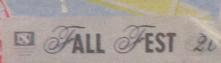
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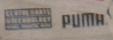


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WEDNESDAY, OCT 18 TICKETS AVAILABLE GREENLYPH, OHL PHONE AT 1866



PUMH! The Coast (X) QIO MUSTETOEL MAN

XC Tigers lead by a mile p.14-15

Mind over media

Students challenge NSPIRG P.05

HPX and DJO and Fall

has a busy week ahead

Fest, oh my.

The Halifax music scene



WEEKLY DISPATCH

Message from the Executive Review Committee:

Hello to all Dal students. You may or may not realize this, but you are a member of the Dalhousie Student Union. You pay \$113 a year for the privilege. You even get to elect the 5 people who are responsible for managing that money and providing services.

The Executive Review Committee, made up of students just like you, are responsible for evaluating the job performance of the executive. We want...no, we NEED your input. You don't need to be an expert on the DSU to answer these questions:

Is the DSU well run?
Are you well informed of DSU activities?
Is the Executive responsive to your needs?

Please let us know. Go to www.dsu.ca and click on "Executive Review" to fill out the survey. Please make sure that the voices of all students are heard, because I promise you, the Executive and DSU Council ARE listening.

Daniel Clark Chair of the Executive Review Committee

The next meeting of the DSU Council is October 25th at 6:45. Council meetings are held in Council Chambers on the second floor of the Student Union Building.

All are welcome.

Society Village Square:

100

This event is no longer called the 'Society Roundtable' because, well, we're not going to use round tables. The DSU invites the executive of all student societies to gather for an afternoon of genuine discussion in the McInnes room of the SUB (2nd floor) on Tuesday October 24th from 4-7pm. The village square will serve as a space for societies to connect, engage in real dialogue, and partner with one another while aiming to find new solutions to real problems on campus. This is your opportunity to bring your leadership challenges and suggestions to the DSU executive. This event is mandatory for presidents and financial officers (or equivalent positions) of all A and C level societies.

CASA's Website Contest:

my.dsu.ca /

A few weeks ago I wrote about CASA's Campaign, "Education: Our National Priority." In conjunction with this campaign CASA is running a contest on their website www.casa.ca. To enter click on the campaign logo on the front page and answer the question: After graduation, what do you hope to contribute to Canadian society?" Winners will be drawn each month. This months prize is a Fujifilm FinPix A510 digital camera.

See you around campus. Stop by, or call anytime, Ezra Edelstein
DSU President
Room 222 SUB
dsupres@dal.ca

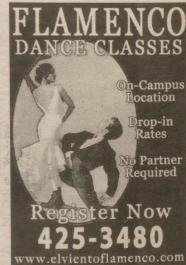
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Gazette

Volunteer Meetings Every Monday at 5:30, Room 312, Dal SUB

Gazette

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THE FINE PRIN

A "staff contributor" is a member of the paper defined as a person who has had three volunteer articles, or photographs of reasonable length, and/or substance published in three different issues within the current publishing year.

The Gazette is the official written record of Dalhousie University since 1868 and is open to participation from all students. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhouse Gazette Publishing Society.

The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general.

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, Top 10 listing, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of *The Gazette* or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not *The Gazette's* writers or staff. All quotes attributed to Joey Ryba in the Streeter feature of this paper are written, in good humour, by staff, and do not necessarily represent the views of Joey Ryba. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University.

All students of Dalhousie University, as well as any interested parties on or off-campus, are invited to contribute to any section of the newspaper. Please contact the appropriate editor for submission guidelines, or drop by for our weekly volunteer meetings every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the Dal SUB. The Gazzette reserves the right to edit and reprint all submissions, and will not publish material deemed by its editorial board to be discriminatory, racist, sexist, homophobic or libellous. Opinions expressed in submitted letters are solely those of the authors. Editorials in The Gazzette are signed and represent the opinions of the writer(s), not necessarily those of The Gazzette staff, Editorial Board, publisher, or Dalhousie University.

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All contributions in this issue of *The Gazette* were made by the staff listed above and the following contributors: Megan Powell, Karyn Haag, Kaley Kennedy, Anna Fong, Anu Jindal, Kate Robertson, Jen Bond, John Hillman, Jimmy Kapches, Eric Bolton, Nick Pearce, Ted Mirsky, Adeline MacNaughton, Catherine Holloway, Jesse Mighton and Aaron MacLean.

Contributor meetings take place every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Room 312 of the Dalhousie SUB starting the first week of the academic year. We need writers, photographers, illustrators, readers and ideas. If you can contribute any of these, please drop us a line or come by the office.

Gazette

Are you a writer? Photographer? Illustrator? A reader?

Come to our meetings: Mondays, 5:30 pm, Dal SUB



Affix generic label here

RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI Editor-in-Chief

Arecent talk I attended began several minutes late, as usual. For lack of anything better to do, I glanced at the other attendees.

It was like any other talk I had ever been to; the usual crowd always shows up, with some stragglers and media thrown in for good measure. I even noticed a few familiar faces from a similar talk I had attended years ago in the same room — sitting in the same spots as last time, no less.

The topic says as much about whom the attendees will be as the behaviour of the audience themselves. The manner in which the room fills, the tones of conversation and even the curious glances are indicative of who is present.

And the same people always come to the same talks. The talk could be about non-conformity and rebellion and it's likely that the majority of the audience would classify themselves as non-conformists and rebels. Yet the majority of these people would not attend a talk about fitting in and playing out one's part in capitalist society.

In their attempt to stand out from the crowd, has everyone morphed into one generic model of differentiation?

For my answer, I look to the Hal-

ifax music scene.

When is the last time you attended an "indie-rock" show and came away with the impression you had seen this band before?

Yes, there are subtle musical differences, but they all look much the same. For example, we'll say there's a generic indie-rock band called The Fos

Its members are all male; four seems to be the common denominator here. They're all bearded, or at the very least have some semblance of facial hair. Their hair is unruly and long

One of them wears quirky T-shirts. Another sports rumpled dress shirts. A sport coat is present, as is a haphazardly arranged tie. Jeans are the norm, ideally distinctive, but somehow managing to look like every other pair of jeans. One of the band members has several large holes in his, each drooling loose threads.

Each member has his signature footwear, but all the shoes must be scuffed and well-worn. These are unfailingly leather — either casual lace ups or some form of boot.

There is, of course, a scarf somewhere, and a selection of hats. For winter, the boys don wool coats, short collars turned up against the biting Halifax wind.

Sound familiar?

Indie music, by definition,

should be independent of the major labels. The bands pride themselves in being true to their own "sound." They don't give in to the "pop" noise, and they won't change who they are. They stand out from the crowd because they aren't manufactured by stylists and assistants who create the newest, coolest look based on the latest polls.

But which one stands out from within its own crowd?

Being different, not having a "label," has become so ingrained in our culture that it has itself become a label.

But is that so bad?

Have we become so shallow that we cannot look beyond clothing and appearances? Does looking different from everyone else really make an individual unique?

With thousands of people trying to look distinctive, it is inevitable that at some point there will be two who look alike. Multiply those thousands by thousands more and you end up with hundreds of lookalikes. Coupled with mass marketing that can push only so many images and brands at any given time, no matter how different you attempt to look you will always end up looking like someone else.

Maybe it's time we stopped trying to look different on the outside and turned our attention inward.

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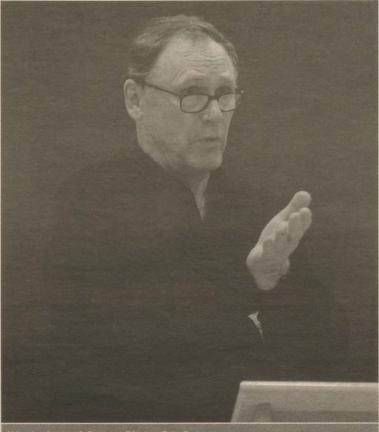


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Medium 1-Topping Pizzas



*For a limited time only



Words: Leyland Cecco / Photo: Eric Bolton

A documentary that examines the effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement premiered on Oct. 4 at the University of King's College.

Hoodwinked: The Myth of Free Trade is the work of Ottawa filmmakers Bill Dunn and Linda West. The feature-length documentary explores Canada's trade relations in the 17 years since the free trade agreement was signed.

"I just think it's important for students to take an interest in free trade, because the issues we're facing now are going to be much more serious in the future," says West. "And you can't make good decisions when you don't have the facts."

NAFTA, an agreement that was drafted in 1989 and ratified in 1994, opened up trade relations between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico.

Hoodwinked looks at the shift in NAFTA relations since the 1980's. Several well-respected Canadians appear in the film, including former Prime Minister John Turner and economist Jim Stanford.

The filmmakers hope *Hood-winked* will re-open debate around Canada's role in NAFTA. They've showed their documentary in Wolfville, N.S., and plan to hold more screenings in Kingston and Ottawa.



The total expenditure for peacekeeping is \$5 billion per year, a UN communications advisor said at a panel discussion at King's College.

The U.S. spends more money on its military in a month. / Photo: John Packman

Journalists play an integral role in peacekeeping — panel

JOSH BOYTER
News Contributor

The news media is an essential tool for informing the public about United Nations peacekeeping efforts around the world, said a foreign correspondent with The Toronto Star.

"Media and peacekeeping go hand in hand," Olivia Ward told a crowd of roughly ### people seated in King's College Alumni Hall on Oct. 5. Ward was a member of a four-person panel discussion sponsored by the United Nations Association of Canada, a non-profit organization aimed at promoting UN programs and activities within the country.

