



# Peace of mind

**The Dalhousie Gazette**

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

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**DALHOUSIE  
STUDENT  
UNION**

## DSU Weekly Dispatch

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

### Open Mic

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

Be sure to come out to the Grawood and showcase your talents! Open Mic is open to all students, faculty and staff of Dalhousie University who are 19 years or older. The show begins at 9:00pm, but you will want to come early to sign up for a spot. While you're waiting, why not have some delicious 30cent wings!

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### Picture of the Week

Vice President (Internal), Kayla Kurin showing off her golfing attire at this years annual Shinerama Golf Tournament.

Photo by Lindsay Dowling

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October 1 - October 7, 2010 •

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper Since 1868

# The Dalhousie Gazette

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Laura Conrad News Editor



## Student groups frustrated by O'Neill report Canadian Federation of Students says recommendations turn provincial debt into student debt

Laura Conrad  
Samie Durnford  
News Editors

Student groups are preparing their responses to a report commissioned by the government of Nova Scotia that calls for higher tuition fees and more student loans.

On Sept. 17, economist Tim O'Neill released his report on the university system in this province. The report intends to influence the government's upcoming decisions on tuition fees and university funding, and was highly anticipated by student groups.

Representatives from student unions as well as the Canadian Federation of Students listened intently in the Province House press room as O'Neill outlined the new challenges universities are expected to face in the upcoming years. O'Neill identified two major challenges in his report.

The first challenge he expects is an expected decline in enrolments. The report states that the number of Nova Scotians aged 17 to 29 will shrink by 11,000 in the next five years, and by 2030, that age group will be 23 per cent smaller than it is now.

The other, newer challenge highlighted in the report is the restraint in the province's fiscal plan. If the government intends to balance the budget by 2013/2014, it will have to place stricter limits on spending. This, he says, will affect government's financial

contributions to universities.

In response to these challenges, the report offers several recommendations, including increasing government investment in student loans, modest university restructuring, and an increase in tuition fees.

O'Neill said that the tuition increase will ease the impacts of fiscal restraint. He also supports the recommendation by mentioning that tuition levels have a low impact on accessibility, and that the long-term benefits of university education outweigh tuition costs. Alongside this recommendation, O'Neill stresses that tuition increases must be accompanied by an increase in student assistance in the form of loans.

He told listeners that "Nova Scotia has one of the weakest student assistance programs in the country."

O'Neill says that the tuition increase will be beneficial when balanced with an increase in government funding and financial assistance for students.

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) strongly object to the O'Neill report. CFS says tuition fees in Nova Scotia already exceed the national average. In a news release that came out the day before the O'Neill report, the CFS hoped the report would include recommendations to make post-secondary education more affordable.

Gabe Hoogers, the provincial representative of the CFS, says that they "regard this change as a betrayal of students and their families."

Hoogers says that the recommen-

dation to deregulate tuition would mean a skyrocketing of fees for both in- and out-of-province students. More fees mean more debt, and the average student already graduates \$30,000 in debt, he says.

Hoogers says that the raise in tuition fees is a short term fix for economic problems which will hurt our economy in the future since students will be driven away from Nova Scotia universities and will be end up leaving Nova Scotia after they graduate, due to high debt.

In response to the O'Neill report, CSF said in a release that high tuition fees are a barrier to post-secondary education, especially for students from low and middle income families and marginalized communities. The stress that students will end up paying more for their education over the years as a result of time and interest rates.

"I want to emphasize the complete falsity of the claims in this report," says Hoogers. "Really a lot of what O'Neill assumes in creating these recommendations has already been disproved."

He says that CFS will be fighting back and organizing rallies, such as one taking place this February.

"We're going to see students go to the streets against this," says Hoogers. "Ultimately students do recognize that higher fees aren't what we want to see."

Matt Anderson, President of Saint Mary's Students' Association believes that getting rid of the tuition freeze is not a good idea.

"When you have a proposal out there to get rid of the tuition freeze, that's a huge problem for affordability and accessibility of post-secondary education in Nova Scotia," says Anderson.

He says that students at Saint Mary's, much like any other university, rely not only on student assistance but also on the tuition freeze. Getting rid of the freeze will most likely deter students from coming to schools here in Nova Scotia.

"Imagine you're a first year student and you're making the decision to go to university," says Anderson. "You look at tuition and think 'is that a financial option for me, yes or no,' and that is the barrier we're going to have."

He says that there seems to be very little recognition of the economic benefits and the social benefits of having an educated work force in Nova Scotia.

"When you have students graduating in debt, they don't have the opportunity to invest in new jobs or be an entrepreneur and that's where this proposal could hurt the economy."

Anderson says that the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Association, of which Dalhousie is a member, is formulating their approach to the O'Neill report. He says they will wait to hear how the government responds to the recommendations before making a move.

"You never know," says Anderson. "Someone could stand up and say 'maybe we still need a tuition freeze.'" ☹

## Anti-choice gives religion a bad name, says minister

Laura Conrad  
Mick Côté  
News Editor, News Contributor

From Sept 22 to Oct 31, protesters taking part in the 40 Days For Life religious campaign will be quietly praying and fasting to end abortion.

The different chapters worldwide started their campaigns at the same time. They aim to raise awareness on abortion, while peacefully protesting the practice. The Halifax branch of the group will be protesting outside of the Victoria General Hospital, the only hospital in Halifax that provides the service, in front of the South Park Street entrance.

The campaign consists of three different components—prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil, and community outreach. Julie Culshaw, who is part of the 40 Days for Life leadership team, says that she is very passionate about advocating for pro-life.

"About four years ago, I saw a video of an abortion taking place. The reality of it really hit me," she says. "This is the greatest social injustice of our time, that people are denied a right to life. If you don't have a right to life, then you don't have any rights at all."

Culshaw explains that this is the third year that the event has been in Halifax. Although she says it's impossible to measure the effect of their efforts, she believes in the power of prayer.

"This will be over once we all realize how great of an injustice it is," she says. "The truth will always come through in the end."

There were also counter-protesters present on the first day of 40 Days for Life. Nicholas (last name withheld) showed up alone.

"There should be more than just one voice here," she says. "I'm doing this so that women will know they are loved, and that they don't have to deal with this bullshit."

As people prayed while pacing or sitting quietly on the sidewalk, Nicholas, a self-proclaimed anarchist, chanted alone, obliterating the low mumbles of the pro-life protesters.

"My body's nobody's body but mine," she sang. "A woman dies every eight minutes because she doesn't have the right to proper abortion practices."

Linda Yates, a minister at the Windsor Street United Church, says that anti-choice groups don't represent the full spectrum of Christian expression. Yates

says that not all religious groups are anti-choice

.....  
**"Women don't need harassment on top of what is already a difficult experience in their lives."**  
.....

"There is actually a great deal of pro-choice thought within religious groups," she says. "There is a lot of diversity of opinion. When you only see one-sided opinions, it not only reflects badly on religion but is also inaccurate."

Yates also believes in the power of prayer, but does so from a pro-choice perspective.

"There are different ways of thinking about abortion that are also very faithful," she says. "We pray for the women who have to make these difficult choices. We

pray for their safety. We can trust women to make their own decisions about their bodies."

Yates is opposed to the 40 Days for Life Campaign, and says it can be considered as a form of harassment to women.

"After undergoing all kinds of internal thought about abortion, women don't need harassment on top of what is already a personal and difficult experience in their lives."

Culshaw, however, disagrees. She believes that pro-life is the only way of thinking when it comes to being a Christian.

"I would say you cannot be a Christian and be pro-life," she says. "To say that you are pro-choice, when you know that God entered the world through the process of pregnancy and birth, is a contradiction."

Despite the controversy, the Victoria General's media advisor John Gillis says he does not foresee issues arising with patients.

"In past years, there were problems with staff and patients getting upset," he said. "But the programs will continue as usual, and this will have no affect on people coming in and out." ☹

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## Study shows international students generate nearly \$600 million for Atlantic Provinces

### Province has no retention strategy, says council



A very small percentage of students stay in Halifax when they're done studying. ••• Photo by Omar Bawhab

**Samantha Ostrov**  
News Contributor

Nova Scotia is taking a second look at how it accommodates international students after a recent study by the Council of Atlantic Ministers of Education and Training (CAMET) and the Dalhousie School of Public Administration.

The study, "The economic impact of post-secondary international students in Atlantic Canada: An expenditure analysis" released Sept. 16 says that

international students in Atlantic Canada made up nearly \$600 million in revenue from 2009 onward, and that they are a major source of potential immigrants. Yet the percentage of students who continue to live here after their studies remains as low as 15.6 per cent, according to Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

The study looks at how Nova Scotia can keep its international student population and invest in the students' contribution to the region's labour force and—according to CAMET—its economy.

Education and living costs may be something to consider.

Maik Duering moved here from Germany in 2007 to enrol in Dalhousie's co-op commerce program. Based on his parents' income, he was offered no financial help from the provincial government.

"Tuition would cost too much for me as an independent international student without help from my parents," says Duering.

His situation is not uncommon. In a 2008 survey for the Nova Scotia Minister's Post-Secondary Education Research Advisory Panel, 58.5 per cent—the highest percentage—of international student respondents listed their parents as their most important source of funding.

The CAMET report shows average annual spending by international students of up to \$29,000 including education, housing, and meals. One of their top concerns was tuition, books and differential fees. Lack of scholarship assistance and opportunities to work off-campus followed close behind.

Yet financial concerns aren't the only thing affecting the outcome of international students in Nova Scotia.

Duering wasn't informed in his home country about his options or possible experiences in Atlantic Canada, and suggests that schools like Dalhousie should be aiming to promote themselves more internationally. One way is to have university representatives bring information abroad.

