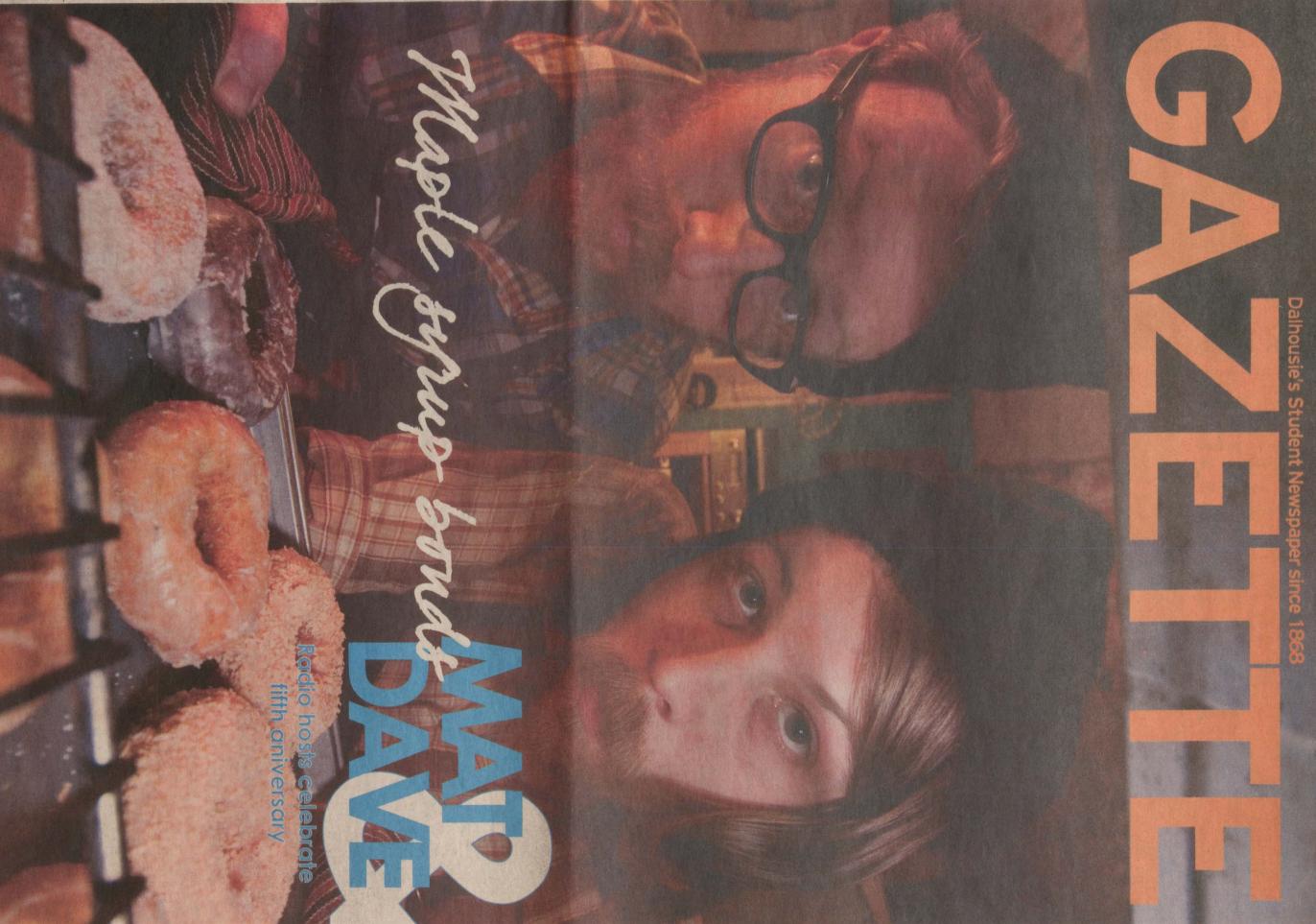
Students skip forum pg. 4 | Sex columnist takes questions pg. 14 | Rugby club remains undefeated pg. 22





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WEEKLY DISPATCH

Hello, Dalhousie students!

September as a whole has been eventful and exciting for the DSU, and that trend won't discontinue in this last week of the month!

Remember that 4:30 PM on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 is the last day to OPT OUT OF THE DSU HEALTH PLAN. This is the Union's most accessed service, and offers great supplemental coverage to already existing plans. Check out the details at www.dsu.ca. If you decide the services are not for you, please remember to opt-out in time.

Also today is the first meeting of the Residence Relations Committee. Following close on the heels of the very well attended Residence Council Training last weekend, this Committee is open to all residence students who are interested in taking an active role in addressing their concerns. Anything and everything is on the table for discussion. The Committee will not only provide a direct ear to the Union Council, but will offer you the chance to be a voice for the 2500 students at Dal who live in residence, as two DSU Council Representatives will be nominated. If you are interested, check with your RA or RLM for the meal hall location of the meeting; we will be convening at 5 pm.

Similarly, the Sexton Campus Student Advisory Committee will be meeting at 6 pm in the T-Room this coming Friday. This committee offers all students on Sexton Campus the opportunity to bring their concerns to their elected representatives, followed by some pool and entertainment. Stop by and have your say!

What does Leadership mean to you? In this second annual event, the DSU hopes to help you define this concept for yourself by introducing you to skills that are necessary to connect the knowledge you gain in the classroom with its practical application in the real world. This conference will be the springboard for the DSU Leadership Program to follow over the course of the year. Through sessions and speakers, headlined by Drew Dudley, you will be provided with a sample of what the program can offer. By connecting knowledge to skills, theory to practice, you will be connecting the dots of your education to take maximum benefit from your time at Dal. Registration is now open at the SUB info desk. The Conference will take place Saturday, September 27 from 8:45 am to 7:30 pm. The registration fee is \$10, and three full meals will be provided. More information and updates are available at our Facebook page, "DSU Leadership Conference 2008," or you can contact dsuvpi@dal.ca.

Treasurer training will be taking place on October 2 at 6 p.m. in the McInnes Room. This will be an opportunity for anyone interested in keeping a society's books in good order to learn from and ask questions of our VP (Finance and Operations), Matt Golding.

In online news, Dal has been selected to participate in Myspace Canada's Secret Shows contest. Go to www.myspace.com/telus and vote for Dal to win us a free concert! We are really leading the way right now; let's keep up the momentum!

As always, the Grawood is a great place to stop for lunch throughout the week, and both the Grawood and T-Room provide fantastic programming for your evenings. Check out this week's details online at www.dsu.ca.

Check back next week for more news, and as always, contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Your DSU Executive











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GAZETTE "STAFF



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THE FINE PRINT

Daniouse University since L80s and is open to participation from all students. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhouse Gazette Publishing Society. The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general. A "staff contributor" is a member of the paper defined as a person who has had three volunteer articles, or photographs of reasonable length, and/or substance published in three different issues within the current publishing year. Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, The Word at Dal, and opinions section are solely those of the contributor writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff. This publication is intended for readers 18 years of age or older. The views of our writers are not the explicit views of Dalhousie University. All students of Dalhousie University, as well as any interested parties on or off-campus, are invited to contribute to any section of the newspaper. Please contact the appropriate editor for submission guidelines, or drop by for our weekly volunteer meetings every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in room 312 of the Dal SUB. The Gazette reserves the right to edit and reprint all submissions, and will not publish material deemed by its editorial board to be discriminatory, racist, sexist, homophobic or libellous. Opinions expressed in submitted letters are solely those of the authors. Editorials in The Gazette as staff, Editorial Board, publisher, or Dalhousie University.

The future of Dal

JULIE SOBOWALE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

What should Dalhousie University look like in 10 years? Maybe there will be huge park in the centre of campus if the Life Sciences Building is demolished after the new academic building is erected. Maybe Dal will revise its long-forgotten football team in hopes of conjuring up some school spirit. Or maybe we'll have organic produce alongside our pizza in the Student Union Building caf-

On Tuesday the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) hosted this year's first Imagine DSU event with the main topic as the future of Dal. With our opinions columnist John Hillman's enthusiastic plea for students to go, students showed up ready to dish and discuss the vision of our campus. Since I couldn't attend the event due to class obligations, I offer my own vision of where our campus and therefore where our university should be headed.

Real sustainability

Students are concerned about the environment and how we preserve the resources we have. Universities were unfortunately designed to be quite wasteful. Our big buildings across campus use lots of energy for electricity and air conditioning/heating systems. One possible solution is solar panels. While our summers may be short, solar panels can be used during the winter. Several colleges in the U.S. have already jumped on the renewable energy bandwagon. At Butte College in northern California, 25 per cent of campus energy is solar. Engineering students at Seattle University created solar panels and retrofitted them to their student union building on campus. Community members funded the project and students worked with facilities management to capture the energy for use on campus.

If we want change, we need to be active in the decision-making process when it comes to energy and conservation. Why not approach university administration and inquire what the costs would be to install and create a solar panel system? This wouldn't be the only solution to turning our campus into an eco-friendly haven but it would

An online teaching system

Dal loves to push Blackboard Learning System (BLS) onto students as a way for teachers to post assignments and for students to consult with each other online. Facebook is probably more suited for this but it's understandable why Dal doesn't use that system. What I would like is more innovative ways to use online ces for class. For all the talk of lectures downloaded on iPods, I would be happy with virtual conversations with guest speakers via webcam. When my marketing professor last year tried to use the university's technology to speak with an advertising executive in India, the result was him holding a button on his laptop throughout class and yelling answers into a speaker. Using Skype would have been easier.

We need wireless and computer technology on campus to work. Anyone who's had class in the Rowe management building knows the unreliability of a computer connection on campus. Students complained about the computer and online infrastructure on campus at last year's Imagine DSU but so far there have been few changes to the system. Academic Computing Services, those in charge of all things computer on campus, doesn't have the resources it needs to make our university technologically great. If our wireless system is unreliable, how can Dal move forward as a campus?

What we need are creative ideas

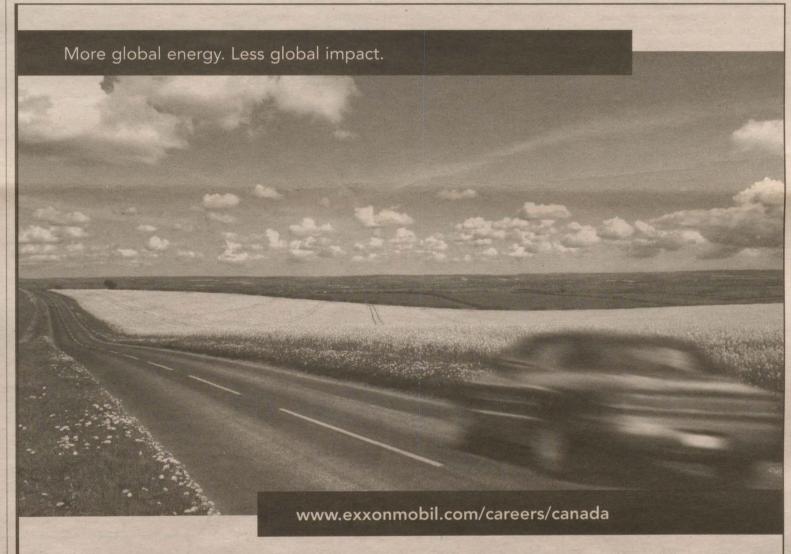


JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The DSU hosted this year's first "Imagine" student event on Sept. 23 with the future of Dal as the main topic.

on how to use the resources we have. Dal's emergency text messaging plan unveiled last year flopped in part because the administration missed the opportunity to think beyond the obvious. The university could take the system one step further and have a version of the website for cell phones. Professors who cancel class or need to send out a quick message could easily send out a text message. Students could find out about cancelled classes through a text message. Recently students at the University of Ottawa received a text message reminding them about the last day to add a course. This is the kind of stuff we need.

I've got plenty of other ideas that I don't think will happen anytime soon such as shuttle rides between the Sexton and main campus, the Gradhouse preserved and turned into a campus museum and local businesses bidding for food contracts. Hopefully the Dal of the future is more than just fancy new buildings.



Opportunities are waiting for you. Visit us at our Information Session:

Room 307 Student Union Building, September 30, 2008, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

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Student forum turnout flimsy

MELISSA DI COSTANZO ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Halifax Student Alliance (HSA) represents roughly 30,000 students in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Of those, approximately 30 showed up to the group's first student forum on Sunday.

The Alliance is set up to lobby local government for students, a partnership of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), Saint Mary's University Students' Association, NSCC Waterfront Campus Student Union and the Atlantic School of Theology Student Union.

The three main issues it currently addresses are crime and safety, transportation and the rising cost of living, all discussed at the forum that ran at Saint Mary's Sobey building.

Tara Gault, executive director of the HSA, says this is a good start for the one-year-old Alliance.

"What we're really looking forward to is working with government city councillors, provincial MLAs getting them to address our issues," she says. "We'll always have forums like this, but we want to make sure we're also seeing solutions."

During the forum, students listened to a presentation on the HRM Crime and Violence and Public Safety Report – which included an online student survey co-ordinated by the HSA representing post-secondary students in the HRM – and a panel discussion on the social and economic values of a student-friendly city.

Students also participated in rotating sessions, where they broke into focus groups to discuss their issues with public transportation; student housing and community development; and student costs of living; and the affordability of a nutritious diet.

Brittany Hilton, HSA vice-chair, says these were the three issues that continuously came up amongst students

"For anything to take effect, it

takes years, it takes effort and it takes a lot of planning and policy work," she says. "There are definitely other issues besides those other three and we do take into account for those and try to work with those as well."

Students raised ideas during the group discussions that were recorded on paper and collected by HSA members

Gault says one of the big issues that came out of the forum is the need for a late night bus. She also says the issue of affordable housing came in a close second.

"We'll be collecting all the notes that were taken today and making sure that our policies are in line with what students are saying because we want to be very responsive to students," she says.

Hilton hopes to increase student engagement by creating more oncampus student forums.

"We're advocating for students on behalf of students and we're hoping to put our accomplishments out there and get feedback from students because it's important."

Stephen Smith, a second-year SMU student, says because the HSA is new, it needs to focus on marketing itself to students.

"Their main concern right now is that they should be interested in promotions," he says. "And that they can get people out and saying hey, this is the HSA, here's what we do here's why you should like us."

Dal student Gryphon Loubier would like to see the HSA get students' attention.

"What I'm seeing is degradation in participation with all kinds of people. It's really getting to me because there are all these different associations that are available and all these resources, but I didn't know that and I'm involved," says the third-year student. "So what about the other 15,000 kids that didn't show up to-day?"

Loubier says the Alliance is a good idea because it's the first time students who aren't necessarily involved in politics are able to have a voice. But he doesn't know what the future of the HSA looks like.

"I don't know where they're going and I don't know if they know completely but I think they'll figure it out," he says.

"I know a lot of people that would have come out today to talk to all the candidates in one group in a small setting where I can actually say hello and they can remember my name," he says. "That's unheard of in most situations. I think (the HSA) could have tried to include more students but then again, for their first time, they did pretty good."

Also present during the forum were Catherine Meade, Liberal candidate for Halifax, Megan Leslie, NDP candidate, Sue Uteck, Councillor for District 13, Sheila Fougere, mayoral candidate and Leonard Preyra, MLA Halifax-Citadel-Sable Island.

Vice chair Hilton says the presence of political figures at the forum is to show politicians a student voice. She also says the HSA is struggling to encourage students to vote in the upcoming municipal election.

"We've done a lot of promotion on campuses, letting students know where to vote, who can vote, how to vote, things like that," she says.

Gault says the future of the HSA involves formulating policy.

"We need a policy, and get that forward, because that gives us legs so we can go to government and say 'here' and plop it down on the table and say 'this is what we want,'" she

Hilton says it's difficult for the group to write policies it can present to the municipal government on students' behalf.

"One of the main challenges we face currently is just writing policy right now, and getting student opinions, trying to figure out what the most important issues are, what we should currently focus our efforts on."



SAGAR JHA/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The proposed new Grad House location is at 1252/1254 LeMarchant St.

DAGS pushes again for Grad House levy

ANDREW ROBINSON DSU REPORTER

The Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS) is once again considering applying a student levy to fund a new Grad House.

Chris Giacomantonio, president of DAGS – which operates the Grad House and leases the property from Dal – says the levy fees are "a consideration at this point."

