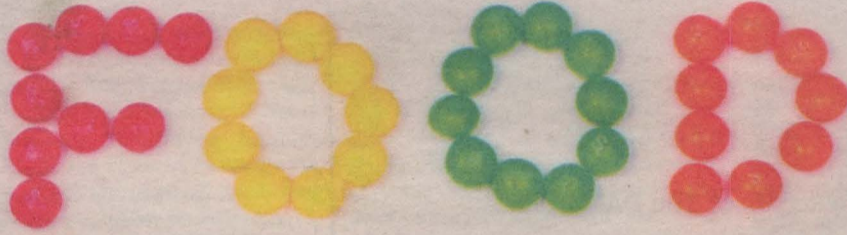
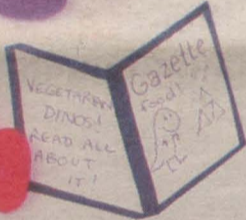


The Dalhousie Gazette since 1868

Gazette



FOR MY STUDENT BUDGET.



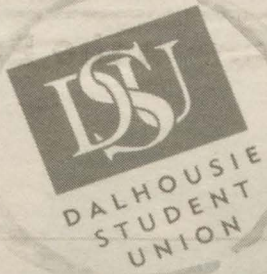
THE LSC'S NUCLEAR REACTOR (P.7)

LOCAL FOOD MOVEMENT (P.8)

LET'S GET BAKED NO MORE (P.14)



Cover image by Matt Ritchie (Jelly bean dinosaur), Hillary Beaumont and Pau Balite



WEEKLY DISPATCH

DSU Weekly Dispatch

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Events

Events:

January 27-30

Winter Carnival Continues

Friday, January 29th

7:00pm-9:30pm - Men's Hockey Game, DAL vs. STU @ The DAL Arena

9:00pm-1:00am - Varsity Night and Post Game Party @ The Grawood (Live DJ)

9:00pm-1:00am - Two Hours Traffic & The Danks Live @ The T-Room (19+)

Saturday, January 30th

7:00pm-12:am - DSU's Annual Charity Ball, "Arctic Ice Capades," In support of Camp Triumph

Wednesday, February 3

DSU Council Meeting

Please note that this week's Council meeting will be held on Sexton Campus in room A103. The meeting will begin at 6:30pm.

Accused of Plagiarism? Failed a Course?

The Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service (DSAS) assists students with academic appeal and discipline matters. All inquiries are confidential. DSAS is located in room 310 of the SUB. Phone: (902) 494-2205 Fax: (902) 494-6647

Walking home after dark?

Tiger Patrol offers a walk-home or drive-home service that operates 7 days a week (6:00pm – 12:30am). Visit <http://dsu.ca/services/tigerpatrol> for more details.

Society News

Please make sure that if you are holding a society event that you fill out a Risk Management Form at http://fm.dal.ca/event_book.php. Any questions can be directed towards your Society Coordinator @ society.coordinator@dal.ca

Sincerely,
Your DSU Executive

P.S. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: @dalstudentunion, and visit us at www.dsu.ca



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

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 contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Streetview feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not

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for the week ending
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- 1 GIANNA LAUREN / FIST IN A HEART / SELF-RELEASED
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- 3 THE RAVEONETTES / IN AND OUT OF CONTROL / VICE
- 4 ACRES AND ACRES / ALL NATIONS / SELF-RELEASED
- 5 CIRCLE VS SQUARE / CIRCLE VS SQUARE / SELF-RELEASED
- 6 MENDELSON JOE / MENDELSON JOE LIVE AT SIXTY-FIVE / OLD BOLD RCRDS
- 7 YOU SAY PARTY! WE SAY DIE! / XXXX / PAPER BAG
- 8 PHOENIX / WOLFGANG AMADEUS PHOENIX / GLASSNOTE
- 9 RUTH MINNIKIN AND HER BANDWAGON / DEPEND ON THIS / SONG MILL
- 10 TEGAN AND SARA / SAINTHOOD / SIRE

Sobama!: Mixed music & sounds brought to you by local musician Rebekah Higgs. *listen live:* Tuesdays, 2:30pm-4pm

Rocket to Russia: Punk rock radio featuring artist spotlights & local show updates. *listen live:* Wednesdays, 9pm-10:30pm

Island Switch: Fun-filled grooves from the Caribbean and beyond, with DJ Tomcat. *listen live:* Saturdays, 8pm-10pm



Letters to the Editor

Polanski raped a child

To the Editor,

In Anna DeMello's review of "Polanski: Wanted and Desired," she described Roman Polanski's rape of a 13-year-old girl as "having sex with her," and later described his actions as "controversial."

Drugging a 13-year-old girl and then "having sex with her" while she says no and stop over and over is called rape.

Polanski was charged with rape. He was convicted of rape. That is commonly referred to as "rape," not as "having sex with" a 13-year-old girl.

As Kate Harding wrote in Salon: "Let's take a moment to recall that according to the victim's grand jury testimony, Roman Polanski instructed her to get into a jacuzzi naked, refused to take her home when she begged to go, began kissing her even though she said no and asked him to stop; performed cunnilingus on her as she said no and asked him to stop; put his penis in her vagina as she said no and asked him to stop; asked if he could penetrate her anally, to which she replied, 'No,' then went ahead and did it anyway, until he had an orgasm."

As well, the prosecutor admitted he lied in the documentary film: "The former prosecutor who said in a documentary film that he advised a judge to send Roman Polanski to prison now says he lied in the movie. Former Los Angeles prosecutor David Wells said he lied to the makers of the 2008 documentary Roman Polanski: Wanted and Desired about his role in the sentencing of Polanski on charges of having sex with a minor. The statement became part of the basis for a move by Polanski's attorneys to dismiss the case because of prosecutorial misconduct."

I think it's possible to both review this movie and talk about the case without minimizing that Roman Polanski raped a child.

-- Anna Pearce

Division over diversity

To the Editor,

I was sorry to read the prominent headline in *The Gazette's* diversity is-

sue (Nov. 20 to Nov. 26) disparaging King's Foundation Year Programme as a "Whitewashed Foundation" whose "curriculum is low on diversity."

Certainly, FYP does not try to survey all the world's traditions, only the Western. Yet it conceives of that tradition as essentially diverse, deeply informed by interactions with other cultures and by contributions from many and often conflicting sources. The program begins with ancient Egypt in its first section and brings out the recurring indebtedness to Egyptian wisdom by later thinkers.

The former co-ordinator of the second section, Dr. Wayne Hankey, has been especially committed to presenting the ethnic and religious diversity of the Middle Ages. In an e-mail concerning this article, he writes, "Plotinus was from Egypt, Augustine, also from North Africa, had a black mother, Iamblichus was a Syrian (as probably was Dionysius). How can they, al-Farabi, Avicenna, Averroes, al-Ghazali and Maimonides count as white?"

The Foundation Year Programme also does not shy away from exploring the problematic relation between Europe and its Others; this year in the third section, for example, we are reading a number of Renaissance plays that represent its struggles with strangers both from without and within.

The troubling legacy of racism as it emerged later in the West has been the particular focus of the work of a number in FYP's faculty, one of whom organized a series of symposia on the question last year; others have been involved in developing an upcoming lecture series/course at King's on the concept of race.

While over the last two decades there has been a substantial increase in ethnic and religious diversity in the FYP student body, we have had more limited success in increasing its racial diversity.

We cannot deny that students belonging to visible minorities can feel self-conscious when part of the foundation year class, and that we still need to find more adequate ways to address this.

To speak to the incident referred to in the article, I was the person teaching Monica Mutale's tutorial. Although I remember what happened rather differently than what was reported by Sanjay Mathurla, it is true that Monica felt put on the spot by a question I asked her. I realized and regretted this immediately, and apologized to her after the class. That the moment still rankles speaks to my own failure as a teacher, and I would like to take this opportunity to apologize to her again.

To summarize, the Foundation Year Programme has increasingly reflected upon the hybridity of the Western tradition, in accordance with the findings of recent scholarship. The issue of diversity has received sustained attention from many at King's Collage.

FYP's focus on the Western tradition means that, like any programme of its kind, it is particularly called to account regarding the ambiguous legacies of that tradition: a challenge we take very seriously.

-- Peggy Heller, director of the Foundation Year Programme at the University of King's College

To the Editor,

As it often happens, when excerpts from interviews are quoted, the meaning of our words comes across not entirely in the way it was intended. First of all, I understood the purpose of the news article "Whitewashed foundation" (*The Gazette's* diversity issue, Nov. 20 to Nov. 26) to be an assessment of diversity at the University of King's College in general, especially in relation to overall structures and policies (such as the office of the racial equity liaison), rather than an attack on the Foundation Year Programme.

I made my comments in my capacity as the director and faculty member of the Contemporary Studies Programme, as well as the former King's racial equity liaison. As such, I do not feel I am in the position to comment specifically on the matters pertaining to the Foundation Year Programme and thus was not

quoted accurately in the story. Further, the proposed 2010/2011 lecture series and an upper-level course on the conceptions of race in philosophy, literature and art, mentioned in the piece, is a joint initiative between Contemporary Studies, Early Modern Studies, and History of Science and Technology programmes, with the help of some of our colleagues at Dalhousie. It must be emphasized that this initiative was inspired by a series of symposia on the issues of race and racism organized last year by the members of the Foundation Year teaching staff, as well as by a lecture called "Race in Philosophy" by a prominent scholar of race.

Robert Bernasconi, who came to King's on the joint invitation by the FYP and CSP. There is a continuity and dialogue between the programs at King's, and we work together toward improvement, including in the area of diversity.

Secondly, I feel that my words about King's students coming from "private schools in Toronto" were cited out of context. I would have never wanted to perpetuate this unhelpful stereotype, and on numerous occasions, including during the interview, I have acknowledged the efforts on the part of the registrar's office, especially in this area of recruitment, to overcome this inaccurate perception of King's.

Finally, I would not have liked my words to appear under the title that was given to the article. It is divisive and hurtful, while I believe that the only way toward further improvement is constructive dialogue. I would like to apologize to my colleagues and students who may have been hurt or offended by my words as they have been quoted.

-- Dorota Glowacka, professor of contemporary studies at the University of King's College

The Gazette apologizes for any quotes attributed to Dorota Glowacka that may have been taken out of context. Our ethics code states that sources should be treated with respect and portrayed fairly. In the future we

will be more diligent in encouraging our writers to follow these guidelines.

Prorogues baloney

To the Editor,

In his piece about the prorogation of parliament, Ben Wedge resorts to two arguments that must be mainstays in the Conservative playbook. The first is to distract attention from the issue with meaningless tabloid-esque nonsense about where the party leaders spent their Christmas break. The second is to somehow pin the issue on Jean Chrétien. Wedge appears to assume that anybody opposed to Harper's prorogue must have been a supporter of past Liberal governments.

I respectfully remind him that there are more than two major parties in this country.

I had little interest in politics during the Chrétien years, so when he prorogued parliament I had little to say on the issue. As things stand today, I can assure Mr. Wedge that I would stand in opposition to a parliamentary prorogue initiated by any Canadian prime minister.

Of course, the Chrétien government was not twice awarded the "Fossil of the Year" award for obstructing progress on climate change at the international level, nor was anybody tortured under Chrétien's leadership. So perhaps my outrage is somewhat amplified in the case of Harper's latest prorogue.

The fundamental issue here is that no politician should be able to shut down the body that holds him or her accountable for reasons of political expediency. It is unfortunate that respect for Canadian democracy has become a crucial swing factor in the national polls, rather than a basic prerequisite for involvement in Canadian federal politics.

Nevertheless, if a viable candidate for prime minister satisfies that requirement, I will support them regardless of where they spent their Christmas.

-- Cameron Roberts, fifth-year history of science and philosophy student at the University of King's College

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News

An epic 24 hours

Day-long reading of *The Odyssey* raises money for Halifax Humanities 101

Rebecca Spence
Staff Contributor

Twenty-four books. Twenty-four teams. Twenty-four hours. *Odyssey Live* was definitely a mythical marathon for the mind.

Halifax Humanities 101 set sail on this literary voyage last Friday at 7 p.m. at the King's College Alumni Hall, and finally came to a standstill at 7 p.m. the next evening. The organization's creative fundraiser featured local media personalities, politicians, university professors, students and other community members all taking turns to read aloud the 24 books that make up Homer's *Odyssey*. The event also featured an "Odyssey-inspired" silent auction of Grecian-style pottery, jewelry, and other donated goodies.

"It's taken me about two months to organize," says Mary Lu Redden, the director of Halifax Humanities 101. "It has absorbed my life completely."

Redden spearheaded the operation by recruiting teams from all around the HRM as well as obtaining a wide-range of sponsors and donations.

Admission to this innovative event was a donation at the door. All proceeds will be going to Halifax Humanities 101, a non-profit outreach initiative that gives low-income adults the opportunity to experience a university-level liberal arts education. The program was established in October 2005 as an eight-month pilot project inspired by Earl Shorris, a writer and educator who began teaching a Humanities course 15 years ago to disadvantaged students on the lower east side of Manhattan. Shorris believed that a liberal arts education was the best way to encourage underprivileged people to become active in community and political life.

Former Halifax Humanities student Jennifer Conroy, 35, says that the program gave her a sense of passion, emotion and desire, which she never thought was possible. She asserts that Halifax Humanities 101 brought her out of her former passive outlook on life and helped to balance her priorities out.

"People walk through that door and they're transformed," says Conroy, who is now enrolled in the Arts & Social Sciences program at St. Mary's University. "They come close to finding out who they are, where they've come from, why the world is the way it is."

Angus Johnston is a former director for the King's Foundation Year Programme and also serves as Vice-Chair for Halifax Humanities 101. He argues how important it is to stimulate a joy for learning among these low-income groups.

"When we think of education for the poor, we generally think about literacy, computer skills and other ways of educating that can perhaps lead to employment," says Johnston. "But there is also a hun-



Local performers, including law students, politicians and professors, collectively recited the 24 books in Homer's *Odyssey*. | Stock Image

ger for knowledge for knowledge's sake."

Conroy fully supports this philosophy. "It's not about training your mind," she says. "It's about broadening your mind."

Halifax Humanities 101 provides all of its course texts for free, bus tickets to attend classes and events, childcare for those who require it to attend class, and cultural outings to musical performances and art galleries. The classes are all taught by highly qualified university

"There is also a hunger for knowledge for knowledge's sake." - Angus Johnston, former FYP director

professors, and extra classes are offered to help develop students' writing skills.

Redden says that anybody of low-income can apply, provided they have a good reading ability, are willing to attend classes regularly and do the assigned readings. Other than that, there are no other preconditions. Applicants don't even require a high school diploma to enroll.

Since 2005, 40 students have successfully completed the program. According to the organization's website, there have been three graduation ceremonies, at which students and their friends and families, teachers, volunteers, and board members have "celebrated a year of study, intellectual engagement, friendships and tremendous

growth in confidence and self-esteem."

The program is a spiritual journey in the fullest sense of the term. It was only appropriate then that the fundraiser showcased the reading of *The Odyssey* - an epic adventure story featuring a hero who achieves success by way of his cunning and his wits.

Halifax Humanities 101 raised about \$19,000 for the program. Redden acknowledges that she could not have done it without the community's full commitment

and participation. From the Dalhousie law students who read overnight during the graveyard shift, to the volunteers who are working on three hours of sleep, *Odyssey Live* was the sum of a team effort.

"By donating your time and money to this you're helping people who are willing and wanting to learn," says Conroy. "Every single person who I have met who has taken this course has a very strong will to learn something new."

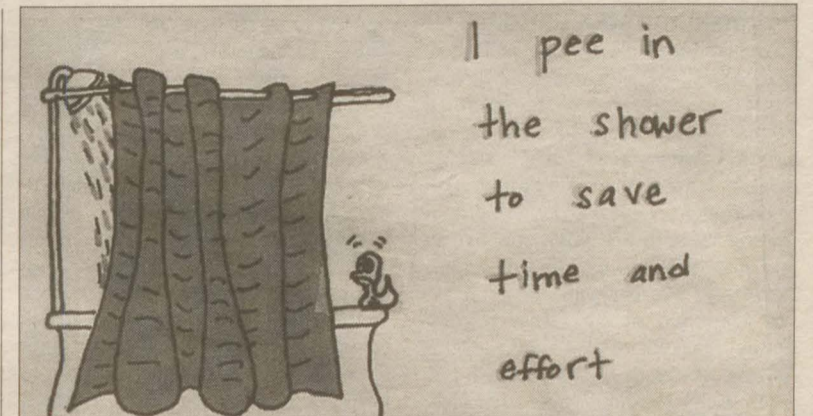
To donate or to learn more about Halifax Humanities 101, visit www.halifaxhumanities101.com, or e-mail learn@halifaxhumanities101.ca.

News

Gazette News covers Dalhousie and the greater Halifax community. Contributions are welcome! E-mail Lucy or Laura at news@dalgazette.com



Lucy Scholey, News Editor
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Frank Warren shares your best-kept secrets with the world. | Photo from PostSecret

Psst, I have something to tell you

PostSecret creator reveals all at Dalhousie University

Katrina Pyne
Staff Contributor

Telling other people's secrets usually gets you into trouble, but Frank Warren spilled the beans on life, death and god at Dalhousie on Jan. 20.

