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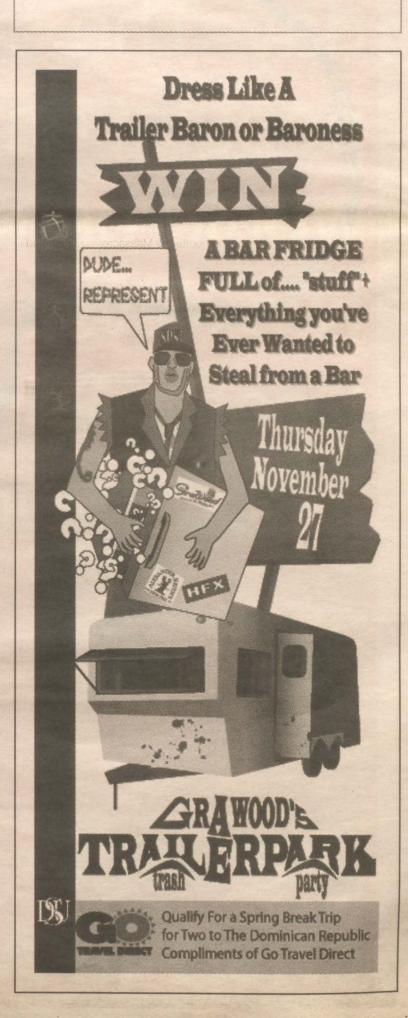
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### **Editorial**

REPO KEMPT Editor-In-Chief

Last night, I was pissed off. Today, I am just disgusted.

Yesterday afternoon, I was chatting with striking blood workers in the north end when my cell phone rang. My roommate informed me that a well-known local news anchor was trying to contact me about a possible interview. Later in the afternoon, the reporter called to ask if we had been receiving complaints about our paper. I assured her that I had received no complaints other than the general criticisms of a student paper. She also asked me if I condoned the contents the Sextant. Again, confused, I said that the Sextant was a separate entity from the Gazette, but I thought it was a good addition to our paper. She asked if I would be willing to give these statements on camera. In the midst of a very hectic production day and seeing it as a non-story, I regretfully declined. After I hung up, I wondered what had prompted her call.

Shortly after, I received a call from an agitated Chris Fedora, the editor of the Sextant. He told me that the same reporter had come to his house to "talk about the Sextant." During the interview, Fedora said he was "ambushed" with a line of questioning that attempted to link a candid photo in the paper to the promotion of violence against women and disrespect for the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre early next month. The photo in question was part of a collage of his friends goofing around at the DalTech bar where he works. It featured one of Chris' friends miming a slap on another female friend's ass. He felt caught off guard and was angry about the allegations. We both agreed that they were quite a stretch, especially when you consider that the Gazette has run a memorial cover to commemorate the Massacre

almost every year since it occurred, and we had planned to run one next week.

I phoned the TV station to uncover the basis for her allegations. If someone was so upset with the paper that the local news was involved, I wanted to know about it. I checked the e-mail account, the mailbox and my phone messages. Nothing. I called some staff members to see if they had received complaints. I called the Dalhousie Women's Centre to see if they were concerned. Nothing. The paper had been on the stands for almost a week and I had heard no complaints. A producer told me that she would call me back

Later in the evening, the reporter called again to ask for our distribution numbers. I complied, but insisted that she tell me what this was all about. If someone had accused us of promoting violence against women. I wanted to know who and why that person or group had not contacted us to express their concerns. Claiming that we were disrespecting a massive tragedy is a bold accusation and I wanted to know who was making it. She seemed quite irritated as she was trying to make her deadline and told me that the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women had asked for a formal apology before abruptly letting me go. I hung up and immediately called the NS Advisory Council. The conversation that followed was a pleasant exchange between to rational adults that involved their representative expressing her concern for what she felt was "bad humour" in the Sextant and her feeling that the photo was bad timing with the anniversary coming up. I sincerely apologized that we had offended her and told her that was not our intent.

I then explained that we would be running our annual commemorative issue and we then discussed what could be done to resolve the issue. She said that the formal apology was never required and the fact that I had addressed the issue and acknowledged her concerns was a sufficient provided I take them into account in the future. It was quick, civilized and I think, if nothing else, it prompted me to put more effort into the commemorative issue.

The shocking discovery was that the representative hadn't even seen the newspaper until the reporter in question brought it to her office to ask her for a comment on its inappropriateness THAT DAY.

At 6 o'clock, I watched the news. We were the TOP news story. Billed as a recent "controversy", the feature began with a shot of the relatively small photo being blown up to fill the full screen before quickly cutting to a newsreel of the bloodied women being removed from the Massacre crime scene. What is this "Hard Copy"? Last time I checked, a controversy requires a disagreement, one that is typically both prolonged and public, not generated a few hours before the broadcast. The reporter couldn't even find another party that was remotely concerned about the alleged offensiveness of the photo. Basically, the lead news story was a non-story. It was a ten-minute waste of airtime. How about that blood workers strike? How about a piece on the massacre itself? How about a piece on the problem of sexual assault or the fact that the percentage of women with AIDS in Canada is skyrocketing? I guess those topics aren't sensational enough for some people. Now I remember why I don't own a television anymore.



movies



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music



photos



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April 2004

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Imagine an euldomic troke out in Genada that killed 8,000 prope every day. The student population of balkbushe would be dead in less than two days. All of Nova Scolia would be dead in four months.

Welcome to the AIDS

Cover

Illustration by Loukas.

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# 04 News

Editor E-mail Chris LaRoche gazette@dal.ca

### **News Briefs**

### **Community Action on Homelessness**

On Nov. 22, a "Day of Action" was organized by Community Action on Homelessness to advocate more affordable housing and combat homelessness. The day started at Grande Parade Square, and culminated at Sexton Campus' Architecture Building.

Participants heard from political leaders like Alexa McDonough, Nova Scotia Minister of Community Services David Morse, Provincial Liberal Leader Danny Graham and opposition housing critic Dave Wilson.

With the exception of Mr. Morse, all of the speakers basically reiterated the paradox of government funding to combat homelessness.

The federal government recently injected \$5 million to combat the housing problem in the HRM, yet the province cut 5 per cent (\$4.5 million) from social services. Mr. Morse emphasized that despite the cuts, spending directly on housing has not been cut.

Participants called for a "1 per cent solution," which calls for \$2 billion to be spent by the federal government, matched by \$2 billion from the provinces and territories, to be spent on housing. -Hilary Titley

### The Nova Scotia Green Party

The Nova Scotia Green Party will hold a meeting Dec. 1 to introduce a full slate of candidates. The meeting will be held at the Dal SUB in council chambers, where the party will be looking for student input. The party is preparing for a run in all areas in the upcoming election. -Mike Gorman

# Dal Students Hoping to Raise HIV/AIDS Awareness

**MICHAEL GORMAN Assistant Arts Editor** 

The Dalhousie African Students Association (DASA) is doing its best this year to raise awareness around campus about the HIV/AIDS epidemic in which their country is shrouded. For the rest of this week, and culminating on Dec 1 with World AIDS Day, the DASA has organized a Red Ribbon Campaign.

Besides eliminating the negative stigma attached to those infected with the disease, campaign director Mwansa Njelesani says the group's other main goal for the week's schedule of events is to get students and the general public educated about what is happening outside their own borders.

"I think there needs to be greater awareness. [Those dying of HIV and AIDS] are not just statistics, those are people and those are people that [members of the DASA] know. Many of us have a lot of relatives who have passed away [from AIDS]," said Njelesani ,who first became involved with the issue after attending a conference called the African Canada World Youth Symposium. This led to the decision to get involved and do something, a sentiment shared by many at the DASA.

"Since our continent is the most affected by HIV and AIDS it made sense for us to do something about it and raise awareness," Njelesani said.

Through an extensive information planning strategy that included posters, flyers and mass emails, the group has done their best to spread the word about planned events.

Njelesani thinks the biggest events for many in the general public will be a talk organized by the Dalhousie International Medical Students Association. She also believes a benefit party being held at Copa Cabana will be an opportunity for people to come out and show their support for the fight against HIV and AIDS.

From the DASA's point of view, however, Njelesani said the focus is a little different. "For us, our biggest thing is raising awareness, because we don't feel as though enough people know about the millions of people who are dying each year, the thousands of people who are dying each day," she said.

Ultimately the DASA just wants people to get involved. Njelesani mentions groups like Students Against Global AIDS as a group people can contact to help if they want. Anyone interested in more information on World AIDS Day or the Red Ribbon Campaign can visit the information desk set up inside the lobby of the SUB.

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# Positively Magnetic

PHILIP CASEY Science Reporter

Dalhousie chemistry professor Josef Zwanziger and his research group are using a process very similar to MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) used in hospitals to study new materials with wide-ranging applications. In MRI, one is interested in where particles that make up the human body are in space. This is done by making a magnetic field vary in a known manner through a person. Then, depending on how the particles react to the magnetic field, you can tell what particular magnetic field is acting on them. And because you know how the magnetic field varies in space, you can tell where the particle is spatially. A collection of many particles giving information about their location makes up an image of the body.