Ward said the news media face a major challenge educating the public about the role of peacekeepers because it's a time-consuming and complex process. The media sometimes fail to fulfill this responsibility, she said, leading the public to believe that UN troops wearing the blue beret are only involved in

peaceful operations.

But Alex Morrison, founding president of the Pearson Peace-keeping Centre, said peacekeepers have basic military training and they ultimately decide who will live and die when they are stationed in combat zones.

The United Nations Peacekeeping Force was created in 1957 by then-Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Lester B. Pearson, who compelled the UN to form a task force to supervise the withdrawal of troops during the final days of the Suez Canal crisis. Pearson later won a Nobel Peace Prize for his role in ending the conflict.

The news media have helped promote the efforts of peacekeepers during UN missions and serve an integral role in the peacekeeping process, said Douglas Coffman, communications officer for the UN Department of Public Information.

"Media helps build political support around the world," he said. Tim Dunne, a communications advisor to the Nova Scotia government, agreed. Journalists, he said, help promote the peaceful resolution of armed conflicts. But he also cautioned that the public has to make an effort to get an unbiased perspective of UN operations.

"For students to find an impartial view within international media and become educated on peacekeeping is to read, and to read a number of mediums to become informed," said Dunne.

Coffman said peacekeeping is grossly under-funded, even though it's a highly important tool in international conflict. The UN needs the continued support of donor nations to ensure peacekeeping efforts continue.

"The total expenditure for peacekeeping is \$5 billion dollars a year, which is half of one per cent of the total military expenditures in a year. The United States spends that in one month on their military," said Coffman.

MASSIVE BRAIN

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Student group encourages others to butt out

Anna Fong Staff Contributor

Students are leading an effort to renew the university's antismoking policy that was established in September 2003.

"Last year, we had a number of students, staff and faculty express concerns about how many people were still smoking on our three campus properties," says Bonnie Neuman, Dal vice president (student services).

Neuman's office helps fund a student-led smoking reduction committee called Leave the Pack Behind (LTPB). The group is in its second year on campus and receives most of its financial support from Health Canada grants, says Neuman.

The LTPB committee consists of four students who plan to continue their campaign annually.

"Dalhousie is the first school outside of Ontario to adopt the program," says Katie Higham, a secondyear master in health promotions student and the campus program coordinator for LTPB.

Higham says she joined the LTPB group to gain experience in health promotions before entering the field. She says she strongly believes students should cut back and, ultimately, quit smoking.

LTPB hands out packages and pamphlets to help smokers curb their habits. Group members set up information booths around Dal to distribute campus maps that show non-smoking zones on campus. LTPB also provides carbon monoxide testing for students at Dalhousie Health Services.

"The administration at Dal is quite insistent that they do not want to fine or penalize students who do not obey the smoking policy," says



Dal group Leave the Pack Behind will offer students travel and tuition vouchers to quit smoking.

Higham, explaining why LTPB distributes campus maps that highlight off-campus smoking areas.

At least one Dal student disagrees with the anti-smoking policy.

"I hate it when I smoke in a huge empty parking lot and someone walks right up to me and says, 'The smoke is bothering me,'" says Mike Ngo, a PhD candidate in pediatrics and biochemistry/molecular biology. Ngo says he tries to stay away from people when smoking.

Smoking is allowed on any sidewalks and streets owned by the Halifax Regional Municipality, though not on Dal property. Street sidewalks on all three Dal campuses are considered smoking areas.

Ngo says when Dal makes it "impossible" to smoke on campus, it creates a problem for non-smokers who must walk past smokers on the sidewalks in order to enter the campus buildings.

In November, LTPB will hold a contest entitled Let's Make a Deal to encourage students to either not start or quit smoking. A 'buddy' will monitor each participant's progress and prizes will include tuition and travel vouchers.

Higham and other LTPB members are optimistic about the campaign's success. So far, more than 100 fact sheets, booklets and pamphlets have been handed out, and Dal Health Services has performed 32 carbon monoxide tests.

"Over time, smoking off campus will become the norm," says Higham.

For additional information or to receive a carbon monoxide test, call the LTPB office, located in the DSU Health Plan Office, at 494-2860 or visit during weekly office hours on Mondays from 1 to 4 p.m., Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., or Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon.

Student group prods NSPIRG for reform

Dawn MacPhee Assistant News Editor

A Dalhousie student group that monitors the activities of the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG) is calling for accountability and reform.

"Our list of demands is pretty straight forward," says Andrew Wong, one of the Students for NSPIRG Truth's three founding members. "We're not out to destroy NSPIRG. What we want is to be able to get information, and as members of NSPIRG, we believe we have some right to know how our money is being spent."

Every full-time Dal student contributes \$4 per year to NSPIRG — a Dal society charged with providing social and environmental research and resources — through student union fees unless they decide to opt out.

Wong, along with Students for NSPIRG Truth (SNT) co-founders Ann Beringer and Ian Campbell, posted concerns on a website in mid-September after frustrations of dealing with NSPIRG reached a "breaking point," says Campbell.

SNT says the research group lacks accountability — its budget posted online is outdated and doesn't include more than \$40,000 in executives' salaries, the SNT website says.

The group also says NSPIRG fails to inform the campus community of events such as annual general meetings, and acts against its mandate to work locally and in a non-partisan way.

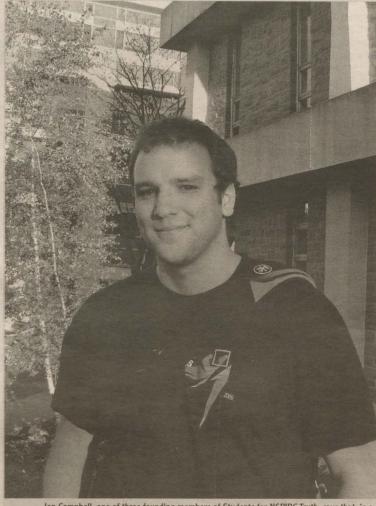
"They're straying from the mandate a little bit," says Campbell. "Groups like [Students Taking Action in Chiapas], [Zapatista Education Network] and [Student Coalition Against War] are, I think, more than a little inappropriate."

The group and NSPIRG have held meetings since mid-September to address SNT's concerns. The group publishes all its interactions with NSPIRG on its website.

NSPIRG resource coordinator Rae Mitchell says there's an earnest attempt by both organizations to deal with the issues. She says the best way to engage with SNT is to continue to give feedback and respond to questions, while maintaining a focus on important non-profit work.

"As long as that willingness is there, as long as there's that commitment to keep the dialogue open and ensure that concerns are being addressed, then we can hopefully move towards a resolution," says Mitchell, who adds that an updated version of the NSPIRG budget would be available online on Oct. 11.

The Sept. 22 resignation letter of NSPIRG board member Jonathan Doyle raised similar concerns about NSPIRG. Doyle wrote that he came to his decision after observ-



lan Campbell, one of three founding members of Students for NSPIRG Truth, says that, in a "twisted" sort of way, his group is working in the best interests of NSPIRG. / Photo: John Packman

ing "both the general disregard for social progress and the egregious lapses of common sense shown by certain members of the board."

Doyle says he felt there was little regard on the board for actually accomplishing things with the roughly \$55,000 from student fees.

"[NSPIRG] just seems to be more concentrated on an extremist ideology than actually doing anything for the students or for the community," says Doyle. He also complains that more than \$40,000 of NSPIRG funding is allotted for administrative salaries.

Campbell says most people on campus are supportive of STN but people involved with NSPIRG are touchy about the subject. "I would say there's some sort of wary caution toward each other," says Campbell. "When we showed up at their AGM, in general it was friendly but guarded."

The NSPIRG board issued a unified statement in response to SNT after an Oct. 10 board meeting.

"We believe that effective social change can only happen through direct participation in the organization, and we encourage all members to get involved to actively create the kind of sustainable social change on campus that they want," board member Keetha Mercer read from the statement. "If people were involved in the growth and develop-

Students for NSPIRG Truth www.nspirgtruth.org

Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG)

www.nspirg.org Dalhousie Student Union Building, Room 314, 494-6662

NSPIRG WORKING GROUPS

These groups receive support and funding from NSPIRG for public education and research.

ARCH (Animal Rights Collective of Halifax) AYEP (Anti-Oppression Youth

Education Project)
Campus Action on Food
DalGreen
FOCI (Films on Critical Issues)

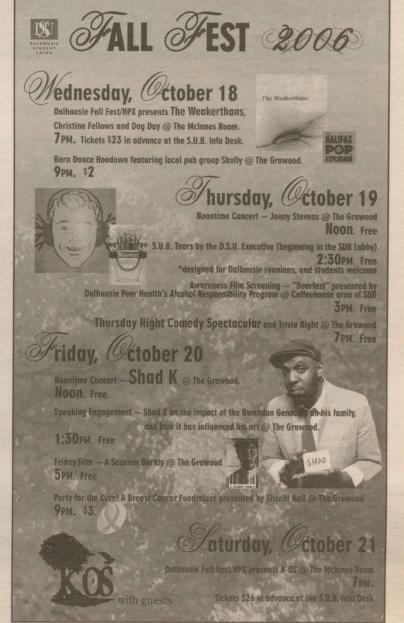
HAH (Humans Against Homophobia)

Knowledge Exchange SCAW (Students Coalition

Against War) Seymour Green Community Organic Garden

Students Taking Action in Chiapas (ZEN) Students For Students

ment of the organization instead of forming counter-groups to criticize us, then perhaps the organization would better reflect their needs."







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Uni-briefs

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

Threat of identity theft

An organization that aims to enhance security in the workplace held a presentation at McMaster University to raise awareness about the dangers of identity theft.

