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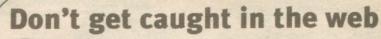
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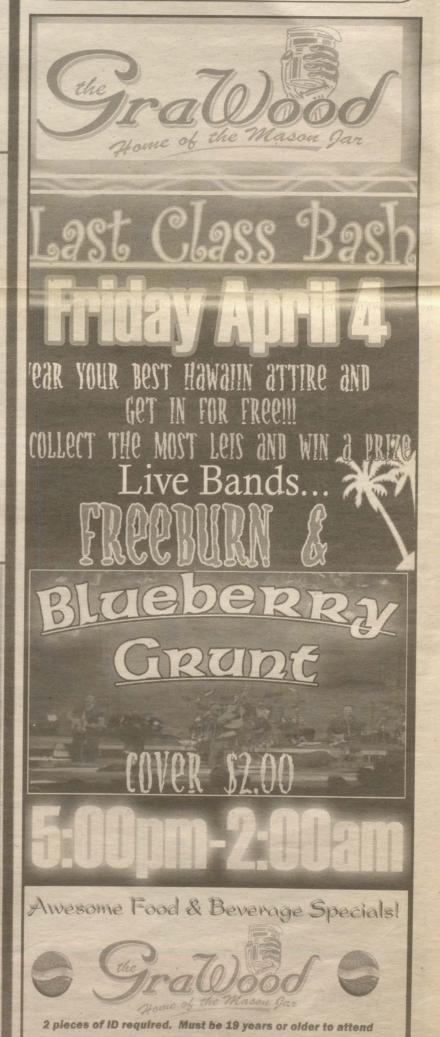
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Sexton sports teams escape contraction

JOSH SEIB Staff Reporter

Dalhousie's Sexton campus sport teams narrowly escaped complete elimination last week when the university's athletic advisory council unanimously decided to save them.

The men's and women's soccer and basketball teams were facing contraction because of a decision made by the Atlantic University Athletic Association.

Dalhousie will continue to have two varsity athletic programs, the one on the main campus and the other at Sexton campus. Both campuses have men's and women's soccer and basketball teams that compete separately in the same AUAA league.

There is one major catch to continuance in the AUAA from the league's standpoint-none of the teams will be allowed to compete in the playoffs, a unique situation resulting from the amalgamation of Technical University of Nova Scotia (TUNS) and Dalhousie.

At one time an independent university, TUNS was a founding member of the AUAA. By

the regulations of the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association, CCAA, a university campus can not hold membership in the league.

Pat Nearing, manager of athletics at Sexton campus, explains the implications with one example.

"In basketball, the rule is: the team that lost to us in the final and the team that lost to us in the semi-final would have to playoff the next day, at a neutral site, to determine the champion of the league, because we are not going on to the national championships."

Not only would a scheduling nightmare ensue and league credibility be at stake, but Nearing also said that some universities threatened to not send their teams to national championships.

"This creates a problem because some administrations are saying well you lost, why are you going forward? Some members of the league, through the presidents have stated that if this occurs they will not go, they will not fund the team to

Nearing has some reserva-

tions about the playoff situa-

"How serious is the league going to be in competing against us, in terms of every game that we play in that league basically being a quasiexhibition game, although their points will count towards playoff situations.

"If, for example, we were to knock out a team in the playoffs this year. Say it's going to happen in soccer, would that team then petition the league to say well maybe next year we should eliminate them from all points. We'd just be an exhibition partner.'

Johnny Laan, a varsity hockey player at Saint Mary's was sold on the idea in principle.

"Any competition is good," he said. For him, there are many reasons to play besides being in the playoffs, such as fighting off age, and bragging rights. "The top level players are there to be competitive, to enjoy the game, you don't even have refs.

There are further conditions contained in the motion that the university administration will set in place: Sexton must field at least three competitive teams

with adequate participation levels, also a requirement of the league; there must be commitment of athletes to adequately participate in team training sessions, off-court training and team competitions to the extent that would be consistent with expectations of a program with varsity status; any further limitations imposed by ACAA, or the CCAA.

Al Scott, the director of athletics pointed to one possible problematic scenario.

"If the ACAA members would further go to stick the dagger in Sexton campus's back and to say that there will be no points considered in games versus Sexton campus," he said.

The long term outlook for athletes at Sexton is rather uncertain as membership in the league is to be reviewed on a year-to-year basis by an athletics committee at Dal and may be terminated in any given year.

Jeff Townsend, an engineering student who plays basketball for Sexton thinks the present solution will benefit Sexton athletes.

"It's great to be able to play at a high level," he said. "It's not the same level by any means of CIS [Canadian Inter-university Sport] of course, but it's such a different ball game where people are able to have time to play. The coaches are more understanding about our work commitments."

The sense from some, is that students at Sexton campus have received preferential treatment and that students from other faculties who have heavy workloads should have the same opportunities to play varsity

Let the Dalhousie-Sexton rivalry begin.

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Printing prices at Dal inconsistent

JENNIFER MORRISON Staff Reporter

Students who swipe their Dal Cards each time they print documents at campus computers may be getting ripped off. There is no universal printing price, and at least three places on campus charge different prices.

The Killam library, which includes the new learning commons, charges \$0.12 per page (\$0.10 plus \$0.02 tax). At Campus Copy, in the basement of the SUB, it costs \$0.10 per page, no tax. The best deal comes from Computing Services, which operates labs across campus and charges a bargain price of \$0.05 per page.

Many Dalhousie employees who administer these services are confused about the price variations.

"I have absolutely no idea [why these discrepancies exist]," said Jim Kennedy, the Killam's circulation supervisor. He said provincial government policy mandates that the library charge tax for its printing services. Students can only use their Dal Cards to pay for library print jobs. He added that this process is convenient.

Carolyn Liggins, who also works at the circulation desk, said one student recently questioned her about the price differences, but she could not offer an explanation.

'We'd like to know ourselves how it works," she said.

All printing prices in the tunnel between the library and the Life Sciences Centre are set by Computing Services. And although these computers are close to the Learning Commons, students pay \$0.07 less per page.

"It's always busy, so I don't know whether or not that's making a difference. I don't even know if students are aware," said Brenda Crozsman, the coordinator of the Learning Resources Centre in the tunnel. "But it shouldn't be competitive, we should all be working together.'

She said that students use their Dal Cards to pay for printing jobs there, but the money is transferred through a "p-counter," a device used strictly for printing.

Randy Barkhouse, the director academic Computing Services, said that the low prices may not last forever.

"We're looking to increase costs," he said, adding that the increased use of computers on campus necessitates better technology. "I'm not sure why others charge the prices they do." He added that Computing Services charges enough to recover all costs. Barkhouse thinks the new printers in the learning commons are behind the higher prices in the Killam.

Campus Copy has the most straightforward pricing policy. Students can use their Dal Cards or cash to pay \$0.10 per page, and the price reflects the costs of the laser printers and supplies.

"We're trying to keep our prices low for the students," said employee Zofeen Shujaatullah. "People don't complain; people think it's less."

For now, there is no price war between the Killam, Computing Services, and Campus Copy. Still, students should be aware that their Dal Card balance may dwindle depending on their choice of printer. But higher prices may buy faster and better print jobs-so with Dal computers, you get what you pay for.

Looking back

Dal/TUNS One **Closer Together** (5 Dec. 1996)

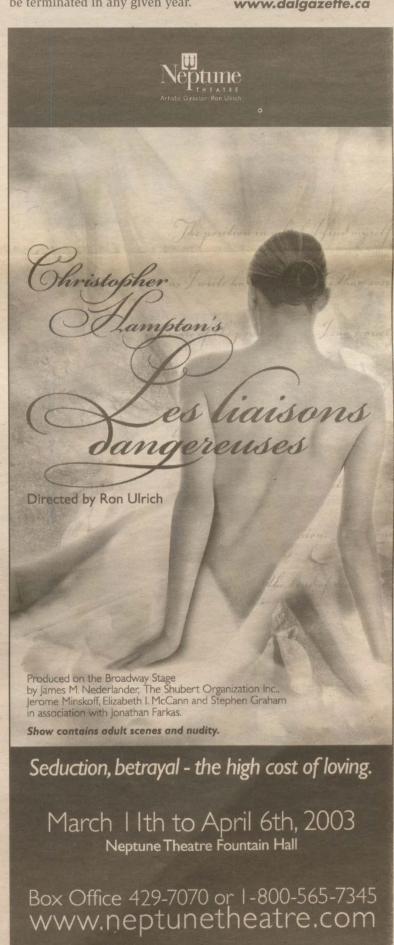
TUNS No More (3 Apr. 1997)

After months of negotiations, the merger between the Technical University of Nova Scotia (TUNS) and Dalhousie University became final on

April 1, 1997. TUNS was renamed Dal University Polytechnic, and was considered a college of Dalhousie. The institution's College Board and Academic Council were brought under the jurisdiction of the Board of Dalhousie. The road towards union was not altogether smooth, however. The amalgamation proposal had to pass TUNS, the Dalhousie Senate, and the Nova Scotia Legislature before coming into effect. One sticking point for negotiators was Dal's retention of the "right to dismiss non-unionized employees without just cause." However, university President Dr. Tom Traves stressed that this clause was necessary for the amalgamation to get governmental approval, and that university policy would prohibit such dismissals. Still, not everyone was satisfied with the final outcome. "It's not really a merger, it's more of a takeover," said one TUNS student. Another was unhappy with the name of the school: "A polytechnic in Europe is a college; they don't give out a university degree." Signs in the windows of O'Brien Hall read "Dal Stinks

& Sucks" and "TUNS Lives. -Compiled by Jennifer Morrison

Aliant



CBC (

The rain of Jesus

PAUL F. COMRIE News Contributor

Those terrible, navy umbrellas, spattered with blotches of orange, you've seen around campus-well, actually, the ones you haven't seen-are put there for a reason. They're donated by a non-denominational Christian church that is affiliated with Dalhousie. This public service is spearheaded by Dan Rolfe-a devout, bornagain Christian-whose aim is to help build a "sense of community on campus."

These miracle-umbrellas appear, at the beginning of each semester, in little boxes at the entrance of both the Killam Library and the Student Union Building. But the real mystery here is—where in the hell do all those spray-painted umbrellas go?

Dan Rolfe is originally an American; he immigrated to Canada in the early 1990s. He is a quiet, demure man, who sits drinking tea with a healthy smile on his face.

"I'll be the guy sporting a leather jacket and a moustache," he said before we met for our interview in the atrium of the Killam Library. The young man next to him is also a born-again Christian and is a good friend of Rolfe's. These two men seem confident: they both believe that they have found the truth.

"Unfortunately," says Rolfe,

"Christians agree on 90 per cent of what they believe, but they only ever focus on the 10 percent that they don't." For him, the Bible is the word of God and it should no be trifled with. But he isn't a pedant or completely orthodox in his beliefs.

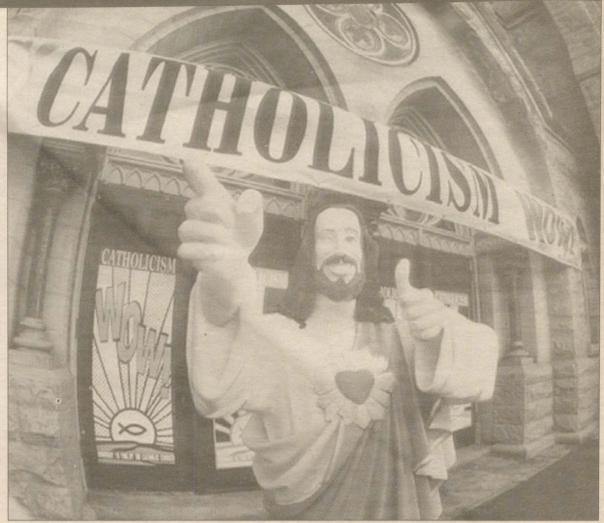
"I'm willing to discuss and debate pretty much anything in the Bible," he says. "But the onething I'm not willing to question is the Apostle's Creed that," he says, his face hardening with seriousness, "isn't up for interpretation."

Dan Rolfe's church tries to stay in the swing of things.

"We celebrate a progressive worship," he says. For those of you who don't know exactly what a progressive Christian worship is, it is people who gather in an informal setting, with acoustic guitars to enjoy each other's company, and to celebrate that pervasive feeling of unbridled optimism and exuberant joy that comes from "knowing Christ".

"There's nothing you could do or tell me to make me believe there is no God," says Rolfe. A few things flash in my mind, but I keep silent. "I've just seen too much tangible evidence in people's lives."

It takes guts to have that kind of faith. The young man sitting next to Rolfe is a sailor in the Canadian Navy; his name is John Swan, and he too is a born-again. When asked if he finds the military a hostile envi-



Illustration

No rain drops on your head thanks to the sweet love of Jesus.

ronment for a young man who is so devoutly Christian, he nods with assent. But these men are confident, Christ has lit-up their lives and shown them the way.

"I've tried and done everything," Rolfe says. "But even when I look back on my life before I became a Christian, I can see that God was working in my life even before I accepted Him." These two sentences seem to be encoded in the vocabulary of every born-again in the western-hemisphere. The whole "road to Damascus-and seeing the light hocus-pocus." But, Rolfe has nothing but good intentions. He's a regular guyhappily married with wonderful children. He's very optimistic, his God is a God of kindness

and forgiveness.

"I thought the umbrellas were a good symbol of what I was trying to do. They provide shelter from bad weather and they are unobtrusive." Rolfe isn't pushing for converts, but he's hoping the love of Christ will fill the students of Dalhousie every time they take another umbrella (and never return it). "God wants a loving and dynamic relationship with us," he says.