"In our experiments, we have a completely uniform field, so the field is the same everywhere and we're not trying to measure where [the particles] are in the sample, we're trying to measure what they're connected to," said Dr. Zwanziger. "Atoms in a molecule or a material are themselves magnets, so they respond to magnetic fields and the exact way that they respond is our way of measuring what they're connected to," said Dr. Zwanziger.

Because the atoms in a material are poorly magnetic, you need a very strong magnet to see them react. Therefore, the group has the most powerful and most constant magnet east of Ottawa. When a material is placed near the magnet, there is exactly the same magnetic field across the sample—essential for precise magnetic material studies.

Dr. Zwanziger expects the magnet to be used by many researchers here at Dal, primarily by members of Dal's Institute for Research in Materials, and abroad. Zwanziger is a recently arrived professor from Indiana University, and this is the first time he has spent an extended period of time in Canada. When asked about Dal's top ranking in *The Scientist* magazine for research places to work outside the US, he responded, "I have found the work environment here really to be fantastic...!'m working with a broad range of people...and it's been really exciting how well people work together here, and I'm not just saying this because it's part of an interview."

Some may find it hard to appreciate the potential of researching materials through studying how they react to magnetism. The reality is, healthcare has been redefined by modern science, partly because of MRI and the underlying principle behind this revolution—nuclear magnetic resonance



(NMR). In a nutshell, this process exploits a newly discovered property of particles, called nuclear spin. As a result, previously impossible applications have been conquered. Dr. Zwanziger's group wants to harness that potent tool and use it to discover properties of materials—properties that are quite possibly invisible to us without this means. It's hard to envision a limit to the potential of this research, and if we're going to invest a great deal of money into research as we currently are, it better be original and not without great potential—exactly the work this group is doing.

# Dalhousie Researcher Examining Mental Health

REID SOUTHWICK Staff Contributor

Dr. Bianca Horner is crossing her fingers for a healthier Nova Scotia. But she will have to leave it up to elementary and junior high school teachers to decide.

Next September, on behalf of Dalhousie University's Department of Psychiatry, Dr. Horner will be introducing a program called "Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" to English-speaking schools province-wide. The program is to be an optional supplement to regular curricula, and will educate children on the issue of mental health.

"The entire reason why this program was started," said Dr. Horner, "is because there has been a complete lack of knowledge surrounding mental illness." Because there is such a huge stigma attached to mental illness, or all aspects of mental health, many children will ignore their problems or suffer in silence. When they reach adulthood, those problems may become chronic.

The "Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" program is designed to gradually help children make the link between the proper terminologies and the associated ailments so that they will have both the knowledge and the confidence to know when and how to ask for help.

Beginning in the earlier grades, children will be taught to identify what feelings and behaviors are healthy in nature, and in later grades, will learn about the warning signs for extremes in emotion that are not expected for their age group.

"Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" has already been tested in a French-speaking school in Cheticamp, N.S., and has proved to be quite successful. Health Canada proposed to pilot the program in a Francophone school because it was felt that French-speaking communities did not have the same access to counseling and professional help available to the rest of the province. Dalhousie was awarded the project, and ran the program at NDA School from September 2001 to January 2002, with the help of the Canadian Mental Health Association, the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, school faculty, parents and even interested teenagers.

Because the pilot was so successful, Dr. Horner wanted to introduce the program to all schools, so she submitted a proposal to the Nova Scotia Department of Health for funding.

Director of Child and Youth Services, Linda Smith, said that the submission satisfies the need for "child and youth mental health"

and "promotion and prevention" programs, which are two areas of priority for NS Health. "Mental health education in general is very limited in our schools, and in elementary schools it has been unavailable," she said. "And we know that reaching children early is the best way to influence attitude and to also develop intervention services."

After Dr. Horner has finished tailoring the program to fit the Department of Education curriculum requirements, she will hold a workshop next September to train the teachers to properly deliver the material. The teachers will then have the opportunity to implement any or all of the activities offered in the program, she said.

Although she hasn't been able to contact the Francophone division yet, Dr. Horner still hopes that the program is accepted by the French community, as they provided so much benefit at the onset.

After "Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" has been implemented in Nova Scotia, Dr. Horner will seek out other provinces. "I'm already making contacts with P.E.I.," she said. "So I'm going to keep going for as long as I can with this."

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# The Face of Beauty

LI DONG Staff Contributor



"Is she hot?" I once drunkenly asked an engineering friend of mine about a female colleague in one of his classes. "Well," he replied after much consideration, "she's engineering-cute."

Despite the mouthful of Keith's I just drank, I couldn't hold my emotions in, and instead burst out with laughter. "Engineering-cute?" I asked. "What does that mean?"

We then went over the theory that, in fact, the engineering girls have gained a five-stroke handicap in the game of beauty. The term "engineering-cute" supposedly means that a certain girl is attractive within the vortex of engineering, but outside of it, the foundations might be a bit shaky.

My first thought (and yours too, I'm sure) was that this wasn't fair. The faculty you're in shouldn't determine the parameters of your attractiveness. Shouldn't all girls remain within the same general forum for superficial judgment? There shouldn't be a difference between engineering-cute and physics-cute (yes, I'm sure it exists somewhere) and real-world-cute and older-woman hotness.

And what happens when there's a girl who's real-world cute and also in engineering? Is there some kind of prettiness overload leading to a massive architectural foundation meltdown? (Which, of course she could easily fix—she's an engineer after all.)

Another hypothesis could involve the stereotype that all really pretty girls aren't smart enough to be engineers (there, now

I've offended everybody). Even if this were true, the term "engineering-cute" would still suggest that a girl can make herself more attractive if she goes into the difficult field of engineering. This, in turn, must mean that somewhere deep down, men truly believe that intelligence makes a girl more beautiful (deep, deep down that is).

This lingering appreciation for some deeper aspect of personality is, of course, ultimately good for society. My Classics prof recently dropped some wisdom on us during class when he said, "If we're raising a generation of kids where half the population is thinking, "my goal is to look like Britney Spears" while the other half is thinking, "my goal is to sleep with Britney Spears," then we're all doomed." Clearly, looks have proved to be important, but the term "engineering-cute" shows us that there's something more to true beauty.

There is a question that has yet to be resolved: does the opposite effect of the "engineering-cute" anomaly apply as well? If there was an abundant amount of attractive people in a particular area, would the standards then rise? Take my Psych 2000 class for instance. This class has more beautiful girls per square-inch than any other class at Dal bar none. The girls there eat "engineering-cute" for breakfast. Does that mean that "Psych 2000-cute" describes some kind of superwoman? In the end I guess it all depends on how smart they are, right?

# Streeter

CATHERINE COOPER Copy Editor
QUENTIN CASEY Her Loyal Gopher

Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10 in terms of sexiness, and explain yourself?



8. I have a good body, nice eyes.

Tia Christeas, first-year science



8. I have a fun-loving personality and I'm cocky. Women love the cock.

Jonathan Allen, third-year arts



7. Women love a man in uniform. **Dawson Wambolt**, **first-year arts** 



3.5. I've had this hat on for two days. Mark Saulnier, first-year science



8.5. I have confidence, and confidence is sexy. Anne Marie Houlihan, first-year science



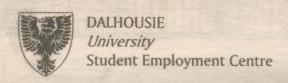
7.5. My style isn't perfect. If I had all the nice clothes I'd be higher. **Cameron Starratt, first-year science** 



Perfect 10. I've got the booty, the abs, and the rack. I've got it going on. Chris LaRoche, fourth-year journalism



You work with me look at this shit.Loukas Crowther, "The Layout Guy"



### THIS WEEK'S CAREER NEWS

Week of December 1st, 2003

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# **Corporate Branding**

### **QUENTIN CASEY Opinions Editor**

Last December, I attended a Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers concert in Boston. The slogan for the concert was "Brought to you by...you," because there were no corporate sponsorships involved with the tour. All costs were covered by the fans, and yet despite this, tickets were kept at a reasonable price.

When Petty took to the stage, he emphasized the importance of there being no commercial ties to his tour. He said something to the effect of: "This concert is not sponsored by Pepsi-Cola. They may know a lot about making soft drinks, but they don't know a damn about making good music."

There is little escaping our world of strategically placed commercials and celebrity endorsements. Each day we are submitted to a flurry of offers and pitches that tempt us with items we generally do not require. Corporate logos abound, and with them come a small army of celebrities who seem more than willing to cash in their name for a quick buck.

This idea started fluttering through my head the other night while watching U2's Bono speak at Paul Martin's coronation as the federal Liberal leader. I turned to my brother and said, "Bono's a turd. What is he talking about? He's just furthering his own agenda." To this, my brother replied: "Yeah, well at least he stands for something worthwhile. That's more than you can say for someone like Tiger Woods."

I couldn't have agreed more. Although I am sure that Bono was more interested in promoting his own master plan than celebrating Martin as Canada's hope for the future, at least he was endorsing a worthwhile causedebt relief for third-world countries. I know little about Bono's cause other than the fact that he has been active for many years, on the international stage, in trying to alleviate debt and the growing affects of globalization on fledging countries in the third-world.

As such, Bono is one of what seems like very few celebrities who use their immense powers of wealth and fame to benefit something other than their own bank account. Celebrity, like it or not, provides a Double the power of your degree soapbox to stand on, but unfortunately, most celebrities step up and do nothing more than

In response to this claim, one could argue that celebrity, and the power that it brings, does not mean that you must be a champion for the public good. No, it certainly doesn't. But it would be more advisable to stand for nothing at all than be a corporate pitchman for products that serve such a frivolous role in society. Therefore, I ask those in the spotlight these questions: how could you not want to help someone other than yourself? And how is your Sprite or McDonald's commercial aiding anyone but yourself?

hock SUV's, fast-food, motel chains, soft drinks and other such commercial wares.