Fellowes Canada introduced students to its website, which indicates the frequency of identity theft. A study conducted by Ipsos-Reid found that just 23 per cent of Canadians between 18 and 34 years old destroy personal documents that could allow thieves to steal their identity.

The Ontario Provincial Police says a thief only needs a victim's name, address and date of birth to steal his/her identity.

"One major reason thieves target university students is because many of them receive pre-approved credit cards in the mail," Sergeant Cathy O'Donnell, a McMaster security official, was quoted as saying in The Silhouette, the university's student newspaper.

Ontario ponders lobby group member-

The Student Federation of the University of Ottawa (SFUO) may join one of Canada's two national lobby groups.

Julien de Bellefeuille, vice president (student affairs) for SFUO, says the federation isn't currently a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) or the Ontario Undergraduate Students' Association (OUSA). He says the federation would benefit from joining the CFS, which costs \$14 per student.

'CFS has the weight of representing about 500,000 students from coast to coast, and basically their message gets heard by government and by policy makers," de Bellefeuille was quoted as saying in The Fulcrum.

OUSA President Paris Meilleur says the provincial group offers "a unified voice at the provincial level." Each student would have to pay roughly \$2 each year to join OUSA.

Because students would have to pay to become members of either lobby group, the SFUO has to hold a referendum.

UofS, UofR call for tuition freeze

The student unions of the Uni-

versity of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina announced they will lobby the provincial government to implement a tuition

The union made its decision as a result of a new UofS study that found a tuition freeze lasting a minimum of two years would improve access to post-secondary education in the province.

Students studying in Saskatchewan pay the third highest tuition fees in the country and their fees have increased 217 per cent in the past 13 years. The provincial minister of learning, Andrew Thompson, opposes freezing tuition fees.

"The \$15 million it would cost for a tuition freeze in the next two years would come at the cost of other programs," Thompson was quoted as saying in The Carillon, UofR's student newspaper. "We have not ruled out the possibility of other forms of funding.'

British Columbia imposed a sixyear tuition freeze in 1996, resulting in a 26 per cent hike when the freeze melted in 2002. Two years later, universities and colleges in B.C. faced another increase of 30 per cent, which was the largest hike in the province's history.

ACROSS THE POND

Military contracts drive research in Scottish university

The Artificial Intelligence Applications Institute (AIAI) of Edinburgh University has received \$1.4 million in military contracts from the U.S., U.K. and Australian gov-

A Freedom of Information request revealed that the funding allowed AIAI to develop military planning technology, some of which may have been used in the Iraq war. The British government currently funds research conducted by arms companies, which can then invest in university research.

Many U.K. universities receive funding from arms companies but ethical concerns have been raised about combining university research with military activities. The Edinburgh University Students Association plans to raise these concerns at its annual general meeting on Feb. 8.

From The Gazette archives

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

Steal of a meal deal

Students living off campus were offered a meal discount of 30 cents if they bought a 10-meal plan for \$24, equaling a cost of \$2.40 per meal. The plan only applied to supper.

Students without the plan would have to pay \$2.70 at the door for supper. Special meals, such as steak or "Baron of Beef" would cost even more.

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

Million-dollar decision deferred

The Dalhousie Student Union delayed its decision to donate \$1 million to the new Arts and Social Sciences building.

In 1995, Dal students voted in favour of paying \$25 per year toward the Capital Campaign Fund, a coffer that finances construction projects on campus. The following year, Dal President Tom Traves asked DSU councillors if students would agree to using the money they raised for the capital fund to help pay for what is now called the FASS building.

After a heated debate that focused on the merits of the building, the DSU council decided to hold a public forum in the lobby of the Student Union Building.

CASA corruption

Members of the Canadian Alliance of Students' Associations (CASA), Dal's national student lobby group, pressured Fredericton's crown prosecutor to decide if he was going to lay charges against Pat FitzPatrick, the group's previous interim national director.

CASA members alleged that roughly \$10,000 went missing under FitzPatrick's watch. Slightly more than \$8,000 of the total was supposed to fund a national confer-



ence on post-secondary education in Fredericton.

FitzPatrick said he knew where the money earmarked for the conference was spent. "I do not feel I have done anything morally wrong, ethically or legally and I am ready to defend myself as need be," he was quoted as saying in The Brunswickan, the University of New Brunswick's student newspaper.

20 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK...

Sex talks

Planned Parenthood held seminars for several weeks at Howe and Shirreff halls to open up communication between men and women.

The presentations, entitled "Relationships: Saying Yes, Saying No," addressed rape and personality conflicts between couples. Students viewed two videos about sexual assault and later discussed unwanted sexual situations.

During one presentation, Ann Bully, the health coordinator of Planned Parenthood, asked the members of the male-dominated audience what they would do if a female made an unwanted sexual

One Howe Hall resident replied, "Saying no is a ridiculous thing for a guy to do.'

That is how much a full-time student pays the Dalhousie Student Union each year

Every Dalhousie student is a member of the Union and pays dues. It's time to have your voice heard on how your union is being run.

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Do you know what the DSU does? Is the DSU listening to your concerns?



Was Frosh week well run? Do you like the new SUB renovations?

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J VENT: Stretchy mants

SAMANTHA BAMBRICK / Opinions Contributor

I have some advice for all the girls out there. Listen close because it is very good advice: tights do not go with everything.

Don't get me wrong. Just like the rest of you, I like the tights. Who wouldn't like something that al-

lows us to show off our legs just a little more?

I'm going to emphasize the legs on this point. Yes ladies, legs! This mean the behind must be covered. I don't care if you are a size two. Chances are you have cellulite and your bum jiggles just like the rest of us.

You think I'm wrong, don't you? You've looked in the mirror before stepping out of the house. Of

course you did and you were looking fine. Do me a favour: go back and look again. This time though, move around a little.

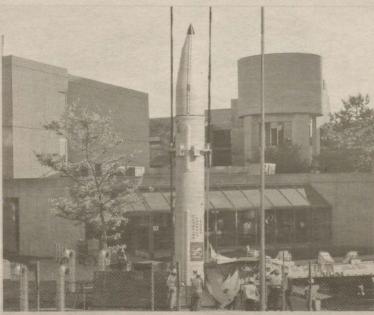
Do a march.

A little shake.

You're very welcome. Now you know what the rest of us have witnessed. This isn't to criticize anyone or

to hurt feelings; it's only to point out something that probably wasn't so obvious.

If you're sure I'm wrong, as I'm sure some of you will, that's fine; my feelings won't be hurt. If your workout regime has left you with a quarter-bouncing ass, or if you're the very lucky one per cent sans cellulite, jiggle away my friends, jiggle away...



The DSU must go nuclear

Imagine DSUSSR

Effective strategies for our student union

JOHN HILLMAN Staff Contributor

Much to my dismay, I had class during the big Imagine DSU meeting the other day.

For those of you who have abandoned your Dal inbox to "chepe lelgal drug\$\$" spam and therefore missed the message, Imagine DSU is an initiative designed to garner student input on the future direction of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU).

According to the e-mail, the student union wants us to imagine what it would be like if "Students Had All The Space They Needed On Campus" and our "Food Experience in the Student Union Building was consistently Dynamic, Healthy, Delicious, and Affordable."

Apparently they also want us to imagine a world where capital Letters are thrown in at random Places in a Sentence.

I, like many students at Dal, don't particularly care about any of those "core topics." (Who exactly told them that the food in the SUB wasn't "dynamic" enough? Call me crazy, but I personally prefer it when my food remains immobile).

The e-mail got me thinking though, and it just so happens that I have a suggestion — nay, a vision — for our collective future.

The DSU must go nucle

I'll be the first to admit, this isn't exactly an original idea. I stole it from Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the president of Iran. But imitation is the best form of flattery and I think the crazy bastard has a damn good idea.

How could it not work out for the best? The single biggest problem facing Dal students is rising tuition rates and things aren't going to get better any time soon, no matter how many goddamned pins we stick on our backpacks.

The fact remains that nobody really cares about our debts and no matter how much we whine, reason, demand or beg, serious tuition reduction will never make it past the occasional "I can't believe I'm saying this with a straight face" promise from party leaders around election

time.

What we need is some muscle. Look at Ahmadinejad. Without the threat of nuclear war, nobody would care about what he thought.

He'd be like Hugo Chavez, the president of Venezuela, whose demands have about the same impact on the international community as those of a two-year-old screaming for more ice cream.

But by admitting to pursuing a nuclear program and dropping the occasional "Israel must be driven into the sea," Ahmadinejad has caught the world's attention.

Why let Mad-Eye Mahmoud have all the fun? We're only a briefcase of plutonium and a couple threats to burn down Saint Mary's away from getting the respect we deserve.

We can pull this off. The thing is, we don't actually need a bomb. All we have to do is make a reasonable effort, just so everyone thinks we're serious. We already have lots of physics students on campus. Dress a few of them in lab coats and stand them behind Ezra Edelstein the next time CBC does a report on rising tuition and we'll be in business.

We'll see how much longer the government brushes us aside when they think we're three steps away from plunging the world into a nuclear winter — sorry health care, but until you can come up with a strain of super-SARS, there will be a new media darling in town.

This is the only real option if we want to win any solid victories in tuition negotiations. Sure, there's a small chance that the United States would invade the SUB, but frankly, America's resources are stretched a little thin right now.

Even if it did, we could rest assured that the Halifax Peace Coalition would hold weekly mock trials and spoken word recitals until the occupation troops were brought to their knees in boredom.

I mean, come on people, it's either this or building political sway by voting in respectable numbers in provincial and national elections, and if you think that's going to happen in our lifetimes, you're really taking the whole "imagination" game a little too far.