Rolfe's mission is clear-he doesn't seem to be pushing Christianity too forcefullybut, it only seemed fair to get another angle on the "loveumbrellas".

Looking for another-perhaps fuller-angle, I asked Richard Norman, a King's and

Dalhousie student, who is studying literature what he thought about the "Jesusumbrellas".

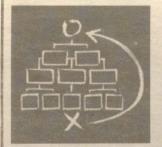
"I appreciate the 'umbrella outreach programme," he says with a wan smile on his face. "The one I took yesterday filled the umbrella-sized hole inside of me." But apart from that, it is hard to find information concerning the umbrellas.

The disappearing umbrellas remain an enigma. "Oh and one more thing," Rolfe says with a grin, near the end of our interview: "could you remind people in your article that they are 'courtesy' umbrellas and not 'gratuitous'?"

Unless Mary Poppins has suddenly developed a mean-streak and become the anti-Christ, it's hard to understand why these umbrellas keep melting away into nothingness.

Whatever the case, there seems to be plenty of "tangible evidence" to prove a rather bleaker view on humanity. Some jackass probably has a closet full of ugly, cheap, orange-tipped umbrellas in his closet.

Gazette Special General Meeting Come one, come all! **Help the Gazette** make some desicions. All Dal students welcome. Monday night, right after the writers meeting. (Come to that too, if you want.) 4:30 p.m. in room 312. SGM should start by 5:30 in Council Chambers.



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The windchill factor is her biggest enemy

MARY-JANA WEGE Assistant News Editor

Like many Nova Scotians, King's student Holly Gordon would love to live somewhere warm. She would like to escape the cold temperatures in the Maritimes. Unlike most Nova Scotians, Holly Gordon has an unusual reason to do so. The 19-year-old student is allergic to cold temperatures.

"When my doctor told me that I was allergic to the cold. I couldn't believe it. I didn't believe that that is an actual allergy," she said. But she realized soon after that her doctor was telling the truth.

The first time Gordon got hives on her legs swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, she thought it was due to the salt water. She was 14 years old and had just moved to Nova Scotia from Quebec. Unexplainable to her were the hives she got during horseback riding when the air cooled her face and the wind went through her pants causing rashes on her legs.

Later that summer, she found out about her allergy in almost tragic circumstances.

"I had an allergy attack at Queensland Beach. It was Canada Day and I was swimming in the cool ocean. I got hives right away when I entered the water. I felt sick, my blood pressure was dropping and I couldn't see for some time. Everything was bright," Gordon said. She passed out shortly after and went into convulsions for a couple of minutes. Her parents thought their daughter was having a heatstroke and tried to keep her cold.

Gordon's doctor diagnosed "cold-induced urticaria", the medical term for her allergy. Ever since that day, the 19-yearold student wears a medic alert bracelet and a carries sterile epinephrine auto-injector called 'epi-pen' for allergic emergencies. Luckily, she has never had to use it.

"When I have a heatstroke,

doctors would normally put me in an ice-bag. But when they see the bracelet they know that I am allergic to the cold and use other treatments," she said.

Holly Gordon knows there is no cure for her allergy. All she can do is try to prevent it. Swimming in Maritime waters is out of the question.

"That sucks, because I love swimming in the ocean," she said. Dressing warmly in the winter is crucial to the journalism and biology student.

Although she is mostly aware of her allergy, she sometimes

"I wore a skirt in the middle of the winter. It was a windy day and as soon as I went outside, I got hives on my legs and I had to go back inside," she said. That day, Gordon didn't pass out, but she said she was "half-way". She felt weak for a day, was sick to her stomach, and slept all afternoon. "That was completely my fault though," she said.

When it is really cold, Holly Gordon avoids going outside. She takes all tunnels on campus, although it takes longer. When she has to walk outside on a windy winter day, she developed her own strategy to stay warm. She runs between buildings to escape the wind. "The windchill factor is my biggest problem."

When Gordon was younger, she didn't want anyone to know about her allergy. Now she feels safer informing her friends in case something happens. "I am not embarrassed about my allergy. It is just weird," she

Having a reaction to cold temperatures isn't Gordon's only allergy. The first-year-student also suffers from hay fever and she is allergic to cats, dogs and

"Despite my allergies, I still go horseback riding and I still own a dog. I love animals and I plan on going to vet-school.

"My allergies are never going to stop me.'



Gordon's medic alert bracelet.



King's student Holly Gordon is allergic to cold temperatures.

Photo: Mary-Jana Wege

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The DSU appreciates... itself

NATALIE PENDERGAST Staff Contributor

On Saturday, Mar. 15, the DSU held a formal student appreciation-night dinner. All society and staff members at Dalhousie were invited to the dinner, awards show, and

The evening began at 8 p.m. with bottles of wine distributed to every table. The Caribbean theme made the McInnis Room atmosphere uncannily similar to the twilight zone with a foggy haze suspended at everyone's eve level.

The decorations were sparkly silver and blue except for the clusters of Caribbean paraphernalia randomly clinging to sections of the walls.

Jamiroquai was in the background, and after the food was served, it changed to Celtic

The Gazette staff, who sat at table number 10, all agreed that the supper was scrumptious (save for the alarmingly orange carrots) and permission was even granted to take extra potatoes if one felt vegetarian.

After dinner came the awards. The emcee, student union council Chair Jennifer Cleversey, made un-repented DSU insider jokes to fill up white noise every now and then. None of them got any laughs from the crowd except for those belonging to the only executive souls who had a

sweet clue what she was talking about.

The distribution of awards went as follows:

DSU Departmental Awards:

T-Room Staff of the year -Allison MacPherson

Grawood Staff of the year -Rachelle Richardson, Adam

Campus Copy Staff of the year -**Christal Richards**

Info Desk Staff of the Year -**Thomas Knowles**

SUB Staff of the year -Mike Stewart, Ambyr Lagere Technical Staff of the Year -**Peter Woods**

Full-time Staff of the Year -Michelle Kirkwood, Pat Martin Night Manager Special Thanks - Paul, Tim, and Gordon

Society Awards:

Level Chan Award **Jody Gallagher** Unsung Hero Award **Erin Riley**

Society Member of the year -Abiola Sunmonu, from DISA Non-Academic Society of the year - Sodales (Debating) with honourable mention Engineers without Borders, Marine Biology, and Pharmacy Academic society of the year -**Computer Science**

Ironically, for a "Student Appreciation Night", there were a lot of non-students being



The foxy Brianne Lauxier.

appreciated. A significant number of the DSU Departmental awards went to geezers.

Then the good times rolled. There was a teetering soft porn slide show choreographed to a medley of dance hits featuring artists from Right Said Fred to

The night ended with a live show from Big Fish and free Martini glasses with the DSU logo on them.

The event was a good way to

unify different groups of students which was one of the goals of DSU president, Johanne Galarneau.

"I think people feel that the DSU is good this year and that they made a contribution to student life," she said.

"I think everybody had a good time, I think it all went pretty well," said Brianne Lauzier, DSU vice-president community affairs and student appreciation organizer.

NEWS BRIEFS

Milennium suggests parents expect too much

The government expects too much of parents when it comes to sending their children to unia new versity, suggests. The study, commissioned by the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, established by the federal government in 1998 to award grants to "needy students," and to improve access to post-secondary education. The report revealed that student assistance programs routinely expect families with pre-tax incomes of over \$80,000 to contribute at least \$10,000 per year to their children's education. But according to recent report by the Foundation, only 3 per cent of students actually receive this level of support from their parents. The report also describes student loan levels that haven't increased in almost a decade. -CUP, Ontario Bureau

Rally against sow stalls

The Winnipeg Humane Society wants people to join in the campaign against sow stalls and independent farmers are echoing their demands. The society believes that financial gain is the main motive in the use of sow stalls. The society will be looking for opportunities to set up information tables and publicly display "Penelope", their sow, in her crate. Their goal is to encourage citizens to lobby the Minister of Agriculture and other officials to ban the crates

-CUP, Central Bureau

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DALHOUSIE University

Police discipline protesters

SIMON HELWEG-LARSEN Staff Reporter

As bombs began to fall in Baghdad, peace protesters here in Halifax faced arrests and police action unseen since the June meeting of G7 Finance Ministers.

The Mar. 20 rallies were to be expected. A growing number of people across the HRM have been joining large marches since January, voicing their opinion against the war on Iraq. Up until now, there had been no arrests at the peaceful

Last Thursday, however, police used electric tazers and arrested 11 protestors. Nine of them were later released without charge and two were charged with assaulting a police officer. Most of the individuals chosen for arrest from the crowd were active organizers of the rally.

Beginning at 8 a.m. last Thursday, protesters marched in the street alongside police escorts. Provocative, yet peaceful, actions were met with police non-involvement. At different times, protesters rallied on the property of a north-end Esso station, entered an armory building, lay down in front of the U.S. Consulate, and plastered an Exxon office with fake blood and dollar bills. Police were present at these actions, but made no attempts to intervene in the protests in any way.

It wasn't until the rally of around 200 had left its last location and headed to the Spring Garden Library that police officers changed. An order to arrest anyone who stepped off of the sidewalk went out on police radios. Those who were not lucky enough to overhear this message had no warning as the police did not alert the protestors of their intention.

When the march reached Barrington Street, the police tried to herd the crowd toward Blowers Street. The front section of the march attempted to continue towards Spring Garden Road, and the unknowing mass behind followed the snaking path. At this point, having given no warning that the march was now considered illegal, an officer pushed Dalhousie student Rob MacGregor towards sidewalk. When MacGregor began to walk to the sidewalk on the opposite side of the street, he was spun around and arrested.

Two other students tried to pull MacGregor free, which only made the police more angry and forceful. The confused crowd then circled around the van and sat in the to be released.

At this point, officers began reaching into the crowd and pulling protesters for arrest.

"I had barely been sitting for a minute when a number of cops moved on me," said Dal student and rally organizer John Dimond-Gibson. "I don't remember anyone telling me what I was being charged

The first two men and one woman arrested were organizers of the march. From the crowd of 200 sitting people, most of the people chosen for arrest were organizers and had been vocal in chants and speeches. Peace activist Alize Zorlutuna was sitting with the

"The next thing I knew, a cop was pointing at me saying 'get her, get her'," she said.

The police "maintained a painful grip" on Zorlutuna's wrist, but were harder on Dimond-Gibson and other marchers arrested. Dimond-Gibson said he was handled



forcefully by a large number of officers, who at one point lifted him off of the ground and held him horizontally against a police van. At this point, Dimond-Gibson was shocked with an electric tazer.

Tazers were used on other protesters as well. Fourth-year International Development Studies student Anna Hunter said she was shocked with the tazer multiple times on her legs and upper arms. Officers also waved their billy-clubs at the crowd in threat of force.

Even after the crowd had dispersed and was walking on the sidewalk Spring Garden towards the library, police continued the arrests. On the street, officers pointed at individuals, then charged into the crowd to detain them.

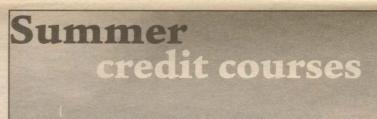
At this point individuals were targeted for arrest. A high school student and an elderly man with a grey beard were among those pulled from the

After arresting 11 people, the police maintained a watch over the Spring Garden Road library re-group meeting.

Despite this intimidation, however, thousands of people continued to march in the

streets of Halifax throughout the weekend.

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We reserve the right to edit letters to the editor for clarity. They do not necessarily represent the Gazette's editorial views.

RE: DalOUT Levy

When I first started writing for the *Gazette*, I vowed to never respond to a letter of reply to one of my articles. However, after reading the four letters of response to my article last week that twisted the truth beyond recognition, I have decided to break my vow.

A common theme in all four letters is the belief that I am a hate-spreading bigot who wants to divide the Dalhousie student population. Nothing could be further from the truth. In contrast, one of the reasons I wrote the article was out of the belief that the proposed levy would divide students rather than unify them. Currently, students can make a contribution to DalOUT, if they want to. It is this choice that is treasured by many students who resent the idea of having the will of the majority imposed on a minority. Personally, I think the idea of taking away Dalhousie students' choice to fund a specialinterest society would only create more divisions than it would close. It is precisely this choice that Don Kearney and Johanne Galarneau were trying to take away from students on the 2002/2003 ballot. If 51 per cent of students had voted for the levy, 100 per cent of students would have been forced to pay it. Where is the choice in that?

Another disturbing theme in these letters is the belief that those of us who oppose DalOUT are simply ignorant and require student-sponsored re-education. Consequently, these writers have proven themselves to be infinitely more intolerant than the "gay-bashing Catholic" they loathe. They believe in forcing all students to fund an organization that would impose its political beliefs on all students through one-sided, special-interest society sponsored information.

Thus, these writers have revealed their intolerance of the many students who care deeply for their religious beliefs; including most practicing Christians, Jews, and Muslims. A mandatory levy for DalOUT would be the grossest form of religious bigotry and would clearly establish the DSU as an undemocratic organization. Ironically, those who claim to be the champions of openmindedness have revealed themselves to be among the most intolerant religious bigots. Sadly, Galarneau and the other 16 councillors who allowed the levy question to be put on the ballot seem to think this kind of intolerance is acceptable in the DSU.

James Smith

Re: editor's salaries

I am sorry that after reading my letter you felt I was putting down the *Gazette* and the people, who, I am sure, work so hard to put it out every week.

The intent of my letter was to criticize the way the increased funding was being advertised on campus not the people who work for it. Nor was I complaining about the content. The advertising came off as if more money would equal better content while everyone knows that throwing more money at something will not make things better.

