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DALHOUSIE
STUDENT
UNION

DSU Weekly Dispatch

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

DSU Elections 2011 Schedule

March, 8 - 10

VOTE!!!! Please go www.dsuelections.ca for information on how and where you can vote

March 10

Election Results and Dal's Got Talent Finals at the Grawood beginning at 9:00pm

For more information on DSU Elections 2011 contact Marysia Parry (Chief Returning Officer) at marysiaparry@gmail.com or visit the website at www.dsuelections.ca

Special Events

DJ Sticks

Friday, March 11

If you missed it the first time or you want to see the amazing show by DJ Sticks again, this is your chance. The Grawood is bringing the internationally known DJ back to the Grawood for an encore performance.

Doors open at 9:00pm and cover is only \$5.00. You must be 19+ to attend this event.

St. Paddy's Day Celebration

Thursday, March 17

Come celebrate St. Paddy's Day at the Grawood!!! There will be live performances by Hawco (5:00pm) and Blueberry Grunt (9:00pm) with drink specials all day. You must be 19+ to attend this event. A \$5 cover charge will begin at 2:00pm.

Happy Hangover

Friday, March 18

Why not come unwind from your St. Paddy's day celebrations at the Grawood and enjoy a showing of The Hangover, while you enjoy your bottomless pasta from 5:00 to 9:00.

Grawood Specials and Regular Programming

Open Every Monday through Friday for lunch from 11:30am - 1:30pm

Open for dinner Wednesday through Friday from 5:00pm - 9:00pm.

Join us for Wing Nights every Wednesday night from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. Wings are only 30 cents!!!

Come try our Burger, Fries and a Draft special for just \$5.95 every Thursday from 5:00pm - 9:00pm. Why not stay for Trivia night? The Grawood hosts an exciting game of Trivia every Thursday starting at 9:00pm, so come out and test your knowledge!

If you have a big appetite, join us for our Bottomless Pasta special every Friday! All you can eat pasta for one low price!

Join us on Facebook at The GRAWOOD Campus Pub

Stay connected with the DSU through Facebook & Twitter

Facebook: Group and Page - Dalhousie Student Union

Twitter: www.twitter.com/dalstudentunion

March 4 - March 10, 2011 •

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

The Dalhousie Gazette

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the fine print.

The Gazette is the official written record of Dalhousie University since 1868 and is open to participation from all students. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general. A "staff contributor" is a member of the paper defined as a person who has had three volunteer articles, or photographs of reasonable length, and/or substance published in three different issues within the current publishing year. Views expressed in the letters to the editor, Overheard at Dal, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or

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BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
DJ STICKS
the Grawood Est. 1972
FRIDAY
MARCH 11
9:00 PM
OPEN TO ALL DAL STUDENTS, FACULTY, ALUMNI STAFF & GUESTS

Logos for DSU, Dalhousie Student Union, The Grawood Campus Pub, and Facebook.

news.

news covers Dalhousie and the greater Halifax community. Contributions are welcome! E-mail Samantha at news@dalgazette.com

Samantha Durnford News Editor



VOTE: MARCH 8-10, 2011

★ DSU ELECTION SPECIAL ★

★ CANDIDATES: PRESIDENT ★

by Samantha Durnford



John Hillman

Age: 25

Program: History and creative writing

Year: 4th

Hometown: Sackville, NS

Who do you aspire to be? Ivan the Terrible, an efficient despot.

Three Words: Madness, villain-y, debauchery

Past Experience: Been a student for a "long, long" time. Covering elections as a blogger for three years, Gazette

contributor for four years. Ran for DSU president in 2008 and was the ANSSA student ambassador 2008/2009.

Hillman says his decision to run as president was made at the last second. He says that the current student union runs and wants to take a much more creative approach to challenges as a president. He says things, such as the Student Poverty Video—a student made video about the possible tuition

hike—are examples of how he'd like to address issues.

"The main difference between what I would do and the current president would be to do it more subversively with the office and get more students involved and hopefully engage them through more innovative communication strategies," he says.

As a past blogger, he says he's been criticizing DSU politics for years and feels like sometimes students don't

have a real choice when it comes to the candidates who run in DSU elections.

"I want to be the choice for people who are unhappy with the candidates they usually get."

He says his campaign will poke fun at past presidential candidates and campaigns and hopes that even though he may be seen as a joke, that his campaign opens up discussion about the DSU and elections.



Sebastian Fizman

Age: 22

Program: Bachelor of Commerce

Year: 4th

Hometown: Ottawa, ON

Who do you aspire to be? Richard Branson, the CEO of Virgin Mobile, because he understands that every citizen wants to provide for their family and doesn't exploit anyone. He takes risks and gives back.

Three words to describe yourself: Creative, interpersonal, and trustworthy.

Past Experience: Vice President of the Dalhousie Commerce Society, a new entrepreneur who has worked with eBay since he was 15-years-old. Working on commerce co-ops doing accounting and working 60 hour weeks.

Fizman says he's passionate about becoming the DSU president.

"I'm not a person who sleeps a lot, I just give everything I have and I'm fully committed to this."

His campaign is running on four things: C.A.S.T—Community, accountability, sustainability, and transparency.

"There's not enough transparency within the DSU, the Grawood is losing money and budgets aren't available online," he says.

Fizman says he wants to revamp the current way the DSU tracks their accounts by making everything digital and allowing students to view everything online. He wants students to be able to see everything from what the DSU is spending and receiving, to what societies are doing as well.

He also says there should be a "performance clause" for all councillors—if the Grawood doesn't make money in the fiscal year, he says it should be deducted from his salary.

"There's no accountability. There's nothing to show if the execs don't meet the expectations of their position," says Fizman.

He wants there to be more community involvement on campus. He suggests having a day each month to raise money for a community issue, such as Breast Cancer Awareness month.

"We have so many resources on campus to give back to the community, which also provides growth for students who are getting involved."

Fizman wants to work on the segregation of campuses and faculties

and boosting school spirit and the support of our sport teams.

Lastly, he's excited to work on the upcoming food contract and wants to ensure students are involved.

"This process has been reactive instead of proactive, students should have been involved way before the issue came up."

He wants to support grassroots initiatives and work on sustainability initiatives, such as bottled water being given out at DSU conferences and the use of paper in the office. He thinks all of these things should be fixed.

Fizman wants to work closely with students and have a transparent and accountable DSU.



Chris Saulnier

Age: 23

Program: Computer engineering

Year: 5th

Hometown: Dartmouth, NS

Who do you aspire to be? Neil DeGrasse Tyson, an astrophysicist, because he's humorous and can take a complicated subject and explain it in an interesting way which everyone can understand.

Three words to describe you:

Collaborative, passionate, and caring.

Past Experience: Currently, he is the DSU president.

Saulnier says he's enjoyed his time as current DSU president and hopes to continue the initiatives that he's already started, such as the current food contract.

"I want to be around to take that project to completion," he says. "I want to ensure students get the food services they want."

He also feels that, with the tuition increase, he is a strong voice that can be at the negotiating table.

Saulnier says the demographics on campus are changing and he wants to see orientation week for international students change. He thinks international student orientation should be moved before everyone else's orientation so those students can attend both and take part in all events.

"This way, they can better integrate into the community and don't miss that

bonding experience of O-Week."

He also wants to continue working on the co-curricular record that the DSU is currently working on.

Saulnier says that as far as being president goes, he feels he's done a good job and still has a lot more to give back.

"I now have a clear understanding of how to do this job and I can definitely do it more effectively next year."

••• Photos by Paul Balite and Abram Gutscher, except where supplied
••• Illustrations by Kathryn Johnson

cast your vote online: dsuelections.ca

dsu elections

★VP STUDENT LIFE★

by Torey Ellis



Adam Reid

Age: 23

Program: History

Year: 5th

Hometown: Newmarket, Ont. and Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Who do you aspire to be? Dick Kinzel, CEO of Cedar Fair Entertainment Company (operates amusement parks)

Three words to describe you: Passionate, motivated, easy-going

Past experience: Vice-chair of Orientation Week 2010, Orientation Committee 2009, DASS Entertainment

Co-Chair 2009, Gerard President 2008, Orientation Week leader 2008 and 2009

Laughing, Reid says he hopes his fifth year is his final one, but says that "having been around so long is an advantage."

"I've been here long enough to see what works and what doesn't work," he says.

What hasn't been working, he says, is a lack of focus on athletics.

"There's no Dal pride," he says. "Engineers are proud to be engineers before they're proud to be from Dal. It's

the same thing with commerce. It's very faculty or residence oriented."

"And that's fine. Be proud to be an engineer. Be proud to live in Howe Hall. But it's possible to amalgamate that and Dal pride."

One way to do that, he says, is by upping attendance at Dal varsity sports games.

"Most people that go are alumni or Dalplex members. If students do go, it's because they're friends of the athletes. In that way, it's very cliquey."

"A lot of people want to show school

spirit, and that's an easy way. I want to make people realize that they're free, there's cheap beer, it's easy."

He also sees a lot of potential in Homecoming. "I'd like to see it become a staple of the Dalhousie experience."

He says involving people from all three campuses, by holding events on Sexton and Carleton as well as the usual ones on Studley, would make a big difference to unifying school spirit as well, he says.



Jamie Arron

Age: 21

Program: IDS, plus a certificate in entrepreneurial skills

Year: 4th

Hometown: Markham, Ont.

Who do you aspire to be? "I don't believe in aspiring to be things. Just live in the moment with a bit of an eye for the future."

Describe yourself in three words: Adventurous, creative, organized

Past Experience: Research Assistant in the Office of the Mayor (2010), Co-

founder. Mavericks for Social Change, DSU Leadership Development Director 2009-2011

"The place just draws really adventurous and creative people, like a friendly spirit. And I feel like in that, there's so much potential. And yet at the same time we don't really celebrate it or create opportunities to recognize it," says Arron.

"A lot of students come from out of town, they're coming across the country. There's a reason why they're coming here. They're looking for something."

Arron says he wants to build off the Maritime vibe that he believes those students are looking for.

His platform is divided into four parts: rejuvenating campus spirit through big events and Grawood programming; handling off-campus issues like career transitions; building DSU-student communication; and increasing what he calls "spontaneous interaction" around campus.

"I want to turn the SUB into a hub," he says. "It's things like music and activities that help make that."

He also says that he'd like to increase

communication to students about major campus events, such as Homecoming and Orientation Week, but says it's "difficult to speak in generalities" about how that would be done.

"You have to take it event by event," he says, although he does cite social media as promising.

That hint is reflected in his campaign, which includes a Fresh Prince of Bel Air rap and a Discovery Channel-esque "This Place is Just Awesome" video, which he says are available on his site, votejamiearron.com.



Tom Dobbyne

Age: 21

Program: Arts

Year: 2nd

Hometown: Cambridge, UK

Who do you aspire to be? "Don't take this the wrong way, but Mohammed Ali. Not because I want to hit people. He's just got that never-say-die attitude."

Describe yourself in three words: Funny, English, loyal

Past Experience: Current VP Howe Hall, helped with O-Week Orientation 2010, Fundraising Chair for Phi Delta

Theta fraternity

"English Tom" Dobbyne is a well-known face on campus, and hopes that will work to his advantage. But, he says, "I don't want to be known as, 'That guy who did that really funny thing, but can he really do the job?'"

Dobbyne says a focus of his will be making the Grawood more accessible to on-campus students, who he believes need it the most.

"When the Grad House was kind of out of commission, the Grawood had to

blend the two identities," he says. "Now that the Grad House is up and running, the Grawood can become whatever it needs to be."

What exactly that is, Dobbyne doesn't know. "If the students want to have it as a casual place, we'll make it casual. If they want to have it as a nightclub, we'll make it a nightclub."

Dobbyne acknowledges the difficulty in gathering the kind of student opinion he would need, but says the apathy is possible to overcome.

"I will go where they go," he says.

"You can hear what they want to do. I've done numerous events, theme parties all over Howe, just from the basis of student feedback"

Opening up that dialogue between the DSU and students is another main point, he says. "Some students might come to a meeting and voice their opinion, and others might prefer Facebook over anything else."

"I don't want to just throw events out there and hope that students come to them. I want to get more feedback from the students."

★Undergraduate Senate★

by Katrina Pyne



Jonathan Michael Magill

Age: 19

Program: Political science

Year: 2nd

Hometown: Aurora, Ont.

Who do you aspire to be? Someone who will represent the students well

Describe yourself in three words: Patient, hardworking and understanding

Past experience: Eliza Ritchie Hall Residence Council, Frosh Week leader, DSU leadership program, campus tour guide, Dal events.

Magill has four major points of focus for the upcoming academic year.

The first is to improve computing and information technology services. Magill says any student who pays tuition needs a properly functioning Internet network across campus. According to Magill, the MyDal infrastructure needs to get updated.

"My second point of focus is libraries. We have the largest library in the Maritimes, so I want to make sure the service reflects that," says Magill. "I want to make sure that staff are up to par with

where they should be at this university." Magill also says the library needs to be open later and that students need more study spaces on campus.

Lastly, Magill would like to improve the academic appeals process by making sure that the policy makes it easy for students and professors to come forward if they feel uncomfortable.

"I think that whole process needs to be really communicated clearly to the students," Magill says.

As he is studying political science, it makes sense for him to become involved

in student politics. He says he wants to get more involved at Dalhousie.

"I want to be a charismatic figure, engaging the students and the administration to formulate the right decision together," says Magill.

After years of working with the public and students, he says he is very approachable.

"I really enjoy this stuff, students politics are important and the DSU is really important to me. You have to always keep in mind what's best for the student body."



Margaret Scrimgeour

Age: 21

Program: Political science and IDS

Year: 4th

Hometown: Grand Bend, Ont.

Who do you aspire to be? A positive person with a positive outlook on life.

Describe yourself in three words: Positive, caring and active

Past experience: Manager of Archie's Surf Shop, sales associate at Roots Canada, brand ambassador for ROXY.

Scrimgeour says that she is a customer service oriented person. She says this quality will help her to find out what students want and deliver it to them.

According to her, the biggest concern right now is finding a way to either "prevent tuition raises or try to minimize the rises that might be implemented in the future."

Scrimgeour says the fact that Dalhousie has repeatedly received low scores in food ratings means its food contracts are not accommodating to all the needs of the students on campus. She feels that students need to provide

their input on what types of food they would like to have on campus.