You are what you read Regulating one's ingestion of the news media

JIMMY KAPCHES
Special to The Gazette

The only thing worse than the Man who's out to get you is the Man you get your information from. We live in a world where a constant barrage of lies and cheating is pretty commonplace.

Everyone is more or less aware of the fact that there are many people out to cheat them — the panhandler who throws his crutches in the trash after a hard day's work, the charity that really needs your donation so it can keep paying its executives top dollar. Nonetheless, we tend to forget the big one: the media.

Every newspaper and television station is trying to tell you something beside the news. They want to convince us that everyone else is missing something crucial. The people who hold onto power — and tend not to let go — get to give their take on everyday stories.

Despite the fact that good journalism is supposed to be free from bias, it's inherent. Even if a vegetable or meat is grown organically, the environment in which it grew will have left indelible marks on it. This is all obvious, but we would rather just watch TV or read an article than actually think about what we are consuming.

We often allow ourselves to enjoy "good TV" or read a "good piece of journalism" without thinking. In the case of TV, if it's "good," it tends to be so because it's not horrible, and horrible means trash.

Not many people who value their svelte bods would dare spend 16 hours ingesting fatty and delicious garbage food, but that doesn't stop us letting our brains turn to lard with the joys of *LOST* or *OC* marathons. The ultimate danger is



Consequently, we, the consuming public, need to learn how to say no, how to moderate the flow or we become overwhelmed.

when that mindless consumption is of news media.

When a madman goes murdering pacifist schoolgirls, the media is quick to respond. The media jumps on it when terrorists fly planes into the world's biggest buildings.

Consequently, we, the consuming public, need to learn how to say no, how to moderate the flow or we become overwhelmed. Then, all of a sudden, it's easier to push us around. It's easier to pass laws that take away or confuse our freedoms. It becomes easier to go to war in places where we have no business, even to elect governments we may wish we hadn't, much like the morning after question "who are you?"

This paper, right now, the one between your hands, is the same thing. It's a miracle you believe anything you read in any paper, and we should be very careful what we do believe. The danger lies not in opinions and editorials — those keep no secrets, they let you know what you're in for. The danger lies in what gets mentioned and what gets forgotten. If lying by omission serves the good of that clique in control, then that's exactly happens.

We should not be cavalier in the way we absorb the news. We need to be mindful and aware of what we're allowing to enter our minds. If we don't keep stock of what we're ingesting, it's going to be that much harder to sneak inside our brains and get the good stuff when we need it.

We're going to need that wise, well-placed information soon, because it's our generation that needs to change the world. It's up to us to stop all the blah blah blah. No more letting the wrong people control our world because we're too lazy to get off the couch.

Letters@dalgazette.ca

Dear Editor,

Hameed Khan's article "Why Islam is not synonymous with Terrorism" (*The Gazette* 139-03) is a fragmented and misleading polemic.

For a start, Islam, which when translated from Arabic, means submission — not peace as some claim, which in Arabic is salaam — is an authentic religion in that it is formative around the three C's: creeds, codes and cults, or to clarify another way: beliefs, laws and rituals.

Jihad when translated means sacred war; it does not mean striving. Striving in Arabic is qui'ra, which gives us the English word query. Qui'ra is derived from Qur'an, the sayings of Mohammed that all "true believers" strive to emulate.

Islam is a complicated religion and it does indeed sanctify war, but so does Christianity and Judaism. The qualifier that separates them is what they define as the justifiable intentions.

Terrorism is violence or coercion against citizens to intimidate their political body to take measures against their own self-interest. Muslims, Christians and Jews have used

terror for their purposes, but the qualifier common to all is that this is not a weapon of the strong and self confident. It is a weapon of the weak and effete.

Modern terrorism is like piracy, a kind of surrogate warfare where weak and decaying powers try to force their will on strong and virile powers via arms-length agents to whom they may provide support, but in a camouflaged or not-so-camouflaged way.

Mainstream Islam's leaders and preachers appear to lack any opinion on those who claim jihad in their name. Khan is right. Islam is not synonymous with terrorism. But the "ulema" can't cope with modernity and unless Muslims re-engage epistemological queries, their future is very bleak.

Sincerely, ISL

Hammeed Khan's reply:

I am puzzled that Mr. Riteman calls the article a "fragmented and

misleading polemic" but never justifies his claims.

I think if Mr. Riteman carefully read the article once more, he would notice that I clearly mention that "the word 'Islam' comes from an Arabic-root word that means peace and submission."

I think the key term to focus on there is "root word," and in fact it is related to the word salaam.

It would be ignorant to take the literal meaning of words like jihad and Islam without studying them in detail. If Mr. Riteman has any doubts, he is more than welcome to consult an Arabic expert or I can refer him to many people who have detailed knowledge about the subject.

It is interesting to note that while Mr. Riteman refers to the article as "fragmented" and a "misleading polemic," he agrees with the bottom line of the article by saying "Khan is right. Islam is not synonymous with terrorism." It seems as though he is discontented solely because he has slightly altered or deluded definitions of just two terms mentioned in the entire article.

The future of Muslims is bright. It is the fastest-spreading religion in the world even with the defaming of Islam in the media.

Gazette





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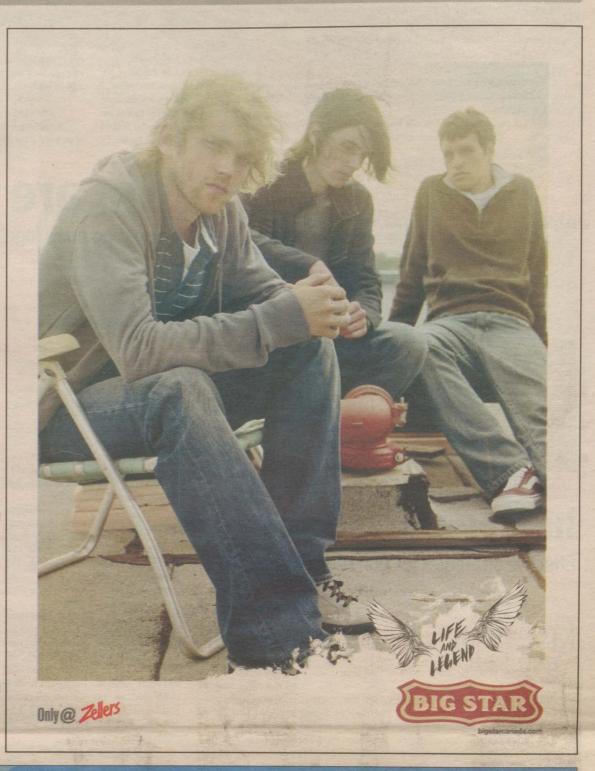
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STREETER

WHAT WEBSITE DO YOU LIKE TO WASTE TIME ON?



66 www.stuffonmycat.com because people are putting things on cats' heads and it's funny."

Jenny Cooper, fourth-year theatre



66 www.torontohemp.com. They show pictures of bongs and stuff."

Ryan McNamee, second-year management



66 www.blacksonblondes.com because I like stuff like that."

Trevor DeGeer, second-year commerce



66 my.dsu.ca because it looks bloody marvelous... I designed it!"

Chris Ide, DSUVP (Internal)



66 www.facebook.com because I stalk people."

Margaret MacKay, first-year arts



66 www.youtube.com because there are dirty videos but they don't quite show everything."

Hannah Zimmering, second-year bio



66 www.uglypeople.com"

Kate Hinan, second-year commerce Gillian Fishbyn, second-year arts (L to R)



66www.q104.ca, thong of the day baby. It's what gets me up every morning."

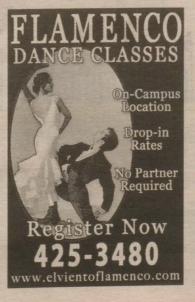
Joey Ryba, seventh-year gluteus maximus connoisseur

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TOP 10

DAL'S UNDERGRAD UNDERGROUND REALITY TOUR

- The reality is that we're undertaking under-funded underachievers... understood?
- **SCAMMING FREE THANKSGIVING DINNERS** At least somebody's parents love pity you.
- **BRITNEY SPEARS RELEASES A DISS TRACK ABOUT HUSBAND** At least somebody is listening to his "music."
- A POSSIBLE SPLIT UP OF THE PUSSYCAT DOLLS The five girls in the back finally realized that they don't actually sing anything.
- S CLUB 7 TO REUNITE Some people never learn.

A REAL FIGHT CLUB IS ALIVE AND WELL IN NEWFOUNDLAND

- The first and second rules are: Do not talk about that embarrassing Rex guy we sent to Canadian Idol.
- YAY! THE U.S. IS FINALLY ACCEPTING OUR LUMBER! Our wood's been trying to penetrate the border for sooo long...
- YARMOUTH WANTS TO BAN DOGS FROM "DEFECATING ON THE STREET" They also asked the N.S. government to please stop "defecating on Yarmouth."
- USING LSD TO TREAT ALCOHOLISM Is like trying to cure procrastination by buying an amusement park.
- JUST REMEMBER, IF YOU FAIL YOUR FIRST MIDTERM You'll never recover. Ever.

Strip hotdog eating contests Strip connect four

Sienna Miller

Turducken Tofurkey

Hugs for Thugs Hugs not Drugs

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Ciara

The Halifax Pop Explosion That other explosion that happened in Halifax

Kelis'T-Rex arms dance The lawnmower dance

Buying rare clothes online **Buying Lucy Liu's panties online**

The twins on America's Next Top Model Referring to your biceps as Mary-Kate and Ashley

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Gazette

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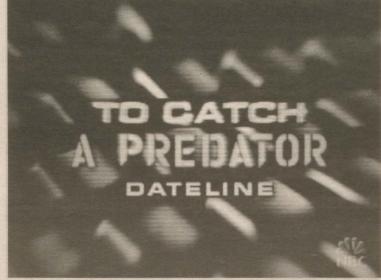
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In truth, sex offenders rank far, far below disappearances with less dramatic explanations, such as runaways or family kidnappings

Think of the children

Sensationalist reporting clouds truth about child abuse

> CATHERINE HOLLOWAY Staff Contributor

hildren seem to be in constant Uthreat. Whether it's from video game violence, Satanists, drug dealers or unsafe toys, danger lurks everywhere. It's not unreasonable for parents to have fears — for many of them, their children are more important than anything else.

