he attributes to being "screwed by one teacher"—was what pushed him into finding something else to occupy his time. "It was me wanting to do something other than school, at school," says Thompson. "I needed something else to do than just sort of play out my degree."

Thompson hopes to attend business school after he graduates, but he needs two years of business experience to get in. This leaves him with two options, he says: work at a bank and be bored for two years, or start a business like EMTE. The fact that his label is online means he can bring the business with him no matter where life after graduation takes him: Thompson plans on moving out west to pursue snowboarding, another passion of his, and intends on bringing EMTE to the mountain towns.

"I have a business that I can take around with me everywhere," says Thompson. "I can bring it with me out west, or wherever I go, which is a nice feature of the business."

He thinks the remote mountain towns out west and places like Halifax are ideal locations for EMTE because of their limited

clothing options.

People would be less inclined to buy something on the Internet, he says, if there was a store nearby that sold the exact same thing. "My goal is to hit not the big markets, but the smaller markets where people don't have the same options that the big ones do."

Thompson gives EMTE yoga pants as an example of his effort to provide more choices. He says these pants are an alternative to Lululemon, where instead of paying a hundred bucks for a pair of pants, you'd only have to pay a mere \$36.

"It gives people options," he says, "especially in Halifax where there aren't as many options as, well, Toronto." Thompson's yoga pants fall short in one way, however: there's no black. "I've been sort of lynched for not getting black yoga pants," he says. "Apparently black is the staple. I didn't know that, but now I know. It's all a learning experience." Don't worry though; Thompson's next order of EMTE merchandise will bring in black yoga pants, as well as a wider range of sizes in all of his clothing.

Along with yoga pants (\$36), EMTE women's wear includes headbands (\$10), fitted tanks (\$19 to \$21), long and short

sleeve tees (\$19 to \$25), sporty hoodies (\$31), sweat pants (\$39), mini retro shorts (\$25), low-rise thongs (\$13) and tighy-whitey inspired boy shorts (\$18). Men's wear includes zip-up hoodies and joggers (\$55), tees with collar and cuff contrast (\$19.50), and fitted polos (\$41). A few items, such as the polos and the EMTE hats (\$14 to \$24), are unisex.

Thompson says he has hopes to expand the internet-based company into retail stores. "I'd like to grow," he says. "This is a stepping stone."

With a head for business, Thompson's dreams don't stop at the growth of EMTE: he likes to think big.

He has had a long-standing fascination with real estate that was intensified by what he calls Donald Trump's "perfection of the art." Thompson has read all of Trump's books and admires his focus.

"He had a vision in the beginning and just created this amazing skyscraper," says Thompson, referring to Trump's conversion of the run-down Commodore Hotel into the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York. "I would love to do something like that."

Check out EMTE Gear online at www.emtegear.com and look for EMTE in the SUB next week.

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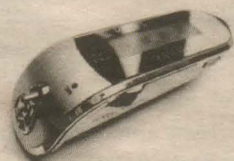
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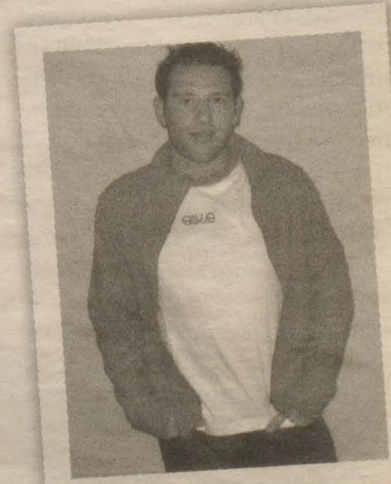
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Cross Country Standings

AUS Standings Men

Rank	Team	Win	Loss	Pts
1	SFX	10	2	20
2	UNB	8	4	16
3	DAL	7	5	14
4	SMU	4	8	8
5	UoM	1	11	2

AUS Standings Women

Rank	Team	Win	Loss	Pts
1	SFX	14	1	28
2	DAL	13	2	26
3	SMU	6	9	12
4	ACA	5	10	10
5	UoM	4	11	8
6	UNB	1	14	2

Collegiate Men's Volleyball Challenge

Friday, Oct. 15

Dal vs Toronto 12 p.m.
Toronto vs George Mason, 4 p.m.
Dal vs George Mason, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 16

Dal vs George Mason, 12 p.m.
Toronto vs George Mason, 4 p.m.
Dal vs Toronto, 8 p.m.