Michael Jordan, Tiger Woods and Wayne Gretzky provide three perfect examples of commercialized celebrities. Jordan, arguably the best basketball player to ever set foot on the court, acquired a level of fame, prestige, and respect unparalleled by any athlete. Yet, instead of using his enormous wealth and stature to further some form of social change, he chose to endorse Nike shoes, Hanes underwear and Ball Park hotdogs.

I certainly do not mean to push some unwanted social consciousness on celebrities, musicians and athletes. But choosing to place your name, and all of its connected connotations and stature, with a product, is in itself a choice to stand for something. Michael Jordan is standing strong in the name of selling over-priced shoes to lowincome children and hotdogs to a nation of already obese

Similarly, Tiger Woods, the greatest golfer in the world, is rarely seen without a Nike check somewhere on his body. His pre-game checklist must include: Nike hat, yes. Nike T-shirt, yes. Nike sweater, yes. Nike pants, socks, underwear, clubs, balls, yes. Slave to the corporate logo,

Woods is the epitome of a visual minority on the PGA Tour, and his presence alone has done much to break down conventional lines of class and wealth within a traditionally upper-class sport.

But since his arrival on tour, and in the public eye, Woods has done nothing more than become a billboard with a great golf swing. During the golf season, he shamelessly strolls the links enshrouded in Nike apparel, while in his off time shooting commercials for Buick SUV's, all the while emphasizing the importance of wealth and luxury (that he himself lacked while growing up), to the young generation of children who strive to emulate him.

And it was only the other night that I saw The Great One take to the ice of the much-hyped outdoor NHL game with a Ford hat on. Did Gretzky really need the Ford logo tattooed to his head to keep warm? Since his retirement, he has done little else than pitch Tylenol for pain relief and Ford trucks for dealing with "life in Canada."

All of these men have consciously chosen to use their



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power as public figures (and idols for many children) to sport company logos and back commercial products. But why? Is there no better cause for them to associate their name and reputation to? Do they really require the massive sponsorship dollars? I doubt it.

In doing so, they are merely contributing to a society that is growing increasingly commercialized and greedy. These athletes, and countless other actors and musicians like them, have consciously chosen to stand for something that rewards them only in the form of more money, while stripping them of their dignity.

I'll conclude with a few lines from a song Tom Petty performed at that concert in Boston called "Money Becomes King." It details a rock singer who eventually sells out, leaving behind his passion for the music in the name of corporate endorsements such as lite beer: "There was no use in pretending / no magic left to hear / all the music gave me / was the craving for lite beer / as I walked out of the arena / my ears began to ring / and money became king."

Unfortunately, there are more Jordans, Woods' and Gretzkys, than there are Bonos and Pettys.



"WE INVENTED DRYMOUTH ON TUESDAYS"

MARGARITA MONDAYS

> FEATURING JIM COCHRANE

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Page 7

# To Be a Bride-to-Be

**TAMMY BANFIELD Staff Contributor** 

Two weeks ago, an upscale ballroom at the Westin Hotel hosted a herd of photographers, hairstylists, make-up artists, consultants and catering staff, all anxious to give me attention, attention, attention. No, I'm not Jerry Bruckenheimer's newest reality whore, but close-I was playing the role of bride-to-be at the 2003 Bridal Showcase. Prompted by curiosity, I fibbed for my freebie event passes, and when the day finally arrived, I slipped a ring on my fourth finger (left hand), coerced my sister into "maidof-honour" mode, curbed my usual cynicism, and arrived ready to connect with my inner-bride.



If not for the flower-laden trellises, I would have mistaken the event for a ceo convention. Swarming all over the lavish Westin ballroom were the women I admired: black suits, coiffed hair, daring, entrepreneurial and networking with caressing smiles and confident shakes. It seems that even modern women, independent enough to run Fortune 500 companies, are reluctant to buck the traditional fairy tale belief in happily ever after—beginning at the altar.

As our life spans get consistently longer, it seems natural that we try to preserve our childhood—stays at university are longer and living at home longer is acceptable.

Another socially acceptable way to behave childishly is to host a wedding. Weddings are merely grown-up fairy tales, a trip back to the fantastical times of fifth grade. They also bare uncanny resemblance to the bedtime stories that lull young girls into utopias where princesses are plagued by catatonia, chores and corsets. Fortunately, these tales always end "happily" when the man of the princess' dreams captures her for promotion from her dull independence to her new role as a high-society wife.

Princesses are coveted and destined for happiness, and weddings are directed at the princess in every girl. Just being addressed as a bride-to-be empowered me more than ever before. Despite managing my own café, changing schools and living alone, no one has ever believed that I possessed the power to sculpt my future with the same enthusiasm as the organizers at the Bridal Show. I was a force to reckon with, and there was no excuse for imperfection, and nothing was impossible. No one questioned me, no one doubted me. I deserved it all, but only under the pretence that I had been captured by a man. Someone had found me lovable enough to share a life

with until death, and, by some perverse logic, this made me a princess deserving of rabid attention and respect.

Can we ever evolve past the myths of our childhood and file Cinderella into never-never land? Or is it possible to reconcile business bitch with bride Barbie? I deserve respect, confidence and captive attention. But I want it without prince charming.

# Is Authenticity the Truth?

RACHEL KETELAARS Staff Contributor

It was with the best intentions that educated guest speakers from the Middle East were invited to come to Dalhousie. Each speaker was from a distinct background: an Israeli, a Palestinian and a Moslem Bedouin Israeli. They were invited with the purpose of providing a genuine perspective on the Middle East crisis to enable people to establish their own opinions on the conflict. However, as viewpoints are merely the vocal forms of morality, does a correct opinion exist?

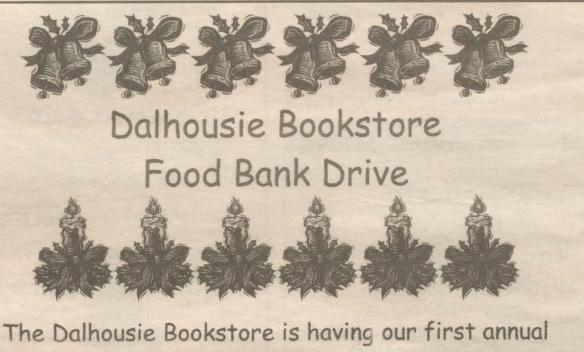
The concept of objective morality is an oxymoron. Morals are a combination of many things. They are formed in our childhood by our domestic and social environments and they are unfixed—continuously modified by our culture, our society and our desires. When we come to university, we have a set of morals, but the purpose of education is to implant facts and encourage knowledge. We study facts so that we can obtain the seeds from which someday we will be able to grow our own identity and apply what we know to our future professions.

It is unfortunate that we must resort to numbers and facts in order to establish our own opinions. The combination of facts and personal morality is what enables us to control our individual aspirations.

These gentlemen were invited to provide views on the Middle Eastern conflict. However, if they were attempting to represent a "typical" viewpoint from three sides, it was unsuccessful. One is an extremist, the other a pacifist. Each of these gentlemen has a past, apart from their religious, cultural and ethnic differences.

Perhaps one had a past more marked by violence than the other. If so, does that not change his opinion? If one lost a brother to the enemy and the other did not, would that not change how he feels about the issue? The seminar could have been effective if these gentlemen spoke about their personal experiences rather than on behalf of their nations. Each of them is only one man within a nation, and every person in Israel undoubtedly has a different story.

Therefore, trying to draw a concrete conclusion about the conflict in the Middle East from guest speakers who are just as biased as the rest of us is futile. The Middle Eastern crisis lingers on because it is fought on the grounds of moral differences. The death toll and the struggle for territory are merely consequences of the core problem. The war lingers on because people from both sides cannot live together. So what is the best way to understand the conflict in Israel? That is for you to learn and decide.



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# **Face Value**

JENN MORRISON Staff Contributor



I can't count how many times I have been asked, "what's that thing under your eye?" Ignorant strangers have ventured many guesses: mascara, eye shadow, eyeliner, a bruise, a black eye and, my personal favourite, gravy. Every time passers-by smugly inquire about my face, I just remember that my family calls the mole under my left eye a beauty mark.

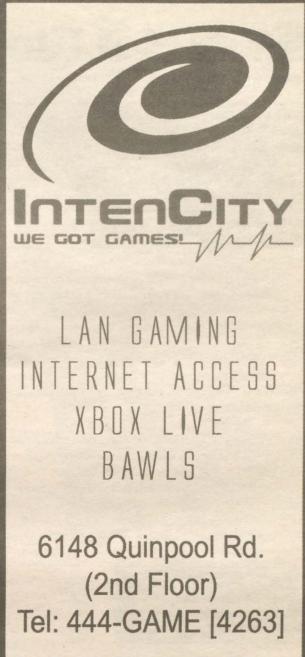
Because of my particular blessing/curse, I've had innumerable visits with a dermatologist, eye doctor, laser expert and plastic surgeon, all of whom have told me that my mole is not dangerous enough to warrant removal. Still, I try to keep an open mind about those who choose to add to or subtract from their God-given assets through cosmetic surgery, because one day I might have to go under the knife.