He greeted over a thousand people in the sold-out auditorium in his usual way. "My name is Frank, and I collect secrets," he said.

Warren is the creator of the PostSecret Project. In 2004, he sent out 3,000 self-addressed postcards. On each one, he gave instructions to write down a well-kept secret and mail it back. The first wave of postcards returned.

"The bruises on my knees are from masturbating all weekend."

"It wasn't long before the whole thing went viral," Warren said. Now, PostSecret receives postcards from many continents in many languages.

He travels across North America speaking about his bizarre collection and posting them online at www.postsecret.com.

"The bruises on my knees are from masturbating all weekend," one person wrote. Another came with a pound of coffee and says, "Where I work, they don't take inventory, enjoy!"

The most popular postcard Warren receives is, "I pee in the shower."

Known as the "most trusted stranger in America," Warren has had half a million anonymous postcards come through his mailbox in Germantown, Maryland.

"I feel like a kid at a candy store when I get the mail," he said. "Kathy, my mail distributor, has been a really good sport about all this."

But not all the secrets are humorous. One postcard he picked up had a picture of a battered door on it. As Warren held it tightly in his hands he read, "The holes are from when my mother tried to kick down the door so she could continue beating me."

"I used to have one of those doors too," he said. "I was haunted by my past. Talk-

ing about my secrets lightened my load."

Warren said the act of sending a postcard can be cathartic and transformative.

"I think we all have secrets, some tragic and some unbearable," he said. "You can either bury them inside, or you can bring them into the light and begin to heal."

In a phone interview, Warren said he was the first to admit PostSecret was a crazy idea. Even his parents were skeptical of the endeavour. His mom called it "diabolical." Now, Warren says he sees meaning in his project - PostSecret provides a forum for people to come together and let their voices be heard.

All the proceeds from Wednesday's event went to the Adsum House, a shelter that provides long-term housing and other services for over 300 women every year.

"The children most broken by the world become the adults most likely to change it," Warren said of the organization.

Warren's latest book, "Confessions about Life, Death and God," topped the New York Times' bestseller list last fall. He has published three books about his postcards since he started in 2004.

Warren says he puts one of his own secrets in each book.

"When you send in a postcard you realize your dirty little secret isn't that big of a deal," he said. "We are all connected."

At the conclusion of Wednesday's event, Warren invited the audience to share their secrets in front of the auditorium.

About a dozen people jumped to the microphones.

More than one person spoke about dealing with depression, and one girl confessed to a habit of pulling out her hair. Each person sat down with a look of relief after sharing their story. One girl even made her postcard into a paper crane and explained that she had ADHD, which makes it difficult to learn origami.

Later that evening, Warren had the crane next to him as he signed books out in the lobby.

After the event, Kari Beiswanger, 15, from Halifax West High School said she would think about sending in a postcard secret.

"It will have to be a good one though," she says, "not just any secret will do." For Warren, it's simple.

"Free your secrets and become who you are."



A small fraction of the thousands of Canadians who protested Harper's decision to prorogue parliament. | Photo by John Niven

Anti-prorogation rally draws hundreds

Haligonians flock to Province House

Laura Conrad
Staff Contributor

Bundled in scarves and coats, hundreds of protestors faced the bitter cold to protest Stephen Harper's decision to prorogue Parliament. The event at Province House was one of many across Canada that took place Jan. 23.

Brenden Sommerhalder, a graduate student at Saint Mary's University, organized the rally.

"Clearly, this means one thing," he said, about the turnout. "People are really angry about this. They are willing to come out on a cold January afternoon, on a Saturday, just to show Stephen Harper that this is not OK."

Last month, Harper announced his decision to prorogue Parliament until March. That means the House of Commons won't meet until then. It's the second time Harper has stalled session in about a year. Since the announcement, thousands of Canadians have joined Facebook groups and more than 100 university professors have signed petitions denouncing the prorogation. Thousands of protesters across Canada made their voices heard last weekend.

"Canadians feel insulted by the Prime Minister, and frightened by what seems to be the muzzling of Parliament," he said.

Sommerhalder also said he was pleased with the turnout of the rally, which he estimated over 500 people attended.

"I was hoping for this much support, but I wasn't expecting it," he said.

Sommerhalder created a Facebook page for supporters of the protest, which currently has over 1,000 members.

Sommerhalder said the event was formed through grassroots efforts.

"We just put the word out there, and a lot of people were interested," he said. "We threw a planning meeting (and) a lot of people came out,

a very diverse group of people."

Liberal MP Geoff Regan was one of the first speakers at the event. He told the crowd to remember the legacy of Joseph Howe.

"If you listen carefully, you can hear what Joe Howe is saying," he said. "He's saying, 'Stephen Harper, report to Parliament!' The government is responsible to the people who are elected by (Canadians). It's not the other way around."

Angela Giles, regional organizer for the Council of Canadians, also gave a speech at the rally.

"We're here to say that this is about much more than the proroguing of Parliament," she said. "This is about reclaiming democracy in our daily lives. Our country, on the international stage, is increasingly seen as a human-rights-denying eco-outlaw, against the wishes of the majority of Canadians. Enough is enough. It is time for electoral reform and proportional representation in Canada."

Apart from Regan and Giles, there were several other speakers at the rally. They included Liberal MP Mike Savage, Kyle Buott from the Halifax-Dartmouth District Labour Council, and Gregor Ash and Robert Chisolm on behalf of MP's Megan Leslie and Peter Stoffer. The Halifax Raging Grannies got the crowd laughing and singing along when they performed two songs. Local comedian Scott Vrooman also performed a short sketch about the prorogation.

Sommerhalder says he plans to continue pushing the issue.

"Clearly, activism works," he said. "Get involved. Remember this, and get involved. We've already organized a public meeting for next month for people who want to stay involved. Remember this. Remember what Stephen Harper has done, and take it to the polls."

The follow-up meeting to the rally will be held on Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bloomfield Centre.

Brains for Change

150 heads are better than one

Hayley Paquette
Staff Contributor

Over 150 students from Dalhousie and King's College gathered last weekend for two days of interactive workshops and discussions. The Brains for Change conference, hosted by Dalhousie, focused on visioning and action planning to improve the university community through creating a 'culture of leadership.'

The walls of the McInnes Room in the Student Union Building were covered in oversized sticky notes quoting ideas and action plans from the visions of students from all faculties. They showed the collective brain power of Dalhousie and King's students who chose to stand up and participate in their futures at the workshops.

Sarah Chamberlain, a fifth-year science student at Dal, volunteered for the weekend.

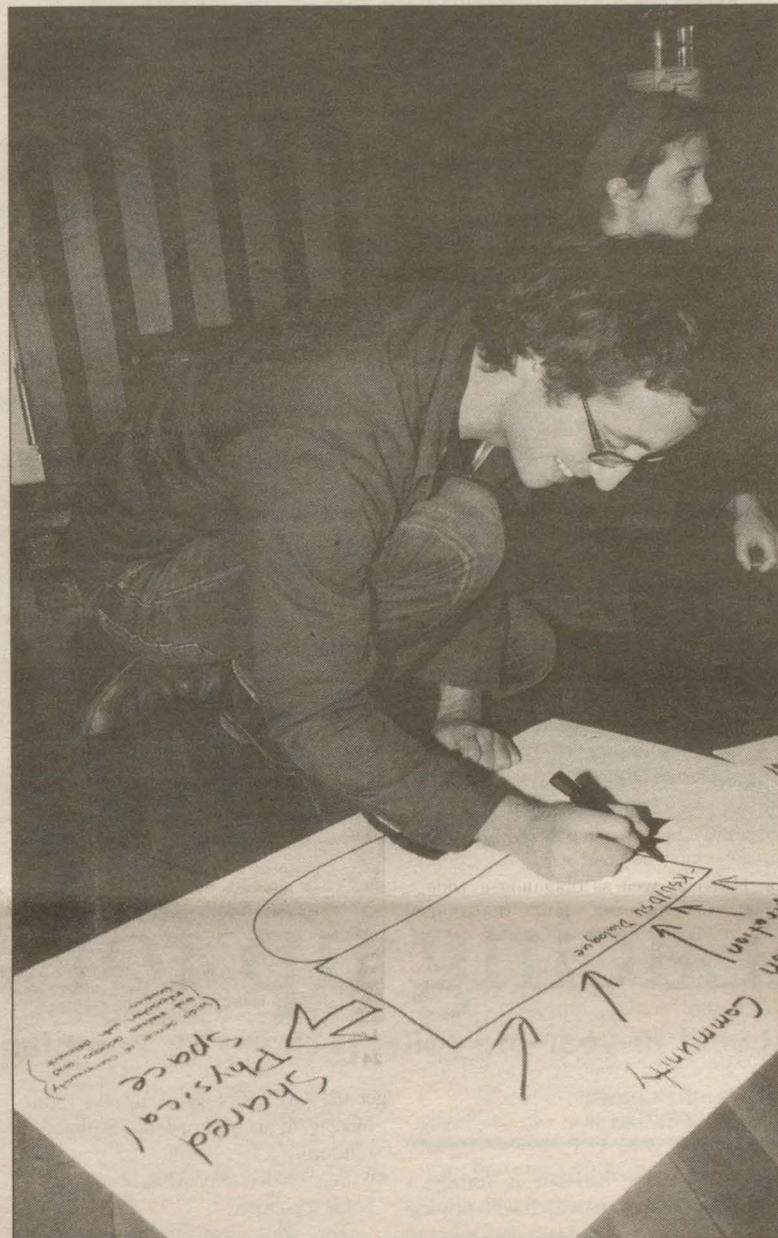
"It's sort of like a time capsule for thoughts," she said. "We are documenting all the discussions and visions that come out of them this weekend to help build a base for future students to add to, so we don't start from the beginning every four years."

At university, students often learn about what is wrong with the world, and even the many different solutions. But the hardest thing is often learning how to implement those solutions.

Students from all Dal faculties and campuses were invited to be part of the discussions and share their different views and ideas. They had the chance to discuss ways to improve their sense of community at the university and between faculties.

"The idea is to bring together students from every faculty at Dalhousie. To decrease the distance between faculties and motivate a feeling of community across Dalhousie University," said Daniel Boyle, a fifth-year arts student helping with the weekend's activities.

"There is definite disconnect between faculties at Dalhousie," Boyle said. "With the three different cam-



Dal and King's students discussed and designed ideas for the future of campus education. | Photo supplied by Jared Daiziel

gap between students and the community outside of the university.

Emily Rideout, a fourth-year environmental science and international devel-

"It's a great way to get students talking and give them a feeling of empowerment and belonging in their university community."

opment student, said, "There needs to be a better integration of the classroom into the community, and vice versa."

Justin Partridge, another fourth-year environmental science and international development student, agreed. He said students need to put their ideas to work outside the campus community.

"What is the point of all of this if we aren't using what we're learning here in the real world?" he asked.

Another major theme was the

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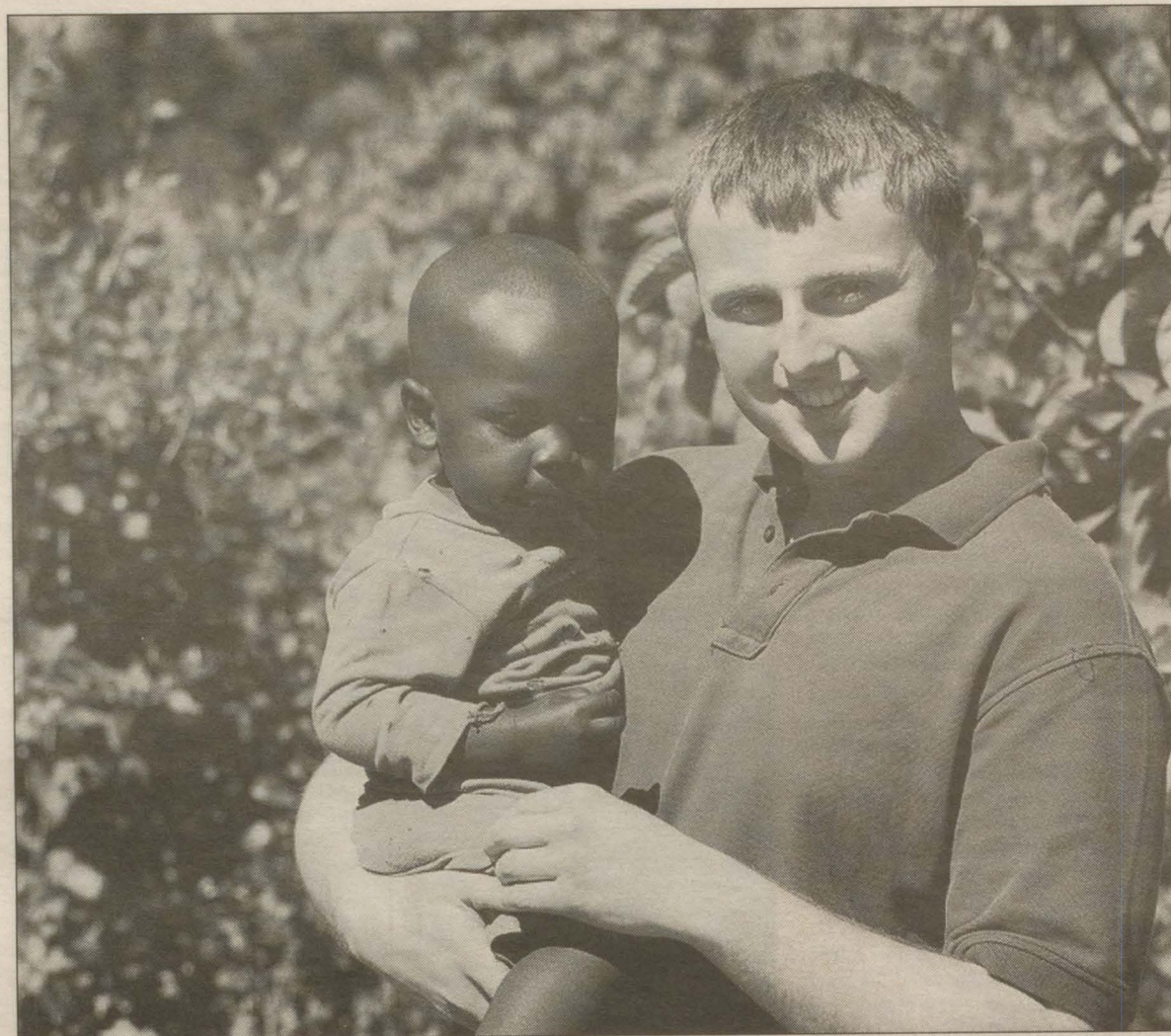
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combo guards could indeed succeed in the pros. And he had fun doing it. Even when his actions were a little misguided (such as declaring that he would score a hundred points on Mike D'Antoni and Nate McMillan's teams after they left him off the 2006 Team USA roster, or launching one-handed shots in the three-point shootout), we still pulled for him, because in spite of those occasional frivolities, we knew that the radiating bundle of ebullience known as Arenas would always be good for the game of basketball. A lot's changed since then. These days the Washington Wizards, the franchise that once wore Arenas's face, are doing their best to eradicate any trace of the man from the collective consciousness of their fans. All Arenas-related merchandise

News



Kyle Warkentin collects shoes for people in Kabwe, Zambia. He says people without quality shoes are at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. | Photo supplied by Kyle Warkentin

Lacing up for a cause

Local 19-year-old collects shoes for Zambian city

Samantha Chown
News Contributor

Walking barefoot is usually a luxury associated with pristine beaches and lazy days spent at home, but to Kyle Warkentin, being barefoot is a death sentence.

The 19-year-old has spent the last two years volunteering around the world. In the fall, he will attend Dalhousie for microbiology. He plans to go to medical school and eventually wants to work for Doctors Without Borders.

Last May, Warkentin went to the city of Kabwe, Zambia in Africa through a humanitarian initiative organized by the Rock Church in Lower Sackville. He spent three weeks attending to the sick, cleaning wounds and playing with the children.

"When they're well, they're so active," he says. "But mostly all are running around barefoot and they don't have actual toys. They have to play with trash."

During his time there, Warkentin noticed an alarming fact: Kabwe has no waste collection system. Everything – from used condoms to feces – ends up in the streets. This makes the city a breeding ground for bacteria and disease. It's a major problem in Zambia – a country with one of the highest AIDS/HIV epidemics – that even a minor cut on someone's foot can cause an infection that leads to death.

When he returned to Canada, Warkentin says he had an "I have to do something" moment.

"I'll have a shoe drive," he says, reminiscing. "It just popped into my head randomly."

So, in November 2009, Shoes for Souls was born.

The idea was to hold a massive shoe drive across Nova Scotia from January to June 2010 with a goal of collecting 4,000 pairs of shoes.

Warkentin says providing shoes to the residents of Kabwe can help pre-

vent disease and infection, meaning the kids can play freely without worry. "They're going to be comforted by the fact that someone actually cares about them," says Warkentin.