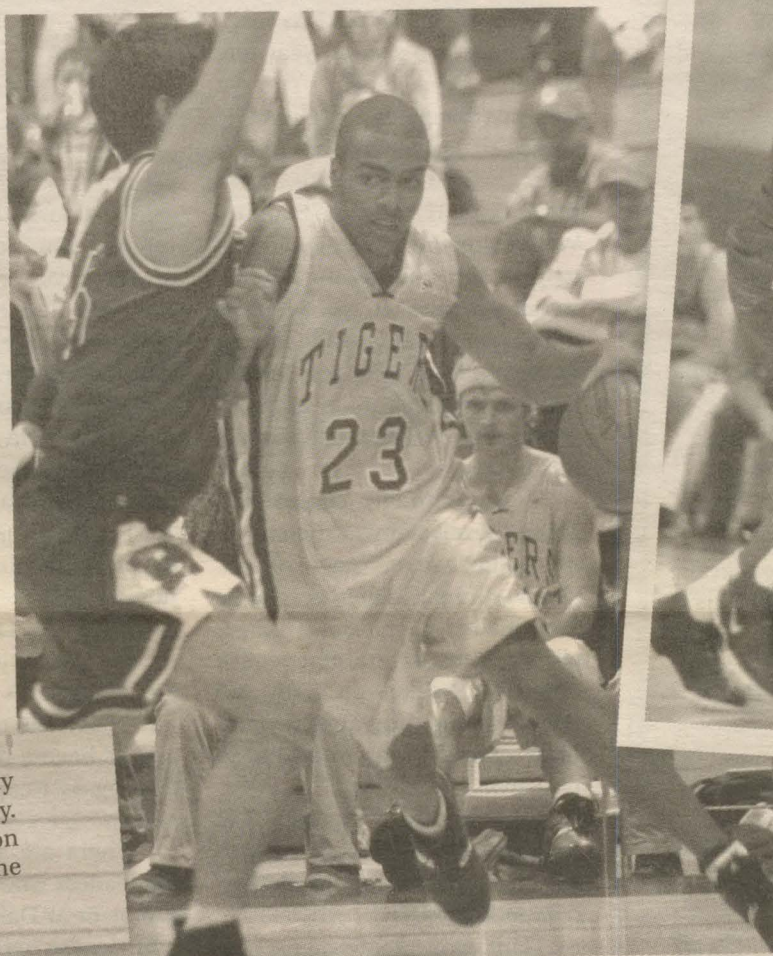
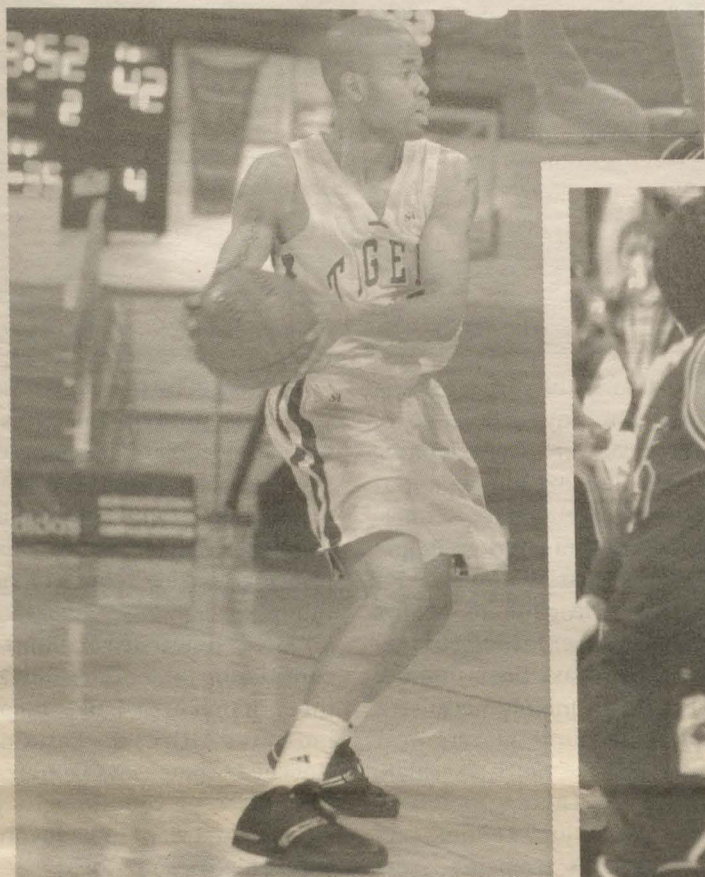
All games played at Dalplex