The fees would be used to fund renovations for a new location for the Grad House, which has been at the corner of University Avenue and LeMarchant Street since 1975. He says negotiations regarding the use of a new property to host the Grad House are ongoing between DAGS and facilities management at Dal.

At the Sept. 10 meeting of the Dalhousie Student Union council, Giacomantonio said full-time students could pay \$7 per semester, with part-time graduate students giving \$3.50 per semester to DAGS. The proposed new location under consideration is a split-unit house at 1252/1254 LeMarchant St., across the street from where the Grad House currently sits.

DAGS founder André Arsenault planned to bring up the topic of introducing a student levy referendum question last school year at the DSU's Feb. 20 council meeting. He eventually withdrew this motion before the meeting took place.

Giacomantonio says renovations to the proposed site for relocation would cost \$450,000. This figure would cover a full retrofit of the building, which would use new technologies in order to make the new Grad House as energy-efficient as possible. In May of this year, DAGS

passed a Sustainability Vision document, which would be used as a basis for eliminating wasteful practices in both the creation and operation of a new Grad House.

The DAGS president says negotiations with the university will determine the extent of renovations. The university is still in the process of putting together its master campus plan, which will provide direction on all physical development issues relating to the campus. Currently, the school has a backlog of maintenance work estimated at \$200 million. The plan is expected to be at least a year away from completion.

"The place can't be salvaged in its current form," says Giacomantonio. "It would be cheaper and, in the long run, more sustainable and energy efficient to tear the place down and rebuild on the same footprint. However, given the university's master plan process and the fact that DAGS has no available capital for building at the moment, it's not an option for us to rebuild on that same footprint."

Facilities management estimated in 2007 that the current Grad House needed repairs that would cost \$750,000. Giacomantonio says the Grad House, while meeting the requirements of existing building codes, is structurally unsound and not energy-efficient.

The fate of the building that currently houses Grad House will be left in the hands of facilities management. While Giacomantonio can only speculate as to the building's future, he feels it would most likely be torn down. Considering the university no longer wants the building to be used by DAGS, Giacomantonio believes they would have no other option.

Students skeptical of election texts

MIRA GOLDBERG-POCH NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

With the Oct. 14 federal election fast approaching, many young people are weighing their voting options and want more answers than they're getting from the media.

Enter Youth Text 2008, a new program that allows young people under the age of 24 to send a text message to a representative from any one of the four major political parties in Canada and receive a direct answer via cell phone within 24 hours.

Youth Text is a project of the Dominion Institute, a national charitable organization that promotes greater knowledge and appreciation of Canadian history and citizenship. The organization asked all registered Canadian political parties to take part in YouthText.

In the last federal election, only 42.2 per cent of first-time voters cast a ballot. Youth Text's goal is to send those numbers skyrocketing, and with Canadians sending more than 45 million texts daily, the cell phone trend shows no signs of slowing down. But the question remains whether Youth Text will actually be a

successful. Last election, voter participation was only 64.7 per cent.

Erin Christy, a fourth-year political science student, keeps herself well-informed in the political sphere, but she hadn't heard of the Youth Text program.

"It's a great program to have around," she says. "But only if people know about it."

She thinks low voter turnout in the 18 to 24 age demographic has a lot to do with education.

"People aren't aware of the effect one vote can have in the end," says Christy. "One of the key elements of living in a democratic society is the power of the people to voice their opinions, but if people don't vote it defeats the purpose of democracy."

For this reason, she supports the Youth Text plan, but she's skeptical of the program's marketing skills. "At this point, it's pretty close to the election, and I haven't seen any publicity for it," she says.

Sebastien Dolan, who graduated last May with a degree in political science, agrees. "It's a great idea," he says. "If this program increases voter turnout by even one person, I think it's worth it."

But like Christy, he initially didn't know a thing about it.

"It will be more effective in the next election if they have a better advertising strategy," says Dolan.

Youth can also join a particular party's texting community by sending the word "party" to a chosen organization. Once registered, the selected party sends regular updates and allows participants to engage in text message polls. The Democracy Project, a national non-partisan enterprise to encourage young Canadians and first-time voters to show up at the polls, supports Youth Text 2008.

The non-partisan project encourages voters to have their voices heard and has pushed YouthText as a primary vehicle for encouraging youth participation.

Both Dolan and Christy agree they would use the program, but both stressed a need for better advertising. Christy thinks word-ofmouth will also get the program going in the future.

"If people have a good experience with the program and actually get feedback, then they'll spread the word."



Dal cafs go local

SARAH KEHOE **NEWS CONTRIBUTOR**

Dalhousie University is serving up more options for students in the form of local food.

The university spent \$2.7 million on food last year. Thirty per cent of that was purchased locally

On Sept. 29, Dal is celebrating the province's local produce and farmers by holding a "Farm to Table" dinner.

"We are very proud of our Farm to Table program," says Derrick Hines, the Food Service Director for Aramark, Dal's food service provider. "We will be hosting local farmers and providing them with an opportunity to promote their products to our students in our dining halls. Beginning this fall Bishops Farm, Annapolis Valley, will be at three of our residence cafes: Howe Hall, Risley Hall and Shirreff Hall."

Hines explains how the process started to develop a program based on sustainable practices about four

"Initially (it began) with fair trade coffee, trans-fat free cooking oils, banning Styrofoam containers on campus and commissioning student projects with various departments on-campus to study bio diesel and seasonal menus," says Hines. "Early last year, we started bench-marking how much of purchases were local."

Hines adds that now Aramark uses more than 30 local suppliers for beef, poultry, vegetables, potatoes and seafood.

Energy-efficient LCD screens are also located in the residence cafes to help educate students on their nutritional content as well as the products' origins.

Fourth-year English student Andy Verboom supports Dal's decision to integrate local produce in its dining

"Logically, it's a good idea," says Verboom. "It creates growth within the local economy and would increase the local produce growth, which will make it more affordable in the long run."

Jonathan McKay, a fourth-year English student, also agrees.

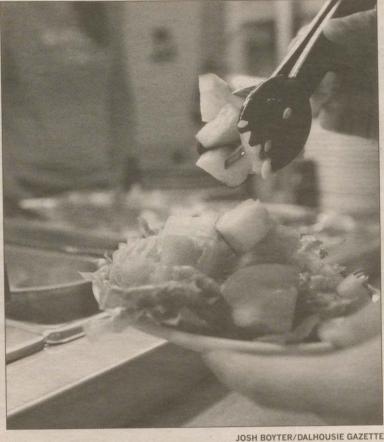
"The health benefits are greater and also it would help the local economy if anything," says McKay.

Although many students argue local is the way to go, most admit to not eating local because of inexpensive foreign imports.

McKay says his local food regimen only extends to milk.

"That's local wherever you go though," he says.

Angela Banks-Emmerson, the nutritionist for Aramark, says choosing



Campus cafeterias will serve local farmers' produce.

both local and organic are the optimal option from a nutritional standpoint. She explains produce that travels long distances in extreme conditions and temperatures may lose some nutri-

"Temperatures, too high or low depending on the produce, during transport can also damage the produce and decrease the nutritional profile," she says. "Also, the handling during transport can result in bruising or rips in the skin, both can also decrease the nutrients."

The nutritionist usually opts for

"I prefer local for the freshness in taste, shorter distance which equals higher nutrients, decrease in transit pollution and of course supporting local farmers," says Banks-Emmerson. "Also, many Nova Scotia farmers are following organic farming practices. However, they are just not certified."

The cost of being sustainable isn't always cheap.

Hines explains that last year Aramark spent an extra \$40,000 in bio-degradable products for its retail outlets.

"They now stock potato starch cutlery, bio degradable soup bowls, coffee cups and bamboo plates," says

And meal plan prices have increased. This year, the Gold Block meal plan, which includes 14 meals per week, costs students \$2,770. For the year 2004-05, the cost was \$2,557.

Verboom is wary of the jump in spending, as students could be asked to cough up more cash.

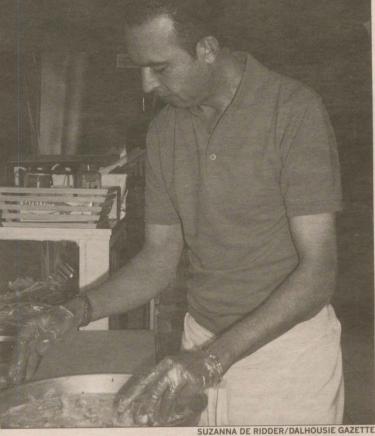
"Well, to be honest... that wouldn't be good," says Verboom. "They would start charging the students more to cover it.'

Hines says there is always room for improvement and they have recently addressed some issues.

"We have now introduced seasonal menus," says Hines. "We successfully switched our poultry from a supplier in Ontario to Eden Valley Farms in the valley and we adopted a beef abattoir in Antigonish from a group of smaller farmers that have a co-op."

Hines says he has had both positive and negative comments about switching to local.

"As to whether students care, we find we have students from one extreme to another," Hines says. "It's also our job to educate them on sustainable practices, thus using the services of local farmers."



Brick Oven owner Ben Rhouma's attempts to make the spot cozier haven't

Dairy Deli's demise prompts makeover

LUCY SCHOLEY NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

If you're one of those students who often turned to the Dairy Deli when you needed to go somewhere close for a late night slice of greasy pizza or gooey donair, you've probably noticed it's disappeared.

The restaurant, commonly called "Dirty Deli," has lost its torn plastic seats, starkly fluorescent lighting and its white-and-blue colour scheme to new management and a new name: Brick Oven.

Ben Rhouma, the new owner, bought the establishment in June. He says the restaurant's previous owner, Francis Daaboul, sold Dairy Deli and now works in real estate because he wanted a change.

Rhouma kept the name while he renovated throughout the summer. A big part of the job, he says, was

"We had to clean the place, top to bottom," he says. "I mean, the floors here were not white, they were black."

He mentions there was a line of dirt all around the counter nearly a quarter of an inch thick.

'It was unbelievable," he adds. For Rhouma, appearance is as important as cleanliness so he decidange the restaurant's style

"We changed the whole concept," he says. "We tried to make it more natural.

He gestures toward the new booths upholstered with red, blue and beige patterned fabric and towards the new ovens behind the counter. Rhouma has also installed a low brick wall on the left side of the restaurant to enclose a seating area he says can be used for special events. A few black-and-white photos, hanging plants and brightly checkered table cloths complete the new décor.

But Rhouma's attempts to make it "cozier" have not attracted a lot of people so far. The place is empty on a Friday night except for the occasional customer or two who trickles in. Rhouma says he's still trying to improve the restaurant and fix small problems like the chipped tiles on his front steps. He has yet to advertise Brick Oven and has had problems making copies of his menu to give customers.

The menu still offers many of the same Dairy Deli foods such as

donairs, fries and the standard pepperoni pizza. But there are new additions like subs, wraps, different varieties of pizza and a more extensive dessert menu. Rhouma says he aims to "please everybody" by trying to have "a little bit of everything."

Someone who has definitely noticed these changes is Dalhousie student Jean-Marc Prevost. He says he used to eat at Dairy Deli nearly twice a week during his first year and despite it being seen as "dirty," it was still a well-known place for students to buy greasy food.

"It was definitely weird," he says of the restaurant closing, "because Dairy Deli was the place they told me about when I was first going into res."

He says other students would tell him, "it's here, it's cheap, it's not going to be the best food, but what's the difference? It's the 'Dirty D.'

Prevost says he's indifferent to Dairy Deli closing since Brick Oven opened in its place, but adds he prefers the new restaurant's style.

"It actually looks like a real restaurant," he says.

On the other hand, Dal student Patrick Wamboldt says he preferred old plastic chairs to the new potted plants. He says Dairy Deli used to have "a lot of character."

"It looks pretty good," he says of the renovated space, "but when you try to do something different, then it takes away the flavour."

But Wamboldt says he still enjoys the food and has been in Brick Oven about five times since it opened

nearly 10 weeks ago. "The food's really good for the price," he says. "There's no reason

not to come.' Rhouma says he believes he can still improve Brick Oven to encourage more customer business.

"I do the best I can," says Rhouma, adding despite his more extensive menu, he still finds it "very hard to please everybody.'

But he says he's already off to a good start with the restaurant's location because it's so close to the uni-

"I said, 'this is the right spot,'" he says. "It's the middle of the city and you're surrounded by basically everything."

He adds his restaurant also has a lot to offer, like fresh food, quick service and, perhaps most importantly, a clean eating area.



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Pub crawl ads 'denigrate' students

Plans laid for Halifax's biggest crawl

KRISTINA MARTIN **NEWS CONTRIBUTOR**

Free pub crawl coasters are circulating campus, but they're not for the modest.

One side of the coaster displays an image of three females and one male sporting their "Hook-Ups 101" pub crawl shirts enjoying beverages. One girl, while smiling for the camera, pours liquor from a bottle down another girl's throat.

The other side of the coaster has a silhouette of a large-breasted female holding a beer bottle next to the crawl's slogan: "Cuz...it's who you know, not what you know. HOOK-

In efforts to achieve a recordbreaking 4,000-person attendance mark - surpassing last February's 3,000-person attendance at the "World's Largest Pub Crawl"- the company organizing the crawl, High Impact Promotions, have been handing out the coasters at downtown bars and on Dalhousie and

Internships



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Dal Women's Centre Elizabeth McCormack says events such as pub crawls jeopardize student safety.

Saint Mary's University campuses. While 4,000 students and Hali-

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TECHNICAL & COMMERCIAL GRADUATES

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Gourami Business Challenge

at the pub crawl, sponsored by Life-

gonians are expected to participate Styles and Girls Gone Wild, on Sept. 26, some have raised eyebrows about the crawl's ad campaign.

Emma Whelan, a Dal professor of sociology and gender and women's studies, is not surprised by this campaign. She says it's simply marketing to gender stereotypes.

"It's a denigrating image of young people," says Whelan. "But this particular image is unfortunately noth-

The president and owner of High Impact Promotions Jonathan DeYoung defends the premise.

"There's obviously some sexual innuendo with the title Hook-Ups 101, but we're all adults here," says DeYoung. "I think people can han-

Elizabeth McCormack, co-ordinator of the Dalhousie Women's Centre, says the promotion of this event on campus is unfortunate.

"You wouldn't think that the university would condone the exploitation of their students for the profit of external groups," says McCormack.

DeYoung says he didn't seek any special permission to promote the event on campus.

"It's a free society," he explains. "And we did not promote inside any university buildings."

As for the slogan "Cuz it's who you know, not what you know," DeYoung says it pushes boundaries.

"It is going against the grain, especially on a university campus where you are learning," he says. "But, there's a 50/50 balance of knowledge obtained at school and from applying it with other people to achieve a result.'

Women's varsity soccer cocaptain Stephanie Collins says she would probably go on the pub

"A lot of my friends are talking about going, pub crawls are always fun, especially one with so many people going," she says.

Hook-Ups 101 has been validated as the biggest back to school party in Canada, says DeYoung. The event will be contained in downtown Halifax, and if successful, will be the largest pub crawl that Halifax, and the world, has ever seen.

The prospect of so many students attending the crawl worries

"Events like these put students' safety in jeopardy," she says. "They get drunk, do something they regret and wake up in hell the next day."

DeYoung emphasizes that safety precautions, such as extra security staff, will be added due to the large mass of people attending.

He also offers up a final note. "Don't forget," says DeYoung. "Everyone gets a free condom."







Noor Al-Shanti, left, says the fast brought communities together.

SUZANNA DE RIDDER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Students fast to help the hungry

HANNAH GRIFFIN NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Dalhousie students experienced what it feels like to go hungry for an entire day.

On Sept. 17, the Maritime Muslim Student Association (MMSA) ran a day-long fast for Muslim and non-Muslim students with donations to Feed Nova Scotia. The MMSA is helping the charity reach its goal of aiding the hungry and poverty-stricken.

A friend encouraged Alex Fentum, a second year history student, to get involved.

"I have a Muslim friend who I'm here with and he's fasting so I thought, why not try it out and pay some sort of respect?" says Fentum.

Approximately 64 non-Muslim students tried out the fast.

The fast started at 5:47 a.m., before which many participants individually consumed a small meal. At the end of the day, participants met in the McInnes room in the Student Union Building at 7:21 p.m. to break the fast together. The breaking of the fast included a variety of multicultural foods including curries and soft drinks. Noor Al-Shanti, event organizer, says that reflects Muslim values.

"It really brings people together and that is really important," says Al-Shanti.