Sandra Thomas, president of the International Students' Association at Dalhousie, says that she's had a good experience here as an international student, but the main problem is attracting students from abroad. She moved to Canada five years ago from Malaysia, and didn't have access to information until she enrolled in a boarding school in Hamilton, Ontario. There she heard about Dalhousie from word-of-mouth. The boarding school's program is only open to international students and focuses on schools in provinces further west, like Ontario and BC.

Khalid Al Mughairy, a fourth-year student from Oman, had a similar experience. He had to go to the only school in Oman specifically for Western students, not Omanis, to hear about Dalhousie.

In 2005, the Nova Scotia Immigration Strategy stated that one way to attract more international students would be to create "a marketing plan and promotion materials that describe what it is like to live in Nova Scotia, displaying our cultural and ethnic diversity." Another would be to "participate in immigration attraction missions overseas."

Since the CAMET study was released, however, the Nova Scotia Government or Department of Education has made no announcements about new recruitment or retention strategies. ☎

## Dalhousie Ph.D. candidate wins provincial award

### Robin Urquhart was honoured for her research on the synoptic report



Urquhart believes better communication will improve the healthcare system. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

**Katrina Pyne**  
News Contributor

If you've ever been to a hospital, you know how frustrating it can be when information doesn't get passed down the line. Robin Urquhart knows too, and she's made it her business to improve what she calls "knowledge sharing" in cancer care facilities.

Urquhart, who works for Cancer Care Nova Scotia and is a Ph.D. student at Dalhousie, recently won the John Ruedy Award through the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation, worth \$5,000, for her research on the synoptic report.

For two years Urquhart has been an investigator in a grant looking at access to and quality of care for cancer patients in the entire Nova Scotia province.

"That's what I'm interested in— trying to improve communication between physicians so that they can sit down with the best information available and make the best treatment decision possible," says Urquhart.

Since the time of the Egyptians, physicians have used a system called the narrative report when passing on information. However, research shows that these reports don't always contain the information that oncologists need to make good treatment decisions.

"There are lots of different healthcare people involved when it comes to cancer patients," says Urquhart. "Sometimes even in different parts of the province."

In cancer care, between radiologists, oncologists, surgeons and more, it's easy for information to get left out when being passed around.

"Because there's no checklist that says exactly what bits of information have to be in this report, they don't always end up being included."

This is where the synoptic report comes in. It is a structured, itemized checklist that physicians will use to

record all the pre-established necessary pieces of information. It can be on a piece of paper, or an electronic web-based system.

The Canadian Partnership Against Cancer has spent the last two to three years trying to develop a consensus from surgeons across the country about what it needs to be put into these synoptic reports. The final copy of the checklist is then used as a standard template for physicians in several cancer treatment initiatives.

Urquhart's challenge is to study how health care teams in an institution like a hospital can put something like the synoptic report into practice. Will doctors continue to use the old system or transition into the new one? It's a matter of getting people to change their habits, and it's not always easy.

"It sounds so simple but my committee members have spent years trying to put this in place," says Urquhart.

The nature of the synoptic report touches on a controversial topic in healthcare: To what extent should treatment practices be standardized? The synoptic report does not allow for physicians to add additional information.

"In medicine and surgery I think that most doctors and surgeons would tell you that medicine and surgery is more of an art than a science," says Urquhart. That's because not every patient, not every case, not every cancer is the same."

At a time when standardization has become a blazing trend in North America, Urquhart stresses a balance between the artistic side of healthcare and the structural. Even in her research, Urquhart says there is a creative element.

"When you sit down to write a grant, you can write whatever you want. That doesn't mean you're going to get funded, but you can be so creative in that stage. I just really love research." ☎

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# Green parking spots for car-free day

## Protesting of partiers gets visit by police

**Brittany Maguire**  
News Contributor

In celebration of International Car Free Day on Sept. 22, environmental activists gathered to occupy three parking meters on Grafton Street. Their goal was to raise awareness and demonstrate their commitment to public and active transportation in Halifax.

Robin Tress, the Dalhousie student organizer of the parking spot party, says "Streets should be for people, not just for cars".

The group occupied three parking meters on Grafton Street with sod donated by a local contractor and a vehicle from CarShareHFX, preventing car users from parking. About 15 students and general public gathered with their bikes and planted themselves on blankets and tables for an afternoon of board games and music on the road.

This collaborated effort between the Ecology Action Centre, SustainDal, and the Environmental Programs Student Society did not go unnoticed. By noon, their peaceful protest had gathered numerous interested bystanders, and the police. A complaint had been made by a public bystander that the protesters were in the way of traffic. Tress insists that they were taking up no more space than any parked car would have.

"The irony of the situation was that we were accused of impeding traffic,"

says Tress. "Even though we were in the parking spot out of the traffic lane while the police van was parked in the middle of the roadway during our 15 -20 minute discussion—while idling."

The police and protesters came to an agreement that the group could continue to occupy the spaces with the sod, bikes and their other belongings but the people would have to remain on the sidewalk to ensure their safety from traffic. Tress maintains that their actions were completely legal.

"The Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act includes bicycles in the definition of a vehicle so by parking our bikes on the parking spot and paying the meter we are allowed to leave them there," she says.

The province of Nova Scotia has set a goal of reducing green house gas emissions to 10 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020. A big piece of this picture is the transportation sector which accounts for 25 per cent of the province's emissions. According to the 2006 census, 73 per cent of commuter transport in Halifax was done by single occupancy vehicles. The activists argue that this number could be reduced significantly. In order for this to happen the public must use alternative transit more frequently, they say. Simultaneously the HRM must invest in city planning to make public transit more efficient and active transit safer.


The group argues that if the people of Halifax were committed to reducing car use then traffic congestion would decrease and the Metro transit system would become that much more efficient. They also point out that during rush hours, pedestrians and cyclists can get just about anywhere in central Halifax faster than motorists.

"We want increased use of public and active transportation and a decrease of single occupancy commuter vehicles on the peninsula," says Tress.

She says that car use in a city such as Halifax is unnecessary.

"I understand the need for a family vehicle or using a vehicle for occasional trips out of town," says Tress, "However, if you live or work in the core of Halifax there is no reason your day to day life should depend on a personal vehicle, you can get everywhere easily by walking or taking the transit."

Tress notes that there are obvious streets in Halifax that would benefit significantly from being converted into pedestrian only areas such as Argyle Street and Grafton Street. These side streets are lined with bars, shops and people. Banning cars would increase their sense of community significantly.

"Active transport is being oppressed by cars. Bikers are afraid to bike and streets remain too congested for people" Tress says. 

Activists used sod to cover three parking spots on Grafton Street.  
••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

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# opinions.

## opinions

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Katie Toth Opinions Editor



## Take it Back!

### Rethinking the police presence at Take Back the Night



Rape and sexual assault continue to be some of the most underreported crimes in Canada. ••• Illustration by Emily Davidson

**Emily Davidson**  
Opinions Contributor

Each year on a fall evening in Halifax, a group of women protesters and their allies gather to march and rally as part of Take Back the Night. The aim of Take Back the Night is to provide a safe public space for women to demonstrate in the streets, speaking out against all forms of gender-based and sexual violence. Take Back the Night is about reclaiming the right for women to be out after dark without the fear of sexual assault or rape. It's about our right to safe communities. Over the past three years I've attended Take Back the Night here in Halifax, but for the first time I've joined Dalhousie Women's Centre (DWC) volunteers and other community members to help organize it. Being part of the organizing of this event has brought into focus for me some of the roadblocks standing in the way of creating a safe public space for women to rise up against sexual violence.

Take Back the Night can dredge up some pretty contentious debates, but I'm particularly interested in discussing the presence of police. In Halifax, the police usually lead the Take Back the Night march with squad cars and mounted officers.

The police don't have a very good track record when it comes to preventing sexual violence or helping survivors of sexual assault and rape. In fact, the entire criminal justice system seems to be biased toward blaming victims of sexual

violence.

Rape and sexual assault continue to be some of the most underreported crimes in Canada, with an estimated 88 per cent of incidents going unreported. Barriers preventing women from reporting incidents of sexual violence to the police include: fear of the dehumanizing process of the judicial system; fear of escalated violence from the perpetrator; fear of not being believed; and fear that the police will also perpetrate sexual violence.

Women who are at high risk for sexual violence, such as sex workers, often can't access the prevention and protection services that police are supposed to provide to everyone. The laws under the Canadian Criminal Code criminalize sex work which not only adds to stigmatization, but also forces sex workers into dangerous working conditions. Many sex workers can't report sexual violence perpetrated against them for fear of arrest.

The Halifax Regional Police continue to use rhetoric that place blame on women in cases of sexual violence, instead of blaming the perpetrators. The police, along with other parts of society, tell women not to get raped, instead of telling perpetrators not to rape.

Elise Graham, VP external at the NSCAD student union, witnessed first-hand what message the Halifax Regional Police are delivering to students during the NSCAD Orientation Week police presentation. The officer warned to

female students to cover their drinks, not to drink too much, not to wear revealing clothes, not to hang out in or around bars, and not to walk through the north end at night. He "created an overwhelming sense of fear among the new students," says Graham. "It would have been refreshing to hear 'rape is wrong' instead of putting all the onus on what potential victims shouldn't do."

According to the Global News article published on September 20, the Halifax Regional Police released another warning about the "sleep watcher" stating that the break and enter incidents had "escalated from previous cases, whereby the victim was touched for a sexual manner."

Female students were warned to "take caution at night by locking their windows and doors, and walking in groups." The police have been releasing similar fear-mongering statements about this case through mainstream media and Dalhousie University communications since 2008.

While these warnings are made in the name of 'public safety', they continue to place the blame on the women who didn't lock their doors or who walked home after dark alone, instead of blaming the man who has been perpetrating the sexual violence. We still haven't seen any constructive action from the police to better deal with the problem, or provide services to survivors or potential victims.