But parents' fear has been exploited and abused by politicians and the media. The latest craze: Internet sexual predators.

With the recent Mark Foley scandal, in which a congressman - whose pet issue, ironically, was hunting paedophiles - had a questionable online relationship with one of his teenage pages, the spotlight shines hotter.

In his book, Media Mythmakers: How Journalists, Activists, and Advertisers Mislead Us, Benjamin Radford explores this phenomenon.

The latest peddler of the Internet predator craze is MSNBC's show To Catch a Predator, which claims to lure a would-be predator into a suburban house every episode. From this, a viewer could get the impression that predators lurk around every website and chat room on the Internet. But MSNBC's methods are deceitful. A group called Perverted Justice is responsible for bringing in the show fodder by visiting adult chat rooms pretending to be underage teenagers and inviting would-be predators to the house.

Considering how many millions of people use the Internet daily, it's not surprising that a few would be caught in such a scheme.

What's the actual danger? If you listen to the evening news, it's serious. On April 18, 2005, CBS broadcaster lill Acosta stated, "When a child is missing, chances are good it was a convicted sex offender.'

In reality, sex offenders rank far,

far below disappearances with less dramatic explanations, such as runaways or family kidnappings. ABC news reported on May 3, 2006 that one in five children is approached by online predators, a statistic pulled from a youth Internet safety survey commissioned by the National Centre for Missing Children. In the study, 1,501 Americans between the ages of 10 and 17 were asked about their online experiences.

Almost half of the sexual solicitations came from other teens. By the study's definition, something as simple as one teen asking another if he or she is a virgin was a sexual solicitation. Actual predator-type behaviour was only three per cent and most teens knew how to avoid creepy or unwanted characters.

Governments spend millions of dollars tracking sexual offenders and diverting them from public places. While some studies show that sexual offenders are no more likely to re-offend than murderers or armed robbers, such measures are not used for murderers or thieves.

Ineffective legislation is constantly added, aimed at "protecting" children. In December 2002, President Bush signed the kids.us Act that called for a safe zone on the Internet, which, it was predicted, had a "zero chance" of working.

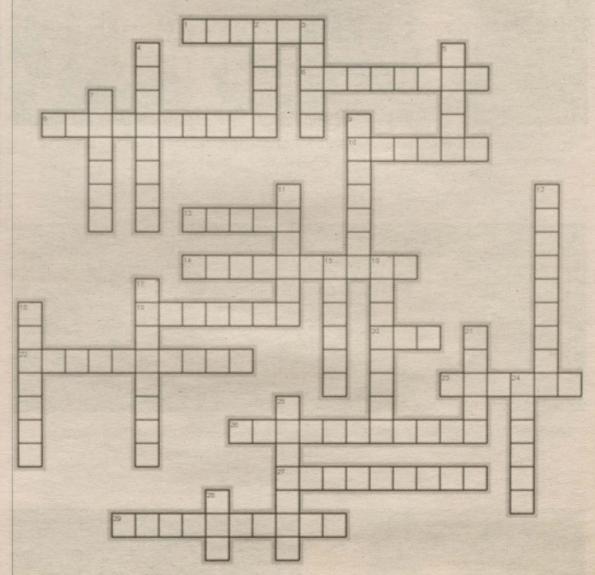
The excess spending and bureaucracy has a further negative aspect. As politicians and the mainstream media chase Internet predators and sexual offenders - the voter-friendly and viewer-attracting issues - real danger to children is ignored.

When a child is abused, it's more likely the perpetrator is a family member or someone near the child than a stranger the child met on the Internet. In the U.S., four children die a day from abuse or neglect. What TV shows are going to protect these kids?

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Dal-ifax Mix and Match

A crossword by Ted Mirsky & Adeline MacNaughton



ACROSS

Red Hot Chili Peppers frontman (6) Star of Murder She Wrote (8) To have gas; to 'fart' (10) Native Canadian herbal medication (6)

Bamboo muncher (5) Highest point in Canada (5,5) Strengthen (7)

Eggs (3) Swedish NHL captain with flowing 'locks' (10) Prime Minister's homestead, 24

Mary Anne Evans's pen name (11) Birthplace of Wayne Gretzky (9)

Mark-Paul Gosselaar's best known role (10)

DOWN

Author of Angel Square and Up to Low (5) Neither liquid nor gas (5)

Capital of Ohio (8) The (more) washed up Lindros brother (5)

Crowd, gang, mob (6) Inventor of Standard Time (7)

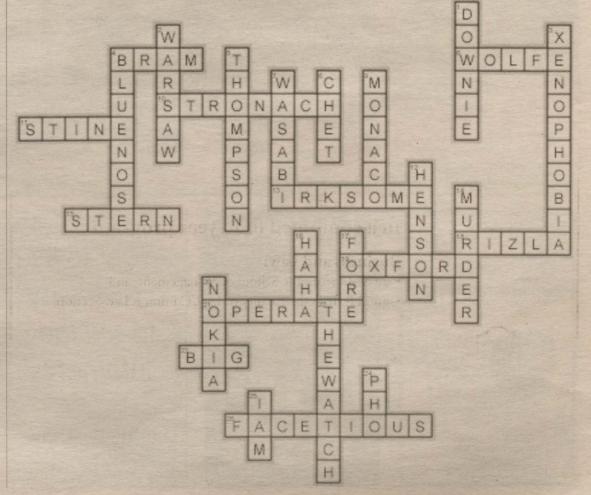
11 Beaver in French (6) Touchy (9)

International Airport (6) 15. YOW. Despotic (8) 16.

17. Capital of the United Arab Emirates (3,5) Canterbury Tales author (7) 18. 21 Ste. Marie, Ont. (5)

24. The bald Swedish NHL captain (6) Current Minister of Immigration (7) 25. 'Robie Street High' [abbr.] (3) 28.

LAST WEEK'S SOLVED



Contact: arts@dalgazette.ca

Monday, Oct. 16 @ Park Lane Theatre, 7 p.m. Monday Night Movies: Live and Become

Friday, Oct 13 @ Gus' Pub, 10 p.m., \$5 Friday Night Freakout ft. Mayor Mcca, The Maynards, The Healing Power and Benefit Party

Editors' picks of the week

DJ Olympics hit Halifax

MEGAN POWELL Staff Contributor

Halifax will host a slew of Maritime talent at the ninth annual DJ Olympics, which run from Oct. 11

DJs compete in three categories and MCs clash freestyle verses and beatbox melodies in pursuit of the title of best in the city. Last year saw strong victories from tough competitors, and this year features reigning champions alongside exciting new contestants. Some highlights and shining stars are too compelling to leave unmentioned.

At the Olympics, competition music genres are separated three categories: drum and bass/jungle, 4/4 (house, breaks, techno and trance) and hip hop.

Logan Hudak annihilated fellow contenders in the 4/4 category in 2005 and plans to bring another elaborate meal to table this year.

Phenatik (Steve Gerrard) took the drum and bass category last year, proving himself to be a hardhitting competitor. 420Jenny (Jen Carmichael), however, hopes to dethrone Gerrard with her funky, fresh style that's impressed Haligonians for several years.

The DJ Olympics also witness the return of the infamous Mathias Trouble (Mat Claridge), who hasn't participated in recent years. Claridge's dark, grimy selection of beats, sinister style and flawless mixing make him a worthy adversary, despite his hiatus.

Y-Rush (Kevin Bryden) won the hip-hop title at the 2005 DJ Olympics, as well as this year's DMC DJ Championships. He says he's watched videos and researched technical skills to up the ante. Bryden says he uses a variety of forms, but likes to veer slightly from what's popular to convey his own style.

Bryden's usual opponents won't participate this year, creating an opening for a serious challenger. Bryden says he's more self-confident, and that his biggest concerns are skipping the needle and losing concentration.

Halifax is home to many break dancers and several different crews, though matchups are randomly drawn at the Olympics. Static (Cory

SCHEDULE



Wednesday, Oct. 11 10 p.m. @ the Seahorse 4/4 and d'n'b/jungle qualifying

Thursday, Oct. 12 10 p.m. @ Rain Lounge MC and beatbox qualifying

Friday, Oct. 13 10 p.m. @ the Attic Hip hop qualifying rounds and break dancing finals

Saturday, Oct. 14 10 p.m. @ the Marquee Finals in all DJ and MC categories

LaRose) from Lokdown crew is a new competitor, but he's been breaking for years and taking it more seriously lately.

Also on the map is Koala Corp, a young crew possessing lots of attitude, aptitude and ability. Members include Toby (Michael Richard), a 2005 winner who specializes in head spins, as well as 2006 Hold Your Own champion Igrok (Igor Geshelin) and Rival (Chris Beck), who both embrace old-school moves and fast footwork.

With Phakt (Mike Washington) retiring from the MC battles, the rivalry in that section should be intense. Ghettosocks (Darren Pyper) and Quake (Matt Arab) have been closely matched for several years and rip each other to shreds in every competition. These two MCs have grown accustomed to each other's verbal abuse, which provides an extra facet of antagonism.

