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139-18 / January 25th - January 31st, 2007

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Gazette



RAZED TO THE GROUND

**DAL PROPOSES CAMPUS MAKEOVER,
GRAD HOUSE FIRST TO GO PG.3-5**

JARED TAYLOR PROFITS FROM PROTESTERS PG.8

MITCHELL CUSHMAN TRIUMPHS PG.12

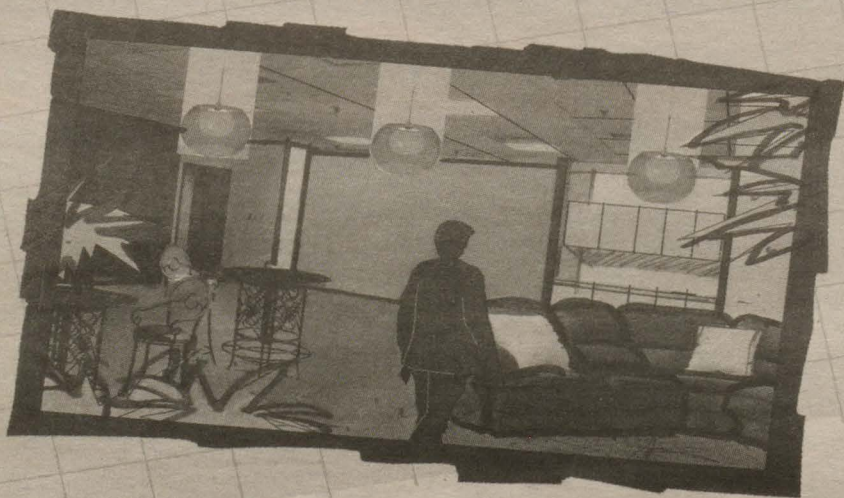
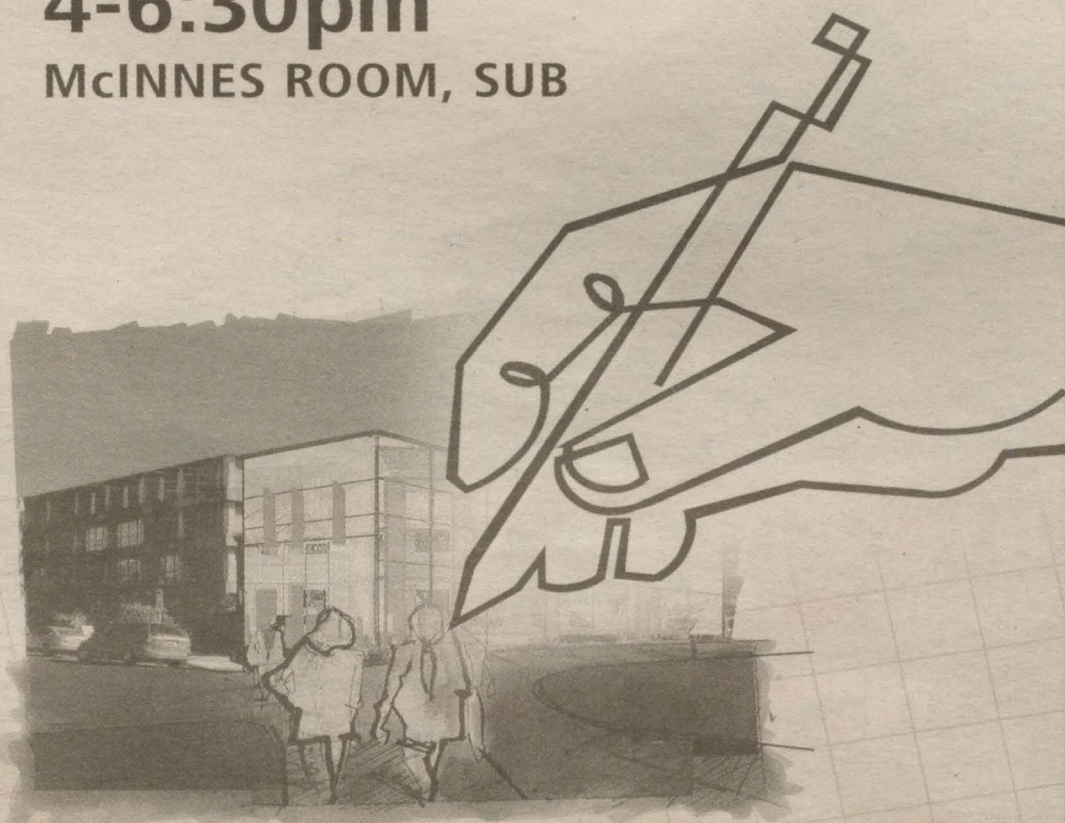
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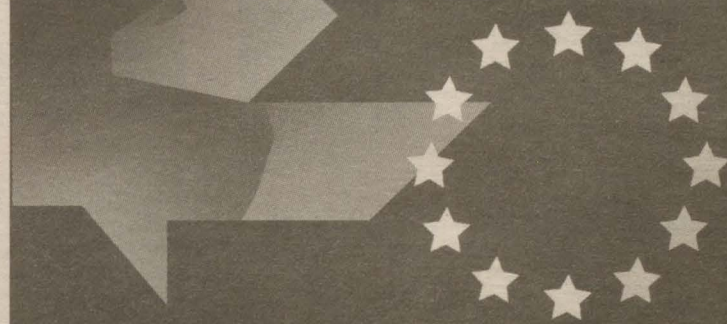
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GAZETTE STAFF

THE FINE PRINT

Editor-in-Chief
Rafal Andronowski
editor@dalgazette.ca

Copy Editor
Jess McDiarmid
copy@dalgazette.ca

News Editors
Reid Southwick
Katie May
news@dalgazette.ca

Opinions Editor
Li Dong
opinions@dalgazette.ca

Arts & Culture Editors
Laura Trethewey
Ashleigh Gaul
arts@dalgazette.ca

Sports Editors
Joey Ryba
Colleen Cosgrove
sports@dalgazette.ca

Photo Editor
John Packman
photo@dalgazette.ca

Office Manager
Barry Knight
office@dalgazette.ca

Art Director
Susan Maroun
layout@dalgazette.ca

Sextant Editor
Jean-Francois Nowlan
sextant@dal.ca

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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 Gazette 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 Gazette are signed and represent the opinions of the writer(s), not necessarily those of The Gazette staff, Editorial Board, publisher, or Dalhousie University.

CONTACTING US

6136 University Avenue info@dalgazette.ca
Halifax, Nova Scotia www.dalgazette.ca
B3H 4J2

General Inquiries Advertising Inquiries
(902) 494 - 2507 (902) 494 - 6532
advertising@dalgazette.ca

CONTRIBUTORS FOR THIS ISSUE

All contributions in this issue of The Gazette were made by the staff listed above and the following contributors: **Iain Renouf, Kaley Kennedy, John Hillman, Andrew Bernardo, Catherine Holloway, Mitchell Cushman, Laura Berton, Aly Coy, Jen Bond, Valerie de Grandis, and Hugh Wallace.**

The next contributor meeting will take place January 15th at 5:30 p.m. in Room 312 of the Dalhousie SUB. 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.

The choice is yours

Informed vote paramount in upcoming referendum

REID SOUTHWICK
News Editor

In the 1960s, Dalhousie students dug deep to help fund the construction of the Student Union Building. The \$3.7-million project cost students \$10 per year in the early part of the decade and rose to \$20 after they voted in favour of a fee increase in a 1967 referendum.

But student fees weren't the only source of funding for the project. The Board of Governors earmarked a portion of the university's fundraising campaign for the building while the province issued a \$2.7-million self-liquidating loan. Students raised another \$5,000 by canvassing local residents and businesses, holding a dance and staging a variety show.

The project, which was finally completed in 1968, emerged out of student need for space. Until then, residence common rooms and a rundown canteen were the only areas on campus where students could meet between classes.

The results of the referendum that made construction possible speak volumes about the level of demand. Roughly 82 per cent of the student body cast ballots in the 1960 referendum that saw 90 per cent voting in favour of increasing student fees. All of those students likely graduated before construction was complete.

This March, the university will ask students to approve a more ambitious project.

The administration wants to construct three new buildings, renovate seven others and revamp the section of University Avenue between LeMarchant and Seymour streets. Officials expect the project would cost \$25 million and be ready for the fall semester of 2009. Students would then start paying \$10 more per course.

This means that even if the large-scale project meets its target completion date, which is unlikely, only undergraduate students currently enrolled in their first of a four-year program would be able to use the new facilities. The chances for these students to enjoy the buildings they funded, however, are much greater than those awarded to students who footed the bill for the SUB.

A major roadblock the university will face in capturing the majority of student votes lies in the concept



of the proposal. Students must approve all 11 projects before construction can begin. Those in favour of all but one plan, for example, will be forced to vote against the entire proposal.

The removal of the Grad House in place of a much larger space could prove to be one such roadblock. The building is a central meeting place for all students and offers a more intimate atmosphere than the proposed four-storey structure that would stand in its place. Or so the argument goes.

A second major challenge the university must confront is convincing students that it's in their interests to invest in new buildings while existing ones require massive repairs.

For its part, Dal is currently in discussions with the province and other universities to develop a facilities renewal fund that will help rein in what university officials call a "crisis."

But students should ask themselves if the campus makeover proposal is in step with their priorities. If the students who come after us are going to dish out \$25 million, should they have a mix of presumably impressive new buildings and old decrepit ones?

Should we really hang our hopes on government promises, or should

we take responsibility for the current "crisis" and pay the piper before it's too late?

On the other hand, Dal wants to grow. Officials aim to boost current enrolment to 17,000 students by 2010, and the new recruits will need a place to study and socialize on campus. More importantly for the university, expanded space for students would serve as a key marketing tool to attract prospective students.

Added to this, the administration wants to attract more alumni money to significantly boost its endowment fund to pay for future scholarships and bursaries. The new spaces would give Dal an edge to bring in that funding.

In other words, the proposal can be viewed as a long-term investment. If the buildings can help Dal reach its enrolment targets, the administration's coffers would swell with extra tuition funds, giving finance officials the ability to decrease tuition, fix old buildings or boost its student assistance funds.

A larger endowment fund would help the university achieve similar goals.

In the mean time, students would have more space to socialize and study. But they, and only they, would have to pay for it.

The university is couching the proposal with a commitment to reduce tuition fees by the 2007 fall semester. This, however, also hinges on the hopes that government will make good on promises it's made to university officials.

Regardless of your current opinions of the proposal, you have the opportunity, and perhaps responsibility, to inform yourself of every aspect of the debate in the coming months before the March referendum.

The Gazette will do its part to inform that debate through our news coverage and the open forum of the opinions section. I encourage all students, faculty, alumni, staff and senior administrators to write us with their arguments for and against the proposal.

Every member of the university community can and should play a role in that debate.

Will students fund an expanded campus like they did for the SUB? The choice is yours.

CORRECTIONS

On the cover of issue 139-17, we mistakenly misspelled Gypsophilla. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

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University proposes campus makeover, students to pay

Katie May
Assistant News Editor

Dalhousie wants students to put up \$25 million to introduce major changes to all three campuses.

The university is proposing the construction of 11 new leisure and study spaces for students, with projects ranging from simple renovations to replacing entire buildings. The plans would also redesign the section of University Avenue between LeMarchant and Seymour streets.

The Dalhousie Student Union will run a referendum on behalf of the university in early March that will ask students to pay \$10 more for each course over a 20- to 30-year period to fund the projects.

If the referendum passes, the university will take out a \$25-million loan and start construction as early as this summer. The administration will begin withdrawing the fees from students' accounts when the plans are complete, which officials expect to be in the fall of 2009.

Both the DSU and the university will hold a series of consultations with students to provide them with further details of the proposal and ask them for ideas on how to internally design the 11 sites.

The DSU will hold the first event, "Imagine 07," on Jan. 31.

"Both undergraduate and graduate students have long told us that we don't have enough study space on campus," says Dal President Tom Traves. "We don't have the right kinds of study space."

Traves says the large-scale proposal will benefit all students and enhance Dal's image.

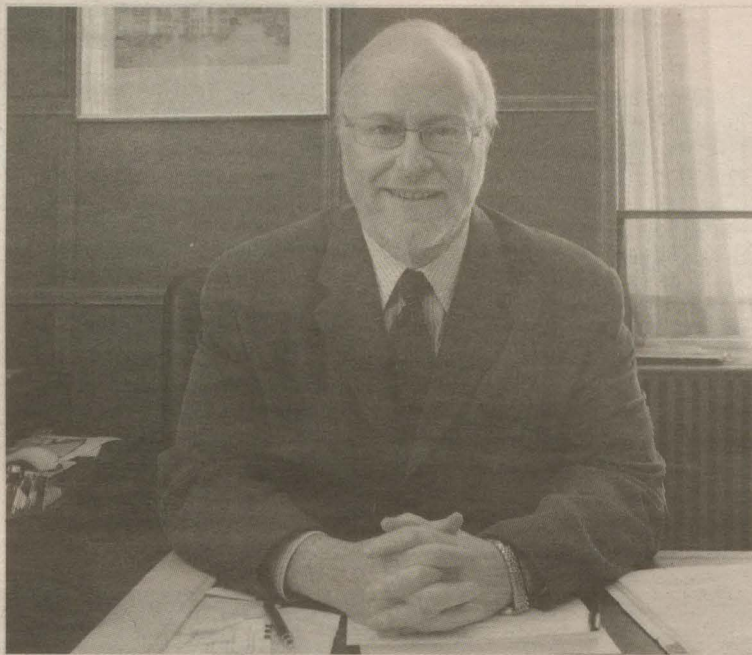
"Essentially this is about creating a legacy for students at Dalhousie over a long period of time," he says. "I don't think at the end of the day the money should be a big issue for anybody."

DSU President Ezra Edelstein, however, expects the proposal will face some opposition.

"Anytime you're asking students for more money, it's not always welcomed," says Edelstein. "It will be challenging to get the referendum to pass, but I think that this has a lot of potential."

The proposal features plans to renovate several student lounges and construct three new buildings across campus.

The largest project would see a new "learning centre" stretch from the Student Union Building to Le-



Dalhousie President Tom Traves says the large-scale proposal will benefit all students and enhance Dal's image. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Marchant Street. The four-storey, 5,500 square metre building would cost roughly \$16 million.

Edelstein says the plans will resonate with the entire student body.

"The neat thing about the project is that it directly benefits pretty much every student on campus," he says. "Every student has some sort of personal connection to it."

But none of the plans would fix any of the existing campus buildings in need of repair, such as the Life Sciences Centre and the Dalhousie Arts Centre.

Jamie Blasina, president of the Dalhousie Arts and Social Sciences Society, says building maintenance needs to be a top priority for the university.

"New buildings are certainly needed," he says. "I don't question the validity or the necessity of the plan; however, I don't think it's complete."

The need for more student space isn't as urgent as the need for facility repairs, says Blasina, adding that the university should place more focus on renovating current buildings.

But Traves says maintenance is a separate spending priority that will be funded with government money "the minute there are funds in place."

Changes to campus infrastructure affect the majority of students, which is why the university is asking students to pay an extra fee, says Traves.

If the administration tried to

fund the project with alumni donations or private contributions, it could take years before students would have new buildings.

"We probably could just go about this and just increase tuition fees and not ask anybody," Traves says. "But we think this is something in which students should have some input because, fundamentally, it's about student preference."

While both Traves and Edelstein say they're confident most students recognize the need for new student space on campus, not everyone wants more places to study and socialize.

Allie Bell, a second-year English student, says she isn't very concerned with the amount of student areas on campus. She doesn't think many other students will support the proposal either, she says.

"There are tons of nooks and crannies in these buildings," she says. "There is student space right now and to add more, though an excellent concept, is just not going to work."