I do not doubt that the people who work for the *Gazette* work hard every week to put out a quality paper and you are probably right when you say they deserve more then \$4.44/hr but everyone there has a choice. They can leave if they do not like the money or feel that they are being worked too hard. But if they like what they are doing, they should be happy they are getting paid for it. To those who are working for the *Gazette* and are thinking that they should be getting paid more just think of working at the *Gazette* as an investment.

If you want to be a journalist and work for a newspaper, having "editor of the *Dalhousie Gazette*" on your resume probably will help you get a job. Working for the *Gazette* will pay off in the long run.

Had the *Gazette* gotten its increase in funding would any of this money went to paying the editors more? Because the way it was advertised never mentioned that money would go to pay students. Maybe had you said this some students would have sympathized with you and voted for an increase in funding, but I still would not have. Like every other student here at Dalhousie I pay a lot of money in tuition and fees and the majority here feel that it is high time that increases and tuition and fees stop. I should not have to pay more money so that the editors of the *Gazette* will not have to get a second job. *Tarek Clamp*

Labelling Christians

Once again, the intelligence of the population here at

Dal is shown to be low. Not that I really care, only that I think that college students should be able to label themselves and others in a proper way. Labels are about who you are, what you think, and what you believe. Sometimes others give us a label. We call that racism, or stereotyping. At other times, we give labels to ourselves. MacDonald in his response to Smith's letter talked about labels. He said "don't call yourself tolerant if you are not tolerant..." Good. I like that. However, he said something else that did not make as good sense. He claimed to be a Catholic. But if you read the letter, it is clear that he is not a Catholic, or at least not a practicing and believing Catholic. From what I understand, being a Catholic is more than being baptized as a baby. Being Catholic is believing in the Roman Catholic Church (I am assuming these people are Roman Catholic as opposed to the other Catholic sects that are out there), trusting their leaders and believing in the Bible.

From what I read in his letter, it would seem that MacDonald is a Protestant (most likely United Church) worshipping at a Catholic Church. I would think that it is important to know what it is that you call yourself and whether or not you actually fit that description. MacDonald seems to me like a heterosexual calling himself gay, or a meat-eating vegetarian, or a deity-worshiping atheist. It just doesn't jive.

My closing comments are this: know who you are and know the group that you are a part of. If you don't know one or the other, then keep your mouth shut and claim nothing! Sympathizing with someone just for the sake of common ground is worthless if your definitions are meaningless.

Jordan J.T. Braun

Homosexual nirvana

In last week opinion piece by James Smith, he said, "As a Catholic, I believe that a homosexual lifestyle is morally repugnant and should be practiced by none." Likewise, as a homosexual, I believe the Catholic lifestyle is morally repugnant and should be practiced by none. His use of the word "practice" gives the impression that homosexuality is a religion. Despite the fact that I have had some homosexual "prayer" sessions in which I have often felt I have gone to heaven, homosexuality is not a religion. Sadly, even though Catholicism is a religion, I cannot report any near nirvana experiences during the first 18 years of my life as a past Catholic.

I applaud his astute reasoning on the inappropriateness of the DSU proposal to levy a fee on all students, thus using public money, to support a "special interest" organization, DalOUT. I myself have used the same sort of reasoning in the past when discussing a similar situation regarding my brother. He is a teacher for a Catholic school system in Alberta. I am outraged that Alberta uses public funds to pay the salaries of teachers of such a subversive organization. As a devout homosexual and an avid supporter of feminism, I find the funding of an organization that espouses such blatant homophobic and sexist values to be morally outrageous.

Smith rightly said, "as a democracy-loving Canadian tolerance must be exercised in a healthy democratic state. But tolerating a group that I disagree with, and being expected to endorse that group are two extremely different things." I completely agree. In a pluralistic democratic society, it is one thing to tolerate Catholics, but why should the public be footing the bill for them to indoctrinate their children into homophobia and sexism? David Butler

Re: DalOUT continued

This is just a quick response to the criticism of the *Gazette* by Johanne Galarneau and Don Kearney. While I was quick to respond my condemnation of James Smith's comments, the *Gazette* is not to be condemned for printing his letter. As a responsible newspaper the *Gazette* has the responsibility to represent all students and their right to free speech, even if their views and freedom of speech go to an extent that some consider beyond what that freedom would encompass.

I am sickened by the so-called 'white supremacy groups' who use free speech as a loophole to condone racism. I would gladly see them shut down. However, what would be the next step on the slippery slope onto which we would embark?

Today, we see much horrible journalism. American news coverage of the war seems to have given up all previous pretense of being responsible media and not just a massive propaganda engine. The American flag flying in the background as we are told of the glorious American campaign to "Liberate the Iraqi people." If by liberate you mean 'kill', then mission accomplished.

But I do not wish for this to be a letter about the war, there are enough articles on that and my views are, for the most part, in accord. The *Gazette* did, and has done

in the past, an exemplary job to publish all views, not just those popularly held.

While I hope for a day when intolerance will be a thing of the past, brushing it under the carpet will not make it go away. By publishing the letter, our community was made aware of the fact that intolerance still exists. Thank-you *Gazette*.

Stuart MacDonald

Re: Grawood covers its ass

This letter is in regards to the article Michael Goodfellow wrote in last week's edition of the Dalhousie *Gazette*.

In the article titled "Grawood covers its ass", there were a few details that were not fully investigated. As a result there were some things that were misreported. In the article there was a comment by a staff member at the Grawood saying that, "We have a new assistant manager who has told us that we have to charge. He said that they changed the constitution, whether they actually did or not I don't know".

The fact that the staff said they were unsure should have led to further investigation. This matter was not further investigated and thus the situation of cover charge at the Grawood was misreported. There was no change in the constitution that makes cover mandatory, in fact Grawood cover charge is not linked to any constitution or policy it is based on operational needs.

Also this is not something that happened since the assistant manager was brought on in January, as I said in the article, cover on Wednesday's was mandatory last year this is not a new thing for this year.

In the article I mentioned I understand that some students do not feel they have to pay cover but before we make any decisions we are going through the budgetary process for next year and we will have to see what the financial implications are before removing the mandatory cover on Wednesday nights.d

Trevor MacRae, Executive Vice-President, DSU



Re: S. Baigent's 'save the wildlife'

I would like to comment on one of the articles appearing in your March 13, opinions section on page 15, "Why is the Wildlife Disappearing?".

"If an animal population becomes too great for the environment to support it, then the animals instinctively know to slow down their breeding and number of offspring."

I don't believe this statement is true. Animals do not have any idea how large their population must be before it cannot be supported. Do you think that a female rabbit will turn to an approaching male and say 'Not today sir, there are 58 of us in this forest and only 49 of us can be supported'?

Animal populations are controlled primarily by

1) Available resources. When the resources run out, there will not be enough food to go around and some animals will die of starvation. This effectively lowers the population numbers.

2) Predation. More rabbits means that it is easier for foxes to find them and hunt them down. The fox population will grow, and they will eat more rabbits, which also lowers the population. The whole system is dynamic. Any imbalances are controlled by external factors, not internally by the desires of the animals.

Human populations can be controlled in the same way, but unfortunately we have learned to push the resources of other animals aside to make room for our own growth. We have also developed firearms that allow us to hunt our own predators. This has expanded the maximal sustainable population for humans by decreasing that of other animals. If we are smart enough to expand our sustainable population limits, we should also be smart enough to know how to control them. This is where the problem lies: We know how to expand our own sustainable limits, but we are not as capable at realizing how far we should or should not push them.

Adrienne Junek

DSU: Beneath contempt

JAMES SMITH Opinions Contributor

Beneath contempt; I have been hearing that phrase a lot lately. It has been used by several American lawmakers to describe the actions of France and Germany: nations that are opposed to forcibly removing Saddam Hussein from power. However, I believe this phrase is better used to describe the 2002/2003 DSU council.

The DSU started the academic year off with an embarrassing incident involving vice president community affairs Brianne Lauzier offending charity workers during the annual Shinerama fundraiser. During the episode, our careless VP slung derogatory statements at charity workers who made use of her office during the event. Her actions were not only offensive to Shinerama volunteers, but to Dalhousie students who hold their elected representatives to a higher standard. Recognizing this, student senator Curtis McGrath tried to rescue the DSU's reputation and attempted to remove the troublesome VP.

Unfortunately, McGrath's plan backfired as he could not muster the required two-thirds of council votes to banish Lauzier. Thus, council sent the message that Lauzier's actions were acceptable in the DSU, and also insulted the volunteers who selflessly donated their time for a noble cause. Sadly, this incident would only set the tone of a council that would make a series of bad decisions and leave a legacy of

Following the Lauzier incident, council chose to endorse a cause that it never should have: the movement to prevent war in Iraq. While polls suggest that most students sympathize with this cause, endorsing it goes well beyond the kinds of affairs the DSU should be getting involved in. I believe that most students would rather see their union get more caught up with the problems of skyrocketing tuition fees and overcrowded class rooms. As opposed to the Iraq crisis, these are issues that concern all students and the DSU has a responsibility to address them. Yes, I am as worried about the prospect of war just as much as any other student, but I would rather our student council concern itself with student matters, not international problems. There are a number of protest groups in Halifax that students can participate in to express their feelings on the Iraq crisis and the DSU really cannot offer more than they can. Also, this decision made the DSU appear hypocritical since the main reason it left the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) in 1995, was because the CFS was getting too involved in affairs that did not directly impact students. Council completed this hypocrisy with a refusal to endorse a CFS-led demonstration that supported freezing tuition fees.

Perhaps the moment that I was most ashamed to call myself a member of the DSU was when council refused to participate in the previously mentioned tuition freeze demonstration last month. This decision was both baffling and insulting to the students the DSU is supposed to represent. Furthermore, our fellow students in Halifax's other universities have come to see Dalhousie as a rich-kid university whose students are oblivious to the rising cost of post-secondary education. When questioned by a Gazette

reporter, DSU president Johanne Galarneau dismissed the idea of a tuition freeze as a "band-aid solution" and pointed to British Columbia where students are facing high tuition increases after coming off a six-year freeze. She quietly ignored the situation in Newfoundland where Memorial University's tuition fees are decreasing



10 per cent after a two-year freeze. It is clear that Galarneau could not grasp one of the demonstration's main goals: to increase government funding of universities. The idea of a tuition freeze is not to force universities to cut back on their services, but to pressure the government to increase its funding, as the government of Newfoundland and Labrador is doing. If Galarneau were aware of the fact that tuition freezes attack the source of the problem rather than the symptom, she would not have made the band-aid comment. A student union president should know better.

Finally, there was the laughable election to decide, among other things, the people who would comprise next year's executive. This electoral farce was completely unlike the exciting election held the previous year which featured several people seeking the Presidency and every other executive position had at least two candidates. Last year's DSU President Shawn Tracey inspired students and made them realize the potential of their union. During the strike, he regularly blasted both the professors' union and the university for their child like behaviour while preventing the DSU from siding with the neo-hippies who were brown-nosing the professors' union. In short, it was his stirring leadership that encouraged so many students to run for executive positions. My, what a difference a year can make. This academic year's executive has transformed the DSU into a contemptuous organization that most students would not want to touch with a 10 foot pole, let alone lead. The positions of president, executive vice president, and vice president community affairs each had a single candidate, and as a result the election garnered little interest from the Gazette. After all, when considering what the DSU accomplished throughout the year, who would want to lead such an organization?

I sincerely hope that next year's semi-democratically elected executive will not repeat the mistakes this year's executive made. A student union does not need its officers to liberally sling insults at charity workers or take sides on controversial non-student related issues. It should become involved in the matters that all students care about and should do so in such a way that will make its members proud to be a part of it. Its president should inspire the students she was elected by, and strengthen the organization throughout her stay in office. When considering these principles with respect to our current council, it is all too easy to say the 2002/2003 DSU council is truly beneath contempt.

Our copy editor lets loose

RACHELLE DUMAS Copy Editor

The state of the English language greatly worries me. Not only because I am a Copy Editor and wish to continue this job professionally, the main reason is the extreme laziness and ignorance of English speakers. Proper usage is very important especially when looking for a job.

There are simple differences that university students and graduates still forget. One example is 'fewer' and 'less'. The former is used with a specified number and the latter with uncountable nouns.

-There were fewer people in the company when the

March 28, 2003

secretaries were fired.

-There is now less flour in the tin.

Now for the sake of time and space, I will only give another example. I'm sparing you of any rant about its/it's, there/their/they're and other silly homonym mistakes.

I often hear, and sadly also say, 'Q pass me that?' or 'K'I see that?'. The fact that 'Could you' and 'Can I' (that should be may I anyway) are reduced to one-syllable utterances is pathetic.

I hope that others, not only yours truly, will try to clean up their talk, for communication purposes and the future state of the language.

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Splicing class sizes

CONNOR ROBINSON Staff Contributor

Many students, I hope, saw the March 5 article "Curse of the undergrad: tenured profs" by Jeffrey Simpson in the Globe and Mail. Simpson's article, about the declining quality of undergraduate instruction in the context of a recent book, No Place to Learn, has stayed with me during a peculiar and discouraging week with professors canceling classes.

We all get sick, but I have had classes this term called on account of "too many faculty obligations," or devoting classes to discussions of their personal views on Iraq. I have also had a plethora of eye rolls in class this week, at both the quality of essays and having to "spend my day" correcting poor grammar, including the academically unacceptable "it's".

In part I agreed with that guy, I am sure "it's" frustrating correcting grammar mistakes that should have been corrected in high school. Most would probably rather work on interesting research, interact with grad



Rachel Corrie's parents

Killing Rachel Corrie

There are certain things we are trained not to see when bulldozing houses: the knives, forks and lard, half eaten on the black bread table, the laundry strewn across the hardwood floor, the favourite hair clip, the drawings on the wall made with ash and charcoal, the photograph of sons buried in the backyard and the woman standing outside, patiently. Behind the staunch metal of tanks and uniforms there are certain things we are trained not to hear--the sound of order plowing through the fields of dirt and decay, the cries of broken hovels rendering me mute and blind.