It's been less than a month, and they've already collected at least 1,000 pairs of shoes. Warkentin says the container is already bursting.

"It's been this small thing that just exploded," he says. "It's pretty cool."

On June 4, Shoes for Souls will host a gala event at the Halifax Club. Each room will display photos of the people of Zambia. Warkentin says the event is meant to be personal.

"They're going to be comforted by the fact that someone actually cares about them."

Since then, local organizations have been quick to offer support and donate their facilities. Metro Self-Storage has donated a storage container to house the shoes until they head to Africa.

He also partnered with Pacrim Hospitality Services, who will run a separate shoe drive from January 25 to February 14 through their four hotels in the Halifax area.

On Feb. 6, Warkentin will travel to Newfoundland to collect shoes that have been donated.

The photos are going to represent the amount of shoes we've collected and the lives these shoes are going to touch."

As part of the Order of Canada Mentorship Program, Warkentin has been partnered up with Dr. Mark Wainberg, Director of the McGill University Aids Centre. Wainberg has been advising Warkentin on his return trip to Zambia in June when he will distribute the donated shoes over a 10-day period with a team of volunteers.

"If you have shoes, donate them. They are literally going to prevent death," says Warkentin.

The next shoe drive is February 13 at St. Margaret's Centre in Upper Tantallon from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Warning: may contain bacteria

Dal professor takes a look at the listeriosis outbreak

Scott Beed
Staff Contributor

Ever since the listeriosis outbreaks two years ago, Maple Leaf products likely invoke thoughts of stomach aches and violent illness. But a Dalhousie University professor is trying to dispel fears surrounding certain food borne bacteria.

Rafael Garduno, an associate professor with the department of microbiology, focuses his research on listeria and legionella. The former plagued Maple Leaf meat products two years ago. When eaten, the bacteria can develop into listeriosis, an illness with severe flu-like symptoms. According to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the 2008 breakout caused nine deaths with 38 confirmed cases.

Garduno says even though listeria and legionella are dangerous and can harm people, they aren't the most dangerous food borne bacteria out there.

He has worked with several bacterial pathogens since starting at Dal in 1997 and he says his work is designed to build a basic understanding of bacteria in general.

"We focus on bacteria, not any bacteria but bacteria that are transmitted to humans through either water or food products," he says.

Garduno says that to understand outbreak prevention methods, his research must determine how these bacteria survive and thrive in our food and water.

Legionella survives in temperatures ranging from 25 to 45 degrees Celsius and can sometimes develop into Legionnaires Disease, which is a form of pneumonia. Garduno explains that this type of pneumonia can't spread from person to person, so it's considered an environmental disease.

"Imagine legionella in the water," he says. "Here in Canada, the average water temperature throughout the year is not ideal for the survival of this bacteria. But it can survive, and it makes its way into distribution centers in cities or something, where it encounters chlorine or other treatments, but still makes it into drinking water and when it's consumed it causes Legionnaires' Disease."

Garduno explains that he's trying to understand why legionella is able to survive in such adverse situations.

Garduno also does research on fish proteins, peptides, enzymes and marine toxins with Dalhousie's Department of Food Science and Technology. Tom Gill, a professor in Dal's food science program, is one of Garduno's research partners.

His work focuses on marine toxins and the safe handling of seafood when processing and shipping these products. Garduno and Gill have collaborated to determine the effects of the listeria bacteria on salmon, shellfish and other marine wildlife.

Gill's lab has studied paralytic shellfish poison, which can be contracted if contaminated clams, mussels, scallops

to survive in such adverse situations.

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"The research itself was relevant before and it continues to be relevant, but because of potential outbreaks I think the perspective has changed."

or any other shellfish are consumed. Because shellfish are filter-feeding organisms, they can absorb bacteria that are found in the water where they live. This kind of bacteria can accumulate in their tissue and they can become highly toxic to eat. These toxins can cause localized paralysis in certain organs. For example, Garduno says if these toxins infect the lungs, a person can suffocate.

Garduno says he wants to develop methods that could reduce the harm bacteria have on the general population. He says he hopes his research will help in the development and implementation of new and better methods of water treatment and food processing.

This type of research isn't new, he adds.

"The research itself was relevant before and it continues to be relevant, but because of potential outbreaks I think the perspective has changed."

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has been removed from the Verizon Centre, he's been edited out of Wizards team videos, and his banner that hung outside the arena is now nowhere to be seen. Three years of frustration for Arenas culminated in the bizarre catastrophe that took place in the Wizards' locker room on Dec. 21. After the devastating knee injury that cut his iconic 2006-2007 Takeover short, Arenas missed all but 10 games over the next two seasons before returning for 2009-2010 in what was supposed to be his glorious comeback tour. He began it by declaring that he planned to scale back all the joking and childish behaviour, and to be a more focused player who took the game more seriously. He set out to prove Washington right for signing him to a six-year, \$111 mil-

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Tim Mitchell **Features Editor**
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RADIOACTIVE CAMPUS

Nuclear reactor at Dal to be decommissioned

Tim Mitchell
Features Editor

“That’s a little un-easing,” says a wide-eyed Kayti Bates upon learning of the existence of a nuclear reactor right below her feet. Bates is a fourth-year kinesiology student. In all her time studying at Dalhousie, like most staff and students, she hadn’t heard anything about it.

“I think it is quite a significant undermining thing that we don’t know,” she says. “I think more people would be interested to know exactly why it was put there, the history of it, and what it’s doing now.”

Dal has used the “SLOWPOKE” (Safe LOW POver Critical Experiment) nuclear reactor for research since 1978. It can’t be used as a power supply, and it doesn’t contain enough uranium to make a bomb, but it is radioactive.

There are four similar nuclear reactors at other universities across Canada: Polytechnique in Montreal, the Royal Military College in Kingston, the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Alberta.

The Slowpoke nuclear reactor at Dal has been used by the chemistry department for Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA). It’s a process that can very accurately determine the concentration of elements that make up a varying number of solid or liquid objects. The benefit of this technology is that it doesn’t destroy any sample object that’s tested. What it involves is bombarding the nuclei of the atoms of materials with neutrons, making them radioactive, and then studying which atoms have become radioactive, and by how much.

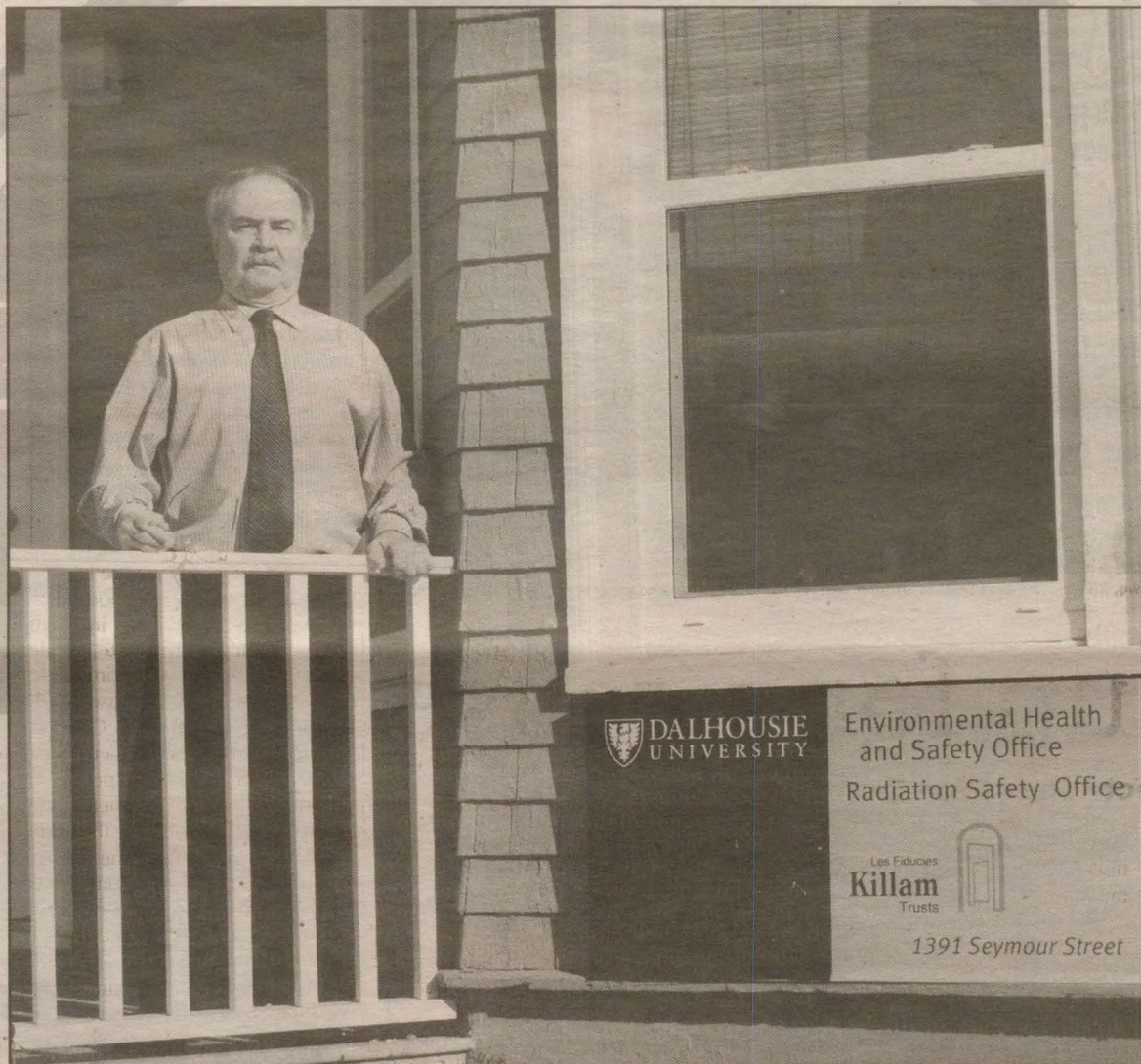
The process is useful in determining the purity of metals, levels of arsenic in water, or even anthropologically investigating historical native trade routes by matching the substances of artefacts in different locations.

At the moment, it’s just sitting there, not being used for any kind of research. The university has decided to decommission the reactor – a process that will happen over, at least, the next two years.

“It’s in maintenance mode now. It’s basically warmed up once a week,” says Ray Ilson, director of environmental health and safety at Dal. He’s the man overseeing the decommissioning process.

“It’s really just used to test to make sure everything’s functioning properly, because when the decommissioning begins, we’ll need to run all the controls again. We just want to make sure everything’s ready to go.”

The decommissioning process will involve the collaboration of Dal’s board of governors, the Dalhousie University Community Committee, the city, the province, the Canadian Nuclear Safety



Ray Ilson is in charge of decommissioning the Slowpoke nuclear reactor at Dal. | Photo by Abram Gutscher

Commission, as well as the Halifax Regional Police, fire departments, the hospitals and emergency medical teams, and HAZMAT (Hazardous Materials) – just in case anything goes wrong.

“I was exposed to radiation. I’m losing my hair, but nothing else.” – Ray Ilson

“That’s all part of the plan in case there was to be an incident and you had a person who was potentially contaminated,” says Ilson. “We’d have to take them to the hospital and treat them.”

The same model of nuclear reactor was used for research at the University of Toronto until it was decommissioned from 2000 to 2001. It was 25 years old. At the time, Ilson was manager of radiation protection services at U of T, and oversaw the decommissioning process.

“The defueling was completely uneventful,” he says. “The dismantling was uneventful. There were no doses (of radiation) received. There was some contamination that

was discovered on decommissioning, which is what we’re doing now.”

Ilson says the good news was that it was discovered, and it was cleaned. He also says that during the decommissioning of the reactor at U of T, nobody went above the allowable limit of radiation exposure.

“The highest dose received was 3.2 per cent of the allowable limit.”

Ilson was the one exposed to that radiation.

“I was exposed to 1.6 millisieverts

of radiation. I’m losing my hair, but nothing else,” Ilson says with a laugh.

A millisievert is a measurement of radiation exposure. The allowable limit of radiation exposure for members of the public is one millisievert per year according to Ilson.

“That’s for the man in the street, the barber, the taxi driver, anybody. For nuclear energy workers – people who work in radiation areas – the limit is 50 millisieverts in any given year.”

The Slowpoke reactor is located below the Life Sciences Centre. The facility itself is several rooms, and the reactor is in one of them. The fuel for the reactor, Uranium-235, is six metres below the floor, underwater in a concrete pool, and has concrete blocks on the surface. The facility is equipped with motion detectors, alarm systems and cameras. Security checks are routine.

Now Dal has decided to get rid of its nuclear reactor for a few reasons; Advancements in technology have made the reactor somewhat obsolete;

the director of the facility, Dr. Amares Chatt, is retiring, and the cost of decommissioning the reactor in the future would only become more expensive.

“Labour costs go up,” says Ilson. “Transportation becomes more difficult if you think, the University of Toronto one was done in 2000 to 2001 – the actual decommissioning. That was prior to 9-11. Security has changed since then. It has become much more expensive – security of materials, storage, but also transportation. As well, getting rid of hazardous waste is now much more expensive, and the fuel and the parts and that are considered potentially hazardous waste. So the costs have gone up a lot.”

The decommissioning of the Slowpoke nuclear reactor will cost the university about \$6 million dollars.

“The actual removal process is very, very safe,” says Ilson. “Essentially, when it’s decommissioned, (the facility) can be released for public use, in what’s called unrestricted use, so the university can move any other research they want there and you don’t have to worry about any radioactivity. There’s nothing left.”

The fuel from the reactor will be shipped back to the U.S. government. The reactor parts, because they’re radioactive, will be taken to a long-term waste storage facility in Chalk River, Ontario.

“The whole process will be over in two years,” says Ilson.

He says he can’t get into specific dates of when everything will happen for security reasons.

“Right now the fuel is beneath six metres of water and surrounded by concrete all around it and on top and below it in alarmed rooms. The security requirements for that are less than when it’s sitting on the floor in the room. It’s much more accessible if a terrorist wanted it. So we don’t talk about when that will happen. Shipping would be a security concern so we don’t talk about shipping dates, or routes.”

For the decommissioning process, Ilson assures students, such as Bates, that they have nothing to worry about.

“Explode?” says Ilson. “No. Not that I know of. If it were to become uncovered, with no water, there would be radiation dose. But don’t forget it’s surrounded by concrete as well. The alarms would go off because they would start picking up the radiation. It’s automatically reloaded with water too. We would be called to investigate. There are backup electrical systems in the event of a power failure so to make sure those pumps work. They are tested routinely.”

“I would hope,” says Bates, “that if the school knows about a nuclear reactor being under our feet, that they would have taken all precautions.”

Opinions

We are what we eat

Food movement about people, not corporations

Rebecca Hoffer
Opinions Contributor

Good to digest. Globally unimpressed. Economically oppressed. Politically obsessed. Abuses unaddressed. Land dispossessed. Social unrest. Radical protest. Deep-fried chicken breast. Cardiac arrest. But morally-expressed, green labels suggest. Have we digressed?

The food movement consists of overlapping and interconnecting issues surrounding the consumption and production of food. It is environmental, political, industrial and agricultural. It varies from human labour rights to animal welfare, from local farms to distant markets, and from world hunger to an epidemic of obesity. And more recently, from social activism to the consumer bandwagon.

However, the food movement, in its various forms, is subject to a fair deal of criticism. In response to the complexities of the problems it challenges, it has become an ideology – one that can attract and convert, but also repel and restrict. It has been packaged and simplified in dualistic terms in order to appeal to the broad audiences it depends upon for its success.

"They have to show that they really are different ... for without such practices it's very difficult to get any political project going," says Gregg Hetherington, an environmental and political anthropology professor at Dalhousie. "On the other hand, you can't be too different, or you won't be able to grow and get a lot of people interested in your cause, or, in the case of organic farming, consuming your products."

However, there are particular dangers associated with any claims of certainty – whenever a single voice purports to provide the answers. In this "packaged" food movement, this voice can easily take on a tone of self-righteousness: moralizing and judgmental.

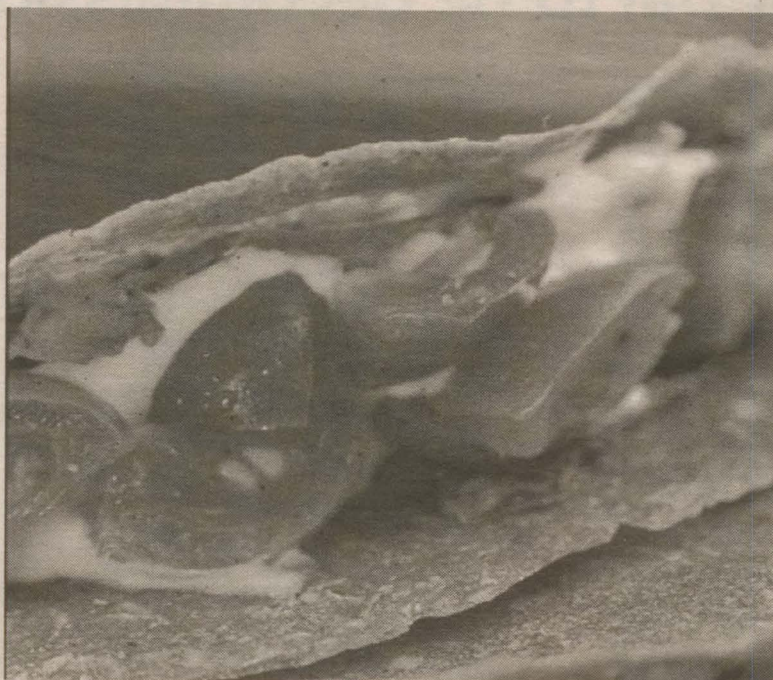
Ideological assumptions and exclusions can be distracting from a movement's practical material aims, leading to misdirected efforts and the potential loss of realistic and viable solution.