What makes Take Back the Night an

important event is that it provides an opportunity for women to take collective action to reclaim the night. There needs to be an event that stands against the constant barrage of messages that it's a women's own fault if she get raped or abused. Part of what makes Take Back the Night an effective safe public space for women is that it is lead by women. Each year, the DWC does a great job training women volunteers to be marshals for the march.

The marshals act to ensure the collective safety of the group by helping to control traffic, explaining the protest to bystanders, and helping to maintain the women's only space that leads the march. Seeing women in these leadership roles provides comfort and security for many protesters.

The inclusion of police at Take Back the Night marches is not unique to Halifax. The American-based Take Back the Night Foundation, which provides organizational resources to groups planning Take Back the Night events, recommends liaising with police forces as part of risk management procedures. The Newfoundland & Labrador Sexual Assault Crisis & Prevention Centre (NLSACPC) recommends that Take Back the Night organisers "put in a request to local RCMP detachment for a female officer to lead [the] march in a patrol car."

According to the NLSACPC website the reason for police presence is to ensure safety and promote visibility of the participants.

Neither the Take Back the Night Foundation or the NLSACPC provide resources on how effective volunteer marshalling can promote safety at marches.

The problem remains that the police are perceived as being in a leadership role at Take Back the Night because they are the pervasive authority in our society.

For many women including sex workers, women living without immigration status, domestic abuse survivors, formerly incarcerated women, queer women, women of colour, and Aboriginal women, police forces are the perpetrators of violence in their communities. In this light, the police presence in the march actually works against the march's aim of creating safe spaces for women to speak out against sexual and gender-based violence in their communities.

At a demonstration aimed to reclaim public space as safe space for women and survivors of sexual violence, it is frustrating that we engage with a force as oppressive as the police. How can Take Back the Night fulfill the mandate to empower women if we continue to work with a system that blames women for sexual violence? ☹

Emily Davidson is an activist who organizes with the Feminist League for Agitation Propaganda (FLAP) and the Dalhousie Women's Centre.

Take Back the Night will take place on Friday Oct. 1 at 7 p.m.. The march and rally start at Victoria Park, on the corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street. Allies are invited to march under the leadership of the women.

## GOT A SOCIETY?

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# ••Point•Counterpoint

## Is the Canadian attempt to reduce greenhouse gases counterproductive?

Max Rau  
Ali Cherri  
Opinions Contributors

### POINT (Max):

The primary responsibility of any government is to protect the well-being of its citizens. The benefits of global warming to Canada should, in the eyes of the Canadian government, greatly outweigh the damages caused in the developing world. Canadians will benefit from climate change because of greater agricultural yields, a reduced winter mortality rate, lower heating costs, and potentially even a boost to tourism. We are one of the very few countries for which this is the case. There are also enormous costs to reducing our relatively negligible (less than two per cent of the total) greenhouse gas emissions. Completely rebuilding the infrastructure of a large, sparsely populated country is no trifling matter. Large sectors of our economy, such as the production of lumber and oil, would be seriously harmed. We would need to spend more to consume less; the gross domestic product, net exports, and general quality of life in Canada could drop precipitously. Any group pushing for greater action on climate change has an enormous burden, namely to prove that the small impact that our emissions may have on other countries outweighs the very real benefits of such warming to Canadians and the substantial costs associated with all emission reduction schemes. The Canadian Government should choose not to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### COUNTERPOINT (Ali):

Although the Canadian government's responsibility may lie primarily with the prosperity of its citizens, we must consider whether the emissions of the 'western world' bring extreme hardship impoverished groups in developing nations. The consequences they face vary from starvation due to an increase of droughts and floods that wipe out crops, to an increased prevalence of disease leading to five million extra illnesses a year. Those who are most impoverished are the ones least equipped to handle the negative global externalities of global warming, we thus damn the weak to perish by our actions. Let us concede that Canada will be able to grow more apples, receive more tourist, and have a few more weeks of summer. Those stated benefits to Canadians do not outweigh the devastating effects extreme weather patterns will have on developing nations.

We must take issue when proponents of inaction describe Canada's contribution to global warming as 'negligible.' The political significance of our refusal to engage with this global problem is that other nations who have relatively much higher greenhouse gases will also refuse to reduce greenhouse gasses by the same logic: self-interest. Canada is part of the G8, was an enthusiast of the Kyoto Accord, and is neighbours with one of the biggest greenhouse gas emitting giants. We like to think we are relevant internationally and contribute to global stability. Global warming is one of the most encompassing global threats the

present and future generations face.

**Max:** Even if we accept a responsibility to improve the well-being of all of humanity, is this the best approach? Why don't we spend the billions saved by not reducing emissions on providing education, clean water, and food security to the poorest places in the world? A major Canadian effort to fight malaria or the spread of HIV/AIDS would likely have a much more immediate and beneficial impact on humanity than shutting down the tar sands for a fraction of the cost.

There's no reason to believe that the Kyoto protocol or indeed any other multi-lateral approach to climate change will be successful. Western consumers and voters are understandably reluctant to sacrifice so much for such an abstract harm. Emissions in the developing world are rising in lockstep with the industrialization and show no sign of abating. A global reduction in emissions is in many people's interest, while national reductions are in no-ones. We will not see a multi-lateral solution to global warming.

.....  
**"We don't know how extreme the consequences of global warming will be, and to think we can continue our unsustainable energy practices and just throw malaria nets at the problem is wishful thinking."**  
.....

**Ali:** Max is correct to characterize the multi-lateral approach as being difficult. His folly is ignoring how important the approach can be in particular issues. Clearly he's unaware of successful international treaties like the Montreal Accord. The global community was able to agree to phase out CFCs because they were harming the environment, specifically thinning the Ozone layer. The accord is lauded as one of the most successful international treaties, with 196 states having ratified it. This treaty involved establishing an environmental problem that would have affected most people negatively, and it also involved Canada playing a leading role. But Canada's irrelevant, so we'll just call that a fluke.

I also don't feel that Max realizes the severity of the effects of global warming. Floods are sudden and devastating, causing starvation and death. Rising sea levels displace people in dense countries like Bangladesh. I highly doubt

condoms, mosquito nets or cash would be useful in those dire situations.

**Max:** The Montreal Accord was successful because the use of CFCs was cheaply and easily eliminated. The costs were minute and the benefits for all nations were enormous and clear, which made international cooperation possible. Almost every act of production or consumption contributes to global warming, and consequently the kind of demands made by treaties like the Kyoto accord go far beyond anything that has come before them. This is why no amount of statesmanship by a middle power like Canada will change the status quo.

Let's assume that the apocalyptic scenarios that exist on the pseudo-scientific fringe of public discourse come to pass. In that event any attempt to reduce emissions is too little too late. In the face of widespread catastrophes and unprecedented suffering in the developing world the only feasible solution is adaptation rather than prevention. We should build dams and levies, relocate displaced people en masse, create disaster relief funds, and invest in geo-engineering technologies that could mitigate the effects of global warming. It's very unlikely that the events that exist on the edge of our models will come to pass, but even if they do the correct action for our government is to not attempt to reduce emissions but rather to reduce the damage caused by these hypothetical disasters in Canada and the rest of the world

**Ali:** Emitting gasses will be a problem that will only be exacerbated as the global population increases dramatically. We don't know how extreme the consequences of global warming will be, and to think we can continue our unsustainable energy practices and just throw malaria nets at the problem is wishful thinking. At no point has Max shown that we cannot use both adaptation and prevention in resolving the problems he outlined. Ideally, we prevent an increase of environmental disasters from occurring by creating the necessary shifts in our economy through subsidies and grants, while we implement contingency plans that help the most vulnerable populations deal with the current affects of global warming. I get to have my cake and eat it too. ☺

*Max Rau and Ali Cherri are members of Sodales, the debate society of Dalhousie. Debaters are individuals who are at times forced to argue for things that they do not necessarily believe in. Therefore the opinions expressed in Point/Counterpoint are not necessarily those that are held by the aforementioned debaters, Sodales, or the Gazette.*

*Are you interested (or simply curious) about debating? Want an avenue to express and share your opinions and beliefs? Check out Sodales. They meet at 6 p.m. every Tuesday in the SUB Council Chambers and every Wednesday at 6 p.m. in room 220 of the LSC*

# Rethinking the ethics of capitalism

## Sparking real change involves more than your shopping habits

David Bush  
Opinions Contributor

When I turned on the CBC Radio the other day, I came across a discussion about the ethics of oil. Ezra Levant, right-wing activist and author of *Ethical Oil: The case for Canada's oilseeds*, was debating environmental journalist Andrew Nikiforuk on the ethics of purchasing and consuming oil. Levant defended the tar sands, saying that it was the most ethical oil on the planet because it didn't fund terrorism or Chavez. Nikiforuk, on the other hand, stated that there is no such thing as ethical oil.

In his book Levant totally ignores the sovereignty and health claims of Indigenous communities downstream in the Athabasca river from the oil sands. He also doesn't count the high amount of energy and water needed to extract the oil from the tar sands, or the massive amount of pollution dumped into the land.

.....  
**"We can no more consume our way out of the coming ecological crisis than we can dig ourselves out of a hole."**  
.....

As I listened to the debate, part of me wondered: Why does Levant even bother to justify the tar sands using the language of ethics and social responsibility? What happened to the good old "up your ass, man needs his gas" conservative logic?

What is noteworthy is not Levant's argument (his arguments are rarely worthy of note), but the form in which the debate is framed, and what this frame says about our current predicament. The old logic of capitalism of production and alienated, meaningless consumption (think *Mad Men*) is no more. Capitalism has perversely incorporated the critiques levied against it.