And there are certain things we are trained not to see, when bulldozing homes. How walls crumble like clay pigeons or the bright orange jacket on a girl who is me when i drew my pictures in ash, when i left his photo behind, or the bright orange jacket on the girl who is flashing me with her echoing voice, who is now beneath my tread!, who is now blinded by the engine's roar, which is so careful to silence her final warning cry.

students and generally put their intellect to better use. If that sounds sarcastic I apologize, because I am certain any number of sentence fragments and comma splices can be found in my modest opinion. However, a large part of a professor's job and contribution is to instruct. The university accepts tuition in exchange for the promise of that instruction, and far fewer professors would be employed if universities were solely research driven. Such institutions are called "think tanks".

Nonetheless, there seems to have been a gap created, which Simpson brought up. Universities need undergraduates; they need our tuition and arguably may even need our presence. However, a lot of professors seem burdened with a great malaise during their brief moments with us duller undergrads. I have some very engaging professors, both bright and informative. And again I do not really blame the professors for wanting that research glory. However in the meantime, undergrads are herded into amphitheatres, highly prominent in the newly constructed FASS building, and taught by underpaid teaching assistants.

Universities tend to heap blame on a lack of government spending. I partially agree. Education spending is one government investment that produces a concrete return. However, this is typically a very convenient excuse used by every mismanaged organization, and should not divert attention away from internal policies here at Dalhousie. The problems I am raising are faced by undergrads at better funded schools, and would likely continue here even if Premier Hamm opens the wallet. The problem is tenure, higher salaries, prestige; these academic gems are all tied to research, not to the quality of instruction. Occasionally, I get to fill out a course evaluation form, but I am increasingly suspicious those end up in some storage facility in Burnside.

When a university accepts an undergraduate, they accept the responsibility to educate them. They themselves, not government, draw the line on admission standards. If that student is unprepared for university, then do not accept them. However, if you have taken their money, which in part funds your important research, you have made a commitment. Therefore I feel a larger part of that cash needs to be reinvested in the quality of undergraduate instruction. This means smaller class sizes, more contact with faculty and a general commitment to instruction by professors. Waiting for that government money cloud to start raining solutions, just does not seem like bright policy. (Again, I apologize for the comma splices.)

The weakest link in our world

MICHAEL GOODFELLOW Opinions Editor

In Cuba last week, 12 journalists were arrested for unauthorized publishing. The issue of Cuba has been smeared across the pages of this newspaper before. I didn't know what to think then. Castro had always seemed like a jovial old man. But now my mind is

The journalists have been arrested in the midst of the fog of war, where their disappearance goes almost unnoticed. Cuban officials have said they were imprisoned in relation to "laws dealing with serious acts of collaborating with the enemy." Too bad for Cuban officials that they don't realize they are their own enemy as well as the enemy of the free world. While the media turns its eyes to noisier parts of the world, news of this atrocity has come staggered and mixed. A Globe and Mail brief in the Saturday, March 22 edition

reports 72 journalists and librarians arrested. A search of The Guardian's site for the missing journalists turns no results. CNN offers nothing.

How can Cuba's human rights record be so highly praised when Cuba bans humanitarian groups like Elizardo Sanchez's Commission on Human Rights and National Reconciliation?

While the world turns to Iraq, Cuba chokes on its own words.

Cuba does not allow ownership of private press, so journalists who criticize Cuba get their articles published on online American websites. Then they get arrested by Cuban officials from charges of insulting Fidel to supporting American imperialist interests.

In cases like these we are reminded that though our free press can make a wireless, effortless leap past the stratosphere and into the stars, it cannot always reach islands in the south seas.

In different ways

JENNIFER MORRISON Staff Contributor

The hazy images of smoke and fire seem so surreal. The absurdity of it all is trance-inducing, and inspires feelings of hopelessness and fatalism. But anger, rage, and regret cannot last forever-because although it is invisible now, there is an oasis in this desert, amidst the infinite grains of sand that obscure the vision.

Despite evidence to the contrary, innocence and goodness prevail in this world. A candle lit, and a furtive prayer for peace. A smile from a stranger. Someone to shield you from the rain. It is different for everyone, but happiness exists.

Morals and miracles have not disappeared, they are just not obvious—you have to work hard to find them. Remember that there are far more people who do good things in the world than bad—and still more who are passive, and the passive ones can be awakened. So too can the pessimists. After all, a pessimist is only an opti- but don't cry for humanity. It hasn't been lost yet.

mist in disguise. Know that only people who believe change is possible can affect it.

If there were no possibility for change, then there would be no purpose. The status quo is not something to aspire to; we already have it, and we have every right to ask for more.

The world is not meant to be seen in a Manichean light. There are no enemies. We are all made from the same mould and cut from the same cloth. There are those who are severely misguided, yet no one is completely lost. Someone who is on the wrong path can be gently helped to find a better one.

It is exhilarating to think that someday everyone may be on the same path. Not necessarily holding hands and singing, but traveling in one direction nonetheless. And agreeing on the fundamental saving grace, that a world wrought with sorrow can shed its past and be reborn.

There is an oasis, and we will find it. So cry for Iraq,

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THE VARIED PRESCRIPTIONS OF DR. RON

"We are not a young people with an innocent record and a scanty inheritance. We have engrossed to ourselves... an altogether disproportionate share of the wealth and traffic of the world. We have got all we want in territory, and our claim to be left in the unmolested enjoyment of vast and splendid possessions, mainly acquired by violence, largely maintained by force, often seems less reasonable to others than to us." Winston Churchill, paper submitted to Cabinet, 14 January 1914

Opinions

The Arrogance of Imperial Punditry, the Reality of Resistance to Colonial Invasion:

the first 5 days of war in Iraq

senior columnist

The arrogance of the imperial pundits' predictions of a swift and surgical war in Iraq has been quickly proven outrageous. One week into 'Operation Iraqi Freedom', the Americans and British have met resistance in every city they have moved on in the south of Iraq. They are in control of very little in the north, and are facing escalating opposition from demonstrations here at home and around the world.

After the embarrassing imperial slip of the conquering Marines dropping the Iraqi flag and raising the Stars and Stripes at the port city of Umm Qasr, local resistance flared and the entire world watched the live firefight between the marines and what have been termed, cryptically, "irregulars" - meaning local fighters who don't want Saddam, but who want an invading and

occupying Uncle Sam even less.

American forces have dropped cluster bombs and Hellfire missiles on the town of Nasiriyah, which has provided the fiercest resistance to occupation yet in the war. Residents of Nasiriyah are reporting scores of civilian deaths and even greater numbers of combat deaths. According to the Globe and Mail, Americans lost 26 soldiers in Nasiriyah on Sunday, fueling the sea-change of opinion on a propaganda-weary audience. This is "oldtime" warfare, which is impossible to sugar-coat: Iraqis are fighting back - there are no roses, no kisses, no red carpets, no cheering throngs, or parades down main street.

"It's not pretty," said Chief Warrant Officer Pat Woellhof of the fighting in Nasiriyeh, where civilians are reportedly leaping from taxis and buses to fire on the invading army - well beyond the reach of the much vaunted "surgical strikes" that sanitized television servings offer. "You want surgical, you should have left the place alone. You try to limit the collateral damage, but they want to fight. Now it's just smash-mouth football,' the officer said.

The "collateral damage" is the hundreds, soon thousands of human beings killed without consequence infants, grandfathers, elementary school children, or middle-aged labourers, like the five Syrians who were

A reflection on war

Editor in chief

As we have known for a while, Bush's intent to begin the war on Iraq was a fait accompli. There was no stopping Bush, he was going in whether the world agreed or

I've spent time reflecting, and arguing, about this at some length, but there is something that bothers me just about as much as the war on Iraq. It's our reaction to war, firstly as media, but secondly as society.

Television media is now a 24-hour-commercializingoveranalyzing-oversimplfying-war-absorbed machine. The first night of the war was the only time I sat down and watched, flipping back and forth between all the news reports, watching the pictures of breaking day in Baghdad, wondering what the 'target of opportunity' was. I listened to the theme music cueing the news anchors who were looking secretly excited about the prospect of being on television non-stop for the next however-long-the-war-goes.

The 24-hour newscasts assure us, nothing else matters and nothing else gets airtime. No longer do we have newscasts that tell us about what happened in our community, no longer do we see other's accomplishments or arrests-it is a 24-hour-a-day job to watch the empty streets of Baghdad with bated breath to see the next "firework show". At the same time, this non-stop commercialized coverage is costing all-news networks, like CNN, \$20 million (U.S.) a day.

All the rhetoric and rationalizing can never convince most of the world that this is a justified slaughter. Few support Saddam, but most like myself, worry about the U.S. acting unilaterally without the United Nation's approval. And really, as Michael Moore said in his open letter to Dubya, how bad do you have to suck to lose a popularity poll with Saddam.

Moore also tells Bush that no real Americans, excluding talk radio nutters and Fox News, actually want to go to war. He pointed out that only one representative in the American congress actually has an enlisted offspring. He went on to say that maybe if they believed the war was so important, maybe Bush should send his twin daughters to Kuwait.

"But there IS good news," Moore writes. "If you do go through with this war, more than likely it will be over soon because I'm guessing there aren't a lot of Iraqis willing to lay down their lives to protect Saddam Hussein. After you 'win' the war, you will enjoy a huge bump in the popularity polls as everyone loves a winner-and who doesn't like to see a good ass-whoopin' every now and then (especially when it 's some third world ass!). So try your best to ride this victory all the way to next year's election. See, start thinking like THAT! Keep hope alive! Kill Iraqis—they got our oil!"

As much as the war is far away, it is very present here in Halifax. Last week, there were a few brutal arrests and many were Dal students. A story about it is in the news section along with some pictures that show the alleged force the police used in arresting the rally organizers, most of which were Dal students.

Although many critics says that large anti-war demonstrations have had no external effect on Bush's attack, one can hope that the peoples' voice will lay a foundation to end it quickly. And maybe next time maybe the leader of the powerhouse country will have a second thought before he jumps into another war against some other undeserving people.

incinerated on a bus hit by an American cruise missile on Monday.

In Basra, Iraq's "second city," pundits, scholars and politicians prepared us for the invading army to be greeted with smiles, open arms and parades that would buoy the sagging support for Bush's war. This welcoming was to be coupled with the sure discovery of a

ferred meithod for restoring peace

buttress support for the increasingly flimsy and falsified case for war in time for the potentially messy "Battle of Baghdad".

On the contrary, Basra is instead a site of "ferocious resistance" and on the verge of a humanitarian crisis

Sports Edito

according to the International Committee of the Red Cross. American bombs have killed more than a hundred civilians, Reuters news agency reported. More than 1.2 million people in that city are without water and electricity after "a thunderous ground and air assault" by American forces, which also included the indiscriminately murderous cluster bomb - littering the city with bomblets that serve as land-mines.

The UN-administered oil-for-food program, upon which Iraqi's rely almost exclusively for food, has had its supply lines cut to Basra, a city of two million people, prompting Kofi Annan to call for "rapid action" in dealing with the humanitarian crisis. The United Nations Children's Fund stated that that desperate civilians are drinking water from the river that also acts as a raw sewage dump, threatening to add a cholera-outbreak to the terror of constant bombing raids amid the thick black smoke of burning oil wells.

Elsewhere, in the Southern most Iraqi town of al Faw, a shocking Associated Press photograph by Stephen Hird shows the mangled bodies of sev-

eral Iraqi soldiers in a trench with a white flag clearly displayed and British marines standing over top. After only one week, sadly there is plenty of opportunity for the photo from al Faw to be outdone. Such is the horror of war.

In the North, the games that the generals and pundits played on TV, with the dioramas of the oil-fields being secured by parachuting troops and the swift taking of important oil cities like Mosul and Kirkuk has also proved a work of fic-

chemical weapons factory that would be broadcast to tion. Intense bombing raids on Kirkuk and Mosul have gone little towards "liberating" those cities, but have typically left "many dead and wounded" according to the Associated Press.

If folly and arrogance is the way of Empire abroad, at home it is reacting surely and harshly upon those opposing the state aggression. More than 2,000 people have been arrested in San Fransisco alone since the "official" war began on Wednesday night, while police in Halifax attacked demonstrators and arrested 11 at the corner of Spring Garden and Barrington - nine of whom were not even charged. On both fronts, the war has just begun.

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Wrestling with the future

NATALIE PENDERGAST Staff Contributor

The faint voice of Judd Nelson is still ringing in our ears from his *Breakfast Club* days when he teased Emilio Estevez for wearing girly tights and rolling around with other guys. If only he could see the wrestlers at Doolittle's.

Walking into the bar that welcomes you with a splash of sweat, the men are far from girly with their thick necks and other circumferences. And so begins the adventure of Thursday night wrestling.

Vinny Glyde, who leads a double life as King's third-year journalism student, Kenneth MacCauley, grunted before his match against Poco Loco:

"He's a dirty little [expletive], and he's going to be fairly easy to take care of this evening." Twenty minutes later a defeated Poco Loco stumbled down from the ring as Glyde had predicted. Getting this good was not an easy task for Glyde or any of the other wrestlers. Before anyone gets a chance to perform in front of a paying crowd, they must "learn the ropes" for four to five weeks in training camp.

Glyde, who got his name and sexy persona from disco dancing for a pizza slice one night in front of the other wrestlers, also conquered Cypress later on with a rare and difficult rose move. After a fan threw the rose into the ring Glyde rubbed it in Cypress's face. Describing the

him in the ring. Also a daytime university student, Cinder juggles classes at Dalhousie with his Mainstream Wrestling career.