The conundrum that I grapple with is this: what defines a person's looks? My good friends always tell me not to get my mole removed unless I absolutely have to, because I wouldn't be me without it. I believe them. I still looked like me when I had magenta/orange/platinum hair, but I doubt I would if a prominent characteristic was removed forever. Our permanent facial features are sacred ground, and we should be very careful before surgically walking all over them. Which is why a recent news story gave me pause.

Apparently, face transplants are possible, and will likely be common practice in the near future. Considerations about the reconstructive surgery benefits of such procedures aside, we are treading into science-fictional dimensions. It makes me think of the Beatles's song "Eleanor Rigby": "waits at the window, wearing a face that she keeps in a jar by the door." If you get a face transplant, are you still you? Obviously physical appearance is a crucial part of individual identity. But how much so? Blind people cannot see other faces or their own, but that does not mean they have a diminished grasp on their identities.

Even "traditional" cosmetic surgery opens a Pandora's Box. How much can you alter yourself before you turn into Michael Jackson incarnate? A Botox injection here, a nose job there, and before you know it, you're Tom Cruise in *Minority Report*, ever-alterable and unrecognizable. Yet I will never say never. In all seriousness, the most balanced point of view on cosmetic surgery comes from Jenny McCarthy in a recent *US Weekly*: "As I get older, I'm all for a little nip and tuck—as long as I don't turn out like a flying monkey from *The Wizard of Oz*."

As technology advances, and our society continues to prize youthful beauty, more and more of us will not be au naturel, but will be spiced up with silicone. Someday I may have to lose my beauty mark, or I may choose to lift my cheekbones. But I still want people to look at my baby pictures and say that I look (almost) the same today. We can't let beholders' eyes let beauty become a game of musical faces.



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# Sartorial Eloquence

**JENN MORRISON Fashion Police** 



The onslaught of winter weather hints is quick and brutal, and the signs are plentiful—you have to take advantage of coat check at the bar, no more bare legs and farewell to spaghetti straps. Interestingly, it seems that the kinder, gentler sexthat is, the males among us-has an easier time adjusting to this seasonal shift. They have their toques on even before they've packed their shorts away, and sometimes they wear both together. It all adds up to the fact that winter is better for boys and downright awful females.

Picture women at their sexiest. Inevitably, skin plays a part in that image. But when it's - 30 C, any exposed skin is vulnerable to frostbite, not caresses. We gals have to worry about matching coats, gloves and scarves, getting toquehead, and looking like we have no figure. There is the fantasy of the ski bunny, I suppose, but that has more to do with dreams of her wearing next to nothing on a bearskin rug in

front of a fireplace than wearing a puffy down jacket.

Winter life is so much simpler for our male counterparts. For one thing, men rarely complain of cold, so they don't ever have to wear enough to look like they're auditioning for an update of Robert Munsch's classic children's book Thomas's Snowsuit. Even when they are all bundled up, boys who have toques with earflaps may not epitomize suave masculinity, but they are undeniably adorable.

Every November, I have to make peace with wool and kiss my Old Navy flip-flops goodbye. While we may want to jet away to a tropical island where layers of clothes aren't a precondition for survival, we can still face the frost in a sartorially eloquent way. And we can't rule out wearing a parka-with a bikini underneath.





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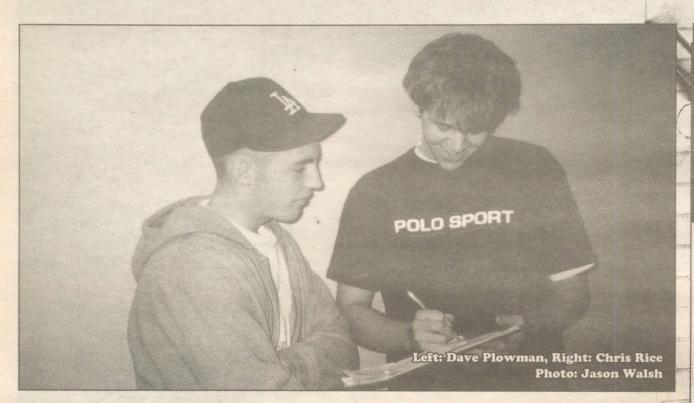
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# Urban Radio in Halifax?

JASON WALSH Staff Contributor

If all the paperwork has it's T's crossed and I's dotted, Halifax, Dartmouth and some surrounding areas will soon have another option on the radio dial—an all-urban/ hip hop/ R&B station. Raoul Rozier, who is heading the movement, said the station could be on the airwaves as soon as February.

Unfortunately, the process of creating a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week radio station from start to finish is quite the task. It must be approved by the CRTC, meaning an impressive number of names must be collected on a petition, which is currently circulating. The station needs to be taken under a parent company, in this case by what Rozier calls the "last remaining independent group in Canada." Next, several corporate supporters need to be gathered to pay for the broadcasting itself, which is currently in the works.

The plan is for the station to target a younger audience. It aims to play mainstream hip hop, R&B, and other urban music, along with a healthy selection of local hip hop groups and artists.

"Well, even though we'd be playing [artists such as] 50 Cent,

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we'd definitely make sure there was time for local acts. There's such a huge amount of talent in Halifax, so you could definitely expect to hear maybe some Universal Soul, or 365... or any talent deserving some shine," says Rozier.

Rozier points to the recent Ludacris concert, in which local acts opened up the show, but many concertgoers showed up late and missed out.

"It'll give people a little more choice than what's on the airwaves right now," says Rozier.

Judging by early numbers, Rozier seems to have a strong base of support from local hip hop fans, with many people gathering signatures, and just spreading the word about the radio station. "This is something Halifax could really use, so any support is great," he says.

So what can the average supporter do? Rozier says the best way to support the station in it's infancy would be to sign the petition, which can be found at North of NY, the Westin Mall, Sam the Record Man, Fila or Mic Mac Mall.

Well, mainstream hip hop or not, the notion of underrecognized local acts getting on a corporate sponsored station is enough to get votes from the most cynical underground fans,

### **CKDU Hip-Hop Chaatz**

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- 5 Jean Grae Bootleg Of The Bootleg Ep (Babygrande)
- 6 Omid Monolith (Mush)
- 7 Outkast Speakerboxx/The Lover (Bmg)
- 8 Pocket Dwellers Lifecheck (Urbnet)
- 9 Wyclef Jean The Preacher's Son (Yclef)
- 10 Lifesavas Spirit In Stone (Quannum)

# Report Card

# The Dumpsters \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Date: November 20, 2003 Venue: The Village Idiot Reporters: Alex Miller Photographers: Andy Phillips

Stage Presence: C Audience Reaction: B

Sound: B-Effort: B

Get-it-on Ability: C

I am a firm believer that this fine city of ours is in dire need of an 80s punk revival. This four-piece band has the potential to bring it about, if only they would dedicate more of their time to practicing. With a sound reminiscent of the Ramones and Screeching Weasel, these boys understand the three-minute power punk formula. However, their set proved to be uninteresting and ultimately a waste of time. They lacked passion and drive—two necessary components in keeping a captive audience. Simply put, The Dumpsters need to head back to the drawing board and keep their high school garage band off the stage...for now.

### **Burn Baby Burn**

Repo's mix CD of the week. Burn away. But don't steal music. Bad. Bad. Bad. (But if you do steal music, make sure you make this mix, as per usual)

The Buzzcocks • "Sick City Sometimes"

The Koreans • "How Does It Feel"

The Hells • "He's the Devil (But I Love Him So)"

The Moonies • "Being Me"

The Cops • "The Shake"

The Drugs • "The Bold & The Beautiful"

The Distillers • "Drain Her Blood"

The Fiery Furnaces • "Don't Dance Her

The Bumblebeez • "Pink Fairy Floss"
The Darkness • "Love On the Rocks With

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# The Ivory Tower vs The Dark Tower

SHAWN KEHOE Staff Contributor

Last week, Stephen King was awarded the Medal for Distinguished Contributions to American Letters by the National Book Foundation. This move has sparked a firestorm of controversy, with Yale professor Harold Bloom leading the charge. These literary crusaders have denounced the NBF's decision as a blow to literature and a slap in the face to previous medal winners.

Frankly, 'that's ridiculous.

Much of the criticism King has sustained over the years is due to his choice in subject matter. After all, everyone knows that horror fiction deserves no place in the literary landscape. The rationale seems to be that horror fiction operates on base emotions such as fear, and thus has no more literary value than pornography.

This argument assumes that it is easy to scare people. As anyone who has told a ghost story can attest, fear is a tricky emotion to evoke. Furthermore, in an age of Al Quaida, global warming and Columbine, people are growing used to being afraid. Next to comedy, horror is perhaps one of the hardest genres to write effectively.

The other problem with the "horror is garbage" argument is that it ignores the strong potential for social commentary. Romero's Living Dead films portray the very same cultural decay that Harold Bloom decries. Danny Boyle's 28 Days Later and Richard Matheson's novel I Am Legend explore the dangers of isolation and depict man as his own worst enemy. King's guilt-by-association is expunged if the horror genre is validated.