"We really need to get a well rounded idea of what students want to see in the future with regards to food services on campus."

Scrimgeour also wants to address the need for a 24-hour campus study space.

Part of the problem with student issues, she believes, is that students don't know how to get involved in them. She suggests getting an online forum for students to voice their opinions if they don't have the time to come out to meetings.

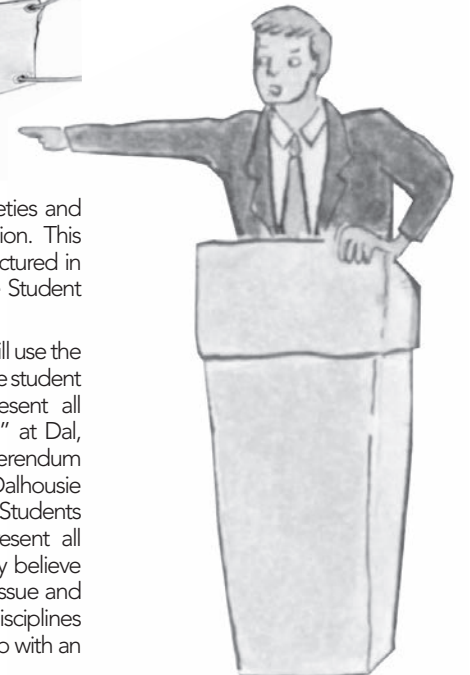
"We need to find a way to reach students that's more accessible to them, either through Facebook or Twitter," she says.

She says the very fact that there are three senate positions and only two students running for them says something. "It shows a general disinterest towards the DSU and the student body. I think that really needs to be addressed."

"I've never done this before so there is a lot I am going to have to learn, but I am a quick learner so I think those challenges will be easily overcome."



★ REFERENDUMS ★



The Loaded Ladle referendum question

Question: "The Loaded Ladle is a society of the DSU which exists to provide free, locally sourced, healthy meals and participatory workshops to students. Do you support the collection of an annual levy, to support the Loaded Ladle, of \$2.00 per full-time student and \$1.00 per part-time student? This fee will be refundable to students who do not wish to contribute."

If you vote for this: In addition to your tuition each semester, you will be giving the Loaded Ladle \$2 (full-time students) or \$1 (part-time students). This will allow them to provide free lunch

during the week to members, which they're aiming to do four times per week. These meals will be local, ethically-produced food. The Loaded Ladle prides itself on being cooperatively run, giving all students a say in the decision making of the society.

The new Graduate Student Association referendum question

Question: "Do you support the creation of a new graduate student association to govern all Dalhousie graduate students? All existing graduate society fees will be replaced with a total annual fee of \$60 per full-time student and \$30 per part-time student; half will

be allocated to graduate societies and half to the graduate association. This new association would be structured in accordance with the Graduate Student Accord."

If you vote for this: They will use the money to create a new graduate student association that would "represent all of the new graduate students" at Dal, according to the Grad Referendum profile. They believe that the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS), doesn't actually represent all of the graduate students. They believe the referendum would fix this issue and allow grad students from all disciplines to come together and come up with an agenda.

★ VP ACADEMIC EXTERNAL ★ by Samantha Durnford and Katrina Pyne



Evan Price

Age: 27

Program: Commerce

Year: 4th

Hometown: Truro, NS

Who do you aspire to be? My uncle because he started his own company outside of Cape Breton.

Three words to describe yourself: Motivated, strong-willed, and happy.

Past Experience: Active in Federal and Provincial politics since he was 18,

in business with Garrison Brewery, third place in Saint Mary's "What's Your Big Idea" business competitions, finalist in University of New Brunswick's Apex competition.

Price wants to ensure that the governments four per cent funding cuts to universities aren't permanent.

He wants to "get the funding back" and work on getting provincial grants for graduate students. Price wants to

set up a bursary program for graduate students.

With his experience in negotiating contracts, Price thinks he has the skills it will take to negotiate with the province on behalf of students.

Price also wants to set up a business incubator where students can collaborate on entrepreneurial projects together. Starting his hops farm, with no farming experience, he says he wishes he had a place on campus where he

could find other students with different skills who could work with him to start his business.

"Starting my hop farm business allowed me to graduate debt-free and I want to be able to help other students do the same," he says.

Also, he says he's keen to make sure food on campus is local and organic. As a local farmer, Price wants healthier local food options to be available for students.



Sarah Bouchard

Age: 22

Program: Political science and religious studies

Year: 4th

Hometown: Fort Kent, Maine

Who do you aspire to be? Dumbledore because he always has the students' best interests at heart. Plus, he can do magic.

Three words to describe yourself: Bubbly, driven, and curious.

Past Experience: ANNSA student assembly delegate for the past four

years, President of Dalhousie Arts and Social Sciences society, Representative to the Presidents Undergraduate Education Task Force, DSU Member at Large last year, off-campus director for orientation last year.

Bouchard believes the situation with university funding is at a turning point. She says her main priority next year will be negotiating the new memorandum of understanding with the province.

"I'm ready to advocate very intensely within the university because if they're making funding cuts, Dal is going to start

looking at what they need to cut."

She says she wants to advocate on behalf of students and ensure that student wants and needs are heard if cuts are being made.

Currently, she works closely with university administration and thinks she has a foundation in the system and is comfortable with the relationships she's established.

She wants to work on student spaces and ensure that undergraduates and graduates have office spaces, study spaces, and collaborative workspaces.

Bouchard also feels that international

student services need to be a priority.

"If we're recruiting and bringing students here, we want to be able to provide for them and with potential funding cuts, this is something that needs to be protected."

She says she wants to ensure that external issues, such as tuition rising and funding cuts are balanced with internal student interests.

Working within the DSU and the university, Bouchard says, "I know what it will take to get things done."



Karl Dempsey

Age: Not provided

Program: Fifth-year arts and social sciences

Year: 5th

Hometown: St. Croix, N.S.

Who do you aspire to be? Robert De Niro

Describe yourself in three words: Artistic, mindful, and spontaneous.

Past experience: Ran in the 2010

Election, DSU restructuring committee, entrepreneur, research on student loans.

Dempsey says he's not running for the DSU for the salary, but rather to give students a fair voice.

He says he wants to see the negotiation process of student loans and ensure the funding goes to where the students need it most.

He also wishes to continue the efforts of current VP Rob LeForte when it comes

to getting professor evaluations made public.

He wants to see the library have 24-hour access, giving students more study space and time to finish their school work.

"I'd like to see more students see value in their own education and their degree," he says. "As well, I'd like to see value increase in the Student Union because the last voter turnout showed a lack of interest."

Dempsey says he sees a lack of communication between the DSU and students and feels that students aren't utilizing student services.

"I ran last year because I didn't know what the DSU does," he says. "There's a perception that the SUB is just a place where you go to Tim Hortons."

He says his main platform is to give students a voice.

"If I can't do that, I'll quit," he says.



Andrew Mecke

Age: 20

Program: Kinesiology and physics

Year: 2nd

Hometown: Bridgetown, Barbados

Who do you aspire to be? A leader, someone fighting for students rights

Describe yourself in three words: Driven, professional and relaxed

Past experience: Shirreff Hall residence council president, DSU Councillor, Residence Societies and the Residence Relations Committee rep, Orientation week leader.

Mecke says he plans to have two focuses in the upcoming year. He says tuition is the "bread and butter" of the Academic and External VP position.

"The one thing that unites all students is tuition," says Mecke.

Tuition will be the focus of his campaign. He says that some programs require students to pay more than others because they don't have a tuition cap, which he says creates inequalities amongst programs.

According to Mecke, when we see a decrease in funding from the provincial government's spending, we also see a decrease in accountability. He says

that because of this, the university is becoming more privatized in Nova Scotia.

"As students are the biggest stakeholders in the university, we are going to see the biggest effects of that privatization."

Mecke has experience advocating for Dal residences to the university administration and fighting for locally sourced food in the cafeteria. He says that the Residence Council represents a diverse population of students that allows him to reflect on a range of issues.

Another one of Mecke's focuses is the professor rating system. Currently,

the system is opt-in for professors but Mecke says only professors who read their scores and feel they've done well are going to show them. He says it's not a great system.

"By creating a mandatory system, the professors who really care about teaching are going to be rewarded."

New this year to the DSU Mecke says he offers a fresh perspective.

"I'm not used to the same kind of walls that everyone else has been experiencing, I don't let things stop me," he says. "Change is inevitable, it's all how we direct that change."

★ VP INTERNAL ★

by Rebecca Hsu



Imad Mekhail

Age: 22
Program: Neuroscience and business
Year: 5th
Hometown: Halifax, N.S.
Who do you aspire to be? Politically, I would say Bill Clinton. Someone closer to home would be my dad.
Three words to describe yourself: Committed, knowledgeable, and a bit of a rambler.
Past Experience: Dalhousie Science

Society councillor, Open House leader, Dalhousie Science Society President, a dozen or so committees, including the Constitution Committee.

Mekhail believes that his past experience at the grassroots level is what sets him apart from the other Vice-president (internal) candidates.

Mekhail admits that he has not worked extensively with the DSU executives, and has "tried to stay mostly with the general student population and people 'at

our level."

He believes that this will allow him to offer fresh ideas to the position.

If elected, Mekhail has plans to work on introducing first-year students to university leadership positions.

He also seeks to press for the rights of societies, stating examples like offering societies the choice to select their own food providers.

The word "prioritize" comes up multiple times; Mekhail indicates that he has a set list of priorities that would allow

him to succeed.

When asked what might hinder his work as VP-I, Mekhail states, "the steep learning curve at the beginning."

"It takes time for committee chairs to fill up, but I plan to start working on my priority list immediately."

When asked what values he adheres to that would help him with the job, Mekhail insists that he "doesn't want to turn into a list of buzzwords."



Chris Connors

Age: 24
Program: Management
Year: 3rd
Hometown: Greenwood, N.S.
Who do you aspire to be? The Mayor of Halifax. I have spent much of my life in or around this beautiful city. I love this city.
Three words to best describe yourself: Level-headed, easy-going, insightful

Past Experience: Member at Large for the Board of Operations

Connors describes himself as a candidate who has been involved just enough with DSU to be familiar with its processes, but could still introduce new ideas to the Vice-president (internal) position.

He is currently a member at large for the DSU Board of Operations, stating that this position has offered him an inside look on what the VP-I and the

DSU do.

Connors believes that his experiences have helped him develop a "realistic view on the limitations that the VP-I has" but insists that he is "far enough removed from the DSU insider crowd" to bring a fresh perspective to the position.

This blend of experience and separation with the DSU is what Connors believes makes him unique for the job. When asked what might help him in succeeding, he puts great emphasis on the

support staff.

"Holly, the society coordinator, and Craig the general manager (for example). (They) have seen many VP-Is come and go. They know what works and what doesn't."

Connors is aiming for stronger student engagement, and seeks to do so through recruiting more volunteers for committees and initiatives like the food bank.



Kayla Kurin

Age: 21
Program: Psychology and classics
Year: 5th
Hometown: Richmond Hill/Thornhill, ON
Who do you aspire to be: Lord of the Rings Hobbit. They know how to work as a team, plus they share my deep love of food!
Three words to describe yourself? Friendly. Analytical. Wacky.
Past Experience: Vice-president (internal), Vice President of the Arts and Social Sciences Society, Marketing

Czar of the undergraduate classics society, Dalhousie-Kings Film Collective, Students for Peace in the Middle East, DSU council.

Kurin is no stranger to the DSU. As incumbent Vice-president (internal), Kurin names experience as her point of distinction from other VP-I candidates, stating that she is already familiar with the position, and is best prepared for challenges to come.

While experience is something she does not lack, Kurin notes that her values and ideas of leadership have evolved

during her term as VP-I.

"Coming into this position I thought that it was my job to make decisions, and get things done. However, after having worked with a number of amazing people this year from a variety of different committees and student groups I have realized that the most valuable thing to the VP-I portfolio is being able to collaborate on projects and being open to new ideas."

Kurin does not stake a claim to any complex ideas, when asked about her plans if she is elected for another term as VP-I.

She is aiming to focus more on collaborating with societies through actively seeking feedback from students.

Kurin insists that her ideas are simple - "My plans themselves are not big or 'sexy', a lot of my ideas are very simple, but I think that the impact they will have will be very sexy."

Indeed, when asked what might make her term a successful one if she is re-elected, she simply states, "excited students!"

★ BOARD OF GOVERNORS ★

by Shannon Doherty



Christopher Ross Rector

Age: 21
Program: Mathematics
Year: 3rd
Hometown: New Glasgow, N.S.
Who do you aspire to be? A leader in my community
Describe yourself in three words: Driven to succeed.
Past Experience: Dalhousie Mathematics and Statistics Undergraduate Society, Dalhousie Science Society, DSU Board of Operations

Rector is interested in being a representative for students in the operational and managerial side of things as the university faces new and challenging tasks in the future.

He says his experience on the DSU Board of Operations has given him the kind of experience that is needed to be on the Board of Governors.

Rector considers himself a serious student with a lot of passion for Dalhousie University.

"This is the place I wanted to be for my undergraduate degree," he says. "I really want to try to give back to the

school."

Rector says that important decisions are facing the university beyond the tuition increase and cuts to university funding. While the financial issues are something he feels are important, he is also concerned about some of the operational issues that the university will be dealing with in the future. Rector cites the Student Union Building (SUB) addition, which didn't go through, as an example of one of these operational issues.

To solve the problems and concerns facing both the university and the stu-

dent population, he says there needs to be cooperation and teamwork.

With all the decisions facing the university, he wants to be the person to help find a direction for the university to go in.

Rector says he is really passionate about his extracurriculars and takes his responsibilities and leadership roles seriously.

He says that there needs to be "a lot of collaboration between the executive and the board as a whole", and feels that he has the experience necessary to facilitate this negotiation.



Max Ma

Age: 21
Program: Classics
Year: 3rd
Hometown: Vancouver, B.C.
Who do you aspire to be? Someone who makes the world a better place
Describe yourself in three words: Honest, capable and patient.
Past Experience: Board of Governors rep at the University of King's College, Dalhousie Senate Discipline Committee, Dalhousie Undergraduate Classics society, DSU orientation week committee, member of the DSU

Awareness and Community Committee, DSU rep to the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations, Dalhousie Senate and DSU Council, DSU "Society professional of the year" award.

Ma has been involved in student issues since his first year on campus and says he has "always been really passionate about student issues and student advocacy."