He says that there are many mismatched fights. There are weight classes but nobody really pays attention to them because there simply aren't enough wrestlers to avoid having repeated matches. So the smallest guy (155 lbs) could end up wrestling the biggest guy (300 + lbs).

"It's not really fair and more importantly it's not particularly entertaining because the crowd already has a pretty good idea of what's going to happen," Cinder says.

One thing that Cinder's life as a student lacks is the fame he gets as a wrestler, and of course with that fame comes the tremendous influx of ladies.

The lady fans have increased in numbers but not necessarily in quality.

"I tend to attract the really young girls and the really old women," he says. "[Being a wrestler] adds to the mystique. When you're in small towns and a guy like me comes in, not only am I a wrestler, but I've got dread locks too, so then I'm ultra-exotic."

The last match of the evening was between Sonny Soprano, The Heavyweight Champion, and Two-Bit Tony Armstrong. When Soprano held up his arm

what you say in the microphone, how you present yourself to the crowd, getting your character across. It's the whole package...and I've got a very good package."

Schitick founded Mainstream Wrestling three years ago. After having graduated from Business College, he first intended to promote an invention. His passion soon took over, however, as he could not suplex the dream he'd had since the age of seven.

He started putting on shows in his small community and then started touring. Now they are the hottest beefcakes Halifax Metro has ever seen.

"We've already had some television exposure." Red Star films, funded by CBC television, is doing a 30-minute documentary on Mainstream Wrestling, which is going to be aired this spring. "We are in the process right now of taping some shows and putting them on the air in the future."

As they are the only Mainstream Wrestling promotion in the Maritimes there is the risk of lack of interest. "My goal is to keep it alive and keep it going. We've got a very good roster. There's a lot of talent behind that curtain."

The wrestlers are also driven to keep a hold on the dream.

"I promised myself a long time ago that I would hopefully in some capacity work in the

"I tend to attract the really young girls and the really old women. [Being a wrestler] adds to the mystique."

Mainstream wrestler Cinder

move's technicality, Glyde says he "stabbed him in the face with the stem and whipped him with the thorn."

Vinny Glyde is not surprised at his success, asserting, "this is Vinny's ring, this is Vinny's bar, and I'm going to whip you Vinny style."

By day, the wrestlers are mildmannered students and businessmen. By night, they are the blood-thirstiest wrestlers east of Montreal.

Dartmouth's Doolittle's have signed a contract with sadistic entertainment every Thursday. Unfortunately, this mainstream wrestling event has yet to be discovered by Dal students. Instead of being a secret fight club, however, this is a completely outta sight club, where steel-muscled brutes in bulk have nailed the delicate art of body-slammery, while keeping their footing in time with their facial expressions.

In another match, Cinder, despite appearing smaller and prettier than opponent Scott Phoenix, made quick work of with the ref in triumph, Armstrong mooned the crowd, which was both repugnant and captivating. Soprano took the win with grace.

"Next Thursday will be an action packed card," he anticipated, "Jerry Martel and I will be going at it." Martel holds the Mainstream title and Soprano the Rampage title. "We've actually traded belts back and forth."

Unlike other sports, the success of a Mainstream Wrestler depends equally on the wrestler's personality and clever commentary.

"It's not just going out there and kicking and stomping and doing the moves and throwing people around the ring. It's getting into character. It's aggressive theatre," says Devon Schitick, the man behind Nova Scotia's Mainstream Wrestling.

"You have to be athletic. Not everybody can go out there and do what we do for 20 minutes at a time. You got to be in shape and have lots of gas, right? But that's only part of it. The other part—and just as important—is

WWE," says Glyde. "I always thought it would be as an announcer because I'm taking journalism but the opportunity came along to be a wrestler."

That's an opportunity that Glyde refuses to pass up, especially since there are supposedly professional scouts in attendance at many of the matches. To affirm his confidence he confesses, "Vinny Glyde is the patron Saint of style, the big tipper with the big dipper who knows how to make the ladies smile...and that's a promise."

Glyde's Tag team partner, Lincoln Steen holds up his Canadian Unified Junior Heavyweight Championship belt. "I'm going to be the lifelong champion until I get over 220 lbs. Then it's over."

With all of the passion and emotion involved in Mainstream Wrestling, it makes you wonder, are the wrestlers in the ring really just made-up characters, or are the characters the ones who suppress their inner wrestler to be everyday folks like the rest of us?

this is aggressive theatre at its best

Local Director Comes Home

JENN MORRISON
Staff Contributor

da da kamera. Loosely translated, it means "yes yes to the small room." It is also the name of writer/performer/director Daniel MacIvor's theatre company, which comprises MacIvor, and three other staff members. The recent Dal Theatre production, You Are Here, is a da da kamera creation written by MacIvor, who came to Dal to direct his work.

MacIvor, who attended Dalhousie, has since won critical acclaim and numerous awards for his plays In On It, Monster, The Soldier Dreams, and Here Lies Henry, as well as his films Past Perfect and Marion Bridge. He could likely have gone anywhere with You Are Here, but he chose

Dalhousie

"I was trying to make a teaching tool with this play...I made it at the National Theatre School three years ago, and Dal was always on my list of places I wanted to come and do it," MacIvor said.

You Are Here is a rich and complex work that unpretentiously wrestles with existential quandaries. The show rests largely on the shoulders of Alison, played by Gillian Sarah Anderson, but she is helped by a simple wooden chair, a few other props, and a capable and engaging supporting cast, particularly Scott Stephenson as Richard, Matthew Nette as Jerry, and Ian MacIntyre as Justin. During most of the production, the entire stage is black, except for single spotlights on Alison and her fellow cast members.

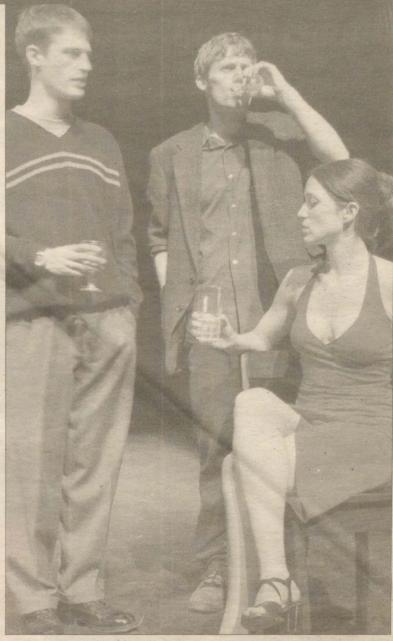
Throughout the play, Alison relives her past, but she still does not know the rules of life the second time around. And through the pieces of her history that are revealed to the audience, she reconstructs her defining moments and relationships.

At the beginning of You Are Here, Alison holds a glass bottle of sand, and says that it contains her life. Near the end of the play, she pours the sand onto the stage, amidst a brilliant cacophony of symphonic madness. This scene is eminently powerful, and it creates an atmosphere of electricity in the theatre.

Theatrical atmosphere is crucial for MacIvor, who chose the name da da kamera for his company to reflect intimacy.

"Our goal is to create a real, honest, genuine, present kind of performance. There's theatre that exists which is what I like to call 'theatre of observation and appreciation' where you sit back and observe and appreciate the good work. We're more interested in trying to create an experience for the audience...We're interested in trying to change lives, if we can," he said.

The company's mandate is to develop the "essential connection: the clear and simple exchange of energy between the performer and the audience," and Dal Theatre's production of You Are Here makes this goal come alive. The connectedness between the characters onstage



Closet Monster: Killed the Radio Star

is secondary to the visceral bond that develops between Alison and the audience. As Alison tries to come to grips with her place in the world, the audience is forced to consider its own situation. MacIvor said this aspect of his work is somewhat political: "I think all the work that we do asks serious questions about why, what, and purpose, and that's more and more becoming political." He also insisted on the importance of such contemplation, especially in a chaotic, hyperactive world.

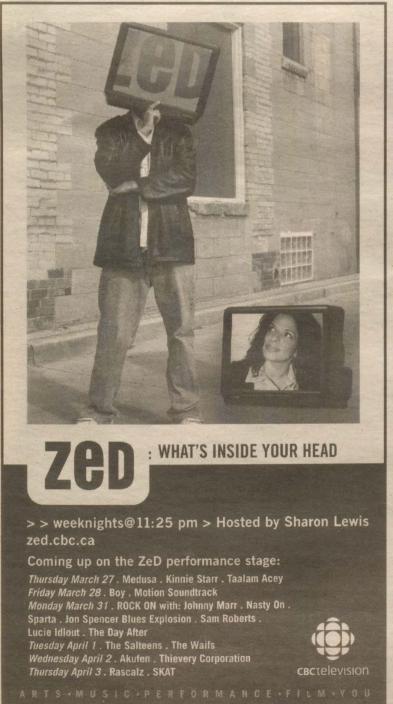
"As I like to say to the actors, we are human beings, not human doings... And that's what the theatre can do, it can give people time to just be," he said.

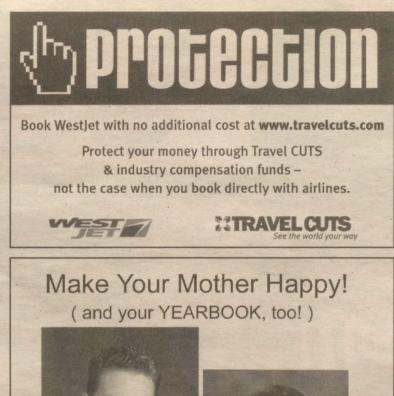
Although MacIvor has worked extensively in theatre, film, and television, he called them "three separate planets in the same solar system."

To him, theatre remains the most important for the audience-performer connection. "I think it's like the difference between architecture and swimming – it's that different...Film is light projected on a flat surface, and theatre is people breathing the same air in a room," he said. MacIvor is currently adapting You Are Hereinto a screenplay, and it will be interesting to see how the story's intimacy translates.

But while the audience connects with You Are Here on myriad levels, it is difficult to characterize the play. The program notes read: "The play you are about to see may be called postmodern, Brechtian, deconstructionist, or plunked into any other sort of analytical pigeonhole. But the truth is, none of them can really contain it." MacIvor said these terms are valid ways to analyze theatrical work, but he did not set out to write a "postmodern" play. "Postmodernism has a brain, but we don't think of it as having a heart. I think that this stuff has a heart," he said.







A Musical Hibernation

MICHAEL GORMAN Arts Editor

Crowded around a stereo, the members of Wintersleep have a buzz about them. It could be from the mass amounts of coffee they've been drinking over the last few hours, but it's more than likely a reaction to what they are listening to: after almost a year of hard work, their first album, the self-titled Wintersleep, is finally ready.

The band, referred to by one local publication as a 'super group', combines members of several prominent local bands, forming a unique musical phenomenon.

Singer/guitarist Paul Murphy holds the same role for kary while guitarist Tim d'Eon pedals his wares for both kary and Contrived. Drummer Loel Campbell, like d'Eon, plays for Contrived and also backs Jon Epworth, while bassist Jud Haynes anchors things down for Dead Red.

The band has quickly made a name for themselves throughout the Atlantic region through their distinct sound and emotionally charged performances. Combining the delicate sounds attributed to acoustic bands with the high energy and intensity of heavier rock outfits, Wintersleep creates songs that bring together well-crafted

solo project that Murphy was working on, it was through a desire to work with Campbell that Wintersleep was born.

"Loel wanted to do something, and I wanted to do something with him," says Murphy. "[The songs were] 4-track stuff and then Loel and I started working out stuff. Then we recruited people. We knew it was going to be me and Tim and Loel for sure."

Haynes, who first played with the group during their inaugural show, was asked to stay on after the other members were impressed with his enthusiasm for the music.

While the band started off as Murphy's brainchild, Haynes is quick to point out that Wintersleep is not a one-man

"A good portion of songs on the record are songs that come from jams, and the majority of the new songs that come out are songs that come out in jams."

Murphy shares this view: "I think [writing, from now on, is] going to be a total group effort and we'll create songs in a jam atmosphere.'

Wintersleep has had several high profile shows in the past few months, including an opening slot for Sam Roberts at the Marquee Club in February, and a spot on the Much Music Nickel & Dime stage during the

East Coast Music Award week-

"The Sam Roberts gig was fun

because it was a big show with

lots of people," says Haynes.

"It's kind of interesting to play

in front of that many people

who have never seen you

before. But for every person

who was enjoying it, there was

just as many people staring at

us, just waiting for us to get

The band was also a bit put

off by the ECMA show, feeling

that a lot of people were there

for social purposes as opposed

to for the music. While

Wintersleep played to a packed

house, the show lacked the

crowd involvement that they

much smaller venue and play to

usually enjoy.



audience," our own Havnes.

Despite how far the songs and the band have come since their inception, it is clear that the project remains very personal for Murphy, as made evident when he tries to describe

"I think that it was initially a hibernation, a musical hibernation for all of us from our louder projects. There is something a lot more fragile about this project, but there are parts on the album that are a lot more intense than anything I have been a part of before.'

The band insists on keeping everything in perspective. While they hope that the album does well, besides shooting another video, they aren't look-

"It's very short term with us," explains Haynes. "It's all been about getting the CD out, and now that it's out, it's time to play Atlantic Canada...at the end of the summer we'll revaluate and decide what the next step is," says Haynes.

said

Wintersleep:

ing too far into the future.

Catch Wintersleep along with Jon Epworth, who will also be releasing a CD of his own, and special guest Clinton St. John at The Marquee Club on Mar. 29.

Wintersleep's album will hit stores around Atlantic Canada on Apr. 1, or can also be purchased online at:

www.dependentmusic.com.