A first-year theatre student who transferred to Dal from Carleton University says she doesn't think Dal has less space for students than her previous university.

"I don't think people are using the space to their advantage," says Samantha Bambrick.

"If I voted [in the referendum], I'd probably vote against it."

Dal to destroy Grad House

REID SOUTHWICK
News Editor

The university's campus makeover plan would see the Grad House razed to the ground.

A four-storey, 5,580 square metre "learning centre" would stretch from the Student Union Building to LeMarchant Street, replacing one of Dalhousie's oldest buildings.

The proposal is part of the university's major construction plan that must be approved in a student referendum this March before construction can begin.

But the bid to remove the Grad House has been met with heated opposition across campus, raising concerns that graduate students will no longer have their own space.

A representative of the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS), the group that has operated the Grad House since 1975, says grads would face a "significant loss" if the proposal is approved.

"The [DAGS] council feels strongly that if these plans go ahead and we do lose the Grad House, it will be a significant loss to graduate students," says council chair Andre Arsenault. "We're currently in discussions with [Dal President] Tom Traves to ensure that graduate students get an adequate replacement."

Traves says the university will destroy the Grad House even if the March referendum doesn't pass. He says the building needs roughly \$750,000 in repairs, a cost the administration is not prepared to pay.

"That space is not sustainable," says Traves. "It has to come down, if not tomorrow, two years from now, three years from now."

Traves says the university will help graduate students raise funds to buy and renovate another house near campus to replace the Grad House. He says the "learning centre" the university wants to build at the current site will double the amount

of space already available for grads.

An undergraduate student, however, says the Grad House is more than a simple meeting place for a small group of the student body.

"I have fond memories of going to the Grad House and having drinks with my professors," says Chris Rauscher, a fourth-year classics student. "I can't see my Greek professor meeting me for a beer at the Grawood. If they tear down the Grad House, there's not going to be that common ground."

Rauscher says the university's recent construction projects have resulted in large and impersonal buildings, including the arts and social sciences and computer science buildings. He says the Grad House offers a more welcome alternative.

"It bridges the whole community; it bridges the divide between professors and undergraduates. Everybody can go there and feel welcome," says Rauscher. "I'd rather give away all of the proposed \$25 million in new space to keep the Grad House."

News of the university's plans for the building prompted a student to start a Facebook group titled "Save the Grad House." At press time, the group had roughly 450 members, though some of them support the plans.

Rauscher says he'll wait until he attends "Imagine 07," a public consultation on the proposal to be held by the Dalhousie Student Union on Jan. 31, before he tries to formally organize an opposition movement.

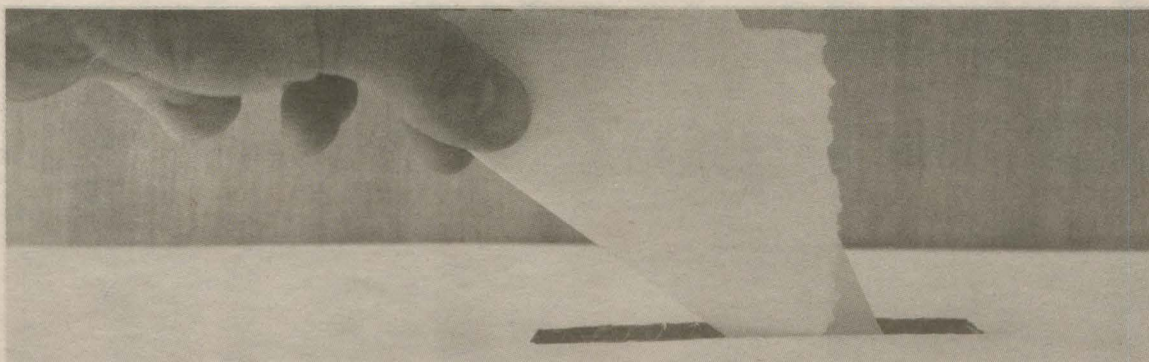
"The only way to succeed is to show that there is a large number of people that value the Grad House," he says. "We have to find a way, either through a petition or through some other kind of forum to show the administration that [the Grad House] is viable and that there are a large number of students that use it."

DAGS will hold a public meeting with Traves on Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 302 of the SUB to discuss the proposal.



Dalhousie wants to build a four-storey building that stretches from the SUB to LeMarchant Street. The above image is not the proposed design. / Source: Dalhousie Student Union

NAME	LOCATION	SIZE	DESCRIPTION
LEARNING CENTRE	Corner of University Ave. and LeMarchant St., Sexton Campus	5,580 sq metres	A new building with one-third more space for student activities.
PROMENADE	University Ave., Sexton Campus	-----	One narrow lane to replace the existing boulevard between the SUB and the McCain Building.
STUDENT STUDIO /WORKSHOP	Morris St.	810 sq metres	A two-storey building with meeting rooms and lounges on the upper level and garages for architecture and engineering students on the lower level.
LINK	Between the Henry Hicks Building and the Life Sciences Centre, Sexton Campus	-----	An atrium-style link in which students can sit, socialize and study.
LEARNING COMMONS	Sexton Memorial Gym, Sexton Campus	-----	Renovation of the common room to make more computer stations and group study space.
STUDENT, FACULTY AND ALUMNI LOUNGE	Sexton Campus	-----	Lounge renovation would include more furniture and food services.
TUPPER BUILDING STUDENT LOUNGE	Carleton Campus	-----	Renovation of medical students' lounge.
TUPPER BUILDING CAFÉ AREA	Carleton Campus	-----	Refurbishment of the small sitting room beside Charles' Café.
DENTISTRY STUDENT LOUNGE	Carleton Campus	-----	Student lounge renovation.
HEALTH PROFESSIONS STUDENT LOUNGE	Dentistry Building, Carleton Campus	-----	Lounge renovation to include more study space and computer facilities for health professions students.
LAW STUDENT LOUNGE	Weldon Law Building, Studley Campus	-----	Renovation of the second-floor lounge.



A small number of students could decide that the entire student body will pay extra fees for the proposed campus makeover. / Photo: Rafal Andronowski

Vote binding regardless of turnout

AIN RENOUF
News Contributor

An upcoming referendum that will ask students to increase fees to fund 11 new construction projects on campus could be decided by a small percentage of the student body, says Dalhousie President Tom Traves.

The Dalhousie Student Union, which will run the referendum on behalf of the university, doesn't have a policy that requires a certain number of students to cast ballots for a vote to be considered valid.

Traves says the university won't make an exception in the referendum scheduled for early March, which would see Dal students paying \$10 more per course, starting September 2009 when construction plans are expected to be completed.

This means a small number of students could decide that the entire student body will pay the extra fees. But Traves says he expects "a reasonably substantial" number of students will vote.

"People will be well informed about the issues and they will be well informed about the dates of the

vote," says Traves. "I expect there will be a reasonably substantial turnout. At the end of the day, as with any kind of democratic process, if you care about it, you come out and vote."

"If you don't care about it, and you don't vote, you'll live with the consequences."

Only 21 per cent of Dal students voted in the DSU elections last year, and just 17 per cent cast ballots the year before, suggesting the voter turnout for the upcoming referendum could be similar.

DSU President Ezra Edelstein, however, says a 21 per cent voter turnout is high for a student election. He also expects many students will cast ballots during the referendum.

Edelstein says the DSU is working hard to promote its Jan. 31 "Imagine 07" event, which is the first of a series of consultations the union and the university will be running to involve students in drafting designs for the proposed construction projects.

"If there is a good awareness campaign, students know that it's going on," says Edelstein. "And if they don't vote, they're not interested, they don't care either way."

Edelstein says rules that require a certain percentage of students to cast ballots for the results to be binding are uncommon at universities. He points out that the University of British Columbia is one of the few Canadian schools that enforce these rules, known as "quorum for referendum."

"UBC is a good example. They can't do anything without going to a referendum and they have very high quorum, which makes it difficult for them to really get anything changed," says Edelstein.

A spokesperson for the UBC student union says 10 per cent of students must vote in favour for referendums to be valid.

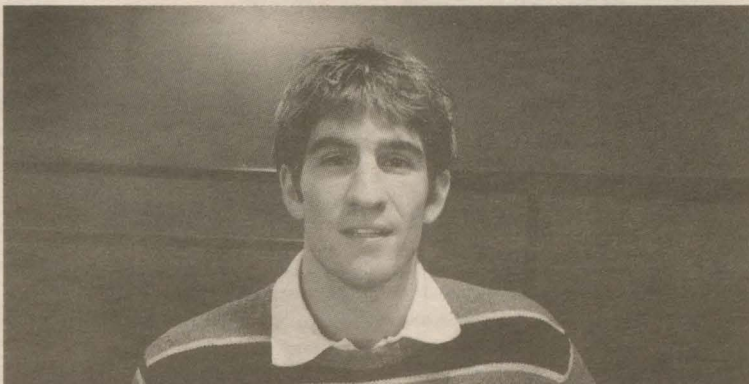
"Back in the late 80s, early 90s, things rarely passed," says Paul Dayson. "They even had referendums to change quorum, where there was a lack of quorum."

Edelstein says he doesn't expect the union will draft a bylaw requiring a quorum for referendum in the near future, but says executives would consider the option if there was sufficient student interest.

With files from Reid Southwick

NEWS STREETER

HOW WOULD YOU VOTE IF THE REFERENDUM WERE HELD TODAY?



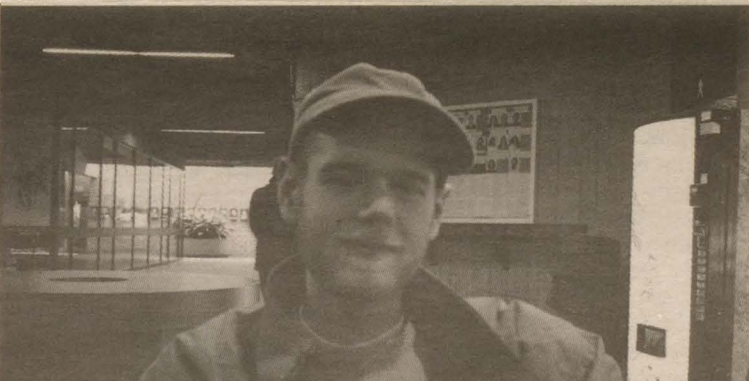
"I would probably vote for it. We should do whatever we can to improve the school."

Luke Miller, second-year international development studies.



"Absolutely not. That is very useless and un-sexy."

Jaclyn Katz, first-year theatre.



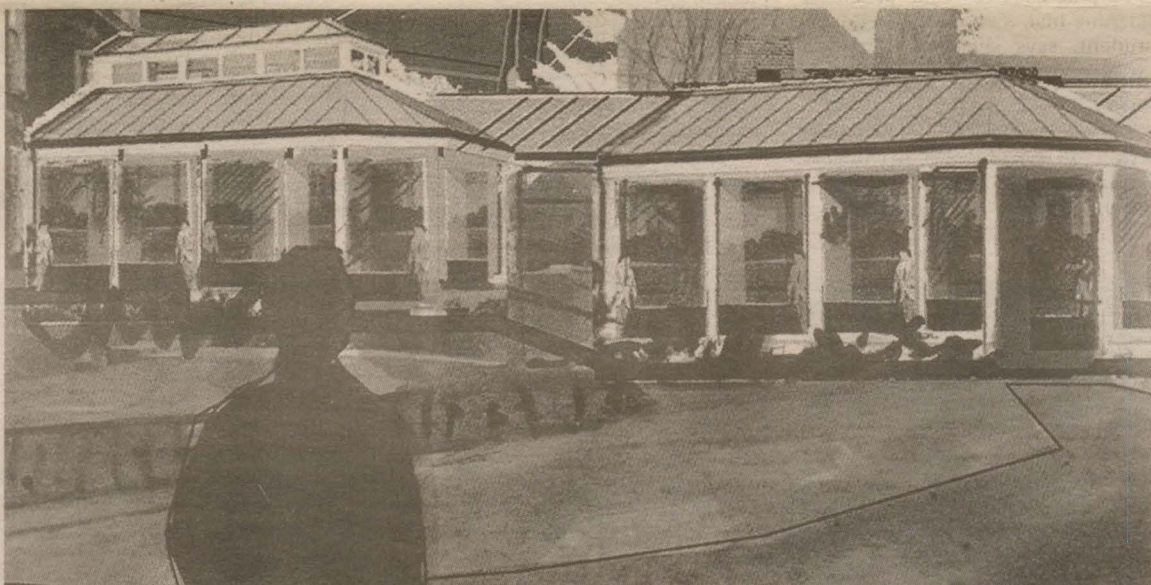
"I would vote yes. The new student spaces would offer unity to the student body."

Alex Kleinman, first-year psychology.

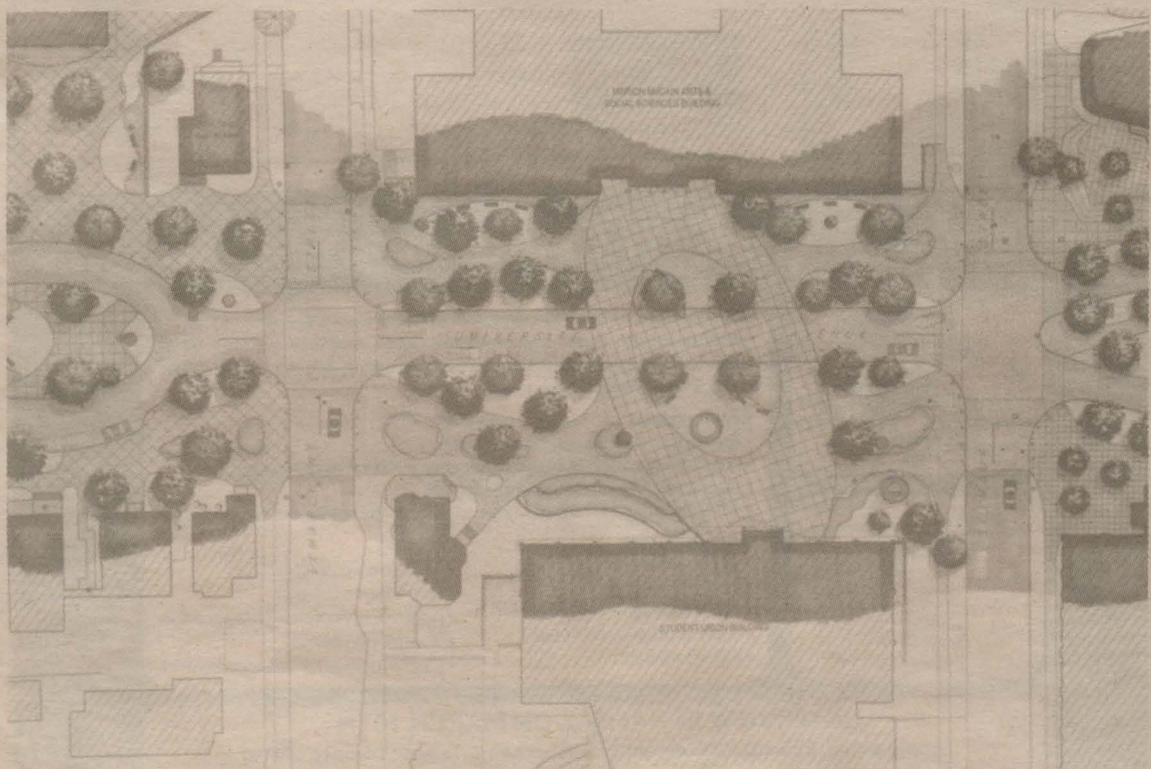


"I would vote no. Rather than giving Dalhousie a facelift, they should be focusing on fixing existing problems like student aid and buildings."