Ma has been both an executive member and a council member in the past and says he "has the experience to understand the issues surrounding the university."

During this time of financial difficulty, Ma says there needs to be an experienced person at the table during the discussions who can hold executives accountable.

He says that his experience has "taught me how to contribute in committees and meetings."

Ma says there are not enough councillors that speak up at meetings and that he will correct this. He wants to be aware of all the agenda's of those involved and says his "background has trained him to ask questions".

Ma feels he is a good listener who "will listen to the agendas of others so I

can better reconcile student issues with the agendas of other parties."

He thinks his varied experience in student politics has given him the tools needed to succeed in his position and he wants to bring a strong student voice to the table to deal with the financial issues and constitutional reforms that the university faces.

Ma says that the "strength of your diploma and the strength of your alumni depends on the strength of your university", and feels a strong university needs "an experienced and strong student voice."



Dustin Griffin

Age: 24
Program: Law
Year: 2nd
Hometown: Armstrong, B.C.
Who do you aspire to be? No one other than myself, and better as the years go by
Describe yourself in three words: Determined, extroverted and relaxed
Past Experience: VP External for the Dalhousie Law Student Society, Dalhousie Student Union council, Dalhousie Law School student finance committee. During his interdisciplinary undergrad

at UBC, served as member at large on UBC's Campus Life council.

Griffin voices concern about the recent developments regarding university funding. He says that these governmental decisions will not apply to professional or graduate students and this is a cause for concern.

Griffin says that, "students should get a fair deal on tuition regardless of their program."

He says that as the provincial tuition cap does not apply to professional and graduate students the university may

see these programs as a source of tuition funding.

"There is a misunderstanding of what professional students do with their degrees," he says.

He thinks that many of his fellow students plan to enter the human rights or legal aid sectors, which do not pay major bucks.

Griffin's main reason for running is to be a "strong voice on the Board of Governors to defend the reality that we as students have."

He's quick to point out that undergraduates also need a voice and that

he would give, "the Board of Governors back to students."

He says that all students need to be asked what they need and what alternatives they see as solutions.

Griffin believes that in order to lobby for policy change he needs to be able to bring solid alternatives to the table. His focus would be on graduate students but not to the exclusion of other groups.

"Change can only happen by consulting all groups and while the university is looking at making some tough choices," he says. "We want to strong student representation at the table."

dsu elections

opinions.

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Katie Toth Opinions Editor

Government's smoking the ganja Prohibiting salvia will create crime, not fight it

Leilani Graham-Laidlaw
Current Affairs Columnist

Salvia Divinorum is an herb, part of the mint family, sometimes smoked for its intoxicating effects. It's currently being touted as the next LSD by the Harper government.

On the Health Canada information page for salvia they list such scary adverse affects as "hallucinations, dysphoria (feeling anxious, depressed or restless), out-of-body experiences, uncontrollable laughter, loss of consciousness, short-term memory loss, lack of physical coordination, slurred speech and awkward sentence patterns." Honey,

that's me before I've had my morning coffee.

Jokes aside, there may be more to the science than that, and it's impossible to tell what the effects are going to be on individual people. As well, little is known or documented about salvia's long-term effects, though it's been used by the Mazatec people of Southern Mexico for ages.

Ottawa believes that salvia poses a growing "potential for abuse, especially among young people." Given that only 7.3 per cent of people aged 15 to 24 have admitted to trying the drug in the Canadian Drug Use and Monitoring Survey, it doesn't seem to be particularly

endemic to me. Maybe more people will rush to try it, as the government seeks to add it to the Controlled Substances Act.

In a Feb. 21 press release announcing the government's intent, the effects of adding salvia to the Act were outlined: it would be illegal to possess, sell, import, export or grow. The government will give the public until March 21 to respond before attempting to prohibit the substance.

Criminalizing salvia will really just give smugglers, dealers, and the criminal organizations that benefit from illegal trade a whole new market, and would remove the safety inspection aspect of having salvia overseen by Health

Canada. Right now it's classified as a natural health product, meaning that Health Canada technically has to approve every formula and version of salvia that's sold—down to what's necessary to include as Nutritional Information and warning labels. That seems like a logical approach: make sure it's as safe as we can make it.

By making salvia illegal, dealers and thugs would be free to add whatever the heck they wanted, in whatever potency they wanted, while selling the stuff for a higher price to the people who right now see it as a natural, accessible alternative to weed or other, harder drugs.

The move to criminalize salvia is really

just part of the Harper government's "Tough On Crime" mandate, like when they decided to build extra prisons for "unreported crime." It's easy to be tough on crime when you're creating new things to criminalize.

When it comes to trying to grab more votes, logic doesn't seem to be their strong suit. Maybe someone in Ottawa has been doing a little too much 'personal research' into Salvia.

I say, leave it to the pros: if it's unknown what the long-term effects are, and how bad this thing could be, fund independent research into it. Don't ban the stuff out of fear and rhetoric. ☹

Community action: more than a privilege Universities have a duty to be political

Katie Toth
Opinions Editor

On Feb. 25, members of No One Is Illegal Halifax and the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group got some great news. The Chaudhry family, who had found their application to stay in Canada on Humanitarian and Compassionate Grounds denied, won their appeal.

The family, who are at risk of being deported, will now have the chance to have their application reviewed by another officer.

After their refugee claim was overturned in 2004, the Chaudhrys have faced a hard battle for status in Canada. With the support of friends, the Muslim community and university community members, the Chaudhrys chose to do an application for status based on humanitarian grounds, emphasizing their own establishment and value to the Halifax community.

Their application was originally denied. Officer Janice Galant dismissed letters written about the Chaudhrys as false proof of the community's interest in the Chaudhry case, because many were written by members of student "cause groups" like NSPIRG and people with a fleeting ethical interest in the case, rather than people who had a personal relationship with the family or were committed to the Chaudhry's continued presence in Halifax.

First of all, if a community wants someone to stay, why should it matter what motivations that community has for that person staying?

"It shouldn't, at all," said John O'Neill, one of the defense lawyers for the Chaudhry family. He says he thinks the court had "a very negative stereotype of students."

During the case, O'Neill argued that Galant had "completely stripped the efficacy" of the one vehicle community members had to express their support for the family: writing a letter. Students who wrote to support the family the only way available to them thus had their own

democratic expression dismissed as invalid and petty.

That's why student groups including NSPIRG encouraged students who knew and supported the Chaudhrys to come render their support visible during their appeal hearing. The courthouse—with a capacity of 90 witnesses—was consistently packed as over 100 people attended the hearing. Members of the university and Muslim communities took up the benches and sat in the aisles on the floor. More friends and supporters waited in the adjacent lobby to be there for support.

The presence seems to have worked: the Chaudhrys won their case. They are now one step closer to potentially securing permanent residency in Canada.

The efficacy of university and student activism is evident. Yet it continues to be dismissed by people in positions of power. Maybe that's because of a looming perception that for students, political action is fun and easy.

Shannon Brownlee is a Dalhousie professor of film studies. Her support for the Chaudhrys was sparked "through student activism."

Brownlee says she found the Crown's dismissal of student efforts during the case "appalling."

Brownlee also sees an "assumption on the judge's part, and maybe the lawyers' part too, that in order for community support to be taken seriously it had to be based on personal acquaintance with the family, and that activism based on ethical principles or political principles was less valid."

While anyone might be able to sign a petition or write a letter, that doesn't take away from the thought and energy put into those acts. Students aren't stupid—and they certainly don't have oodles of time on their hands. Students who take the time to write letters or sign petitions are giving their emotional and political energy—which, as Brownlee says, "students don't have an extraordinary surplus of."

The idea that students and members of cause groups don't have a real stake in the events of their community is further blurred when you actually talk to them.

David Parker is the spoken word coordinator for CKDU and a member of Dalhousie's Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group. He says, "I've known the Chaudhrys for 2 years and gotten to meet and get to know their children... (and) develop a strong connection with them."

He says his work supporting the Chaudhrys stems from that relationship. "I just see it as something natural I would do, not because I'm an activist, but because I care about someone."

"I think ... if there's anyone in your life who you care about who was in such a life threatening situation you would do whatever you could as well... the consequences are so severe, the impending danger is so severe, that anyone would do whatever they could do try and stop that."

Students and professors are people first. Brownlee said that her choice to show support for the Chaudhry case was "mainly just me being a human being."

But as individuals who have the privilege of spending our time thinking about ideas, we also have a responsibility to come together and put those ideas into practice. It's part of our mandate as an institution to work with our community and challenge it to be better.

When Galant ignored our support because we were students and couldn't know the Chaudhry's situation, she threatened the institution of the university with obsolescence. University is not just a space in which to train for a job: it's ideally a space in which people can retreat from the status quo in order to envision a new, better world, and discuss how to put those visions into practice.

If the moral and political implications of our work shouldn't be listened to by our courts, then what should, and by whom? ☹

Professor, teacher, friend A tough goodbye to Sue Campbell

Evan Goulet
Opinions Contributor

"Have a seat," said Sue. My nervousness surprised me. The professor across from me couldn't have been gentler, more genuine, or more attentive. But I was intimidated. What if I said something absurd? What if my ideas weren't brilliant? I was a clueless Masters student trying to develop my thesis; she was an eminent scholar, and my supervisor.

It turns out, it didn't matter. When my thoughts made sense, she nurtured them. When they didn't, she questioned why. Her encouragement and humbleness calmed me. I left our meeting awestruck.

This woman was Sue Campbell, and she died this month at 56 years old.

"Sue understood people."

If you knew Sue, you probably already understand her ability to shape lives. If you didn't, you should know what you missed: some professors do much more than lecture and grade assignments.

Sue was such a talented and renowned philosopher that she could have taught students by simply telling them what to think. But that wasn't her style. She would guide, foster, and question ideas. Though she was a leading scholar in her philosophical fields, she was passionate about helping students contribute to those fields in their own unique ways.

As students, we expect our professors to teach us about their academic province. Truly great professors, however, are able to guide students beyond academia.

Like most people, I was somewhat lost when nearing the end of my degree. I considered doing another degree, starting some sort of career immediately, or travelling. I feared that if I didn't start

toward a career right away, I would fall behind. I received a lot of great advice from family and friends, but still felt uneasy.

After months of floundering, I emailed Sue. I explained my quandary and she offered to talk about it over a beer. When we met, I wasn't sure what to expect.

Sue wasn't a career counsellor or a life coach, but she understood people. And with that understanding, she knew how to help them. After months of knowing her, her interest in my thoughts no longer made me nervous, but her ability to guide those thoughts continued to amaze me.

She listened to me. Then she said that one of her only regrets was not travelling before starting her career. Maybe because of this, she became a collector of shot glasses from places she hadn't been.

That such a successful person could have such a regret (or any regret!) was enough to convince me to take a year off to travel. That year gave me the time and experience needed to figure out what to do with my life. When I later told Sue I wanted to use my philosophy background in law, she encouraged me by sharing her own experience shaping public and legal policy. Just like when she supervised my thesis, Sue didn't tell me what she thought was right. She used her experiences to foster my ideas and suggest their application.

It's been more than four years since I met Sue, and her teachings and advice have deeply shaped my thoughts and career. We often don't hear of the broad impacts seemingly ordinary people have had on others' lives. Dalhousie is better for having had such a professor, and worse for having lost her. ☹

Evan Goulet is an alumnus of Dalhousie's graduate studies programme in philosophy.

opinions



Would you rather live in a world of garbage or gardens? ••• Photos by Peter Griffin and Larry Bacon

Ladle liberty

Student levies fighting corporate food are unprincipled

Michael Kennedy
Opinions Contributor

Next week, students will be asked to vote on a referendum to decide whether student fees should be increased in order to provide a levy to the Loaded Ladle, an anti-corporate food collective. I, and many members of the Dal Liberty Society, will be voting against the "Loaded Ladle levy" on both moral and common-sense grounds.

While all Dal students would be expected to finance the Loaded Ladle's staff and operations, only about 30 per cent of Dal students can expect to enjoy it.

The business plan of the Loaded Ladle says that by paying your \$2 levy, you get to eat meals for free. If you aren't a Dal student or you've opted out of the collective, you have to pay \$1. Sounds great, right?

However, based on the Loaded Ladle's own business plan, they only expect to serve about 200 meals per week. In order to provide enough food for all Dalhousie students to enjoy, they would need to provide at least 600 meals per week.

Perhaps the Loaded Ladle is banking on 70 per cent of students not wanting to consume the cheap, delicious meals they want to provide. Not likely. At a cost of \$0, I imagine most cash-strapped Dalhousie students would want to enjoy the food that they financed.

So the inevitable result of a Loaded Ladle levy is that for every ten students who want some grub, three students will be getting it. That means that ten thousand Dal students would have paid \$20,000 to sit on the sidelines and hope that a well-fed lucky Ladler will throw them some scraps.

The solution: get to the Ladle before anybody else. Of course, this is easier said than done. At Concordia University, where a similar levy-funded food collective exists, this means waiting in line for at least 45 minutes before serving starts. I can't speak for all students, but I know that 45 minutes spent in line waiting for a meal is 45 minutes I don't have. I imagine that most study-centric students would agree. Arguably, they would not see why they should therefore

be forced to finance it.

Ladlers might respond by touting their operation as altruistic. While you may not get to enjoy some Loaded Ladle goodness, those members of the collective who have less money than you would be able to get some much-needed sustenance. The humanitarian problem with the Loaded Ladle, then, is that there is no reason why those students who need cheap food the most will be the first ones in line. And, for those students who can't afford other food options, we already have a student-financed food bank.

"If a freely-funded Loaded Ladle were to emerge on campus, I would be the first to applaud."

For those not convinced by Ladle economics, there is a principled motive to vote no to the levy. The Loaded Ladle is touted as an "ethical" alternative to the corporate food monopoly on campus. But I think it's unethical for a business with an ideological agenda being able to take the money of students, whether or not those students agree with that business's ideology. For all their good intentions, it's hard to deny a political bias in the Loaded Ladle; the organization's description includes a bat at corporate food and commits the group to "the broader goals of social and environmental justice."

Regardless of how many students agree or disagree with that mission statement, it is my belief that a society that is politically biased should not receive student money automatically. If I don't support a project on principle, my money should not be used to finance it. Students who do agree with the mission

should be the ones to pay for it. If I don't want to support Ladle politics, why should I be automatically included in order to study at Dalhousie?