Sports Briefs

The men's hockey team will play St. Mary's at Huskey Arena on Sunday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.

The women's soccer team is ranked fourth in the country this week.

The men's and women's cross-country teams are both ranked fifth in the country this week.



Dalhousie hosted Harvard University for men's basketball action last Monday. The Tigers were out-scored by the Crimson 65-54. Tigers forward Matt Brooks led the losing battle with 16 points.

photos:
Nick Pearce

The Water Cooler

Sidney Crosby getting special treatment?

Jenn Casey
Staff Contributor

So we've all heard about how great Sidney Crosby is: everybody bow down and praise the next Gretzky. Oh, but by the way, you're not allowed to hit him—he doesn't like that.

Don't get me wrong, I think Crosby, a gifted forward with the Rimouski Oceanic in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL), is one of the most talented players to ever adorn skates.

The fact that he is from the Halifax region makes it even better—mostly because I got to see him play before others did.

But here's where it gets interesting. When was the last time you heard a hockey player say that they enjoyed being squished against tempered glass? Never? Exactly. So why is it that one

player gets special treatment over the rest?

A little context: On Oct. 1, 2004, Crosby was involved in a knee-on-knee collision with Halifax Mooseheads forward Frederik Cabana.

Granted, knee-on-knee collisions are very serious and the perpetrated involved should be punished. But Cabana was handed an eight-game suspension.

Reasonable, you say? Consider that the other two suspensions passed out in the QMJHL this season were five games for cross-check to the face and a hit from behind that only managed two. An eight-game suspension for a knee on knee doesn't quite add up—unless you're in the business of selling tickets, that is.

Last week, *Sportsnet* ran a story on Crosby, exploring the relationship between how many extra tickets get sold at games

where the player is visiting and, subsequently, how worried team owners got for fear Crosby wasn't going to play because of his injury.

I believe we've just found the reason why poor Frederik Cabana has to sit out for eight games.

In fact, it's not just the QMJHL protecting their skating moneybag. Last season, Rimouski's coaching staff benched Crosby because they feared other players were taking runs at him.

I don't believe this is in the best interest of Crosby.

This can't continue if Crosby ascends to the NHL—there is no mercy rule at that level, and the best thing the coaching staff can do is send out Tie Domi and hope he strikes fear into unruly opponents. It's not Crosby I despise—it's the puppeteers behind him that are ruining a talented hockey player.

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VARSITY ACTION THIS WEEKEND

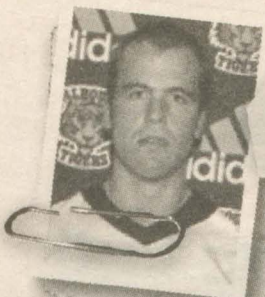
SWIMMING RELAY MEET, Friday, October 15, 5:00pm, Dalplex Pool

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL COLLEGIATE CHALLENGE @ DALPLEX
Friday, October 15 and Saturday, October 16, 12:00, 4:00 and 8:00pm
Dalhousie Tigers, Toronto Varsity Blues and George Mason Patriots

Admission is FREE with DAL Student ID so come out and cheer on your Tigers!