Or is it? The previous paragraph hit on the second major criticism levied against King: his social commentary, or his lack thereof. Many literary academics feel that "true" literature

must speak in some way to the human condition. King has openly acknowledged that his principal goal is always to tell an entertaining story. Thus, his critics believe that he has failed in his duty as an author.

The idea that every worthwhile piece of writing requires a cleverly disguised moral or lesson is absurd. To suggest that an author cannot be merely a storyteller, but must also be a social critic smacks of egotism and pedantry. In his forward to The Lord of the Rings, Tolkien referred to allegory as "...the purposed domination of the author," robbing the reader of the freedom to interpret.

King is clearly an opinionated fellow—the many interviews he has given over the years offer ample evidence of that. Furthermore, he has been a teacher for 30 years. The lack of a "deeper meaning" in his stories is not due to a lack of ability, but a conscious decision on his part. His goal is to entertain, not to teach.

But sometimes he doesn't just tell a good story—he tells a great story. After all, if great authors can occasionally write an entertaining story, by accident or design, does it not stand to reason that an entertaining author could write something truly important? I would contend that Rita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption is such a story. King considers the recently completed Dark Tower his most important work, and I believe it will be the topic of serious academic study in the

Perhaps the fundamental flaw in criticising King, or indeed any modern author, is the presumption that we can view modern literature with the same objective eye that can be applied to Dickens or Shakespeare. Enough time has passed that we are able to analyse the effects of those men's writings on their surroundings, and measure their contribution to literature. Such analysis could not have been performed in their heyday. Many of Shakespeare's contemporaries, for instance, took a dim view to his plays and their popularity with the lower classes.

I would suggest that it is far too soon to judge the larger impact of Mr. King's writings. If an author is a product of his environment, we cannot hope to definitively evaluate his work while the environment remains dynamic. King himself acknowledges that some of his novels have taken on new meaning to him with the passage of time. The Shining was conceived and written as an archetypal ghost story, but King now sees his own struggles with alcoholism reflected in Jack Torrance.

Over 30 years, Stephen King has entertained millions of readers, donated heavily to literacy-based charities and persevered in his chosen field despite a constant chorus of critics calling for his head. He has unquestionably made his mark on western culture. The National Book Foundation has chosen to recognise these accomplishments. Let's celebrate the good things he has done for today, and save the final word on his societal impact for where it belongs—the English classes of 2203.

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# Groove Riot: Inspiration Returns to Former Arlibido Members

CHRIS McCLUSKEY Staff Contributor

Juno Award Nominee Arlibido was Canada's next big thing, acclaimed all across the country as a band destined for big things. "Around '98 is when people started to talk about us a lot," said frontman Tim MacNeill, currently playing with his new band Groove Riot. "You get a lot of expectations in those cases."

But it was those expectations that wore on the band that once dominated the East Coast music scene, and they began to fight. "In retrospect, that's why we cancelled the whole thing, the reason we broke up," said MacNeill, who is currently studying at Dal for his Masters of Development Economics. "I remember we just did a show, and it felt like a hassle and there wasn't all this inspiration. We just drove home and called it a night."

This came at a crucial time for the band, who at the time were in the studio recording Arlibido's third album, which ended up becoming part of Tim's recently released debut solo record, Sexual Political. So the foreseeable question comes up: will Arlibido get back together? "It's ironic that we are back together," MacNeill says. "The band is now Arlibido, and we're playing Arlibido songs [along with the new solo material]."

It appears a name change and a new sound is not only a mind trick for the band, but it has disguised from their fans what is perhaps Halifax's best-kept secret as well. "The difference now is that I am not playing electric guitar," said MacNeill. "I do miss grabbing my great big giant amp and electric guitar and rolling around like a headless chicken on stage... but all of the Arlibido songs you can think of I wrote on that guitar. So for me, it's not a stretch at all." This is an essential difference between Arlibido and the new band, Groove Riot—while Groove Riot is still funky and danceable, is also much less likely to encourage the audience to start a mosh pit.

Groove Riot also continues to maintain an unchanged mix of political and sexually inspired lyrics. "I write a lot of metaphors," said MacNeill, who lists Faith No More and Led Zeppelin among his influences. "I think politically and sexually at the same time, and that was also prevalent with All the World's America, so really that album could have been called Sexual Political, really. This is an extension of that." The new band is also providing a new sense of release for a band that once frustrated themselves with the corporate aspects of playing music. "We're not hyping ourselves so much," MacNeill said thoughtfully. "We don't have big management planning our days or that sort of thing anymore."

Without management backing, and with all of the members of the band currently back in school, MacNeill remains ambitious for his new band. "I have to play music, it's what I am best at. I am aware that as hard as I work at school, it's not where my particular prowess is. I do fairly well, but I am best at music," he said. "[Groove Riot] started as a hobby, but honestly I miss it a lot. I kind of had a realization after being away from it, and all of the guys kinda feel the same way. But I have to keep myself aware of the problems the music industry has with it."

The new band is slowly building a fan base that is destined to quickly increase in the next few months. At The Planet this past Saturday, Tim MacNeill and Groove Riot combined the old jazzed up Arlibido songs, selections from the new album, as well as three very creative covers for all of you tired of the monotony of the clichéd scene in Hell every night. Finally, an alternative in the city to the monopoly Grand Theft Bus and Jimmy Swift Band have going when it comes to getting your dance on to some original music.

The only thing that sucked about this concert was the sparseness of the crowd, who only danced intermittently. However, with concert goers becoming increasingly aware of them, it is certain I won't be the only one dancing and singing on the floor in the near future.

# **Continuing Christmas Traditions**

JENNY COOPER Staff Contributor

For many of us, December is the time for going home, being with family and celebrating the holiday season. With this comes all the traditions that we partake in year after year, which make it even more fun. And for many, Christmas is not Christmas without seeing a performance of *The Nutcracker*. So for all of you sticking around Halifax, you have an awesome opportunity to see the innovative and magical rendition of the ballet put on at The Rebecca Cohn to one of Tchaikovsky's most beautiful musical scores.

The ballet experience is not complete without tutus and

tiaras, but without the orchestra, there wouldn't be a production to begin with. Gregory Burton, guest conductor for Symphony Nova Scotia, will be the man in charge of the music for this year's show.

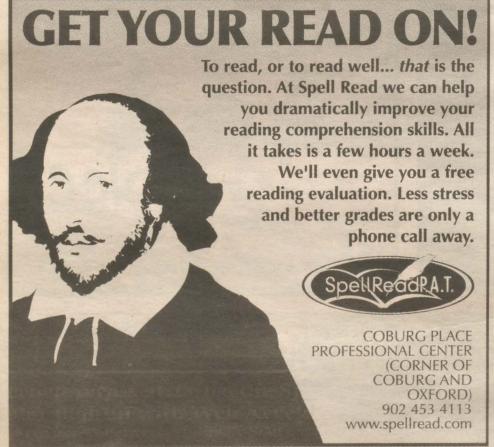
Now living in Hamilton, Ont., Mr. Burton loves being able to work with the dancers of The Mermaid Theatre Company of Nova Scotia and enjoys returning to Halifax for this production. "The score is fabulous...Tchaikovsky's written great balletic works like *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*, and the music for the *Nutcracker* has real substance to it. It

stands out as a ballet which everyone can enjoy," he said.

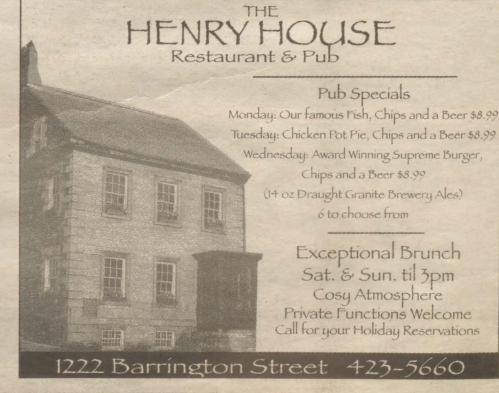
Burton began conducting at Acadia University 23 years ago, and hasn't looked back since. Apart from being a trombonist, he shares his time conducting The McMaster Chamber Orchestra, Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra and Symphony New Brunswick, to name a few.

When taking a break from his busy schedule, he loves to just relax and listen to music like the rest of us. "My all time favourite piece of music is Bruckner's "Motet," and I just bought the new Sarah McLaughlin album, it's lovely," said Burton.

For those who have never seen a ballet before: fear not, the costumes, scenery and unique use of puppets will make for an evening of entertainment. And for all the ballet connoisseurs out there, there will be a new Nutcracker Prince gracing the stage. Originally from Poland, Piotr Biernat is technically very strong, an attribute that is needed to perform the role to its full capabilities. Along with Biernat, the corps of 40 dancers, ranging in age from 10 to 20 and mostly from the Halifax area, have spent months of training and studio time to put on a great show. With very reasonable student rates, why not unwrap your holiday season with a bit of culture by going to see *The Nutcracker*.



3-41



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# Alexisonfire: Hardcore Heading East

**ALEX MILLER Staff Contributor** 



For the second time this year, Halifax is fortunate enough to host hardcore prodigies Alexisonfire. These boys hit the scene in 2001, and with their three-song demo selling over one thousand copies, they grabbed the attention of Distort Entertainment and EMI Music, who jumped at the chance to sign them. Their self-titled debut has had continued success in Canada, something lead vocalist George Pettit still can't believe. "We had no expectations," he says. "Everything just fell into place in a series of flukes and coincidences."