"Wintersleep started because of the songs and not because we wanted to start a band."

music with thoughtful song

A trip to one of the band's shows quickly illustrates their growing popularity. For the past year, a wide range of music fans have been packing bars, and while it may be a different thing or aspect of the music drawing each person, there is no question that they all like what they hear. This does not go unnoticed by the band.

"We care a lot about people checking [the shows] out," says Murphy. "I think a lot of people who like it, like it for authentic reasons. When people come to our shows, they come to see a band play that they really like."

It isn't just crowds that notice the different sound. Haynes recognizes it as well, and thinks that it might have something to do with the unique way in which the band was formed.

"With most bands, the band starts where people are like 'let's start a band' and they all get together and try to jam and they say 'what are we going to sound like?' Wintersleep was exactly the opposite," says Haynes. "The songs existed before the band and everybody knew what we were going to sound like before we even walked into a room and picked up instruments. Wintersleep started because of the songs and not because we wanted to start a band."

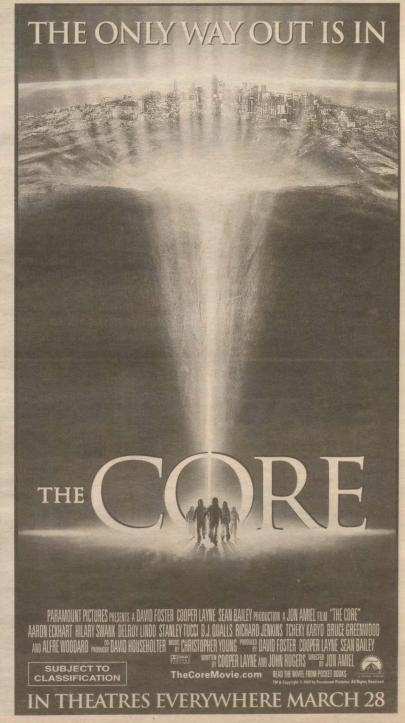
Beginning two years ago as a

not

"I'd much rather play in a

the olsen twins Sacha Trudeau girls in red pants www.jenny-girl.net Michael Moore isostatic rebound Bruce Frisko wanting peace intelligence critical path toleranth Don Cherry

the Bush twins **Ben Mulroney** boys in white pants www.urinalpoop.com Michael Moore midlateral cyclones **Cindy Day** wanting publicity 75% of the population critical mass tar and feathers booing the U.S. anthem



A Journey into the realm of blind dating

PAUL F. COMRIE Staff Contributor

Tuesday evening, Mar. 18 at Pitchman's Pub, a group of single men and women met to socialize - quickly. Walking into the quaint, nearly empty pub in downtown

Halifax, I was struck by a small gathering of adults in the far corner. They all turned around and noticed my entrance. Their disappointed faces told me their story; they were all waiting for someone - and I wasn't the one.

The 'Speed-Dating' phenomenon began as a combined effort to meet a dual purpose: to enable the organizers to gain invaluable, real-life experience in the field of marketing for a course in Public Relations at St. Mary's University; and as a community service. Or, what the chief organizer, Cara Haynes and her colleagues in PR call "giving back to the community.'

The purpose of Speed Dating is similar to getting an undergraduate degree in Arts: flirt a bit (quickly though), drink a bit (or a lot), and try not to remember the whole ordeal in the morning. The entire thing is set up like a regular evening at the bar with your usual friends, except the thesis of the communal gathering is made frighteningly explicit: you're there to meet someone - anyone - and so is everybody else, so there's no shame.

We were all self-conscious and divided, quite naturally, by our physical barriers: boys on one side, girls on the other. Except that, luckily for the gentlemen (I think), we were a little outnumbered by our female counterparts. However, we were eventually brought together by the organizers, and the ice was broken. There were 12 women and six men, so us lucky fellows got to do a serious (though quick) rotation of dates. The PR folks from St. Mary's separated the

women, and put them at individual stations around the bar. The men were supposed to do a small (and quick) 'love-circuit' while (hopefully) becoming a little more intimate with the women with whom we met along our

The rules of engagement included no more than five minutes per table (or woman), automatic termination of the speedy-flirtation upon the sound of a whistle, and both parties were asked to write down the dating-partner's name on a little sheet of paper and asked to discreetly check a simple yes or an unfortunate no next to that person's name upon the completion of the flirtation.

So, I did my round. The young women I met were all very nice, attractive and, at times, funny dates. But, I couldn't help but feel a little outclassed by them. I remember asking one woman what she did for a living and she responded "I'm a C.A." I jogged my undergraduate brain for possible words that could work with-



Blind dating with Paul F. Comrie

in that letter frame: "Catcher Association? Career Analyst? Couch Almanac?" I dumbly asked myself. Her inquisitive eyes caught my mental frustration: "I'm a Chartered Accountant," she told me with a smile. The whistle sounded, I had to move on. Another quick, flirtatious transaction really made me feel dumb. When

she asked me what I did for a living, I told her, rather sheepishly, "I'm an English major... But I'm doing this on assignment for the Dalhousie Gazette," I told her, trying to salvage my sexual worth. But, she just laughed and told me she worked as a journalist - a real journalist. She was really helpful and nice, and

> was full of good, sound career advice but, I instantly became that most odious of male characters: an attractive woman's friend (maybe even as bad as her little brother - at the very least, her pitiful sec-

> The men weren't much competition - I mean, they were all pretty damn nice. That was the problem, I didn't feel spurred on to get numbers and impress chicks - I just had this feeling of common, human solidarity in the face of the most terrible thing in the world: being alone and desperately wanting to be liked by someone.

> But, I did get something of a date out of it. When the women had all left, and the PR folks had called it a day, there was one hearty soldier left sitting. "Want a drink?" he asked. He was very kind, very intelligent and extremely generous. That drink became 'two or three, or six,' as old Papa Hemingway used to say.

We finished the night at Maxwell's Plum; greasy food, cheap draft and stories of heartbreak being passed back and forth as our feet crunched away on the peanut

shell-ridden floor. Ending an event like that with a strong buzz and a good conversation about Mordecai Richler is the only response: survival skills and a crutch are necessary for this kind of romance.

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Spittin' in the face of chauvinism

KATHRYN WALLACE Staff Contributor

Amidst a sea of wack MCs lies a chick with hard rhymes and a strong voice who has been spittin' since the age of 13. As a powerhouse of sound climbing the ranks of the urban 'boys club', Asia sticks it to the man.

"I just liked singing as a kid...all the guys were around rapping, so I just tried to rap," says Asia. Rapping in the streets led to small gigs at local joints like the now defunct Café Olé, where she would rap threads written for her by her boys Syco and Kid Soot. Determined to realize her vision of singer/rapper, Asia rapped with the likes of Reflections, Solitude and the Forgotten People Show band. Finally, in February 2000, Asia was signed by Syco's older brother Paul, of Homiez Productions.

Proving that she could play with the big boys, the dynamic MC now makes up the integral part of Sko-shun Tiez, alongside male counterparts KV and Syco. "They have a set where the males know their part and Asia knows her part, and it's just a real good blend," remarks Paul. Her versatility as rapper and singer is "undeniable"-"She'll call me at 2 in the morning and be, like, listen, and she'll have a line - she'll give a nice little hook chorus or something and those are the foundations that we work from when we write.'

With reservations about female acts, clubs all too often reject the female MC. "They don't think that a woman can (rap). But we showed them at ECMA weekend at the Mercury Club, (and) at the Redman concert we tore it up-when I came on stage everyone was like in awe that I could even spit the way I spit." Representing North Preston, Sko-shun Tiez performed throughout the ECMAs, where Asia picked up nominations for Looking for You, Independent and Tight Flows from the Homiez compilation Str8up North.

Skepticism surrounding females who rap has fuelled Asia's lyrics of empowerment. "A lot of her rap content is about herself," says Paul. "An individual lady, how you can carry yourself, whether you have a child, independent mom, whatever," agrees Asia. "I want to let woman know that they can do it. Don't let all these male chauvinists stop them from what they want to do. If they want to go out there and do it, do it. Don't let anybody stop you from wanting to do your dreams...woman are independent, we don't have to depend on men. When I was younger, I was just rapping about the bad stuff. You know how you are when you're younger, it's just beating people up and just wanting to go out there and just hustle and whatever, but as I'm growing, it's more of an independent thing.



Asia is Halifax's hip hop queen.

It's more positive."

Admittedly, being one of the few female rappers going commercial from the Maritimes has been tough. Without a 'name' or celebrity connections, earning respect is not possible without an audience. "They hear that a woman is going to do something and they don't want to give her a chance. It's just like: A woman rapper? Nahh."

In addition, the trend has been that the hip hopsters of Hali aren't signed until they are going grey.

"Halifax hasn't opened up and accepted hip hop yet," Paul says. "We have a fan base here, but to continue constantly doing stuff here, you gotta have the venues that they want to let

they'll have in the venue is hip hop violence, and that's the wrong vibe." Unable to settle into the club circuit, Asia has accepted that small venues may never admit 'violent' music, and had kept underground by sticking to house parties where her beats are not only heard,

but valued.

Photo: Cloé Bayeur-Holland

Raised on Whitney, Tina, MC Lite and Left Eye, with Lil' Kim and Eve currently fuelling her enthusiasm, Asia too will continue to embrace her femininity and use it, along with her dynamic voice, to stand out in a male dominated industry.

Catch Asia and other hip hop acts on March 28 at Ferrell Hall in Dartmouth.

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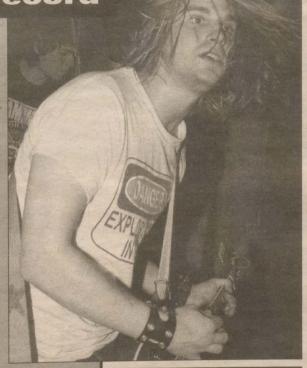
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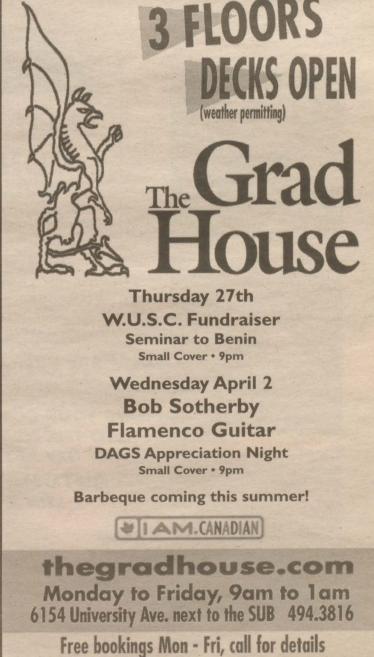


rocked im not quite sure they sounded like the heelwalkers in training but werent able to keep many peoples aftention



photos: Megan Best







Don knows good

Go on, ask. You know you want to.

Dear Don

What do you do when a man doesn't listen to your sexual needs? I have tried to tell my boyfriend of 7 months what I like to do in bed and he never even tries to satisfy me, but if I don't do stuff to him, he gets all bent out of shape. We're both men, so it isn't like I'm asking him to do things that are foreign to him at all. I'm getting fed up and I don't know what to do.

- HELP!

Dear HELP!,

Why don't you just find someone else and dump the lazy bastard? It has only been 7 months so it isn't like you're married with 10 kids and have a mortgage over your heads (by the way, I'd still advocate leaving him even if you had all those things and he still wasn't willing to work in the sac). I honestly don't know why people stay in unfulfilling relationships when they could be having a much better time with someone else. YES, there is the whole "but I love him" crap, but the truth is that even if he's nice and "special" to you, if he doesn't please you, you're eventually going to find someone else to mess around with and will hurt him and you in the long run. Don't you think it would be better to find someone else that has some of the great qualities you may look for PLUS pleases you? Think about it.....

Dear Don,

I really enjoy anal sex, but I feel that it must be wrong. My boyfriend acts a little embarrassed about it, toe, which adds to my guilty feeling. What should I do?

- Rosy-Red Guy

Dear Rosy-Red Guy,

Do it about a hundred more times and then come talk to me. I'm sure you'll feel less guilty about it by

then. If you don't, walk around all day with a butt-plug up your ass. If that doesn't cure what ails you, nothing will. If you're feeling all this "guilt" then stop doing it. It's not like you're knocking over a convenience store or stealing the Hope diamond. It's sex! Just relax and stop being so caught up in the physical act. If you both enjoy it, then go with it. The more you dwell on it, the more likely you are to screw up something that pleases you both. Get over it.....

Dear Don,

I just lost my virginity and I need your help because I really love this guy but I have to tell you about our first few times in bed. I mean I've watched a lot of porn and erotica and I have a pretty good idea what sex SHOULD be like, but let me tell you what happened and maybe you can give me some advice because I'm pretty torn up about all this and I really don't know what to do....okay, I'll stop rambling here's the story: I was dating a guy a few weeks ago and we broke up so I went to visit this new guy I had met. I wanted to get out of town so I went and visited him at St. FX...he has a single room so you know one thing led to another and well, we started making out. So there I was feeling good and excited and whatnot, then I went to give him a blowjob. I pulled down his pants and I stopped...

I didn't know what to do. It was by far the SMALL-EST thing I had ever seen. But I thought to myself, maybe he just isn't as turned on as I am and I'll try harder. But alas, it was to no avail...he was literally the size of my pinky. I AM NOT LYING. I didn't think it was possible to have a weiner that small. So anyway, he decided he wanted to fuck me. I don't know why I let him, maybe because I knew it wouldn't hurt. So yeah, to make things all that much worse he lasted a total of 30 seconds and crumpled to the bed....he said he was spent. I was all like WHAT!?\$*#&?! I told him that he had to at least go down on me to get me off. BUT, to make matters even worse, he said that that was GROSS and he didn't do that. Let me tell you, I've never left town faster. I mean come on, small dick, lasts all of 30 seconds and then doesn't even return the favour? Like come on dood, what world are you living

in? You will never get laid again. Or maybe you will, but no girl in her right mind would ever go back for seconds. It's like the second rule of dating...RETURN the favour. Jesus. I went all the way to Antigonish and for what? nothing. Not even an orgasm. What a waste of a bus ticket. I should have just bought a vibrator or something after my last break-up. Do you think bad sex is better than no sex Don?