Krista Patriquin, PhD candidate



Dalhousie is proposing to build a link between the Henry Hicks building and the Life Sciences Centre. The above image is not the proposed design. / Source: Facilities Management



Dalhousie is proposing to redesign University Avenue between LeMarchant and Seymour streets. The above image is not the final design. / Source: Facilities Management

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Uni-Briefs

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

Bad grades could be costly

Students at the University of Wisconsin may soon have to pay for low grades.

A proposed state bill would require students who receive financial aid to reimburse the government for any course in which they achieve a grade lower than a C.

Mike Mikalsen, chair of the Wisconsin Colleges and Universities committee, told *The Badger Herald* student newspaper he supports the proposal.

"We all have to take responsibility for our decisions, including how we address our course work," he said. "This is all part of a process that's getting them ready for the real world."

Though officials who drafted the bill say it will go through many changes before it reaches the legislature, students and professors across the state are already nixing the plan.

University of Wisconsin-Madison professor Andrew Reschovsky told *The Badger Herald* he doesn't think the idea is fair.

"It's saying if you're rich you can fail classes, but if you're poor you need to pay us for doing poorly," he said. "There's a lot of internal pressure to do well, and the ones doing poorly are usually not doing it by choice."

Affirmative action ban spawns protest

Racial equality activists at the University of Michigan are protesting a new law that prohibits race-based admissions to state universities.

In November, Michigan voters overturned a 1978 Supreme Court decision that allowed affirmative action acceptance policies to encourage minority representation in schools.

By Any Means Necessary (BAMN), a group that supports affirmative action, organized a protest march at the university last week in an effort to have the new law thrown out.

BAMN spokesperson Donna Stern told Boston University's *Daily Free Press* that the affirmative action ban is a step backward for racial equality.

"Racism still exists in our society," she said. "We need to take affirmative action for what it means — moving toward integration and equality."

ACROSS THE POND

Christian society member sues university

A student at the University of Exeter, U.K., is suing the student body and university administration over alleged discrimination against a student society.

Ben Martin, a member of the school's Evangelical Christian Union (ECU), wants the court to review the university's decision to revoke society status from the ECU.

The Students' Guild suspended the ECU's society privileges in October after it discovered all prospective members were forced to sign a statement of faith before they were allowed to join.

The university considered the practice to be a breach of its equal opportunities policy and asked the ECU to change its constitution to allow all students membership.

On behalf of the ECU, Martin told the *Exposé* student newspaper that the Guild's actions were undemocratic and discriminatory to Christian doctrine. He says he hopes the court will order administration to re-instate the ECU's societal rights.

Sources: *The Badger Herald*, *The Daily Free Press* and *Exposé*.

More undergrads needed to keep Dal in black — report

KALEY KENNEDY
Staff Contributor

Dalhousie must work harder at attracting high school graduates if the university is to remain financially stable, a recent report indicates.

The Board of Governors (BoG) long-term financial planning committee report, released last semester, calls on the university to boost undergraduate student enrolment in the increasingly competitive market.

Dal's ratio of graduate and professional students to undergraduate students is 3.1 to 1. In comparison, the average ratio at similar universities is 1.3 to 1. Dal's disproportionately high graduate student enrolment drives up the overall operating costs of the university, the report says.

"To ensure that there is a good balance between undergraduate and graduate students, we should focus substantially on recruiting more undergraduate students," says Dal President Tom Traves. "We have been doing this for the last four to five years, so the report endorses that direction and urges us to be even more active in this regard than we have been."

Traves says the report, which took committee members several months to research, provides the university with a benchmark to gauge its accomplishments against its goals.

"[The report] gives us an opportunity to step back from the short-term view and to see where we are headed and where we want to be headed," says Traves. "[Having] a target or a goal will make sure that our annual plans are consistent with where we want to be 10 years from now."

Dalhousie Student Union president Ezra Edelstein, one of the BoG members who helped compile the report, says decreasing enrolment is a major problem, but not the only one. The report also identifies maintenance



Key recommendations from the report:

- Set guidelines within two years to evaluate the viability of new and existing programs.
- Set an "aggressive" fundraising target for the next 10 years.
- Increase funding for building maintenance projects by no less than \$1 million per year until the university reaches the target spending of two per cent of the current replacement value of its buildings.
- Ensure that at least 10 per cent of costs for future infrastructure projects go toward an endowment fund, which will be used for building maintenance.
- Review its student assistance funding to ensure the program mix best meets student need and the university's goal of attracting top-notch students.
- Attract more research funding.

DSU President Ezra Edelstein says decreasing enrolment is a major problem, but not the only one. / Photo: John Packman

costs and availability of government funding as challenges the university will face within the next five years.

Authors of the report say the university faces difficulties boosting undergraduate student enrolment, including an expected 20 per cent decline in the number of Atlantic Canadian high school graduates and the movement of students from

Ontario's double cohort to the workplace or graduate studies.

Dal's administration has no plans to cut back on graduate programs, however, and Traves expects the number of graduate students at Dal to increase as it has in recent years.

Overall enrolment has increased by nearly 2,800 students over the past five years to roughly 15,500. But the report

says the school needs to work harder at attracting students to reach its goal of enrolling 17,000 students by 2010.

The report also urges the administration to monitor the relationship between tuition and enrolment "to ensure that fee levels are not an impediment to the recruitment and retention of the desired number of students in the desired program areas."

Edelstein expects tuition levels will decrease across the province.

"But it's imperative when they do go down that government funding goes up," he says. "We don't want to go the road of Quebec, where their government is keeping tuition artificially low."

Traves says he also expects to see tuition fees fall and doubts the university will find itself in a difficult financial situation as a result.

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Uni-Briefs

CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS

Former electroshock patient seeks compensation

A Montreal woman wants to sue the Canadian government for compensation 50 years after a former McGill University researcher subjected her to government-sponsored electroshock and experimental drug therapies for depression.

Janine Huard is one of hundreds of people Dr. Ewen Cameron experimented on in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Cameron, then-director of McGill's Allan Memorial Institute, used electroshock, sensory deprivation and drugs to return patients to a child-like state.

Huard has already received \$67,000 in compensation from the U.S. government, which co-sponsored the treatments with Canada. But the government here has denied Huard similar compensation several times on the grounds that the therapies didn't completely alter her consciousness.

In 1994, Ottawa awarded \$100,000 each to 77 former patients while another 253 claims, including Huard's, were turned down.

A federal court judge has yet to rule whether Huard can pursue a class action lawsuit.

Photos of topless students spread through Ryerson

Five female Ryerson students who posed topless and sported bikini tops in photos they later posted on the web became minor campus celebrities last week.

The desktops of several campus computers featured the photos, while many people circulated the pictures via e-mail. The electronic messages were sent around so frequently that some students reported receiving them as many as three times.

The women told *The Eyeopener* student newspaper that other students have confronted them, asking for more photos in return for money.

"It's just PG-13 stuff; I don't know what the big deal is," one girl said in an interview with *The Eyeopener*. "We're laughing it off now. It's almost been a week."

UofM senate gives nod to student protest

The University of Manitoba's Senate has endorsed an upcoming tuition protest rally at the provincial legislature, allowing students to attend the event without fear of academic penalty for missing classes.

The majority of senators voted in favour of a motion submitted by the Senate endorses and is aware of the National Day of Action on Feb. 7. A national student lobby group, the Canadian Federation of Students, holds the event every year.

"I certainly support any motion that has our students talking to politicians about increasing money to the university," Senator Douglas Ruth told the Canadian University Press. "Anything that gets the message to the governments is a good thing."

Student union stops buying Styrofoam

The Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA) has stopped purchasing Styrofoam food serving products for its campus venues.

A Jan. 10 council motion putting the brakes on sales of the environmentally unfriendly material was in step with the union's environmental policies, union councillor Donnie Northrup told *The Charlantan* student newspaper.

Sources: *The Canadian University Press, The Eyeopener, The Charlantan*

From The Gazette archives

Animal Love



TEN YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Executive Review Committee under review

The body responsible for reviewing the Dalhousie Student Union's performance is itself under review. Committee member Alix Dostal resigned at a council meeting, citing the lack of a committee chair and non-DSU councillors as the reasons for his decision.

Dostal said the lack of non-council members on the review committee allows reports to be biased and misused.

Dostal proposed at a council meeting that two non-councillors should be included on the review committee. DSU President Brian MacKay complemented Dostal's proposal with a motion to include a chair in the committee's structure.

MacKay also suggested the com-

mittee's report include recommendations on improving the executive's performance and effectiveness.

The review committee was overdue with its report, which was due Dec. 5. The executive review committee started the report in early November but was overwhelmed by the amount of information to be reviewed.

TWENTY YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Gay club denied insurance coverage

The management of Halifax's only gay bar was forced out of the province after the club's insurance company cancelled its coverage.

Rumours, owned and operated by the Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE), was given 15 days notice Jan. 2, 1987. The policy

was scheduled to run out July 1.

Stephen Thomson, spokesperson for the bar's insurance company, said the cancellation had nothing to do with the fact that the business was a gay bar.

Thompson said the company had prepared a list of changes the bar needed to make but didn't "know if they carried out any of the recommendations."

"It had nothing to do with the gay part of it," Thomson said. "There was some unco-operation... I don't think they were very upset we cancelled until they found out how hard it was to get that coverage."

Key problems cited by the insurance company included potentially hazardous electrical wiring and the staff's use of Mace spray.

GAE couldn't find another company in the Atlantic provinces to insure the bar. GAE chair J.J. Lyon said he eventually found an agent in

Montreal but wouldn't disclose the name in order to protect the agent.

The new policy gives Rumours less coverage and is more expensive.

THIRTY YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

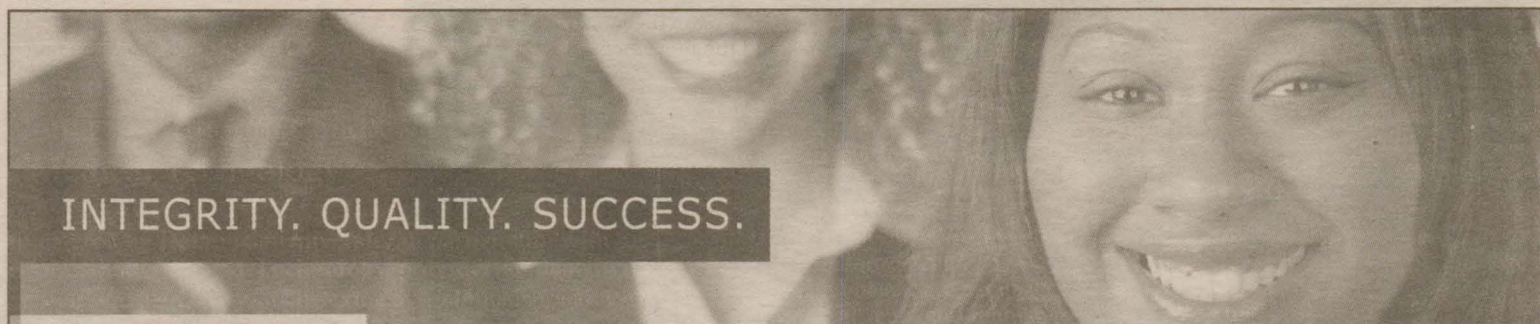
Dalhousie swimmers broke records

Dalhousie swimmers set five new records in competitions against Mount Allison University and the University of New Brunswick.

Andrea Gillespie won the women's 800-metre freestyle at UNB in a record 12:07.5, shaving 40 seconds off the previous mark.

In men's swimming, Dal set a new university record of 4:21.0, 9.1 seconds inside the previous best.

Gareth Luke broke the best time for the 200-metre freestyle, which had stood for three years, with a 2.2-second improvement.



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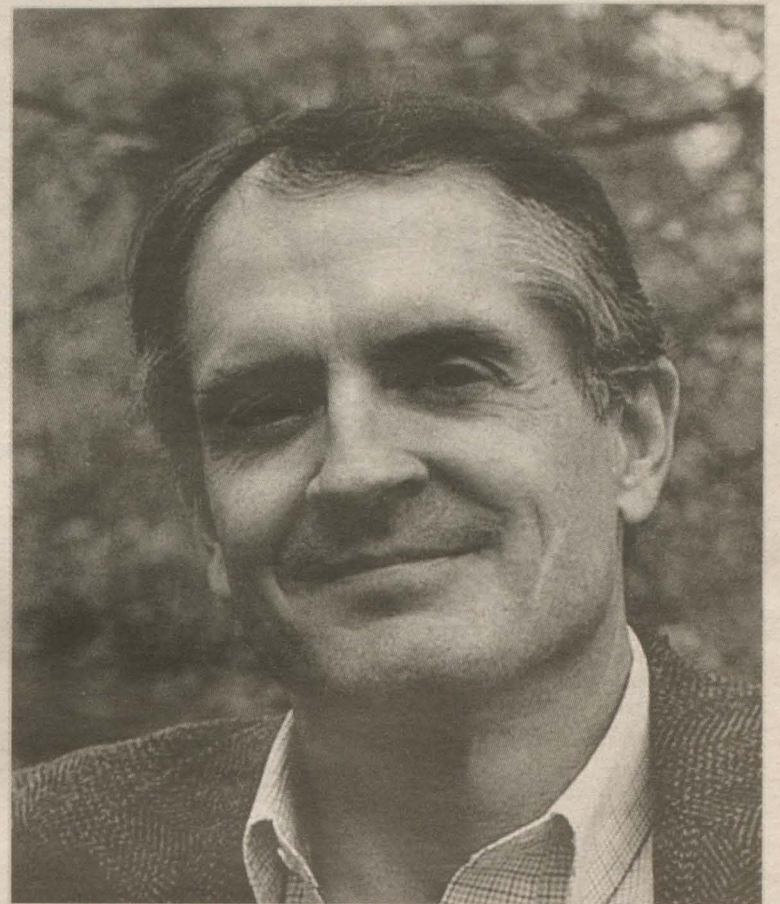
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Speech Impediment

The negative effects of vigilant protestors

JOHN HILLMAN
Staff Contributor

By this point in time, most people are probably well aware of the events surrounding Jared Taylor's arrival in Halifax on Jan. 16. I'm able to make light of a lot of the messed up, terrifying things that make news these days, but for some reason this incident has gotten under my skin.

The reason, I think, is that so many of people I've overheard here at Dalhousie seem to think the protestors committed a marvellous act in forcibly removing Taylor from his venue and tearing up his literature.

It was a great blow against racism, they trumpet proudly. They sent a strong message that Halifax is a progressive city that won't put up with Taylor's dangerously backward propaganda. Some have gone as far as to call the protestors heroes.

For my own sanity, I need to put my thoughts about this down on paper.

Everyone has the right to their own definition of the word hero, but in my eyes a hero is someone who strives to positively impact the world through their deeds and who does so in a manner that ought to serve as a model for us all.

Martin Luther King Jr. was a hero. He had a vision of cooperation to share with the world and he believed so deeply in the righteousness of his message that he knew once spread, it would triumph through truth alone.

This recent incident, occurring so close to the birthday of King, was an insult to his memory. A hero like King inspired others through his positive, intellectual efforts to change minds, not by using brute force to suppress opposing viewpoints.

It's impossible to argue the end justified the means in this case, for if the goal of the protestors was to silence Taylor, they failed miserably. Other than the protestors, there were laughably few guests in attendance and most of them were merely there to observe on behalf of concerned community organizations.

Had the protestors not stepped in, Taylor's visit would have passed unnoticed by the overwhelming majority of locals. With over-the-top theatrics and disturbing disregard for basic principles of free speech, the protestors provided Taylor with a huge platform. They turned him into a major topic around water coolers, radio talk shows and newscasts across the Atlantic provinces.

The protestors screwed things up so badly that they turned an alleged white supremacist into the victim.