Their album has broken the Canadian Top 200 Soundscan chart, and their video for the track "Pulmonary Archery" earned the band a nomination for best independent video at the 2003 Muchmusic Video Awards. To top it off, a sponsorship deal was made with Atticus clothing, owned by members of Blink 182. Flukes aside, it seems as though Alexisonfire is well on their way to world domination.

Their music is a combination of complex guitar sounds, fast paced drumbeats and poetic lyrics founded in personal experience. Their words are relevant without the generic appeal. "We write lyrics about things we know," says Pettit. "We tend to stray from what has already been said before."

Although many, including Pettit's parents, complain about not being able to understand what he and fellow vocalists Wade Preston and Dallas Green are saying, their CD booklet provides a look into their provocative writing style. "That's what hardcore music is all about," says Pettit, regarding the band's vocal approach. The avid music listener will realize, however, that their lyrics form a call and answer relationship between the vocalists.

Their method of combining the lyrically sensitive nature of emo music with hardcore punk has proved beneficial. This past fall, the band inked a deal with the US based Equal Vision, a label which is home to As Friends Rust, Earth Crisis and countless other talent. "We were elated to be signed to a label we respect along with bands that have inspired us," said Pettit.

This step in their careers has furthered their exposure south of the border with the release of their album in September and a US tour. "It's like starting over," Pettit says. "We have to establish a fan base all over again." They have played in the US before (Warped Tour 2002, and Hellfest, one of the biggest hardcore events to date), but have never headlined.

Noted not only for their ability to create raw, intricate music, Alexisonfire has also gained recognition for putting on one hell of a good show. Armed with an endless supply of stamina and energy, they give their fans a reason to start a circle pit. They make sure, according to Pettit, "that everyone has a good time."

During their Halifax date in July, the band and their tour mates graciously played two complete sets for their fans. The Ceilidh Connection was filled to capacity twice in one evening, so everyone who showed up would have a chance to see them play. "It's one of the few great things we have done," says Pettit. "We just fed off of their energy."

The boys played a third show at The Attic the same evening, and were thoroughly impressed with our 19 plus scene. "The music scene in bars out here is much more involved than Toronto, for example, where people just stand around and listen," said Pettit.

Alexisonfire will be making stops throughout the Maritimes during the month of December, and will be back in the city on the Dec. 6, playing The Vogue with fellow Canadian bands Jersey and At the Mercy of Inspiration. This show is guaranteed to reclaim the Canadian pride lost on artists like Avril Lavigne.



Jay-Z The Black Album

I'll admit, on first listening to The Black Album, I was certifiably blown away. Not only was each track excellent by itself, but the whole was greater than the sum of its parts. The order of songs ensured me that the entire album is an experience, topping even *The Blueprint*. After some thought, I wondered if the album is merely a gimmick—Jay-Z makes repeated references to this being his final album (hence the album title), but realized that if this is Jay-Z's departure from the music world, I would have it no other way. This album is incredible. -JW



Tyler Messick Grain Sales of 1840

The significant thing about Tyler Messick's debut EP, Grain Sales of 1840 (the title is a dedication to his great-great-grandfather, inventor of the grain elevator), is that, when listening, one is able to garner a thorough sense of his environment. The potent lyrics wander between history and the human condition, revealing that all things are cyclical. His understanding of the fragility of human life is most apparent in the great ease with which he takes on the perspectives of others in his songs. This combination of character adaptation and soulful melody makes Messick a great songwriter. -LD



Wyclef Jean
The Preacher's Son

Well, this album was certainly a surprise for me. On first listen, the single "Industry" threw me for a loop—this was not what I was expecting ("Sometimes ...when I wake up/ I kinda hope that The Fugees didn't break up..."). It is officially bumpin. However, the rest of the album was more or less what I was expecting: incredible instruments with mellow vocals laid over top, with a host of impressive guest appearances, a few hip hop, most not. Overall, the album wasn't anything special, but it may need time to grow on me, or perhaps catch me in the right mood. -JW

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# Where Will the Children Play?

### NATALIE PENDERGAST Arts Editor

There's something wrong with the state of this city. Over the course of only 10 months, Halifax has seen the closing of both The Pavilion and The Ceilidh Connection. There are still an abundance of venue's here, and there always will be, but what made these two so unique was that they were the only places that provided all-ages shows to the public on a regular basis.

Last January, The Pavilion, a box-like building that once served as the rock out headquarters for young people. was shut down "temporarily," due to fire hazards. A month or so later, according to Rob Patey, Dal student and Ceilidh Connection manager, his humble Internet café picked up the slack. He said that he and the café owner saw the need for an all-ages venue, and decided that they'd help put on shows for teenagers. "We knew from the beginning that we weren't putting on all-ages shows for the money," Patey said.

But the expense of equipment, and the lack of revenue, which most venues make up with alcoholic beverage sales, had a toll on The Ceilidh Connection's financial balance. With the unprofitable implications of catering to an under-19 music scene, it is unlikely that an independent business will ever consistently offer live music to the underage crowd successfully.

The Ceilidh Connection could not continue, and shut down forever on November 14. "There was no business," Patey said. "We tried to hold out as long as we could, and between me and my boss we took some pretty big sacrifices to keep it going."

He said that the kids showed much enthusiasm and passion for the shows, and continued to be loyal to the café during the daytime as well. "There were about a dozen kids who'd volunteer to help, and they'd always come back just to hang out," he said. Patey thinks that the teenagers got a lot of experience from setting up for shows at The Ceilidh Connection, and he admired their eagerness to always help out. When the Halifax Pop Explosion hit downtown a month ago, the kids put their experience to good use. "When I saw them all working and showing other people how to set up, that was



probably one of the greatest moments," said Patey. "To look at them and say that the Ceilidh Connection was closed was pretty bad."

All the eagerness in the world doesn't change the fact that kids are usually broke, and if they are the main customers of a café, well, that makes the café broke too.

With The Pavilion's indefinite hiatus and the recent fall of The Ceilidh Connection, youthful audiences aren't the only ones who are feeling the effects. Up and coming bands with underage members such as This Message Will Self Destruct are now left out in the cold. Kings College student and Independent Promoter, Ben Pearlman, attests to the ludicrousness of this predicament: "There's very little indoor space for underage students in Halifax," he

Underage bands can play at bars, provided they apply a few weeks in advance and leave immediately after playing their set. Pearlman thinks this is going to have some ramifications on the younger artists. Not only is it not any fun for the teenagers, but they are going to have to play for a crowd that isn't familiar with them and is much more critical of their skills because they have their choice of many venues across town and can afford to be picky. The benefit of underage shows is that younger audiences have fun no matter who is playing, and younger bands get a chance to practice their live performance before trying their luck in front of a more mature crowd.

Pearlman said it is not totally a venue issue, and that perhaps Nova Scotia liquor laws are also part of the problem. "You can't have a wet/dry venue in Nova Scotia because of the liquor laws," he said. "Anyone who has a liquor license can't have underage kids." According to Pearlman, it is not just the alcohol and smoke filled

atmosphere that kids can't be exposed to-it is also something called a "party atmosphere." "If there is any type of music, it is a party atmosphere, and kids aren't allowed in. It's the archaic interpretation of the liquor laws," he

There are some places in Halifax that have come

forth to put on an all-ages show now and then. The two keenest to do so are Bella Muse and The Vogue. Bella Muse has also just shut down though, and even if The Vogue is doing more for youngsters, it costs a lot of money and it is located on Gottingen Street, where many kids are not permitted by their parents to go.

For underage Dalhousie students, there is the Grawood, which this year offers three nights of the week when 18-year-olds can have a fun wet/dry experience. So on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, Frosh can exchange their Dalcard for a bracelet and dance with their 19-yearold friends.

But what about high school students? There are two differences between The Pavilion and The Ceilidh Connection. One is that The Pavilion never had to deal with money problems, and the other is that it was a city owned, city run building. Essentially, the first difference is a product of the second, which lends to the obvious: in order for Halifax to have a successful all-ages venue, municipal Halifax and the mayor have to help out.

There are two brave young men who are willing to ask mayor Peter Kelly in person for this favour: Adrian Bruhm and Justin Poulain are students at Queen Elizabeth High. and the hosts of www.rockinhalifax.cib.net this city's finest all-ages rock concert website.

Although admitting that kids took The Pavilion for granted before it closed, the boys said that the wait for it to reopen has been agonizing. The most frustrating part of the past year has been the lack of information provided to them by the city. "Before the hurricane, [the authorities] had eight or so months to fix [The Pavilion], and as far as we know, nothing was done," Poulain said.

Poulain feels that the city councilors and even the mayor are demonstrating an apathetic attitude toward the situation, especially since they have been repeatedly ignoring students' questions, suggestions and even a petition signed by over one thousand kids. Poulain and Bruhm explained that the adults are only making the situation worse by continually promising to fix the safety problems at The Pavilion and then simply not following through.

The teenagers think that the politicians wouldn't normally be so blatant in their false promises to reopen The Pavilion. "They don't care...because we're not voting," said Bruhm, who feels that underage kids aren't a priority for those in power because they are not eligible to vote.