The fast took place during the Muslim religious celebration of Ramadan and was based on its principles. Ramadan includes a month of fasting followed by donation to charities to help reduce hunger. During Ramadan, from sunrise to sunset, nothing is permitted to enter the throat. This rules out food, water and even cigarettes.

Fourth-year student Al-Shanti, says Ramadan followers also abstain from certain behaviours like lying and swearing.

Fentum says those who don't have enough to eat will benefit from the donations from the event.

"Yesterday I had a whole bunch of food so I thought, 'tomorrow I will see what it's like,'" he says. "Sort of like suffering, to see what they feel, to feel the pain they feel."

While many of the non-Muslim students who participated in the event were new to fasting, some had done it before. Tony Sukaroff, a first-year psychology student, has participated in fasts before, but he encountered one specific challenge to this fast: water.

"I have fasted before but I have never not had water," he says.

The fast was successful in bringing students of different religions together to shed light on different experiences.

For Michael McIntyre, third-year chemistry and biochemistry student, the fast shed some light on different religions and cultures.

"It really reminded me how difficult it is. They do this for a month," he says. "(I do it for) one day, and I die."

NEWS BITES



CANADIAN CAMPUS SHORTS:

First Nations students could lose claim to education

If the Ontario provincial and federal governments don't choose who should provide funding to the First Nations Technical Institute's (FNTI) joint program with Ryerson University, about 150 students may lose their education support, reported. The Eyeopener. Last spring, the federal government, which is one of the FNTI's largest financial donators, reduced funding by \$1.5 million, saying education should be under the authority of the province of Ontario.

Carleton student could face decade in prison

A student from Carleton University broke into the school's ID card-reading program and uncovered confidential information of 32 students.

Third-year math student Mansour Moufid, could face up to 10 years in prison for writing software to find flaws in the Carleton cardreading program. He has been charged with mischief to data and unauthorized use of a computer, reported University of Toronto student newspaper The Varsity.

The province says the FNTI's head office is not their responsibility because it is in Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory, a native reserve.

The school was close to shutting down in April before the provincial government donated \$1.5 million to make up for the previous cut.

In 2006 and 2007, about 500 students dropped out of the school because of lack of funding.

Source: The Eyeopener

Moufid explained he did this to bring awareness to privacy and security issues currently affecting students. He also said in their current format, student cards can be

large scale.

But with his effort to bring attention to security flaws, he had access to students' card balances,

exploited for financial fraud on a

e-mail and library records.

Moufid's court date is set for Oct. 15 in Ottawa.

Source: The Varsity



NATIONAL HEADLINES:

N.S. to spend \$10M on childcare

Nova Scotia is set to open 550 more daycare spots with \$10 million.

The CBC reported Community Services Minister Judy Streatch announced the plan last Friday that 16 childcare centres will be expanding.

Streatch started with the Chester Family Resource Centre, with \$700,00, to set up Chester's first daycare. The centre had previous-

ly been turned down four times for funding to put a childcare centre in place.

"This actually comes at a great time for them because they indeed need a new space," said Streatch. "They need it now."

The \$8 million funding comes from \$10 million in federal funding. The remaining \$2 million is planned to make centres more energy efficient.

Source: CBC



Nunavut votes to preserve Inuit language

Politicians in Nunavut unanimously voted to include the Inuit language on all signs and services within the territory, reported CTV.

The new language rules will come into effect July 1. In four years, the territory plans to have municipal services available in Inuit languages including Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun. As of next July, Inuit language instruction will be

mandatory for students in kindergarten to grade 3.

Culture Minister Louis Tapardjuk said Inuit language is at the heart and culture of the people's identity.

"We have taken strong action to ensure that the Inuit language is and will remain at the centre of work, education and daily life in Nunavut," said Tapardjuk.

Source: CTV



Sarkozy to speak at Quebec National Assembly

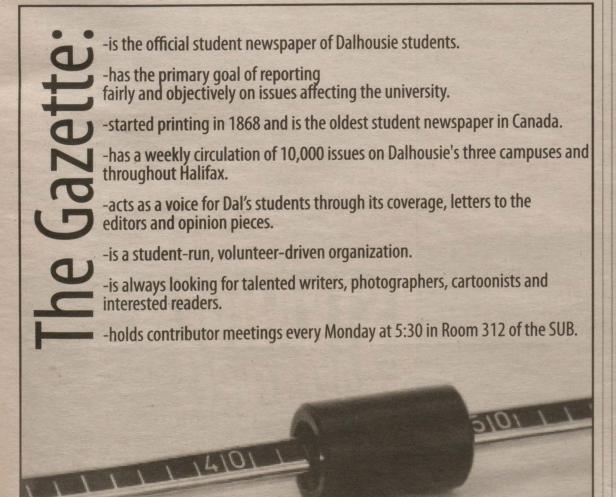
French President Nicolas Sarkozy is set to address the Quebec National Assembly Oct. 17. He plans to discuss France's new policy with Quebec and building partnerships with Canada.

The Globe and Mail reported this will be the first time a French president gives a keynote speech at the Quebec National Assembly.

Quebec Premier Jean Charest has been working on a free-trade agreement with Europe for the past two years, aiming to eradicate resistance that was expressed from the other provinces and territories. During Sarkozy's visit, Quebec is expected to sign a mobility agreement with France, which would permit personnel in either Quebec or France to freely move from province to country without needing to pass qualifying tests.

Bilateral trade and investments are expected to increase by more than \$40 billion a year if the agreement goes through.

Source: The Globe and Mail



GAZETTE "OPINIONS

No laughing matter

JOHN HILLMAN STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Did you hear the one about the hypersensitive, quasi-judicial panel of political appointees whose chief investigator claims that "freedom of speech is an American concept, so I don't give it any value"?

That's what Dean Steacy of the Canadian Human Rights Commission said at a hearing last March. Normally, this would be the part where you'd find a zingy punch line, but I'm still waiting on the necessary paperwork before I dare to type it out. Canada's human rights industry has apparently decided to get into the comedy business.

Now, I know that this might come as a bit of a shock at first. What, you might wonder, would a batch of humourless suits – who likely consider Garfield a borderline hate crime for its portrayal of the overweight – know about comedy? Interestingly, it turns out that the answer to that question is "everything."

Representatives of both the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) and the B.C. Provincial Human Rights Tribunal have made it quite clear recently that the traditional rights protecting satire and humour will now only apply to jokes the tribunals find funny.

The various human rights tribunals and councils across the country were established during the 1960s and 1970s to provide minorities with a free and easily accessible way to respond to rampant prejudice. In recent years, as the overt racism that necessitated the tribunals has waned, the human rights appointees have sought to redefine their roles to fit the needs of a changing society. Somewhere along the way, someone decided that one of those needs included policing free speech in order to protect a newly conceived inalienable right not to have hurt feelings.

Marc Lemire, an extreme right-wing website administrator who has been brought before the CHRC due to comments posted by others on his website, has brought forward a series of counter charges based on the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, arguing the Canadian Human Rights Act has been distorted to prosecute individuals in an age massively removed from its 1977 inception.

Lemire proposed that the Act be modified so that historical materials, humour and exaggerated hyperbole are exempted from hate crime laws. Margot Blight, a lawyer representing the CHRC, responded to Lemire's proposed exemptions by claiming the matter was irrelevant to Mr. Lemire's case, as the jokes written by the patrons of his message board were "not funny."

While most white supremacists are generally better known for their capacity to scream senseless vitriol than for their sparkling comedic stylings, asserting the CHRC's right to determine what is and isn't funny is

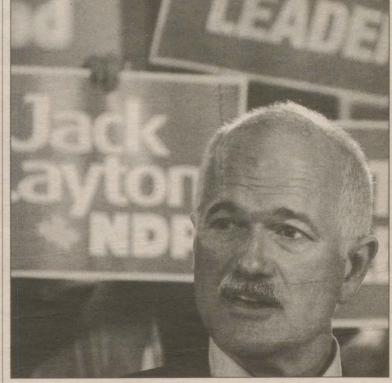
nonetheless a major step in the government's noble efforts to protect us from ourselves.

But Blight's statement is not without precedent. Guy Earle, the host of an open mic night at a Vancouver comedy club, was recently notified that he will be brought up as a defendant in a hate speech case before the BC Human Rights Tribunal. Apparently, Mr. Earle made the mistake of telling two drunken, lesbian hecklers that he suspected they weren't really lesbians but rather the two most repulsive people on earth, and that they were the only ones who could tolerate each other.

Imagine, a comedian humiliating drunken hecklers at a raunchy comedy club. Such human rights violations! It's like the Rwandan genocide all over again! Clearly, they and the B.C. tribunal had no choice but to subject Mr. Earle to several years of costly litigation, the bill for which will be split between him and the taxpayers.

You may be concerned that these developments threaten the future of the comedy industry in our country. Don't worry. In a nation where comedians are hauled up before kangaroo courts for the crime of telling jokes, there will always be more than enough material to go around.

John Hillman is a graduate history student. He enjoys writing for The Gazette, and thus has a strong interest in protecting the right to tell unfunny lokes



BLAKE MACEWAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Jack Layton's \$1 billion promise won't fix the problems of Canada's medical system

Layton: Threat to the future of healthcare?

TIM HOLLAND OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

For years I've been a staunch supporter of the Green party. During this election campaign, however, some of the other candidates have proposed good environmental policies. So, for the first time in my life, I'm considering voting for a "major" party. When I heard NDP leader Jack Layton was making a campaign stop at Dalhousie's medical school, I saw it as an easy opportunity to help make my decision.

I couldn't have been more correct: I will never vote for the NDP as long as Layton is at the helm.

Here's what Layton proposed: A 50 per cent increase in the number of doctors and nurses being trained within five years. That's not a typo. That means an additional 1,200 medical students a year and 6,000 new nursing students. That is impossible.

Training more medical students is not just a matter of making bigger auditoriums. You need physicians to train physicians. You need to have hospitals to learn in and patients to learn from. Doctors are already pressed close to the limits training the number of students they have now. The medical education system is expanding as fast as it can.

For example, Dal is in the process of opening a satellite campus at the University of New Brunswick. This process has taken years already and will not be completed for years to come. Eventually, by making use of the medical facilities in Saint John, N.B., Dal's med school will be able to accept 20 new students per year.

It requires careful implementation to guarantee that the doctors trained at UNB will be up to the standard that we expect in the Canadian healthcare system. The only feasible way Layton could implement his plan is to drop the education requirements of our physicians, and that's just stupid.

The punch line of Layton's speech was that he proposed to implement this impossible and excessive goal by spending \$1 billion! Picture Dr. Evil from Austin Powers.

When questioned about the particulars of implementing this plan Layton brushed off the questions by saying that the provinces would figure this out for themselves. All he has to do is put a billion dollars toward the problem, and it will be fixed. I was reminded why I was turned off the NDP years ago: their solution to every problem is to throw money at it.

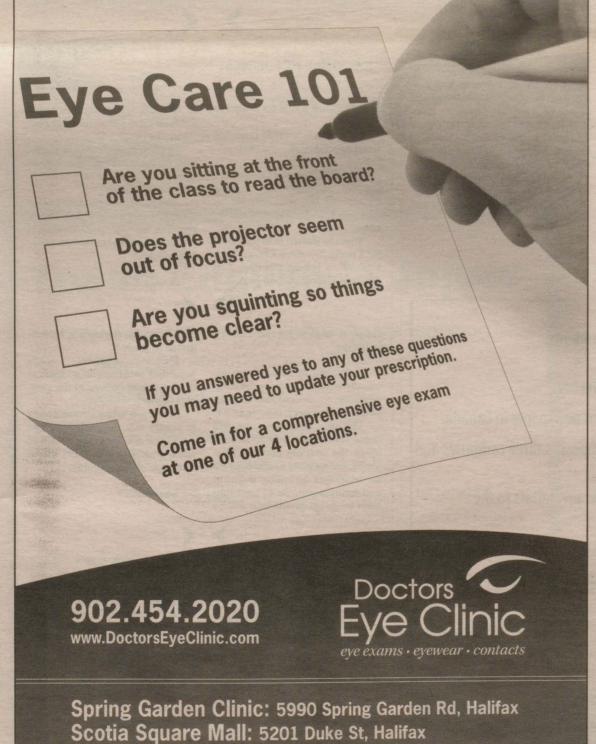
Today, most people who bring up the idea of medical reform are accused of wanting to "Americanize" our healthcare system. That's a load of bovine-fecal matter.

Medicine changes, our population changes, and our healthcare system has to change with it.

Reform does not mean privatization. But the NDP has been hammering anybody who mutters the word reform for so long that everybody else is scared to bring the topic to the forefront.

The fact is that healthcare reform is the only thing that will save the system, and the NDP is the biggest obstacle in that path.

Tim Holland is a second-year medical student.



Sackville Clinic: 720 Sackville Dr, Lr. Sackville

Spryfield Clinic: 9 Dentith Rd, Halifax



What every guy should know

JASON SAVOURY
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

Vaginal yoga. Speculums. Charting menstrual cycles. These are things that every guy should learn about, right? Well, maybe not, but they are three of the subjects touched upon at the DIY Gynecological Health seminar that I attended on Thursday. Put on by the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG), and presented by the charming Jean Steinberg — who reminded me of a pixie come to life — the seminar was a back-to-nature approach to women's health, far away from the "one size fits all" method of the Pill and Aspirin tablets.

Other than me, the audience was all women, willing to look beyond traditional Western medicine, hoping to find something more personal. What they received was information that was equal parts shocking and useful and certainly overwhelming.

Steinberg started off talking about the power hidden in plants found right here in Nova Scotia, such as nettles and squaw-vine, sometimes known as partridge berry. She even served a red raspberry leaf tea, which helps strengthen the muscles in the uterus. I abstained. Science has overwhelmingly ignored these plants, but they're just as potent and far cheaper and safer than anything you can find at your local pharmacy. Steinberg listed teas, tinctures, which extract the plants' healing qualities into liquor, flower essences for emotional health and smudging (the burning of plants) as natural resources for helping the mind, body and soul.

Now, I know that this all sounds a little out there, but only because society has moved so far from nature. We are constantly looking for a quick fix that will allow us to return to our ever-busy lives. It's no wonder that such miraculous and natural medicines have fallen out of the general consciousness. We simply just don't have the time for them anymore.

After the teas and tinctures, Steinberg handed out charts for keeping track of one's menstrual cycle. I'll admit that here, especially, I was in a bit over my head, but I'll at least say that the level of detail and description that Steinberg went in to was staggering.

Although your general high school sexual education class covers a lot of ground, there is still a lot of information left out, from how the female body temperature increases during ovulation to the consistency of the cervical fluid during different times of the menstrual cycle.

Using books, pictures and her own past cycle charts, Steinberg revealed to us the natural way of a woman's body, of which the general public is either ignorant or too shy to talk about.

The lack of awareness about the natural process leave women confused, scared and unfortunately even disgusted by their own bodies, not knowing that what's going on is perfectly normal, because no one has told them what normal means.

I, of course, can't speak from personal experience but the looks of sudden clarity and small gasps from around the room showed that these women were perhaps just as in the dark as I was.

Using the charts, Steinberg also spoke of "alternative" birth control. It is "alternative" now because the Pill and condoms have taken over the world, but this method was used for hundreds of years before modern ones existed. If it is used correctly, it is just as effective, without the risks

of latex allergies or hormonal manipulations that come with today's contraceptives. Steinberg preached the idea of women knowing their own bodies and feeling the changes that occur naturally within them, instead of masking them with drugs. The body was meant to give you signals, and it is the ignorance of those signals that is dangerous, not the signals themselves.

Steinberg said one way women can start learning about their bodies is to buy their own speculum, a device that opens the vaginal walls, and to literally look inside themselves. It's truly one way to step outside society's preconceived notions of what a woman should look like, and acknowledge that your body is not better or worse than anybody else's. It's introspection on multiple levels, and it's knowing yourself so you can be comfortable in your own skin.

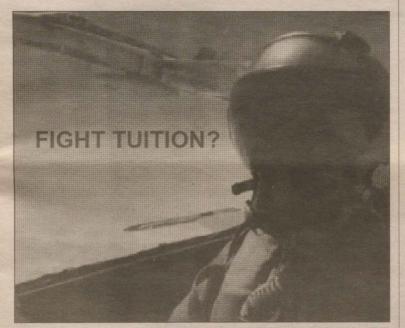
The seminar was just about wrapping up when I felt the urge to ask about something that had caught my eye in the flyer: the idea and practice of vaginal yoga. Steinberg explained, quite simply, that the vaginal walls are muscles, and just like any other muscles in your

body they can be strengthened and worked out. There are multiple benefits: ease of childbirth, a method for helping with incontinence, and of course, sexual pleasure. Steinberg let us know that because of her vaginal yoga exercises, she's able to have longer and better orgasms, because she simply has more energy.