- Night Terrors

Dear Night Terrors,

Feel free to e-mail questions to dkearney@dal.ca or write to Don c/o 6136 University Ave., Room 320, Halifax, NS B3H 4J2.

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Literary Word Search #1

The names of 40 characters from one of my favorite fantasy novels are hiding across, down, backwards, and diagonally in the grid. The remaining letters will spell out the name of the book and its author

K	E	R	G	Y	F	A	N	D	E	S	M	F	A	R	
G	W	E	S	T	E	R	L	E	S	H	A	R	A	0	
1	C	C	1	D	R	A	M	L	L	T	S	A	N	L	
H	P	A	V	E	T	H	1	A	H	L	D	L	N	F	
A	T	K	M	W	L	S	N	E	A	N	A	A	E	L	
D	S	R	J	0	S	E	R	L	1	N	M	G	L	1	
E	E	E	A	A	0	L	A	W	E	L	Y	S	E	V	
R	N	В	E	G	E	N	R	R	E	V	A	E	M	A	
В	E	A	R	R	D	A	D	D	E	R	A	C	L	S	
N	V	1	E	R	T	V	N	A	T	T	E	D	T	1	
E	A	N	E	S	R	E	D	N	N	1	H	E	A	A	
H	T	L	Y	A	L	S	A	R	1	C	N	A	L	R	
T	S	A	L	Y	H	T	E	P	S	L	E	N	L	E	
1	J	E	T	E	R	G	R	A	M	L	A	C	0	J	
SAF	E	W	14	E	W	E	X		v	R	10		v	D	

Word List: Andrel, Breda, Donni, Elspeth, Evan Leshara, Father Leren, Felar, Gala, Gallen, Garth, Grek, Jays, Jervis, Joserlin, Kayla, Kellan, Krebain, Lancir, Leareth, Lissa, Mardic, Margret, Mekeal, Melenna, Moondance, Radavel, Reva, Rolf, Savil, Starwind, Staven, Tallo, Tantras, Treesa, Tylendel, Vanyel, Veth, Wester Leshara, Withen, Yfandes.

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JON BRUHM, MICHAEL GORMAN, CHRIS LAROCHE Staff Contributors

Celine Dion - One Heart (Columbia)

Let's be honest, she has an amazing voice. Clearly she is a gifted singer. But I have this rule about liking the same music as my mother. - MG

John Hammond - Ready For Love (Virgin)

Veteran blues rocker John Hammond follows up his acclaimed 2001 release Wicked Grin with this album of medium tempos, simple lyrics, wistful melodies and lots of soulful singing. The song arrangements here are first rate; Hammond never fails to construct a unique sounding song despite the fact the album (along with most of Hammond's career) consists entirely of regular blues covers. Attention given to small details a guitar overdub here, a maraca there - really fills the album out, giving it an authentic southern feel without becoming overly dense. Long time fans of Hammond will also delight in the fact that Ready for Love contains the only song the guitarist has written in his five-decade career, the decidedly upbeat Slick Crown Vic. Hammond occasionally sounds as if he might be forcing a bit too much twang into his croon, trying to convince us he's the real thing. These are only fleeting moments, however; by the time Ready for Love spins down onto its last track, the fact that Hammond is the real thing has

already been established. - CLR

Ben Harper - Diamonds on the Inside (Virgin)

After taking four years off from the recording studio, Ben Harper is back with his fifth studio album. Diamonds on the Inside combines a variety of musical genres touching on the many different musical areas of interest for Harper, all the while getting it done with his trademark raspy croon. Songs encompassing funk, alt-country, gospel, African chant, and reggae make for an album that is both well-rounded and interesting. The opening track, With My Own Two Hands is so Marleyesque you almost return to the stereo to check what you're playing. The album is heavy on mellow tunes, and a little low on the more upbeat tracks fans might have come to expect after Harper's last few albums. Overall, a solid pick up. - MG

Passado - Cold Silence (Straightup Records)

Sounds like Bucket Truck moved to Calgary, cut their hair, and got their asses whupped.

Plasticine - Self-Titled (Attic)

When CDs come in at the Gazette, the big names all get snatched up right away. Whatever's left after the vultures head out is more or less slim pickings, and into the CD vault they go. However, hidden gems can often be found buried deep beneath the unwanted copies of Whitney Houston and Eyes For Telescopes, and I recently hit paydirt as I fished Plasticine out of the pile. The pop-rock quartet from Ontario have put forth a most impressive album, from the



Spin Spin Su Spin Spin Sugar

Ben Harper

catchy lead-off Friend Of A Friend to the intense No One, which should have been a huge hit but never really took off. While some of the slower songs tend to get kind of dull after a while, the album as a whole is nothing short of solid, and definitely worth checking out. - JB

The Telepathic Butterflies - Self-Titled (Rainbow Quartz)

Having heard this band at last year's Halifax Pop Explosion, I was expecting this album to be a killer. The band was fun, entertaining, and had a very catchy sound. However, upon listening to the group via a recorded format, I was extremely disappointed. The energy was gone, the excitement had fizzled, and all that was left was a cheap Supergrass rip-off. I can vividly recall drummer Jacques Dubois going insane on the kit back in the fall, and all that this album hit me with muddy drumming, mediocre musicianship, and a big, fat let-down. - JB

Turin Brakes - Ether Song (EMI)

Yet another in a long line of new breed Brit bands, Turin Brakes offer a sound that is reminiscent of early Radiohead but with a much more developed

voice - clearly influenced by Bowie - leading the way and a really great use of harmony. The songs offer solid musicianship with catchy beats, mixed with a healthy dose of trippy effects. The album at times sounds like you're listening to certain songs for the second time, and like most band's early albums,

this one - the band's second - is a bit rough around the edges. With all that said, Turin Brakes give an effort that is promising of really great music to come. It's well worth giving a listen. You'll probably keep it in

for a while. - MG

Ok, this album is like a weird acid trip. You're walking through the candyland of hardcore heavy metal when all of a sudden from behind a tree jumps...Jesus!! Yes, that's right folks, Jesus. The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost have turned to Zao to bring the Word to those who may have gotten lost in the mosh pit at an Iron Maiden concert. This won't be news

for some people as Zao has been around for a while. The band's first vocalist split when he got the call from the Lord and became a youth minister. Now Zao has a new label and a new album full of tracks that evoke images of struggling with the devil for your soul. This is Christian music taken to its limit, hell, you might not even know it's Christian music until you read the lyrics closely. The vocals sound like they come from a man wandering through the desert drinking sand. The percussion is fast, heavy, and weaves textured rhythms around wicked power guitar. This album is actually a re-recording of the band's first album, a much sought after, but difficult to find recording. If you like your music angry, but are afraid of going to hell if you listen to one more death metal band, here's your ticket to paradise.



Celine, Brand New Day

Gimme Five



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- 4. We love all our kids equally.
- 3. Santa Claus; Easter Bunny; Tooth Fairy; need I go on?
- 2. Uh, that hair on the palms thing...
- 1. To become President of the U.S., you have to be elected.

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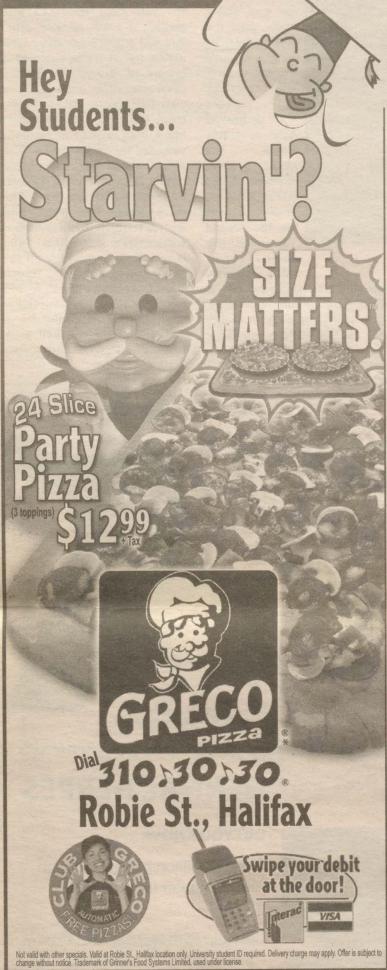
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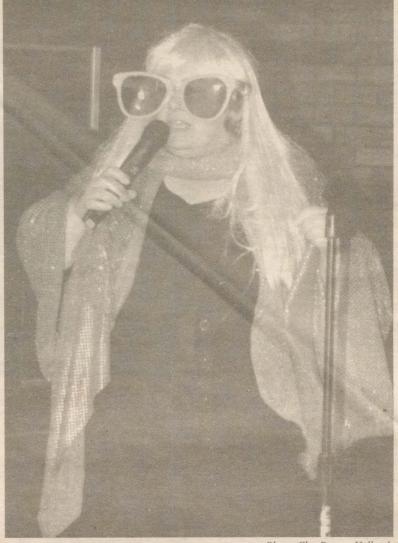


Photo: Cloe Bayeur-Holland

Girl with massive glasses. Funny.

Dates, Laughs and STDs

HEATHER MILNE
Staff Contributor

Wednesday is known by many as 'Hump Day'. Though midweek, it is close enough to Monday to make the weekend seem so far away. For this reason, it is understandable that a release would be a good idea. Every Wednesday night a release through laughter is

available at the Aqua Lounge where you can go and catch some local comics at work.

The Aqua Lounge has a cool, underwater atmosphere, and is located underneath the Argyle Bar and Grill at 1575 Argyle. Every Wednesday local comics come to the Aqua Lounge to strut their stuff. If you are so inclined you can even get up and try your hand at stand-up comedy. Guy Earle, the headliner for the show and the king of funny faces, compared the stand-up acts at the Aqua

Lounge to American Idol. In fact he called it, "Canadian Mediocre Idol." If you choose to participate in the show you become eligible for a weekly prize that is awarded to the best comic. Stand-up night is soon expanding to include music, as well as, the usual comedy. If you have talent in either of the two areas the Aqua Lounge is the place for you.

The Comedy night not only includes international comic, Guy Earle, but it also showcases several local comedic talents. Blair Sanderson is one comic who is absolutely hilarious. Putting a humourous spin on current events, he also showcased his comic talent by injecting humour into the subject of STDs. All of the comics showcased in the show are Guy's prodigies. Each week Guy offers a free stand-up workshop at the Dunn theatre. The workshop starts every Thursday at 7 p.m. on the second floor of the Dunn. It is a non-profit workshop that runs for four weeks and ends with a show at the Aqua Lounge. Topics covered at the workshop include the history of stand-up, developing material, and how to write a funny joke. If you are interested in joining the likes of Guy then you should consider spending a Thursday evening in stitches.

Lindsay MacDonald, a Dalhousie student said the show was, "absolutely fantastic! I haven't laughed so hard in a long time." Not only is it a fun time, it is also a great date activity. Everyone at the show seemed to be with a significant other. The Aqua Lounge makes for a great date atmosphere because all of the first date jittes are lifted with laughter.

The Aqua Lounge is the perfect place to take a date and beat those mid-week blahs. There is nothing better than laughter with friends (or more than friends). The show starts every Wednesday at 8 p.m. and cover is \$5. Pass by and see what all the hype is about.

Coming in two weeks:the spoof issue.

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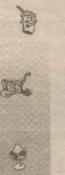
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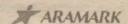


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The Mellotones

Alive and Rockin'

CHRIS LAROCHE Staff Contributor

With lead singer Tony Smith's departure in early 2002, the Mellotones, long recognized as the mainstay of Halifax's R&B scene, found themselves stranded without a leader. Instead of abandoning the Mellotones' reputation, however, the remaining band members cut their losses and picked up where they left off, quickly finding themselves playing again, reinvented and rejuvenated.

"Tony and us just didn't see eye to eye on things," says keyboardist Joe Malloch. "We all had great fun and we all learned a lot from each other, but we were heading in a different direction. We knew we were onto something good, and since then it's gotten better and better."

For a time, the future of the band looked grim.

"I was kinda worried that it wouldn't keep going," says Mellotones drummer Tim Baker. "Everyone started doing more of their own thing for a while, but I think we all made a conscious effort that continu-

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ing [with the Mellotones] was a good thing."

Since Smith's departure on New Year's Day of 2002, the Mellotones have found a newer, vibrant direction, which has included the addition of singer/showman Parsons, a louder, looser and grittier funk/rock based repertoire and an apathy for younger audiences. A month later, the band was practicing on a weekly basis with Parsons, and regular shows followed throughout the summer.

The spark that propelled the band back into the scene has opened the gateway for much improvement and growth.

"In the past, there wasn't a lot of room for creativity, and now there's a lot of room for creativity," says trumpeter Jody Lyne, who, along with saxophone player Jeff Mosher, is a Dalhousie music student. "We're a group of friendsthere's no hierarchy in this group," he adds.

"It wasn't until this January that things really started coming together," says Parsons. "At that point, it was the spirit of this group, not the old band,



Mellotones partyin' down

the new band."

Maintaining only a loose setlist for 'direction', the band most often plays songs based on the feel and mood of the audience, sometimes covering tunes as far ranging as Led Zeppelin's Whole Lotta Love, AC/DC's Back in Black, and Nelly's Hot in Herre.

"We don't play covers like covers," insists Lyne. "We don't duplicate."