We've campaigned on this idea before, and the typical response is "Don't worry, you can opt out!" One major problem with an opt-out is that many students don't have the time nor the energy to make an unnecessary, often awkward, trek to the office of that society to ask for their money back. Based on my experience, requesting an opt-out typically involves answering a multitude of questions about what the organization in question does, all of which are meant to beg the question "why are you such a bad person?!"

The most likely reason why levied societies prefer opt-outs to opt-ins is that it allows them to capitalize on the apathy of students. Most students at Dalhousie only have time for homework, sex, and food (and if they're lucky, sleep). They don't care about DSU politics, as evidenced by the abysmal annual voter turnout at DSU elections. During the opt-out period for NSPIRG, almost all students the Liberty Society recruited to opt-out hadn't a clue that they were financing a political society, and didn't know they had the option to get it back.

Apathy is bad, sure. But apathetic students shouldn't be taken advantage of by societies with political goals. If the Loaded Ladle believes in its values, then they should be able to rely on the generosity and dedication of students and members of the community who believe in their mandate.

Organizations that rely on their stakeholders are more dynamic and better managed than those that rely on tax dollars. If a freely-funded Loaded Ladle were to emerge on campus, I would be the first to applaud.

That's why members and supporters of the Dal Liberty Society, including myself, will be voting against the levy. It is wrong in principle, and it is bad in practice. I urge Dalhousie students to do the same. ☹

Michael Kennedy is a fourth year political science student and executive director of the Dal Liberty Society.

Load me up, Ladle!

Dal Liberty Society should serve more food, less bullshit

Justin Ling
Opinions Contributor

If there's one thing I can't stand, it's faux-populism: that horrible nagging voice that follows you around on every issue and insists on telling you, "I'm the voice of the people!"

Enter the Dal Liberty Society and their foolish campaign against, well, everything. The topic *du jour*: the Loaded Ladle.

Let's recap. The Ladle wants to give away essentially free (with a \$2 levy) food. Point one, Ladle.

On top of that, they want their food to be delicious, student-made and sustainable. Their goal is to tackle corporate production of food in favour of Nova Scotian farmers, benefiting your health, the environment and workers. Some of the food would even be grown at Dal.

The group has thus far worked its ass off, independently, trying to scrape together the money to serve you poor students, with no compensation for themselves. Game, set, match.

Finally, the group would be breaking the corporate monopoly on campus, creating the "competition" that the Dalhousie Liberty Society claims to love so much.

But the DLS says that working together to invest in a challenge to our current food at Dalhousie is "unethical". Michael Kennedy actually suggests that he opposes the "politics" of ethical food. Would they rather chow down on testosterone-injected fascist cows fed with the cinders of burned-down orphanages?

I for one, welcome 45-minute line-ups for good food. If it's that damn popular, I think it should be encouraged. If you can't wait, then you can go get food somewhere else.

Over the course of the year, I have no doubt that every student who wants to eat the Ladle's food will get many a chance. I would rather pay \$2 and potentially get fed several dozen times over the year than pay \$10 to be guaranteed a poorly-prepared slice of greasy pizza instead.

As a working student that occasionally hits the under-\$20-in-my-bank-account-so-I-can't-visit-an-ATM level, I hurriedly welcome with awkwardly outstretched arms anyone who says "So you've got no money? Here's some food."

If you're already shelling out money, hand-over-fist to be here, why should you be subjected to the obsessively ideological demands of the Dal Liberty Society as to how much you should pay for your food? So they want us to pay for every service we use individually, instead

of collectively. By that logic, we should be gouged by every food vendor, bookstore, public bench, restroom and prof ("that awkward post-class chitchat will be \$50, please.")

Chartwells does a lot of the food serving at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. Apparently this type of massive, multinational company that, according to Michael Kennedy, is more ethical than the Loaded Ladle, because they don't ask students to support it collectively.

When Chartwells was asked to use more local ingredients, being located on a farming campus and all, the company grudgingly "agreed" and started listing Pepsi as a local product. Yeah, that Pepsi.

The DLS want the people to be free to decide, but only if that means if the rich kids get their way, the corporations get to make bigger profits and, ultimately, Michael Kennedy is calling the shots.

When I grasp that pen of freedom in my sweaty little hands, I'll be enthusiastically signing over my \$2 because I think that if students want to take this university's food production into their own hands, let 'em.

If they want to benefit local farms, they should. And if they want to put that much work into a service for the students of Dalhousie, will essentially no return for themselves, I think they should be encouraged.

I'll also be donating \$20 to cover the cost of the first ten opt-outs that Mr. Kennedy lures with his bullshit flute.

Oh, and, as a final point—have you ever wondered where the DLS picked up its tactics? How, until this year, you never heard of them, but now they appear to be everywhere like a nagging fly of right-wing economics?

Well, kids, keep in mind that in 2009, "audio recordings, photographs and documents that were leaked from a recent Conservative Party student workshop in Waterloo exposed a partisan attempt to take over student unions and undermine Ontario Public Interest Research Groups (OPIRGs) on campuses across Ontario," according to an investigative piece written by the Ryerson Free Press.

One tip for young Conservatives included starting shell groups which were "issue-based," to promote the same partisan ideology with a different face. Many members of the new Dalhousie Liberty Society are former members of the Dalhousie-King's Conservatives. Coincidence?

Please, vote for the levy. That way, everyone can enjoy the Ladle's delicious food and so maybe—just maybe—the DLS will shut up and stop fondling Ronald Reagan's reanimated corpse in our student union building. ☹

DalGazette.com Website Top 5

- 1. BC Speed-skater crashes into exposed metal pole**
Dylan Matthias, Sports
- 2. Manitoba wheelchair basketball player in ICU**
Ian Froese, Sports
- 3. The best and worst places to hook up on campus**
Rebecca Spence, Arts
- 4. Happy Birthday, Samantha Nosal, here's a gold medal**
Ian Froese, Sports
- 5. How Halifax police perpetuate rape culture**
Hayley Gray and Katie Toth, Opinions

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Rebecca Spence Arts Editor

In living colour

Dallas Green and his band close out the Canada Games

Mick Côté
 Staff Contributor

Two weeks of effort and dedication ended on a soft note on Feb. 26, at the 2011 Canada Games free concert headlined by City and Colour.

Hundreds of people braved the cold and packed Grand Parade Square to listen to Dallas Green's chilling voice and personal songs.

"I'm going to go out back and put my hands in a fire for a minute and come back," said Green. "I hope you don't mind," he added, before leaving the stage to seek refuge by the heaters.

Green and his band played for nearly an hour-and-a-half in -20°C temperature. His hands were cold, his voice sometimes shaky, but his determination remained palpable.

"I don't know how many new songs I'm gonna play tonight," said Green in an interview before the show. "They're new and it takes a while to get a song feeling good."

Nonetheless, Green performed two new tracks from his upcoming album to a very receptive audience.

Of the two, "Oh Sister," a song written for the singer's sibling, received loud applause from the audience.

"That song is pretty serious, but that's kinda how I write songs," said Green. "It doesn't matter if you've been through something with your mother, father, your brother, your aunt, your uncle. You can replace that word, 'sister,' with whoever you've been through something like that with."

"Body in A Box," a song that could be perceived as Green's will and testament,

also played with the crowd's heartstrings. The singer introduced the track by saying he had received an email from someone, explaining that their friend had lost his son, Isaiah, in an explosion in Alberta. Once in his son's truck, the last place he had been before passing away, the man turned on the sound system to hear the song in question.

After the heart-wrenching performance, the man made his way to the stage and took time to thank Green for his compassion.

Green is used to drawing from personal experiences when writing songs. *Little Hell*, his new album set to be released in June, is nothing less than a culmination of his thoughts and emotions.

"I wrote some songs about my family, and there's some songs about being married and there's song that I wrote from lyrics I wrote when I was 16," said Green.

Like his sophomore album, *Bring Me Your Love*, the band recorded tracks in Hamilton's Catherine North Studios, a converted church space.

Green wanted to recreate the last album's feel, but without Dan Achen, the studio's owner who passed away last March, Green's first efforts at recording *Little Hell* proved themselves to be worthy of the album's name.

"I thought it was gonna be this great idea to sort of pay homage to him," said Green. "But then when the first week went by and everything was going wrong, I thought this was a really bad idea to try and recreate the vibe."

From dysfunctional tape recorders and temperamental equipment, Green



Dallas Green turning blue in the Halifax cold . . . Photo by Mick Côté

and his band pushed through and produced an album that Green said he is proud of.

Fans can expect some changes in the album's feel. Surely, Green's signature vocals and rhythms will be present, but the singer experimented with other sounds too, recording all of the electric

guitar tracks on a small amp from the 1950s.

"A couple of months ago, I said in an interview that I didn't want to make people dance, that I want to make them cry. But I feel I have to take that back. There's a few songs on this record that are so danceable," said Green.

"I know there will be some people that just want me to make a record that's just me sitting with a guitar. But I won't do that. Maybe I'll do that sometime, but right now, I write songs and the way they sound in my head is the way I put them on tape and you just hope that someone will get it." ☺



Sexsmith the Carleton on Mar. 8. . . . Photo supplied

Ron Sexsmith hopes he is a 'Late Bloomer'

Acclaimed singer-songwriter to play Halifax next week

Mathew Holden
 Staff Contributor

Ron Sexsmith is not a household name, but he should be. Especially in Canada. After 10 albums, two Junos and much critical acclaim, he has put in the time.

Sexsmith will be stopping in Halifax to play two shows at The Carleton on Tuesday, March 8 and Wednesday, March 9 to promote his 11th album, *Long Player Late Bloomer*.

With the worldwide release of the album this week, Sexsmith hopes to reach a broader audience.

"I wasn't sure at first what sort of record to make or if I should even make another record," he said in an email. "But I had the songs and I was looking for a producer who could help me make a record that might get heard."

"I wanted to do something that was far away from 'indie music' or 'alt country' and make a more straight-on pop album."

Sexsmith's first independent album was released in 1991. He made his big label debut in 1995. Since then Sexsmith has won critical acclaim for each of his subsequent albums.

However it is the praise from fellow musicians that is arguably more meaningful, at least from a musician's point of view. Bob Dylan, Elton John, Chris Martin, Michael Bubl , Steve Earle and Lucinda Williams are just a few of the many influential musicians from a variety of genres to praise Sexsmith's body of work.

"It's incredible and meaningful to me," he said. "I didn't expect it but it feels great."

He has turned to pop by changing a few aspects of his record-making process, specifically by working with well-known Canadian record producer Bob Rock. Rock is a man with a diverse music career, producing bands from Simple Plan to Metallica to Michael Bubl  and everyone in between.

Still, working with Rock hasn't

dramatically altered Sexsmith's musical style.

"But the sound is bigger and more polished I think... I hope," said Sexsmith.

In *Long Player Late Bloomer* the "Long Player" element refers to albums.

"I love albums! I love the sequence of a good record and album art," said Sexsmith. "A lot of folks these days don't care much for records as a whole but I see them as being like books or movies."

The "Late Bloomer" part was based on the song Sexsmith wrote.

"It's about waking up with a healthy skepticism but with a big dream as well," he said.

With the new album's release, Sexsmith has started on a tour that will take him all through Canada, as well as parts of the United States and Western Europe.

"I'm a home body in general but I love performing," he said. "I'm not a big fan of airports and flying but it goes with the territory." ☺

arts&culture

In-Flight Safety prepares for take-off

They've already wowed Halifax—now they're off to conquer Europe



In-Flight Safety will play the Paragon on Mar. 4 before jetting off to Europe. ••• Photo supplied by Jule Malet-Veale

Erica Eades

Assistant Arts Editor

“Check out that guy over there – I’ve been sitting here trying to figure out what his deal is.”

John Mullane is talking about the man a few seats away from us who has been having loud, exaggerated cell phone conversations for the better part of an hour.

That’s the problem with interviews in coffee shops, says the In-Flight Safety frontman: too many distractions.

But it’s no surprise that Mullane is having difficulty concentrating these days. Between writing an album, signing with an independent record label in the UK and planning a wedding, the Halifax-based musician has a lot on his mind.

Now the band will be adding touring to their already packed schedule. Their March 4 show at the Paragon is part of their east coast send-off for a tour that will take them to Texas for the South By Southwest (SXSW) music festival, and then on to Europe.

“We feel really lucky with our career right now,” says Mullane of being chosen to represent the Maritimes at SXSW. “We know a lot of young bands

who are struggling to get heard, and I totally understand that.”

The European tour is the result of In-Flight Safety’s recent signing with Conehead UK—an opportunity that came about after a friend overseas began passing their album around.

“He just happened to find, miraculously, two different people who were into it enough that they wanted to pick our record up,” says Mullane (the guys have also signed with German label, Waggle Daggel, which may or may not be the name of a bizarre sex act).

“We’ll be playing with a lot of crazy German bands with leather pants and stuff, I imagine,” Mullane jokes as he discusses their upcoming shows in eastern Europe.

With a yet-to-be-titled album in the works, the band will also be using these tours as a way to test out their new material.

Though Mullane stresses that the album is far from being finished, he believes it will sound significantly different from their previous work. Drawing influences from bands they idolize such as the Smiths and Interpol, Mullane says audiences can expect an increase in

dueling guitars; with keyboardist Daniel Ledwell taking a break from the keys and taking on the role of second-guitarist.

The new album will also be much lighter than their 2009 release, *We Are an Empire, My Dear*, which the band recorded independently on their label, Night Danger.

“Our last record was sort of a darker place,” says Mullane. “This one is a bit more ring-y.”

After spending a month overseas, In-Flight Safety will return to the east coast for a series of ECMA shows in Charlottetown. But just two weeks later, they’ll be heading back to the UK to perform at festivals in both Brighton and Liverpool.

“I’ve been fantasizing about getting a flat in London, so I can just stay there to shop for jeans when I’m not playing,” jokes Mullane, “but that’ll be too expensive.”

With a growing international fan-base, two European record deals, and a fourth album underway, I suspect that dream may become a reality any day now. ☎

In-Flight Safety will be playing tonight (Mar. 4) at the Paragon Theatre on Gottingen Street.

Peter de Vries

Staff Contributor

“My first tour of Canada was the stuff dreams are made of. Except for the money,” said Old Man Luedecke from the stage of Halifax’s Grand Parade. About 500 people gathered around the stage for his free show on Feb. 23.