In the 1980s and 1990s, products were increasingly sold not as things but as experiences, as a way of life. Now, products are not just sold as personal experiences or lifestyle symbols: they are now marketed as ethical choices. This "cultural capitalism" allows consumers to do something meaningful while buying and consuming. The Slovenian philosopher Slavoj Zizek has noted, "the very act of participation in consumerist activity is simultaneously presented as a participation in the struggle against evils ultimately caused by capitalist consumption." Shopping and doing good in the world can be accomplished with just one gesture of buying an ethical product.

The freedom to choose in our society is now not on the collective political

level, but at the grocery store. Individual consumption is now the place where we make our ideological preferences known. Rather than fighting to make trade fair, we accept an individual responsibility to purchase a fair trade product. Instead of having real alternatives, we are forced to choose among a range of options that may makes us feel better but do little other than sustain market operations that are creating the problems we are trying to counteract. Most "ethical products" are also expensive, making ethical purchasing a largely western middle class gesture. In the west, the people who can live the most sustainable lives are those who can afford it. George W. Bush, for instance, has one of the most eco-friendly homes in Texas. In this neo-colonial model, the rest of the people on this earth are subject to the whims of western consumers and multinationals. Let's think about this on the political level. During last year's United States health care debate, universal single-payer health care was a non-option not because it was more expensive, but because it was ideologically unpalatable. Hillary Clinton famously said that single-payer was not on the table, despite poll after poll showing that Americans supported some sort of single-payer health care system. Americans were then forced to choose between already broken options, such as government-subsidized private insurance. With health care as with oil, when capitalism absorbs the realm of the ethical, the root of the problem is neither addressed nor discussed.

When we talk about ethical consumerism, it is important to keep in mind the framework in which that debate takes place. It locates problems and their solutions on the individual level. Your purchases or lack thereof may express your anti-consumerist position—nonetheless, you have still assumed that large structural problems, such as climate change and global poverty, can be solved with individual choices. This logic renders the systemic causes of these problems all but invisible. We can't change the world by just changing our personal shopping habits. We can no more consume our way out of the coming ecological crisis than we can dig ourselves out of a hole. This doesn't mean that we should stop buying fair trade coffee. It does mean that we should stop expecting those choices to have tangible impacts, or replace the necessity of collective political action. We should be critical of utopian liberals and conservatives who insist we can buy our way out of capitalism's problems. The only realistic solutions to our various collective problems are the seemingly impossible options. To understand what those options are, we have to ask the questions that are not being asked, the type of questions which grapple with the root of the problem. Brazilian priest Dom Helder Camara once said, "I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist." In this sense, if we are serious about dealing with issues such as climate change and global poverty, we should not shy away from being called communists. ☺



## opinions

## Identifying Canada

Let's move on from our cultural self-esteem issues



Those boots your mum bought you at Sears when you were a kid? You can now pay 250 euros for them. ••• Photo by Doug Shick via Flickr

Leilani Graham-Laidlaw

Opinions Contributor

Talk to a mental health specialist about identity and you'll hear about all the ways in which the affectations that make up our identities can go wrong – weak identities, multiple identities, identifying with external sources that completely consume our identities. Talk to the average Canadian about our cultural “identity” and you'll hear them complaining about exactly that: “we have no identity,” “we're too fractured,” or worse, “too American.”

So either our culture is mentally unsound or we just don't know what we're talking about.

I call the latter. Other countries are talking about us—they see a “Canadian” thing going on. Canadian chic is officially a fashion in Paris. There's no other explanation for the many new hiking shops selling overpriced boots and flannel on the Boulevard Saint-Germain. Colette, the ultimate purveyor of Parisian cool, just launched a “We Love Canada” collaboration with Sorel – remember those boots your mum bought you at Sears when you were a kid? Yeah, you can now pay 250 euros (\$350) for them. Or you could, if they weren't sold out. They're also shlocking thousand-dollar Canada Goose parkas created by a champion dog sled racer, and a Roots X Douglas Coupland collaboration with t-shirts, skirts, furniture and skateboards.

Now this last part is potentially alarming. In the words of a friend, if Coupland's idea of “Canadian” is gaudy neon test-patterns and faux pixelation prints, then we're in deep trouble. But the mix-tape that comes with the collaboration is great! Really, the point is more in all the nice little write-ups about maple leaves and what makes Roots and Sorel (and Coupland, Margaret Atwood and €6 Blistex) so very Canadian. Ask the New York Times. Or the British mags. Or if you want your ears blown off, ask the Japanese. Everyone loves Canadian culture, but we Canadians probably couldn't tell you what it is.

What is it, exactly? I can't tell you, either. That's a whole other article, or four years spent in Dal's Canadian Studies program. Defining culture is a task which

would elude anyone—and I don't want to point fingers, but being forced to learn Canadian history every year from grades one to ten killed some of the magic of the attempt. We're a young country as far as they go, but a fairly short history repeated over and over again ad nauseum does not necessarily equal a weak or boring home.

“Stop whining about not having a culture before we have to self-prescribe some kind of country-wide cultural psych assessment.”

But do we really need to define our culture, anyway? I will tell you that we have one, not just because everyone says we do. We know who Coupland is, and Atwood. You might remember those big furry boots. You definitely have a parka saved somewhere for the winter, or your mom's going to be on you about needing a warm winter coat. You know that Halifax has a pretty sweet local music scene, or you should know – with the most bars per capita in the country, you've probably stumbled upon a few amazing shows. We just finished the Atlantic Film Festival, so there's Canadian movies out there somewhere. You want capital-A Art? Go make friends at NSCAD. Stop whining about not having a culture before we have to self-prescribe some kind of country-wide cultural psych assessment.

Maybe our problem isn't that we have no definable culture, but our national—dare I say cultural?—penchant for insecurity. We seem to have no problem selling Canuck culture to people outside of Canada, but we're pathetic at marketing Canada to Canucks. ☺

## O'Neillian future would see us become “tuition capital of Canada”

Mark Coffin

Opinions Contributor

Can't afford school? Don't worry about it. Anxious about your debt after graduation? Just keep spending. Not sure if you'll be employable when you graduate? Relax, young scholar. Economist Tim O'Neill has a plan: higher tuitions for all, more student aid for some, and the merging of some landmark universities. All the while ignoring the fact that very few of us can afford to stay here after we graduate. O'Neill has proposed a patchwork solution of loosely tied coverings over the sores of a much deeper ailment affecting our university system: chronic underfunding.

A recent government marketing campaign branded Nova Scotia the “University Capital of Canada.” If we look to recent history, or to the O'Neillian future, a more apt label might be “Tuition Capital of Canada.” For all but two years of the last two decades, students in Nova Scotia have paid the highest tuition in Canada. While the average tuition here is now \$5,495. To put this into perspective, when O'Neill did his first degree at Saint Francis Xavier University in the 1970s, tuition hovered at just over seven hundred dollars.

O'Neill proposes a high-tuition, high-aid model, where tuition increases and student assistance dollars (either grants or loans) also increase to protect the neediest students, arguing this to be a more equitable model than the current one. It might be, but he offers few specifics on how much funding is needed to bring our student assistance system up to par. His explicit recommendation for more support for low-income students is much needed, but, he more or less ignores middle-income families, supposedly assuming they will be able to handle further tuition increases or more debt. He also ignores

the fact that enrolment will only further decline once some of the thirteen thousand students from other provinces realize that they won't be getting the same student-aid prescription students from Nova Scotia will receive to make the pain of a tuition hike bearable.

These recommendations come just as we have begun to feel some relief through the near-completion of the last government's pledge to reduce tuitions to the national average and protect students with a three-year fee freeze. The university system still has a half-billion dollar infrastructure deficit accumulated through two decades of underfunding. Faculty hiring freezes still remain as scars of this underfunding. Now, as the province ambitiously tries to eliminate the provincial deficit, the unspoken solution from O'Neill seems to be this: trade the provincial debt for student debt.

Universities have two main options to support their thinly stretched budgets: tuition fees and government funding. If either piece of the pie shrinks, the other must grow. If government funding drops and tuitions increase, students will be forced turn increasingly to debt to fund their education as the provincial deficit shrinks.

When the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations surveyed over 1,500 of our members last year, we learned that upper year students with over \$26,000 in debt would be 20 per cent more likely to leave Nova Scotia after graduation than their classmates without debt. The most recent statistics from the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation indicate that 69 per cent of all students in Nova Scotia have an average of \$31,900 in debt upon graduation from an undergraduate degree. Those numbers don't point towards the population growth, economic growth or tax revenue growth that O'Neill suggests we need before we consider

increasing university funding.

While O'Neill notes that holders of a bachelor's degree will earn a \$750,000 premium over those with a high school diploma, he forgot to mention that for the province to reap the benefits of a highly educated population, we need to keep our graduates here. Simply put: the latest research suggests that we graduates consume far fewer government services, and would contribute far more tax dollars to support our aging parents, grandparents, and fellow Nova Scotians in need. Debt pushes us away. Student debt isn't good for students, and it isn't much good for Nova Scotia either. Our

“Students with over \$26,000 in debt would be 20 per cent more likely to leave Nova Scotia after graduation.”

government dishes out more debt per-student than any other province in Canada. Our government would be wise to maintain funding where it needs to be to keep tuitions frozen, to keep our universities competitive and to reduce debt by implementing O'Neill's recommendation for more grants. ☺

Mark Coffin is Executive Director of the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations (ANSSA), an organization representing the interests of over 35,000 university students in Nova Scotia. Mark is a student in the Faculty of Education at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, and a Dal alumnus.

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# Letters to the editor.

letters to the editor

E-mail Joel at editor@dalgazette.com

Joel Tichinoff Editor-in-Chief



## Metro Transit doesn't work well with students

Recently, the Gazette published an article about the U-Pass that seemed rushed. The last paragraph was such a jumble I couldn't understand it, and I was at the proceedings. So I thought I'd clear up the confusion and offer my opinion on the events that transpired.