Dalplex Home of the Tigers!



Inside the locker room with ...

Brad Pierce ~ Men's Hockey
Theresa-Anne Salah
Staff Contributor

Describe your personality in 30 words.

Off the ice: I'm very easy going, friendly, very talkative, easy to meet, hard working, intense, funny by just being myself and sometimes I'm a bit of a donkey.

On the ice: Aggressive in-your-face style, intense and I like to punish our team's opponents.

What's the first thing you do each morning when you wake up?

I usually hit the snooze button about ten times. Then I'll finally roll out of bed and clean up a bit and take a crunch. After that, I'll just get focused on the tasks at hand for the day. It's true, I really do. Sometimes I shower, sometimes I don't. You know, I just showered the night before; it's really not a big deal. It's not like I'm trying to impress anyone...

...Actually, I am single and you single ladies can just give me a shout at 444-9408.

If you could have anything you wanted right now, what would it be?

If I were going to look at the bigger picture here, I would have to say that I just want someone to hold me, wake up beside me and tell me I'm beautiful. I would also like to give back to the world with a son of my own, because the world would be so much better off with a couple more little Pierces hanging around.

What should be banned from Dalhousie?

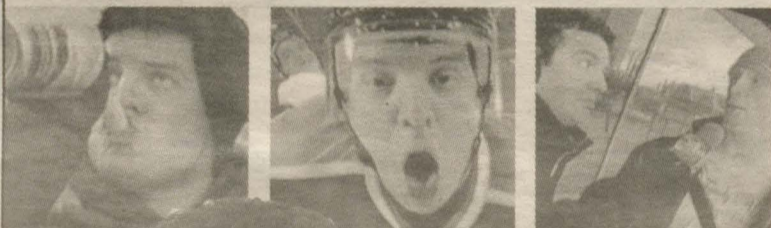
I would ban the computer guard. If you leave your computer for more than five minutes, you're done. No more computers for you. It really pisses me off. There are lots of people out there waiting to get online. So basically, if you want to get some lunch, deal with your lost computer.

If you were president of Dal for a day what changes would you make?

Well, I really love it here at Dalhousie and in Halifax. So, I can't really pinpoint one thing that needs a change. However, as a hockey representative I would consider improving the athletic facilities for the varsity athletes, intra mural athletes and the overall school atmosphere.

I would also like to change the image of hockey players. Some people look at us like players and dickheads. This is totally not the case; I've never been around a better bunch of guys. Just give us a chance. We're good guys. In general, we always treat our female friends with the same respect we give to our mothers and sisters.

Watching news (sort of) counts as studying (sort of).



RICK MERCER'S MONDAY REPORT

SEASON PREMIERE!

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 18
AT 9 PM



CBCtelevision

LeRoux balances focus on and off the ice

Joey Ryba
Staff Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers men's hockey team has hit the ice—and one Tiger expected to have a big impact on the score-sheet is second-year power forward Jonah LeRoux.

"Jonah is one of the best conditioned athletes in the conference," says coach Fabian Joseph. "He's one of our key guys this year. He's skilled and ready to make a big impact."

LeRoux's teammates are also looking for him to have a big season. "Jonah has a lot of speed and a lot of strength," says Tigers defenseman Brad Pierce. "He's a smart hockey player. We expect him to really break out this year."