Jon Goldberg, a representative of the Atlantic Jewish Council, did his best to restrain some of the more aggressive protestors, and in subsequent interviews, he has expressed his frustration over the counter-productiveness of the attention-seeking antics: "The best thing you could have done was to ignore the guy," he was quoted as saying in *The Chronicle Herald*.

Thanks to the protestors, however, it's a pretty safe bet that the next time Taylor comes to town, it'll be to a packed house.

This issue resonates beyond its practical impact. The reason it has drawn so much attention has less to do with Taylor's controversial views

A hero like King inspired others by his positive, intellectual efforts to change minds, not by using brute force to suppress opposing viewpoints.

than with fundamental concepts of free speech at stake. Though the majority may condemn Taylor's theories, does that grant anyone the right to invade a private venue he had rented, forcibly deny him the right to speak and destroy his property?

If so, it is a dangerous precedent. How would we react if a gang of neo-Nazis behaved the same way at one of Dal prof David Divine's lectures? Everyone is entitled to the same basic rights, whatever their ideological stance.

The system of discourse at the heart of our free society can only work if everyone's rights are respected. We as Dal students should understand this better than anyone, as we are supposedly preparing ourselves to become productive members in an intellectual society.

If some among us are willing to carry out the kind of thuggish act of vigilante justice that was committed against Taylor and if a great number more of us are happy to celebrate it without considering the implications, then perhaps we need to stop to reflect a moment on where exactly our priorities rest.

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A message from the Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation (NSGC)

The science of putting it off till later

CATHERINE HOLLOWAY
Staff Contributor

This article is due at noon. I have two hours to write it. I've done all my research, I'm fed, in good health and there are no technical problems with my computer so far. But I will probably spend another hour watching music videos on YouTube before I even get started. I'm suffering from a problem that most university students face: procrastination.

And now Piers Steel, a professor of human resources at the University of Calgary, thinks he knows why.

Steel published a paper this month on the nature of procrastination, in which he analyzed the personality, environment and individual factors that make us want to procrastinate.

His paper states what I think is fairly obvious: 80 to 95 per cent of university students identify themselves as procrastinators. And they spend an awful lot of time doing it — a third of their daily activities are procrastination, with the most common forms being sleeping, playing or watching TV.

Fifteen to 20 per cent of adults are chronic procrastinators and 95 per cent of procrastinators wish they didn't procrastinate. Procrastination can be dangerous (not saving for retirement until it's too late, for example) or deadly (not taking medicine or failing to see a doctor).

Some have accused society of be-

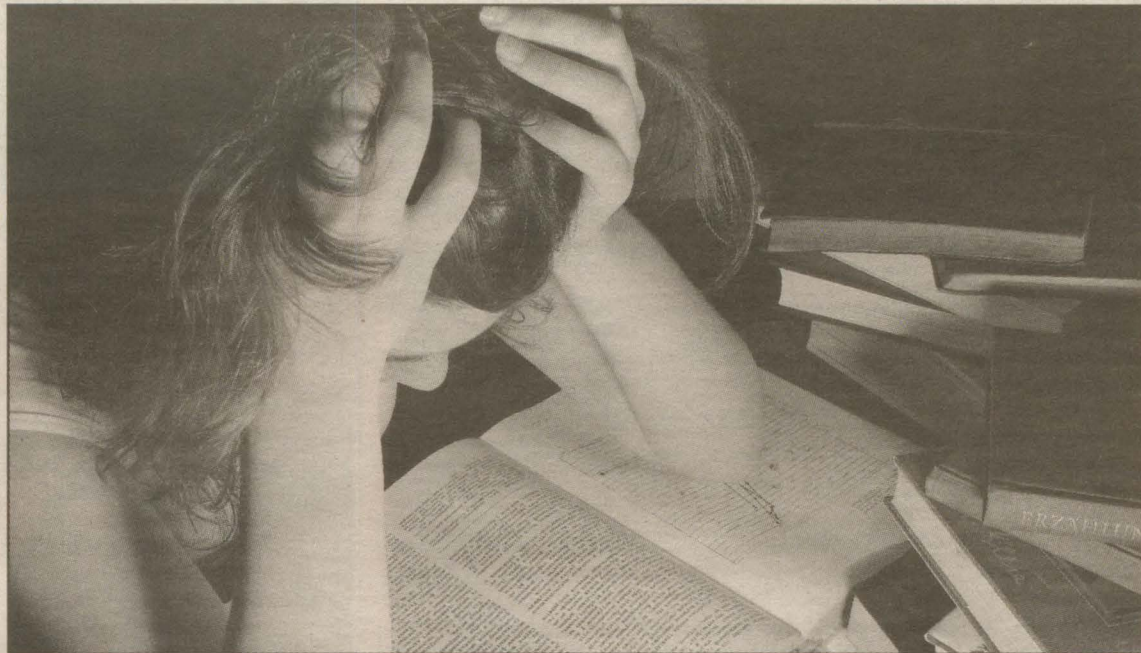
I'm suffering from a problem that most university students face: procrastination. And now Piers Steel, a professor of human resources at the University of Calgary, thinks he knows why.

coming worse procrastinators with the invention of TV and the Internet, but the truth is we have always procrastinated. We just recognize it as a problem more than we used to.

Around 1751, Samuel Johnson said it was "one of our general weaknesses" and Phillip Stanhope, the Earl of Chesterfield, gave his famous advice: "Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today."

In ancient times, Cicero tried to denounce Mark Antony by calling him a procrastinator and Krishna said those who procrastinated would never be reincarnated.

After analyzing all of the factors from personality and environment, Steel came up with the formula $U = (E \cdot V) / (I \cdot D)$. U is the utility: how much you want to do the task. E is the expectation of success, V is the value of the task, I is how soon the



task will be due and D is personal sensitivity to delay, which depends on personality traits.

Sensitivity to delay explains why some people are highly motivated to do an assignment due in a week and others are fine leaving a term paper until a few hours before the deadline. Those who do their work earlier are those who can't stand the feeling of having something due.

Expectancy of success and value are also important. You're obviously not going to be highly motivated to work on a difficult assignment if it's

only worth a tiny fraction of a mark — unless you're masochistic, of course.

When the value of U, motivation, outweighs the motivation for other activities, such as watching YouTube, most people will overcome their procrastination. Motivation is hard to maintain, however, because the more we work on an assignment, the lower our expectation of success may become, making us resort to more interesting activity.

We can use Steel's formula to our advantage. If you want to overcome

procrastination, there are a few things you can do.

Cut yourself off from the more interesting distractions: unplug your cable, turn off the wireless Internet, lock your door and hide your books and games out of sight. Convince yourself that you will succeed in your task or convince yourself of the high value of accomplishing the task. If you're coming down to the end of the line, remind yourself of the upcoming deadline or set your clock to the day of the deadline to scare yourself into getting it done.

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The program involves 7.5 class credits, two extended practica and a thesis in an area of vision research. Students are permitted to exit the program after two years (prior to completing a Master's thesis) with a Graduate Diploma in Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology.

Applications for the MSc (Clinic Vision Science) program beginning in September 2007 are now being accepted. Applicants must hold a four-year bachelor's degree with a minimum B average (GPA 3.0), with at least one undergraduate class in human anatomy and/or physiology, and a class in psychology with a laboratory component. Exceptional students may be accepted without these prerequisites on the condition that they are fulfilled either prior to or concurrent with the program. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field is considered an asset.

Students whose native language is not English must demonstrate the ability to participate in a graduate program conducted in English prior to acceptance into the program. The minimum acceptable score on the TOEFL test is 580 for the written test and 237 for the computer test.

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Deadline for applications is March 1, 2007.

Further information is available from our website www.dal.ca/cvs or by contacting
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Grass Roots

Catherine Holloway's assessment of organic agriculture in (*Gazette* 139-17) displayed a misunderstanding of the merits of organic agriculture and a naive view of the benefits of the green revolution.

Holloway asserts that by spraying our crops with pesticides we will increase our food production and be able to support the planet's bloated population. While it is true that this practice has helped save some areas from famine, this system is simply not sustainable.

What the article fails to address is that pesticides are poisons and will inevitably leave healthy soil without the nutrients and organisms it needs to support crops. Organic agriculture, on the other hand, prioritizes soil quality and sustainability over short-term crop yields.

Norman Borlaug may have helped slow the approach of famine in some areas with his farming revolution, but on a global scale we can not allow our ever-growing population to depend on a farming technique that will eventually leave us with nowhere suitable to grow food. Organic agriculture may not facilitate the constant expansion of the human population, but perhaps that is not such a bad thing.

Michael Robicheau

Submission Guidelines

The *Gazette* reserves the right to edit all letters for length and clarity. This publication will only print submissions that its editorial board deems to be in good taste and void of libellous and/or defamatory material. If the editorial board determines that a letter violates this policy, The *Gazette* may invite the author to revise the submission.

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TOP 10

- 1 **TEARING DOWN THE GRADHOUSE** Thus forcing aged grad students to creeper it up in the Grawood.
- 2 **THE RETURNED DEBATE OVER WHETHER AMERICAN IDOL JUDGES ARE TOO CRUEL** Because William Hung wannabes deserve your sensitivity.
- 3 **WOMAN SENDS 21 SAPPY TEXT MESSAGES TO A THIEF WHO STOLE HER PURSE AND GETS IT RETURNED!** And yet you still can't convince your ex to let you "come ovr 2nite."
- 4 **NEW MOVIE CATCH AND RELEASE HAS JOURNALISTS CALLING JENNIFER GARNER A "CATCH"** Journalists live lame, lame lives.
- 5 **KANYE WEST TEAMS UP WITH COLDPLAY AND FALLOUT BOY** Thus furthering his plan to irritate people from every fan base.
- 6 **RECORD COMPANIES NOW THINK SATELLITE RADIO IS DESTROYING THE MUSIC INDUSTRY** Just wait 'til they discover how we can record the music straight from the radio onto a cassette tape! They're gonna shit bricks.
- 7 **THAT BIG RED SPOT ON JUPITER THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A BIG STORM HAS STOPPED STORMING** Global warming activists are once again up in arms.
- 8 **CONSERVATIVES TO TARGET URBAN AND ETHNIC RIDINGS IN THE NEXT ELECTION** Primary strategy: stop calling themselves "Conservatives."
- 9 **MEMBER OF SNOW PATROL BREAKS HIS ARM SNOWBOARDING** I wonder if irony has blessed any members of the Sex Pistols with such an injury.
- 10 **BOB BARKER FINALLY LEAVING THE PRICE IS RIGHT** Thus preparing himself for the big "come on down" beckoning from the grim reaper.

HOT / NOT

↑ **HOT:** The Dal referendum / ↓ **NOT:** Separatists

↑ **HOT:** Jerry Springer: The Opera / ↓ **NOT:** Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?

↑ **HOT:** Stomp the Yard / ↓ **NOT:** The Hitcher

↑ **HOT:** History professors / ↓ **NOT:** Ex-arts editors

↑ **HOT:** Chicken wings / ↓ **NOT:** Chicken fingers

↑ **HOT:** Jessica Biels / ↓ **NOT:** Miss America

↑ **HOT:** Colbert / ↓ **NOT:** O'Reilly

↑ **HOT:** Hugh Hefner / ↓ **NOT:** Bob Barker

↑ **HOT:** Dreamgirls / ↓ **NOT:** Destiny's Child

↑ **HOT:** The community chest / **NOT:** ↓ Cold fronts

☐ Suggestions? hotornot@dalgazette.ca

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Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, Top 10 listing, and Streeter are solely those of the contributing writers or the individual pictured, and do not necessarily represent the views of *The Gazette* or its staff. The quotes said by Joey Ryba in the Streeter are completely fabricated by the staff and are do not necessarily represent views held by Joey Ryba himself, *The Gazette* and/or its staff.

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Gazette

STREETER

WHAT ANNOYS YOU MOST ABOUT YOUR ROOMMATES?



“Nothing, because without her, I'd never get a decent meal.”
Emily Dodge, fourth-year international development studies



“Unkempt washrooms and mystery stains.”
Justin Marchand, second-year history and philosophy



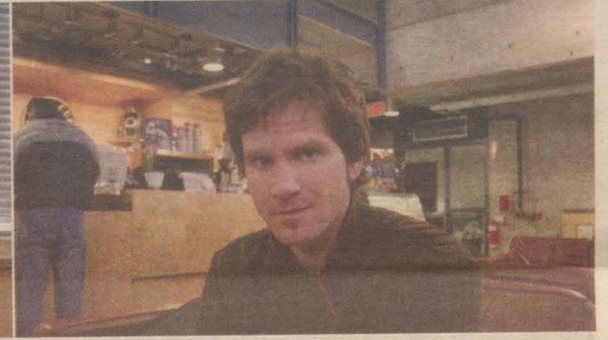
“The way she chews.”
Mandy Goodgoll, fourth-year international development studies and business



“Always, always, always blasting music.”
Courtney Paats, second-year sociology



“Forgetting to flush the toilet.”
Matt Thompson, first-year law



“When your partying and down time don't coincide.”
Chris Wimmer, Masters of development economics



“When they don't do the dishes.”
Tracy Wright, fourth-year political science



“When they flush my masterpieces.”
Joey Ryba, second-year waste management

☐ Got a question you want to see answered by students? streeter@dalgazette.ca



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Fri. from 9:30pm - 1am BOYS NEXT DOOR
Sat. from 3:30pm - 6:30pm BOYS NEXT DOOR
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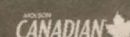
SATURDAY, JANUARY 27
M BASKETBALL VS SIFX, 4PM @ METRO CENTRE
WOMEN @ DALPLEX, 6:00PM

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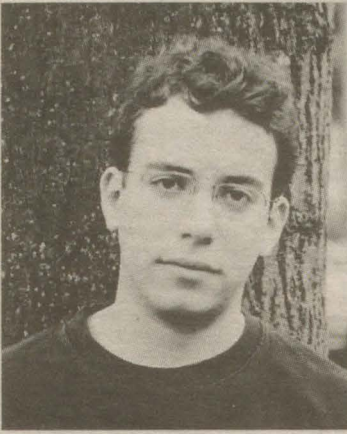
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Arts & Culture Editor: **Laura Trethewey** Assistant Editor: **Ashleigh Gaul** Contact: **arts@dalgazette.ca**

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ASHLEIGH GAUL, ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

Editors' picks of the week



Mitchell Cushman is a third-year theatre and English student at the University of King's College. He has written several plays that have been performed in Toronto as well as shorter works for the King's Fringe Festival. Mitchell writes film reviews for The Watch. He is also an aspiring stand-up comedian who has performed in Halifax.

The Gazette is holding monthly competitions for creative writing or artwork. Please submit your work to gazettearts@gmail.com. This is the winning entry for January.

Long Division

A short story by Mitchell Cushman

"You don't even like toast!"
"I like to watch it brown!"
So this is what 15 years of marriage had descended into. Arguing over who would get the toaster they had received as a wedding gift. 'Whoa,' she thought to herself. 'Didn't see that one coming.'

After hours of judiciously allotting television sets and bedspreads, they had hit a wall on a small kitchen appliance. The traditional method of dissecting the affiliation of the gift giver was impossible, as neither could remember who had presented them with the cheap present. Still, it was a good toaster, four slots. Why the hell should he get it?

There's no way she's getting that toaster. He was resolute. Better to jam a fork into it than leave it with her.

The couple, now two singulars, had been at it all day. Making selections item by item, like team captains in a high school gym class, only with larger senses of entitlement.

The big assets had been easy enough. She got the house. He got the car so that he could drive as far away from the damn place as humanly possible while still remaining in Halifax. Their city was the one thing they were both resolute on sharing. But this would not be the fuzzy, altruistic sharing popularized by Ernie and Burt. He had personally resolved to share Halifax with his ex-wife like the Yankees share New York City with the Mets.