This four night event is an excellent opportunity to get familiar with Halifax's remarkable talent. New faces emerge from the woodwork, making the DJ Olympics both a competition and a showcase of artists. Come for the music, dancing and the enmity of egos.

Digital photography is still art

RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI Editor-in-Chief

Film photography is an ardu-ous process. It requires a lot time, energy and money. Plenty of trial and error, as well as meticulous note-taking, are necessary to achieve proper exposure. Even for a photographer with years of experience, there's always uncertainty and nervousness until the negatives are developed.

And unless you have a colourcapable darkroom, everything except for actually taking the photograph is done by someone else. Of the three steps involved - taking the picture, developing the negatives and making prints - the photographer gives up direct control over two of them.

With the advent of digital photography, however, significant changes have taken place. There's instant feedback on exposure, negating the need to spend countless hours learning the characteristics of each particular film and camera. The resulting images can be uploaded, processed and printed within hours.

And, most importantly, the artist retains full control over every step, from taking the shot to processing and printing.

The medium has changed, somewhat. Light still hits a plane. But instead of a piece of plastic coated in light-sensitive silver-halide, digital uses a piece of plastic covered with light-sensitive capaci-

But the rest remains the same. Lenses can be used on both film and digital bodies. Flash still functions the same way. Arms still shake and people still blink. The day remains bright and the night dark.

Taken at the same time from the exact same spot using identical setups and exposures, digital and film would produce the same image.

So why do some claim that digital is not as artful as film?

Perhaps there's no sacrifice. The image of the starving artist is popular in today's culture. An artist is someone who would give up even basic necessities - food, for example - for the sake of their work. And film pho-



tography as art is expensive indeed.

For example, I've taken over 18,000 frames since June this year. Divided by 36 shots per roll of film, that's 500 rolls of film. At, say, \$8 each, plus \$5 for processing, that's \$6,500 for film and processing alone. A digital camera costs more than a film camera, but not \$6,500 more. So while a film photographer may be a starving artist, a digital photographer is merely a poor one.

Perhaps the added control and feedback of digital carries with it the notion that all photographs should be spectacular. With film, one could find some excuse upon which to blame unsatisfactory results: "Oh, they processed it wrong," "I had the wrong film," "I thought the flash fired," and so on. With the instant replay and full control over every step granted by digital, such excuses serve only to diminish the photographer.

Claims that film has more "character" than digital images are also groundless. Every digital sensor responds differently to the same light conditions - an image from one camera can be just as easily distinguished from that of a different camera as two different film negatives. And, depending on the postprocessing method used, digital images can be given any "character" the photographer wishes.

It is perhaps this last step that takes away from the "artfulness" of digital photography. Digital images are easy to modify, alter and manipulate. Most digital cameras come with elementary versions of photo-editing software. With more advanced software, a skilled artist has few limits to what can't be created within the binary world of digital manipulation.

But whether an artist can manipulate an image is an entirely different story and shouldn't detract from the fact that film and digital photography can have the same result. A photograph remains a photograph and, in this respect, digital photography is undeniably art.

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Burn Baby Burn



The best and very best of the Halifax Pop Explosion

While I'm not so presumptuous as to think I've compiled the "be all and end all" of Pop Explosion lists, this one is pretty great.

Some of these bands are old favourites while others are pretty new to me and may be new to you too.

Isn't discovering new bands exciting? I think so!

For your listening pleasure, all of these songs can be found on each band's MySpace page. Pick your favourites and rock out during their shows

Everyone wins!

Smothered in Hugs - "Passmore Radio" The Weakerthans - "Aside" Pony Up - "The Truth About Cats and Dogs" Wintersleep - "Snowstorm" Tom Fun Orchestra - "Watchmaker" HOTSHOTROBOT - "Epicurean, Listen" The Bicycles - "BBBicycles" Kelly and the Kelly Girls - "Napoleon" The Holy Shroud - "Calling in Confederate Debts" The Cliks - "SUV"

SIDE B: Sama Jafarian / Arts Editor

To me, the Halifax Pop Explosion is almost better than Christmas. Such an important event deserves the best mix possible.

This is the ultimate Halifax Pop Explosion list, the be all and end all. Well, maybe not, but it's damn close — as close as you can get from MySpace pages, at least. I hate MySpace.

Great Plains - "Do the Suburban" DD/MM/YYYY - "Cancerboy on Hash" The Stance - "Hysterical Kid" The Meligrove Band - "Ages and Stages" Dog Day - "Sleeping On Couches' The Sourkeys - "We the Suckers" Holy Fuck - "Roland Rock" Mardeen - "City Lights" Wax Mannequin - "You and All Your Friends" Jenn Grant - "Don't Worry Baby"

olleen Cosgrove / Assistant Sports Editor



The Superfantastics Like Letters

Living up to the band's grandiose name, the Superfantastics' demo album, Like Letters, gives an excellent first impression and the lyrics command attention.

The band inspires memories of Athlete or the Magic Numbers and has, to a certain extent, a predictable sound. This predictability, however, is comforting and gives the band a top-40 appeal that might one day break out of the Halifax music scene.

With plenty of beat changes and a great drum and bass line paired with short and upbeat songs, Like Letters is a great 11minute listen when you find your attention span at a minimum.

The short demo disc also shows what to expect from the band's full-length album, due out in the spring of 2007.

All in all, the Superfantastics keep you listening and have a sound fitted for an enthusiastic

Saman Jafarian / Arts Editor

Coffee! I love coffee.

To me, more than anything else, coffee exemplifies the student life. It's unhealthy, it keeps you awake all night and it can involve social interaction. As I write this — late — I'm drinking coffee to keep me awake.

Good coffee on campus, however, is hard to come by and it's pissing me off.

Can someone explain to me, please, why the Coburg Coffee House has raised the price of a regular cup of coffee from \$1.75 to \$1.82? Gone are the days when one could either pocket the easy change of a quarter or slip it quietly into the tip bowl.

And why has Second Cup increased all of its cup sizes? A small is now what an old medium was and so on. While I do support an increase in caffeine intake, this is problematic on several levels.

Given the rising obesity prob-

lem in North America, this is the last thing that's needed. What used to be large, for instance, is now a medium — often called "regular." It's becoming increasingly socially acceptable to buy bigger drinks, and not just coffee.

If, like me, you enjoy a small hot chocolate every now and then, you're not only forced to pay more, but essentially to consume more too. Sure, you could stop drinking part way through, but after paying \$4 for a specialty drink, are you really going to throw it away halfway through?

To round out the coffee bitching, Second Cup and Starbucks are overpriced, Tim Horton's line ups are too long and all of their coffee

I quit coffee over the summer and I might have to again. Until then, I'm boycotting all coffeemaking venues except for my red coffeemaker at home.

Halifax Pop Explosion



Cadence Weapon KATE ROBERTSON

 ${
m R}$ ollie Pemberton, the sole member of Cadence Weapon, is a force to be reckoned with.

Staff Contributor

Hailing from Edmonton, Alta., the 20-year-old has had a good year. Pemberton's 2005 release, Breaking Kayfabe, was nominated for the Polaris Music Prize and he's performed across North America in a sold-out tour with the band Islands.

His former career as an indie music journalist is reflected on Pemberhis knowledge of musical genres to create a unique hip-hop sound. Electronic, synthesized hooks clash with heavy, booming beats that create distinct and complex rhythms, while the lyrics remain deeply rooted in the MC's experiences and

Pemberton reveals his dedication to the traditions of hip hop but surprises his audience with a fresh and welcome quality in the stagnant and disappointing realm of Canadian hip hop. His music calls to mind

less conventional rappers and producers such as Pharell, Timbaland or even Beck.

While many rappers struggle with live performances, Cadence Weapon has the enthusiasm, confidence and know-how to turn on any audience. The diversity of his style may explain why Cadence Weapon will play the Pop Explosion with guitar-oriented indie bands rather than the hip-hop showcase that occurs the night before his show.



KALEY KENNEDY Staff Contributor

hances are you haven't seen a show like the one the Bicycles put on unless you've seen them in concert before. The band plays catchy, 1960's-inspired pop tunes and has a reputation as one of the most entertaining on-stage bands in its hometown Toronto.

"We're all goofballs," says Randy Lee, the band's vocalist and bassist. "We all like to have a lot of fun when

we're on stage and when we're off." Lee says band members are often told their live show is better than their recorded material. Complete with matching outfits, life-size cutouts and music that makes the audience dance, the Bicycles' live show exemplifies the band's personality.

The Bicycles

"I don't even remember the original reason for the cutouts," says Lee. "It was probably because we just wanted more people on stage with us."

Halifax hosts the Bicycles for two shows during the Pop Explosion, including an all-ages show at the Pavilion for younger fans. The shows will act as a launch for an East Coast tour that brings the band back to Halifax

The band is promoting its debut album, The Good, The Bad and The Cuddly, which the band spent four years working on before its release in May 2006.

Despite delays with its release, Lee says he thinks everyone is happy with the album, though he says fans should expect some differences between the live show and the recorded material.

"What we recorded four years ago is a lot different from what you'll hear now," he says. "We're ready to work on the next one for sure."



Memphis

COLLEEN COSGROVE Assistant Sports Editor

Acredibility check of the duo Memphis doesn't have to look far. Torquil Campbell and Chris Dumont share their stage and musical influences to create a unique sound.

A current singer in the band Stars, Campbell isn't new to fame or national tours. Campbell met Dumont, an alleged former carousel operator in 2003 in New York. The pair soon became friends and Memphis was born.