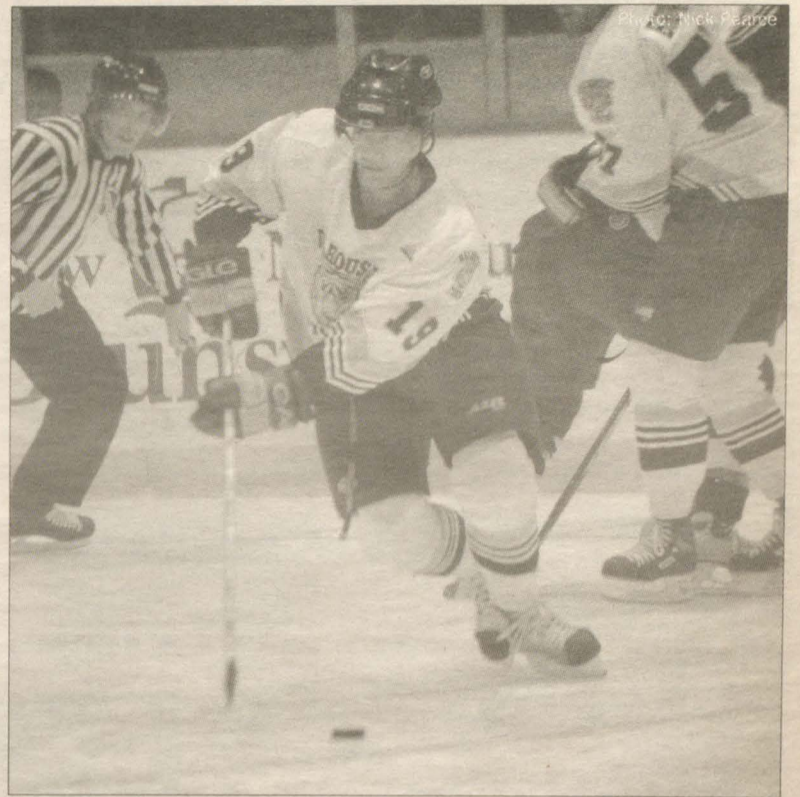
LeRoux is a second-year recreation management student from Williamstown, Ont. He comes to Dal after playing five years in the OHL suiting up for the Ottawa 67's and the Sudbury Wolves. Jonah's original plan was to play pro hockey, but after a tryout with the Ottawa Senators didn't pan out he decided to go to university. LeRoux's former Ottawa 67's teammate and Dal goaltender J.F. Perras is LeRoux's link to Dal.

"I was strongly considering going to university at the end of my junior career," says LeRoux. "I talked to a number of schools and finally I talked to J.F. J.F. really gave me a true perspective about the hockey program and the academic programs at Dal. I liked what I saw and now I'm in my second year."

LeRoux, the reigning Dal rookie of the year, wants to keep moving forward in the always-competitive AUHC.

"This is a great league," he says. "It's highly competitive with many skilled players. It's fast paced hockey and the league is certainly underrated."

Dal will be looking for a lot of production from LeRoux because of the unexpected loss of sniper Marty St. Pierre to the AHL.



The Tigers' success depends on players like LeRoux.

"Obviously this was a big loss for our team," says LeRoux. "A lot of our guys were really looking forward to having him as a part of our team. We all have to move forward together and step it up."

LeRoux wears number 19 for the Tigers. He says it's always been his number for various reasons: "I've always been number 19. I wear 19 mainly because a lot of my favourite players wear number 19 like Steve Yzerman, Joe Sakic and Lauren Appleton." As for inspiration, LeRoux says his teammates over the years have been his role models. "I've always been a part of a team for as long as I can remember," he says.

"There are always guys who are leaders whether it's Pee Wee, Junior or at Dal. Ross McCain is a big leader here. He works hard and has a team first attitude. He always gives 100 per cent. It doesn't hurt that he looks like Tom Cruise as well! Another leader is Rob Dunphy. He's a great teammate and I try to follow his leadership."

Philosophically speaking, Le-

Roux swears by the words "keep your eyes on the prize." "It's always important to stay focused," says LeRoux. "It's so easy to get distracted. If you stay focused you'll get the job done. This is true for hockey, school or anything."