Fifteen years. She was stunned. With the time she had wasted in this

marriage, she could have gone to medical school and become a doctor – twice! Looking across the pantry at the paunchy slouching insect she saw before her, she decided she was not going to miss a single thing about this man. Not his passion for limericks, not his elevator humming and certainly not his persistent slew of major league baseball analogies. She made a mental note to change the locks on the house tomorrow.

He made a mental note not to change his underwear tomorrow. Or possibly even the next day. He was a single man once more, not subject to her insistent hygiene hangups.

He felt the warm comforting presence of Bertrand, their golden retriever, nuzzling up against his left leg. One of the more difficult assets to assign. Both were very attached to the dog and neither could bear to give the pet up. He had been close to suggesting a King Solomon-esque solution when they had finally devised a custody schedule.

Early on in the proceedings, they had decided not to get lawyers involved. The arrangement was only somewhat sincere, as he was an attorney himself and she had recently begun an affair with one of his partners. Still, they were resolved to settle their unfinished business personally, like adults.

In terms of furniture, a general principle of designation had been arranged. He took anything you sit on, she anything you lie on. How fitting, he thought to himself. That deceptive harlot. The horizontal position

suiting her. He congratulated himself on how mature he was being about the whole thing.

"What about the signed photograph of Mickey Mantle?"

"What about it?" The picture was the pride of his memorabilia shrine.

"Well, I bought it."

"It was a gift."

"Not anymore it isn't."
And so the floodgates opened. What had been a quiet April afternoon turned into the week after Christmas as a frenzy of gift returns ensued. Starting with wedding rings, ending with Hallmark cards and all the jewelry and golf clubs in between.

When the dust cleared, both emerged clutching a heaping pile of objects they had no use for. In their new houses, each would have to reserve a closet purely for spite.

"What about your tattoo?" He spat this at her with such vigour that he almost dropped the year's subscription of Vogue he had hostage in his arms.

"Excuse me?"

"You never would have had the guts without me there holding your hand. I want it removed."

The boundaries of reimbursement had been redefined. He must forget all the Spanish he had learned during the marriage. Before she came along he was confirmedly unilingual. She could no longer enjoy sushi and must return to a time when raw fish disgusted her.

Well then, she countered, he must gain back the 30 pounds he had lost during their marriage. Cer-

tainly, as soon as she renounced the passion for Woody Allen movies he had prompted in her. This incited a dissection of all of their shared pop culture favourites. Films, restaurants and bands were divvied up.

"And I get Law and Order. I don't want to tune into CBS at 9 if I know you're going to be there."

They continued in this manner, each scrapping layer upon layer off the other's personality in an effort to eliminate any influence they may have had on one another. A raging machine of reversal, attempting to spit out two naïve 20-somethings right before their very first date. The conversation soon veered to a car accident she had suffered back during their engagement.

"I'm giving you 30 days. Then I want my kidney out of your body and back where it belongs."

Nothing left to say, each collapsed, he into an armchair, she onto a nearby daybed, neither wanting to encroach on the other's territory. They were drained and beaten, but at least it was over. It had to be. Everything had at last been divided. The entire marriage parcelled into two doggy bags for them to slink out of the restaurant with.

There was a slight creak as the door opened. Neither lifted their head at the noise, both engrossed in calculating their newly acquired assets.

"What's with all the yelling?"
They had forgotten one thing.
"Fine, you can have Billy. But I get the toaster."

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is committed to excellence in teaching. It has established a teaching award that honors, each year, a faculty member who has made an outstanding contribution to teaching and serving the students of the Faculty. This award is intended above all to underline the fundamental importance of first-rate and innovative pedagogy.

Candidates nominated for the award must be on-going Arts and Social Sciences members of the Dalhousie University teaching staff. Sessional and part-time lecturers will be considered but must have taught at least two consecutive years. Faculty nominated for the University Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence are also eligible for nomination for the Arts and Social Sciences Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Nominations should be signed by at least three students or staff members, and should include evidence of teaching excellence. This will vary, but might include letters from sponsors summarizing the evidence justifying the nomination, results of student evaluation questionnaires, pedagogical publications of the candidate, confidential letters of support from colleagues and/or former students, evidence of innovative pedagogy and of service to the Faculty or the outside community. Nomination forms are available at the office of the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences. Please contact 494-1439 for more information.

The recipient will be recognized by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Nominations and documents supporting them should be sent to the *Selection Committee for the Excellence in Teaching Award, Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 4P9.*

Nominations and all supporting documents should reach the Committee no later than **MARCH 30, 2007.**



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ODEON FILMS

What's smaller than a shower and found all over?

One reporter's quest to disentangle an 'art tape'

ASHLEIGH GAUL
Assistant Arts Editor

What on Earth is an "art tape?" I ask a professor. He explains that while "tape" is of unknown — though probably Germanic — origin, the adjective is derived from the Latin *ars*, meaning "art" or "skill."

I stare blankly. He suggests "perhaps more plebeian a response" I should seek. I find a plebeian at the Rowe Management Building. "Do you know what an art tape is?" I ask a drowsy freshman in sweat pants.

He rubs his eye. "A what?" "An art tape, eh?" I repeat. "Oh. Ohh..." His eyes widen. "Oh yeah, I artay-pay. Management artay-pays, but it ain't no ecret-say. We par-tay!"

Dejected, I wander east down University Avenue. I turn left in search of a compromise between the plebeian and cognoscente on South Park Street turning right on Sackville Street, I seek a dialect between Latin and pig Latin. I come upon the Centre for Art Tapes in the CBC Building on Sackville Street. Buzzing up to the second floor office, I reach programming director Jim McSwain.

"Hello?" he says. "What's an art tape?" I ask. "Oh my God." Silence. "Wow." He buzzes me in.

I reach the top of the stairs and the door to the centre. McSwain walks me through the office to his room at the end of the corridor.

We traverse a kitchen, which contains a cramped, chrome shower behind the fridge. McSwain tells me the centre intends to hold an art tape exhibition in that shower.

So an art tape is smaller than a shower

As we pass by a wall of beta tapes — I learn that artists are still crazy about beta tapes — and we reach his office, where I meet programming coordinator Mireille Bourgeois.

"So, an art tape is some sort of film?" I ask him.

"No, we're not film. At all," he says. Bourgeois clarifies: "Well, not narrative film. Art that is a little bit less than the narrative. Cutting-edge programming."

She pauses. "Alternative art." "Who makes art tapes?" I ask. McSwain hands me a pamphlet for the centre's annual scholarship show at Neptune Theatre. Fifteen North American artists were awarded scholarships, mentorship and full use of the centre's facilities for a year to develop their unique art tapes. The results will be presented on Jan. 26.

So an art tape is an opportunity

But the scholarships go to individual films. I wonder if an art tape is always an individual effort.

"Because we don't have a lot of exhibition space," Bourgeois explains — chrome showers? — "We collaborate a lot with other galleries. That's why we're collaborating with [the Dalhousie Art Gallery] on *The Traumatic Landscape* in February."

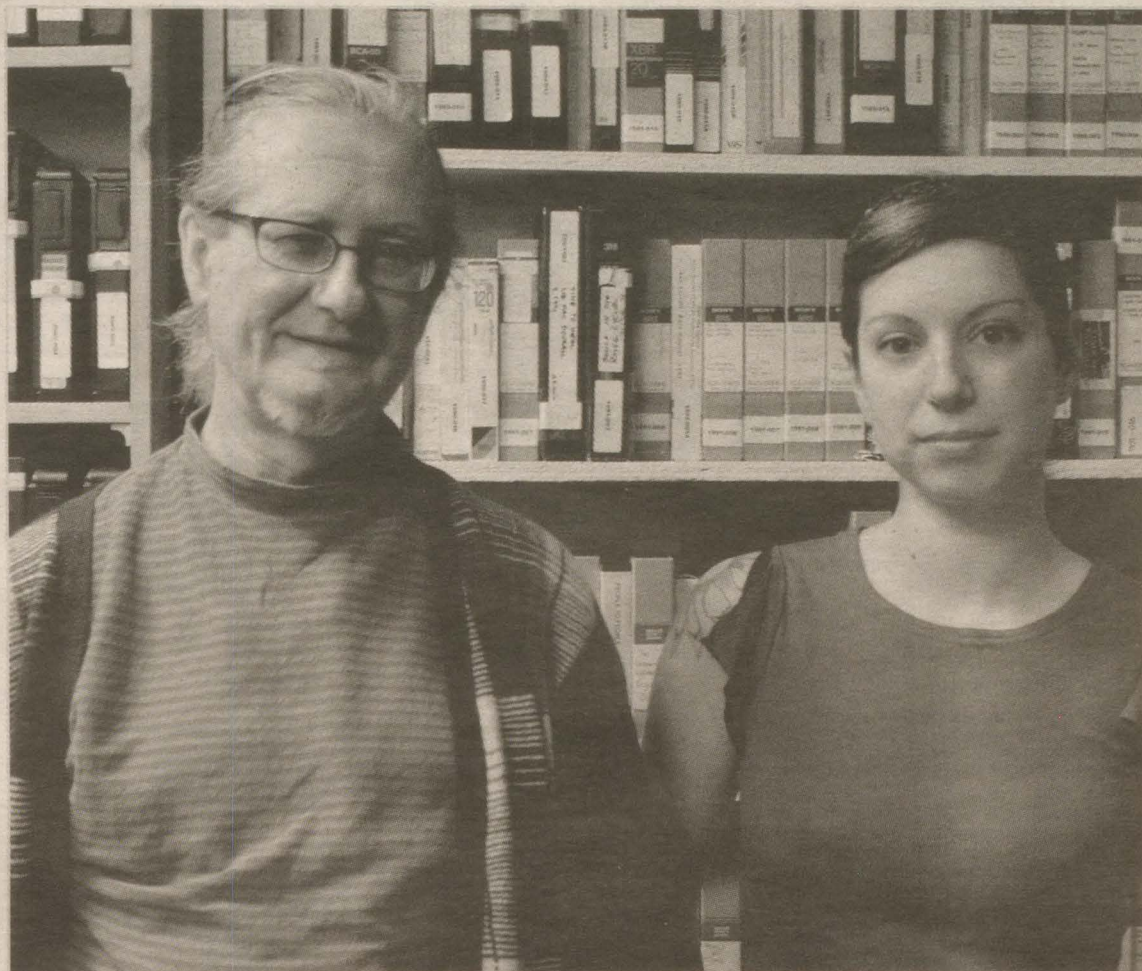
She attributes cooperation to "strong partnerships in [Halifax's] artistic community." The Centre for Art Tapes will contribute a collection of digital work on an environmental theme to Dalhousie's ongoing winter film series, *Imaging a Shattering Earth*. The tapes will be screened on Friday, Feb. 2.

So an art tape is a collaboration

When the collaboration has ended or the scholarship has been exhausted, what happens to the film? Is it lost to the archives forever?

While the centre is an archive, Bourgeois points out that it is also a production centre. Its production archives are constantly mined, examined and re-exhibited, long after their creation.

Every year, the centre collects the works of a senior artist and compiles them on a DVD. Doug Porter's art will be compiled and showcased at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia on



The mystery of the art tape still lingers. / Photo: John Packman

Feb. 16. Porter has made live-action video collages at the centre since the early 1980s.

So an art tape has no expiry date

I wonder if this makes it non-specific or irrelevant. I watch an art tape to decide for myself.

The centre curates an online exhibit called *The Digital Mirror*, in which recent works are compared with similar past projects. I access the exhibit on the organization's website.

I click on the first icon to "enter *The Digital Mirror*" and the first set

of art tapes play simultaneously. The music of Becca Barker's 2006 work, *Assembled*, trundles and pauses through the testimonials and panning landscapes of John Scott's 1994 tape, *Passing Thru*.

While Barker's work imparts listlessness to Scott's collected Haligonian testimonials, the older film provides a possible point of interpretation to the images of Barker.

The transience of Halifax, addressed explicitly in Scott's film, may provide an explanation for the shaky animation and meandering soundtrack Barker chose.

Together, the works are beautiful, complementary and co-relevant. They are subtle and quiet in a way that directive narrative is not.

McSwain was right: an art tape is not a film.

So, what is an art tape?

To find out, log on to The Digital Mirror at www.centreforarttapes.ca. Visit Neptune Theatre on Jan. 26, the Dal Art Gallery on Feb. 2 or the AGNS on Feb. 16. The Centre for Art Tapes will also present "zo-na pe-lu ci-da," a dance and video collaboration at Neptune's Studio Theatre on Mar. 10.

Good things come in threes

Producer discusses his reality show *Triple Sensation*

LAURA BERTON
Staff Contributor

It's rare for anyone to realize their dreams, but the CBC television show *Triple Sensation* offers that opportunity for aspiring professional performers — singers, dancers and actors. Winners of the new reality show will receive a \$150,000 scholarship to the school of their choice, while runners-up receive \$100,000 in scholarships.

Triple Sensation's producer, Garth Drabinsky, spoke to Dal theatre students on Jan. 11 about the show. He said the name *Triple Sensation* had more positive connotations than the common expression "triple threat."

The show recently finished filming auditions in Toronto, which Drabinsky said was an amazing experience.

"The spirit, vibrancy and compelling honesty was so refreshing for everyone in the panel," Drabinsky told the students in his speech. "There are no boundaries for talent."

The show will visit Halifax from Feb. 13 to 16 to audition Maritime talent.

Drabinsky is no stranger to the stage. He's worked behind the scenes for years, producing theatrical hits such as *Ragtime*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *The Phantom of the Opera*.

He's devoted to the arts, especial-

ly promoting young Canadian talent. He went on to tell the students *Triple Sensation* will be the antithesis to karaoke-type talent shows, such as *American Idol*.

"Anyone who wants to embrace the world of performing arts needs to make an unbridled commitment to the stage," he said.

John Wimbs, an actor and Drabinsky's assistant, said in an interview via e-mail that *Triple Sensation* will jumpstart aspiring thespians' careers.

"Acting is all about auditioning and an opportunity like this, especially with a chance of winning a huge scholarship, is rare," said Wimbs. "Whether you make it through to the next stage or not, there is nothing to lose, only a great experience to gain."

There are three stages to the *Triple Sensation* competition: a national audition, a master class and a final elimination round. The master class will be filmed in Toronto and those chosen will encounter increasingly rigorous training sessions.

The panel of adjudicators consists of Drabinsky, performer Cynthia Dale, composer Marvin Hamlish, choreographer Sergio Trujillo and director Adrian Noble.

Once the adjudicators have narrowed down three finalists, the televi-



Garth Drabinsky puts his best hawk-eye forward on Feb. 13.

sion audience will vote for its favourite. The editing of the show will avoid manipulating the audience's feelings about contestants, Drabinsky said in an interview.

"The editing will follow the reality of what happened. [But] sometimes human frailty takes over."

To be eligible for the show, participants must be between 16 and 26 years of age and not have performed professionally in two or more of the three disciplines. Open call registration in Halifax is on Feb. 10. Pre-registration is required at www.triplesensation.ca. Open call auditions are from Feb. 13 to Feb. 16.

Gazette

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

Drop off original poetry, short stories, essays or artwork in the *The Gazette* mailbox on the 3rd floor of the SUB or leave it at the Info Desk in the SUB care of *The Gazette*.

Entries may also be submitted to gazettearts@gmail.com.

The winning entry will be published in *The Gazette* the following Thursday. Written entries must be no longer than 1,000 words and artwork no larger than 9"x12".

CALL FOR ENTRIES

All entries must include the entrant's name or pseudonym and phone number or e-mail address. The winning entrant will be contacted via e-mail the week before publication.

Submissions will be edited to match *The Gazette's* spelling and punctuation style. *The Gazette* reserves the right to not publish entries deemed inappropriate.