"Science, which holds life as mysterious and wondrous, unfairly bears the brunt of the blame apportioned out by the food movement," explains Daniel Morrison, food activist and dedicated member of the Grainery Food Co-operative.

Though he is a proponent of organic food, Morrison explains how an "outright rejection or ban of synthetic compounds" may not be the answer.

"It seems a shame if a farmer is forced out of business due to a pest infestation, simply because a single, targeted application of pesticide that would save, for instance, an entire orchard of trees, is considered unacceptable," he says.

The food movement is based on a



foundation of legitimate and rational concerns, but these are obscured when the emphasis is placed on the exclusionary, puritanical and hypocritical. If the food movement can be relegated to the fringes or dismissed as unreasonable, or alternately, when it is green-washed into meaninglessness, the critical issues avoid being confronted.

Patricia Bishop of Taproot Farms is a local farmer in the Annapolis Valley, offering a weekly community supported

**"The food movement is people," -
Patricia Bishop, Annapolis Valley farmer**

agriculture (CSA) vegetable box with its Halifax drop-off point at the Grainery. She explains that the global issue of struggling farmers, and the food security that is threatened, is not hype.

"Farmers are going out of business," she says. "When this happens we lose skills and knowledge, employment, communities, and in some cases, the agricultural resource: land."

Direct exchanges between farmers and customers, found at farmers' markets and CSAs, play a significant role in ensuring the continued existence of local farms.

"The food movement is people," Bishop says.

Here in Nova Scotia, there is a strong movement of dedicated, knowledgeable, and critical thinkers. There are concerted efforts in the university scene under the minds of Campus Action on Food (CAF), Seemore Green, NSPIRG, SustainDAL, the King's Alternative Food Co-operative Association (KAFCA) and the King's Agricultural Committee among others. There are plans to

enliven our campus space with an Edible Campus, and ideas for a student-run food co-operative. We are part of a growing network of universities, farms, individuals and organizations.

"These fads may come and go, but we should see them as a chance to keep a public conversation alive about how the long-term consequences of our consumption habits, and to diversify the systems of food production and distribution beyond the petroleum-in-

tensive ones that still provides the bulk of our diet," summarizes Herrington.

Although the food movement has grown from grassroots to large-scale corporate advertising campaigns, neither its new packaged image nor its overly-moralizing or exclusionary manifestations should be mistaken for the core of the food movement.

"I do realize that our culture moves in waves of trends," says Bishop. "I am hopeful that this trend will translate into a way of being and that citizens will come to a local-first mindset."

Rather than a subscription to a prepared set of beliefs, it is a movement towards awareness, informed decisions, critical thinking, and localized solutions. It is a movement toward what Morrison calls food literacy: "The knowledge of how to grow, prepare and consume food."

Rebecca Hoff is a member of Campus Action on Food and a second-year student at Dalhousie.

Opinions

Gazette Opinions welcomes any opinion backed up with facts, but we don't publish rants. E-mail Kaley at opinions@dalgazette.com to contribute.



Kaley Kennedy Opinions Editor
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Climate change goes carnal

The ecological impact of eating meat

Megan Tardif-Woolgar
Opinions Contributor

Humans are consuming more meat. The climate is changing. Is there a connection?

The beefy fact is that unsustainable agricultural practices used to meet the ever-increasing demand for animal products have been identified as one of the greatest contributors of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide.

According to the 2006 report published by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the livestock sector alone generates more greenhouse gas emissions (equated to carbon dioxide) than transportation over the entire planet.

First, let's look at land use. When you eat meat, you require more land to produce your food than a vegetarian who eats no meat, and a vegan who eats no animal products. In fact, it takes an average of 10 grams of vegetable protein to generate one gram of animal protein.

This extra land required to grow this livestock feed-grain, usually soybeans, is often generated from clearing rainforest in Brazil.

According to the FAO, the livestock sector is by far the single largest human-generated user of land, accounting for 70 per cent of all agricultural land and 30 per cent of the land surface of the planet.

Once this land has been deforested, it is stripped of most of its carbon sequestering abilities (the ability to store atmospheric carbon or act as a carbon 'sink'). Valuable habitat is also lost to species that aren't soybeans. In addition, livestock production can cause erosion, degraded riparian zones, desertification, sedimentation and nutrient loading of watercourses. All of these issues contribute either directly or indirectly to human-induced climate change.

Poor land use is not the only way livestock racks up the unsustainable points.

The Global Warming Potential (GWP) of a greenhouse gas is a way to quantify how much a specific gas contributes to global warming. The GWP of carbon dioxide, the gas most of us associate with climate change, is one. According to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the livestock sector accounts for nine per cent of human-related emissions from land use issues.

Let's compare this to the nitrous oxide that comes from manure. Nitrous oxide has a GWP 296 times that of carbon dioxide, and the livestock sector accounts for 65 per cent of human related

nitrous oxide emissions. It also accounts for 37 per cent of the methane (with a GWP 23 times that of carbon dioxide). That's right: cow burps and farts are playing a role in our changing climate.

While a diet rich in beast-flesh is helping our climate get nice and toasty, livestock is also a huge drain on our fresh water resources. To produce one kilogram of beef, it takes about 43 times more water than producing one kilogram of grain. How? Producing one kilogram of beef requires about 13 kilograms of grain and 30 kilograms of forage (animal feed) – and that grain and forage needs water to grow, and the cows need water to survive. That means less fresh water.

So what can you do to reduce the environmental impacts of livestock?

I am not suggesting that you become

"That's right: cow burps and farts are playing a role in our changing climate."

a level five vegan: not eating anything that casts a shadow. Small reductions in meat consumption can have a huge impact. For example, if every Canadian replaced chicken with a vegetarian meal once a week for a year, it would equal approximately the same reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as taking 55,000 medium sized cars off the road.

Along with reducing your overall animal product consumption, you can support less environmentally degrading agricultural practices by buying locally produced meat. The farther the meat travels, the more carbon dioxide gets emitted into the atmosphere due to transportation and you can also help out the local economy. Buying organic meat is also helpful since herbicides and pesticides applied to feed can have detrimental effects on the environment.

The world's population is on the rise. To be able to feed a growing population, we as a society need to look at the best land- and water-use practices so that we are not faced with future shortages. Going vegetarian (if only for one day a week) will allow you to literally put your money where your mouth is, supporting the environment by making informed choices.

Megan Tardif-Woolgar is a member of Campus Action on Food.

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Justice, not charity, needed in Haiti

Dave Bush
Staff Contributor

Is Haiti cursed? The question seems to be asked by westerners every time Haiti goes through some crisis, whether it is a flood, coup or earthquake.

"From this catastrophe, which follows so many others, we should make sure that it is a chance to get Haiti once and for all out of the curse it seems to have been stuck with for such a long time," said French President Nicolas Sarkozy days after the recent 7.1 earthquake devastated Haiti.

There it is again, the curse that supposedly lurks behind all of Haiti's problems.

Poverty, political instability, debt and economic backwardness are apparently not the products of historical, economic and political processes but are the result of 200 years of a voodoo deal with the devil.

That obvious fantasy aside, maybe Haiti is suffering from a curse: foreign meddling. Sarkozy, Bush, Obama, Clinton and Harper are merely the latest incarnation. This earthquake destroyed Haiti, but didn't do it alone.

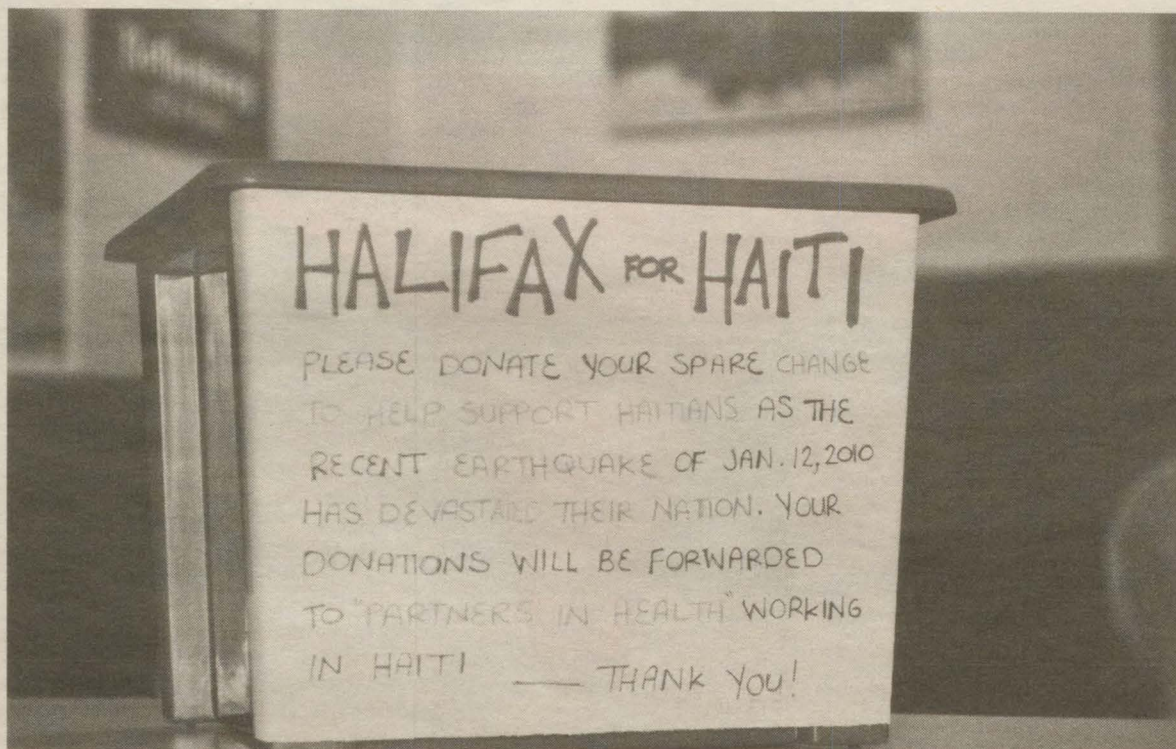
While any earthquake of that magnitude would have caused profound damage in any city, it struck Haiti's economic and political situation, and profoundly exacerbated the earthquake's impact. Now those countries and institutions that have done the most to repress, invade and crush Haiti are now swooping in to "clean up," "rebuild" and occupy.

With friends like these, who needs enemies?

If you want to help the people of Haiti, the first step is to understand the situation. We know that Haiti is the poorest country in the hemisphere. Seventy-five per cent of the population lives on less than \$2 per day, and 56 per cent live on less than \$1 per day. Have you ever asked why?

Haiti, in the 18th century, was the jewel of the French colonial empire. Its slave-harvested sugar plantations were prized above any other French colony. When the French revolution got underway at the end of the 18th century, the slaves of Haiti took the revolutionary slogans more literally than the French radicals. Their demands for radical racial equality culminated in the first successful slave revolution and the founding of the second republic in the hemisphere in 1804.

The British, French and Spanish immediately attacked the new Haitian republic, because these traditional colonial powers feared the spread of slave



Understanding the history of Haiti will help you decide which charity to give to. | Photo by Aleasha Carr

revolts. The Haitians beat off these attacks but it was at a heavy price. In 1825, France, with warships at the ready, demanded Haiti "compensate" France for its loss of a slave colony. Haiti paid "reparations" to France until 1947.

For over a century, the Haitian government suffered from multiple coups and political instability often at the behest of foreign powers. From 1934 until the mid-80s Haiti was ruled by military dictatorship, the Duvalier family and the dreaded paramilitaries, the Tonton Macoutes, all with foreign backing.

In 1990, after popular uprisings in the mid-80s, Haiti elected Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a Roman Catholic Priest, as their first democratically elected president ever.

Aristide was quickly deposed in an American backed coup in 1991. The coup regime committed some of the worst human-rights abuses in modern Haitian history murdering over 4,000 political opponents of the regime.

The Haitian military dictators, forced by international pressure and growing unrest in Haiti, signed a compromise with Aristide. The Americans reinstated Aristide on the condition he support the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank proposals implemented during his exile. Aristide

left office at the end of his term in 1996.

Aristide won his second election in 2000 despite overt American support for his opponents. The response by the Americans and others was swift and harsh. The Bush administration withdrew \$512 million in Inter-American Development Bank loans to Haiti.

The Bush Administration also pressured the World Bank, the IMF, and the European Union to follow with reductions of other planned assistance. Aristide

governments attended the conference. No Haitian officials were present.

In little over a year a rebellion by former Haitian death squad leaders was marching on the capital, Port-au-Prince. Aristide, who had been begging for some kind of assistance in dealing with the rebellion, was taken at gunpoint by American soldiers, forced to sign a "resignation" letter and dumped into the Central African Republic. A cabal of elites backed by U.S., Canadian and

"Those countries and institutions that have done the most to repress, invade and crush Haiti are now swooping in to 'clean up', 'rebuild' and occupy the country."

French Troops then ruled Haiti. After the coup, assassinations, imprisonment and intimidation of members of Aristide's Lavalas movement were commonplace.

The United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, a 10,000-member police, military and administrative regime has been accused of directly and indirectly facilitating this political repression in Haiti. In 2005, a report undertaken by Harvard Law Student Advocates for

repaying the \$21 billion it extorted from Haiti in 1825.

Canada should release all documents related to the Ottawa initiative meeting so we can better see the extent to which

Human Rights claimed that the UN stabilization force "effectively provided cover for the police to wage a campaign of terror in Port-au-Prince's slums." The UN mission spends \$600 million per year – almost double the national budget of the Haitian government.

Haiti, in the years since the coup, has been subject to complete political repression backed by the international community. In the 2006 presidential election lauded by Canada as a free and fair election, Fanmi Lavalas, the biggest political party, was banned along with 13 other political parties.

Throughout all the coups and political turmoil Haiti's debt ballooned. Between 1980 and 2004, Haiti's debt to international organizations and foreign governments more than tripled.

Neoliberal policies pushed by the IMF and World Bank destroyed small farmers in Haiti. In 1995, for example, the IMF forced Haiti to cut its rice tariff from 35 percent to three per cent, leading to a massive increase in rice-dumping, the vast majority of which came from the U.S.

Unable to compete with subsidized agricultural products from the North American and European markets poor and desperate peasants flooded the cities throughout the late 1990s and early 2000s. They cut down trees for firewood, settled in hastily-built slums and on treeless hills. They built their homes where they could, with whatever they could.

The food crisis of 2008 and the massive floods caused by hurricanes led to the cancellation of \$1.2 billion in debt. However, Haiti still owes about \$891 million.

Just a few days after the Earthquake, the IMF issued a \$100 million loan that came with neoliberal conditions, such as wage freezes (the conditions were repealed due to public outcry).

George Bush and Bill Clinton, two Presidents largely responsible for the economic and political destruction of Haiti, are now playing prominent roles as saviours. This is the type of "help" Haiti has been cursed with. Haiti is now flooded with foreign troops – over 32,000 – obsessing with militarizing a humanitarian operation and "securing" Haiti.

Haiti's path to security, however, lies on the road of justice.

As Richard Kim recently wrote: "(It's) time to stop having a conversation about charity and start having a conversation about justice – about recovery, responsibility and fairness. What the world should be pondering instead is: What is Haiti owed?"

DON'T JUST DONATE, DEMONSTRATE

If we care about the plight of the Haitian people we must do more than just give to charity. Here are real actions that we as individuals and as a society call for to stand in solidarity with people in Haiti.

1. Cancel all of Haiti's debt.

2. Get foreign troops out and relief workers in.

3. Canada and other countries must issue Haiti grants.

4. Make immigration for all Haitians to Canada easier.

5. Call for the return of Aristide, the last freely elected President of Haiti.

6. Call for the lifting of the ban of Fanmi Lavalas and all other political parties.

7. Demand France start

repaying the \$21 billion it extorted from Haiti in 1825.

8. Canada should release all documents related to the Ottawa initiative meeting so we can better see the extent to which

Canada helped usurp Haitian democracy.

9. Resist corporate pirates who are trying to profit off reconstruction and misery.



MISSING THESE?



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OVERHEARD AT DAL

At the Post Secret event:
Student: "What state is Maryland in?"

In the Henry Hicks:
Girl: "It's so weird that everyone has a mom ... well, not everyone I guess."

In German class:
Lecturer: "Not reading the novel for yourself is like letting someone else make love to your boyfriend or girlfriend."