After university, LeRoux is considering pro hockey and then the workforce. "I'd like to play pro in the AHL or the East Coast Hockey League," says LeRoux. "It would also be good to get a job in my field. I want to be involved with athletics and fitness."

Away from the rink, LeRoux likes to hang out with his friends and have a good laugh. "Jonah is a Queer Eye for the Straight Guy version of He-Man," says Dal defenseman and bingo player Scott Wright. LeRoux hopes to flex his muscles and help the Tigers build on last year's successful CIS bronze medal season.

The Dal Tigers are not at the Dal Arena this weekend, but they are still in Halifax: The Tigers take on the St. Mary's Huskies at the Halifax Forum on Sunday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.



Matt Brooks
Soccer

Matt Brooks is this week's Dalhousie University Male Athlete of the Week. Brooks, a St. Mary's Huskies transfer, sunk 16 points in the Tigers' losing cause against exhibition visitors, the Harvard Crimson. He grabbed three rebounds, was 4-for-7 from the field and 3-for-5 from the three-point line. Brooks is in his fourth year of eligibility and is a sociology student from Dartmouth, N.S.

Athletes of the Week

Caroline McInnes
Cross Country

Caroline McInnes is this week's Dalhousie University Female Athlete of the Week. In her first varsity cross country race, McInnes led the Tigers to a second place finish in AUS competition at the University of New Brunswick on the weekend. She started cautiously but finished strong to complete the 5-km hill-laden course in 19:55, good for fourth place, individually. McInnes is a philosophy student at Dal and will be looking to help move the Tigers to a team victory this coming weekend at the fourth AUS meet, hosted by the University of Montreal.



The

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Dalhousie's Official Engineering Student Newspaper

Floating Concrete... Juan Juere Are Jou?



Queen's University's Concrete Canoe Team cruises in to shore after the mixed sprint event at the CNCCC 2004 last May in Moncton, New Brunswick

Chris Davis
Junior Captain, Dalhousie
Concrete Canoe Team 2005

What do you get when you throw together engineering students from Dalhousie University, advanced low-density aggregates and some cement? A concrete canoe of course! I know you all must think I'm joking, but this is a serious competition and a very challenging task.

The Canadian National Concrete Canoe Competition (CNCCC) is the Canadian version of this event. Many other countries around the world have similar competitions, and the winners from a national competition are often invited to compete internationally.

The competition challenges teams of students to build a canoe made out of concrete, write a technical report about the design and construction of the canoe, give a presentation to other students and a panel of judges and compete with other universities in a variety of races including slaloms and sprints.

Last year's competition was hosted by the University of

Moncton in New Brunswick. After attending the competition, a handful of us decided to throw together a team and give this a shot. The competition has traditionally had participation from universities in Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland—but there has never been a team from Nova Scotia.

Early this coming May, teams will meet in Windsor, Ont. for the 2005 competition. Design work and fundraising have already begun for our entry, but there is still a lot left to do. We're currently looking for engineering students in their first, second or third year to bolster our team. The amount of time that younger students would need to contribute would be small, but there is an opportunity to learn a lot and take over lead positions for next year's team. Check out our website in a couple of weeks to see how the canoe is coming along:

www.dalhouseiuniversity-concretecanoeteam.dsu.dal.ca

If you have any questions or if you're interested in joining the team, e-mail us at canoe@dal.ca.

Okay, I know we just got back from a long weekend of drinking and filling our tummies with turkey dinner, but doesn't anyone else miss the two unexpected breaks we had last year? I sure do. Right around this time last year we got to experience an actual hurricane. Not some "Class Whatever" tropical storm, but a full fledged hurricane. Sure it demolished the city, tore trees from their roots, and got my pants really, really wet, but it did one incredible deed of service to the students of this city... it gave us a week off!