Armed with only his banjo, a chair and his own two feet, Luedecke picked and stomped his way through 15 songs in the evening’s frigid -5C conditions. It was impressive that his hands hadn’t frozen to his banjo when he finished with “I Quit My Job,” before the crowd summoned him back to the stage for an encore with a hearty applause.

It was also remarkable how the audience was so entranced by Luedecke’s gravelly voice and captivating stories that the spectacle of him sitting on a chair while playing a banjo outdoors in Halifax winter conditions didn’t seem the slightest bit out of place.

Luedecke told many stories in between songs. In one of them he

Lentil soup for the university student’s soul



Mmm... soup. ••• Photo by Jordana Levine

Jordana Levine

Food Columnist

I walked to school this morning on sheets of ice. On the way home, it was raining but somehow it still felt like the temperature was below zero.

I was stuck inside my house as the rainstorm blundered on outside my window, wind and icy rain slashing at the trees.

All I wanted was a nice warm meal, without having to leave the house for any ingredients. I was tempted to order in some coconut curry and curl up in front of the TV, but I had a couple hours to kill, so I started rummaging through my cupboard.

The lentils were my first inspiration. The tiny reddish discs had been sitting on my shelf for a couple months, but I just didn’t have any inspiration to use them. Last time I bought them, I made an Indian dish that I was not too proud of and it kind of turned me off of cooking with the legumes for a while.

But I decided they were the perfect base for a flavourful, hot, comforting soup. And it took very little effort, which was a definite plus, considering how lazy I was feeling.

The only thing lentil soup really needs is some broth and lentils, and maybe half an onion. I added a couple other things to spice it up, but it was pretty basic:

1 cup red lentils
6 cups vegetable stock (I used bouillon cubes)

was trying to get back to Halifax from Vancouver with no money. He began explaining how he wound up eating an early, hearty breakfast in Sackville, N.B. with new friends along the way. Of course, he began picking the notes to “Big Group Breakfast” from 2008’s *Proof of Love* right after the song’s introduction.

Luedecke’s rendition of “Foreign Tongue” wasn’t only one of the night’s highlights, but also a demonstration of his knack for playing songs with both an innocent charm and suggestive tone.

“I need to taste your foreign tongue. I want first base, I need home runs,” sang Luedecke to laughs and a few hysterical shrieks from a few fans near the front of the stage.

Not forgetting that the Canada

½ onion, diced
½ shallot, diced
2 carrots, diced
2 tsp thyme
1 tsp oregano
Salt and pepper to taste
Handful fresh spinach

Sauté the onion and shallot in a pan with a couple drops of oil until they turn translucent and slightly brown.

In a separate pot, heat the stock to a boil. Add the lentils, thyme, oregano, salt and pepper and simmer. After about 10 minutes, add the carrots and cook until the lentils are soft and the carrots are fairly soft (although I like a little bit of crunch).

Adjust the seasoning, throw in some spinach for colour, and serve.

This is a great recipe for vegetables that have been lying around just a little too long. Celery, tomatoes and broccoli would be nice additions. You could add rice or potatoes to make it a heartier and more complete meal.

The more herbs and vegetables you put in, the more flavourful the soup will be – and the less salt you’ll need to add. It makes this dish low in fat and high in nutrients. Also, the lentils and spinach are a great source of protein and iron, which are an essential part of a vegetarian meal.

This soup also requires very little effort. Once everything is in the pot, you just let it simmer until it’s cooked.

Most importantly, it warmed my belly and fought off the chill-to-the-bone feeling of an icy, rainy, east coast day. ☎

Games are the reason for Halifax’s free two-week musical celebration at the Grand Parade, Luedecke suggested that “The Rear Guard”—one of many songs he played from his most recent album *My Hands are on Fire and other Love Songs*—would be his song if he were one of the participating athletes.

“My hands are on fire. I ain’t got no more time for all you charlatans and liars,” he sang, as if to elaborate on his previous thought.

Although the energy and heart of Luedecke’s performance were never deterred by the evening’s inhospitable conditions, he made one small concession:

“I wish (my hands) were on fire right now.” ☎

Old Man Winter



Cold weather didn’t stop a heartwarming performance. ••• Photo by Peter de Vries

Wicked and Weird

Buck 65 brings his eclectic sound home



He hasn't slept in four days, but Buck 65's energy never falters. ••• Photo by Peter de Vries

Peter de Vries
Staff Contributor

"Zombie delight! Zombie delight! Zombies are comin' to getcha' tonight!"

Buck 65 stretches his arms out forwards towards the crowd of about 800 from the stage of Halifax's Grand Parade. He's been spittin' about everything from baseball, gravediggers and bandits, to small-town life for about 45 minutes in the cold. Now he's rhyming his way through a fictional zombie apocalypse.

"Recognize thyself. Call in the troops. Zombies have a tendency to mobilize in large groups. There's little information and no answers. One weird thing is that they're excellent dancers—WATCH THIS!"

Some in the audience cheer wildly, while others laugh in amusement as Buck 65 begins dancing across the stage for a few frenzied seconds before returning to the mic to finish the song. Fans of the Halifax-based veteran hip-hop weirdo have been gravitating towards his odd mix of lyrical themes, DJ acrobatics and comical dance moves for about 20 years. Tonight those talents are on display in full force as he alternates rhyming, scratching at the turntables and breaking into outlandish but slickly executed bursts of dancing. His extra layers of winter clothing do nothing to hinder his dexterity.

He stomps and shouts his way through the guitar-driven chorus of "463," an old fan favourite from 2003's *Talkin' Honkey Blues*, before a few

voices in the crowd shout out their requests for "Wicked and Weird," another song from that album. He quickly obliges, delivering a rendition of the track with electronic blips that oddly contrast the banjo and beat-driven version on the record.

He tells the crowd about his restless journey back to Halifax from a recent performance in Paris.

"I haven't slept in about four days. I came running back here as quickly as I could. There's nowhere in the world I'd rather be than here."

The crowd cheers loudly as Buck 65 continues his banter. He's visibly emboldened by the crowd's appreciation as he tells them the story behind a song he wrote about Sable Island and its many horses. That song is "Blood of a Young Wolf," which he plays before quitting the stage with a wave to the crowd. Enthusiastic cheers fill Grand Parade as nearly the entire audience stays standing in the cold in anticipation of an encore.

Buck 65 reappears on stage only seconds after he left. His face shows a wild-eyed look of mock alarm. He leans backwards slightly, taking in the moment. It's as if he's overwhelmed by the crowd's response to his performance, but also hamming it up a bit.

He dedicates tonight's rendition of "Roses and Blue Jays" to his father and then closes his set with the thoughtful and articulate tale of "Craftsmanship." Much like the shoe-shiner in that song, Buck 65 has given his fans many reasons to come back. ☺

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STREETEER

by Joel Tichinoff

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"I am voting, I live
with a candidate"
Michael Gniewek
2nd year medicine



"Apathy"
Richard Wang
4th year neuroscience



"I don't think it
makes a difference"
Cynthia Tram
2nd year double major
microbiology-biochemistry



"Why am I not voting?
I need to think about it"
Katelynn Northam
2nd year IDS



"I don't have time"
John Cuma
3rd year computer science



"I'm not really engaged with this"
Meaghan McClurg
1st year public administration



"When are they?"
Greg Bathe
4th year double major
environmental science-economics



"I've never voted"
Michael Kovendi
DSU VP-Finance

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sports covers athletic events and topics relevant to Dalhousie and the Atlantic region. E-mail Dylan at sports@dalgazette.com to contribute.



Dylan Matthias Sports Editor

Volleyball shock

Tigers lose to UNB men's volleyball; 24-year streak ends

Ian Froese
Staff Contributor

Dalhousie's 24-year stranglehold on the AUS championship was going to snap eventually. It had to. But that doesn't make the men's volleyball team's defeat to the UNB Varsity Reds any easier to accept.

"Yeah, I never ever imagined my career ending like this," fifth-year veteran Max Burt said in a phone interview after his final match as a Tiger.

Instead, he had envisioned adding a national championship to his resume.

"I mean, it's kind of funny, when I got recruited with the guys in my same year we always wanted to be remembered as the team that finally brought (national) gold to Dal, but I guess we'll go out as the team that ended the streak."

UNB collected first blood on Feb. 18

in the opener of the best-of-three series when they bounced back from a 2-1 disadvantage to take a hard-fought five-set match. Two days later, UNB arrived at the Dalplex to rewrite the history books, edging the Tigers in another nail-biting contest. The scores went 18-25, 25-19, 25-22, 24-26, 15-12, giving UNB its first championship since 1979 and knocking out the dominant Tigers.

"UNB obviously came ready, and we were unable to raise our level of play enough," said Tigers head coach Dan Ota.

The Reds notched 23 kills and 10 digs courtesy of Julio Fernandez, and Tyler Veenhuis added seven kills and 11 digs of his own.

"We are a team that, in the beginning of the year, certainly had aspirations to do very well at a national level," Ota said over the phone. "So it's unfortunate this

is the way the season went for us."

Dalhousie's loss ends their remarkable championship reign. For almost a quarter of a century, the Tigers were a dynasty, winning every AUS banner between 1987 to 2010, and 30 of the past 31. AUS men's volleyball is considered Dal's to lose every year.

showed why they should be feared a weekend before when they decimated the Tigers in six consecutive sets. Dalhousie's stunning collapse in two straight contests paved the way for the V-Reds to wrestle the regular season title, and later the banner itself, from the black and gold.

season, and their starters struggled to develop chemistry on the court.

"I think the result is a reflection both on what UNB has done and what happened to our program this year," said Ota, a nine-time coach of the year. The defeat stings for the Tigers outfit. Their loss cost them a berth in the CIS championship. However, in a bare-bones AUS circuit of three teams, a changing of the guard might be a good thing. It causes the other national conferences to take notice.

"Looking at the big picture, UNB winning gives our conference more legitimacy across the country, and that's a very strong thing for our conference to have," said Ota.

The Tigers bid farewell this season to four players who reached their eligibility limits. They are Burt, Sander Ratsep, Aaron Binstock and Devon Parkinson. ☹

"I think the result is a reflection both on what UNB has done and what happened to our program this year."

Followers of the conference, however, were well aware the streak's days were numbered. UNB were continuously scaring the league's perennial favourites year after year, and the Varsity Reds

The Tigers had their share of issues this season, interrupting their chances for a repeat, said Ota. They suffered from injury problems, most notably Burt, who was sidelined for the first half of the

Tigers' playoff dream ends quickly

St. FX sweep Dal in AUS men's hockey

Arfa Ayub
Staff Contributor

Jason Bast's goal with 10 seconds left in regulation brought the Dalhousie Tigers men's hockey team's first playoff run in seven years to a heartbreaking end on Feb. 19. Dal lost 3-2 to the St. FX Men in the AUS quarterfinals. They lost game one 4-0 in Antigonish.

"That's kind of the nature of a two out of three series," said Dal captain Ryan Jenner. "It's not long. If you are not ready every shift you are not going to get the result you were looking for."

Dal were missing some key players, including their main goalie Bobby Nadeau and forward Shea Kewin, with injuries.

"It's not the way we wanted to go out," said goalie Josh Disher. "All the boys worked really hard all year and it's tough to end it that way." Disher had 35 saves in the game.

It was Disher's first and last AUS playoff appearance as a Tiger. He will be graduating this year along with teammates Chris Wall and Jenner.

In front of a sell-out crowd, the game had a little bit of everything, from heart-stopping moments to great defensive plays. The first period was wide open, with both teams trading chances but neither able to capitalize.

"We came out a lot stronger this game," said Dal forward Jacob Johnston. "We were kind of flat-footed

last game at their rink. This game we played really well defensively and made a point (of) using defence first as opposed to looking for offensive opportunities."

"It's not the way we wanted to go out."

Dal's Benoit Gervais opened the scoring in the second. He fired a wrist shot high glove side on St. FX starting goalie Joseph Perricone. The second period was a battle between goalies as each kept their team in the game. With about nine minutes remaining, Disher made two great sliding saves in a row to keep the lead intact.

"I saw the puck well and my defence played pretty well in front me, which made my job easier," said Disher.

A power-play goal by Phil Mangan tied the game up at one. A Chris Hult shot then slid through Disher's legs, giving St. FX the lead. With Bryce Swan sitting in the penalty box, Johnston capitalized on a power-play opportunity.

"I thought we battled well today," said Johnston. "I think the only thing that really didn't feel good was the loss with 10 seconds left in regulation. It would have been a little bit better to go out in over-time or something like that." ☹

opinion:

Small memories make the Games

Ian Froese
Staff Contributor

The Canada Winter Games has it. Same with the Olympics. It's a certain buzz that is hard to describe, an energy compelling us to cheer on athletes we've never heard of compete in sports we don't understand.

Now, sure, the Olympics is a far larger entity than the Canada Games can ever dream to reach and our provincial pride at the Games will never equal our national affiliation, but once you strip away its polished packaging, you will arrive at the core of these multi-sport festivals. At essence, it's raw celebrations of sports. Why else would we watch table-tennis or archery? These athletes have no cheques to cash, owners to appease, or corporate sponsorships. It's pure. It's athletics at its most basic: for the love of it.

When money is no object, sports can truly demonstrate why it is the world's finest reality TV show. Anything can happen. It's where athletes can overcome adversity or see their dreams dashed. It's where tears of happiness and also of despair flow.

The ringette teams from Saskatchewan and Manitoba know this fact well. Manitoba was favoured when the provinces met in the quarterfinals, and for good reason too. They had



Ringette at the Games. ••• Photo by Paul Baltine

contested every ringette medal since the sport was added to the Games roster in 1991. The Saskatchewan team would not be slouches, but history was not in their favour. Their last chance for a medal was in 1999 when they claimed bronze.

A semifinal berth appeared to be Manitoba's destiny again. They held a 2-1 advantage up until nine minutes left, until it happened: Saskatchewan suddenly potted two and we had a new leader. They held onto a 3-2 edge.

Saskatchewan's response at the final bell was sheer jubilation. Their arms flew, gloves launching into the air, rushing their goaltender with unadulterated glee. However, it is the image from the Manitoba side that is etched in my brain: each athlete was crying. Most huddled around their bench, but three were off to the side. They were consoled by their proximity to each other, not by words. Two of them stood in silence while the other blankly stared at the ice below.