Hungry and broke? Try the free samples at the Farmer's Market!

Never had I ever...

Woken up in time for the farmer's market

ALY COY
Staff Contributor

Entering the farmer's market at 11 a.m. on Saturday morning, I was welcomed with the aroma of freshly made crêpes and pastries. I treated myself to a lemon, sugar and almond crêpe made right in front of my eyes. It was delicious.

In the common area, there were booths selling fresh herbs and vegetables while students and families wandered. I didn't really know where to start, so I followed a group upstairs to a coffee stand.

After perking up a bit, I noticed all the free samples surrounding me. I have a thing for free samples and these little bites of heaven included special dips, cheese, meat, balsamic vinegar, soup, cider, fudge, pastries and wine.

I overheard a shop owner say the best way of selling a product

is through the customer's palate. I couldn't agree more.

Besides bite-sized food, there's a café that serves breakfast and a few booths sell Indian, Greek and Chinese food.

The boutiques also have lots to offer, such as jewelry, notebooks, woodwork, hemp products and even duct tape wallets. I ended up buying a loaf of fresh bread, havarti cheese, honey, tea tree oil, lavender soap, fudge, and steak pot pie for roughly \$20.

Local artists at the market also caught my eye. Poet and photographer Michael McCullough gave me a personal poetry reading, which perfectly captured the photograph he described. His pictures come with a poem that functions as a kind of explanation and interpretation.

I can't believe I'd waited so long to get up for the farmer's market. It's great for browsing, shopping or broke students hungry for free food.

Word on Bond

A review of the Word Iz Bond Speaker Series at Ginger's Tavern

JEN BOND
Staff Contributor

Spoken word performers sometimes fulfill the stigma attached to them by behaving in a petulant, vapid and introspective manner. But that assumption could not have been more wrong at the Word Iz Bond Speaker Series performance at Ginger's Tavern last Thursday.

Through beat boxing, sound mixing, instrumentation and song, the artists built upon their creations with originality and verve, and the crowd was appreciative.

From erotica to politics to violence against women, the open mic performers covered a wide array of topics.

While some poems were clearly autobiographical, others were based on observation or opinion.

Performer Laura Burke says she finds inspiration for her writing from problems she observes in the world. "I try to find the solution through writing," she says. "I feel connected to the life experiences of people in the room [through spoken word]."

The evening was hosted by the Word Iz Bond Spoken Word Collective. Formed in 2001 by Dalhousie students, the group recently shifted from a performance group to a more facilitative role.

"We decided to re-focus to create a space for performance," says Shaunta Grant, a member of the collective.

With funding from the Canada Council for the Arts, the group has



Spoken word artists traded in their berets for beatboxing at Ginger's Tavern.

launched its Speak Series as well as bringing in special artists from across the country. It plans on hosting a Speaker Series each month at Ginger's Tavern.

Look for next month's Word Iz Bond Speaker Series performances at Ginger's Tavern by visiting their website at www.myspace.com/wordizbondcollective.

Gazette

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

Dalhousie University MSc Clinical Vision Science with concurrent Graduate Diploma in Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology

This professional two-year graduate program offered by Dalhousie University in partnership with the IWK Health Centre's School of Orthoptics/Ophthalmic Medical Technology provides students with unparalleled research opportunities in the vision sciences along with extensive clinical practice to prepare them for the profession of orthoptics/ophthalmic medical technology.

Orthoptists/ophthalmic medical technologists are allied health professionals who perform a wide range of diagnostic and highly technical procedures and, in consultation with an ophthalmologist, plan, implement and monitor treatment of a wide variety of ocular disorders, including disorders of binocular vision and ocular motility. They are engaged in a wide range of activities including research into ocular motility, education of other eye care professionals, patient education and vision screening.

The program involves 7.5 class credits, two extended practica and a thesis in an area of vision research. Students are permitted to exit the program after two years (prior to completing a Master's thesis) with a Graduate Diploma in Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology.

Applications for the MSc (Clinic Vision Science) program beginning in September 2007 are now being accepted. Applicants must hold a four-year bachelor's degree with a minimum B average (GPA 3.0), with at least one undergraduate class in human anatomy and/or physiology, and a class in psychology with a laboratory component. Exceptional students may be accepted without these prerequisites on the condition that they are fulfilled either prior to or concurrent with the program. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field is considered an asset.

Students whose native language is not English must demonstrate the ability to participate in a graduate program conducted in English prior to acceptance into the program. The minimum acceptable score on the TOEFL test is 580 for the written test and 237 for the computer test.

Financial assistance may be available to qualified students.

Deadline for applications is March 1, 2007.

Further information is available from our website www.dal.ca/cvs or by contacting
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Arts Hole

Celebrity adoption: does the end justify the means?

VALERIE DE GRANDIS
Arts Contributor

Is it just me or are celebrities snatching up foreign children faster than the latest Balenciaga handbag?

It was bad enough when the best celebrity accessory was a dog. Lately it seems orphaned children are a coveted item with the likes of Madonna and Leonardo DiCaprio.

While most consider Angelina Jolie to be the pioneer of this fad, she was really just the first to turn shopping for international babies into an art form. Celebrity adoption has been around since the heyday of Julie Andrews, who adopted two Vietnamese orphans in 1974 and was criticized for choosing war orphans over white orphans from the West.

Today, foreign adoption is not only socially acceptable, it's trendy. Madonna joined the ranks of Jolie-Pitt by adopting an underprivileged boy from Malawi last year. She's always been a lady of controversy, but who would have predicted her baby shopping excursion in a country that lacks foreign adoption laws?

Even if we ignore the fact that her "son" has a biological parent that is alive and well, albeit poor, Madonna's actions are wrong. She placed herself above the law by adopting David. Human rights groups, as well as the public, were justifiably enraged. Madonna even received a scolding from the Patron Saint of Adoption herself, Angelina Jolie.

In even more bizarre news, Leonardo DiCaprio "adopted" a South African girl. Instead of parenting the child in the U.S., he has opted to nurture her from a distance. He sends her monthly cheques and



bonds with her over the phone.

Some human rights groups argue that rich, white people shouldn't adopt African children who are then raised outside of their culture. Critics claim it undermines African communities' ability to raise their own children. But in the long run, David Ritchie will undoubtedly have more opportunities than the children Madonna passed over at the Home of Hope orphanage.

Many adoption agencies argue the best interest of the child is the top priority and therefore the end justifies the means. But when Angelina Jolie told *Elle* she felt more for her adopted children than her "privileged blob" of a biological daughter, I cringed. Is she thinking about the best interests of her child?

In the case of celebrity adoptions, perhaps the ends don't always justify the means.



North American wine drinkers are a predictable bunch.

The power of choice

The Epicurious Student talks wine experimentation

ANDREW BERNARDO
Culinary Connoisseur

“Red zinfandel with properly seasoned steak is like to two lovers together for the first time.”

“This popular Aussie cab/shiraz blend is a drunken one night stand with each party fighting for what they want before it’s too late. Eventually a happy ending result, but you can’t help but wonder if it might have been better with someone else.”

These words were the product of a late-night, wine-influenced MSN conversation between my brother Dave and I. It illustrates an important point when consumers select wine: the power of choice.

While I often trumpet the con-

cept of “drink-what-you-like,” I also support experimenting with wines of the same grape variety as one’s favourite drink.

For instance, try the same type of wine from the same country but from a different vineyard. The result is often startling and rewarding, as wines that are better made and cheaper lie slightly off the beaten path.

North American wine drinkers stick to what they like. Ripe, concentrated fruit, round, supple tannins, oak flavour and good balance typify the North American palate.

This uniform palate created a global shift in winemaking as producers tailored wine to suit their consumers. Wine conglomerates lead the movement while smaller winemakers

are forced to tailor their wines or face potential financial loss. Cherished individuality is the inevitable victim of this destructive movement.

The NSLC sells wine owned by large groups but there remain quite a few wines from smaller, family-owned vineyards. One simply has to read the back of the bottle to verify the winemaker’s owner. Check to see if “family-owned” winery is mentioned in the description.

If it weren’t for the power of choice, Dave and I wouldn’t have discovered the steak and red zinfandel combination. If it weren’t for my intrinsic desire to experiment, I wouldn’t have recognized the standardization in commercial wine-making today.

Burn Baby Burn

**BEST VERSUS WORST
 SONG TITLES**

SIDE A: BEST TITLES:
 Laura Trethewey / Arts Editor

Some musicians tack a title on post-production but I enjoy the ones picked prior to songwriting and slavishly adhered to throughout the entire music-making process. I envision late night arguments in which John, Paul, Ringo and George duke out the essence of “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band.” My guess is the following titles were fought for tooth and nail.

1. “Memory Lame” – Jim O’Rourke
2. “Smile Around the Face” – Four Tet
3. “If You’re Feeling Sinister” – Belle and Sebastian
4. “Let’s Save Tony Orlando’s House” – Yo La Tengo
5. “Dance Like You’re Selling Nails” – The Venetian Snares
6. “Detroit, Lift Up Your Weary Head! (Rebuild! Restore! Reconsider!)” – Sufjan Stevens
7. “I’m Getting Back Into Getting Back Into You” – The Silver Jews
8. “Tim I Wish You Were Born A Girl” – Of Montreal
9. “This Lamb Sells Condos” – Final Fantasy
10. “There is a War in Almost Every Corner” – Blood Music

Side B: WORST TITLES:
 Ashleigh Gaul / Assistant Arts Editor

Hmm... So, somehow bad titles are better than good ones. They aren’t.

The truth is, Crazy Frog doesn’t care at all who let the frogs out, unless those frogs are hot, lady frogs with pores that sweat gin and juice and vocal sacs the size of —

I hereby surrender my position to the straight man.

1. “He Poos Clouds” – Final Fantasy
2. “The Heart of a Rat” – Rocket From the Crypt
3. “Stick the Fucking Flag up Your Goddamn Ass, You Sonofoabitch” – Propagandhi
4. “Who Let the Frog Out” – Crazy Frog
5. “Who Let the Dogs Out” – Baha Men
6. “Listen to the Warm” – Rod McKuen
7. “He Hit Me and It Felt Like a Kiss” – The Crystals
8. “I’ve Never Been to Me” – Charlene
9. “Dominic the Italian Christmas Donkey” – Lou Monte
10. Anything by Ernest Hogan

Sex with Hugh

Taking a bite out of aphrodisiacs

HUGH WALLACE
Coital Contributor

Sex is an enjoyable and versatile activity. It can be done solo, in pairs, in threes, even more if you’re lucky. But some people find it difficult to get in the mood.

We have long searched the natural world for what the Aztecs called “the food of the gods,” also known as aphrodisiacs, to increase our feelings of sexual desire. A variety of foods have been considered to have aphrodisiac qualities, such as chocolate, oysters and even, according to Wikipedia, tomatoes.

One of the first substances thought to have aphrodisiac properties was chocolate. According to Sophie and Michael Coe, authors of *The True History of Chocolate*, cacao beans were first cultivated by pre-Columbus societies such as the Aztecs and the Mayans. For the Mayans, chocolate was associated with Xochiquetzal, one of their most powerful fertility goddesses. It has been suggested that these societies have been drinking chocolate in some form for thousands of years.

One of the most popular substances crafted out of this ancient tradition is a sauce found in many traditional Mex-

ican dishes called mole (pronounced mol-ay). For our bland, westernized tastes, we can go to the local Tim Hortons, Starbucks or Second Cup and pick up our own version of this ancient drink called hot chocolate.

In a 2006 study on the mood influences of chocolate, it was found that the affects are largely associated with the act of eating chocolate and only last a short time.

Oysters have been investigated as producers of sexual desire. Casanova, the greatest lover to have ever lived, was said to eat 50 oysters for breakfast each day. As absurd as I find this, a 2005 *New York Times* article reviewed two studies on using oysters as aphrodisiacs.

The author wrote that many studies blame zinc deficiency for erectile dysfunction. Oysters, which are high in zinc, correct this deficiency and therefore could produce sexual arousal. But the article also stated “there is no significant scientific evidence supporting the theory that oysters have aphrodisiac properties.”

How could tomatoes be an aphrodisiac? Europeans used to call them *pomme d’amour*, or love apple. It was historically thought that tomatoes, being red in colour,



Appeal to the senses to spark the mood.

were a vegetable of ill repute. They were shunned as poisonous because of plants related to tomatoes. Especially in more puritan times, red was seen as the colour of sin or adultery, as in the case of the scarlet letter. It has even been suggested, a little more recently and a little more whimsically, that tomatoes were the original apple Eve offered Adam in their sweet Garden of Eden.

Today, we have created our own versions of these substances — pharmaceuticals — that are meant to increase a person’s sexual desire or at least relieve erectile dysfunction, the most notable being Viagra. There is no scientific evidence that Viagra acts as an aphrodisiac. And

while it is widely believed that getting an erection is in some part a mental act, it has become popular with young adults to take Viagra.

Of course, in the herbal realm of nutraceuticals, there have been a number of products developed to solve a lack of sexual desire. Ingredients, particularly in traditional Chinese medicine, can range from something as simple as the Horny Goatweed plant to stuff a little more exotic, like walrus penis or tiger penis.

We have become so obsessed with sexual desire that we have produced high expectations for individuals, which creates feelings of inadequacy. We formed stories of “the perfect lover,” particularly in mainstream soci-

ety — think Don Juan DeMarco.

The pressure leads not only to traditional foirées in search for the ultimate aphrodisiac, but modern inventions, too. Whether or not these substances actually produce feelings of arousal is still in question, although it is almost agreed that most of the arousal inspired by aphrodisiacs comes from a belief that the specific substance will be beneficial.

Sex is, at the very least, half psychological. Smother yourself in chocolate syrup, lick it off your partner, eat oysters pre- and post-coitus all you want, but it will only benefit your sexual prowess if you believe in it.

E-mail your sex questions and comments to sex@dalgazette.ca.

Bringing basketball back

Former Tiger captain produces all-star weekend

JOEY RYBA
Sports Editor

Toronto lawyer, businessman and journalist Paul Riley is one of the driving forces behind the American Basketball Association (ABA) All-Star Weekend in Halifax that runs from Jan. 26 to 28.

But before Riley entered the corporate and journalistic world, he was a standout player on the Dalhousie men's basketball team from 1986 to 1992.

Riley, who was born in Jamaica and grew up in Toronto, has brought new business ventures to the ABA, such as a basketball contract with Spalding and sponsorship from Reebok for the event. Riley's company, Jazz Media Display Group, is producing the all-star weekend.

The ABA is a professional basketball league with 60 teams throughout the U.S., Mexico and Canada. A Halifax-based expansion franchise, the Halifax Rainmen, begins play this fall.

Even before he took to the court in Tiger's jersey, Riley knew Halifax was a basketball town.

While he was in high school in Toronto, his team played in a tournament at Queen Elizabeth High School. Riley's team dominated the tournament, which was scouted by many Atlantic University Athletics Association (AUAA) coaches. Riley says he and his teammates had a great time.

"Nowhere in Toronto does a high school basketball tournament make it on the front page," says Riley. "But sure enough, here in Halifax you had numerous stories on the tournament."

Despite all the AUAA teams trying to recruit him, Riley chose Dal because it was the best school at the time. He says coming to Dal was the best decision he ever made.