I don't know about the rest of you, but I am not ready to wait around for another snow storm; I am looking for relief now. Last year, once we were told that we would have the week off because of the destruction done to the city, did I call up the local food bank and ask what I could do to help? Did I canvass the neighborhood searching for anyone in need? Did I even get out of bed that day? No. I immediately called

a couple of buddies and made plans to go get drunk in Boston and watch the baseball playoffs. Was that ever the smartest decision I have made since losing my virginity. Three guys, one VW Golf, about 700 miles, a baseball series and a city that never saw it coming. It was so crazy that my friend actually got engaged while we were down there...we're still waiting to see if he'll go through with it.

Midterms are coming, and while some of you, terribly misguided as you are, might be looking forward to them, the majority of you aren't. So, here is what I am proposing:

Start writing the weathermen of this fine city. Let them know what you want. Do not limit yourselves to hurricanes; try for any natural disaster known to man, and then any more that you can happen to make up in your head. Enough letters should persuade these servants of Mother Nature to tell their boss to focus some attention along the eastern

shore of Canada.



*Ma Nature,
Why should Florida get all the fun? Why don't we have a possible erupting volcano like Mt. Saint Helens? I mean couldn't Citadel Hill all of a sudden start spewing ash all over the place? All we're asking for is a little rain and wind. Is that so much to ask? If it is, then you better not forget about us come snow season. We Maritimers have a way of remembering stuff like this. Yeah, that was a threat. What are you gonna do about it, drop a tsunami on us? I hope so.*

Sincerely,
Chris Fedora

DUSCUS News & Events

Order of the Coveralls

As many of you have seen, there are people walking around campus on occasion dressed in snazzy black coveralls. Now many of you are probably thinking, how can I get myself a pair of those?

Well, the Order of the Coveralls was created to award leadership, participation and school spirit. Coveralls can be worn to social events and to represent Dalhousie at off-campus events. Patches are also awarded for participation in different events, and these patches can be stuck on your coveralls. So show some school spirit and drop off an application to the EUS office for your very own pair!

Upcoming Events

Dal will be holding an open house from Oct. 22 to 23. This event is set up to showcase all of the departments at Dalhousie to our fellow students as well as to the public. On Friday, there will be a series of short talks given by some of the professors on the Sexton campus. These talks range from how to use mathematical programming to win at games to "What's in your beer." Also included in the open house will be several demonstrations held by the different departments here, including a robotics demonstration and a coal mine explosion simulation. If you would like to help out with hosting this event, please contact the EUS.

Oct. 28 is Halloween night at the T-Room. Come out and show off your costume!

The EUS will be collecting for UNICEF on Oct. 29, so show your support and make a donation.

The EUS is also planning a tour of the Alexander Keith's brewery scheduled for Nov 10. There will be more information on this event coming soon.

For further information on any of these events, contact us at dteus@dal.ca

Sexton Campus Student Wins Teaching Assistant Award



Muhannad Al-Darbi was awarded the Resident's Graduate Teaching Assistant Award for being the top teaching assistant at Dalhousie University. This marks the first time that this award has been given to

a student in the engineering faculty. Muhannad is currently working on his PhD in petroleum engineering for graduation at the Oct. 16 fall convocation; his thesis is titled: "Corrosion Prevention and Prediction in Harsh Environments using Novel Methods." Muhannad's future plans include pursuing a career in teaching and research, particularly in the field of corrosion and corrosion control.

Chris Fedora Tom Traves

Chris Fedora Tom Traves

Two weeks later, an event took place that had never occurred in recorded history.