Outside the Manitoba dressing room, I waited to quote their thoughts. It took awhile. Their coaching staff were the first to leave the room. They solemnly spoke amongst themselves and then returned to their distraught girls. 10 minutes later, a captain finally took my request. Her eyes were still red from the tears she shed.

Although heartbreak such as that can

pierce the soul, the Canada Games produced its fair share of joyous moments too. Those memories that pull at the heart strings.

The women's hockey game was meaningless, Nova Scotia was decimating Yukon 12-0. It was more of a delightful keep-away battle than a hockey game, until it happened: Yukon scored with 1.8 seconds remaining.

Just a goal, you say. You're right, but the joy it created warmed even the coldest of hearts. Yukon's fans relished the moment with a decibel level probably not matched the entire day. The team piled on top of their goalscorer. Bluenose athletes responded with a standing ovation. It was enough to make your skin crawl.

The final bell soon rang and the players mobbed their goalie with the enthusiasm of a team that won the championship. Nova Scotia even had to wait to shake hands because the Yukon girls were too busy rejoicing.

Those emotions, the good and the bad, are what sports is all about. It's why we care. It's why over 6000 people volunteered to be apart of it. It's why 5500 crammed into the Forum to watch boxing, many for the first time.

I'll be recalling some of my memories for the months to come. Hopefully you watched the Games yourself and have stories of your own. ☹

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DalGazette.com



sports

Lohnes, Landry win gold for N.S.

Judo a strong event for Team N.S.



Nova Scotia took gold in judo. ••• Photo by Sarah Kraus

Sarah Kraus
Staff Contributor

Nova Scotia's Whitney Lohnes and Dylan Landry created quite a scene at Saint Mary's University Tower Feb. 23 as they each earned gold medals for their outstanding performances in judo competition.

The sell-out crowd was deafening, ringing cowbells, clapping accordion-like fans, banging cheer sticks together, stomping on the bleachers and hollering encouragement at the competitors.

Competing in the under 60 kilogram class, Landry's three bouts were over quickly, as he executed breathtaking flips that forced the officials to award him early victories.

Landry, 18, trains with the Port Hawkesbury Judo Club and entered the Games as a favourite after taking first place in the 2010 Atlantic Judo Championships.

His teammate, Lohnes, was more technical in her approach, winning three of her four matches after the full four minutes had been played. Though her style was less flashy than Landry's, her pins and holds were effective in the end, as she fist-pumped to the crowd

who rose to their feet and erupted in applause.

While there was a strong base of support for Ontario and New Brunswick, the home fans were without question the most boisterous.

Lohnes was under a lot of pressure from local media after being labelled as a medal favourite and selected as Nova Scotia's flag bearer for the closing ceremonies. Now she will be able to carry that flag with a gold medal wrapped proudly around her neck.

The competition ran very smoothly, with one bout following another within seconds. The only delays were caused by multiple nosebleeds, as well as an elbow injury to Nova Scotia's Heide Feif. As a medal hopeful, she bravely tried to continue her match, but medical staff convinced her to withdraw.

Feif, with her arm in a sling, returned to the bleachers in good spirits a few hours later, as she cheered on her teammates for the win. ☺

Sarah Kraus is a Kings' journalism student and multi-sport athlete. She volunteered with the Canada Games and was based at Saint Mary's. She also writes for the Gazette.

opinion: Let's all blame each other!

All at Dal need to start supporting and stop pointing

Henry Whitfield
Staff Contributor



Are you a Tigers fan?

••• Photo by Paul Balite

With a record streak of 24 straight AUS championship volleyball wins on the line, the fifth set was about to start and you could cut the tension in the building with a knife.

The cheers of "UNB, UNB, UNB," rolled around the court, and the Varsity Reds fans decked in Red were overpowering the Tigers fans in the attendance.

What's wrong with this picture?

This scene played out at the Dalplex last weekend, in front of a less than three-quarter-full crowd.

Over 400 computers were watching the match from across the country, many alumni and parents were watching to see history in the making.

However, the home crowd failed to show up and support their athletes.

Heading to Sunday's game to watch the action play out wasn't just about who won or lost, but about showing gratitude for athletes that have sweat, bled and given everything on that court, many of them in their final game ever for the black and gold.

Part of the reason may be attributed to the start of the reading week break, but this has been a trend for a long time. Where is the support for our student athletes?

Depending on who you talk to, it is always someone else's fault.

The same excuses come up.

It's the university's fault for not putting in more funding, it's the athletics department's fault for not engaging the students and lastly it's the students' fault for not showing initiative to come out.

No one wants to take the blame, but it's an issue that needs to be solved.

A quick look at Dalhousie's home-

page shows nothing affiliated with athletics at the school, but looking at every other school in the Atlantic University Sport conference shows at least a link to their athletics department on their homepage.

A closer look at the athletics department website (www.athletics.dal.ca) shows three of the four rotating stories are about Recreation classes, no mention of the semi-final basketball game against St. FX.

A trip to the residences on campus show a lack of advertising or mention of any upcoming games, while only one in every ten students we asked had even attended a game this year, despite having free admission. Many cite bad teams as a reason for staying away, but that's an excuse that is getting tired. And it's not true: all of Dal's teams are at least competitive night to night, and most are legitimate yearly AUS title contenders.

But going to athletic events isn't just about the team winning, it's about showing pride in the school you attend, supporting the athletes that put it all on the line night in and night out, and about going out with friends and having a fun time. Beer is, after all, served at all Tigers games.

Whatever the issue is, the three groups need to stop blaming each other and get together to work on engaging students and bringing out the support our student athletes deserve.

This Saturday the men's basketball team battles it out at the Metro Centre against St. Francis Xavier in a pivotal semi-final match. The winner is guaranteed a spot at nationals.

Come out and celebrate the athletes who represent our school and show the AUS that Dalhousie has pride, spirit and that the black and gold are no pushovers on the court or in the stands. ☺

•••••
"Many cite bad teams as a reason for staying away, but that's an excuse that is getting tired."
•••••

PEI fighter a star in Nova Scotia

Injured MacMillan wins gold

Ian Froese
Staff Contributor

The Forum buzzed like it hadn't all evening, and it wasn't even for a Nova Scotian.

"PEI! PEI! PEI!" the audience shouted. Their noise was deafening. Their support was extraordinary. Robert MacMillan suddenly became the crowd's own; adopted delightfully by 5500 smiling parents.

A flurry of jabs and crosses enabled the Island boxer to close his three point deficit to one against Ontario's Kingsley Alexander in the 81-kilogram class. It was 8-7 after two rounds.

The unexpected boost from the pro-PEI crowd prior to the final round was all the added support MacMillan needed.

With the audience and the Nova Scotian fighters on his side, MacMillan answered with an explosive attack, notching point after point. A standing eight-count midway through the stanza nearly clinched the contest. Each second the referee counted raised the audience's joy exponentially.

When the round closed, MacMillan was greeted to a robust standing ovation. The 17-year-old fighter returned to his red corner. One of his coaches congratulating him would later pause, scanning the audience to his right. His expression said it all: he was in awe.

MacMillan notched a remarkable 12 points in the third round to win 19-12.

As great a performance as it

was, Halifax almost didn't have the opportunity to watch the thrilling bout. MacMillan wasn't going to be there.

The fighter broke his foot in late December playing soccer and there were doubts whether he could get the cast off in time to trade punches at the Forum.

"It was pretty scary," said PEI head coach Howard Watts. "We thought that was it. No Games for him."

"When they said at the very least that it would be six to eight weeks, period. I said I didn't think he could do it."

Watts is thrilled he was proven wrong.

While playing intramural soccer at school on December 20, the boxer rolled his ankle. Doctors told him it would take six to eight weeks until he could discard the cast, not long before the Canada Games. And then he would need to train in the ring. An appearance in the Games was doubtful for the Island athlete.

However he trained hard, refusing to rest. MacMillan had his cast removed in six weeks.

"That's what amazed us, that he was able to keep his conditioning up," Watts said, his enthusiasm infectious even an hour after his pupil's phenomenal comeback. "He was working at the gym, doing sit-ups with his cast on. Most people wouldn't do that, hey? We're very proud of him." He also trained his upper-body by swimming, and completing pushups and chin-ups. All with his cast on.

His walk was a limp instead when MacMillan's cast was detached on February 3. He returned to the ring about a week later to get his foot back to 100 percent. It didn't happen.

"No, not in the foot work. No, he wasn't," said his coach. "Everything was flat-footed with him, he wasn't able to, you know, stand (in the proper position), he had to move his whole body around."

With the gold medal strung from his neck, MacMillan remembered to thank his family, friends, teachers and physiotherapist Colin Moore for their support in returning him to boxing, and eventually propelling him to gold.

"So many people helped out," said the soft-spoken bruiser, amidst congratulatory comments from friends and family. "They knew that this was something really important to me, they would let me leave and go (to my physiotherapist to) take care of myself."

MacMillan became the hero of a house of 5500. He battled the odds to even wear the gloves on the national stage, and now he has a gold medal to show for it.

Praise should deservedly be directed to MacMillan for the incredible dedication he displayed in the ring, but, even still, he would not forget to thank his support network.

"I had to win it for everybody. Everybody that supported me."

And this is the sport they want to eliminate from the Games. ☺

sudoku.

	2		3	1			
	4			8			3
	1					8	2
		2				1	
			7	9			
		6			3		4
9			2		6		1
					7	5	
5	7		9	4			

Canada Winter Games Halifax 2011



TOP LEFT: Matthew Basil Charles Whitford of Kentville, N.S. takes on Richard Horth of Quebec.

TOP MIDDLE: 17 year-old Dallas Rourke executes a trick on her first jump, winning her a silver for women's halfpipe.

TOP RIGHT: Dartmouth native Noah Ferguson-Losier skates one of his five events during the games.

MIDDLE LEFT: Jayden Rau of Waterloo, N.S. and Alex Green of Fall River N.S. compete in figure skating dance.

MIDDLE: Jeremy Page from Falmouth soars in the air at Martock. Page won silver in the men's halfpipe, besting 24 others on Feb. 24.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Taylor Gordon of Sackville, N.S. takes on Jordan Goulet of Quebec in the semi-finals

BOTTOM LEFT: Dalhousian Kita McRory places sixth overall at the parallel giant slalom event on Feb. 22 at Ski Martock.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Cyrus Taylor of Middleton, N.S. takes on Luke Holland of PEI in the semi-finals.

••• All photos by Abram Gutscher, except TOP RIGHT and MIDDLE RIGHT by Omar Bawhab

more photos online at **Dal Gazette.com**

sports

N.S. box to two more gold and a silver: North Preston native wins gold

Ian Froese

Staff Contributor

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If this was the Canada Games swan song for boxing, Nova Scotia will be remembered as being among the loudest to sing its praises.

Over 5500 boisterous fans packed the legendary Halifax Forum last Friday evening en route to the home side's two golds and two silvers.

Jason Downey of North Preston had the crowd in a joyous mood early when he earned gold in the 52-kilogram class in a fiery battle. Nova Scotia struck gold once again later in the evening when Matt Wittford exceeded his opponent in a tiresome 91-kilogram bout that required a tiebreaking countback.

Silver medals were counted from Sackville's Taylor Gordon in 64-kilogram

and Cyrus Taylor of Middleton in the 69-kilogram championship.

Nova Scotia's four medals equals their haul from Whitehorse in 2007. These are Nova Scotia's first boxing golds since 2003.

Downey, 15, rewarded the supportive audience early with two consecutive uppercuts, leading him to a 5 - 1 advantage after the first against Manitoba's Julio Escorcia. He showered further points in the second, and played more conservatively in the third for a 17 - 4 final.

"It was wonderful," he said, having composed himself after bursting into tears when the referee raised his arm. "Winning that gold medal meant everything to me. I trained four years for this."

"I can't even describe it. I'm so happy right now," Downey said.

In the final bout, Wittford, 16, kept pounding to beat Alberta's Brandon Cardinal in a draining fight which had each party on the ropes.

After a 3 - 1 lead for Wittford, his counterpart closed the deficit to tie it at four. The judges' scorecards were referenced in the countback to officially give Wittford the 10 - 9 edge.

Earlier, Taylor Gordon, son of Nova Scotian head coach Wayne Gordon, was involved in a shady fight that had the crowd raining boos on Ontario's Zsolt Daranyi.

Daranyi fired a low jab in a rough first round, causing Gordon to keel down for a split second. The score was notched at three apiece, until a standing eight-count sealed Gordon's fate. He fell 9 - 3.

"I'd never call down my opponent. Everyone fights to their style," replied Gordon, when asked about his

opponent's questionable tactics. "I'm sure if you asked him, he'd say that I was the dirty player. I left it all on the ring, I have no regrets."

Silver was also the prize for Cyrus Taylor, 16, when he met Ontario's Luis Valdivia in the 69-kilogram fight. Taylor refused to topple over in the third round, getting in well-timed shots, but he would ultimately drop the decision 8 - 5.

Chants of "Cyrus! Cyrus!" rang through the crowd during the match, a gesture the Nova Scotian will not soon forget.


"If they can make a kid feel like this after losing a gold-medal match, what else can you ask for?" he said. "I'm the happiest kid in the world right now."

Nova Scotia head coach Wayne Gordon was also thrilled with the evening's results.

"I don't know, it's like the day after

Christmas," he said, describing the bittersweet feeling he has after watching the journey of his seven-member team close. "It's hard to fathom. It's hard for me to contemplate what to say. I'm very emotional right now."

Boxing is not on the program for the 2015 Games in B.C. after the sport was dropped for failing to meet certain criteria. The sport's results were not disclosed. Boxing can reapply for a spot in the 2019 Games.

In other gold-medal action, PEI's Robert MacMillan was adopted by the Halifax crowd as he came back to win 19 - 12 in the 81-kilogram class. Saskatchewan's Brody Pigeon, BC's Jessy Brown, David Theroux of Quebec, and Ontario's Cody Crowley also left the ring victorious in their respective divisions. 

Nova Scotia's Armsworthy loses in badminton

Sarah Kraus

Staff Contributor

.....

Instant elimination is tough. Just ask Nova Scotia's Spencer Armsworthy.

In the first round of men's singles badminton at the new Canada Games Centre, Armsworthy lost in three games to Saskatchewan's Sean Lamb, ending his hopes of advancing to the next round.

The match was riddled with errors, as both players had difficulty keeping the birdie in play. As a result, the rallies were very short.