Poulain and Bruhm have a meeting with the mayor on Wednesday, November 26, and will find out what he intends to do about the Halifax all-ages venue crisis.





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# **Basketball Teams Mangle Opponents**

KATIE GAMMON Staff Contributor

After two consecutive losses at the Dalplex, the women Tigers had an impressive outing on Friday, November 21 against the Acadia Axewomen. Dalhousie beat the Axewomen in Wolfville just three weeks earlier, and in an important league game, defensive pressure and a strong post play gave the Tigers the victory defeating the Axewomen 77-56.

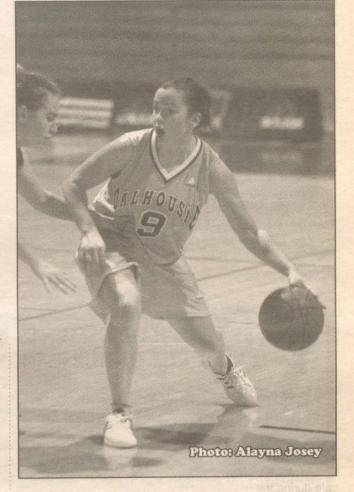
Leslie Duncan led the Tigers past Acadia dropping 20 points. In the first half, Dalhousie and the Axewomen were neck and neck, with Dal only leading 36-32 at the buzzer. Both teams shot very well, with the Tigers making 64 per cent of their shots from the floor. Second year guard Ryan McKay came out shooting well, hitting 9 of 12 shots, with 19 points in the game.

In the second half, the Tigers applied their tough

defensive press, causing the Axewomen to lose their offensive ability. Strong post play by key veterans Sonya Young and Leslie Duncan helped the Tigers maintain offensive momentum throughout the second half. For the Axewomen, Kerry Karsten, a Dartmouth native, had 17 points, while Kate Rive had 10. Also scoring for Dalhousie were Sonya Young with 15 and Elspeth Cheng and Kelly Donald both adding 9 points.

Meanwhile, the men also dominated Acadia, winning 69-56 on Friday. Nick Donald had 20 points, while Tim O'Connor played a strong game with 15 rebounds and 11 points. The Tigers carried an eight-point lead into the halftime, and never gave the Axemen a chance to get back into the game.

The referee's obviously had new whistles that they



# Athletes Of The Week



### Andy White, Swimming

Andy White of the men's swim team has been named Dalhousie's Male Athlete of the Week for the week ending November 23, 2003. Andy led the way for the Tigers swim team this past weekend at their AUS Invitational, hosted at Dalplex. He broke the oldest AUS record in the 200m butterfly in a time of 2:03.85, shattering the 24-year-old mark set in 1979 by over half a second. White also set a new AUS record in the 400 IM. He swam a time of 4:31.47 breaking the record set in 1987. He also picked up a third victory in the 200 IM, narrowly missing another AUS record. Andy met the qualifying time to attend the Canadian Olympic Trials next July in Toronto. He is a first-year history major from Windsor, N.S.



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### #10 Leslie Duncan, Women's Basketball

Leslie Duncan of the women's basketball team has been named Dalhousie's Female Athlete of the Week for the week ending November 23, 2003. Leslie, a post player with the Tigers, has been steadily recording solid performances in AUS league play this year. In the last four AUS games, she has averaged 19 ppg and is currently fifth in AUS league scoring. This past weekend, in the second match-up of the season over Acadia, Leslie posted 20 points and 4 boards, leading the Tigers to a 77-56 win. A third-year member of the Tigers, Leslie continues to provide leadership, and the team has relied heavily upon her consistency on the court. Leslie is a recreation management student from Blockhouse, N.S.

were dying to try out, as 41 fouls were called, with each team getting their share of the free throws. Acadia shot horrendously from the field, missing more shots than they made, which had their coach ranting on the sidelines throughout the whole game.

The Tigers don't play at home until the new-year; however, the women host an exhibition game on Dec 31 at the Dalplex, and the men host the Rod Shoveller Tournament from Jan 2-4. For more information on the tournament, stay tuned to the Dal athletics website at www.athletics.dal.ca.



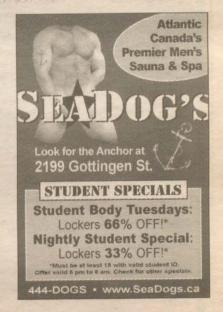


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# Tigers Keep Pace in AUHC

JOEY RYBA Staff Contributor



The Atlantic University Hockey Conference (AUHC) is extremely intense. All teams come ready to play, and the Tigers are sticking near the top. At St. F.X. on Wednesday, a third period collapse caused Dal to lose 7-5. The Tigers were up 4-2 after two periods but surrendered five straight X goals en route to the loss. Justin Hawco had two goals in the losing affair, while Chris Stanley, Jonah LeRoux and Brent Theobold also scored for Dal.

The troops then regrouped, and it was a different story when they hosted the Acadia Axemen on Saturday. J.F. Perras was again stellar, awesome, wicked (your choice), stopping 37 out of 40 shots, as the Tigers went on to win 6-3.

"He deserves more credit than he gets," said LeRoux of Perras. "He battles every night, and we have to work harder and help him out." Perras is definitely a true competitor, as he likely sees more rubber than a dead skunk on the Trans Canada Highway. Fabian Joseph was happy with the win, and with the exception of the first 10 minutes, happy with his team's play.

"We played 50 minutes tonight. We didn't show up for the first 10, but battled hard for the rest. I am really happy with LeRoux. He played for 60 minutes, he scored some key goals, did the little things right and was good without the puck as well." Joseph also thought Lynk and Stanley played well and was quite pleased with the play of Justin Hawco. "Hawco has been a pleasant surprise for us," said Joseph. "I wasn't sure where he was going to fit. Now he's getting time on the powerplay."

Acadia scored two quick goals in the first period. Tyler Durham replied for Dal, and it was 2-1 for Acadia after one. In the

> second, Acadia scored first on the powerplay, but Dal then cranked it up. Mark Lynk scored a nice goal, going around the net with the puck and tucking a backhand under the crossbar to make it 3-2. Next, some hard work by Stanley paid off, and the game was knotted at three after 40 minutes. In the third, it was all Dal. LeRoux scored two, and Stanley added an empty net goal to seal the victory as the Tigers axed the Axemen 6-3.

The line of Stanley, Dominic Noel and LeRoux is quickly becoming one of the best in the league. "I think the line gets better every game," said LeRoux. "Noel and Stanley are great players and give me more confidence."

Stanley agreed with LeRoux's comments: "It's a great line. Dom has good hands and Jonah has good speed. Our line can score, grind and play defensively, which makes a line really effective." Stanley also praised his teammate LeRoux on his great game. "Jonah had a great week in practice. He brought his A game tonight. He has great speed and he is a smart hockey player."

Currently, the injury bug has bitten Dal. Pat Vincent, Darrell Jerrett, Rob Dunphy, and Chris Tellum are out of the lineup. The Tigers don't play at home again until the new year; however, they do play at SMU on Sunday November 30, 2003 at 2 p.m. at the Halifax Forum.



# Questions

with Leigh Jaschke

#### QUESTIONS BY THERESA ANNE SALAH

1) On a scale from 1 to 10, how boring is your hometown? Why?

Montreal does not deserve to be rated on a scale of boredom

2) What are you taking at Dal?

Economics and international development

3) What's the last thing you do before a game?

Game?? What game? The last thing I do before I race is let out a blood curdling war cry. I also foam at the mouth

4) What's the worst thing you've ever done to a player on the other team?

Bathing suit in the freezer

5) Who's your favorite athlete and or sports team? Why?

Dal's women's swimming team, because we circle jerk on the dance floor, kick ass at the AU invites and train like we own the pool. We're a gong show.

6) Who's the hottest person in the world? (boyfriends don't count)

Michael "the body" Gorman .....sooooo hot.

7) What's your pet peeve?

8) What do you think of the sports editor?

Few sandwiches short of a picnic

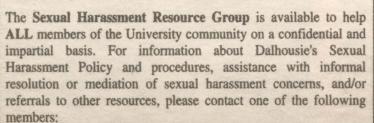
9) If you could invent one useless holiday, what and when would it be?

Inside out day. On December 1st, all undergarments should be worn on the top of outerwear.

10) What's the sexiest animal in the world?

Are you drunk? The Tiger.

### SEXUAL HARASSMENT **RESOURCE GROUP 03/04**



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The Sexual Harassment Resource Group is available for assistance during normal office hours.

For More Information: www.dal.ca/sexualharassment/



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# Women Win Again

#### THERESA ANNE SALAH Staff Contributor

The Tigers probably can't remember what it feels like to lose a game, and every other team in their league likely can't remember what it feels like to beat Dalhousie. Improving their winning streak to five in a row, the Tigers handed yet another loss to their opponents last Saturday afternoon. This time, the lucky team was the St. Thomas Tommies, who lost 5-1 to Dal on ice.

"I think we really hit our stride after our first loss to St. F.X. I can see a huge improvement in our team since that game," said women's head coach, Lesley Jordan. "We're playing with a lot more speed and we're moving the puck really well."

In fact, the Tiger's are moving the puck so well, they've now managed to place it inside the net 17 more times then their competition since the start of the season. This despite the fact they went scoreless in their first game.