Though the Mellotones look forward to recording some original material in guitarist Brad Conrad's studio, their live show remains their most important musical identity.

"The thing with this band is that we can play in a room with 200 people or with five people, but they'll be dancing," boasts Lyne. "We feed off of the audience and each other."

"A lot of people were skeptical at first," says Parsons. "People were thinking 'they've got a new singer, but they can't be anywhere as good as Tony'. Then they saw the show and were floored."

You can catch the Mellotones on April 4 at the Velvet Olive, or contact them via their mailing list at mellotones@hotmail.com.

> **Exact your revenge.** Write for the spoof issue.





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Marc-Andre Fleury just one of the guys

ADAM SOMERS
Staff0 Contributor

As the Halifax Mooseheads head to Cape Breton while leading two games to none in their QMJHL playoff series, I thought that people would be interested in hearing an interesting story about Marc-Andre Fleury getting involved with the community.

Fleury, an 18 year-old who recently was the star of Canada's run to the finals at the World Juniors here in Halifax, is arguably the most sought after goaltender in hockey, and he is sure to go high in the 2003 entry draft. While usually making seemingly impossible saves with the Screaming Eagles, he often seems larger than life.

That is why it was no small surprise when my sister, who lives in Sydney, called me a couple of weeks ago to tell me that her husband had played against Fleury that night.

You see my brother-in-law is not an ice hockey player. He is actually studying at the Canadian Coast Guard College to be an engineer. He does however participate in their weekly floor hockey league. And when one of the teams was short, a player on the team gave Fleury and the Eagles back-up goal-

tender Martin Houle a call. Amazingly, the two decided to come out and participate. Needless to say it was a pleasant surprise to all who showed up that night, not knowing that they would be seeing one of the brightest prospects in hockey play.

"I thought it was great to see them out in the community," my brother-in-law Matthew Klebert said afterwards. "They were both excellent representatives of the Canadian Junior Hockey program."

So Fleury came and played floor hockey with the coast guard students, although out of interest of fairness, neither he nor Houle played nets, opting instead to play forward. This of course presented an interesting problem to the defenders attempting to cover him.

"To be honest we were really scared of hurting him," Klebert continued. "We didn't want to face the wrath of Canadian hockey fans if we injured their favourite goaltender."

In times like these where athletes think they are above the fans and won't even give them the time of day, it is nice to know that there are still some normal guys playing high caliber sports. I think it is great that even though these players play in front of huge crowds

night after night, and in the case of Fleury will go on to play in the NHL someday, they still find time to get out and play pick-up games of floor hockey with the guys. This is a true sportsman to me and I think both of these guys deserve credit for going the extra mile to make the night special for the 30 or so people there.

Oh, in case you're wondering, my sister did suck up her pride and ask for an autograph. And yes I do plan on stealing it next time I go to visit her.



"To be honest we were really scared of hurting him. We didn't want to face the wrath of Canadian hockey fans if we injured their favourite goal-tender."

Matthew Klebert



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Daplex Home of the Tigers!



The Montreal Canadiens head down the toilet

THERESA ANNE SALAH Staff Contributor

Cheer up Dal fans. Your Tigers may not have made it into the final round in AUS hockey, but at least they made the playoffs. That's more than Hab fans can say about their precious Montreal Canadiens. It would appear as though the flying Frenchmen have finally landed. Well, actually they've crashed.

In the last four years, the NHL's most renowned franchise has only managed to make it to the Stanley cup playoffs once, and it doesn't appear as though they'll be seeing any post-season action this year either. That's a pretty sorry statistic for a club that's won 24 Stanley Cups (23 if you want to be technical).

In their defense, they did manage to squeeze into the final playoff spot last season, before knocking out the top seeded Bruins in the first round. That's a huge achievement for a city that hasn't witnessed any success since its last cup in 1993. Since then it's been ten years of bad management, bad draft picks, and many bad trades.

However, after the inspired playoff run last season, many thought that the bad luck had finally worn out. Not only would the Habs start the season with the league's Hart and Vezina trophy winner between the pipes, but team captain, Saku Koivu, was back after recovering from cancer. TSN's power rankings even had the Habs ranked at the top of the eastern conference standings. Everyone believed that making the playoffs this season wasn't a question. Too bad everyone was wrong.

The Canadiens are currently out of a playoff position, trying to figure out what went wrong in what supposed to be a promising year.

How about we start with the fact that General Manager Andre Savard's summer acquisitions never lived up to their expectations. Mariusz Czerkawski was supposed to provide the Habs with another sniper. It's too bad the \$2.6 million Polish prince was demoted to Montreal's farm team in the AHL for his lack of good play.

Montreal's second summer acquisition, Randy Mckay, was signed as an unrestricted free agent to provide grit to a weak Montreal club. Of course, he does more good for the Habs when he's sitting up in the owner's box eating popcorn. One can only hope that he stays up there until his contract is

These two players weren't Montreal's only underachievers. You can also add goaltender Jose Theodore to that list. The league MVP entered the season having just signed a big fat contract for \$16.5 million. He must have been so excited about the money that he forgot that he was getting paid to actually stop the other team from scoring.

However, the fact that he didn't have any real defensemen in front of him somewhat excuses Theodore for those 10,000 pucks that found their way into Montreal's net. Of course that's what happens, when your defensemen constantly offer the other team a shooting gallery every night.

If you didn't get the point, Montreal's defense was less than spectacular and almost non-existent. It doesn't matter how many goals Theodore and his D allowed, because in the end it's aiways hard to win a game when your forwards can't do their job at the other end of the ice. In all fairness, it's not the team's fault that the little

forwards can't score goals. That blame belongs to Savard, who despite watching his weak offence get pushed around every night, can't seem to understand that bigger is better.

These weren't Montreal's only problems this season. The fact that they had no sense of consistency sure didn't help their playoff drive. Win a game, lose your next three games, tie another one, win two more and then lose your next five.

In the end, Montreal was simply just too consistently inconsistent. Actually, they did have a bit of consistency in their game. They were constantly out shot every night, constantly lost every single battle along the boards, and constantly took naps during the third period of the game. Maybe someone should have told them that there's three periods in a hockey game, not just two. Their actions most likely had the famous Montreal ghosts turning in their graves with disgust.

What was supposed to be a promising year turned into a nightmare. Yet despite possibly missing the playoffs again, Hab fans shouldn't do too much complaining. At least they haven't gone since 1967 without a cup, isn't that right Leaf



Your sexy sports editor. Quentin

Any sort of good workout, mental or physical. It's important to get sweaty because it releases all the bad toxins. I should say that because I'm a personal trainer. - Sue



What makes you

sweat?

Streeter

by Rachelle Dumas

Thinking about all the essays, group projects, exams, etc that I have to do over the next few weeks. - Carly



Long strenuous workouts and other physical activity with the girlfriend. - Greg



Stress, like writing an exam. **Mohammed**

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A quick look at Memorial Arena's history

THERESA ANNE SALAH Sports Contributor

On the evening of March 2, 2003, a capacity crowd squeezed into Memorial Arena to watch their Dalhousie Tigers take on the St. FX X-men. With benches on only one side of the arena, 1,080 spectators sat comfortably in seats and enjoyed the game, while over 200 others missed half the match trying to find a place to stand.

Unfortunately, when building the arena back in 1979, it wasn't taken into consideration to include seating all around the

At the time of its birth, the arena was created as a carbon copy of the arena located at the University of Maine Orono. It was built to replace the old Memorial Arena that burned down. Dr. Henry Hicks, president of Dal at the time, believed the unique roof structure of the arena would look perfect on Dalhousie's campus.

Twenty-four years later, this carbon copy still sits on the heart of Dalhousie campus, with its uniquely white-shaped, attractive roof for everyone to

"I was told that to build that arena with that roof structure, which is very expensive, we could have had an arena at Dal similar to the Dartmouth Sportsplex for about the same amount of money," said Al Scott, the athletics director at university. However,

although its unique structure may appear attractive on the outside, everyone knows that it's what's on the inside that

"If we could have started from ground zero, most people would have probably liked to see a hockey arena that has seating all around the rink rather than just on one side," said Scott. In addition to the lack of space, Scott also said that the dressing rooms in the arena are not in the best of shape. "They were built on the Studley complex, so the dressing rooms for our home and visiting teams are old. I think the arena itself is in probably better shape then the dressing rooms we are able to offer our teams."

Yet despite all appearances, Scott says that the arena still serves the university well, and there are no immediate plans to alter the facility. "The department of athletics will be doing an examination of all our sport facilities, but I can safely say that the arena would not be our top priority. It's very functional as it is, and we're told that it has the best ice in the city."

With no plans to renovate the arena in the near future, little changes have had to be made to the rink since the start of the school year. Prior to this current season the home team bench could always be found on the spectators side of the ice. However, "when the men's coach was hired, he said that in an ideal world of playing in the



Memorial arena is as old as the hills.

Photo: Internet image

arena, he would have the home team playing on the other side of the arena so that they could see the spectators," said Scott.

Head coach Fabian Joseph, had his wish fulfilled, and after re-locating the home bench, chair back seating was placed in the area formally occupied by the team bench. "That's been very positively received," said

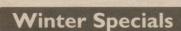
Unfortunately, don't expect chair back seating in the rest of the arena, because Scott says that due to the design of the building, replacing all the benches with chairs is almost impossible.

'The design of the arena is such that you need a distance of 32 inches on the steps to put those type of chairs in. Our cement steps I think are only about 26 inches. So it would be very very difficult to put chair back seating throughout the whole arena.

Out of all the universities who have varsity hockey teams,

Memorial arena is one of the oldest in the conference, with the exception of St. Thomas and Saint Mary's University, who

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have plans to build a new arena. Of course, Scott says that although Memorial arena may not be as modern or as large as other facilities in the conference, "we generally have a very good spirit in our arena when our hockey teams play."

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Dalendar

Fri. March 28:

Lecture by Henry Lickers (Director, Department of Environment, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne): Fish: Resource or Way of Life? from 12-1 p.m. in Room 305 of the Weldon Law Building. Open to the public at no charge. All are welcome.

The Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility presents Ethics, Leadership and the Challenge of Globalization with Dr. Wesley Cragg, George R. Gardiner (Chair in Business Ethics, Schulich School of Business at York University, and the Chair of Transparency International Canada) from 11:45-12:45 p.m. in Case Room 2 of the Faculty of Management Building, 6152 Coburg Road. Refreshments provided.

The Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility presents "Human Rights, Globalization and the Modern-Investor Corporation" with Dr. Wesley Cragg from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in Room 105 of the Dalhousie Law School, 6061 University Avenue. Refreshments provided.

Daily rally against war at 5 p.m. at the Spring Garden Library. Rallies will continue until the war is over.

The Spirit of Annie Mae, a documentary about Nova Scotian Mi'kmaq activist Annie Mae Pictou-Aquash by filmmaker Cathy Martin will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Scotia Bank Auditorium of the FASS Building. Donations will go to the Annie Mae Justice Awareness Fund. She was murdered in 1975 in South Dakota during the American Indian Movement. Her murder remains unsolved. Special guest Deborah Maloney Pictou (Annie Mae's daughter) will attend.

Sat. March 29:

The Arthritis Society invites everyone to participate in the Scratch Out Arthritis pool tournament-fundraiser. Fun & great prizes! Dooly's on Barrington. For details call Mike Smajda at The Arthritis Society 1-800-321-1433.

Daily rally against war at 5 p.m. at the Spring Garden Library. Rallies will continue until the war is over.

Sun. March 30:

Join **Food Not Bombs** for their free vegetarian lunch outside the North Branch Public Library at 1 p.m.

Halifax Peace Coalition is holding an anti-war rally at 1 p.m. on the South corner of the Halifax Commons.

Wed. April 2:

Join **Food Not Bombs** for their free weekly vegetarian supper outside the Spring Garden Road Branch Public Library at 5 p.m.

The Arthritis Society is hosting an Arthritis Self-Management Program at the Bedford United Church on Wednesdays, April 2 – May 7 from 7–9 p.m. For information call 1-800-321-1433.

Pomorze Polish Folkdance Ensemble is kicking up its heels again. Anybody interested in Polish Folkdance is welcome to join. No prior dance experience and you don't have to be Polish. Bring a comfortable pair of shoes. Practices are held every Sunday at St. Anthony's Parish Hall, 27 Farrell St., Dartmouth from 1-3 p.m. for youth aged 7-15 and 3-5:30 p.m. for adults 16+. For info call Artistic

Director, Kersti Tacreiter at 826-9348,driftwood.lodge@ns.sympatico.ca

The Learning Disabilities Association of Nova Scotia is looking for adult volunteers to work one-on-one with students in grades 1-6 who are experiencing difficulty in reading and/or writing. This is a rewarding, responsible volunteer position, and valuable work experience for anyone considering working with children. For more information, contact LDANS at 423-2850.

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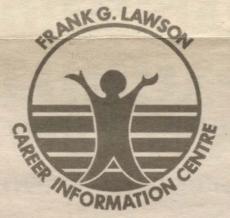
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Week of March 31, 2003



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- Graduates: If you're a recent grad or about to graduate, visit our site to view numerous career opportunities.
- Summer and Part-time: Start looking for that perfect summer job! Need part-time work while going to school? Check our site regularly for part-time (on and off campus), summer jobs and internships.
- New to the Student Employment Centre! Computer stations are now available for Dalhousie students to view our job postings. Visit us today!

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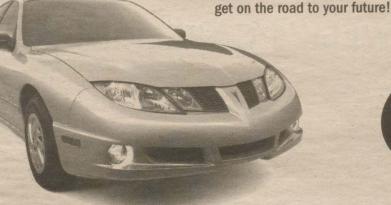
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