Contrary to the headline of this story, students are expected to pay a total of \$134 for their U-pass, not \$116.95. The \$17.05 increase will translate into \$500,000 of revenue for the city. The money, although not necessarily collected this year, due to the stipulated "flexible payment terms" is expected to be paid by the end of this fiscal year.

The motion passed by Council on Aug. 17 was not, in fact, a motion to amend the budget. The motion was to reaffirm Council's decision to pass the city budget with the proposed Metro Transit increase in it. They also agreed to have flexible payment terms for the universities, allowing the universities to seek the approval from students regarding the increased of fees at a later date. This means we need to pay \$134 this year or pay it over the next few years of our contract as a receivable.

The Student Union and Association Presidents (including SUNSCAD, although we appear to be missing from your coverage) were, yes, relieved by this news. However, we were also angry, because Metro Transit did not consult with universities and simply assumed that we would pay the increase.

The issue at hand was never whether or not we would have a U-Pass this year. As of September 1st, the start of the U-Pass contract term, there were no signed contracts in the city. All stakeholders in this negotiation wish for

students to have access to this service. Students make up 10 per cent of Metro Transit's yearly revenue. In that case, why do we have to pay for Metro Transit's lack of procedure and accountability? The city budget should never have been passed with those increases. Metro Transit should be ashamed to claim to work in solidarity with students, when it so blatantly refuses to acknowledge the dates set out in its contracts with the universities in these discussions, or to try to work together with universities to right the mistake it made.

Am I glad we have a U-Pass for students in Halifax? Yes. Am I impressed with the coverage? No.

I urge the Gazette to remember that a free and accurate press is integral to the success of the student movement. It's important that we not celebrate non-existent victories, but acknowledge issues when they arise and tell the whole story. Students deserve to be well informed, not given the easy story.

—Natasha Krzyzewski  
President of SUNSCAD  
The student union of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

## School spirit not just about "Rah-rah Tigers"

Having read your most recent issue (which was very good), I'd like to raise a question with you that you partly address in your editorial ("School, sports and spirit" by Joel Tichinoff). What evidence is there that there is a problem with "school spirit" at Dalhousie? I've worked at three different universities and visited many others, and I see no difference here compared to other institutions. Moreover, if the definition of school spirit is passive participation in a sporting event, then the evidence

from other places is clear, which is that only a very small proportion of students actually attend such games. Indeed, isn't that definition of school spirit just an imported version of the American Saturday football/tailgate party fantasy, which has its place to be sure, but is hardly sufficient in itself to describe a rich university experience?

Last night, I picked up the latest Dalhousie Gazette in the lobby of the McCain Building, just as I was leaving a lecture and discussion with Lawrence Hill, the author of *The Book of Negroes*, that attracted a standing room only crowd of 600 people. Was their excitement and standing ovation at the end of this event a part of school spirit? There are literally hundreds of such events every year, intellectual, philanthropic, and social in character, that Dal students participate in regularly to their great interest and satisfaction. What's more, week after week the Gazette provides regular news reports about such activities. So, do we really have a problem with "school spirit" or do we have a labelling problem that arises from a narrow definition of a complex phenomenon?

I attend many and varied student events that provide a different picture of Dal's "school spirit." Some are department or Faculty-based, but this only speaks to the fact that all university students have complex identities reflecting their academic programs, residences, hobbies and interests, friendship networks, etc. Relatively small schools in our region have less complex identities because their institutions offer fewer opportunities for study and social engagement. So their overlapping clusters of activities and identities seem different than ours, and they are, just as small towns are different than more complex cities. However, please note that more people prefer to live in complex cities, just as greater numbers of students prefer to attend more interesting, comprehensive universities like Dalhousie. So why should we read that evidence negatively rather than label it for the exciting, spirited experience that it is?

I have a relatively unique perspective on Dalhousie because my job requires me to see and engage with all parts of the university. From that vantage point, I truly welcome and enjoy "Rah, Rah, go Tigers, go" events, just as I welcome students doing incredible development work abroad, environmental work on campus, volunteering with social agencies and community groups across Halifax, attending lectures by extraordinary visitors or just kicking back with their friends after a concert or a night out downtown. When I first moved to Dalhousie fifteen years ago, I was really struck by the vibrant spirit on campus. Things have only gotten better since.

The Dalhousie Gazette does a very fine job reflecting the diverse, vibrant and engaged Dalhousie experience in almost every story you write. Maybe it's time we all read the newspaper like an outsider would and see that it describes a university whose school spirit is sufficiently attractive that about two-thirds of its students feel motivated to make a major move here, often from distant places even when they have local universities nearby, to study and absorb the Dalhousie experience. As you say, Joel, "We're happy to be a part of it. Admit it, we like Dal." School spirit at Dal? It's great.

—Tom Traves,  
President of Dalhousie University

## Single, pathetic non-student demands more relevant coverage, like how to tape porn

After exploring your website for something that might stimulate my interest, I stumbled upon an opinion piece that falsely led me to believe it offered advice on raising my GPA. You see, this is of particular interest to me as my pathetic GPA in University has allotted me living space in my parents basement with no income, and I generally like to explore advice that will help situations after it is too late.

The phrase "wicked, awesome"

immediately jumped out at me, and I knew my already dormant and unchangeable GPA was about to skyrocket. Then the phrase "what the heck 'sustainability' even means," caught my attention and subsequently ignited my rage. Mr. Editor, I already know what "sustainability" is because I live in the basement of 2 hippies. The raccoons living under our porch eat better than I do. This is why I file my complaint.

As an avid peruser of your website-in-progress, I demand more opinion pieces that cater to single, pathetic, non-students who do not attend Dalhousie. Like: how to tape porn on your PVR machine without your Mom stumbling across it. Or, if impersonating a Jew in order to get a BJ from a girl you meet on J-Date is morally questionable. Or, how to weasel a Valium prescription from your family doctor.

These are the important issues facing the newly graduated, most likely permanently unemployed people of the world. And as the school newspaper of a University that offers degrees in social sciences, these issues will most likely affect many of your graduates as well. I look forward to hearing how you intend to adapt to the ever changing social climate in my basement. Good day sir, and I look forward to filing weekly complaints.

Sincerely,  
—Concerned Reader

Editor's note: Although we typically do not print anonymous letters to the editor, we are interested to see where this is going.

## Short and sweet

I just wanted to express how impressed I was when I read through "This is not a sex column" by Katie Toth in your Sept. 17 - Sept. 23 issue. It was bold, current, and extremely well written. Good job to all involved with this year's Gazette. Best regards from an impressed Dal alumni,  
—Jennie Roy

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## So you live with anxiety

Dispatch from the heart of an epidemic



When two percent of healthcare dollars are allotted to deal with 15 percent of our problems, individuals like Kimber go without proper treatment. ••• Photo by John Packman

**Michael Kimber**  
Features Contributor

The room is completely empty except for a jowly woman readying her presentation. Empty chairs surround the circular table where other people should be sitting. I'm in a self-help group and I am the only one who showed up for class. Her presentation is Power Point and she makes jokes about how she is not good with computers.

"I'm such a luddite," she says.  
"So is my mom."

She smiles and I half expect her to tell me that she had a mother too. She has been delaying beginning the presentation for 10 minutes in the hopes that other people will show up. She checks her watch once more. Ten minutes have passed since we first sat down. About 20 seconds since she last checked her watch.

"Well at least this means I don't have to worry about my fear of public speaking," she chortles.

Her jowls shake and it reminds me of ass cheeks clapping for some reason. I dutifully laugh trying to fight my desire to run from the room screaming loud enough that they bring someone competent to help me. Instead I sit and wait.

"Everyone gets worried sometime," she says. "That's perfectly normal."

Silence.  
I hate being talked down to and remind myself that I have gone crazy. Society does this to my newfound people all the time. You can't call a girl fat, in intelligent places you can't call gay people fags or black people n-bombs, but anywhere in this world you can be condescending to people

with mental illness. According to a 2003 Statistics Canada study, only one-third of all people who need mental health services in Canada actually receive them. Two-thirds of those who refuse to seek treatment do so as a result of the stigma attached. The shame of mental illness is literally killing us.

I won't lie. I'm ashamed too, but I know that I need to get help.

She might not be condescending. She might just be dumb. Or I might be abnormally sensitive and taking a cliché line personally.

"Been in the city long?" she asks.  
"My whole life," I say. I wonder if I'm supposed to make jokes. "I hate Barrett's Privateers. I'm that Nova Scotian. Every time I hear that song I want to kill myself."

Oops. I can tell from her expression that was the wrong thing to say. "Just kidding."

She doesn't laugh at my joke but instead looks down at her presentation notes.

"I'm almost ready to start," she says. "I am not that good at public speaking. My fear."

"I'm not scared of public speaking," I say. "Just about everything else though."  
"We'll see if we can help with that," she says and passes me a pamphlet. The pamphlet says something along the lines of: So You Live With Anxiety. Click. The first panel of her presentation says: So You Live With Anxiety.

"So you live with anxiety," she begins. She proceeds to read word for word from the screen what is in front of me on a piece of paper and projected on a screen next to her head. I read much faster than she talks and soon have nothing to do.

Interesting points are made. Alcohol and marijuana are bad for anxiety. Limit

your caffeine intake because it can cause insomnia. Make sure you set a sleep schedule. Do things you love doing. There is a list of things one can do to alleviate anxiety. Breath deeply. Hold your breath in your belly and count to five and then exhale twice as long. This releases tension you keep in your chest. Go for long walks because the activity of walking releases chemicals that cause relaxation.