Last Saturday afternoon against the Tommies, it was Lauren Appleton, Kate Tweedie, Rachel DeVries, Lori Jones and Leah Merkley who found their way onto the scoreboard for the Tigers. Despite the fact the Tigers threw 38 pucks at STU goaltender, Emily Hobbs, getting five of those pucks into the net wasn't the easiest thing in the world. "We generated a lot of scoring opportunities," said Jordan, "but their goaltender played really really well."

On the other end of the ice, Dal goaltender Kristen Ladouceur watched and waited for her chance to stop some rubber. She did actually manage to see a total of 11 shots during the game; however, her teammates didn't allow her the chance to participate that much in the match given the fact they were too busy playing with puck hog in the STU zone.

"We wanted to play well as a team and be consistent for 60 minutes," said Jordan. "Our plan was to use our speed and pressure them as much as possible with and without the puck."

There's only one more game left to play before the girls take a break for the holidays, and the Tigers hope to hand UNB an early Christmas present when they visit them this Saturday.

"With only a week left in the first half of the season, the focus this week will be on finishing strong," says Jordan. "And with another win, we'll finish ahead of SMU for second place in the conference, and two points behind SFX for first,"



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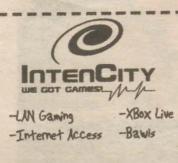
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# Boulder Climbing Challenge

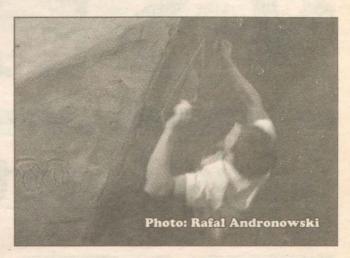
RAFAL ANDRONOWSKI Staff Contributor

Ben Blakney had flashed the first four routes, but the fifth route's holds proved too slippery, and he ran out of time before he could finish. Still, the spectators cheered as he muscled his way up the sixth and final route to win the men's division in the Boulder Climbing Challenge, held on Saturday November 22.

"Good problems," Blakney, a third-year kinesiology student at Dalhousie, said, panting for breath. "Hard stuff for sure."

The BCC was organized by The Rock Court, a squash court converted into a rock climbing gym at the Dalplex, and drew competitors of all ages from all over Nova Scotia, and even a few from other Maritime provinces. The competition was also the first ever East Coast regional event sanctioned by the Alpine Club of Canada. This was made possible by the presence of Nick Sagar, operations manager at The Rock Court and an ACC-qualified route setter. Winners of regional events get a chance to compete in national events and join the Canadian Rock Climbing team in the world championships.

Boulder climbing, usually called bouldering, is very similar to rock climbing. Bouldering ends and rock climbing beings when you reach the "when you fall, you die or get seriously hurt" point. The skill level of bouldering "problems" (as routes are called) is classified from V0 to V15, 15 being the hardest. Flashing a problem means climbing it on the first try. The hardest problem in Nova Scotia is rated at around V12.



The problems presented at the BCC appear impossible. Some holds have barely enough room for a finger; others feature grooves barely wide enough to fit a pencil. The holds that gave the climber's the most trouble were deceptively big but fairly smooth, forcing the climber to rely solely on friction to hold on. Competitors were given only six minutes and five attempts at each of the presented problems, and six minutes rest between each problem. The routes set out were around V7-V8.

The winner of the women's division was Shaunna Taylor, a fifth-year microbiology student at Dalhousie. Both winners received a \$125 cheque. As well, Taylor got a new pair of La Sportiva climbing shoes and Blakney an Arc'Teryx jacket. There were also competitions for juniors earlier in the day.



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

Applications for the MSc (Clinic Vision Science) program beginning in September 2004 are now being accepted. Applicants must hold a four-year bachelor's degree with a minimum B average (GPA 3.0), with at least one undergraduate class in human anatomy and/or physiology, and a class in psychology with a laboratory component. Exceptional students may be accepted without these prerequisites on the condition that they are fulfilled either prior to or concurrent with the program. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field is considered an asset.

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

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Deadline for applications is March 1, 2004.

Further information is available from our website <a href="https://www.dal.ca/cvs">www.dal.ca/cvs</a> or by contacting Clinical Vision Science Program

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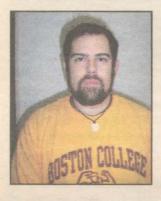
EOLAS AGUS OBA

# EXTANT

Dalhousie's Official Engineering Student Newspaper

# **Sexist? Sextant!**

By: Chris Fedora





Well, look...out...for...me. Seems your friendly neighborhood *Sextant* editor has stepped out of line...or has he? I don't know if you saw the 6 o'clock evening news on ATV Tuesday night, but I was the headline story—well, *The Sextant* was the story, and seeing as I am the man behind the madness, I am ultimately the "Go To" guy when it comes to all things Sextant.

Basically, the last issue of *The Sextant* became the center of an alleged controversy due to content that one reporter from ATV found offensive to women. If you're interested in reading it, it's the issue with the "A New Dalhousie" headline article. The content, according to said reporter, was anti-feminist, promoting violence against women, and in bad taste due to the December sixth Ecole Polytechnique anniversary so close at hand.

I got to school at my usual time, late, and there was a message waiting for me to call Elizabeth Chiu from ATV.

So, after going to class for a bit, I skipped out and called her. She said she was interested in talking to me about *The Sextant*. "Yeah right? I knew *The Sextant* was more popular, but I never thought it would get this kind of press." That was my initial thought. If I had known what was to come, I would never have agreed to the interview.

What ensued was a half-assed attempt to construct a story from thin air. Instead of being in an interview for ATV, it felt more like a character assassination from *Hard Copy*. Connections were formed in a futile attempt that would make Michael Moore cringe. At the end of the interview, I felt as though I should consider apologizing for World War One. It was like I stepped into an investigative report by Maurine O'Boyle, from which there was little to no chance of getting out unscathed.

The interview did start off well I suppose, seeing as I had no idea what was ahead of me. Once the women's issue was brought up, immediate comprehension fell over my face as to what was about to unfold. My friend, who was watching from the other side of the kitchen, was caught off guard at first by the line of questioning. He was caught off guard so much, in fact, that he didn't immediately notice that the stove in front of him had spontaneously caught fire. Flames shooting high into the air, Miss Chiu carried on in true *Hard Copy* fashion.

While the blaze was slowly extinguished and those in the room began to calm down, I was at the kitchen table doing my best to answer the constant repetitive questioning that

was being hurled at me. Your leader stood strong though, my people. When someone brings up an issue that's not really an issue, the only thing you can do is stick to your guns and hope some actual news happens.

I encourage you to read *The Gazette* editorial this week and hear how the whole circus began. It's quite enlightening. The story behind "the story" may be quite different than you think.

After writing the articles of that issue, my only concerns were that my beard article sucked monkey balls, and that the university might not approve of the "My New Dalhousie" article. And since I usually don't care what people think of me, and I have never been shy about voicing my opinions of this school, I was left with no worries about the issue.

Thinking Mrs. Chiu wanted to possibly talk about my anti-Dal sentiments, I made sure I wore a Boston College T-shirt. If I had known what a farce the interview and story was going to turn out to be, I would have worn my masturbating monkey T-shirt.

What actually came of the story? Nothing. Oh my, why was that? Possibly it was because there was no news story there to begin with. I generate news stories all the time, but at least I do it about my own life. Besides the representative from the Canadian Council on the Status of Women, who was unaware of the article prior to Miss Chiu showing it to her, the newscast contained no evidence of anyone having a problem with what I'd written. I'm sure you're out there people, you always are, as Miss Chiu has shown, so any time you have a problem with *The Sextant*, write to thesextant@hotmail.com. Up until now no one has complained to me or anyone at The Gazette other than Miss Chiu, yet somehow it became the top news story on the ATV news and was billed as a controversy.

# In Mining We Make Things Go Boom!

By: Stephen Butt

The Dalhousie Mining Engineering Program was one of four founding engineering disciplines at the Nova Scotia Technical College when it opened in the early 1900's. Since then, the nature of the mineral industry in Canada has changed considerably, witnessing the development of highly mechanized surface and underground mining operations which are designed for closure to minimize long-term environmental impacts.

In addition, entirely new minerals are now mined, such as oil sands, diamonds, potash, uranium, gypsum and others. In Atlantic Canada, the coal industry has declined while the petroleum industry has grown with increased offshore and onshore petroleum exploration and development. Additional hydrocarbon resources in the form of coal bed methane (CBM) are also showing good potential for future development.

The Mining Program has a long-standing tradition of educating professionals for careers in both the mineral and petroleum industries with many course selection options in these areas. However, the program has recently formalized

undergraduate options in mining, petroleum and mineral processing. These options will enable students to better tailor their degrees to intended career goals and will provide industry with graduates with sound academic qualifications to work in these increasingly specialized industries.

As Dr. Stephen Butt, the Mining Program Chair said, "These options are a win-win development, not only for students and industry, but also for the university, since it will improve enrollment in areas that are growing sectors of the economy in Atlantic Canada."

For more information about these new options, attend the Mining Engineering Open House next semester or come and visit the program in Building G on the Sexton Campus.

If that didn't entice you . . . we get taught how to play with explosives. That's right, we make things go boom.

### **T-Room Corner**







Last Thursday at the T-Room for this year.

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