At the end, I found myself with a wealth of information that I would never even have guessed at without attending the seminar. It was an eye-opening experience to say the least. But it was bittersweet.

I wondered to myself, where was the men's health seminar? What wonders of the male body are there that I don't know? Surely someone out there has the answers for us men folk? Learning more about oneself is not a gender issue, it's a people issue, and learning about your body is a great place to start. I am grateful that there are pioneers such as Steinberg in this field and the seminar inspired me to take a closer look at myself as well. I can assure you that I will not be using a speculum.

Jason Savoury is a third-year mathematics student.



. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE The military exploits students' need for affordable education.

Who's paying the bills? The cost of militarism at Dal

KALEIGH TRACE OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

In February 2006 the Canadian military launched Operation Connection, its largest recruitment effort in 15 years. The Chief of Defense Staff at the time, Gen. Rick Hillier, stated that with the operation he hoped the number of recruiters would eventually go from 300 to 80,000, "touching every community, geographical and ethnic, in Canada."

What does this mean to us, students at Dalhousie University? It means an increased presence of military recruiters on campus. It means military advertisements posted in our bathrooms. It means soldiers at career fairs.

Why should we be concerned about an increased military presence on campus? First, consider that as recruitment on university campuses has increased, so have tuition fees. In the context of the rising cost of education, the military's offering of free post-secondary schooling serves to exploit people's need for affordable education.

The attraction of paid tuition detracts from what one is really supporting when they join the Canadian Armed Forces: a war about oil, not democracy, the use of depleted uranium in Afghanistan, which constitutes a war crime, and the military occupation of Haiti.

Dal receives more military funding than any university in Canada. In June our physics department received a research contract valued at \$2 million U.S. from the corporation Lockheed Martin, the world's largest weapons exporter and a company that directly profits from war and military aggression.

Also, Dal's Centre for Foreign Policy Studies is linked with the Canadian Forces College, the Department of National Defense, and the U.S Department of Defense, to name a few.

Ultimately, it rests on the shoulders of students to block the militarism of university campuses. To this end, the organization ACT for the Earth has launched Operation Objection. Operation Objection is a Canadian-wide counter-recruitment campaign aiming to reclaim education institutions for peace.

If you are interested in learning more about Operation Objection you can check out the site at http://operationobjection.org/, or attend a meeting of the Student's Coalition Against War, held every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Gradhouse.

Kaleigh Trace, a member of the Student Coalition Against War, is writing her honours thesis in International Development Studies.

The root of all trends

PAIGE T. MACPHERSON OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

Here at Dal, we know all the trends. They're on display around campus. Hipsters flaunt their skinny jeans, oversized sunglasses, hobo bags and keffiyehs. T-shirts bear the slogans "Peace is the answer," "All you need is love," or are stamped with a peace sign, a recycling symbol, or a silhouette of Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama's band

Last year, American Apparel Barney-purple zip-up sweaters were everywhere and this year — since the arrival of Lululemon in Halifax — I predict it will be something a little more yoga-inspired. You know, so you can pay a lot to look like you do yoga without actually having to do it. Because, admit it, it's really boring.

"Vintage," aka: old and used, is the gold standard. However, any true hipster knows that finding real gems in a vintage store can be a long tedious process and as students we don't always have the time. Luckily, there are stores such as Urban Outfitters, which offer clothes that look old and used for the price of obscenely expensive new clothes.

I admit I too fall victim to trends. What I find interesting, however, are the origins of some trends many stylin' students ignore.

Lots of people use their appearance to send a message, such as: "I'm a rebel," "I have a lot of money" or "Republicans suck." But many people follow trends blindly, not knowing what they might represent.

Remember those sparkly gold bangle bracelets you picked up at the Black Market? Traditionally, bangles are worn in India as a symbol of marriage, like a wedding ring.

Or think of those oversized sunglasses from American Apparel. Originally, celebrities wore them to block out harsh lighting on early movie sets. Today, celebs wear them to conceal their identity and we wear them to look like celebs.

At least five of your friends probably have Che Guevera's face on a T-shirt or bedroom poster. While many people know exactly who Guevera was, and what he did, students may be unaware of the executions he ordered while he was the leader of the guerrilla army in Cuba. But hey, he was a revolutionary of something or



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE Know where your trendy artifacts come from.

other, and his face looks so cool.

Then there's the Palestinian keffiyeh. Yasser Arafat, the first president of the Palestinian National Authority and former chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, made the traditional Arab scarf popular. Originally, the PLO sought out to annihilate Israel but they later agreed to a two-state solution. Arafat—the scarf guy—was an outspoken supporter of Palestinian independence, by means of the obliteration of the Jewish state for most of his life.

Urban Outfitters marketed keffiyehs as "anti-war" scarves, but took them off the shelves when a popular Jewish blog protested the anti-Semitic associations of the item. Recently, Dunkin Donuts had to pull an ad featuring Rachael Ray donning a traditional white and black-checkered keffiyeh because of the massive controversy it sparked. Still, campus is filled with these scarves.

Regardless of your stance on the birthplaces of these trends, it's important be aware of the origins of your trendy accessories and what they might represent to the people around you. After all, the only thing cuter than your menswear-inspired oxford booties is knowing where they came from.

GAZETTE OPINIONS

Headaches and eyesores

STEPHANIE SMITH **OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR**

In a room in the Sir James Dunn building, 40 students sit with looks of extreme concentration attempting to listen to their professor. The steely grind of a drill overhead, combined with noise of falling debris has made learning almost impossible.

Construction workers laying down new tar on the road block the way on Seymour Street for students rushing to class. The students are told to walk down to South Street in order to cross, or wait until the tar is cooler, though still sticky.

A fence blocks the sidewalk

at the intersection of Coburg and LeMarchant, in the spot the faculty of management building used to occupy. One night, I watched a car nearly run over a girl as she walked beside the fence.

The repairs and construction at the Dunn, former faculty of management building and on Seymour Street are part of Dal's renovation project to create more and better spaces for the expanding student population. It's great we're seeing where that \$33 million is going but it has the rather unfortunate consequence of disturbing academic life in some way or another, whether by blocking our way to class or interrupting lectures with noise.

Isn't it possible to have construction going on during parts of the day when there are less students in the buildings and scurrying about campus?

We still have sunlight until 8 p.m., and less students have evening

Also, more signs indicating alternate routes would help prevent students from running onto hot tar and destroying footwear and would also allow construction workers to finish their jobs quicker. Everybody wins.

I do want to see my money going toward positive improvements, but I did not pay \$6,000 a year in tuition to listen to drills and jack hammers.

Letters to the editor

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

Submissions to The Gazette opinions section must be no longer than 650 words. Please submit a list of sources along with articles to opinions@ dalgazette.ca. This publication only prints submissions its editorial board deems to be void of libellous and/or defamatory material. Submissions are due at noon on the Saturday prior to

Re: "Voting just got interesting", Letter from the Editor Sept. 11:

As I hope you are aware, the last federal election happened on January 23, 2006.

The leaders of the five major parties in that federal election were (in

alphabetical order) Gilles Duceppe, Bloc Quebecois Jack Layton, NDP

Jim Harris, Green Paul Martin, Liberal Stephen Harper, Conservative The leaders in this federal election are (in alphabetical order):

Elizabeth May, Green Gilles Duceppe, Bloc Quebecois Jack Layton, NDP Stephane Dion, Liberal

Stephen Harper, Conservative As you can see, there are two new leaders in this election, Elizabeth May having been elected leader of the Green Party of Canada on August

26, 2006 and Stephane Dion becoming Liberal leader on December 3, 2006. Your letter claims that "the same party leaders are back again." You are clearly mistaken.

You also claim that Elizabeth May "could become a Member of Parliament" due to her "marginal support in Ontario." Elizabeth May is running right here in Nova Scotia in the riding of Central Nova. Her support in Ontario is unable to translate into her winning a seat in Nova Scotia.

I would appreciate proper and thorough research before you put an article to print, especially when it is concerning something so important to this country's future.

> Sincerely, Victoria Jones

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Dion's strategy gives students resources

Dear Editor,

Recently, I have seen some misleading headlines about the Liberal Party of Canada's post-secondary education policy. I would like to offer some clarification on this mat-

Stéphane Dion unveiled a key part of the Liberal platform - a series of strategies to address the mounting pressure of financial burdens on Canada's college and university students. Our country's future as a leader in the 21st century knowledge economy rests on the shoulders of its post-secondary students. Never before have we seen such a comprehensive plan built to ensure that college and university education is accessible to Canadians everywhere.

The question remains: Do students care enough to vote?

Over the past two and a half years, we have been confronted by Stephen Harper's parsimonious textbook credits and outraged by his cancellation of the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation.

Instead of reaching out to students in this country, the Harper Conservatives have alienated us.

At the other end of the spectrum

is the New Democratic Party, whose plan for students is not only impractical but completely unaffordable.

The Liberal plan is the only one that guarantees that Canada's students will have support from the federal government throughout the course of their post-secondary jour-

The Liberals have promised to guarantee that any student is eligible for a minimum student loan, provide tax credits totalling \$1,000 cash per year, and extend the interest-free grace period for student loan repayment - all of this regardless of parental income. Add to that a profusion of bursaries and access grants, and it's clear that the plan simply seeks to ensure that postsecondary education is accessible

Young people have always looked to the Liberal Party as one willing to take on dangerous challenges for the long-term betterment of a progressive nation. The future of the country belongs to us.

Dion's strategy gives students the resources we need to take on that challenge.

Sincerely,

Victoria Iones

President of the Dal Liberal Club



Get baked

The story of Mat and Dave's maple syrup kitchen quest

LAURA DAWE

ARTS BEAT REPORTER

There are no two people better to get baked with than Mat Dunlap and Dave Ewenson. The jacks-ofall-trades claim to master none, but anyone who's heard their weekly CKDU radio show is privy to the truth: They rule.

The two met at Eliza Ritchie Residence. It was the day after Dunlap arrived in Halifax for his first year at Dalhousie. Ewenson, who was a selfdescribed "kegmeister" at the time, burst into Dunlap's room with "a bunch of yahoos", waking him from a nap by yelling "this used to be The Deuce's room!'

Of Ewenson, Dunlap's first impression was "I like his shoes."

Ewenson, now 28, became the partying mentor of Dunlap, 26. If Dunlap came up against an amateur problem, like not being able to score mushrooms. Ewenson knew the right keg party, the right hallway, the right door behind which would be the right eye-patched guy with the right drugs.

They first worked together when Dunlap helped with a documentary about clear-cutting that Ewenson was making during his brief, postkegmeister, "political" days. They also worked together at a restaurant, Ewenson cooking and Dunlap working out front. Ewenson would hide sandwiches in Dunlap's sleeves so when he put on his coat his hand would come out holding a "sam-

And so began their platonic lifepartnership.

From there, the two combined their awesome powers, Dunlap's visual and Ewenson's aural, with those of musician Brent Randall, completing an unstoppable triptych. The form it took is commonly referred to

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JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Just Friends represents bands like B.A. Johnston, The Stance, The Just Barelys, Brent Randall and his Pinecones, Laura Peek, Their Majesties, who you might recognize around campus, and new addition Mike Evan. Just Friends is not just a label. It's better described as a col-

Mat and Dave say they're not uptight about food politics.

"With us it's more like a group of people all doing the same thing, helping each other," Dunlap says.

It was around this time that the show that would change the very flavour of campus radio was conceived: Let's Get Baked with Mat and Dave!

The show was Dunlap's idea. It started as a bit of a joke, but his love of campus radio, combined with

Ewenson's know-how and proximity - they live together - combined with the encouragement of CKDU created an opportunity not even his total lack of experience could deny.

"It's probably the first and only radio baking show where you bake along with the musicians," Dunlap says. "Originally when I first ever, ever thought of it I thought, 'Oh, the beauty of a radio baking show is that you don't actually have to do the baking.' But then you're like, well if we're going to fake it, we might as well get to eat.'

In addition to the un-faked baking, the show also has a musical component where songs of the participating bands are played. Sometimes there are live performances, despite

the duo's diminutive kitchen.

The show is in its fifth season in four years, totalling about 125 episodes. In addition to being syndicated to 23 radio stations in nearly every major Canadian city, they are also popular through their podcast.

Obviously the show's featured a lot of bands. Every week feels like the new favourite. They've run through the circuit of local acts, plus whatever touring ones they can get. Highlights include Final Fantasy, Joel Plaskett, Buck 65, the Weakerthans and the not-so-Clueless longtimevegan actor Alicia Silverstone. What's their dream artist to feature on the show? No hesitation: Weird Al. In addition to being hilarious and having a catalogue of food songs, he's been a vegan for years.

So do you have to be a vegan to get baked? No way. Ewenson's not even one. The show recently featured western singer Matt Masters. He was wearing an 'I heart Alberta beef' shirt.

"It just makes it funnier," says Dunlap. "Like, we're not uptight about food politics. The only reason it's vegan is because I'm vegan and so it's for me to be able to eat it."

Plus vegan food accommodates everyone, whereas not everyone welcomes animal products into

'We meet people all the time on the show that are 'veeg' that are super into food that are just mellow cool dudes. It's pretty common. It also gives it kind of a fun mission,

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like today we're going to try and figure out the vegan omelette."

But there are some food issues that rile up the relaxed, retro-dressed pair. Like maple syrup. The boys say maple syrup is our heritage, and statistics, which haven't been available since 1995, show that Canadian consumption of the sweet, sweet tree nectar is declining.

"We don't even know if there is a problem," says Ewenson. The fact that no one even keeps track of this stuff, "that's the problem."

Especially when most people rely on unhealthy, imported refined sugar as their sweetener. And consumption of maple product is not the only thing that - they think- is declining.

Ewenson has done research and discovered that maple trees, a truly Canadian breed, are in danger from climate change. When asked if tapping harms the trees, Ewenson answers deadpan "no. They love it."

The guys will not take this travesty sitting down. Hoser Fest is their campaign to raise money for the CKDU funding drive while bringing awareness to maple syrup consumption in Canada.

Bands such as Old Man Luedeke, Shot Gun Jimmy, Windom Earle, Brent Randall, Mike Evan, Laura Peek, Matt Charlton and The Gideons, "Halifax's new hot young party band," will be covering their favourite classic Canadian tunes by the likes of Gowan and Bryan Adams. There's also going to be a maple syrup chugging contest.

Through our last season we noticed that we were using maple syrup in everything we made. And we started drinking it. A lot. And chugging it," says Dunlap.

Reminiscent of their Dal days, but with a twist, the boys have purchased a keg. This time, it's of maple

In addition to these antics, aimed to garner pledges for the funding drive, our beloved hosts have made a pledge of their own. For the fifth anniversary of the show, the maple anniversary, they will include the saccharine syrup in every recipe of every episode. With the boys putting forth so much of themselves for the effort, the least everybody else can do is give them money.

Hoser Fest, Saturday, September 27, 2008, Gus's Pub.

Let's Get Baked with Mat and Dave, Thursdays at 5:10 p.m. on CKDU 88.1

www.letsgetbaked.ckdu.ca features photos of all the bands plus the



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STREETER

What is your favourite drinking game?



Communication of the Communica



We watched 'Jackass' and drank every time someone got hurt."

Jacob Posen, Fourth-year history



66 I like King's Cup because it's social and challenging."
Jill MacCannell, Second-year psychology



My friends and I watched A Clockwork Orange and took a shot of Jack Daniels every time they said the word 'Ultraviolence.'"