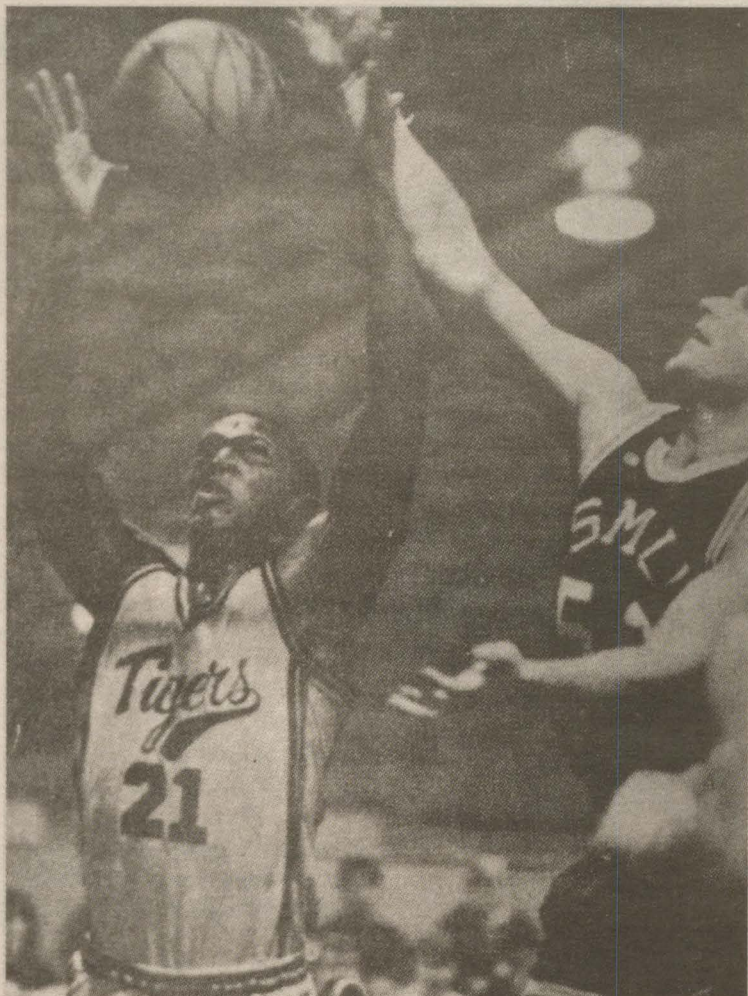
"It was just a passionate time for young men," says Riley. "You loved playing basketball and it was the focal point of your existence."

At Dal, Riley studied recreation management. He wanted to study journalism, but since the program was only offered at the University of King's College, if he'd taken it he couldn't have played for the Tigers.

The highlight of his university basketball career was the intense rivalry between Dal and the Saint Mary's Huskies.

The animosity between the two teams brought excitement — and fans — to the games.

"You loved your teammates and you hated Saint Mary's, their players and everything they stood for," says Riley, who was a former Tigers' captain. "If we only won four games all



Paul Riley says he hated St. Mary's and its basketball players when he played for Dal. / Photo: Dal Archives Issue

year, it better have been four games against Saint Mary's"

Fans from both universities made their presence known at games. Riley says after one game at Saint Mary's, the Tigers' assistant coach Mark Parker said, 'Paul, I've never seen such venom spewed from a crowd directed at one player in my life.' Riley wouldn't have had it any other way.

Parker says Riley led by example, worked hard and brought a tough style of play to the table.

"Paul didn't roll over for anybody," says Parker. "He brought that toughness, that soul to the game. What we didn't have as far as the good basketball players, [Riley] made up for it by playing the game hard and he was that soul to the game."

Former teammate Gary Blair says Riley was a confident player and the Tigers fed off his confidence.

"The one thing he brought to the team was an attitude of going into the game knowing you're better than your opponents, not going into a game being afraid," says Blair.

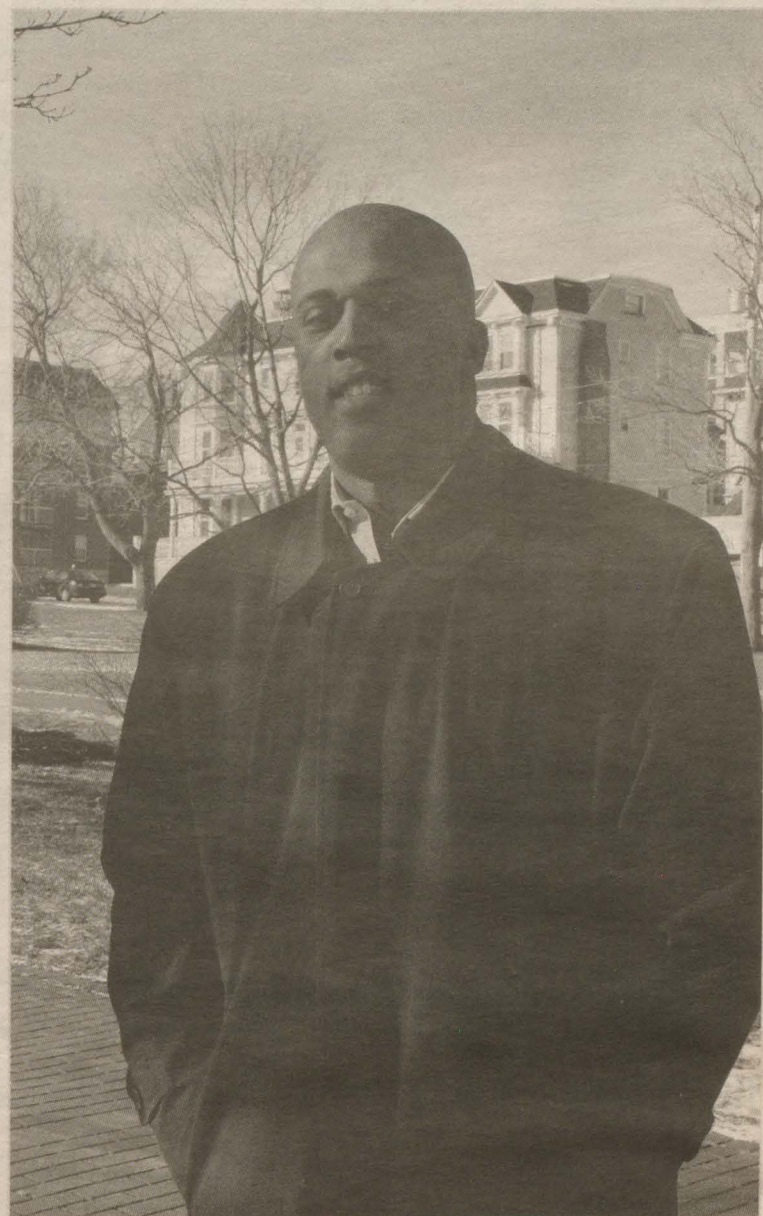
Blair says his most memorable moment was a game against the St. Francis Xavier at the Metro Centre when the Tigers defeated a powerhouse X-Men squad into front of over 9,000 fans.

"[St. FX.] came into that game with a lot of swagger because their record was better than ours," says Blair. "I don't think they were expecting us to show up and we took care of them, we took care of them in front of everybody there."

After Riley graduated in 1992, he returned to Toronto to study journalism at Humber College. Within six months of starting the program, he landed a job with CBC Halifax as a sports reporter and finished his journalism degree through correspondence.

After 10 months on the job in Halifax, he was offered a job with CBC Toronto. He says he was hesitant to take the job because he really liked Halifax, but his producer thought it was best.

Like CBC Halifax, Riley loved his job in Toronto. He says he literally



Paul Riley says getting involved with the ABA event is an opportunity to show Halifax how good the league is. / Photo: John Packman

"jumped" out of bed everyday to go to work, but says after five years, he felt a career in law was "beckoning."

"I just felt if I got to 40 or 45 and hadn't acquired a law degree, which was always a goal of mine, I think there would be some regret there," says Riley.

Riley left the CBC and took law at Osgoode Hall at York University. After articling, he opened his own practice and then launched his latest business endeavour, the marketing company Jazz Media Display Group.

Riley's company got on with the ABA project through the owner of the Halifax Rainmen, who asked Riley to get involved because of his history with basketball and professional experience.

Riley says this is a chance to show Halifax the ABA is good basketball with talented players.

"It was a great opportunity to get in there and cultivate the ground," says Riley. "[To] showcase the talent of the league and hopefully build a fan base for my client's team when it starts in the fall."

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR ABA ALL-STAR WEEKEND

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fam Fest: free event for families, with trivia, music, interactive games and open practice with players

4 p.m.

All-Star Saturday Night: St. F. X. X-Men vs. Dalhousie Tigers

AFTER THE GAME:

3-point contest
Slam dunk contest
Awards ceremony
Hedley takes the stage with MC Farley Flex

SUNDAY, JAN. 28

12 p.m.

Saint Mary's Huskies vs. Memorial Seahawks

AFTER THE GAME:

ABA All-Star Game: East vs. West

Student Employment Centre

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Summer Job Fair

Feb 5, 10 - 2 pm
Feb 6, 10 - 11:30 am
Feb 7, 2 - 3:30 pm
Feb 8, All Day
Feb 9, 10 - 3 pm

For more information visit www.dal.ca/sec

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Learn the basics of business dining, and how to present yourself competently in social situations.

Jan 30 11:30 - 2:00 pm
Tickets \$20, available at SEC and School of Business Career Services

SEC Road Trip

Jan 31 - Sexton Campus, Student Lounge 10 - 2 pm



Organizers predict big crowds for all-star weekend

COLLEEN COSGROVE
Assistant Sports Editor

Halifax will be home to the annual ABA All-Star Weekend, one of the basketball world's most esteemed competitions, which runs from Jan. 26 to 28.

Teams from across the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) conference will showcase their talent. Dalhousie will take on the St. Francis Xavier X-Men on Saturday and Saint Mary's will play Memorial on Sunday. The event culminates with an all-star game finale on Sunday afternoon.

Andre Levingston, owner of the new ABA expansion team, the Halifax Rainmen, says he's happy to bring the ABA to Canada. He's experienced nothing but positive responses from the Halifax basketball community, he says.

Halifax has been well known for its basketball prowess for nearly 25 years as host of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) cham-

pionships. But this year — a year before the coveted 25th anniversary — will be the last CIS appearance in the city until at least 2010. Carleton University outbid Halifax and the competition will be held in Ottawa for the next two years.

Levingston says it's unfortunate the CIs are moving to Ottawa, but for the Rainmen, the timing is ideal.

"We didn't even know the CIs were leaving when we placed the bid to bring a professional basketball team to Halifax," he says. "It was a perfect fit, and what better way to fill the basketball void after CIs leave."

The Rainmen are the third ABA team to move to Canada. Teams in Montreal and Quebec City were established two years ago. Levingston says this is just the beginning.

"By the end of next year, there will likely be seven professional basketball teams across Canada," says Levingston. "The ABA is considering placing teams in Ottawa, Mississauga and potentially Vancouver and Calgary."

Although the Rainmen will predominantly compete against teams in the U.S., Levingston predicts a bright future for the Rainmen.

"Halifax is basketball town, and ideally this weekend I would love to see the Metro Centre sold out with 2,000 people waiting outside who can't get tickets," says Levingston. "That is the level I want to bring the Rainmen to."

Paul Riley, owner of Jazz Media Display Group producing the event, says he's eager to bring the ABA game to the city.

"My clients pitched [Halifax] to the ABA predominantly because the league is expanding into Canada tremendously," says Riley, who used to play basketball for Dal. "We felt this would be the ideal spot because the level of basketball being played and the crowds we already get for CIs."

Riley hopes the all-star tournament will see 3,000 people a night at the Metro Centre.

"I know Halifax can handle it."



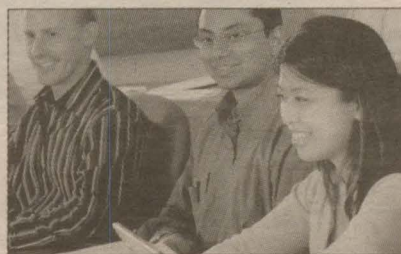
Paul Riley hopes the all-star tournament will see 3,000 people a night at the Metro Centre.

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Queen's

Atlantic show jumping comes to Dal

COLLEEN COSGROVE
Assistant Sports Editor

For the first time ever, Dalhousie is home to an equestrian team. Ratified by the Dalhousie Student Union this year, the equestrian society is composed of 13 members who compete throughout the school year against a handful of Atlantic University Sport (AUS) schools.

Team captain Michelle McVicar says getting the chance to compete and train during university is great despite the sport's expense and minimal funding.

"We are still in the infant stages of the club," says McVicar. "Lots of the regulations and the point system are still being debated, but it's just great being out there and able to compete."

Only Acadia, the Nova Scotia Community College, the University of New Brunswick, St. Francis Xavier and Dalhousie have equestrian clubs that compete show jumping.

The Dal club held tryouts in early November and McVicar says the turnout was overwhelming, with nearly 30 people showing up.

"We were only able to take 13 people on the team, but just having 30 people show up was exciting," she says.

Competitions allow only 12 competitors, so taking 13 members was necessary in case of illness or injury.

The season continues until April. Dal's team uses horses from the Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers on Bell Road, where they also practice and host competitions.

Atlantic university equestrian clubs practice "catch riding," which means the school hosting competitions supplies the horses. Riders have no time to warm up or get accustomed to their horse before competing, and horses can be sub par



"It's literally 'adjust your stirrups and go into the ring,'" says Michelle McVicar of catch riding.
/ Photo: John Packman

because they aren't specifically bred for show jumping. It's common for interuniversity clubs across North America to practice catch riding.

"It's literally 'adjust your stirrups and go into the ring,'" says McVicar. "It's tough, so it's important to practice with different horses and learn how to quickly get to know your horse. It's not bad because the Lancers have good horses."

Kate Sinclair, another member of the equestrian society, says it's about time Dal had some unique clubs and

societies to represent the university.

"A society existed last year at Dal but this is truly the first year for us now that we have team members, a coach and a place to train," says Sinclair, who's been riding since she was eight. "I just think that gradually more and more interest will come and more opportunities and exposure for our club will follow."

No equestrian competition equivalent to AUS championship has been developed, but Sinclair says it's just a matter of time.

Athletes of the week

FEMALE ATHLETE



LAUREN DORRINGTON
SWIMMING

At the Double Dual Meet against the University of New Brunswick and Mount Allison on Jan. 21, Lauren Dorrington won each of the three events in which she competed. She earned top honours in the 100-metre freestyle, the 200-metre individual medley and as a member of the 4x100-metre medley relay team. The veteran led the Tigers to the team win as it swept 13 of 14 events at the meet. Dorrington is a third-year sociology student from Uxbridge, Ont.



MALE ATHLETE



NIK RADEMACHER
VOLLEYBALL

Nik Rademacher led the Tiger squad to a 3-1 record at the interlock tournament at Laval University Jan. 19 to 21. The Tigers defeated Sherbrooke and McGill in straight sets and took the No. 10 ranked Montreal in four sets. The only loss for the team was in five sets to the host, Laval, which is ranked seventh in the CIS. He earned 70 kills, three aces, 23 digs and six blocks for 79 points. Rademacher is a third-year management student from Bocholt, Germany.