Half way down the page hidden from prying eyes is the word masturbation. I consider asking her about the proper method of jerking off. I feel she is an expert. I wait to see if she says it as she goes over the list of relaxation techniques. She doesn't. I tell myself to pay attention and stop being an asshole. I need help and she is trying to provide it. She finishes the list and looks around the room. "Does anyone have any questions?" she asks.

*Do you realize I am the only one here?*  
There is a reason why mental hospitals are filled with the homeless and psychologists' offices are filled with successful people with anxiety disorders who somehow function in their day-to-day lives. Proper care matters and if you don't have money you are unlikely to receive it until it's too late. Poor people have to rely on the system to help, and the system in Nova Scotia is totally and completely fucked. That's what happens when two per cent of health care dollars are allotted to deal with 15 per cent of our problems. The problem is not necessarily due to the incompetence of the workers, though in my experience that certainly wasn't lacking. It is the incredible burden placed on the system by the epidemic proportions of the mental health crisis we are facing.

Each year the numbers seeking

treatment grow exponentially and the money for mental health fails to grow in proportion. One in five people deal with a mental illness in their life. My guess is that a lot of the rest just don't deal with it. Why? It's a fucking inconvenience getting treatment.

To be admitted to a mental institution you must show that you are a clear and present danger to yourself. Not simply that you are suicidal but that you have a plan and intend to act on it in the near future. Having spent a long day trying to convince workers that my suicidal little brother indeed wanted to kill himself, being turned away for having not proved our case, I had a slight clue that getting help was not as easy as it appeared in the movies I watched. For those of us who don't present a clear and present danger to ourselves and aren't looking to be committed, the system faces an incredible backlog. To see a qualified psychologist I faced a wait of six months.

The alternative? Self-help groups. This meant discussing my intimate problems with complete and total strangers. Or in my case, one counsellor who had a fear of public speaking. "It's important to think positive thoughts," she says.

"It's called happiness because it is not what happens to you, it's how you feel about what happened. It's your decision." She beams. Happiness doesn't equal happiness. Brilliant.

I can tell she feels this has gone very well. I have been nodding over and over again with each point to show that I'm paying attention. I'm not. Paying attention is not an easy thing for me right now. My thoughts are totally and completely consumed with trying to solve the problem of what is going in my head.

What is going on in my head is a torturous circle. It begins with why do I feel like this? My mind frantically goes over everything that could possibly be upsetting me and then the circle spins again. My mind focuses on these negative things trying to provide solutions that life just doesn't offer. Then, I get angry with myself. Why the fuck am I so depressed? Am I one of those little emo assholes who listens to Radiohead on repeat, smears my black make up and takes cold showers to feel alive? The anger turns to guilt. Why do I feel sorry for myself?

Pretty tough being a spoiled middle-class white kid. They should hold a fucking telethon for me. Bono should save his pubes to raise money for me.

The guilt is heavy and builds each day. I think of what I'm doing to my mother and father, who I collapsed in tears in front of at a Chinese restaurant a few days earlier. About my incredible girlfriend who has been with me through thick and thin. She doesn't deserve to be with someone who can't at the very least gain control of himself. I was so happy. Why did this have to happen? Which nun did I spit on?

My greatest and most present worry is that the worry will never stop. As a result I have trouble listening to what anyone in my life is actually saying. When I am not worrying for a few minutes I will suddenly think I feel better. I feel good now. Then I start monitoring it and it

sinks back to shit.

"The most important thing is the now," she says. I tuned in when she said most important thing.

I thought she was going to tell me what I needed to know to get over this. The simple secret that everyone knows and won't fucking tell me. "Right now?" I ask. "Stop being an asshole."

"Each and every moment," she says. I feel like giving her a standing ovation. Instead we do a deep breathing exercise. She has me imagine I'm on a beach. Can I hear the waves? I can't. I can just hear the radiator turning on and her watch ticking. Can you smell the sunscreen on your skin? I nod my head.

Can you smell the ocean? Salt and spray. I almost can. I want to. So badly.

Can you feeling the sun on your skin? My cheek is hot. I remember being on the beach with my girlfriend the summer before. We had a couple's day with her best friend and her boyfriend. The morning began with fresh fruit, eggs, bacon, raisin bread (prepared by me – fuck can I toast) yogurt and eggs and three different kinds of juice. Ketchup on everything. On to the beach, where we played in the waves.

She was wearing a yellow bikini and looked so beautiful. You know that sort of beautiful where you don't feel like life is real and you are just a character in a play and you can't believe some dumb ass gave you this part. The type of beautiful that is strange and exotic and somehow home. I took her in my arms, muscles tensing, and the beautiful soft fullness of her body as light as air, warm to the touch in the cold salt water of the ocean. My nipples sharp, hers diamond.

Laughing so loudly that the whole beach turned and looked at us. I lifted her above my head and she felt like nothing balanced in my hands. When we got back from the beach I received a phone call. My parents had been in a car crash. They had flipped their car, launching them 20 feet into the air, spun them round and round, flips like gods flicking coins into the air, heads or tails, dead or alive. Bounce. Crash. Flip. Land on their backs, upside down, dangling from a thoroughly destroyed vehicle. My mom breaks her wrist. My dad is covered in scratches. Both survive when they should have died. While we laughed and screamed on the beach. A few centimeters left or right my parents would have died.

I wanted to go back there. Push through the sands of time and end up on that beach forever. Where the weight of my love was nothing. Where we feasted and laughed until we couldn't stop because we never knew that life could be this good. Where my parents were invincible and car crashes couldn't kill a Kimber. Now I was killing myself and I couldn't stop. The relaxation ceased and the tension renewed itself.

"And when I count to 10 you'll come back and you'll feel the relaxation wash over you in waves." ☺

*This story was originally published on Michael Kimber's blog, Colony of Losers. Today, after smacking his cheek against Halifax's creative ceiling for too long, Kimber is moving to Toronto to begin his career as a writer.*

# from the editor.

from the editor

E-mail Katie at [opinions@dalgazette.com](mailto:opinions@dalgazette.com)

Katie Toth Opinions Editor



## Speaking for students means speaking for choice

**Katie Toth**  
Opinions Editor

As journalists, our very work fights for free speech. A free press is critical in the fight for accountability of our institutions and protection of our democracy. When discussion is shut down so is truth, we argue. Freedom of speech is not only a human right, but a tool for the public good.

So what happens when we see people using those freedoms to harass or intimidate others?

This month, men and women will be standing outside of the Victoria General Hospital, where the majority of therapeutic abortions in Nova Scotia are performed, to mount an event called "40 Days for Life." Their event of prayer and anti-choice mobilising is comprised mostly of protesters staring and praying silently in the direction of the hospital. The silent eyes of these protesters watch each individual as they pass by, ripping people of any sense of comfort, dignity or privacy, whether they are entering the hospital for a brain scan or a new cast for their wrist.

At the same time, a new and unrattified society calling itself "Pro-Life At Dal" had its first meeting on Sept. 21.

According to the society's Tiger Society page, accessed on Sept. 2, the group seeks "to publicly oppose legislation and public policy allowing abortions to be carried out."

The society advertised for its first meeting with posters of a five month old fetus in the Killam library. A key member of the society has reportedly stated intentions to seek assistance, mentoring and funding connections from the

National Campus Life Network. We have seen the actions of anti-choice societies which work with NCLN, either directly or indirectly, on university campuses across the country. Often, NCLN works with anti-choice societies to bring a roaming display called the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) onto campus.

**"Advocating for the Dalhousie community and its often unheard voices means advocating for women."**

At University of British Columbia, representatives of the GAP were invited onto campus by the anti-choice student society Lifeline. The representatives threatened litigation if they were not permitted to set up their display, which featured comparisons between abortion and the Holocaust, for as long as they deemed appropriate and with no security or incidental fee paid to the University.

At Ryerson University, the GAP's presence on campus and its comparisons between abortion and southern mob lynchings of the 1950s sparked a plethora of complaints from students through the university's student union.

At the University of Victoria, an anti-choice society calling itself Youth Protecting Youth promised they would not bring in the Genocide Awareness Project. They later rescinded that commitment, inviting a prominent GAP speaker.

The Genocide Awareness Project also campaigns abroad, in the United States. At the University of Kentucky, one black student was so offended by the racist comparison of lynching to abortion that he drove his truck into the display and was consequently arrested.

Why do we, as student journalists, care? Aren't we supposed to be objective on divisive issues such as abortion? To not take sides?

In some ways, yes. But our job is more than striving for an impossible model of objectivity. It's to report what we see, to bring harassment and injustice to light, and to inform and advocate for our readership.

In Canada, women in undergraduate degrees are approaching 60 per cent of the student population. Women make up the majority of low-paid teaching assistant and sessional instructor positions, while over 60 per cent of tenure-track faculty members are men. Our own university's employment equity practices can only reasonably aim for 24 per cent of its Canada Research Chairs to be women.

Women on campus form a polite, quiet and underpaid majority. They're part time students, staff, mothers, and community members, and aren't always asked for their opinion between their three jobs and their class work. Thus, for student writers, advocating for the Dalhousie community and its often

unheard voices means advocating for women.

As journalists who notice anti-choice action on campus, our task within the upcoming months will be to record what happens, fairly and objectively. It will be our job to let no harassment—be it verbal, physical, or visual—go unseen or unchallenged by a fair and accurate press.

**"Most Canadians support our current legal framework which gives women control over their bodies."**

As a university community, our task will be to stop sitting quietly, allowing people to view us as some kind of malleable, "mushy middle." Many of us who appear to walk some sort of line between pro-choice or pro-life opinion actually support legalized and accessible abortion for women who need it.

At St. Mary's University right here in Halifax, Jose Ruba from the Genocide Awareness Project came to speak to a half-full lecture hall where the complaints of pro-choice activists were louder than his microphone. Walking by the 40 Days For Life demonstration at the Victoria General, it's rare to even see 40 people.