Dave Weinczok, Second-year history



66 Never Have I Ever, because I like to get the dirt on people."

Takia Panza, Fifth-year psychology



66 It's called 'Aqualung': There's frantic guitar-playing and you have to drink as much as you possibly can

Heidi Fifield, First-year health promotion



66 Eights: eight beers in eight minutes."

Blake Dalton, Fourth-year business management



66 It's called Fight Club: go to a club and start a fight."

Nick Khattar, Second-year projector switcher



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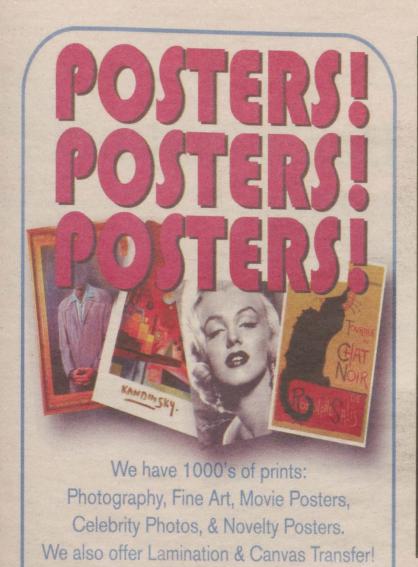
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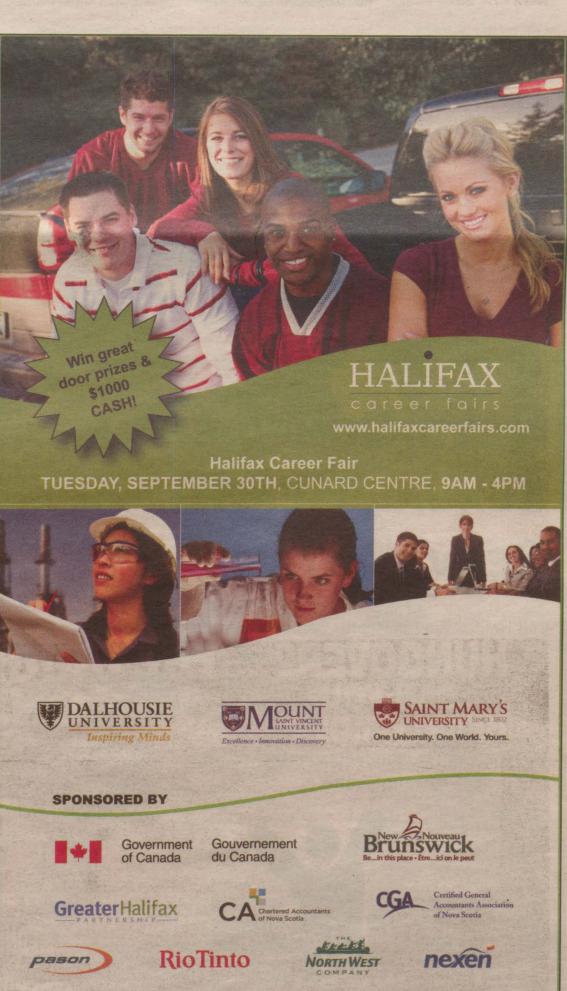








DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY



Mind over matter Basic instincts

Between the sheets



JORDAN ROBERTS SEX COLUMNIST

Hi Jordan,

I have some questions for you regarding male sexual perfor-

How much do you think the brain matters during sexual intercourse? I think for men it matters more as they are naturally in the driving seat. Does every normal man feel some lack of hardness in his erection periodically during sex? For instance, if a guy were to reach his peak for five to seven minutes and then experience some gradual decrease in it for the next three to four minutes and then peak once more. Is this fairly normal for a man who is in his mid 20s and who is not under the influence of any medication? Does a person's state of mind impact his sexual performance? If so, how could this be overcome? Do medications like Viagra have any long-term side effects? If a guy started taking Viagra in his mid 20s, what would be his sexual strength in his mid 30s after 10 years?

Perturbed about Performance

Dear Perturbed. The state of a person's mind can most definitely impact his or her sexual performance. This goes for both guys and girls - I call bullshit on this whole "guy in the driving seat" business. If you're trying to be physical with someone but your mind is too busy worried about something else, the mental block might screw you up and your sexual performance may suffer.

I hope your partner is supportive and respectful enough to understand that, as a student, you have a lot on your mind. She or he can either agree to cool down until things are a little more stress-free or can help you pinpoint what's going on and eliminate the worry. Are you freaked out about their roommates hearing? Do you have a big test the next morning? Are you worried about pregnancy or STIs? Maybe you're uneasy about the situation; you could be uncomfortable with what you're doing or whom you're doing it with. Whatever it is, don't ignore it. If the anxiety is high enough to negatively impact other areas of your life, it may be a sign that you have to deal with it or at least start picking away at the issue if you ever want to get past it.

Some of the experiences you describe (as hypothetical as you make them sound) may not result of a mental block at all. You ask if it's "normal" for someone's arousal to fluctuate when being sexual with someone. As much as I hate defining things as "normal" or not I'm going to say yes, it is. It really, really is. Media depictions of sex and sexuality have created some completely unreal expectations for the bedroom and this is a big one; that guys, especially young guys, are ready to go at the drop of a hat and will stay ready, willing and able to go for a long time. If you find that your state of arousal or performance is changing as a romp goes on it just mean that your body is slowly getting used to the stimulation it's receiving. As long as you're enjoying it, don't worry about it. Just take a deep breath, and trust that after that " three to four minute period", you'll get back to where you were.

According to the Internet, the most common side effects of Viagra are headaches, indigestion, flushing, nasal congestion and impaired vision. More extreme side affects noted are low blood pressure, heart attacks, sudden hearing loss and priapism; a delightful little affliction where that first five to seven minute peak you mentioned lasts for more than four hours with no mental or physical stimulation whatsoever. That said, when it comes to your physical health, never trust the Internet. Or sex advice columnists in your student newspaper, for that matter. How a drug will affect your body in both the short and long term is going to depend on your medical history, your family's medical history and other prescription or non-prescription drugs you are taking. If Viagra is something you are seriously considering, go talk to a trusted healthcare provider to discuss the pros and cons and see how it will work for you.

If nothing else, a low dosage of Viagra in water will increase the life of cut flowers by 100 per cent, and isn't that the kind of wilting we all

If you have a question contact me at jordan.gazette@gmail.com. Anonymity will be maintained.

KATIE NATION STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

One of the major trends that fashion writers have been fussing about this season is the classic, timeless pieces that went trotting down the runway for fall 2008. But in the world of ever-changing trends and ever-strict fashion, it can be easy to spend a life's savings trying to keep up with what's "classic", only to find a season later that these purchases are suddenly outdated. Classic pieces should be staples for those who want to look good but don't have time to keep up with trends, so it's imperative to know what you really will wear for the next five years and what will otherwise get shoved to the back of your closet.

Naturally, the classic piece isn't entirely easy to pinpoint. Just because it's been worn before doesn't mean it'll look chic forever. Take over-distressed jeans, for example: Brilliant in the 1980s, trendy five years ago, sloppy looking now. Or leggings: they reigned in the 1990s, came back with a vengeance two years ago, and - if I have anything to say about it-will die a permanent death very soon. This being said, the real classics to invest in should be wearable not only now, but at any age despite any trends and with any look.

After careful consideration, I've compiled a list of some of the real, honest-to-God classic pieces that actually won't go out of style and that will always complement your look. First off, the beige or black trench à la Lauren Bacall is the ultimate choice in jackets. The color trends may come and go. This season, for example, will look frosty with a range of pastel coats, but the shape is immortal and you can never go wrong in beige.

Also from the family of menswear, the crisp white oxford shirt is that one item that can be worn pretty much anywhere and with any look, as can a pair of flat Mary-Janes. When it comes to bottoms - jeans, skirts, pants - the straight-legged pant beats out all others for the look that won't ever appear outdated. The only problem with this look is the rise of the waistline, which fluctuates with the season. If you have a favourite waistline you have no intention of changing, invest in a pair of these babies to wear with everything.

When it comes to décor, most jewels can quickly become a girl's best friend, but turquoise jewellery tops my list of looks that can be worn despite any other trend. More universal, though, is the ever-desirable red lip, which has reigned supreme since the early days of rouge.

Last but not least, the little black dress (or LBD), is far too flattering and versatile to be missing from any wardrobe. To get the perfect LBD that can be worn forever (though might need to be tailored from time to time to fit your frame) opt for a Breakfast at Tiffany's neckline that's structured and fitted - but not too tight - and hits somewhere between miniskirt and knee-length. Trust me, you'll feel fabulous in it and you'll wear it until you're 95.

If it sounds like you could find each of these items in your grandparents' closet, you probably can. That's the beauty of a classic piece: Everyone can work it any time, and at any age. So to keep yourself from looking and feeling dowdy, pay attention to how your contemporaries are wearing the pieces. Tie the cord around the back of your trench, for example, and loop it in a tight, messy knot for a natural, updated cinch. Try to avoid wearing only classic pieces without one modern element. Basically, if you look like Kate Moss and Grace Kelly's love child you've probably done something right.

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Handbag haven: Allie's Boutique

LAURA WALTON ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

The discovery of a new boutique is similar to the start of a new relationship. It becomes the only thing you want to think about, talk about, or be near. Taking a walk down the road less travelled, or in this case the direction less travelled, and turning south on Barrington leads to the best kind of house – the one that's a store.

Across from the "other" Atlantic Superstore downtown, at 1144 Barrington St., the small boutique is close enough to find and far enough to feel like a secret haven for the most sought accessories in Halifax.

The entrance to Allie's Boutique greets customers with leather boots, silk headbands and the store's main feature, rows and rows of stunning handbags. From totes to clutches, snakeskin to pleather, you can see that Allie's holds items unlike those found in the traditional accessories store.

"I was sick of stocking the store with the rejects from Toronto and Boston," Allie Edgecombe says of her buying method. "The girls of Halifax deserve better."

Now the items filling the store have travelled from all across the continent. New York, Los Angeles, Montreal, Vancouver are just some of the cities that provide the purses, scarves, jewelry, and wallets that fill every crevice of this small but bountiful boutique. "Texas has the best bling," Edgecombe explains. "And Memphis is where I like to get my wallets."

Not only does Edgecombe want to give Halifax the best selection, she insists on staying affordable. The unmarked prices on the oversized



JOHN PACKMAN/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE Halloween connoisseur offers affordable accessories in the off-season.

shoulder bags may send off warning signals at first, but only until you discover the all too liberating cost. Every bag is only \$45, with an even more unbelievable sale section of \$25 beauties. Your hands will be grabbing at more than just the purses. Dramatic necklaces, glittering rings, and tortoise shell bangles call to you from shelves and countertops all around the store.

Edgecombe also has an established reputation as the "Halifax Halloween Connoisseur" of costumes, which she rents, sells, and fills her store with around the spooky time of the year.

It all seems too good to be true. How could a find like this go unknown in Halifax for so long? From the vintage Louis Vuitton pashmina, to the intricate sterling silver bracelets, it is no wonder other shoppers want to keep this gemstone under the radar for the rest of the year.

"I have a bunch of guys who just refuse to tell where they buy their gifts," Edgecombe laughs. "They want to make sure they can come here without their girlfriend raiding it first"

Edgecombe's impeccable taste is slowly and steadily spreading across the country. She plans to open stores in neighbouring provinces, where she already supplies some of her chosen purses and accessories to other boutiques.

"But only outside of the province," Edgecombe says smiling. "I'm keeping this store the only place in Nova Scotia to find my stuff."

And it's no surprise why. Whether it's a two-hour drive in from out of town or an extra couple of blocks down the road, the boutique is definitely worth travelling for. Allie's Boutique makes a great new significant other for fall.



ASIEL AL-AAS/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The exhibit rejects portrayals of animals as simply wild or domestic.

Dal Gallery's wild side

BRITTANY GORDON ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Wandering down the stairs to the Dalhousie Art Gallery, one is greeted with the meowing of a cat and a voice asking, "Would you like to buy a monkey?"

These are the sounds of the Dallery's current exhibit, *Exalted Beings:* Animal Relationships.

The main concept of the *Exalted Beings: Animal Relationships*, says curator Peter Dylehuis, is the relationship between humanity and the natural world on equal terms.

"Human and animal, animal not reduced below human status but equal," says Dylehuis.

The exhibit goes beyond the classical portrayal of animals as simply wild or domestic. There are pieces ranging from portraying animals comically to spiritually, in a variety of different mediums.

Dylehuis says he started dreaming of this exhibit four years ago, while he was still working at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD), after being inspired by a video that is now on display called *Sniff*.

In the film, a cat named Rooney meows intermittently as a hand comes into view with a human object, which Rooney either smells or disregards. Filmed by Kelly Mark in 1999, the video allows us to see the animal's natural response to human objects.

"The cat is telling us what it thinks," says Dylehuis.

One of his favourite moments from *Sniff* is when the hand, in a parody of Psycho, holds a knife to the cat. The cat commences to purr, having none of the human instinct of fear and smells the tip of the knife.

Another video on display called *Once Upon A Time* by Corinna Schnitt, follows the progression of a home where animals are simply let loose inside. A goat is caught eating leaves from a potted tree while a cockatoo chases after kittens brazen enough to smell its tail. Animals will be animals.

Animalistic icons from Buddhism are painted in deep hues on elaborately carved wood in the works "Spotted," "Chandai" and "Deer Park" by Barbara Berry. The animals and people are depicted in a way that seems to blend and merge, making the division between them murky.

A series of 17 colour photographs by Susan McEachern called "Still Seeking Athena" captures horses and the legs of their riders ending with the horses jumping, glistening with sweat and the veins in their necks bulging.

Dylehuis points out the contrast between the living animal and the leather in the saddle and rein. Photographs above the coloured ones show ancient Elgin marble carvings of horses and their riders, illustrating the centuries-old human relationship with horses.

Last year, the Dal Gallery "adopted" a vulture in a North Carolina wildlife sanctuary. The letters and documentation are framed, there to remind us that we often think of animals as a commodity, passed from one owner to the next.

In a society where the normal depiction of animals is the Disney-cuddly, the exhibit is a refreshing reminder of the connection between nature and humans. Showcasing humans and beasts side by side, the exhibits highlight the animalistic spirit inside all humans.

Traditional yet strong: The Devil's Disciple

ROSIE JACOBS ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

The Neptune Theatre opened strong this season with Christopher Newton's production of *The Devil's Disciple*.

Despite the relatively small size of The Neptune Theatre, Newton's take on the George Bernard Shaw play illuminates all the richness of the venue.

"It does not shy away from the largeness of the play's style," says Paul Braunstein, the actor in the lead role of Richard Dudgeon.

Indeed, no other words more accurately characterize this traditional take on a Shaw classic.

The play, set in 1777 New Hampshire in the midst of the American Revolution, toys with perceptions of good and evil. Characters perceived to be upstanding citizens, such as Mrs. Dudgeon, are not, and characters presented as rascals, such as Richard Dudgeon, end up heroes.

Newton does not stray far from the original script; however, this only strengthens his production as he brings out the melodrama and wit within the play itself.

The actors effectively bring forth

the play's subtle humour to its audience. From the first scene, Margot Dionne, a professor of theatre at Dal, is a strong presence on the stage as she vividly communicates the commanding personality of Mrs. Dudgeon. Braunstein is also worth noting as he shows the many layers of Richard Dudgeon as easily as he moves about the stage. While Kate Lavender's portrayal of Judith Anderson can be a bit overpowering at times, she really comes together in the more dramatic scenes.

It is clear that each detail of this production was carefully planned out, as every aspect is simply superb. The lighting is subtle and well thought out, as it discreetly sets up the dark tone of the play.

Most of the scenes are placed in the dim light of dawn or dusk, which heightens the sense of darkness and the melodramatic nature of the play and creates a sense of tension and suspense as it forms eerie shadows on the stage and on the faces of actors.

The stage set up is simple, which is appropriate for the time period portrayed and does not distract the audience from the underlining brilliance of the words of Shaw. The

backdrops work well and convey many different settings with just a few adjustments, making the production flow easily and effectively.

Some of the more brilliant aspects of the production are the scene changes. Each scene change is done openly on stage, where the actors create mini-scenes between each set to recap the action and build on the tension of the next scene. This not only keeps the play in constant motion but it also draws the attention of the audience and maintains it through the entire show.

This production takes into account the small theatre size and uses it to its advantage. With the intimacy of the space, the production team creates depth on the small stage through its masterful use of light, sound and stage setup.

Sitting in the back row of the orchestra, I felt as if I were a part of the stage as the sound quality was so clear and the lighting was so dramatic. I recommend sitting in the balcony to experience the full depth of the staging.

Tickets are available at The Neptune Theatre for \$20.