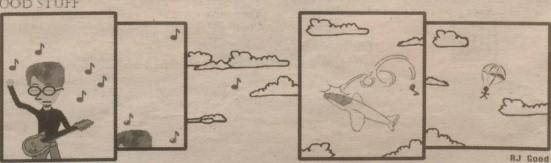
The music of Memphis is difficult to peg and, for lack of an actual category, is often described as "folktronica." Campbell says much of his inspiration comes from music he grew up with, such as the British pop of the 1970's and 1980's, which is known for its electric beat.

Stars influences and remnants appear throughout Memphis' new-

est album, Little Place in the Wilderness, but swooning guitars and steady electronic beats give the band a unique sound. The band's lyrics spawn from everyday experiences and a good sense of humour.

Campbell describes his songwriting influences as two parts New Order, one part Beautiful South and one teaspoon of Lou Reed, all stirred with some sexual perversity and a few good jokes.

GOOD STUFF



Halifax Pop Explosion



Maximum RNR

JEN BOND Staff Contributor

During its beginnings in late 2000, Toronto-based hardcore punk-infused rock quintet Maximum RNR was known as Maximum RNB. Unfortunately, the obscure reference to the Who was lost on many talent bookers and, much to the chagrin of concert-goers, the band was consistently billed as a rhythm and blues act.

Finally, after bending to the pressure, Maximum RNR was born.

The band's official bio reads like a laundry list of punk-rockers, professing to be influenced by artists such as SNFU, NoMeansNo and Furnaceface and to "[sound] kinda like Motorhead, Discharge, Zeke, The Hookers, Speedealer, Black Flag and Nashville Pussy."

Refusing to subscribe to the idea that Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver are the ultimate in rock 'n' roll of the great white north, the band prefers to play in less-frequented Canadian rock cities such as Saskatoon and Edmonton. Keeping with this mantra, Maximum RNR will arrive in Halifax on Oct. 20 to play a Pop Explosion show at the Attic.

The band admits that its driving rock is not for everyone. A little too rock to fit into the punk scene, but

a little too punk to fit into the hardcore metal scene, Maximum RNR endeavours to carve its own niche and find a following that appreciates its trademark style.

The band's marketing scheme is also part of its style. It shuns the idea that a band's debut album should be a CD comprised of every song it has ever written, which will often only be cast into oblivion soon after. Instead, Maximum RNR opted to release a series of 7" vinyls as its debut to the rock 'n' roll scene and have since released two CDs, each with six or seven tracks each — exemplifying the ideal that less truly is more.



Great Lake Swimmers

KARYN HAAG
Arts Contributor

With a song titled "Songs for the Angels," Great Lake Swimmers will be right at home throughout its set at St. Matthew's Church during the Halifax Pop Explosion.

Born and raised in the Niagara region of southern Ontario, Tony Dekker is the sole member of Great Lake Swimmers, though he's joined on stage by a collection of musicians. Dekker sees his moniker as a way of removing the focus on him as a singer/songwriter.

Great Lake Swimmers is not a pop or rock group. The melodic music it produces drips with nostalgia that floats a listener off to more peaceful times. The lyrics, however, are soaked with emotion, sadness, heartache and happiness — all complimented by Dekker's melancholic voice. Don't be discouraged though. The feelings these songs give off are nothing depressing.

The album Bodies and Minds was recorded in a church in Ontario, while Dekker's self-titled debut album was recorded in an abandoned grain silo. These exotic locations

provide favourable results, such as a cricket chirping on the first CD and a latent feeling of the recording's expansive surroundings on the band's latest album.

With comparisons to Nick Drake, Neil Young and Elliott Smith, Great Lake Swimmers is accessible to nearly every demographic. From young hipsters to life-long listeners, all are sure to leave St. Matthews with warm feelings and no regrets.

No other venue could be more appropriate for the melodic offerings of Great Lake Swimmers and its peacefully saddened disposition.

In Review...

Anu Jindal / Staff Contributor



Four Tet Remixes

Unlike musicians who see a remix simply as an opportunity to tack their name onto the end of a given song title, Four Tet's sole member Kieren Hebden makes the remix an art form unto itself on his latest album, Four Tet Remixes.

A far cry from the cold, rapid-fire glitches of such electronica pioneers as Aphex Twin, Four Tet has always strived towards a meeting point of the electronic and organic. Pinning down the elusive sounds Hebden ekes out becomes an exercise for the imagination — I would describe one such sound as a giant wind chime made of rows of metal cooking pots half-filled with water.

Along with other signature noises, Hebden plays on the tension between the organic and electronic by choosing material that fits under one category or the other and then pushing it the opposite way.

Nowhere is this approach more successful than in remixes of two Madvillain tracks. In "Money Folder," Hebden uses an almost video game-sounding synthesizer loop and live drum backbeat to lockstep with the rhythmic cadences of MF Doom's vocals. Despite its streamlined bareness, Hebden's production is far rawer and more propulsive than that of the already excellent original.

The second Madvillain track on *Remixes*, "Great Day Today," is more contemplative than its predecessor, with its crackling washes of heavily filtered acoustic guitars, but like "Money Folder," Hebden's various innovations still mesh perfectly with the lyrics.

The greatest surprise on Remixes, however, is not that Hebden's organic/electronic hybrids are so successful, but that most of the tracks are actually better than their antecedents. "Carmella" crackles with far more exuberance than the Beth Orton original and Sia's "Breathe Me" wears its heartache audibly thanks to the cloudbursts of drums and various other flourishes Hebdon imbuses.

Four Tet Remixes not only sets the standard for remixes to come but also affirms the remix can stand alone as a work of art.

Report Card

EL VIENTO FLAMENCO WITH SYMPHONY NOVA SCOTIA

Rebecca Cohn Auditorium / Thursday, Oct. 5 / Reporter: Anna Fond



Stage presence: A Audience reaction: A-Sound: A Get-it-on-Ability: B+ Glad-I-went-ness: A-

Entering the Rebecca Cohn on Thursday, I felt a bit out of place. I was younger than most of the crowd and one of the only people there alone. But that was forgotten once the show started.

As Symphony Nova Scotia and the El Viento Flamenco Spanish music and dance group took turns performing, I felt as though I was listening to a Spanish version of Disney's Fantasia.

Unfortunately, the Cohn's sitting-only auditorium isn't the best place to participate in a performance. One audience member, however, got around this hurdle by clapping and re-enacting some of the tapping moves during the intermission.

Both Maral Perk and Megan Matheson danced beautifully with the accompaniment of Bob Sutherby and Tony Tucker. Singer Sean Harris's voice can only be described as mesmerizing. But the highlight of the evening was dancer Evelyne Benais, who tapped her feet at a speed comparable to that of the Roadrunner.

As expected, the Cohn's acoustics were amazing. My only complaint of the night is that I was tired to begin with and almost dozed off when the orchestra played its mellower sets.

But the energy from El Viento Flamenco definitely kept me awake and the temperature in the theatre increased from their electrifying moves. Lasting about two hours, the show included a standing ovation and encore performance from El Viento Flamenco.

MASSIVE BRAIN

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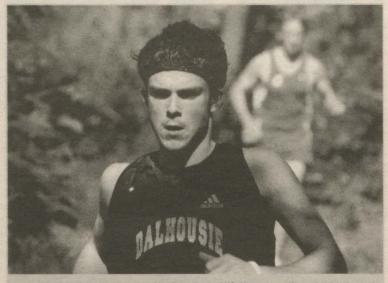
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Gazette Gazette

Gazette

Gazette



John Corbit has been wreaking havoc in the AUS this season. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Tigers dominate cross-country meet

JOEY RYBA Sports Editor

It was all Dal on a sunny Saturday afternoon at Point Pleasant Park as the men's and women's cross-country teams won the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) cross-country event.

On the women's side, Dal's Janice Ashworth made her 2006 season debut. The standout runner won the 5-km race with a time of 18 minutes and 38 seconds — 19 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher.

Ashworth says she was a bit anxious because the meet, hosted by Dal, was her first of the season. The Donrobin, Ont., native says she thinks the race went well and was happy to run with her team.

"I always want to make sure I have a good time and get in the right head space for the rest of the season and enjoy being out there with my team," says Ashworth. "The team thing is what we were kind of focusing on today, bringing everyone up so everyone's having a good time and doing the best they can."

Coach Dan Hennigar says Ashworth had a good race, despite the veteran's anxiety.

"I think she had a lot of nerves coming in and surprisingly for somebody's who's been to the world championships twice," says Hennigar. "[Ashworth] has been on a different time line all season and as I said from the start, don't expect to see the best from her until [the national championship]."

Tiger Caroline McInnes also had a good race. The law student, who's been battling illness since early September, gave a good effort and is poised to deliver at the upcoming meet at Laval University, says Hennigar.

On the men's side, Russell Christie, the first-place finisher, gained a huge lead early in the race and didn't look back. The Petrolia, Ont., native finished the 7.5-km run in 23 minutes and 28 seconds, which was 46 seconds ahead teammates John Corbit and Robert Jewer, who followed him over the finish line.

Christie says it felt good to win the race. It was his first win in three years and was a long time coming, he says.

"[Hennigar] told me to take it easy for the first lap-and-a-half and then maybe pick it up a little," says Christie. "I felt really good off the start and I didn't decide to go, it just happened. I won the race and it was a little unexpected."

Hennigar says Chrisitie has run well in workouts all season and the first-year Tiger's performance on the course was nothing out of the ordinary.

"Today he just got out there, got in a rhythm and never looked back, that's the way he runs," says Hennigar. "I don't think today was an exceptional day for [Christie]. Today was just [Christie], he's that good."

Dal runners Corbit and Jewer finished second and third overall. Hennigar says the Tiger sweep of the top spots was unexpected.