That's because most Canadians support

our current legal framework which gives women control over their bodies. We don't want a fringe group's opinion to threaten our rights. We just don't talk about it, because talking about abortion is depressing.

As awkward as it is, this Canadian politesse must change. We do not yet know if Pro-Life at Dal has any plan to invite groups such as the Genocide Awareness Project to Halifax, or the nature of their relationship with the National Campus Life Network. This means that we can influence their decisions whether or not to have those hurtful tactics on our own campus.

We must stand together and make sure that anti-abortion groups are aware that while they are entitled to their opinions, we as a community will not tolerate a space like the ones we've seen at Kentucky, Ryerson, or UBC. We've seen the havoc that those environments wreak for students and women, and we're not going to warmly invite such divisive and hurtful actions here.

-KT



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Schulich School of Law, room 204

**Seminar 2**  
"Theological Rawls: Person, Sin, and Community"  
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Guest Lecturer: Dr. Kathleen Roberts Skerrett Associate Dean, Grinnell College, Iowa, U.S.  
Born in Nova Scotia, educated at Mount Allison University, Dalhousie Law School, and Harvard  
University, Dr. Skerrett has published many articles and is popular as a speaker throughout Canada  
and the United States. Dr. Skerrett is Associate Dean of Grinnell College, Chair of the Department  
of Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies, and teaches Religious Studies. Grinnell College is a  
private liberal arts college in Grinnell, Iowa, U.S. with a strong tradition of social activism.

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# STREETER

**Question:** *What's something unusual you do to de-stress?*



"I just walk around my house with pit-stops at my kitchen."

**Jon Mussett**  
1st-year science



"Take a nap and wake up in the morning."

**Anthony Vieira**  
1st-year commerce



"I Skype with my girlfriend."

**Andrew Balcon**  
1st-year science



"Eat Nutella and peanut butter with a knife. It's like Reese's Pieces!"

**Michaela Mersch**  
1st-year kinesiology



"Eat two or three dinners and watch MTV."

**Adrienne Collins**  
1st-year arts



"Kill as many people as I can. In video games."

**Geoff Berry**  
4th-year biology



"Take off my clothes and study nude."

**Jessamyn Griffin**  
2nd-year journalism



"Drink the pain away."

**Rachel Nelems**  
2nd-year journalism

Streeter by Samantha Dumford and Corey Davison

## OVERHEARD AT DAL

**SUBMIT THE RESULTS OF YOUR EAVESDROPPING:  
OVERHEARD AT DAL FACEBOOK GROUP**

### **Girl on her cell in the SUB:**

"I'm not wearing jeans, my ass-crack will fall out."

### **Girl in the Killam Library:**

"My hair tastes like sour milk."

### **In the Killam:**

**Girl 1:** "That's a cute skirt. Is it like, longer in the back?"

**Girl 2:** "Yeah, it's like an apron for my ass. In case I shit myself."

### **Overheard at King's In Prince Hall:**

"I think that it'd be terrible to worship babies. They're so arbitrary."

# arts&culture.

arts&culture  
 arts covers cultural  
 happenings in Halifax.  
 E-mail Rebecca or Erica at  
[arts@dalgazette.com](mailto:arts@dalgazette.com)  
 to contribute.



Rebecca Spence Arts Editor

## Should I be doing this? (Answer: Yes.)

**Leilani Graham-Laidlaw**  
 Arts Contributor

So you've almost got lucky – that person you locked eyes with in class is letting you take them out. Forget taking them to the latest movie. Ryan Doucette's one-man show about firsts would be the perfect thing to see on a first date. Doucette would use up all the awkward moments and, if your crush has any sense of humour or humanity, leave the pair of you with lots to talk about at the bar afterwards.

"It's a clown show, with themes. Which is kind of unheard of, I guess... it's a very weird looking show thing," says Doucette. "But it's a very funny show thing too, about this weird ay-yi-yi feeling here."

First dates, first times on stage, first break-ups (using a post as a girlfriend – she's got a lovely voice-over), and even the multiple first entrances Doucette makes are all treated with charm and an awkward kind of humour. "There's that whole concept of just having this door and me coming in... How you do these first things without freaking out, without pushing too much or not enough," he says. "That's the whole concept of this

thing – it's just a clown show, I don't even know how to describe it."

At about 45 minutes, it's not a long play, but Doucette says it's what he needs to and gets all the laughs in. Doucette is an active performer. It's just him and a narrator backed up by music, lighting and a sparse yet bold set. He never talks or moves at the same speed for more than two seconds before he's on to the next idea. It's exactly like watching someone's thoughts. "It's a very weird place," he says. "You just have to be very open and sensitive and I guess you get that from years and years of being in awkward and vulnerable places. I attract mishaps – bad things happen to me all the time, people spill shit on me all the time. It kind of makes you to be that person."

"It's not like a clown show with floppy shoes, wakka-wakka, squirting things... I'm playing me onstage, which is a weird thing I guess. I'm not me in my living room, in my underpants."

He created the show with John Beale, and the two of them have "been teaching clown for a while – I've been taking his classes and then teaching and we've been helping each other out. It's been a four year process, trying to take what we've done in the classroom and

put it in a show."

Showing that vulnerability which is clown is challenging, he says, and the show changes all the time to reflect that. "Being vulnerable is hard. It's hard to just kind of be yourself and not force too much and sometimes I do it in the show, I catch myself and oh, too much, or that wasn't enough. We're still working on it. Come to the show. It changes every time."

One change that Doucette claims as no big deal was a French version of the show that ran for two nights last week. He is Acadian, and he never thought that translating it was a big deal. "That's the beauty of the show, no matter what language it's so universal – the first thing is a universal thing, everybody struggles with these moments of sheer panic."

Doucette has no idea what is next for him. "I don't even know what I'm doing tomorrow let alone after this," he says. "I just got an apartment, so I'm probably going to stay for a couple months... it's fun coming home here."

*Should I Be Doing This?* runs until October 2, Wednesdays to Sundays at 8 p.m., at the Plutonium Playhouse, 2315 Hunter Street. And yes, you should be doing this.



Ryan Doucette's one-man show lets us laugh about those awkward moments. Photo by Pau Balite

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# Tragedy at the Neptune

Andrew Smith  
Arts Contributor

After a decade without Shakespeare at the Neptune Theatre, this season begins with *Romeo and Juliet*, the classic tale of doomed, young love. It opened at the Neptune on Sept. 18 and will run until Oct. 17.

"In this production we have simplicity in the language," says director George Pothitos. "Many of the themes addressed—parental authority, defiance, love and lust—are struggles still faced by the youth of today. Teenagers haven't changed all that much since Shakespeare's era. We tried to make those issues accessible to a modern audience."

From the opening sequence, it is clear that this manifestation of the Renaissance favourite is not difficult to follow. It has a fast pace marked by tolling bells, a script dotted with bawdy humour, and an easy chemistry between leading man Derek Moran and his female counterpart Sarah English.

For Moran, a Toronto native, it was more important to allow his performance of the character to develop organically than it was to try and force a fresh interpretation. "I try to remain flexible through rehearsals and allow my character to develop that way," says Moran. "The point of theatre is to affect someone."

"It is more of a priority to be in the moment, responding to the situation as it unfolds than it is to worry about your portrayal. I try to make it so that my natural responses happen to be those of the script."

English, a Dalhousie acting program graduate and former Neptune Theatre instructor, has no issue playing a character of such a young age.

"Chemistry is chemistry, regardless of age," she says. "Both *Romeo and Juliet* speak the same language, and they feel like outcasts among their circles. Juliet has overbearing parents deciding her future for her, and Romeo is constantly

teased by his friends. And who hasn't at some point felt like an outsider?"

One of the most striking elements of *Romeo and Juliet* is the blood feud between the Montagues and Capulets, typified by the skirmishes and duels throughout. Capturing the volatility of that feud was important to Pothitos, and it was a priority to keep the conflicts authentic.

"All of the fights for this production have been choreographed to make sure they are accurate, exciting and, above all, safe," says Pothitos. "We worked very hard from opening rehearsal to get the fight scenes as smooth and entertaining as possible, while still remaining true to the styles of the period."

"Shakespeare's audience craved violence, and he fulfilled the need by adding many action-packed scenes. In all of the roles I sought people who could handle the language well, but for the fighting parts it was essential that the actors be comfortable with sword work. Sword play is a big part of this production."

*Romeo and Juliet* is one of the most produced plays worldwide. While Pothitos's version remains true to the traditional form, the frenzied pace and smooth script selections keep it unique.

"Time plays a very important role in the language and plot of the play," says Pothitos. "Remember, the whole thing takes place in only four days. There are all these opposing forces operating in ignorance of each other, and the characters are forced to respond instantly to adverse situations. They don't have time to stop and think."

Neptune tries to keep theatre affordable for students. They have a pay-what-you-can night before the opening of all their plays, a 20 per cent student discount on all regularly priced tickets, and they sell rush seats on most nights: \$15 for non-musicals and \$20 for musicals. Check out their website ([neptunetheatre.com](http://neptunetheatre.com)) or call the box office at 902 429 7070 for more information. ☎

# If these walls could talk

## Artist recreates family heritage in new exhibit



Crowded House (not the band) • • • Photo by Meagan Deuling

Meagan Deuling  
Arts Contributor

Candles lined the stairs leading to the garage, and white lights decorated the otherwise bare trees of the artist's tiny yard. The festive sounds of clinking glasses and a mingling crowd drifted through the open back door, but I followed the candlelit path to the garage. I was greeted with the sight of two enormous, softly lit, charcoal drawings.

Halifax-based artist Stephen Moore says he wanted to show his work in his home because of the natural connection between his family and his house. "It was my grandfather's house, and they left a residue," he said. "Especially my grandmother."