In the Student Union Building:
Guy: "So did you hear about the brains for change thing?"
Girl: "Yeah, I heard the CEO of Nova Scotia is gonna be there or something."

In political science class:
Prof: "What destructive weapon does Afghanistan have that we don't?"
Student: "Opium?"

In the Killam:
Girl: "Oh my god, guys - if I die, some-

one has to promise to straighten my hair!"
In the basement of the Student Union Building:
Guy: "I heard, that if you have sex while you're pregnant, your baby gets pregnant too!"

In first-year English:
Guy: "Do we have to use a pencil? Or can we bring our laptops?"
Girl: "Yes, you have to use a pencil, that is, if you know how to write!"
Prof: "If you have any problems with

the writing aspect, come see me in my office or contact Accessibility Services. "

Views expressed in the Hot or Not feature, Overheard at Dal, and Streeter are solely those of the contributing writers or the individual pictured, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. The quotes attributed to John Packman in the Streeter are completely fabricated by the staff and are do not necessarily represent views held by John Packman himself, The Gazette and or its staff.

Question: What is your favourite guilty pleasure food?

Streeter



"McDonald's quarter pounder."

Mathew Omina,
first-year masters of resource and environment management



"Donair pizza covered in donair sauce."

Henry Whitfield,
third-year English student



"Poutine from X-treme Pizza."

Shane Simms,
fourth-year management student



"KFC chicken fingers."

Vinay Rajdev,
first-year masters of resource and environment management



"Reese's peanut butter cups."

Erin Sarge,
second-year recreation management



"Starbucks cookies."

Julie Strother,
second-year management



"Mini eggs."

Martha Miller,
second-year management



"Having a ménage à trois with Mrs. Fields and Aunt Jemima while the Keebler Elves watch."

Matt Ritchie,
seventh-year itch

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Opinions

Rethink security

Leyland Cecco
Staff Contributor

Fresh off a botched attack by Nigerian national Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who was allegedly acting at the behest of al-Qaida, the apparent best response by aviation authorities and governments is to deny people from getting out of their seats an hour before the flight lands and installing body scanners in airports.

The Gazette previously published a denunciation of these scanners, so we can skip over the privacy issue. These Orwellian machines are touted in the name of enhanced national and international security. But are they really a necessary addition to the swath of security measures in place? Come to think of it, how worried should we be about terrorism?

Undoubtedly, Abdulmutallab's botched Christmas day attack highlights the fact that terrorists (especially Al-Qaida) are still trying to attack airplanes.

The U.S. had all the information they needed on him prior to his flight. Information from Yemen had sounded alarms within the bureaucracies of the CIA and NSA. The problem arose from miscommunication between the agencies and the aviation authorities. As Obama noted, the "dots weren't connected."

If the bits and pieces of information had been aligned, would the attack have been prevented? Probably. Would have he been stopped with a body scanner? Maybe not.

Here's why: without crucial communications, body scanners can be ineffective.

Prior to 9-11, the threat of terrorism was not a new phenomenon. There were hundreds of lives lost to hijackers and bombers targeting airplanes. Security measures were in place. But the attacks still happened.

Subsequent reports written afterwards point again to miscommunication. While there were many documents warning of an al-Qaida attack prior to Sept. 11, poor intra-agency discourse rendered the information useless. To counter this fault, stricter security standards were in place. But if enhanced security measures prevented attempted attacks, we wouldn't be discussing Abdulmutallab's underwear fiasco. Miscommunication and inefficient handling of sensitive information are the problem, and the answer isn't a body scanner.

So maybe we need to focus on better handling of information. But isn't al-Qaida a huge threat? Isn't that what Fox News so eloquently tells us? Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh seem to think so. It's what Obama is accused of being so soft on.

If you want to play the statistics game, the best place to look is statistics-smith Nate Silver. Silver gained mass recognition for his number crunching during the 2008 presidential election, where he successfully predicted the results (except for two states.)

He had also predicted Obama's primary victory when he realized the polling done by many major groups was just plain shitty.

So Silver, on his website, www.fivethirtyeight.com, tackles the 'Odds of Airborne Terror'. He notes that for every 16,553,385 departures, there is one terrorist incident. Over the last 10 years, the odds of boarding one of those flights were one in 10,408,947. Not bad. For reference, he calculates the odds of being struck by lightning as one in 500,000. Pretty good.

If numbers aren't really your thing, there's another way to look at it.

Is al-Qaida getting stronger, or weaker? Slate.com's Timothy Noah confronts this question. After the 9-11 attacks, the U.S. essentially decimated al-Qaida's infrastructure. More than two-thirds of its leadership was killed or captured. Khalid Sheik Mohammed, the 'architect' behind the September attacks is in jail and will soon be tried in civil court.

Citing Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Lawrence Wright, Noah claims 80 per cent of al Qaida's Afghanistan membership was killed, and al-Qaida's numbers are probably around 200 to 300.

"At the very least, U.S. forces set back the al-Qaida hierarchy by several years.

"Miscommunication and inefficient handling of sensitive information are the problem, and the answer isn't a body scanner."

At most, the United States may have destroyed permanently al-Qaida's ability to operate as a centrally run enterprise, reducing its chairman, Osama Bin Laden, and its CEO, Ayman al-Zawahiri, to symbolic figureheads rather than hands-on leaders," says Noah. This also looks pretty good.

According to Noah's thoroughly researched evaluation of the situation, the threat of terrorism isn't as bad as it used to be. So why are we letting more and more security measures be implemented to counter a dwindling risk?

It seems as though the move to implement body scanners isn't so much a product of risk calculation and analysis of the threat, but a move to suggest that airborne terrorism is a bigger danger than it might actually be.

Governments need to get back to the drawing board, but first rethink their communication skills and ability to handle sensitive information before they head into the future like it's 1984.



How a plant grows! | Photo supplied

Edible Campus

Dalhousie chapter could promote ethical lifestyle changes

Gwendolyn Muir
Opinions Contributor

The local food movement in Halifax is on the rise. Animated market-goers crowd Saturday buses and sidewalks around Hollis Street at sunrise. Students in Halifax rally for more local, ethically-sourced food, and seeds are sowed for the coming summer's urban gardens. Yet there may not be enough home-grown handouts to meet demand.

On bleak January mornings, Saturday market stands are often emptied well before noon. Exclusive contracts at Dalhousie and SMU allow corporations such as Sodexo and Aramark to dish out food sourced from across the globe, supplanting local production while student gardeners are confined to a few raised beds. In a world of growing food insecurity and environmental degradation, the importance of local food is taking on new dimensions. Not only is locally-sourced food often healthier and more ecologically sound, it's accessible too; when the weather is right it can be grown in backyards and even on our own university campuses.

According to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, at least half of Canada's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (350 million tonnes) are under the jurisdiction of municipal governments. Sourcing food locally comes hand in hand with the needed 'greening' of our own urban campus and consumer habits: local agriculture means reducing waste, packaging, food miles, salvaging reusable plastic containers, promoting composting, and minimizing the "heat island" of hot concrete spaces. Ur-

ban gardening allows us to be a part of the food process, while making use of underutilized, neglected or leftover spaces in urban areas. In addition, gardening fosters a sense of community. Gardens provide an opportunity for people to come together and share in what they've helped to create, promoting active community and social cohesion. Maybe above all, gardens teach their growers hands-on skills and can alter lifestyle choices for coming generations.

In the past few years, Canadian universities have begun successful urban agriculture initiatives, including at UQAM (Université de Québec à Montréal), the University of Toronto, and McGill University. McGill University's "Edible Campus" is one that has made headlines across Canada and internationally and was featured by the BBC as the winner of the 2008 National Urban Design Award. It is a partnered initiative between the McGill School of Architecture's Minimum Cost Housing Group and two Montreal NGOs, Alternatives and Santropol Roulant.

The project site is not that of a typical garden: a concrete-covered courtyard surrounds a 13-storey building, with the whir of Sherbrooke Street traffic only a few metres away. In 2008, the project consisted of 123 large plastic containers that produced 177 kilograms of produce. Last summer, the number grew to 225 containers, and a 100-square-metre raised garden bed was set up on a concrete rooftop, yielding an even greater harvest. All the vegetables and fruits produced in the garden are used by Santropol Roulant, a local food-focused group that helps to maintain the garden as well as

cook and deliver meals to community members with a limited mobility.

Christopher DeWolf from Spacing Toronto writes: "The Edible Campus has given a real sense of place to what was previously an empty space. Put a bunch of plants in some boxes on a concrete tarmac, it seems, and you'll not only grow a large volume of healthy fruits and vegetables, you will create a spot where people can meet, mingle and interact with food they might otherwise find, processed and packaged, on supermarket shelves."

This coming spring a new student group, Campus Action on Food (CAF), hopes to be a part of a similar initiative here on campus along with other supportive societies. The containerized garden model as developed at McGill is easily adaptable, made from mostly recycled materials such as large buckets, election signs, yogurt containers, tubing, pop bottles and tie wraps. Food would be grown by and for the community in container gardens situated on the unused, open concrete spaces here at Dalhousie, transforming the university into an edible campus.

The group hopes that this project would provide students and community members with nutritious and ethically-sourced food, while challenging the corporate food monopoly that exists on campus.

I Gwendolyn Muir volunteered for Santropol Roulant last summer and worked at the Edible Campus at McGill. She is also a part of Campus Action on Food..



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happens. Dedication. Determination. Passion. Whatever. I have no fundamental problem with the ads, and I think Stern has the right idea with NBA Cares, but the ad campaign is specifically geared towards convincing the average viewer that the league is brimming with amazing, hard-working, moralistic, responsible citizens. God forbid anything should happen to explode that notion. Maybe all of Stern's remodelling has changed the league's persona, but it hasn't actually changed the players. They may show up to games looking spiffy, keep their mouths shut when they're unhappy with an official, and do charity work, but most of them still do a lot of reckless, stupid shit. We shouldn't have to be surprised when they do, because we shouldn't be asked to

Arts

Arts
Gazette Arts covers cultural happenings in the Halifax community. You heard it here first. E-mail Laura or Matt at arts@dalgazette.com to contribute.



Laura Dawe Arts Editor
arts@dalgazette.com

On the road again

Samson works his solo magic at Dead of Winter festival

Nick Laugher
Staff Contributor

“(In Winnipeg) there’s this beautiful sense of potential. I think that if you really want to do something, you can do it here.”

It’s this kind of humble sincerity has embedded itself in the veins and flows out of the mouth of John K. Samson, lead singer and songwriter for Canada’s beloved indie stalwarts The Weakerthans. Aside from being the driving force behind one of Canada’s most accomplished independent acts, Samson is also responsible for running the small but dedi-

“I liked the idea that I have eight minutes to say something about this one place, this one road,” says Samson. “It was kind of an exercise, I had to be concise and direct ... plus, (The Weakerthans) have never had a seven-inch ... and I really like vinyl!”

While admittedly sharing a love/hate relationship with his home province – “One Great City!” Is a prime example – Samson is more than willing to cite growing up there as central to his identity and affectionately pays homage to it with this solo venture.

“Growing up in Manitoba, if you said you were a publisher, a musician or a poet,

“The Weakerthans have played a lot of big, ugly rooms, so it was nice to play rooms that were gorgeous and had some soul, because at least if I sucked, then the room was still beautiful,” says Samson, tongue-in-cheek.

Beautiful venues and the love of a humble, honest city are also responsible for attracting Samson to Halifax, where he will play a solo show at St. Patrick’s Church for the Dead of Winter festival on Jan. 29.

“I’ve always really loved Halifax and when they invited me and I thought, ‘Well no one’s really invited me to this kind of thing before, and I heard the venue was beautiful,’” remarks Samson. “It just sounded like a very enjoyable evening.”

Weakerthans fans fear not – the band is by no means deteriorating. Samson is quick to announce that this solo project is not an attempt to begin a new career as a solo artist.

“This was a fun, personal thing that I wanted to do – very low key,” Samson explains. “It’s not that I didn’t think it would work with The Weakerthans. The idea just felt like a solo project.”

Though they’re slowly working on a new album – “Bits and pieces at a time” says Samson – The Weakerthans are, and always have been, predominantly a live band. Samson attributes this largely to getting his feet wet playing bass and touring with Canada’s politico-thrashpunk alumni Propagandhi before leaving to start The Weakerthans.

“It made me realize that I love playing for crowds and, though it’s a hard lifestyle to adapt to, I love touring,” says Samson nostalgically.

The Weakerthans are certainly well known for their energetic live performance and workhorse dedication to touring. In 2009 they embarked on a cross-Canada tour from St. John’s to Whitehorse dubbed the “Rolling Tundra Revue”. The tour included two sold out hometown shows at the Burton Cummings Theatre in Winnipeg which the band will release as the live CD/DVD “The Weakerthans: Live at the Burton Cummings Theatre” on March 23. Samson admits it’s an idea that’s been kicking around in the back of their minds for a while and that the welcoming embrace and energy of the Winnipeg shows inspired them to finally take the plunge.

Following Samson’s solo performance in Halifax, The Weakerthans plan to head down under for an Australian tour before settling back down in Canada to immerse themselves once more in the crafting of their forthcoming album.

Samson’s City Route 85, which is available through Epitaph and ANTI records, continues the intricate character-based storytelling approach that

Samson lyrically embarked on with The Weakerthans’ 2007 album Reunion Tour.

“I’ve always wanted to be a writer,” says Samson. “My first goal was always to write fiction and this is the only way I really know how to do it – in three minute pop songs. I’m interested in human beings, not so much in my own daily life ... I’m interested in exploring and trying to understand other lives, to spread those stories around to people. I think everyone goes through a phase where they’re more interested in themselves.

There’s always that misanthropic phase that writers go through, but some people stay with that ... they refuse to find anything good about humanity. But me, I’m just completely captivated by it all.”

You can bask in Samson’s unique blend of deeply profound, intimate folk music, storytelling and dry humour as he performs songs from his new solo release and The Weakerthans’ catalogue on Jan. 29 at St. Patrick’s Church in Halifax.



Samson says he can’t stay away from the welcoming city of Halifax | Photo supplied

cated publishing company Arbiter Ring, which tirelessly contributes to a plethora of musical projects outside of the band.

Recently, Samson has embarked on a solo venture: a series of three seven-inch vinyl and digital releases over the course of a year and a half, all inspired by roads and highways in Manitoba. This is Samson’s first release as a solo artist since sharing a six-song split EP with Manitoba punk band Painted Thin in 1995. Opting to release a series of vinyl and digital releases in lieu of an album, Samson believes it was the challenge of the medium that lured him in.

people took you at your word – and you were,” says Samson. “The centres of the country, they require you to have some kind of qualifications to do these things.”

Samson, who indeed does succeed at pushing boundaries as a brilliant and influential poet, musician and publisher, has just stepped off a small European tour as the opener for German-band Kettcar in support of the first release of his solo project entitled City Route 85. Samson admits that the aspect of the tour that appealed to him the most was the beautiful architecture and ambiance of the venues.

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Arts

The Last Supper

Let's Get Baked throws in the gloves

Cheryl Hann
Staff Contributor

For more than six years Mat Dunlap and Dave Ewenson – co-founders of local record label Just Friends – have invited you into their kitchen, and you've invited them into yours. Let's Get Baked, the cooking show that welcomes you musicians, and hilarity into Dunlap's Allan Street apartment has been a CKDU staple since 2004. Soon, much to the chagrin of local vegans who crave soup recipes, CKDU will be retiring the show.

"Time to hang up our aprons," says Dunlap "This has been an extremely busy year for us with some of the others projects we do."

No kidding. With signed acts such as Brent Randall, The Stance and Laura Peek, the Just Friends label is quickly becoming a local music powerhouse. Add in the fact that Ewenson drums in a fistful of bands, and Dunlap designs websites for some of Canada's best indie acts, and you've got a recipe for more than just soup; you've got a recipe for success. But if you love Let's Get Baked so much that your copy of The Gazette is now stained with eye-brine, relax. Mat and Dave are planning on releasing a cookbook! "We've been planning it out for a few years now," says Dunlap. "Basically, we're planning on taking all of the recipes, tips, tricks and facts that we've learned over the years and putting them together as a book."

Tips and tricks they've picked up from the likes of Brian Borchardt, Julie Doiron and Buck 65.

"We've already talked to many of our past guests, and they're all game for contributing. We hope to make it action packed." And what's more: "We also want to get some talented local artists to help us make it visually mind blowing, so that you can enjoy reading it even if you don't cook."

But you'll want to cook, and what you cook will be primarily vegan – and wholly delicious.

"We've made a lot of fun recipes over the years," says Ewenson. "A fire cracker cookie." It's exactly what it sounds like: a cookie strapped to a small explosive. "A chocolate mountain fountain that spits syrup, a skull carved out of seitan that spits sweet and sour sauce. Those dishes would fall under the category of concept recipes."

There will also be plenty of regular old dishes if your palate hates experiments. Just in case you're illiterate and have asked your friend to read you this article, CKDU will still air LGB reruns during the coveted 4 a.m. to 6 a.m. time slot," Ewenson jokes. "Sorry we couldn't do it more, but after six years we realized that volunteering is for suckers."