Armsworthy's teammates said that with nine courts in the Centre, and spectator seating all around, it is often difficult to concentrate and maintain sight of the shuttle.

In the first game, Armsworthy read his lines well, which allowed him to pull off a win by a score of 21 - 13.


However, badminton is a best-of-three sport, and Armsworthy's court awareness really faltered in the next two games, costing him precious points.

Lamb did a fantastic job of keeping his shots to the back of the court, where Armsworthy would mistakenly let them drop, thinking they were out. With four line judges plus a head official at each court, it was futile for either player to contest calls.

Lamb quickly took control of the match by playing aggressive smashes that frequently caught Armsworthy out of position.

While there were a lot of disappointed Nova Scotian spectators in the crowd, fans from across the country were able to watch the game online, as it was streamed live through Bell Aliant.

Lamb, sporting a Superman tattoo on his calf, went on to win his next game as well, and will continue his hunt for a medal.

Another Nova Scotian, Myles Dalton, was awarded a default victory when his opponent withdrew due to a hamstring injury. 

Sarah Kraus is a Kings' journalism student and multi-sport athlete. She volunteered as a media representative with the Canada Games, and was based at Saint Mary's. She also writes for the Gazette.



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Tigers hammer competition in AUS swimming championship

26 swimmers head to nationals with high expectations

Paula Sanderson
Staff Contributor

Hosts Dalhousie swam to their 13th straight AUS championship last weekend. The men's team continues to be undefeated since 1999 and the women's team since 2002.

Dalhousie consistently made the podium. The men's team took the 2011 AUS swimming championship with 430 points, followed by Memorial with 123.5 points and Acadia in third place with 123 points. The women's team won the championship with 444 points followed by the University of New Brunswick with 210 points and Memorial in third place with 78 points. Mount Allison and the University of Prince Edward Island did not place.

"They've stepped up once again."

For winning, both men's and women's teams were presented with \$1000 from Alexander Keith's Brewery to aid the swim program.

Tiger Ceilidh MacPherson was awarded rookie of the meet and female swimmer of the meet. David Sharpe, also from Dal, was male swimmer of the meet. Male rookie of the meet was awarded to Luc Boudreau from Acadia University.

Sharpe won an impressive four events: the 100-metre and 200-metre butterfly as well as the 100-metre and 200-metre backstroke. Captain Terri-Lynn Benison won three events: the 100-metre and 200-metre butterfly and the 200-metre backstroke.

"They've stepped up once again," said coach David Fry about the team's performance. "They train really hard and

it's really gratifying."

Over the years Fry has coached hundreds of athletes who go on to win the AUS championship.

"It's a lot of special memories," he said. "Each year is different."

"It's awesome just to be part of the winning team," said rookie Meagan Bernier. She met her expectations at her first AUS championships. "We came into the meet positive with high expectations," she said. "We came out with what we wanted."

Bernier won the 400-metre freestyle event.

An impressive 26 Dalhousie swimmers qualified for CIS in Calgary – far out numbering any other Atlantic team.

Fry said that many of the swimmers did well even though they were not fully rested or "tapered" because of CIS coming up. The team is expecting big results at CIS.

Bernier, like the rest of the CIS-bound swimmers, is looking forward to the Canada-wide competition. "It's going to be awesome," she said. "I have high personal goals and I know we can all achieve them."

Tiger Bryan Fumerton said that winning the AUS championships is a good way to enter the CIS championships.

"It's a good stepping stone," he said. "The atmosphere is really powerful."

Fumerton and the rest of the men's team face a lot of expectations. They hope to receive more points than previous years with a goal of moving up in the standings.

The team celebrated their AUS championships by going out for a team dinner. "We're going to Boston Pizza," said Fry.

But for Fumerton, the celebrations will start after CIS.

"It's all about the next two weeks," said Fumerton. "Then we really celebrate." ☺

Dal win AUS men's, women's track titles

More records fall in successful season for Dal track

Susan Sobey
Staff Contributor

The Dalhousie track and field teams travelled to the Université de Moncton for the AUS championships on Feb. 26 and 27, with both teams bringing home AUS banners.

The women's team claimed their 22nd consecutive AUS title with 166 points, well ahead of second place St. FX's 94, while the men's point total of 169 more than doubled the closest competition, Moncton, to earn their 10th consecutive title.

"It was one of the few AUS championships records that wasn't held by Dal, so it was really nice to get one more."

Four AUS championship records were also set over the weekend. Rob McCulloch broke his own pentathlon record set at last year's championships with a total score of 3555 and was named AUS meet MVP. Elizabeth MacDonald had a huge throw in the weight throw to improve her own championship and Dalhousie records to 15.61 metres. Rookies Jordan Leonard and Rebecca Haworth set new records in the pole vault and high jump with leaps of 3.01 and 1.71 metres, respectively.

"Setting the record was definitely a goal for the year," said Haworth. "It was one of the few AUS championships records that wasn't held by Dal, so it was really nice to get one more."

The performance gives Haworth confidence heading into the CIS nationals, where she will be looking to be a medal contender. For her efforts and her fifth-place CIS rank, Haworth was named AUS female rookie of the year, while also picking up the AUS student-

athlete community service award.

There were a number other Dalhousie athletes who brought home the gold, with the women victorious in 12 of a possible 17 events, and the men winning 11 of 16 events.

The men swept the podium in both the high jump and long jump events, with Simon Watts earning his third AUS high jump title in as many years with a jump of 2.00 metres, and his first long jump gold with a 6.33 metre effort. For his performances and third-place CIS rank in the high jump, Watts' was named AUS male athlete of the year.

veterans took control of the track events. Joining Haworth and Leonard at the top of the podium were fellow rookies Juliana Blois and Chantelle Robbertse. Blois found success in the long and triple jumps with leaps of a 5.32 and 10.91 metres respectively, while Robbertse was victorious in the pentathlon with 3008 points.

Dalhousie swept the podium in the women's 1000-metre, 1500-metre, and long jump. Ashley Ryer led the charge by defending her 1500-metre title with a time of 4:39.12 before also winning the 1000-metre in 2:56.07. Fourth-year veteran Amanda McNeil earned her first individual AUS title with a time of 43.29 seconds in the 300-metre. Caroline Schlosser was named AUS female athlete of the year due to her high CIS rankings in both the 1000-metre and 1500-metre events.

The Dalhousie women were victorious in all three relay events. The team of Blois, McNeil, Dere Ikomi, and Kailey Hilchie won the 4x200-metre in a time of 1:49.60. In the 4x400-metre race, McNeil, Ikomi, and Hilchie teamed up again, along with Britany MacArthur, to win the event in 4:20.95. The 4x800-metre team of MacArthur, Ryer, Schlosser, and Gina Stewart destroyed the field with their 10:09.87 effort.

Head coach Peter Lord is very pleased with his team's performances and credits the commitment of both his athletes and coaching staff.

"I thought the team showed a lot of spirit and determination to retain the titles," Lord said. "Many athletes came up big and exceeded expectations. The result is a credit to the hard work the athletes have put in and the dedication of the coaching staff." Lord was named AUS coach of the year.

Next up for the Tigers will be the CIS championships at the University of Sherbrooke March 10-12. ☺

Susan Sobey ran for the Dal track team very successfully for five years.

more more more at DalGazette.com

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Dalhousie University's Department of Athletics and Recreational Services offers Dal students plenty of opportunities to get active, meet up with friends, show your competitive spirit and take your mind off the books! You can also head to Dalplex with your student ID and unwind while staying healthy.

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March 4

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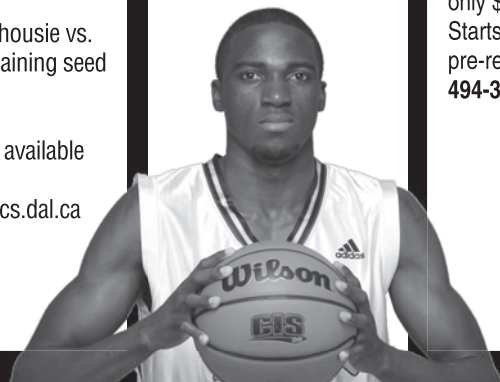
SUBWAY AUS Men's Basketball Championship at the Halifax Metro Centre!

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Email hreynold@dal.ca for more info.

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Check out our page this month and you could win a great prize!

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March 10

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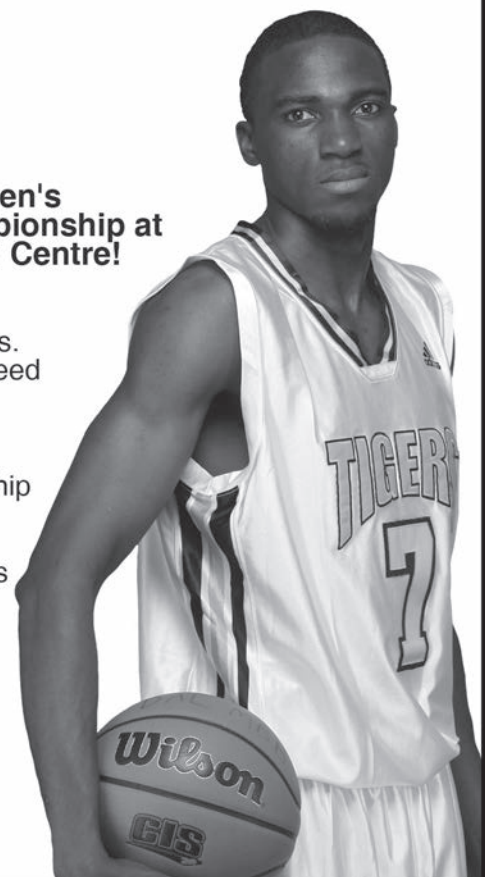


SUBWAY AUS men's basketball championship at the Halifax Metro Centre!

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Check out the Tigers website for more information!



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AU student Kristy in Edmonton, AB

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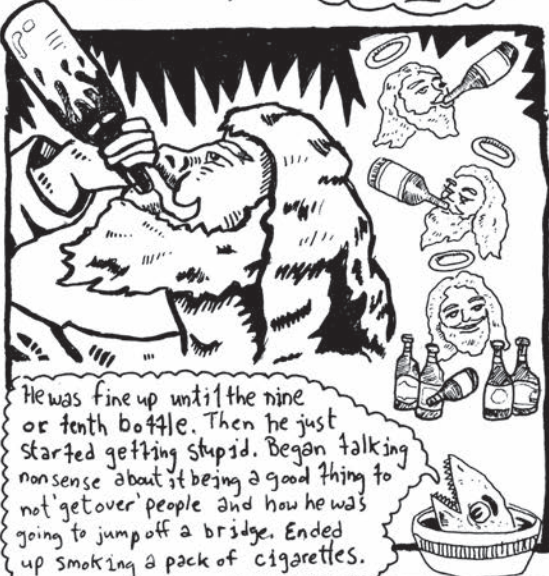
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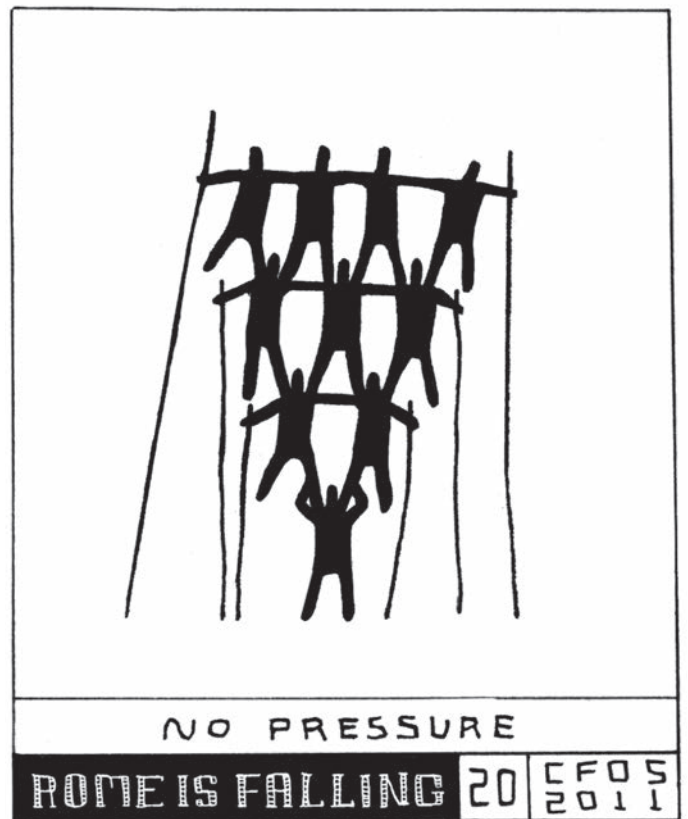
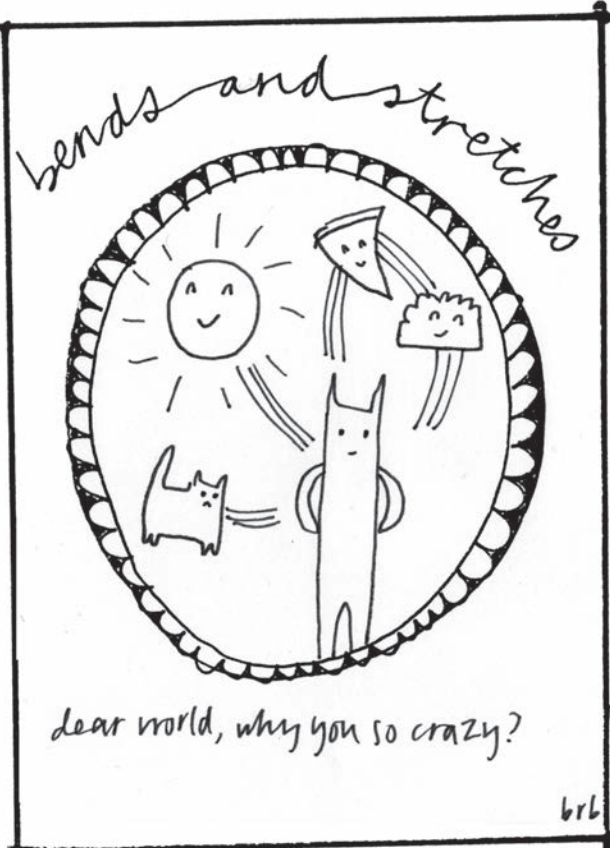
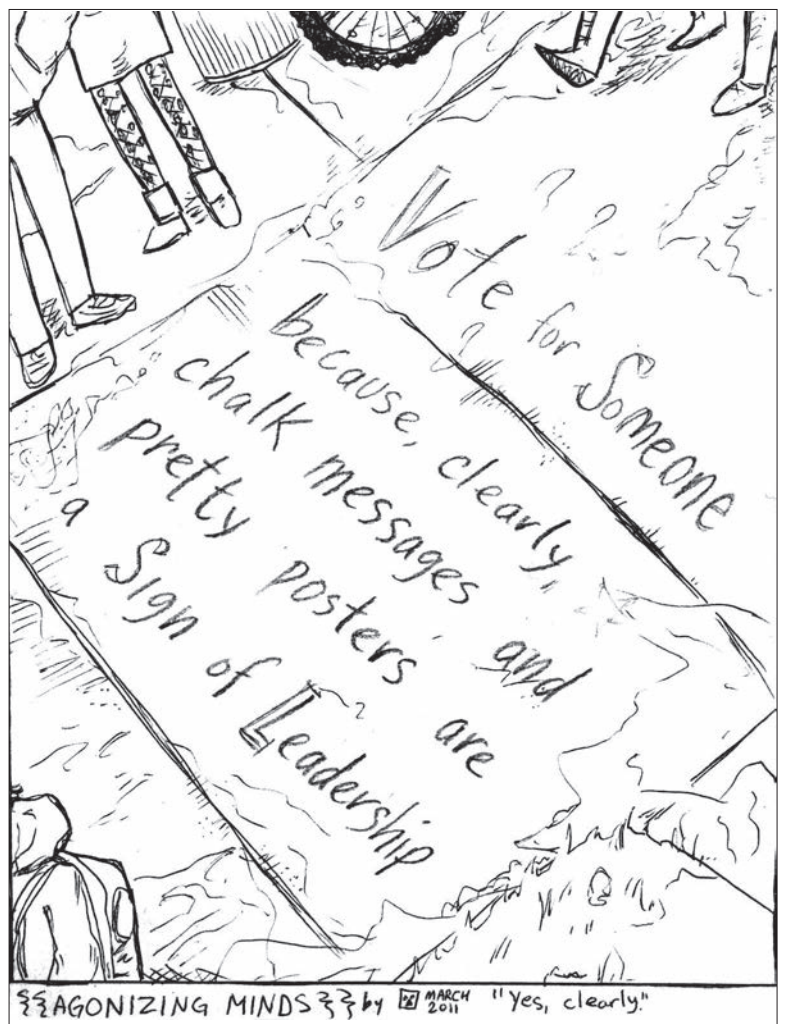