GAZETTE "ARTS & CULTURE

Mason at the Marquee

Younger Mason fills blues shoes with follow-up album

ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

The blues genre is one filled with history, legend and a cast of characters seemingly larger than life. Whether it's stories about crossroads, or daunting figures such as Muddy Waters, BB King and Stevie Ray Vaughn, blues music is all about character. Nova Scotian blues man Garrett Mason may not have hit his 30th birthday yet but he's busy building his own character.

"I got into the blues through my dad's old records," says Mason.

Never mind that "dad" is the "Prime Minister of the Blues", Dutch Mason, who received the Order of Canada for his contributions to Canadian music. His son has stepped out from behind that formidable shadow to become his own success.

The younger Mason's first album I'm Just a Man netted him a Juno for Blues recording and a name of his own. The album's success may have led others to the quick release of new material, but Mason waited three years to release the follow up, Love

"I just wanted to make sure everything was right," he says. "I'm pretty picky."

He cites time constraints and a busy performance schedule as other reasons the album has taken its time.

"We did a lot of playing, we scrapped a lot of stuff. A lot of the ideas I had right after the first album got scrapped just because it had been so long. I went with the latest

Those latest songs draw from the life of a travelling musician.

"We did a lot of hard road work. We played a lot of good gigs and a lot of bad gigs. It kinda gets to you after a while. So a lot of the songs on the new album are about being on the road."

Mason has had the same band for more than three years and he seems very comfortable with it in regards to both recording and performance.

"I don't plan on changing them. I like bands that are bands. Maybe we could add something, I don't know, but it's good to have that core band there all the time."

Talking to Mason, it's obvious that he's not just a practitioner of the blues - he's a student of the music.

"I'm always listening to new stuff. It's getting more and more obscure."

This has been a large part of his growing tastes and he feels by offering his album for sale on his website, at www.cdbaby.com and eventually on iTunes, he can bring new listeners to the blues.

"There's a lot out there. There's a lot of bad blues and a lot of good. It helps to have an in.

His "in" was his dad's old records, but the casual listener doesn't have the music collection of a blues icon at his fingertips. Mason says Albert Collins, BB King and Stevie Ray Vaughn were his jumping off point and he recommends them as a good place to start for most people.

"There are so many styles. You just have to find what you like. A bad first experience could turn someone off for good but there are so many good things out there and finding them is satisfying, like you've really discovered something."



Garrett Mason's latest songs draw from the life of a travelling musician

profile gigs, opening for legends such as BB King, Buddy Guy and Johnny Winters but he says he prepares the same way for every show. When he takes the stage at the Marquee, the same intent and effort are there as when he's playing festivals. "I just always try and do the best

Mason has played some high

I can," Mason says.

He says the band never goes on with a set list. Instead he prefers to call out the songs to his band mates as the show progresses.

"We're always just working on the show and trying to make it better."

He says the result is a show that feels both structured and sporadic.

Garrett Mason and his band are playing Friday, Sept. 26 at the Marquee Club in Halifax. Tickets are \$10 in advance at www.ticketpro.ca and \$14 at the door. Special guests for that show are Jon McKiel and Al Tuck.



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Home cookin':

Curry up and get it while it's hot

ANNA DEMELLO ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Canada's East Coast is home to talented and energetic young musicians. This area often produces artists with a unique sound who try to break into the music scene, but instead fly just under the radar. I spoke with Tom Curry, of the Tom Curry Band, about what it's like to get your foot in the door as a musician.

Curry got his start growing up in a musical family that was always singing and playing together. It motivated him to pick up a guitar and sing

"I would classify my sound as East Coast folk rock, because there are strong elements of all in my music," he says. "I hope there's a touch of East Coast sound to it!"

Curry says in Halifax it's hard to get noticed.

"It's a challenge, it's really difficult to leave your hometown and even just try and break through in other places," says Curry. "Sometimes you find yourself really overwhelmed, and you forget your goal with the music. It's a gift with some

people, you could really suck at playing and be great at getting gigs."

Lately the Tom Curry Band's been playing the odd show at the Seahorse and at Gus' Pub. Since graduating with a music degree in jazz studies from St. Francis Xavier University, Curry has been trying to break into the scene with his new band after playing solo gigs for a while.

"It's kind of a struggle to get gigs lately," he says. "I'm working on playing at the Seahorse Tavern this fall and talking with the entertainment director there."

Many bands constantly grow and diverge as they play, and this band is no exception.

"I have lots of new material that I'm working on," he says. "There are always new things to figure out, learn, compose and express, whether it's theoretically with your instrument, or finding the right sound, there will be hundreds of songs written before I can say I've achieved a sound."

But his roots are a constant source of inspiration, and groups like the Rankin Family are no exception.

"They've always been there, and the band puts chills through my spine and gets me goin'," he says. "Nirvana was also a big influence when I was a teenager, and I've been exposed to a lot of jazz. I admire the Trews because I was able to watch them progress from high school days. I'm also really into Matt Mays right now."

But besides trying to book gigs, Curry's got a lot on his plate.

"I do my own promoting, unless you count Facebook as a helper," Curry says. "I try to make up flyers and do work on the Internet."

He's also collaborated with some notorious local talent, like Aaron MacDonald, and last summer he opened for Ron Hines and Andrew White in Antigonish.

Successful artists are always emerging in Halifax, which contributes to the positive outlook and energy among young musicians.

"Definitely, 100 per cent," says Tom. "I'm very proud to be from here."

The Tom Curry Band will be playing irregular gigs at the Seahorse throughout the fall term. Check the Seahorse website or the Tom Curry Band website for listings.



Idiots and Angels

LAURA BERTON STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Idiots and Angels, a film by Bill Plympton, is a dark, animated ride through one man's life and death. The film screened at Park Lane Cinemas during the Atlantic Film Festival

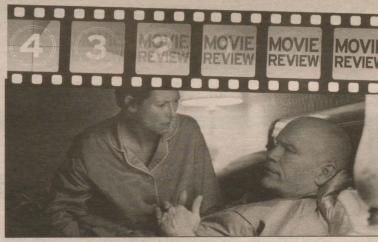
on Sept. 12. At the beginning the protagonist is a cardboard character living a mundane existence. He awakens each morning to the nagging of his alarm clock and leaves his home only to join the icy masses of the metropolis. He frequents the same bar every day, and it is unclear whether he actually goes to the office. He is a greedy, mean-spirited man who objectifies women and kicks others when they are down. The same three characters spend time with him each day at the bar: the bartender, the bartender's wife, and a larger lady customer. These three are greatly entertaining and they help to illustrate the different facets of the protagonist's thoughts and perceptions.

One day his world shifts when he discovers that small appendages have appeared on his shoulder blades. He soon realizes they're wings. Confused, he desperately tries to rid himself of them. Nothing seems to work. It turns out that these wings have a

purpose. They seem to have a life of their own and work in mysterious ways by forcing him to help others.

The film explores various themes such as sex, good and evil, morality, redemption and reincarnation, all without dialogue. The filmmaker presents his characters as they truly are so at first they seem one-dimensional, but as the story develops their emotions and complex relationships are intricately woven together. Plympton has a unique ability to simultaneously satirize yet allow the audience to empathize with his characters. He portrays them in vulnerable states but he also shows us their individual motives and desires. The characters' eyes are only shown in moments of emotional intensity, which I found to be an interesting choice on the part of the animators. Idiots and Angels is a poignant and well-animated tale of the pitfalls of human nature and miracles that spontaneously occur.

The lack of dialogue greatly contributes to the film's success and the soundtrack is wonderfully chosen, featuring international music of many genres. The sound quality is crisp and eerily beautiful. The grey colour scheme in the film helps demonstrate criticism of modern urban life and pokes fun at its monotony and triviality.



Non-Oscar-worthy comedy gold

MATTHEW RITCHIE STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

The Coen Brothers have come along way since rising to prominence with their cult classic *Raising Arizona*. After years of success with films under their belts such as *Fargo*, The Big Lebowski, and more recently *No Country for Old Men*, the tag team filmmakers have earned their spot atop the elite Hollywood ladder.

With the release of *Burn After Reading*, the brothers are once again reworking the plot of an under the radar novel and offering a comedic film opposed to their recent Oscar winning movie.

The film tracks a group of couples, lovers and characters longing for affection and their connection to an uncovered CIA file. Burn After Reading shows viewers a dark cynicism when it comes to romantic relationships.

The strongest feature of this film is the fine array of cast members, including Brad Pitt. After years of mediocre roles in movies such as Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Troy, Pitt brings out his goofiness in full stride. This is Pitt's funniest role since Snatch, and his idiotic character of an obsessive gym trainer brings life to the film.

Another one of *People*'s "Sexiest Men Alive", George Clooney, also shines in the film as a freakish pervert whose only motive is to sleep with as many women as possible.

But John Malkovich takes the cake in the male actor category for a role that shows as much humour as Being John Malkovich. Here we find the gracefully aging Malkovich to be a middle-aged man depressed about his role in the world, and nothing could be funnier – as dark as that sounds. Malkovich's exasperation strikes the core of the boredom everyone experiences, whether in their work or in their romantic lives.

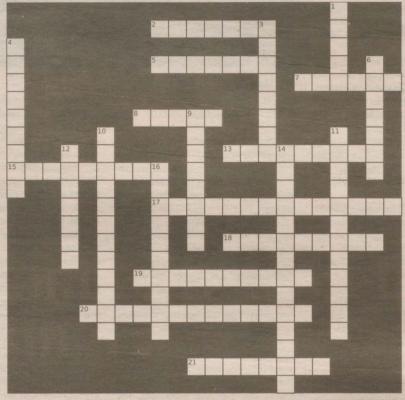
As far as the female cast goes, Frances McDormand is closest to receiving an Oscar nod this year. After multiple films with the Coen Brothers, McDormand plays an aging 50-something who simply wants to feel better about herself, constantly trying to negate her low self-esteem by having sex and changing her appearance. The only letdown was the pacing of this film. After an hour and a half it felt like I'd been in the theatre for at least an hour more. But it is a great comedy, and although it compares cinematically to No Country for Old Men, it is definitely worth the box office price.



GAZETTE "CROSSWORD & HOROSCOPES

CROSSWORD

Halifamous



Across

- General Store If you were raised in Hali you have climbed this (not citadel)
- Local Cafe with a conscience Man who saved Dal with contribution in late eighteen
- hundreds Last chance for romance Small, mighty and sometimes
- preggers 17 Turns 213 on October 5th 18 Professor of Dogology

- Jonathan Torrens solo project Find these screenprints at the
- Street Cents alumnist now comedy troupe member

- A magazine to comemorate those
- drunken nights
- The tug boat Formally Gotta Get a Gun Street
- Mansion Alter ego of songstress Rebekah
- Higgs October music festival
- Amphibious tourist trap
- Tallest (and ugliest) building east of

- Grocery store with piano Female member of Picnicface and Watch contributor

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те: гляну козеп 11. Harber Hopper 9. Ruby Jean

21. Andy Bush

13. The Palace 15. Ellen Page 8. Munro

Crossword Answers:

2. Biscuit

HOROSCOPES



LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)

You've been sucking too much face and it's led to an emotional teardown. You hear someone speak the words 'open sesame' and poof, you let your guard down. It's a good thing; just don't let anyone stage their very own running of the bulls right over your heart. Your shoulder angel is screaming in your ear, so take out your earplugs. Stop ignoring all the good in your life. Instead, start plastering it all over the walls of your personal bubble.



SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

The balls have been picked and you have the winning numbers. You've finally hit the jackpot that pumpkins are made of. But before you get too hasty and kick over the box of crayons you were playing with, take a deep breath and think again about egging your entire neighbourhood. Pippi Longstocking has been waiting a lot longer to get out of her stockings than you have been waiting to win. Fry you green tomatoes and the treasure will follow



SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

A game of croquet is definitely a solid option for you. Dazzle people with your charm, but don't force them into your club. Windex does great things for windows, but it won't get rid of that ghastly bruise, despite what you think you learned from My Big Fat Greek Wedding. Don't get freaked out when someone wishes you "all the breast". They were just kidding. If they don't love you, somebody else will.



CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

You've finally found your way to the end of the rainbow. The colors might be a bit blinding, but the pot of gold is finally yours. You'll be dreaming in Technicolor when you spot the perfect job out there. So keep your hands and arms inside the cart at all times so you won't get hurt and just enjoy the ride. Prince Igor claims to be your best friend, but really he's the one that has been spiking your lemonade. Keep it saucy, but don't keep the sauce all over your face. If you do eat ribs, make sure to use a bib, and don't forget to lick your fingers.



AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)

Revenge is a dish best served ice cold, but so is a good bowl of Gazpacho. You've been worrying that the weather won't get warmer and you're probably right. The trees are changing color and so is your hair. If you've noticed a few grey hairs on your head this week, it's probably because you're putting too much pressure on yourself. Loosen up and the hair of your dreams will follow. Take off that hat, and remember whatever happens in the library stays in the library. It's fun to be thrown overboard every once and while



PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

Take a picture of yourself. In your head you can picture the title 'most smartest'. You have just been entered into the drop dead gorgeous competition this week, and this time no one's going to end up with a charred beer can in hand. You've finally found Nemo and, to your surprise, he was happy to see you. Don't erect that predictable emotional wall. Instead set the roof on fire and see who saves you. Fireworks are inevitable.



ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

Don't wear your pants so high - you're cutting off the circulation to your mojo. You'll wish to be a farmer who knows how to hoe when you get lost in a haystack. You'll find love once you loosen your suspenders. Wear your heart on the elbow of your shirt to see who likes you throwing bows. You're a sweet potato when you're not grabbing



TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

Lately you've been trying to speak the Queen's English, but you sound more like an English muffin. Is it proper grammar you crave or just the cute juicy butter that comes with the accent? You need to let loose after that trip. An undersea adventure is just what you need, so don't forget to call Sebastian back. But if you find yourself lacking a scuba diving kit you'd better delve into a nice hot bath with a big plastic pirate ship and let your imagination do the rest. It's OK to still enjoy playtime at your age.



GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Put yourself in another person's socks, and think from their vantage point to find out what to do next. You're worried that people are looking at you funny, and that's probably because you have a big booger hanging out of your nose like an old man's balls in the wind. Find a tissue and blow that dust to the ground, then walk away and act like nothing happened. Things could be worse: you might have run into a glass door that appeared out of nowhere.



CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Imagine running into someone you know while you're surfing in the warm Pacific Ocean. The world is a small place with few degrees of separation. The fussilli figurine of your friend you were thinking of making is no longer appropriate, so it's time to fry up some steaks and call it a day. Sail Away is your favorite drink, so stop thinking about the good stuff and do it already. Courtney Love didn't try to cut back from two cigarette packs a day to one. Remember that you're ill, not under the weather.



LEO (July 24 - August 23)

Lately you've been living in a dollhouse controlled by disguised giants who dictate your every move. Don't worry if you can hear deep laughter from behind the wall; it just means you're funny, not that your face looks funny. Hide and seek is a game played best with loud classical music. Once you've finally beaten the over sized beasts and won the Super Bowl, try to conquer the gym. Your butt cheeks will thank you later.



2

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)

Fly back to your baby. You thought it was time to spread your wings but you were wrong. Instead it's time to prepare for winter. Make sure you have someone to keep you warm. If you're afraid something won't last forever, you're happily mistaken. Whatever you're worried about losing will be there for a lifetime. You're going to feel like you've been hit by a school bus by the end of the week. That bus is going to be the stroke of genius you were looking for.

Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo

Kite boredom

NICK KHATTAR SPORTS EDITOR

My first introduction to kite surfing came during a surf trip to Martinique beach when a kite surfer friend of mine interrupted my leisurely pursuit of waves by fooling me into helping him sort his kite lines. This seemingly miniscule task took about two hours and when we finished the kite still wasn't flyable.

From that moment on I decided that kite flying of the "extreme" nature is for the birds. That's when I stumbled across an advertisement for "Kite Fest 2008."

The event took place Sept. 6 and 7 at Conrad Beach near Laurencetown. Despite dangerously high winds and rain peeing down, which made Sunday's event a total bust, Saturday saw around 80 or so people come out to participate.

Kite surfing is currently the fastest growing water sport in the world, a sport during which you're not only at the mercy of the ocean and the wind.

Joachim Stronik, owner and general manager of the Trail Shop, says this is because "the sport is extremely fun, and easy to carry around."

While I talked to Stronik about kite boarding, he informed me that there was a large kite surfing event taking place the following weekend. Not just a large event – the largest event. The Professional Kite Riders Association (PKRA) world tour was making one stop in North America. This year, for some crazy reason they chose the booming oceanside town of Summerside, P.E.I.