If that's not the fond farewell you've been looking for, Dunlap offers something a littler friendlier: "Don't be afraid to have some fun in the kitchen and experiment a bit. And of course," he adds, referencing a long running joke on the show: "drink more maple syrup."

You can check out Let's Get Baked on CKDU 88.1 FM, Thursdays at 5 p.m. Or, look up the Just Friends roster at <http://www.justfriends.ca>.

All up in your grill

New veggie options at The Grill are disappointing

Hannah Griffin
Staff Contributor

Grade: C+

I went for lunch at The Grill in the SUB, excited to test out the three new vegetarian options with a friend, and left with the stale test of mediocrity in my mouth.

The three new vegetarian options offered are the vegetable fajita, the vegetable melt and the falafel wrap. Unfortunately, despite my best efforts I wasn't able to try the fajita, because our orders were not communicated well to the chef. Even though we politely asked if we could have the original order, we were denied. We ended up with two falafels and the veggie melt.

Though it lacked character, the falafel wrap was definitely superior to the vegetable melt. The diced falafel inside the large white tortilla was crunchy, warm and plentiful. There were also generous amounts of diced tomato, cucumber and lettuce. The downside to this was the sticky salad dressing sauce poured over the whole mixture, which masked some of the taste of the falafel. This fairly healthy choice could

be improved by the addition of loose, protein rich chickpeas, the inclusion of more exciting vegetables, and by using a whole-grain tortilla instead of white.

The falafel wrap was satisfactory, but the vegetable melt was a far cry from decency. The idea of a vegetarian melt with tofu, cheese and veggies sounds good in theory, but in practice, at The Grill, it fails. The slices of tofu are thin and greasy, sitting atop a sparse, mushy vegetable mixture. There was a green vegetable inside the melt I could not identify. Pickles? Soggy cucumbers? Whatever they were, the combination of vegetables produced a flavour that was unappetizing enough for my friend to leave the second half uneaten. The cheese also was not completely melted. The only redeeming parts of this sandwich were the bread. The thick, crusty whole-wheat bun did what it could to mask the bizarre mixture of flavours inside it.

The new vegetarian options at The Grill seem to lack thought and attention to detail. Although they are healthier than many of the other on campus options, and are affordable at fewer than \$8 each, I do not see any more falafels or not-fully-melted melts in my future.

Pulp Fiction

Samantha Chown
Arts Contributor

Before Pulp Fiction was synonymous with a Quentin Tarantino movie, it had a different meaning. It stood for the "pulp" paperbacks that featured stories of fantasy and man's struggle against what he can't quite control. Its newest incarnation is the title of the current art exhibit at the Saint Mary's University Art Gallery.

The artwork deals with the condition of humanity and internal struggle, wrapped up in a fantasy that pokes fun at pop culture. Curator Corinna Ghaznavi says the artwork can't be pinned down to one story.

Organized and circulated by Museum London, the exhibit features artists Marc Bell, Tasha Brotherton, Mark DeLong, Barry Doupe, Shayne Ehman, Liz Garlicki, James Kirkpatrick, Amy Lockhart, Jason McLean, Jennie

O'Keefe, Seth Scriver, The Lions and Peter Thompson. Each of these artists has worked together collaboratively or shown together, making their work complementary for a great exhibit.

Jason McLean and Mark DeLong use found objects such as baseballs, baseball gloves, hats and briefcases on which to paint their messages. Their pieces entice you to press your nose to the glass for a closer look.

Jennie O'Keefe's porcelain dolls are tucked away in an alcove off the main room. Enter this room because the dolls, especially "My Job Makes My Head Hurt" and "Mr. C. Goose", are hilarious and cheeky.

The best parts of the exhibit are Marc Bell and Peter Thompson's ink drawings. If you know anything about the phenomenon that is J.R.R. Tolkien (one of pulp fiction's originals), You might like Bell and Thompson's collection of drawings entitled "The Hobbit".

These comics are laugh-out-loud funny.

The only drawback is that the whole picture is hard to take in the first time. The drawings are so incredibly detailed they demand total concentration. If their message seems as if it's finally sinking in, another character all of a sudden pops out of the background of every drawing.

This is a typical problem for most of the artwork. There's just not enough time to spend with each piece. One of the animations by Seth Scriver and Shayne Ehman is 40 minutes long itself. If the exhibit is overwhelming, come back later, or make sure to purchase the short zines by the artists as a souvenir.

The gallery is located at 5865 Gorsebrook Ave. The artists' talk, performance and catalogue launch is Thursday Feb. 18 at 8 p.m. with James Kirkpatrick and Peter Thompson. The exhibit runs until Feb. 21.

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

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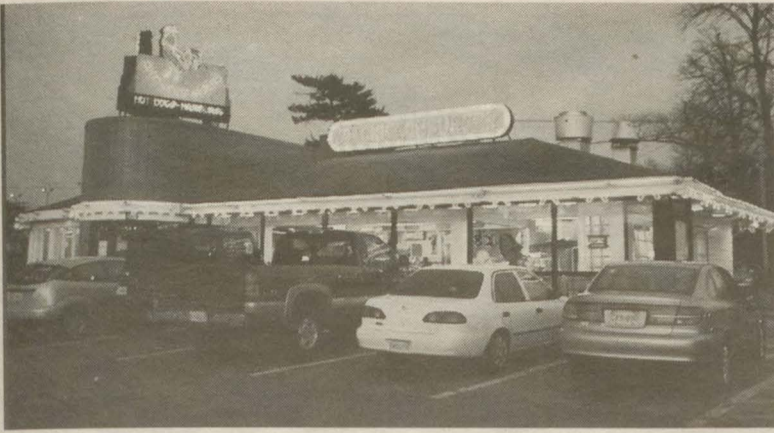
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Deadline for applications is March 1, 2010.

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orthoptics@iwk.nshealth.ca
(902) 470-8959



The Chickenburger

Nova Scotian classic leaves bad taste in mouth

Matthew Ritchie
Assistant Arts Editor

Grade: C+

"You haven't experienced Nova Scotia until you've had The Chickenburger." "It's the best food in the Maritimes." "Delicious!"

These are the accolades I encountered upon my trip to the infamous Chickenburger. Created on March 10, 1940, by the Innes family, The Chickenburger has served up diner food to the HRM's masses for decades. Known for being the first drive-thru in Canada, The Chickenburger garners some of the most attention when it comes to food in Nova Scotia. Next to donairs and garlic fingers, this is one of the most referenced food items when tourists and out of province students ask what to eat.

However, much like the film *Avatar*, this food item is overrated and contains more glitz than substance.

Upon pulling up into The Chickenburger's parking lot on a Friday afternoon in Bedford I was greeted with bright neon lights and cars filled with teenagers. It felt exactly like the 1950s, but instead of Buddy Holly playing from Chryslers, T-Pain was playing from Civics.

Walking up the asphalt incline into the main entrance I encountered a soda shop seating area and a larger take-out area.

Walking over to the take-out section I was greeted by a young (perhaps 16-year-old) girl, surrounded by four other high school aged girls talking away. When I ordered the classic Chickenburger, I was asked whether I would like it in my hand or to go. Yes, at The Chickenburger, the main option to go is by having one of the staff place the food in your hand rather than wrap it up to go. For some this is where the kitsch factor lies. The food is apparently so good that taking it in your hand is a normal thing to do at the restaurant. I wish the reason was that by doing this you can consume the delicious food faster, but it seems more likely that this is an attempt to save money on supplies such as napkins and packaging.

I requested my burger in a bag and began to leave. Following me, an elderly gentleman ordered three Chickenburgers.

In a parked car outside the diner, I removed the Chickenburger from its packaging and began to fantasize about what lay inside. A juicy chicken breast slathered in mayonnaise and ketchup with crisp lettuce and a fresh tomato? Possibly grill marks would adorn this dirty bird, keeping all the tender flavour inside. Instead I was faced with the Pandoras

Box of foods. In my hands were two plain hamburger buns that appeared to be from Ben's Bakery. Inside was chunked chicken. The burger was wet. Juice dripped down my hand. I wondered: "Is this gravy?" Nay. It was too light to be traditional gravy.

I looked inside the store and noticed one worker dipping a ladle into a deep steaming pot, pulling up chunks of chicken and placing it on a customer's bun. I walked inside and requested something to go on the sandwich. I was informed that the Chickenburger is known for being just chicken with no fixings. I was directed toward a squirt bottle of ketchup.

The Chickenburger is a truly unusual meal. What you get is bland chicken chunks that could have come from a can. And bread. It is the closest I have come to eating a meal that makes me imagine what it must have been like to eat dinner during The Great Depression.

The other big problem with the Chickenburger is that it's not a burger at all. It is simply chicken slops. When I invite someone over for sloppy joes, I don't say, "Why don't you come to my place and we'll have some burgers." Instead I say, "How 'bout some sloppy joes? I made them extra sloppy for you." I would also tell them that I was drunk, as that would be the only way someone would understand the origin of this item.

The Chickenburger costs \$3.50. It may be the Sham Wow of all foods. That said, what the Chickenburger does best happens to be fish and chips. Their website says that it is made with fresh haddock, and the deep fried food may be the most pleasing item on the menu. The fries are crispy and light and make up slightly for the confusing meal I had previously consumed.

The Chickenburger is a restaurant that carries a long tradition in Nova Scotia. Eating at this location is certainly a rite of passage for many new Haligonians. But in a province with so many one-of-a-kind foods, chunks of chicken on bread seems to be a bit of a cop out. A much more logical focus would be on items such as Pictou County Pizza – perhaps the best-seasoned pizza outside of Italy. Let us not forget Darell's Peanut Butter Burger – the best burger combination since deep fried onion rings began to top patties of meat.

The Chickenburger certainly offers a unique dining experience that caters to those who wonder what it would be like to live in the '50s. The service is excellent for such young workers, and the décor is fun. But next time you're craving chicken, maybe Burger King would be a better option.

Nature of Description

MacLean's new exhibit teaches a thing or two

Erica Eades
Staff Contributor

Just inside the Eyelevel Gallery entrance at 2063 Gottingen St., there is an immediate scent of fresh paint. The harsh, white walls are adorned with a series of vivid paintings, which surround a single photograph in the centre of the room. An old projector displays a silent film on the front wall, while a television screen in the back is frozen on an image of a teenage girl.

Nature of Descriptions is the latest exhibit by Halifax-based artist, Aaron Weldon MacLean. The collection was inspired by a photo found in the archives of his late father. It shows a family-planning class at Tantallon Junior High School in the early 1990s. In the photo are about 25 students, a teacher, an infant, and the infant's mother.

With the help of a small group of local artists and performers, MacLean re-enacted the class in the form of a silent film. The film portrays a teacher instructing her students on the basics of childcare. It is set to play on a continuous loop, while being projected on the front wall of the gallery.

The exhibit also features a series of four paintings by the artist. They depict a woman holding a baby, a profile of a female student, an infant in a small tub and a class picture.

On the Eyelevel Gallery website, MacLean says of his work: "I have tended to employ different modes of painting that imply photography or collage, hiding representation with geometrical shapes and referring to disparate modes of picture-making through paint."

True to this idea, MacLean's paintings feature abstract images that are combined with details so precise, they



The images depicted vibrant blurred backgrounds juxtaposed with realistic facial features.

| Photo by

could be photographs. The bodies and backgrounds blur together in a collage of vibrant colours, while the faces of the characters are frighteningly realistic.

MacLean has also painted large, light-blue boxes on the walls and floor of the gallery. While some remain blank, others have somewhat cryptic text written in them, such as "im-

print," "fruit tree" and "forgetfulness."

MacLean, who has shown his work internationally, has a very clear vision for this exhibit. As he says on the gallery website: "My intention with this project is to use visual inheritance as a point of departure in exploring the relationship between formal aspects of images and their historical or informational content."

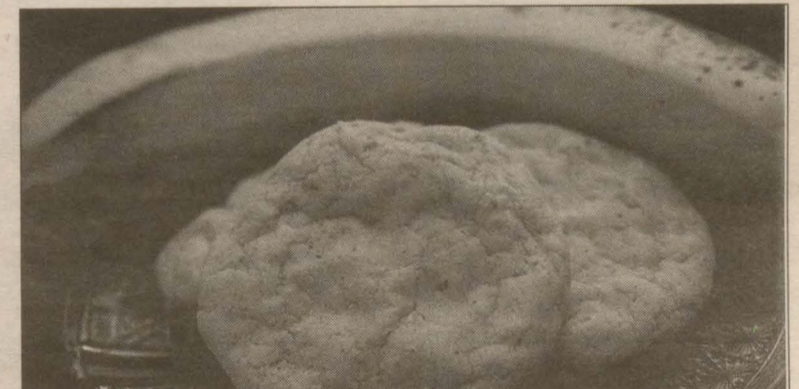
Going ape for banana cookies

Madalyn Hamann
Arts Contributor

When I have overripe bananas sitting out on the counter, my first instinct is usually to make banana bread out of them. With my latest bunch I was going to, but after coming across this recipe for banana cookies, I changed my mind immediately. These cookies are soft in texture, but not crumbly, and the added spices do wonders for enhancing the flavour of the bananas.

Ingredients:

1/2 cup (1 stick) of unsalted butter, room temperature
1 cup of sugar
1 egg, room temperature
1 cup of mashed bananas (about 2 1/2 large bananas)
1 teaspoon of baking soda (if you don't have any baking soda on hand, you can substitute with baking powder; just use two teaspoons.)
2 cups of flour
pinch of salt
1/2 teaspoon of ground cinnamon



1/2 teaspoon of ground mace or nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon of ground cloves
1 cup of pecans (walnuts and chocolate chips are good alternatives)

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Cream the butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. Add the egg and continue to beat until the mixture is light and fluffy. In a bowl, mix the mashed bananas and baking soda. Let it sit for 2

minutes. The baking soda will react with the acid in the bananas, which in turn will give the cookies their lift and rise.

Mix the banana mixture into the butter mixture. Mix together the flour, salt and spices, and sift in the butter, banana mixture and mix until just combined. Fold the pecans into the batter. Drop dollops onto greased baking sheet. Bake for 11 to 13 minutes or until nicely golden brown. Let cool on wire racks.

Adapted from simplyrecipes.com

Arts

Softcore

Alexisonfire singer brings acoustic songs to Halifax

Meriha Beaton
Arts Contributor

Canadian based singer/songwriter Dallas Green is on the road again, and he won't be going home in the near future.

"I don't have any plans to stop any time soon," says Green. "There is nothing but touring to do." The Juno-winning artist, who is currently touring the U.S., will be hitting up the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium on Feb. 1, and due to his growing popularity, a second Halifax show was added for Feb. 2.

"All of the shows have been very well attended," says Green.

Green's passion for music began at the age of eight, when his parents gave him his first guitar. After a few years he began to fall in love with it.

"After that it was kind of a no brainer in my head – it was music," he says. "It was the only thing I really wanted to do – it was the only thing I really felt that I was getting good at."

Green's big break came in 2001, when he joined the band Alexisonfire. The band's aggressive, punk sound was offset by Green's smooth and powerful voice. In 2005, Alexisonfire's second album reached platinum and the band won a Juno for New Group of the Year.

The success of the band encouraged Green to pursue a solo career. In 2005 he released his first solo record, *Sometimes*, under the name City and Colour. The album was a compilation of songs Green had written over the years, covering themes of heartbreak and homesickness. *Sometimes* was not only a crossover into a solo career for Green, it also introduced an entirely new sound.

"I am just a big music fan, that is all it is," he explains when asked about his diverse styles. "I have always leaned towards loud aggressive music since I was a kid, but at the same time I also really dig melody and simple songs. I am just really inspired by music and end up writing different sorts of songs."

Originally inspired by Jeff Buck-

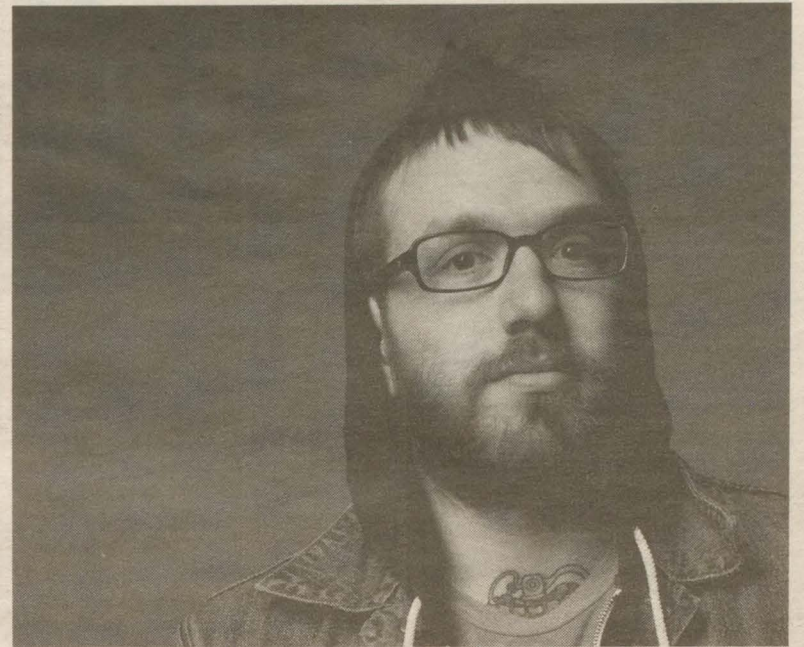
ley to become a musician, Green says his music is more inspired by what he doesn't like, than what he does.