THE PERFECT STORM

NOVEMBER 13TH

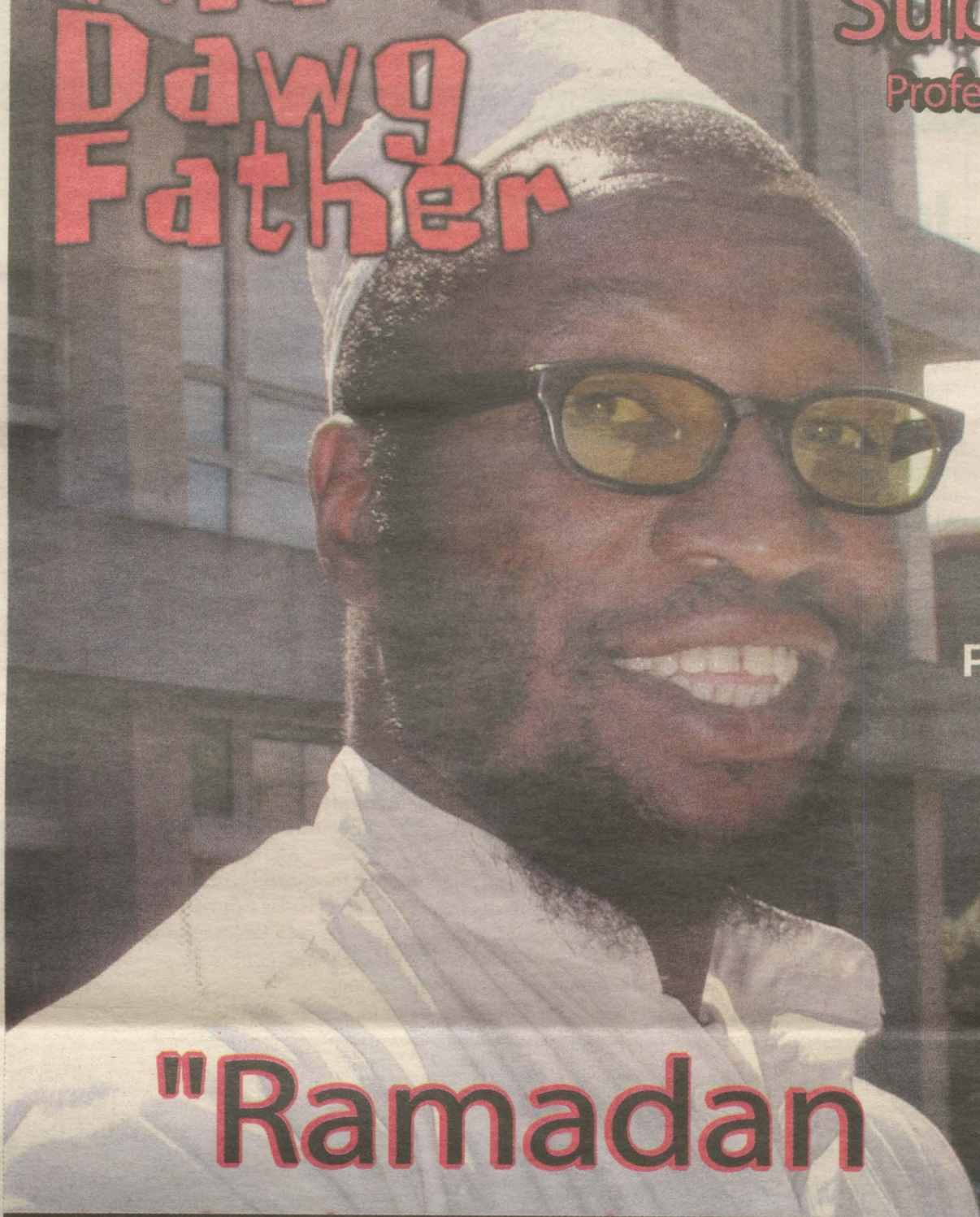
NOVEMBER 13TH

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE MOST MERCIFUL, THE MOST FORGIVING

The Dawg Father

Dawgonomics 101 Subject: Pricing

Professor Dawgfather Residing



- Jumbo Dawg 2.0
- Jumbo Sausage 2.0
- Jumbo Veggie Dawg 2.0
- Ham Burger 1.0
- Cheeseburger 1.5
- MEGA Chicken Leg 2.5
- Mango/Guava Juice 1.0
- Pop, Orange/Apple Juice 1.0

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