I decided in pursuit of good journalism, if I wanted to really understand kite surfing and all the hype surrounding it, this event would be the place to educate myself.

David Corning, a Dal computer science graduate and current environmental engineer student, is also a passionate kite surfer.

From the kindness of Corning heart he offered me not just a ride in his sweet navy blue minivan, but also provided me with the essentials to survive a weekend camping on the island for the kite surfing event.

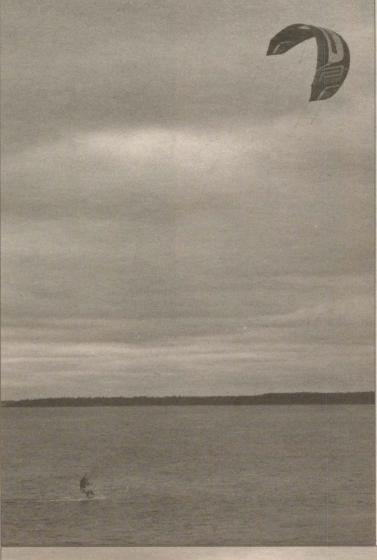
Only having been at the sport for a year or so, Corning, or D.C., as his friends call him, started as a grassroots kiter, getting into it as a "Power Kiter", meaning he was just into flying stunt kites on land. He then took things a little further and got himself a mountain board, giving him the ability to rip up and down beaches. These days D.C. does it all, including snow kiting, but says he enjoys kite surfing the most.

We arrived in P.E.I. the evening of Sept. 12, and upon arrival I was introduced to the rest of the "crew" of Haligonian kite surfers. Those folks were a fine mix indeed: A 43-year-old trucker, an early 30-something successful entrepreneur, a 26-year-old technical professional, and a straight edge outdoorsy couple.

The group spent most the evening talking kite talk; who's making the best kites, new technology and the top riders. Six beers and a Sapporo later, the conversation turned to wind speed and that's where my brain froze; I said good night and retreated to my tent, hoping tomorrow's PKRA Big Air competition would shine new light on this preposterous sport.

Around 10 a.m. or so I crawled out of my tent to wet grass and iron skies. The wind had departed and so had my interest.

Fortunately, due to the lack of wind the big air competition, and last day of the PKRA 2008 World Tour North American stop, was cancelled. I travelled all the way to this sleepy summer tourist trap island to cover one event and the thing was cancelled due to the lack of the one ele-



darkness that I was trying to fly a 3.5metre kite, but all the same I think I did fairly well by the end.

The next day was the day me and D.C. had been waiting for. The wind wasn't exactly gale force by any means, but it was windy, and kiting was on the agenda. We headed to a place called "Malpeque" which is dubbed to be the Ish of P.E.I. kite surfing. It has shallow water in most areas, deep water in some spots, and is great for launching.

Launching as I came to find out is one and probably the biggies of kite surfing's Achilles Heel. Just think about it, you have this giant neoprene wind catcher attached to you by 30 or so metres of line, and you need to launch the sucker without getting yourself tangled or killed. Now just imagine doing that when you crash your kite in the middle of a windy ass harbour.

Before I could say "this blows", D.C. was fitted into his wetsuit, had his lines untangled, strapped up, his harness fitted, his paddle mounted, his helmet and his board ready. Luckily even after all of this, the wind was still blowing. The forecast had said the wind was meant to pick up just after lunch, so a whole crew of kiters from N.S., P.E.I. and New Brunswick were suiting up.

I was hoping someone would offer up their gear to me and give me the chance to hit the open ocean; hopefully not fulfilling the desires of everyone I work with for me to get blown out to sea never to be seen new idea by any means, but the water sport aspect of it is. In terms of water sports, it is far less impacting than wakeboarding, or other water sports that require a boat. Lastly, on the positive side, kite surfing is ideal if you live somewhere you can't surf conventionally.

Unfortunately, the sport seems to have far too many cons to make it really appealing. Here's why. First: You need an incredible amount of gear. Wet suit, board, harness, paddle, kites. Kites range from \$700 to \$2,000 and it is almost absolutely necessary that you have at least three for different wind speeds. Also, because you are flying kites on the ocean and over rocks and sand, they have a tendency to wear out fairly quickly, thus meaning you have to either repair them frequently or replace them. Wetsuits run between \$300 to \$1,000 Boards vary between \$200 to \$800 and having only one is not ideal. Harnesses and quiver kits run around \$200. All the above are necessary, so the start up cost to get into kite surfing may postpone your down payment on a house.

I feel as though we have enough "extreme" sports that require far too much industrial production as it is. If you want to surf, move to Mexico and get a board. If you want to skateboard, contact your local dealer and get a deck, trucks and some wheels. Certainly there are far worse sports in the world that I could criticize, but kite surfing and kite sports are the new big thing, and it is appealing



Kite surfing isn't nearly as easy as it looks. It actually takes some skill and concentration.

ment this ridiculous sport requires. In an excellent display of brilliant planning and foresight, the organizers of this event, which has a price tag of just more than \$150,000, decided it would make most sense to hold the event from Tuesday Sept. 9 to Saturday Sept. 13. The organizers must have figured this would be the best way to ensure the fewest amount of spectators showed up.

At the previous stop, the PKRA had more than 10,000 fans while the P.E.I. stop boasted a whopping 100 spectators at full force, thus ensuring that the PKRA will no doubt be looking elsewhere for North American stops in the future.

As it became painfully obvious that the PKRA tour, the reason we came to the island, was over, our

crew hurried off for breakfast.

I spent the rest of that grey and drowsy day with the crew travelling around the island in a three-car convoy checking out kite surfing "hot spots". But I did get to take a crack at flying a trainer kite. This, unlike most kites, is a tiny flying wing controlled with two handles, as opposed to a bar like the power kites, and does not require a harness.

Of this activity I will admit that I was fairly amused, and it is pretty addictive. Mainly because it isn't nearly as easy as it looks. It actually takes some skill and concentration.

That night I got to play with a real power kite. The guys were great. They rigged me into the harness, gave me a little lesson, and let me on my way. Mind you it was in near

again. Unfortunately for my Gazette co-workers the chance never presented itself. Instead I stayed on the sidelines capturing the action on my haggard three-year-old Canon, thus remaining a criticizing bystander, passing judgment about a sport I've pretty much never tried.

Hours later I had my pictures, a good idea of what this kiting business was all about, and a muchneeded nap. The wind was starting to pick up, but like one of the crew said, "there's always got to be the sacrificial lamb." I'm not too sure what he meant, but it sounded fitting to end the day with.

So here are my conclusions about kite surfing. It's an efficient way of utilizing the wind for personal enjoyment. Second: It isn't a

to a demographic that has the money to make it bigger and bigger. I just feel that a) the sport isn't insane or dangerous enough to warrant public interest and b) that it requires far too many elements to be considered a new and legitimate subculture "extreme" sport.

But I am grateful to D.C. for taking me on this journey and opening my eyes to this new happening. I believe he said it best with "if you go into these things with all sorts of high expectations, then you're always going to be disappointed."

I had a good time on my kite surfing trip, watching, and D.C. had a good time; as he will again, kite surfing. So maybe that's the only important part: Good times.

Ball club set to win

ZACH WILSON SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The Tigers are first in line for a baseball championship title after a string of recent wins.

The boys are set for top prize in the Atlantic Conference under the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association (CIBA).

This past weekend the Tigers went 2-2 against Atlantic Baptist University and Cape Breton University, respectively, placing our boys in sole possession of second place in the always tough Atlantic Confer-

On Sept. 13 and 14 Dal played back-to-back double headers, one against defending CIBA national champions: the University of New Brunswick Cougars. The team split the series with last year's victors and dominated the second set against Saint Mary's with wins of 7-2 and 10-4, thanks in part to Dal pitcher the last game.

After a season of bitter disappointment in which the Dal men's baseball club bowed out of the 2007 CIBA National Championships in the semi finals, the team president and assistant coach says there's an air of optimism resonating amongst the 2008 squad.

"Although we lost, it was a really good learning experience for some of the younger guys," Will Stymiest says. "It was a positive stepping stone for us and now that a lot of the boys have a year under their belts we have a much more mature lineup."

Tim van der Kooi, Dal's starting pitcher says the games played so far this season have spoken volumes about what the gold and black can expect from the 2008 campaign.

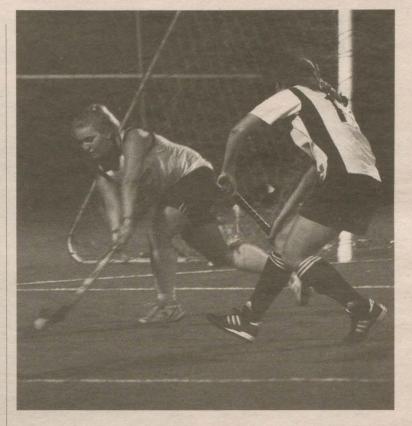
"It's been a great opportunity for us to size up our competition for this season. As is the case with any sport, teams that are strong one year

Jesse Dill throwing 15 strikeouts in can be weak the next because of guys graduating. We feel that we've got a lot of fellas with experience and we're ready to take it to the next level."

With 13 players returning from last year's team, critics and fans agree that this group is one to be reckoned with. The CIBA has ranked the Tigers fourth in the country.

In the season opener against the Saint Mary's Huskies on Sept. 6, the Dal boys battled back from a 5-3 deficit in the final inning and took the game 6-5, with Stymiest driving in the game-winning run.

Dal's baseball club has not won a National Championship since 1996, something that this team believes it can soon rectify. With only five games into the season, already the consensus among the players is that they can bring the Tigers back to the glory days of the mid-1990s. As Stymiest puts it, "we don't plan on disappointing this season."



SAGAR JHA /DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Tigers lose to Hawks in women's hockey overtime

TIM VAN DER KOOI SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Parents, friends and fans of the Dalhousie Tigers women's hockey team gathered at the Dalplex on Saturday night to get their first look at the team in exhibition action against the Bluewater Junior Hawks. The Hawks avoided the shootout by edging the Tigers 3-2 in overtime with only 21 seconds left on the clock.

The Tigers started off the game strong, outshooting the Hawks 14-7 in a scoreless first period. The pace slowed down in the second period as the Tigers got into some penalty trouble that appeared to plague them for the rest of the game. The Tigers suffered five penalties in the second period, resulting in two power play goals for the Hawks.

"We didn't do a good job of keeping our sticks on the ice," says head coach Lesley Jordan. "Avoiding penalties like hooking and holding will only take practice and will fade as the season progresses."

The exhibition game allowed the Tigers to display eight new recruits in addition to their 16 returning during the five-minute overtime and players. Key players not returning to the squad this season are former Captain Leah Merkley and five-year veteran goaltender Kristen Ladou-

"With the departure of Merkley and Ladouceur we have plenty of returning and new talent on the team," says Jordan.

Among the new talent are two goaltenders, Ashley Boutilier and Alyscia Zaryski, competing for a spot on the team. Zaryski started the game on Saturday, allowing one power play goal against the Hawks. In the middle of the second period she switched with Boutilier, who allowed an early power play goal but managed to keep the Tigers' chances alive during the remainder of the game. Dal scored twice in the third period, as the Tigers' leading scorer of last season, Jocelyn LeBlanc, tied the game with 1:22 seconds left in the third period to force the game into overtime.

The Hawks applied serious offensive pressure to the Tigers' defense over the 4:39 seconds of play scored a hard-earned goal courtesy of Hawks forward Carly Mercer, her second of the night.

"Any team can beat anybody on any given night. The same goes with all the teams in the AUS (Atlantic University Sport league)," says Jor-

"We have a pretty balanced team this year. We have one line that is capable of competing with any line in the league and we have a lot of depth in net, which is important to

The Tigers' play 25 games in the upcoming 2008-09 season, and are hoping to place within the top three out of eight teams of the AUS. With the defending undefeated AUS Champions St.FX playing the Tigers' four times this season and the 2nd place St. Mary's Huskies facing them five times, the climb to the top will not be an easy one.

"Ideally we would like to place in the top two of the AUS for that first round bye in the playoffs,"

Dal girls hit the field

TYLER BROWN SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The Saint Mary's women's field hockey team may represent the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) league after winning a tournament last weekend against Dalhousie.

Attended by Acadia University, UPEI, University of New Brunswick, Dalhousie and Saint Mary's universities, the tournament is one third of the overall 12 game season. Points and wins are crucial in this short season, as the winner of the AUS moves on to face the top Ontario University Athletic (OUA) teams for the right to represent eastern Canada at nationals. Unfortunately for Dal women, the university declined to pay the \$475 AUS fee that give teams varsity status.

Without this varsity label, the field hockey team cannot attend nationals even if they do qualify.

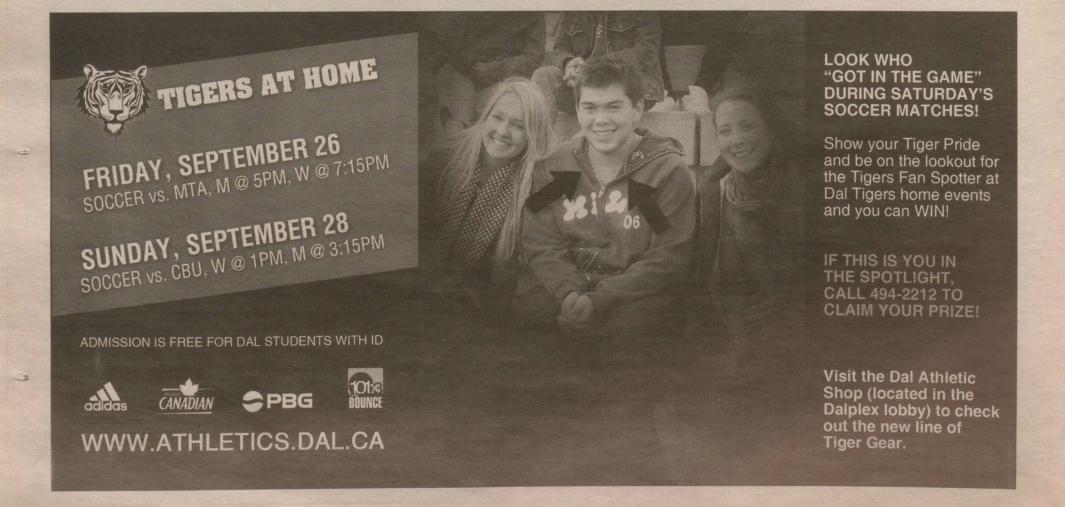
Dal opened the tournament

against UPEI, a perennial AUS favourite. After a hard- fought game, Dal was stunned by a last minute UPEI goal, falling 1-0. The girls rebounded only two hours later, scoring a convincing 2-0 win over UNB. Dal goals came from Julie van der Hoop and Marley Preston. The Tigers repeated their success early Sunday morning, on the momentum of goals from Danielle Dempsey and Trisha Staples, to take a 2-0 win over Acadia and improve their tournament record to 2-1.

With a chance to take the tournament at hand, Dal then fell 1-0 to cross-town rivals SMU.

With the win over Dal, SMU clinched the tournament and crucial points toward a possible bid to represent the AUS in the upcoming OUA qualifiers.

The skill and hard work of the Dal girls earned them a respectable third place finish.



Blue Devils kick it

McKenzie wouldn't have to wait

too much longer for a goal. From a

wide left position, substitute Chan-

tal Sampson sent the ball into the

box. With a deft flick of her head,

McKenzie deflected the ball into the

bottom corner from about 10 yards

gowns, which students and faculty

often wear to class and meals; but it

also has considerable athletic prow-

ess, and the women's soccer team is

ranked 11th in the Canadian Colleg-

es Athletic Association (CCAA)-a

league for colleges with smaller en-

rollment than Dal, which competes

in Atlantic University Sport. King's

has an enrollment of roughly 1,100

the team to challenge for the league

title this year, and hopefully make it

to Kamloops, B.C. for the CCAA na-

tional tournament. With the team

now 4-0-0, and having still not con-

ceded a goal, that just might happen

Co-coach Gillian Costelo expects

King's is known for its academic

DYLAN MATTHIAS SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The University of King's College women's soccer team continued its quiet domination of the Atlantic College Athletics Association (ACAA) soccer league last Saturday, winning 2-0 over Atlantic Baptist University.

The game, which had been scheduled at the Mainland Commons in Lacewood, was abruptly moved to Burnisde after the N.S. Provincial Under-18 team booked the field ahead of the Blue Devils.