"Certain things that I love make me almost depressed in a way, where I think: 'This is so good. Why would anyone want to listen to what I'm doing?' Whereas things I don't like, I'll see on TV. or in a magazine and I think to myself: 'Well, that is something I really don't want to be like. I'm going to write a song that has nothing to do with that.'"

His honest and heartfelt songs are relatable to fans, as they discuss the pain and heartbreak experienced in everyday life. The ability to write such beautifully relatable songs comes from his personal experiences.

"I can't seem to write a song that doesn't involve myself," says Green. "Maybe it is because I am selfish."

In 2008, Green released his second album with City and Colour, *Bring Me Your Love*. In this album he experimented with a different sound and more complex lyrics.



Dallas Green will play at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium Feb. 1 | Photo by Jess Baumung

Having written the songs on *Sometimes* when he was a teenager, he says *Bring Me Your Love* is a more mature album that focuses on the experiences he's had in adulthood and is reflective of who he is now. "The first songs were much more

woe is me, heartbreak and relationship type songs, because when you are younger you think it is the end of the world," says Green. "The new one is more about me getting older, and realizing there are more things to life."

Where the vegetarians roam

How to eat healthy when you're a meatatarian

Alex Bruvels
Staff Contributor

I am the furthest one could be from a vegetarian. There is nothing I like more than sinking my carnivorous teeth into a cut of rare prime rib or a fatty piece of Brome Lake duck. As of late, however, I have noticed a shift in my appetite.

It started when I was conned into a vegetarian pizza by a hippie friend of mine. It was in a tiny family owned pizzeria in small town New York State last summer. I recall thinking: "Vegetarian pizza? What a crock!" To my surprise and delight I was presented with a delicate blend of several cheese including chevre and fresh mozzarella, fresh cherry tomatoes, green peppers, eggplant, aromatic mushrooms and a blend of spices that was enough to tantalize the taste buds of even the most cynical meat lover.

I began to question my previous meatatarian ways. Was it possible that vegetarian food wasn't all bad? Whenever I ate out at restaurants, I began to sample the vegetarian options on the menu and found that more often than not they were superb.

Heather McGuire, a fourth-year political science student at Dalhousie has been a vegetarian for two and a half years, mainly for health and ethical reasons. Some of her favourite places include Satisfaction, Pete's Froutique, Sushi Nami and the Wooden Monkey.

When asked how it was finding good vegetarian options at regular restaurants, she said that it was usually pretty easy to find at least one or two entrée options, and salads were usually a safe bet. Many restaurants in an effort to be somewhat vegetarian-friendly in-

corporate at least one or two options on their menu. The following are a few restaurants in Halifax worth checking out for their vegetarian options.

Chaba Thai (5234 Blowers St.)

Genre: Casual Thai dining.
Dish: Cashew vegetables: stir fried zucchini, peppers, green beans, snow peas, onions, carrots, in a chilli paste sauce garnished with toasted cashews.
Cost: \$11

Chives (1537 Barrington St.)

Genre: Casual, extraordinary dining with an emphasis on seasonal and fresh Nova Scotian ingredients.
Dish: Stuffed portobello mushroom cap with grilled autumn vegetable salad, macaroni and three cheeses, poached garlic and greenhouse cherry tomato salad.
Cost: \$19

Coastal Café (2731 Robe St.)

Genre: Café layout but to chalk up the food as anything less than exceptional is an understatement.
Dish: Mexican vegetable, bean, Spanish rice burrito with jack cheese, guacamole and salsa.
Cost: \$9.50

The Carleton (1685 Argyle St.)

Genre: Casual, yet understated; a smattering of Canadian pub food and fine dining dishes brought to a more approachable level.
Dish: Grilled vegetable Napoleon: grilled layers of Portobello, zucchini, eggplant, fennel, peppers and onions, with goat cheese and balsamic drizzle. It is also served with house salad.
Cost: \$13.75

The Wooden Monkey (1707 Grafton St.)

Genre: Emphasis on organic and locally grown. A strong commitment to health and a strong aversion to deep fryers (they don't have one). Also a strong presence of vegan and vegetarian options are available.
Dish: Seitan sandwich: sliced seitan, lettuce, tomato, white cheddar, mushrooms, onions and mayo in a thin pita.
Cost: \$14

Saege (5883 Spring Garden Rd.)

Genre: Bistro highlighting a wide variety of tantalizing pastas and pizzas in a crisp urban setting.
Dish: Oven roasted manicotti ricotta, goat cheese, seared asparagus, wilted rocket and cauliflower veloute.
Cost: \$19

The Greek Village (6253 Quinpool Rd.)

Genre: Tiny and inviting, the food makes you feel like you're actually back in your mom's kitchen ... if your mom is Greek.
Dish: Spanakopita: phylo pastry stuffed with spinach and feta cheese. It is also served with Greek salad, roasted potatoes and rice.
Cost: \$10.45

So as much as it may pain you to tear yourself away from that same medium-rare tenderloin or slightly varying chicken dish you've been ordering every time you've dined out over the past five years – take a chance. Take a chance on vegetables and you may be pleasantly surprised; at the very least your mom will be happy.

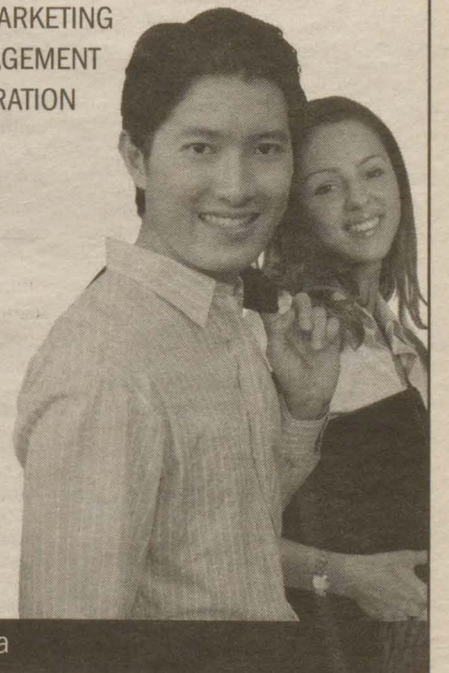
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As far as we know, Arenas could be a much better guy than James. He could also be a much worse guy. The fact is we have no idea. But we know what the NBA wants us to think, which is why we should be wary of how these things colour our perception of Arenas, and all the hell-raisers that have preceded him. And if James were in fact to find himself in a sticky situation in the future, wouldn't it be more beneficial to him, and the NBA, if players were marketed as mere human beings, instead of the infallible heroes they're currently made out to be?

Sports

Sports

Gazette Sports covers athletic events and topics relevant to Dalhousie. E-mail Joel at sports@dalgazette.com to contribute



Joel Tichinoff **Sports Editor**
sports@dalgazette.com

Can he save the Tigers?

Interview with new athletics director John MacDonald

Joel Tichinoff
Sports Editor

After a long period of not having an Athletics Director at all, Dalhousie University has awarded the Athletics portfolio to John J. MacDonald, former director of external relations for the Faculty of Management, where he spearheaded the development of the Ken Rowe Building. MacDonald joined the Faculty from the financial sector in 1996. He is a fellow of the Institute of Canadian Bankers, a Minor Hockey coach, a member of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, former Treasurer of the Dalhousie Alumni Association and president of the Society for American Wines -- the Halifax chapter. On his fourth day on the job, John sat down with The Gazette.

Joel Tichinoff: What was the last Dal Tigers game you attended?

John MacDonald: I was at the Dal Basketball game on Sunday against St. Francis Xavier.

JT: Great game.

JM: I also went on Friday to Volleyball and Women's hockey. Both teams are looking good.

JT: Both teams are looking forward to playoffs. Before being named Athletics Director, you were the director of external relations of the Management Faculty, do you have any previous connection been to Dal Athletics?

JM: I have been a member of Black and Gold (Dalhousie Athletics' Alumni Support Group) for decades. I graduated from Dal in '82 and was a strong supporter of varsity and intramural sports when I was a student. I actually learned to skate on the old Dal Memorial Rink (which burnt down in 1978) when I was four years old. My mother graduated from here so I'm a second-generation Dalhousian.

JT: What was your role at the Faculty of Management as director of external affairs?

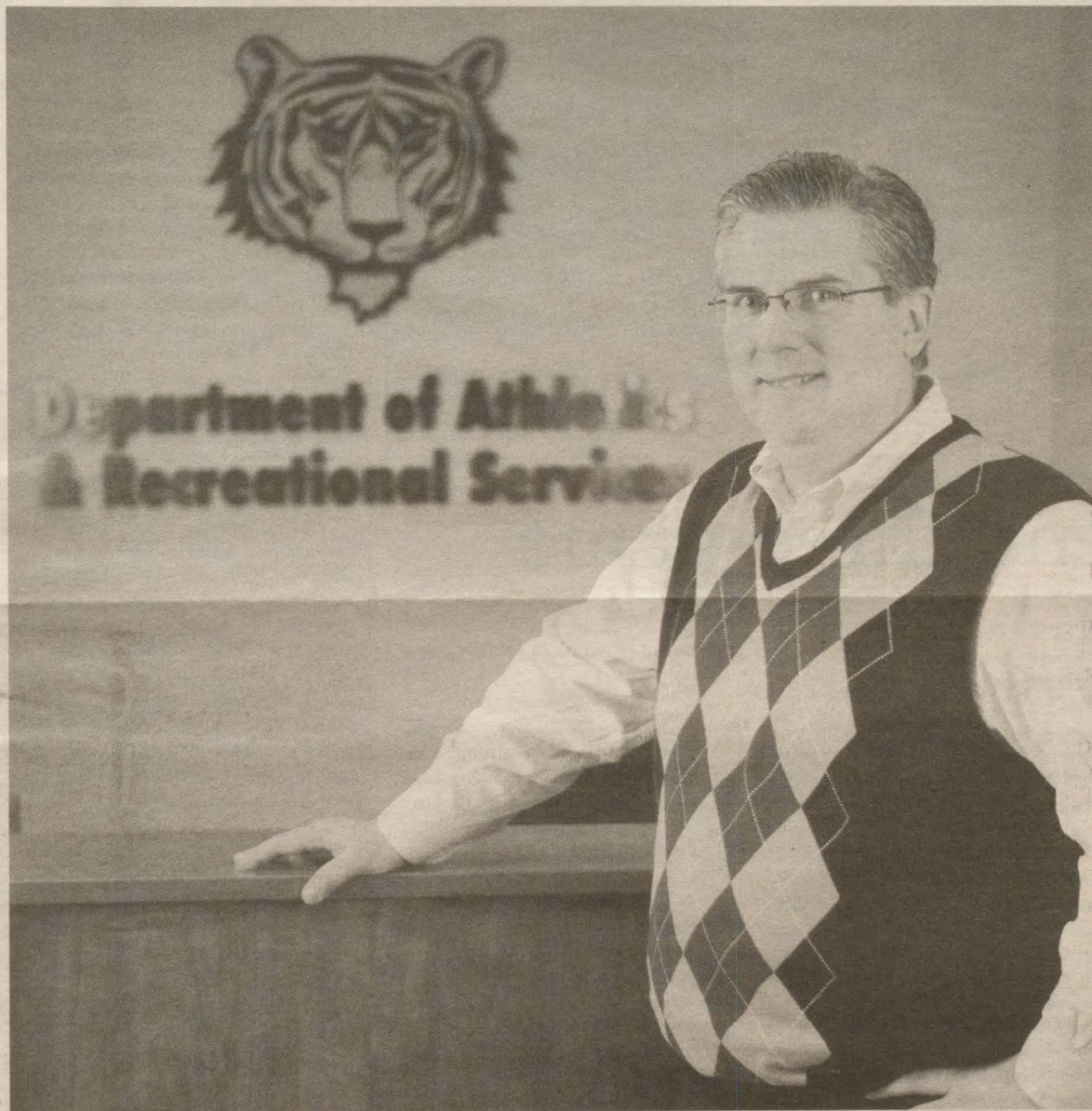
JM: I was involved in the fundraising for the Ken Rowe Building and other fundraising initiatives within the faculty. For about four years, I was responsible for the marketing and communications area as well, so a lot of media relations.

JT: "Straight to the Juicy"?

JM: (Shakes his head) That's not mine. No. That was after my time.

JT: Your Dal Athletics profile states you have "a passion for advocating the advancement of university sport." What value do you see in university sports and campus athletics programs?

JM: I see the connections to the university in three ways. One is through out academic programs; research, part-time



John J. MacDonald learned to skate on the Dal rink at age four. | Photo by Pau Balte

studies, full-time studies, free programs, continuing education. I see another connection with the community through arts and culture; things like the Dal Art Gallery, the Rebecca Cohn, concerts, the Dal Theatre Department and Music Department all interact with the community on that level. And a third connection is around athletics. It's an opportunity for the community to come into Dalhousie, it's a prime way to be able to recruit students; there are a range of athletic activities that are available to students both on the Varsity and intramural side which has the sport component for people who aren't at the Varsity level. Everyone can come in and continue to play their various sports and other sports that they may never have tried. My best memories from when I was an undergrad really come out of that whole

sports connection whether it was Howe Hall, intramural sports, the Commerce Society. We used to go on road trips to support the Men's Hockey team going to Acadia or Moncton. And that's a real value; school spirit. It's involvement, socialization, health and wellness. These are values that come with athletics.

JT: You're quoted saying that this position gives you the opportunity "to inspire and be inspired." Can you elaborate on that inspiration?

JM: So I think looking from a Varsity athletics perspective it's really setting some high goals. The President's Strategic Focus talks about us (Dalhousie University) becoming the best. In order to be the best overall as a university, you have to excel at all the components. We need to have the best teams to represent the university within our conference and

nationally. We need top three finishes. We're going to set some of these goals and some of them have been set already. We also need to look at what we're doing for the Dalhousie community with regards to health and wellness, recreational facilities, intramurals, those kinds of things. So in terms of value, what are we doing within the four walls. And finally we have to look at facility renewal. That is a major, major project. I see that as a mid-term kind of thing; at the end of five years my goal is that we have an addition and renovations to the facilities we have existing on campus. And not just Dalplex. There are things with Memorial Arena and things with Sexton campus. It's not just centered on Dalplex.

JT: On the topic of Dalplex. Built in 1979 when the student population was 7,500, how

much of a priority has it become?

JM: It certainly would be a focal point, but there other areas of the campus as well (in need of renewal).

JT: You mentioned the value of school spirit and growing a sense of attachment on campus. A lot of current and prospective students cite the lack of community and pride at Dal as a weakness of the university. How do you think you can address the lack, and foster the development of, community and school pride?

JM: Well I think we need to improve communication and we have to have a better promotion around our programs. I'm not as well-versed in (the promotion at the student-level) because they really have a student focus and I'm an alumnus and a staff-member. But we need to get the students engaged with the whole varsity program in particular. I was really pleased to see a lot of students coming in over the weekend to see the basketball and volleyball. And there are other programs; soccer in the fall, and hockey. If we run a promotion it seems we start getting the students in and we have to start developing that and work with the registrar's office and the student recruitment team to really become part of that so that the Dal story is just about academics. We have to look for the full package, whether its academics, arts and culture or athletics. Those are the three we need to look at primarily at the undergraduate level.

JT: The final question is about sustainability. This building (the Dalplex) is held up by energy, right? The roof is supported by artificial air pressure. Is there any plan for sustainable practices in the Athletics Department?

JM: I would suggest, and I'm not intimate with the plans that have been developed, but anything with regards to the redevelopment of this department certainly will take sustainability into account. We're looking at rewiring, and remaking all of the systems that make up the whole 'physical plant' shall we say. Specifics-wise, if we can take the present roof off Dalplex and have it as a kind of suspension, without using ongoing mechanical systems and machinery to support the weight I think that would be the thing to look at. But we also need to look at things like all the bottled water around and move on that in campus-wide terms. So you've got the macro piece around physical facilities but you've got the less-tangible things we can do bit by bit. We sell re-usable water bottles in our sports shop and our teams use re-usable water bottles. And actually there's currently a project happening right now to redo the lights in the arena. We're replacing the lights to reduce the energy consumption of the rink. So the facilities element is already getting underway.

Sports



Tigers lose 3-7 against St. Mary's | Photo by Pau Balte and Hannah Griffin

Penalties end three-game win streak

Tigers 3 - 7 St. Mary's Huskies

Dylan Matthias
Staff Contributor

It was another SMU-Dalhousie match-up and for the second time in three weeks, the Huskies walked away with an easy two points. But they did it without Mike Danton, who has been the centre of media attention over the past week. Danton did make a cameo, appearing in the stands during the warm-up.

The Tigers started bright and early, scoring just over a minute into the game after Francois Gauthier won a puck battle down low and centred it to Benjamin Breault, who flipped home his sixth goal in four games. That was about all Tigers fans had to cheer about on Saturday. They were out-shot 47-38.