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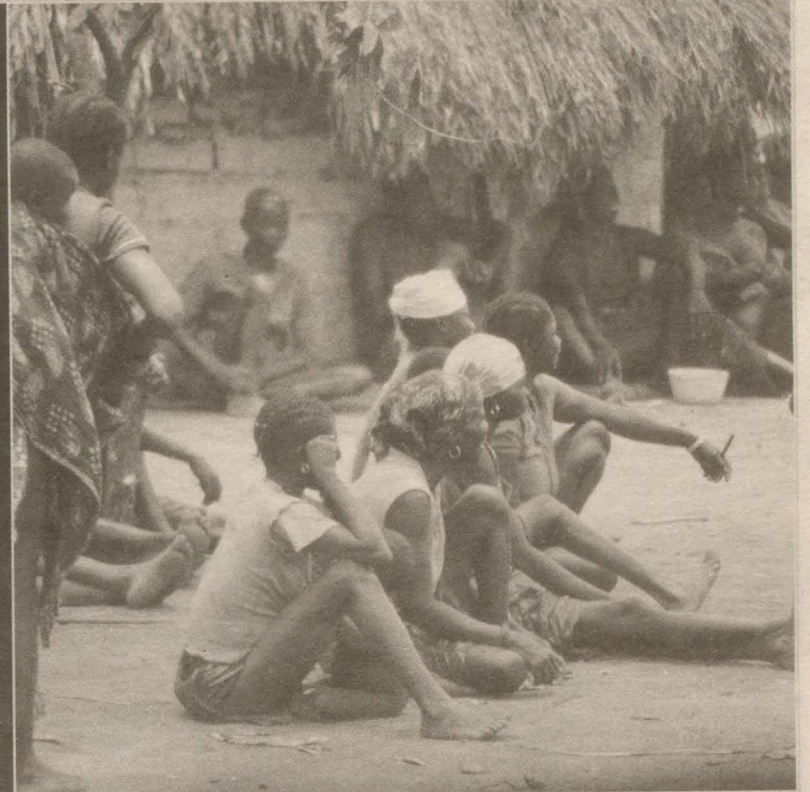
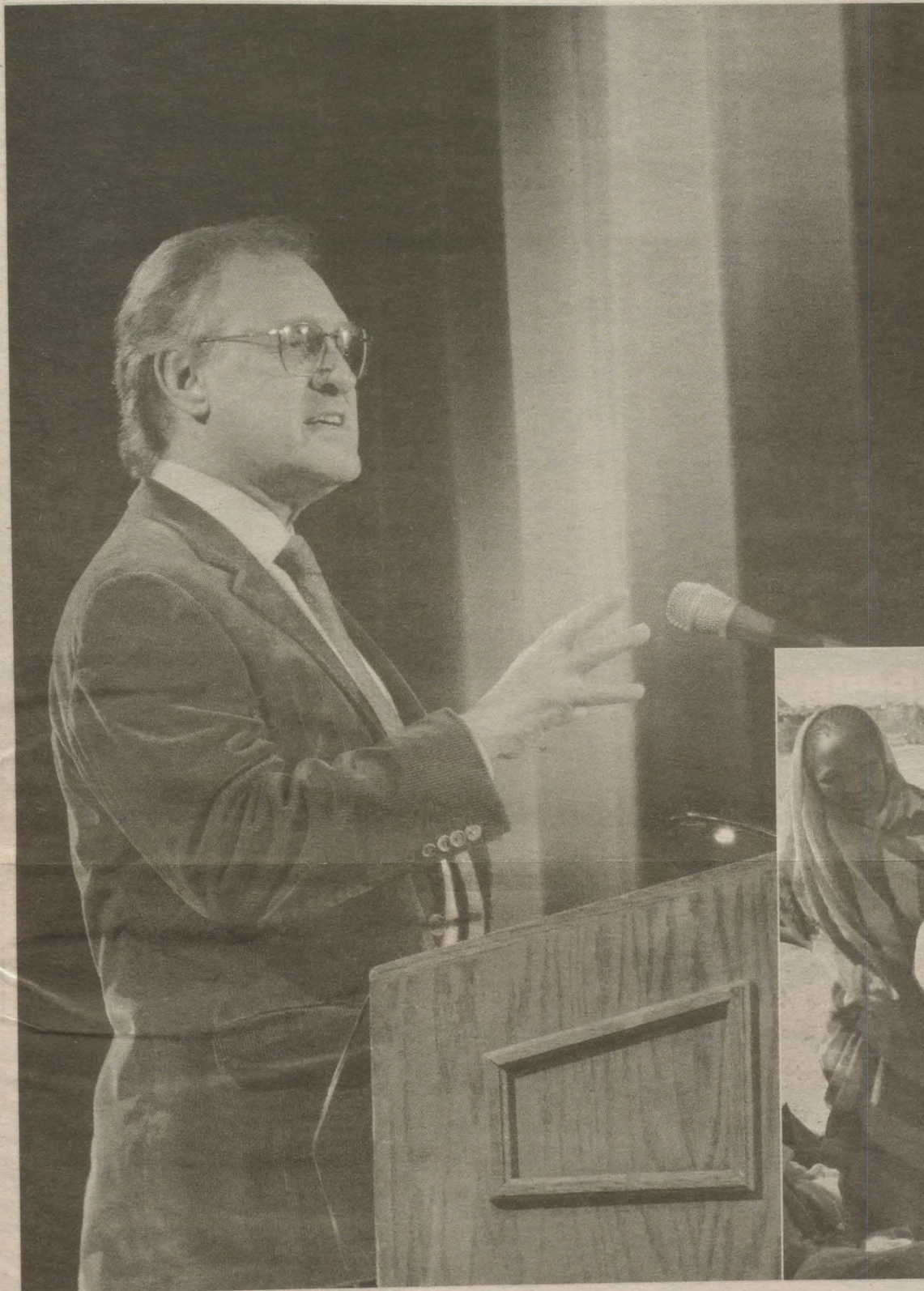
Volunteer Meetings
Every Monday at 5:30, Room 312, Dal SUB



The

SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER



Bearing the gender burden

Stephen Lewis spoke to a full house of students, organizations and community members on the Dalhousie campus this past Tuesday. His strongest message: put women at the forefront of development thinking.

Though Lewis is best known for his work on HIV/AIDS advocacy and his prestigious appointment as UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, his many years of work have clearly broadened his vision on disease, development and the human spirit. Tuesday's message focused on the need for action from the global community, particularly the need to put gender equity at the forefront of confronting HIV/AIDS and other challenges of development.

For those students who were able to pick up one of the hundreds of free tickets being offered for the event, the experience of listening to Lewis talk was motivating. His passion to inspire others to get the message out and engage Canadians in issues that the global community is

facing seems to be unprecedented at his level of diplomatic esteem.

His stories spoke unmistakably of burdens that are largely born onto women in times of crisis, as well as times of relative peace. His personal experience with the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide and his understanding of the brutality and terror that the entire nation lived through forced him to directly question the ethics of the global community, though he continues to stand by international treaties such as the Responsibility to Protect, an ethical interventionist guideline commissioned by the UN and headed by Canada's then-Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. More significantly, Lewis' travels in Rwanda led him to conclude not only that the international community was backing down from its commitments against genocide, but also that it was avoiding the issue of women's rights, particularly the acts of sexual violence directed toward women in Rwanda

and other states in times of conflict.

It must be highlighted that sexual violence against women is not limited to the African continent. The world over, women suffer from disempowerment to varying degrees. The HIV/AIDS pandemic in particular cries out to the issue of women's empowerment. When macho male mentalities lead to rape, promiscuity and a lack of women's access to contraceptives — or lack of control over those contraceptives they do have access to — the result has been generations of needlessly suffering women and children.

Women, as Lewis has witnessed over his political and diplomatic careers, continue to disproportionately bear the burdens of genocide, crisis and ongoing poverty. The socially constructed and accepted roles of women have made them voiceless, blinding others to their plight. Here in Canada the socio-economic position of women is sub par to that enjoyed by their male counterparts. In

other areas of the world, where infrastructure and social support is not as great as it is in Canada (which could also be doing much better), this division is even more pronounced.

On the African continent, as in Canada, a focus on gender equity is needed because women have been unable to bridge the power gap with men. Gender inequity is what takes little girls out of primary school to help with family chores when a member of the family falls ill. Gender inequity is why girl-specific infanticide has been widely reported in some areas. Gender inequity is the effect of laws that disproportionately favour male economic dominance through property ownership, rights of inheritance and other frequently gendered legal practices. Gender inequity is the burden of rural energy that falls disproportionately onto women. For example, the daily tasks of providing water, firewood and sustenance to the family, on top of subsistence agricultural production,

sum up the widely accepted gender role of women.

Stephen Lewis encountered amazing women like Graca Machel, an active children's rights advocate in her native Mozambique and South Africa, and Liberia's Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Africa's first female head of state. But it was especially the unknown, unacknowledged and under-appreciated common women of Africa who have led him to recognize the uneven burden of care accepted without complaint.

Lewis referred to African women as the "lynch pins of the continent." It is this recognition of women's absolutely central and integral role in Africa's fate that is most important to take from his speech and it is this recognition that will drive greater and more equitable change in the future, especially in terms of countering HIV/AIDS.

Vanessa Norris is co-president of the Dalhousie chapter of EWB.

Dalendar & Classifieds

dalendar@dalgazette.ca / classifieds@dalgazette.ca

Dalendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 25

Food Not Bombs Free Lunch

12:30 p.m. @ Victoria Park
Free vegan lunch three times a week.

Grawood Trivia Night featuring The Mellotones

7:00 p.m. @ The Grawood
Weekly trivia followed by The Mellotones every Thursday starting this week. Cover begins at 9 p.m.
\$4

Friday, Jan. 26

Seminar: "Developing Biophysical Understanding of Protein Supramolecular Assembly"

12:30 p.m. @ Chemistry Room 226
Presented by Professor Jan K. Rainey

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Dalhousie University.
Free

Film Screening: "The Departed"

12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. @ The Grawood
Weekly film screening presented by the DSU.
Free

Noon Hour Recital

12:30 PM @ MacAloney Room (406), Dal Arts Centre
Piano recital with students of Peter Allen.
Free

Winter Warm-Up Hawaiian Theme Night with Andru Branch & Halfway Tree

9:00 p.m. @ The Grawood

Dress in your finest Hawaiian attire! Presented by Howe and Risley Hall. In support of the Munro Cup hockey game.
\$4

Saturday, Jan. 27

Launch of Audio-Documentary on First Nations & Colonialism in Canada

6:30 p.m. Ondaatje Auditorium @ Marion McCain Bldg
Ward Churchill and Roland Chrisjohn will be presenting their audio-documentary *Hoping Against Hope* about First Nations & colonialism in Canada.
Free

Dal-ACM InstallFest 2007.01

1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. @ Computer Science Building atrium

If you are interested in getting started with an alternative operating system (Linux, NetBSD, FreeBSD, BeOS, etc), having it installed on your computer or just learning about free operating systems and programs for your computer, then you are welcome to attend. For more information please see our wiki:
<http://wiki.dal-acm.ca/Installfest>.
Free

Charity Ball

7:00 p.m. @ McInnes Room @ Student Union Building
Annual Charity Ball with all proceeds going to CANFAR. Featuring DJ Brian Chaput and live music by God Made Me Funky as well as a silent auction. Tickets are available at the Info Desk in the Student Union Building.
\$25

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Dining Etiquette Lunch & Learn

11:30 a.m. - 02:00 p.m. @ The Great Hall, top floor of the University Club
An entertaining and informative session presented over a four course meal at Dalhousie University's Great Hall. Subjects covered include the basics of business dining, how to present yourself competently in social situations and how to effectively mix business and pleasure.
\$20

Acoustic Open Mic

6:00 p.m. @ Coffee house stage
Open Mic takes place on the coffee-house stage next to the Tim Horton's in the SUB every Tuesday. Pop by to

relax, or to sign up to perform on our open stage. For more information, email Kris Osmond at dsu.coffeehouse@hotmail.com.
Free

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Paul Murphy, Jon Samuel & Guests

9:00 p.m. @ The Grawood
Paul Murphy of Wintersleep and Jon Samuel of Contrived, accompanied by guests, perform an intimate evening of one another's stripped down, acoustic material.
\$3

Thursday, Feb. 1

Film Screening: "Babel"

12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. @ The Grawood
Weekly film screening presented by the DSU.
Free

Friday, Feb 2

Film Screening: "The Plow That Broke The Plains and The River"

12:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. @ Dalhousie Art Gallery, 6101 University Avenue, Arts Centre, lower level
Visionary American documentary Pare Lorenz made these groundbreaking films in the 1930s in response to the dust-bowl conditions of the Depression. The films demonstrate an environmental sensitivity long before it was fashionable. This film is part of a new series titled "Unexpected Outcomes: Cinema and the Environment".
Free

Classifieds

Send to classifieds@dalgazette.ca

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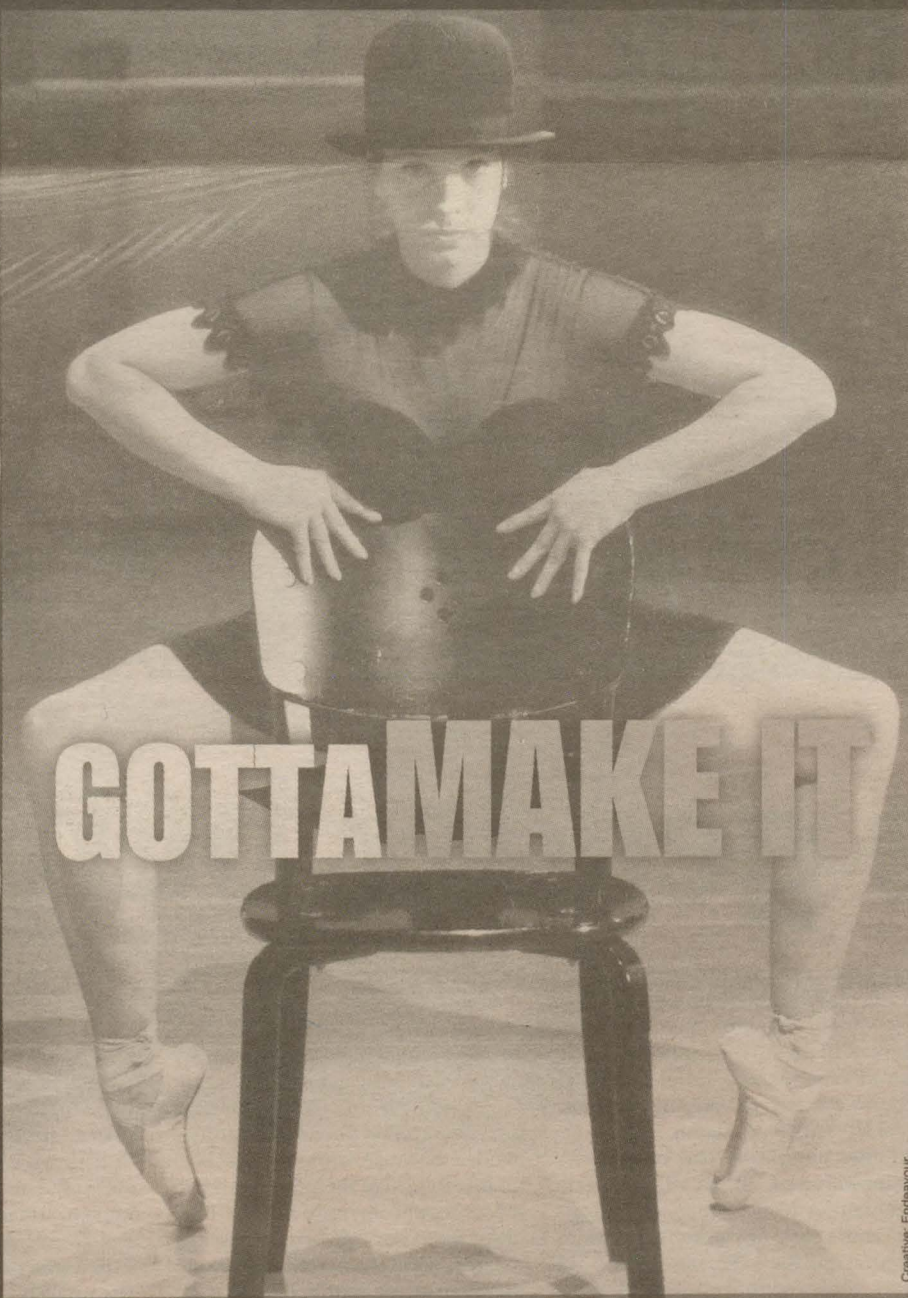
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Gazette

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