That didn't stop King's Blue Devils from recording their fourth win—and fourth clean sheet—of the season. Rookie goalkeeper Krista Bishop has yet to give up a goal this year.

She wasn't really tested by ABU as the Moncton-based school failed to seriously generate any offense. This was in part thanks to a solid Blue Devils defensive line, as well as some positive goalkeeping from Bishop, who was quick off her line to claim any crosses from the ABU wingers.

It was a quiet start to the game, and very few scoring chances were created. King's carved out the best of them, when a free kick was sent out to the left, then back into the box for a shot which wafted high and wide to the right of the ABU goalkeeper.

In first-half stoppage time, the Blue Devils finally cracked the defense and scored. A poor clearance found its way straight to Neesha Madhvani, who made no mistake from about eight yards just seconds before the end of the half.

The second half also started slowly, with neither team adventuring too much. King's pushed forward looking for an insurance goal, and thought they had a prime opportunity when player Sarah McKenzie collided with an ABU defender, going down inside the penalty area.

Although McKenzie appeared to be inside the box and everyone in the stands thought a penalty was forthcoming, the referee signaled a free kick. McKenzie did fall outside the area but the point of contact appeared to be inside the box.

"I was lucky enough; I was walking around the back end of the field at the time, and I saw it, she was two feet (inside) the box," said King's cocoach Andy Rygh. The resulting kick skimmed over the bar.

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Tigers break even over weekend

SCOTT MONEY
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

This weekend's soccer tournament at Wickwire field did not turn out as well as Dal's Men's Soccer team had hoped.

The Tigers began by facing the tough St. Francis Xavier X-Men on Saturday afternoon. Dal spent the first half pressuring. They out-shot and out-chanced the X-men. Late in the first half the Tigers' keeper kept it scoreless with an excellent save.

Things changed in the second half.

St. FX came out strong and finished stronger. Nine minutes into the second half, the X-men made it 1-0 with a nice goal from Justin Mackenzie. Dal got lucky with 18 minutes left when the St. FX keeper gave up a juicy rebound that Dal forward Wes Hawley easily buried. That was the first and last time the Tigers would score.

With 10 minutes left, St. FX made it 2-1 on a poor showing from Dal's keeper. This would be all the X-men needed as they cruised to an eventual 3-1 final.



PAUL BALITE/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

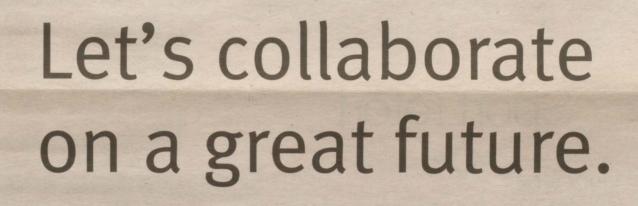
The Tigers came out on Sunday with much more energy against the Saint Mary's Huskies. It was a very close first half. Both teams traded chances and were very physical. The cross-town rivalry was very much apparent in Sunday's match.

Unlike Saturday's loss, Dal began the second half with a bang. The team spent the entirety of the sec-

ond half in SMU's end and the Tigers were finally rewarded by converting a corner kick with a perfectly executed header by number Alan Dalton.

The goal sparked the Tigers' energy as they kept pushing, but they couldn't manage another goal. The game ended 1-0.

The Dal's men's soccer team currently sits fifth behind St. FX.



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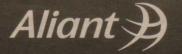
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GAZETTE "SPORTS

Black vs. gold

Swim team holds intra-squad meet

MIRA GOLDBERG-POCH SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Dalhousie's varsity swim team competed in an intra-squad showdown meet at the Dalplex pool on Sept. 19 to finalize this year's roster.

The pentathlon meet, in which swimmers compete in five races back-to-back – 100 metres each of butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle, followed by a 200-metre individual medley race (IM) – is a challenging night for everyone.

Historically there has been a need for poolside barf buckets.

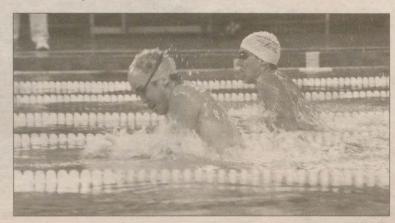
This year the team was divided into two halves, Black and Gold, for the pentathlon, while swimmers battled it out in the water. This meet not only pitted teammates against each other, but it was a deciding factor in determining who made the final cut.

Despite the high level of competition, everyone on deck was cheering for their prospective teammates, even if said teammate was edging them out from the team.

Team cheers were shouted loudly at the beginning and end of the long night and many members of the team made a point to thank the officials and people helping to organize the meet.

The Black team ended up on top in the pentathlon, beating out the Gold team 216 points to 154.

David Fry, head coach of the varsity team, had some very tough decisions to make this year. With a huge influx of new and talented



The Black team ended up on top in the pentathlon, beating out the Gold team 216 points to 154.

swimmers, Fry had to let some veterans go, which he was reluctant to do, saying it was a very difficult team to choose.

Team manager, Lizzie McArdle, a fourth-year history major, agreed.

"It's been hard watching David pick the team," she said.

Nevertheless, Fry has a bright outlook for the team: "There have been a lot of promising times," he said, referring both to the new recruits and the current team.

The men's team gained seven new swimmers this year and the women's team six. On a team of 40 swimmers, that new demographic can make a big impact. Some of the rookies are already closing in on the veterans' swim times, surprising many of the older swimmers who are used to being on top.

"There's a lot of potential in the team this year," said McArdle. "I'm looking forward to seeing what they can do."

There is a retreat planned next weekend for team bonding now that the team has been officially chosen.

While disappointment characterized the night for some swimmers, it isn't over for them yet. Swimmers who aren't on the varsity team are encouraged to swim with the Dalhousie Club Team, a varsity-level training program without the same commitment level as varsity itself.

The varsity team has a lot of training to do for the year ahead. The team's first Atlantic University Sport meet is Oct. 17-19 at the University of New Brunswick.



JOSH BOYTER/DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Dal men's rugby club: 142 years young

NICK KHATTAR SPORTS EDITOR

It's been nearly 142 years since the men's rugby team played its first official game after the establishment of the Dalhousie Athletic Department. Almost a century and a half later the Dal rugby team is still going strong. Last year not only did the men's "Divisions 1" team go 6-0 only to lose in the Maritime finals but the club also won the Icon Sports Team Award for Club Team of the Year.

Even though the team chose the black and gold colors that Dal now decorates its uniforms with, men's rugby is still not a varsity sport.

This year, for the first time ever, there will be a Nationals tournament held for all college and university rugby teams. If the Tigers manage to win the Maritimes competition, they will need to raise \$25,000 to get to Victoria, B.C. for the tournament.

Rugby is getting more popular in Canada, with roughly 40,000 participants nationwide, yet men's rugby isn't recognized as a varsity sport at any university in the country. Women's rugby is a varsity sport at some schools.

John Hewitt, team president and co-captain of the division two team has been learning the game since he was eight. He says schools aren't really looking for more varsity sports.

"At Dal anyway, it seems like the bigger focus is on track and field, swimming and more individual sports; we don't even have a football team, so I don't think there is much desire for any more big team sports."

Club vice-president Pete Crozier is a "scrum half" and a fifth-year player. He says Atlantic University Sport (AUS) members do not want to see another men's varsity sport taking place in the fall because "it would be too much on their plate."

Because rugby isn't a varsity sport, the Dal team doesn't get as much funding from the school, so the team puts a lot of effort into individual fundraising.

The men's rugby team requires a \$165 membership fee, which is actually the lowest fee in the province. Insurance for Rugby Canada costs \$95 of the fee and the other \$75 is to help cover the costs of referees, equipment and travel.

There is an upside to not being a varsity team, Hewitt says.

"One of the pros of it though is that we are able to get guys who have limited athletic ability or rugby experience and just want to come out and enjoy the sport and meet people. And we are able to do that because we don't make cuts. We're able to accommodate everybody.

The guys say they are happy for now to stay at club level and they feel it is probably the best thing for the sport.

Another hurdle for the team is gaining popularity and fans. For years prior the team was playing out in Bayers Lake. Since the team moved last year to Wanderer's Field in the middle of the city, it's been getting more and more fans with every game.

"Our popularity exploded from past years once we had games in the city, and next year we are hoping to have games on Wickwire field," says Crozier.

Rugby players may be hard as nails and traditionally into loosing teeth and slamming pints of Hoegarden, but the boys say the intimidating image of rugby players as being is a big misconception.

Crozier says he wanted to continue with rugby but the big thing was "that I wanted to meet new people and keep in shape, and just have a good time. Everyone is really laid back and it's a great way to get involved in university sports. It's not intimidating at all."

As far as this year's team goes both the president and vice-president see integrating 25 new players as their biggest hurdle.

"It's a big step, it's a building block," says Hewitt. "There's a lot of individual skill and tones of talent its just getting the team jelling and on the same page."

Since the team started its season two weeks ago, after cancelling and re-scheduling season openers, the two Dal rugby teams are already feeling hot. They played the first games of the season against Acadia University in Wolfville Sept. 13. The division one team played first and hammered out a 29-3 victory while the division two team won the game 43-12, keeping Acadia scoreless until the last 10 minutes of the match.

The men continued their onslaught last weekend with the Division 1 team pummeling UPEI 76-22 on UPEI territory. On Sunday Acadia came to town to play the division two team at Wanderer's Field. The Axemen had their balls handed to them with the Tigers dishing up a plate of whoop ass in their 52-3 victory, making Dal's rugby club undefeated this season.

So it looks like the men are well on their way to achieving their goal of a winning season.

Sport retort

Intramural glory for all



NICK KHATTAR SPORTS EDITOR

If you didn't come to university to further your competitive sporting careers, more than likely you came for another reason: pure unhindered debauchery. For you, the once active, now alcoholic, there is the unrefined forum of intramural

In the last week or so, most registration deadlines for intramural teams have come and gone, which means it is now time for bloody action.

Intramural sport teams exist in leagues of competitive and non-competitive nature. They are designed to attract the participation of anyone looking to stay remotely active without performance or commitment pressure of any kind.

The leagues include co-ed recreational, co-ed competitive, non-co-ed, inter-residence/faculty and tournament style play. The range of sports varies between the standards like basketball and hockey, to rock climbing and broomball.

Beach volleyball and tennis tournaments are currently underway, both wrapping up in October.

Coming up on the weekend is co-ed seven-aside soccer and coed softball tournaments happening on Saturday Sept. 27. Nothing says "autumn is in the air" like a softball game and a keg of beer.

See, the beauty of an intramural team – besides the freedom to get equally as intoxicated as the few vagabond spectators that show up – is that all you need for a team is a slightly motivated group of friends, and the registration fee. After that, you call the shots, from hardcore-extreme-to-the-max team names to blingin' sexy uniforms. Go nuts!

If that all sounds like too much work, and your friends are more into "E-Trading" than beach volleyball, you can join a pre-existing team. If you've decided to ignore personal hygiene, comfort and well being to live in residence this year, you could always join your house team. Inter-residence glory is sure to give you the 15 minutes of fame you have been dreaming about since you started school.

since you started school.

Sure they call it "hack league" for a reason – usually the first skill people learn playing aggressive sports is how to hack at others with equipment or limbs – but regardless of your skill level or ambition, the leagues are pretty good at keeping things fun and laid back while still providing intense action and occasional blood. Ever wonder where washed up varsity basketball stars or that banned hockey enforcer went? Intramurals.

Another wonderful perk is the indiscriminate nature of intramural sports. This makes it a great way to try out a new activity, like broomball. Have you ever seen the shoes you get to wear playing broomball? It's like walking on a corpse sea of Spongebob Squarepants.

If you're worried your valuable study time or even more valuable drinking time will suffer, don't be. The games usually take place once a week, and are usually timed well enough to get you out for supper, or at least for last call.

Now if none of this sounds appealing to you but you'd still like to get out and go "slum" it up with the rink rats and bleacher jockeys, there is a plethora of weekly games to watch. A lifeless Saturday night soon becomes an affordable evening of live gladiator-esque entertainment by the simple addition of malt liquor, a paper bag and free violent entertainment provided by reckless displays of sub-par skill-level found only in intramural

Over the next month and half intramural action will include three leagues of soccer, ultimate Frisbee, softball and flag football.

So regardless of your tastes or lung capacity, intramural sports are a convenient and healthy way to fill your social schedule. It's also a great excuse to get out of residence – and avoid that creepy stalker from up the hall who keeps leaving suggestive notes on your white board.

Don't be surprised if your newfound broomball skills attract a few more amateur athletes.

Registration for all intramural hockey leagues ends on Sept. 26. Co-ed rock climbing registration ends on Sept. 29. All meetings for intramural activities take place in room 223 of the Dalplex at 5:30 p.m. on their respective dates.

Visit www.athletics.dal.ca/ intramurals for registration information, schedules and standings. Or make a conscious effort to remove the sports section from this paper before you throw it in the fireplace.



DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER



September 25th - Truth with Mike Redden September 26th - Trivia (Theme: "Wild" night of "Drinking")

October 2nd - The Gypsies October 3rd - The Price is Right



Sexton Campus Engineering Endowment Fund

Dalhousie Sexton Egineering Undergraduate Society (DSEUS)

Do you know of an area on Sexton Campus that could use a bit of a facelift? Do we need a complete overhaul of a design studio? New lab equipment? A new student project workshop? Well, here is your chance to have a say in how your money is spent. The Engineering Society would like to know what YOU want done with the \$15 that you pay each term to the Sexton Engineering Endowment Fund (SEEF). We are putting out the call for proposals to find out how you and your fellow students think the money should be spent. **SEEF Proposal Requirements:**

- -Name(s), and signature(s) of proposer(s)
- -Contact information
- -A description of the project
- -Who does it benefit

SEEF proposals are due Monday, November 3rd. Proposals can be sent to: DSEUS@dal.ca or dropped off at the Engineering Society office in the new study commons.

Sexton Campus Advisory Committee

Janet Conrad Sexton Campus Director

The Sexton Campus Advisory Committee is the committee of the Dalhousie Student Union that deals with issues pertaining to Sexton Campus. All students are welcome to join us this Friday at 6pm in the T-Room for our first meeting of the school year. If you have ideas as to how to make this campus better, or have an issue that you think the DSU should know about or could help with, this is a great opportunity to get your ideas and problems heard. Last year, the committee was integral in the construction of the new Engineering Design Commons and developed a student input report on renovations and plans for the T-Room. Already this summer we've been following up with the report and have solved several smaller issues, like making sure our defibrillator box has a defibrillator in it! If you're looking for a way to get involved in the Sexton Campus community, come to the T-Room on Friday, September 26th at 6pm. The bar will be open as well!

The Sextant

Scott Blake Sextant Editor

The Sextant used to be a forum for thought provoking, informative, and entertaining articles published by the Sextant Publishing Society of the Technical University of Nova Scotia. The Sextant is not quite like that anymore, but it's striving in the right direction.

The Sextant encourages submissions from students, faculty, Alumni and members of the University community. Submission could reflect the concerns and intellectual standards of the university, but they could also pertain to a topic of utter irrelevance or comic relief - e.g. Godiva's Hymn. Glad to see you got the Joke Corey.

The Sextant will be holding contributor meetings every Thursday at 6pm in the T-Room. Refreshments will be provided.

Employer Information Sessions

Scott Blake Sextant Editor

The following companies have information sessions on and around Sexton Campus during the next two weeks. Visit the Career Services Centre at www.dal.ca/csc for updated times, dates

and locations. Gerdau Ameristeel, Chalk Media Service Corp., Total E & P Canada Ltd., IBM Canada, Encana, Teck Cominco - Elk Valley Coal, Syncrude Canada, St Lawrence Cement, Labatt, Nexen Inc., Imperial Oil/ExxonMobil, Cameco, Vale Inco, Canadian Tire Corp, Pason Systems Corp.



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from 1PM - 5PM in the Common Room



Co-op Corner

Scott Blake Sextant Editor

Time to dust of your résumé, login to PlacePro and try to find that dream job. I would encourage you to drop by the co-op office to set up a meeting to go over your résumé and cover letter. Porfolios are also a great idea and if you have no idea what a portfoili is or should contain, ASK THE CO-OP OFFICE. Visit the co-op office, make the most of your \$300 co-op fee!

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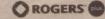
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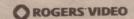
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