The Huskies came back, and did so quickly, scoring four and a half minutes later on the power play. It only took six seconds after Ben Van Lare went off for Marc Rancourt to make a superb cross-ice pass to Cam Fergus, who scored past a helpless Josh Disher.

It was a big night for Fergus. He scored again, less than a minute after his first, tipping an Andrew Hotham shot past a screened Disher. Again, a Tiger was in the box, with Daniel Bartek serving a 10-minute misconduct for a headshot.

"You gotta be smarter when you're playing guys like that," said Bartek. "They're the best in the country and you gotta respect that." Bartek, a former Czech national junior team member and 2009 try-out prospect for the

New York Rangers, said that the standard of refereeing is tougher than he's used to. "The referees call everything here ... it's a different style for sure."

This time the SMU goal took seven seconds. Fergus nearly had the hat trick shortly after that, missing an open net before Disher robbed him. Disher, a third-year management student, made a stunning 121 saves in his past three starts, the backup anchoring his team's playoff drive.

Dalhousie had their ace card, Breault, ready to go shift after shift. And he was dangerous. Late in the first, Ron Kelly broke his stick and Breault jumped on. Immediately, he stole the puck and embarrassed Hotham before skating in alone only to be denied by Neil Conway in the SMU goal. He drew a penalty for his efforts, though. Breault's efforts were in vain, though, as the Huskies doubled their lead fifteen seconds later as Disher gave up a juicy rebound on a Justin Munden shot, allowing Colby Pridham to sweep it home. Breault was recruited to Dalhousie in November from the ECHL's Florida Everglades. The Tigers have won four of Breault's seven games since joining the team. The first-year Arts student has six goals and three assists as a Tiger.

The second period didn't seem to be any better. Jacob Johnston got beaten very easily at his own blue line nearly four minutes into the second period. He was far too soft on the puck, allowing Andrew White to skate in and beat Disher. Disher was replaced by Bobby Nadeau after the goal. Tigers coach Pete Belliveau put the switch down to fatigue for Dish-

er, who had played the last three games.

Colby Pridham set-up the next SMU goal, dodging a big-time hit at 13:37 of the second before flinging the puck toward the goal. Nadeau gave enough of a rebound that Kyle Doucet was able to stuff it home.

The Huskies sixth was Fergus' hat trick marker, receiving a stretch pass from Cody Thronton and beating Nadeau glove side to make it 6-1. Kewin scored for the Tigers, collecting a rebound, but this was quickly cancelled out by another goal from Fergus, his 14th of the year. SMU's leading scorer (he has 34) took a nice drop pass on a three-on-two and beat Nadeau. The Tigers got a goal for pride with 17 seconds left, as Conway missed a 55-foot wrist shot from Devin Stonehouse.

Belliveau was upset after the game, criticising media for focussing too heavily on the loss. "Right now, I'm just focussing on next weekend."

The Tigers had played three games in four nights.

"Right now we're battling for a playoff spot ... our biggest weekend is next weekend; we're ready to go."

Belliveau was brought in to the program last year to end Dalhousie hockey's seven-year playoff drought.

The Tigers hold the sixth and final playoff spot in AUS rankings by one point of the St. Thomas Tommies, who they will meet on home ice Friday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m.

OT win keeps playoff hopes alive

Acadia Axemen 3 - Tigers 4

Dylan Matthias
Staff Contributor

The Tigers men's hockey team recovered from a three-goal deficit on Friday, Jan. 22, and came back to beat the visiting Acadia Axemen in overtime. Coming off a 5-4 win against St. Francis Xavier at home on Jan. 20, the Tigers were looking to hold onto a playoff spot against an Acadia team ranked second in the AUS and fourth nationally. Currently holding the sixth and final playoff spot, one point ahead of seventh-place St. Thomas, Dalhousie is looking to end a seven-year playoff drought. Jordan Berk gave the Tigers their third straight win with a blast of a shot 4:20 into the 10-minute overtime. This is the longest winning streak the Tigers have enjoyed this year.

"We showed a lot of character tonight," said Tigers defenseman Ryan Jenner. "Josh Disher played phenomenal!"

Disher faced 46 shots, and held the Tigers comeback hopes in the third period as he made several key saves before Benjamin Breault was able to tie the game with just over a minute left.

Acadia controlled much of the first period, scoring their first at 7:26, after a bad penalty by Jenner. The Axemen needed just 18 seconds on the power play before setting up Andrew Clark for a shot that beat a screened Disher.

The first period also saw some strong physical play, with Acadia's Jonathan LaBerge getting hit with his head down in front of the timekeeper's box. Scott Giles responded by taking out Ben Van Lare along the boards. Giles dropped to his knees to cut out Van Lare's legs, a dangerous play which could have seriously injured Van Lare. No penalty was called.

Berk helped Acadia's second goal into the net, deflecting a LaBerge shot past Disher early in the second. The

Axemen scored their third off a quick draw with 3:47 left in the second. Scott Tregunna snapped a quick shot past Disher off a scrambled faceoff.

Then the comeback began, thanks to a bit of luck for the Tigers.

Down two men, Breault hopped off the bench after the first penalty expired. Receiving a stretch pass from Ron Kelly, he beat Acadia goalie Kristofer Westblom five-hole. The Tigers' second goal was a bit more comic, and perhaps even luckier. Acadia's Beau Prokopetz, walking the offensive blueline with the puck, attempted to pass straight through Shea Kewin. Kewin took off with the puck and Benoit Gervais, with no defenders back for Acadia. Kewin passed to Gervais, who returned it to Kewin, only to see the puck hop over Kewin's stick. He recovered quickly, though, managing to swat the puck back to Gervais, who jammed it in. Not a textbook 2-on-0 goal, but they all count.

The Tigers equalized, as is so often the case, shortly after an Acadia opportunity. The puck bounced in on Disher, who hesitated to clear it. Josh Manning swatted it away though, and Devin Stonehouse found Breault, who cut around his man and roofed a backhand over Westblom.

A late penalty in regulation forced the Tigers to start the four-on-four overtime down a man. Yet again, Disher made several key saves during a nearly-minute-long spell of pressure in the Dalhousie zone. The late (and slightly soft) holding call on Dalhousie was made up by an obvious call on LaBerge, after he hauled down Daniel Bartek. Dalhousie forced Westblom into a fine save as Kyle Raftis hit Bartek with a beautiful cross-ice backdoor pass. Westblom came sliding across and deflected the puck away with his blocker. 29 seconds later, Breault set up Berk, who unloaded a shot that beat Westblom, giving Dalhousie the win.

Beat the Kipper

Questions:

1. Who is Dalhousie's all-time greatest scorer in Hockey?
2. How many AUS champion ships has the women's swim team won since 1980?
3. How long is the McGill Martlets women's hockey team current win streak?

Answers:
1. Brian Gualazzi (1979-1982): GP-94 G-111 A-84 Pts.-195.
2. 22, including eight consecutive titles.
3. 74 consecutive wins. The Martlets have been unbeaten since the 2006-2007 season

Crittenton, Arenas's teammate who was involved in the incident, and reportedly actually loaded his gun. Those cases made headlines briefly, before being brushed aside, none inviting a punishment nearly as harsh as the indefinite suspension that Arenas currently faces. Why? It may be a combination of things, but the general consensus around the league is that the aforementioned players generally responded as they were expected to, issuing their perfunctory apologies, appeasing Stern, and playing the role of obedient soldiers, while Arenas tweeted and joked and laughed and said "David Stern is mean," and even waved finger guns in the air during the introductions before his last game in Philly. He might as well have stuck a middle finger right in the

Meow of the Tiger

School spirit at Dal

Nathasha White
Staff Contributor

I'm an addict. There, I said it. If I don't get my sports fix every weekend, I'm not a happy camper. Basketball is my drug of choice. I'm tweekin' a little, because the Tigers travelled to the Rock this past weekend, and my mother was in town. I caught a little of the Kentucky

"More often than not, we're outnumbered by opposition fans at home."

vs. Arkansas game, but it's just not the same. There's nothing like live ball.

Tigers basketball is in the final stretch - only four home games to go. So grab your student ID and get down to the Dalplex this Saturday and Sunday for some free hoops as we take on the University of Prince Edward Island Panthers (UPEI)

and the University of New Brunswick (UNB) Varsity Reds. And if that's not enough to get you off, the beer's cheap.

The women's Saturday night game had Dal squeak past MUN 73-69. The Tigers and Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) split their last meetings in November with Dal winning by three, and then losing by five; so Sunday's game should have been a good one.

As for the men, the Tigers have MUN's number. MUN suffered a shellacking in November, with Dal winning by 20 and 15. And, this just in: the Dalhousie men's basketball team defeated the Memorial Sea-Hawks Saturday night 82-62. The Tigers move into fourth place with this win; now lying only four points back of Halifax rivals St. Mary's.

Now don't get me wrong, I love Dal, love Halifax, love the East Coast. But student attendance at these quality games is dismal, dare I say, embarrassing. More often than not, we're outnumbered by fans from the other team at home.

It'd be one thing if we sucked. But we're good. Both men and women teams have the talent to beat anyone in the division any given night. The ladies can easily move up three rankings to fourth position before the season's done. And, the

men are the defending AUS Champions.

Where I'm from, we take our sports seriously. We wear our team colours with pride. We cheer out loud. We're loyal beyond comprehension, beyond reason. When I was a kid, going to the university gym to watch a game was the perfect ending to a day of playing ball. We played on the school team, and the community league team. We ate, breathed, and slept basketball. Or hockey. Or football. Sport was a religion. It was in our blood.

So, I'm at a loss, when I go to the games. Where's the spirit? Where's the fire? Where's the passion? Because it sure as hell isn't at the Dalplex.

Sorry kids, but that's the truth. I'm what they call on PEI, a CFA: a Come From Away; so maybe I'm missing something. Maybe the lack of a professional team has robbed Haligonians of the spirit of sport. Not everyone can play at the AUS level, but anyone can get in on the action. If you only make it out for one night of basketball this season make it Feb. 3, next Wednesday against Acadia, or Feb. 13 when we take on the rivals from down the street, St. Mary's University. Games start at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Cheering for your team is a serious high, win or lose; I should know. I'm from Edmonton.

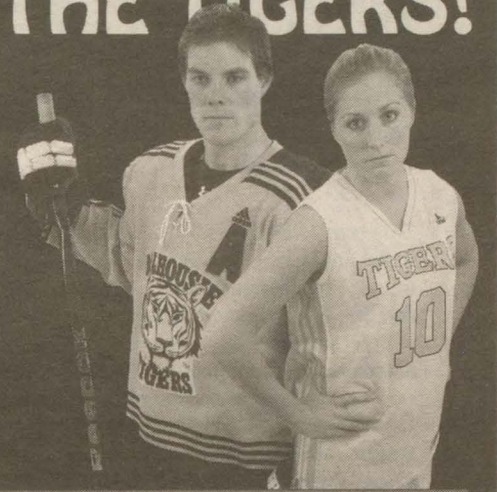
MEET THE TIGERS!

#44 RYAN JENNER,
MEN'S HOCKEY

Position: Defence
Height: 6-0
Year of Eligibility: 4
Program: Commerce
Hometown: Port Williams, NS

#10 BROOKE SULLIVAN,
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Position: Forward
Height: 5-10
Year of Eligibility: 3
Program: Commerce
Hometown: Miramichi, NB



FRIDAY, JANUARY 29
M Hockey vs. STU, 7pm*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30
Basketball vs. UPEI, W 3pm*/M 5pm*
M Hockey vs. UdeM, 7pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31
Basketball vs. UNB, W 2pm*/M 4pm*
W Hockey vs. MTA, 3pm



*Visit www.athletics.dal.ca/tigers to view the webcast. Admission is free for Dal students with ID

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women's 2pm men's 4pm

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commissioner's face. But again, should we have expected anything different from him in a situation like this? Not to defend the way he reacted, but I do think it's slightly unfair to be suddenly judging him for showing the same candour that touched us all and helped invigorate the Association not so long ago. For a man who has always drawn intrigue, even been respected for his insistence on going about things his own way, his response shouldn't have been particularly surprising or appalling. Nevertheless, Stern felt slighted and decided to take firm action. Pick up The Gazette next week to read the conclusion of Joe Wolfond's "How do you solve a problem like Arenas?"



THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

EDITOR IN CHIEF: BEN WEDGE

JANUARY 29, 2010

PULLING FOR THE KIDS

The Engineers re-state their challenge

Phil Thibodeau

B.Eng. (Mechanical) '11

This year's "Pulling for the Kids" event is supporting Camp Triumph, a charity co-founded by Dalhousie medical student, Jordan Sheriko. The camp is for kids in families with terminally or chronically ill family members. It's an incredible charity founded by a family that has had far more than their share of hard times. However, the number of families applying to Camp Triumph now exceeds what the camp can handle. They need our support to build more cabins to accept more kids from families struggling with illness.

Dalhousie Engineering students have responded in a manner that could be described as typical. In the past four months, almost a hundred engineering students have signed up to collect pledges and have their turn in pulling two cars for twelve hours. We've canvassed hundreds of companies, pulled every string and promoted endlessly. The number of donations coming in is quickly increasing and we're on pace to meet the \$10,000 goal. However, Pulling for the Kids is not purely an engineering event. In November, several other faculties at Dalhousie, including most



Students pull a car during the 2006 PFK challenge (Source: www.pullingforthekids.ca)

of Carleton Campus, accepted the challenge of who could raise the most money in support of Camp Triumph.

With a week left before the event, the challenge is being re-issued. Every faculty at Dalhousie is encouraged to collect pledges and participate in the event on February 6th. The faculty that raises the most money, per capita, wins the prestigious Pulling for the Kids trophy, complete with an engraving.

The engineering students are particularly looking forward to having the Carleton Campus students participate. You may

never beat the engineers at trivia, but here is your chance to redeem yourself in the ball hockey tournament and, most importantly, the fund-raising for Camp Triumph.

We firmly believe that engineering is the best degree you can get at Dalhousie, and it's because of what you learn on this campus. You learn a camaraderie that doesn't exist on the main campus, that the best parties are earned, and that excuses don't help families that are struggling with illness. On February 6th, we're looking forward to competing with the other faculties at Dalhousie to raise funds for a great local charity.

PULLING FOR THE KIDS

Don't forget!
Pulling for the Kids on February 6th.
Sign up or donate money at
www.pullingforthekids.ca

Look up Camp Triumph at
www.camptriumph.ca

CO-OP CORNER

Things to Remember:

- The co-op website offers many tips and is very informative. The website is: www.engandcompcoop.dal.ca
- Round I Match: Feb 12-15

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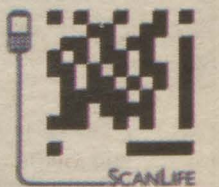
sextant@dal.ca

\$20 for pieces shorter than 500 words, \$30 for pieces over 1000 words. We pay only for articles that are published.



Trivia Thursday Night! (This Week Only)
January 29: Winterfest Show with *Two Hours Traffic* and *The Danks*
February 4: Munro Day pre-party with *The Balconies* and a special guest!

Scan the code at right with your phone, and get directed to all of our online content!



The Charity Ball may be January 30th, but save your money for the Tech Ball, February 13th, 2010! Look for exclusive content in next week's Sextant.
(The Charity Ball is supporting Camp Triumph though, so we applaud anyone who goes.)

THE MOOSEHEADS GAME

The good, the bad, and the ugly

JP Brien

B.Eng. (Mechanical) '10

The Halifax Mooseheads are quite simply the worst team in the QMJHL. With only ten wins under their belts, one of which we saw, the Mooseheads weren't coming into the game with very high expectations. Since they were playing the third worst team in the league, we thought they might stand a chance, especially with the support of the Dalhousie Engineers.

Our night began at our normal pre-game watering hole, the Alehouse. This, in my opinion, was the best part of the night (it may have had a lot to do with it also being wing night). After a few beers we sauntered over to the Metro center to begin our shenanigans. The organizers were kind enough to put us directly behind the Acadie-Bathurst goaltender for two periods. Needless to say, he became very familiar with us.

The Mooseheads got off to an early lead on the third shot of the game, spurring the relentless chanting from Section One that would last for the entire game. The Bathurst goaltender, who we dubbed La-Cert, a butchered pronunciation of his French name, actually played fairly well for a guy who was being chanted at. However, he did lose his

cool during the first intermission, striking the Mooseheads' Mascot on his way off the ice.

Normally, at the Mooseheads games, we win the six foot party sub and/or the intermission competition. Unfortunately for us, there happened to be several children's groups at the arena with us who stole the top cheering title and won the six foot sub. Alas, I guess the sub meant more to them than it would have to us. It did make me hungry.

The third period turned from lame to ugly for the Mooseheads, with Bathurst tying it up and then scoring it the final 45 seconds. The Mooseheads website refers the game winning goal scorer as a "superpest", which isn't even a word but I agree with them in spirit.

The game was very fun, and something I would like to see happen again before I graduate, however, in future games, and I can not stress this enough, NO MORE SPOONS! They are irritating beyond belief, and while I may need more cow bell, I definitely do not need more spoon.

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