Currently, the teams are gearing up for the AUS cross-country championship on Oct. 28 at St. F.X. Both Tiger teams look great headed into the AUs and it will be a "dogfight" between Dal and St. F.X. for the championship, says Hennigar.

"I think the [St. F.X.] teams are the strongest teams we've ever seen from them," he says. "We've got teams that can challenge, but they're going to have their work cut out for them for sure and that's what makes it exciting."

Dal looks for playoff spot

JOEY RYBA Sports Editor

The Tigers men's hockey team is set to take to the ice for another season in the fast-paced, hard-hitting Atlantic University Hockey Conference (AUHC) with three new players who are former National Hockey League draft picks.

Mathieu Melanson, Jordan Morrison and Josh Disher will play an important role in the 2006/2007 season.

Melanson had 42 goals with the Quebec Remparts of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) in 2005/2006. The former Minnesota Wild draft pick will play on the second line and see time on the power play.

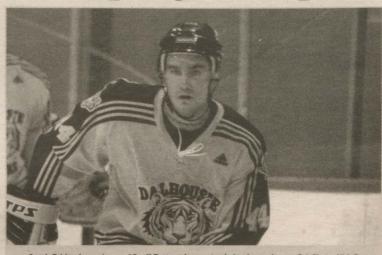
Morrison is a late addition to the team. The former Pittsburgh Penguins draftee scored 31 goals for the Peterborough Petes in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) last season. The skilled forward will likely centre the second line.

Former New Jersey Devils prospect Josh Disher anchors the Tigers in goal. The rookie netminder is fast and handles the puck well. He played the past three seasons for the OHL's Erie Ottors

Coach Fabian Joseph says veterans Jimmy Cuddihy, Tom Zanoski, Neil Smith and Maxim Lessard need to have a good season for the team to be successful.

"Those are the guys who have to make sure the attitude is right and that everybody is on the same page in terms of getting to where we want to go," says Joseph.

Cuddihy and Zanoski, who are skilled, offensive forwards, play on the top line. The Tigers will look upon the two vets to generate scoring chances and put the puck in the net.



Coach Fabian Joeseph says, "Geoff Patton plays a steady hard-nosed game." / Photo: Nick Pearce

Lessard and Smith provide the Tigers with leadership on and off the ice. Smith is a rugged defenceman who will log ice time in all situations. Lessard is a mainstay on the penalty kill and can also chip in with some goals.

Joseph says new recruit Jeff Larsh will add a lot to the team in terms of work ethic. The power forward played last season with the OHL's St. Michael's Majors. The gritty right winger will play alongside Cuddihy and Zanoski on the first line.

Geoff Patton, a third-year blue liner, will also play a key role on the team in terms of skill and leadership.

"He plays a steady, hardnosed game and we expect him to continue along that vein," says Joseph. "He's the type of kid who works really hard and has a good attitude when it comes to the rink. It kind of rubs off on guys because he'll do whatever it takes to win and you can't have enough of those guys around."

Patton says teamwork and commitment are key elements for the Tigers to focus on in order to have a successful season. He says the team chemistry is good.

"Compared to last year, the guys seem to be a little more tight around the [locker] room, away from the arena, and especially on the ice," says Patton. "The guys seem to be clicking really well."

The veteran rear guard says the team has to work hard every game and every practice to make the playoffs.

Joseph says the players are showing a big commitment, working hard and there's a really good feeling in the room this year.

The Tigers missed the playoffs in the past two seasons. Joseph says the team is focusing on discipline, defence, penalty killing and its power play to get back to the post-season.

"We have to have really good special teams," says Joseph. "We have to have excellent goaltending and we have to play really well defensively. If we do that, we're going to give ourselves an opportunity to win most games."

Holla ata playa

JESSE MIGHTON
Sports Contributor

Holla! Welcs to the 3rd ed, when we get down 2 the serious m@

2day we TXT w/ **Geoff Patton** 3rd yr Hockey *, and MGMT Mjr.

Let's get N2 it!

What was the 1st team u played 4? Central Ontario Wolves when I was 6. G%d squad.

How long after that til ur 1st scrap? I was abt 14... I 1, obv. I remember abt 10 ^cuts, then him falling down.

Patton, ur the team tuff guy. What makes u so tuff...guy?

I'm 1 of them...we have a few. Nothing really mAks me tuff...I just like 2

What is the @mosFER like in the dressing r%m this season?

Its gr8... guys are all getting along well... we seem 2 have gr8 team chem.

Is this the team 2 get the +ive results 1nce again?
Yes 4 sure.

Kwik Hitz: 2day's Topic >>>Body Art

Piercings: u got NE?
Sure don't. My old man always said it better come out as fast as it went in lil intimid8ing

What is the most un4tun8 ta2 u've

heard of?

Boxing gloves on a kangar% of 1 team (St. Mike's) and he got traded to a new team the next week (Owen Sound).

Nip ring or Face Tat2: most intimid-8ing l%k?

Face tats, no doubt

If u got a huge rapper chain, what w%d it sA?

W%d never put 1 on... but if I HAD 2, I'd get "live it like it's ur last"

1 4 The Road

Tell us the BA6 of laying a gr8 body check:

Skate as hard and as fast as u can... put ur head down and giver ur all.

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Workshops

Job Search Strategies Find out about "The Hidden Job Market"

Oct 12 12:30 - 1:30 pm SUB, Room 302

Interview Preparation
Learn how to present yourself confidently in any interview.

Oct 17 12:30 - 1:30

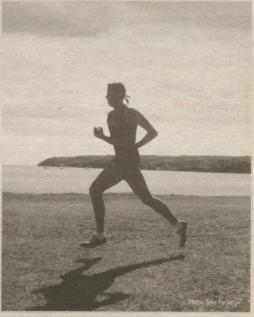






Both Dal's men's and women's teams finished first at the crosscountry meet at Point Pleasant















Athletes of the week



JANICE ASHWORTH CROSS-COUNTRY







RUSSELL CHRISTIE CROSS-COUNTRY

Christie took an early lead in the cross-country race on Oct. 7 and tion. Serving notice that he may be among the top university runners in the country, Christie came in an outstanding 46 seconds ahead of the second-place runner in the 7.5km race at Point Pleasant Park. The transfer student led a Tiger sweep of the top three individual finishes, helping secure first place for Dal by a 25-point margin. Christie is a first-year pharmacy student from



Volunteer Meetings Every Monday at 5:30, Room 312, Dal SUB





SUNDAY, OCTOBER

STU @ DAL MONTREAL @ DAL SWIM @ DAL UPEI @ DAL UPEI @ DAL LAURIER @ DAL UPEI @ DAL MONTREAL @ DAL YORK @ DAL

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WBB, 11:00 AM

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Dalendar

Send your Dalhousie related events to: dalendar@dalgazette.ca (FREE)

Thursday, Oct 12 Zero Stress and Anxiety — The **Buddhist Way**

7 p.m. @ Aldernay Gate Public Library Part of the Buddhist Talks series with senior Kadampa student **Duncan Gillis** www.meditateinhalifax.org

Friday, Oct. 13

Men's hockey, Dal vs Saint Thomas 7 p.m. @ Dal Arena Free with Dal ID

Gaining Control — A Buddhist Approach

7 p.m. @ Dal SUB, room 307 Part of the Buddhist Talks series with senior Kadampa student **Duncan Gillis** www.meditateinhalifax.org

Friday Film Screening 12 p.m. @ 5 p.m. @ The Grawood

This Friday catch, Superman Returns

Rock it Out at the Grawood, featuring Folds of Policy and the Tyler Shea band

9 p.m. @ The Grawood Come dressed in your best Rocker gear and don't forget to bring your entourage. Over \$750 in prizes for best Rock Star, best Groupie, best entourage, best Boy Band, etc. to give away. This event is wet-dry.

Saturday, Oct. 14 Women's soccer, Dal vs UPEI

1 p.m. @ Wickwire Field Free with Dal ID

Men's soccer, Dal vs UPEI

3 p.m. @ Wickwire Field Free with Dal ID

Men's hockey, Dal vs UPEI

Dal Arena @ 7 p.m Free with Dal ID

An introduction to Buddhist Healing Methods

10 a.m. @ Universalist Unitarian Church Part of the Buddhist Talks series with senior Kadampa student **Duncan Gillis** www.meditateinhalifax.org

Sunday, Oct. 15

Sunday Night Comedy

8 p.m. @ Ginger's Tavern Halifax's best weekly comedy show, featuring sketch, stand-up and

Shameless: The Art of Disability

1 p.m. @ Room 303, Dalhousie SUB A film about art, activism and disability, wth guest speaker Catherine Frazeee.

Thursday, Oct. 19 Dalhousie Fast-a-thon

6 p.m. @ SMU McNally Auditorium The Muslim students of SMU and Dal are organizing this annual event. Register with us and fast from Dawn to Sunset. All particpants are invited to come to the McNally Auditorium to break the fast.

Friday, Oct. 20

Donna Morrissey reading

1:30 p.m. @ Killam Library University Archives & Special Collections Reading Room

Winner of the 2005 "Canada Reads" contest this Halifax-based writer will be giving a special reading.

The Bears

10 p.m. @ The Gradhouse Fundraiser for the Dalhousie German Society, come out and support Deutsch.

CSPWC Atlantic Associates' Juried Watercolour Show

7 p.m. @ Nova Scotias Public Archives Watercolours galore!

Classifieds

Room Mate WANTED

Single parent seeks other single parent or mature student(s) to share house in Halifax, as close to Dal/ St. M's as possible. Gay friendly, drummer friendly. Shared use of kitchen etc., as well as 12' trampoline and musical instruments (key board, drum kit etc.). Pet friendly.

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237-2492, marko@istar.ca

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