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DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

Editor in Chief:
Shani Blankrot

March 4th 2011

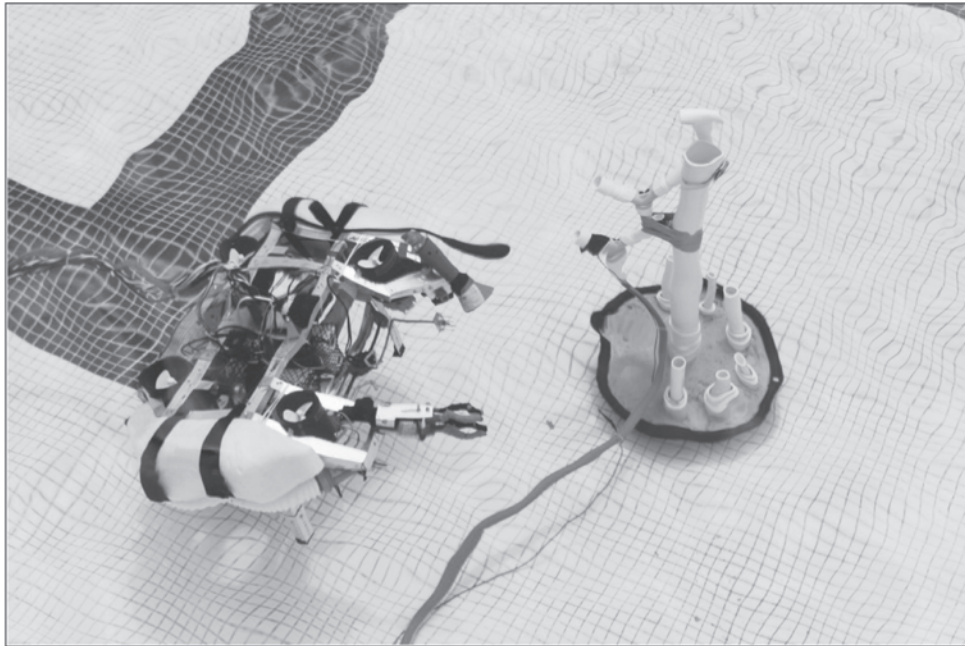
Dal ROV team tackles the Gulf Oil Spill

What are you up to this summer? The Dalhousie Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) team already has big plans. They're heading to Houston, Texas, to compete in an ROV competition hosted by MATE, the Marine Advanced Technology Education Centre, an organization committed to raising technical awareness among students.

The Sextant recently caught up with Steven Doll (Mech '12), a section leader on the team, to discuss this exciting opportunity. Every year, the competition attracts students from schools around the world, including some well-known names such as MIT and CalTech. The theme of this year's competition is the Gulf Oil Spill, with teams having to design an ROV that can plug a simulated

oil spill (similar to the BP robots that tried, and failed, to plug the oil spill back in April of last year). And a huge ocean disaster requires a huge pool to simulate

it – namely the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, home to the largest indoor pool in the world. This space center, one of NASA's



ROV in action at last year's MATE competition

team, consisting of about 25 members from all disciplines of engineering, has already set up a pool and begun to test their unit. They also need to worry about

most of their recruiting for this year, however it is a good opportunity for interested students to get a first-hand look at the kind of stuff they do.

Currently, the ROV team plans on sending a handful of members to the competition this summer, and is looking into getting funding to send more. They are hosting a night at the T-Room on March 30th and everyone is encouraged to attend. Anyone interested in sponsoring the team, or donating to the cause, can contact the team at rovdal.ca or by visiting them in their office.

We wish the ROV team the best of luck at the competition and hope they aren't the ones saying "Houston, we have a

problem...!"

For more information on the team, check out:

societies.dsu.ca/privateers

CO-OP CORNER

Things to Remember:

- The Co-op website offers many tips and is very informative. The website is engandcompcoop.dal.ca
- Round II is from February 15 – April 8

WORD OF THE WEEK

Sexton Parking Lot-View Plaza(n): This Spring Break, we sat back and took in the breathtaking view of the Sexton Parking Lot while leisurely working relentlessly on a pile of assignments and projects, and drinking Irish cream flavored coffee.

Editors' note: Word of the Week is a humour column based on popular expressions around Sexton Campus. If you have any complaints or suggestions, please email sextant@dal.ca. Obviously we prefer suggestions!



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Looking for something to do? Not spending enough time mingling with other faculties/disciplines? Then check out some of these events.

Saturday, March 5th
IRON RING

Thursday, March 10th
EWB/Eng Week, T Room

Saturday, March 12th
Dal OUT, T Room 9-12

Does your society have an event on Sexton Campus? Send an email to sextant@dal.ca

There's more online!

There's much more content for this issue - ONLINE. Don't miss out. You can access the entire online issue by scanning this bar code. Or visit thesextant.ca



Dalhousie Formula SAE



Phil Thibodeau
(5th year Mech)

In May, the Dal Formula SAE Team will compete in a field of 120 teams at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Michigan. The competition features student-designed race cars, and draws over 1500 students

from five continents. The competition focus is on the design of the vehicle, but there is also an exciting performance-test portion of the competition, featuring acceleration and autocross events. Although restrictors limit the top-speed to around 110 km/hr, the light-weight vehicles are often capable of going 0-100 km/hr in under four seconds. This year's team focused on building a light-weight and

adjustable chassis. The car is expected to be the lightest ever made by a Dalhousie Team and features a student-designed dry-sump oil system, carbon fiber body, and a CNC-profiled frame. It is said that a typical team spends in the range of 10,000 hours designing, building, and testing their vehicle. The Dalhousie Formula SAE Team is no exception, with 35 students participating from Mechanical, Electrical, Industrial, and Civil.

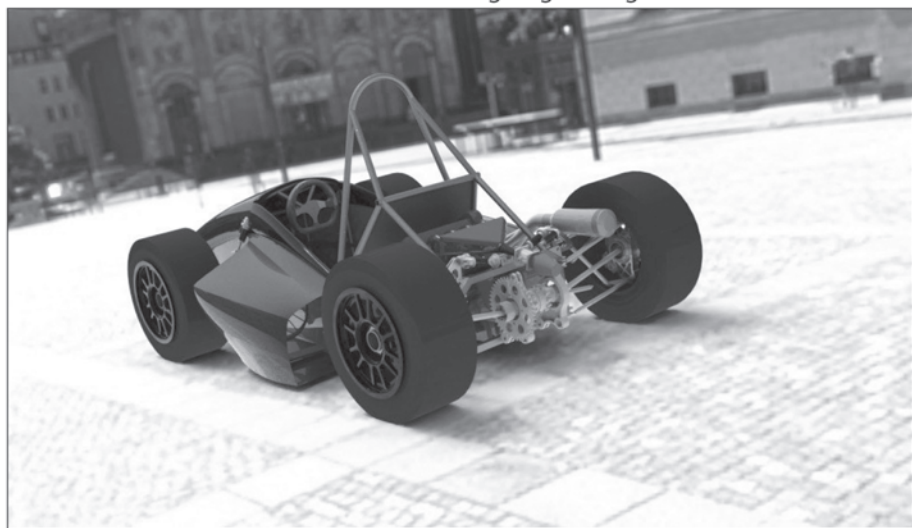
The Formula SAE Team is always looking for new members and sponsors. Members enjoy a wide-range of experience from high-performance design to hands-on fabrication and vehicle tuning. Formula SAE teams are often seen as an important stepping stone into the automotive industry and no previous experience is required to join. The team is made possible by industry

sponsors, who donate parts, money, and expertise. Supporters are promoted through logos on the vehicle, website, T-shirts, and local events. The Dalhousie Formula SAE Team would like to sincerely thank its major sponsors, including: Shell, Fastenal, Bombardier, Cartesian Tube, Dalhousie University, NSK Bearings, and everyone else who has contributed to the team's success.

For more information, e-mail fsae@dal.ca.

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CAD Renders of Car #18 – Dalhousie University

Questions, Comments and to Contribute sextant@dal.ca



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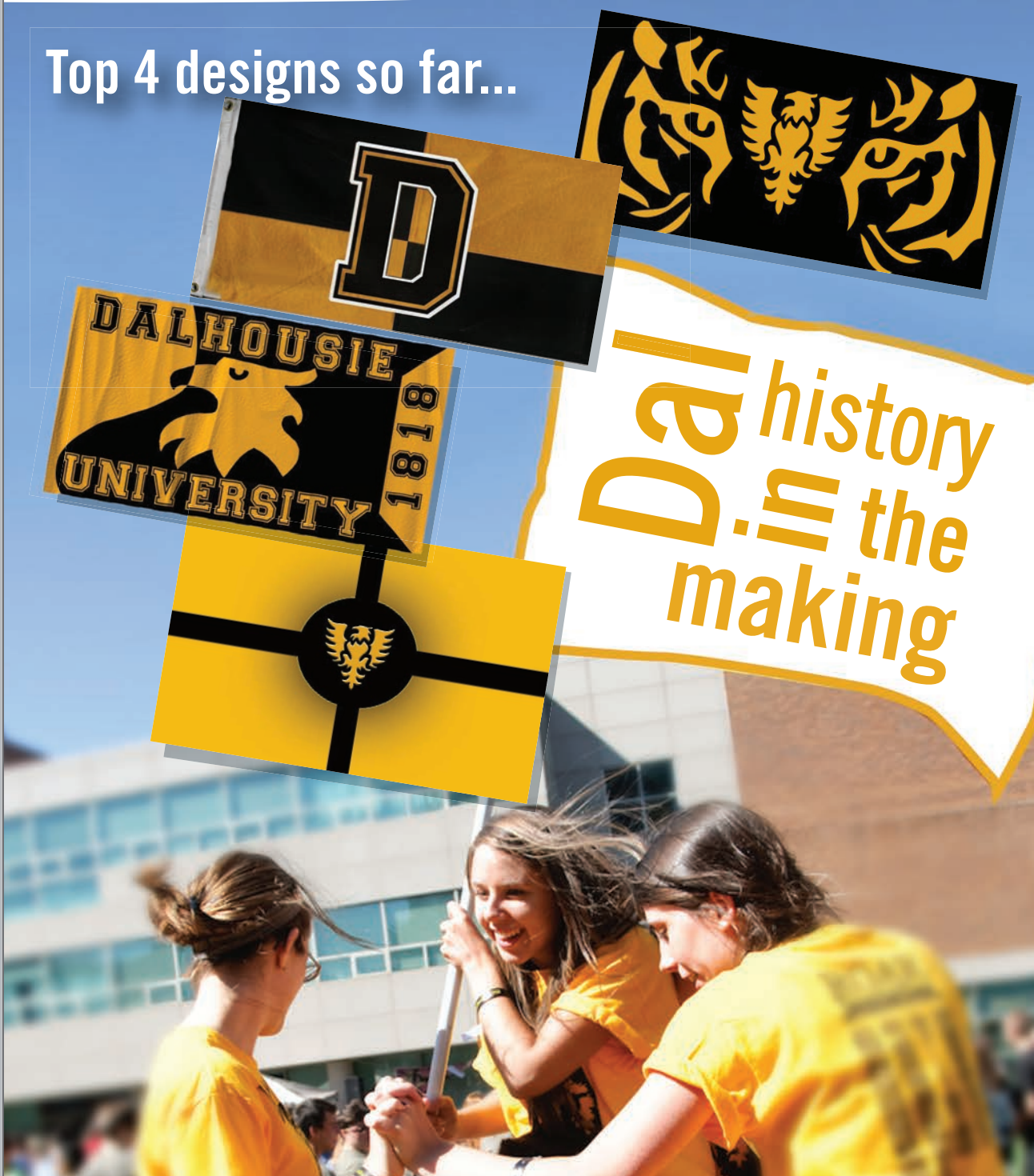
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Top 4 designs so far...



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