The life size drawing in the dining room, "If These Walls Could Talk..."

was the centrepiece of the show. The drawing depicts living and dead members of Moore's family, some of whom he has never met or did not know well. He drew those members from photographs, and as he drew he would imagine their personality and life. This translated through the paintings. A fellow art gazer said she felt she was a part of the family. Another felt so at home she nonchalantly left her camera on the kitchen counter as she browsed the rest of the house.

The fact that the drawings are presented in the artist's home is an integral element to the feeling of comfort present at the art show. I thought the house was part of the show itself, and as I wandered through the rooms it was as if I was wandering through the history of Moore's family. The wooden floors were worn, and the drawings were gently lit

with old fashioned fixtures and flickering candles. The music was distant and soft, almost as if it were wafting in from the past.

It is important to Moore that the public receive a visual experience from his work, which is why his art is not for sale. "If you put a price on something people start to qualify it in a manner outside of the visual experience," he says. "The big piece is meant to be a public piece and not to hang over somebody's couch."

Moore believes that art is a language that comes through where language fails. He likes the thought of his art encouraging the public to practice this language.

Stephen Moore will present "If These Walls Could Talk..." again on Oct. 2 and 9 from 1 to 6 pm, or by appointment at 422-3082. ☎

# The Tallest Man on Earth— Sometimes the Blues is Just a Passing Bird

Eva Garber  
Arts Contributor

### Grade: B

When it comes to the raw, rugged, often screeching vocals of Kristian Mattson, the talent behind the moniker The Tallest Man on Earth, you're either on the bus or you're off the bus. Personally, I am on the bus. In the recently released EP *Sometimes the Blues is just a Passing Bird*, Mattson offers up his usual tricks, melancholic ballads and folksy love songs. After listening to the first few songs on the album, which features just five new gems, I breathed a sigh of relief to hear that Mattson hasn't strayed from the style that we've grown to love.

Mattson, who hails from Sweden, has been likened to North American big timers such as Bob Dylan for his rustic squeal and the more contemporary Iron and Wine for the simple guitar riffs that provoke feelings of campfire nostalgia.

In this album, Mattson combines the trials of what sound like depression and

love lost and a variety of other generic sap song elements with all that is natural such as rivers, wheat and dreams. I would consider this particular album to be of the "whimsical folk" genre.

A personal favourite on the album is "Little River." With its folksy guitar picking and its dreamy lyrics, this one is particularly touching. I have yet to determine an equivalent to last year's track "The Wild Hunt," which gripped indie hearts, or "The Gardener" from 2008, which showcased the most extreme degree of Mattson's raw, organic talent.

Mattson has proven himself to be redundant and one dimensional, but I mean this in a good way. It's refreshing to throw on any of Mattson's albums and rest assured you're going to get exactly what you bargained for.

I would never go so far as to call his latest work "innovative," but for those of you who love a sappy love song, this album features five new songs to add to your rainy day, break-up or nap-time playlists. ☎

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## All access pass



Exhibit showcases work of on-set photographers. ••• Photo by Mick Côté

**Sarah Minty**  
Arts Contributor

To gain behind the scenes access to your favourite films, you typically need a VIP pass. But ViewPoint Gallery on Barrington Street is taking a different approach this month and providing access to areas of the film industry we don't usually see.


*Behind the Scenes* is the latest guest exhibition at Viewpoint Gallery. It was

created in partnership with the 30th Atlantic Film Festival and features work by nine photographers from the UK, Russia, New Zealand and Canada. The exhibit consists of photos that have been taken behind the scenes on various film sets.

In an introduction to the exhibit, curator Hannah Minzloff says she was inspired by the book "Pictures" by on-set photographer, Jeff Bridges. She says her aim for the exhibit was to generate a

project that would forge a connection between "photographers, film makers and the film-going public." Through the exhibition, Minzloff raises the profile of images that are usually only used as memorabilia for the cast and crew.

Although the exhibition is small, each piece Minzloff has selected offers an intimate view of the film-making process. Some shots may appear to be only of actors, but upon closer observation, headsets of crew members and cameras can be seen.

Being exposed to this new angle shows how many people really are behind the camera. As Minzloff describes, the photography offers a glimpse into the film-making process as various crew members are exposed. The exhibit showcases the complexity of the film industry—without the use of a director's commentary. 

*Behind the Scenes* will be showing at ViewPoint Gallery at 1272 Barrington St. until Oct. 3.

## The Gertrudes— Dawn Time Riot

**Band's debut album is a mix of hits and misses**

**Peter de Vries**  
Arts Contributor

**Grade: B+**

The Gertrudes have come all the way from Kingston, Ontario to tell us one thing: Hoedown!

One listen to "Freight Train," an excellent track off their debut album *Dawn Time Riot*, should be all it takes to make you want to start your own personal barn dance and dog fight, as singer Amanda Balsys belts out tales of a drifter paying his dues in her countrified drawl over a musical steamroller of banjo, fiddle, guitars and seemingly countless other instruments.

Actually, that's only one aspect of this exciting new band. Sonically, they come off like a unique blend of many like-minded folk artists. Imagining the folk sensibilities of bands like Fleet Foxes or The Decemberists combined with the occasional epic sweep of Bruce Peninsula might offer a vague idea, but The Gertrudes really are their own unique beast.


On the first half of the album, The Gertrudes show not only an impressive natural chemistry, but also an affinity for a wide range of different song structures and musical eclecticism. The album opens with the steady, stompy beats and melody "Wind from the South" before effortlessly morphing into the gorgeous acoustic number "Blackbird and the Cedar." From there, momentum gathers on the fantastic duet "Slot Machines," and climaxes with the album's glorious sprawling anthem centerpiece, the aforementioned "Sailor."

It's in the second half that *Dawn Time Riot* begins to stumble a little. The Gertrudes attempt to carry the epic feel of "Sailor" onwards with the

more languid, slow-burning "You Don't Mind," but the track doesn't quite come together because of uncharacteristically off-key harmonies and reverb that drones on aimlessly towards the seven-minute mark.

**"The Gertrudes show not only an impressive natural chemistry, but also an affinity for a wide range of song structures."**

A bigger problem is the gratingly precious penultimate track "The Gertrudes" that the band seems to have named after itself. Not only is this an obnoxious self-absorbed idea on its own, but the children's vocals really make the urge to kill rise. Thankfully, the soaring "Ronnie Hawkins" makes this stumble less noticeable, and closing track "Catfish John" recaptures much of the mid-album's nautically inspired epic feel.

*Dawn Time Riot* is well worth the time of anyone pining for a new seafaring folk-inspired set of songs, but let's hope The Gertrudes leave the kids at home next time. 

The Gertrudes play the *Foggy Goggle* on Friday, Oct. 22 as part of the *Halifax Pop Explosion*.

## Classics in the Quad

**King's students bring Greek tragedy back to the open air**

**Rebecca Spence**  
Arts Editor

The King's Theatrical Society is kicking off its fall season this week with a performance of *Agamemnon* by the Greek playwright Aeschylus. In keeping with tradition, the show is to take place on the steps outside of the King's College library. So attendees might want to consider bringing a blanket and a thermos of hot chocolate, depending on the weather.

"(The quad) is one of my favourite theatre spaces at King's. I wish we could do more stuff out there," says Bethany Hindmarsh, the show's director. "The setting has a wonderful feel. I love it."

The text of the play is heavy with themes of retribution, free will versus fate, and an-eye-for-an-eye justice. The tragedy follows the story of Agamemnon, the commander of the Greek armies at the siege of Troy, who is finally coming home after fighting for the past ten years. Meanwhile, his wife is plotting his death as revenge for his murder of their daughter before he left

"She never forgave him," says Hindmarsh. "And it unveils this whole cycle of revenge."

Hindmarsh, a third-year classics student, began working on the pre-production for this show during the summer. She was attracted to *Agamemnon* partly because she was interested in exploring a number of powerfully images that are apparent in the script. She also chose it because there is so little dialogue in the play.

"It's almost all monologue, and so it really lends itself to working almost as a soundtrack in the sense that we have characters of the story coming forward to narrate the section of the story they see as their own," says Hindmarsh.

Hindmarsh, 20, has a background in classical theatre of this nature, having performed in *Antigone* in her first year at King's. She emphasizes the importance of involving first-year students in the classics productions, as it ensures that they are introduced to the KTS early on in their university experience. In *Agamemnon*, first-year students play all of the lead roles. In total, the cast consists of 23 actors, and 19 of them are


first-year students.

Although Hindmarsh has put countless hours into preparing to direct the show, she and her actors have less than four weeks to put together a performance that would ideally take two to four months to produce. But she doesn't seem to be too worried.

"Watching the actors make this play their own has been exciting for me," says Hindmarsh. "The creative job isn't mine anymore. It's theirs. It's between them and the text."

David Etherington, the show's producer and the vice-president of the KTS, is also working hard to support Hindmarsh in her vision. He encourages all members of the Halifax community, not just King's students, to come out and watch what will be the only classical play of the year.

"You don't have to have studied these plays for them to speak to you," he says. "The language can speak to anyone."

The show, which is free of charge, is set to take place on Wednesday, Oct. 6 at 6:00 p.m. The setting is sure to be beautiful, so long as the gods bless the cast with clear skies. 



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## Quantum leap

### Halifax artist adds new dimension to her work

Caroline Elias  
Arts Contributor

Halifax born artist Katherine Vingoe-Cram is bringing a whole new dimension to her paintings. Her latest exhibition Portals consists of six oil paintings, each portraying a seemingly normal situation. But within each painting lies a discrepancy that indicates to the viewer that all is not right. Each piece has an element that creates a feeling of unease within the viewer.

The white walls of the gallery create a stark contrast with the dark paintings. This adds to the sense of mystery in the work. The windows of the gallery leading to the outside world also emphasize the "unfinished" aspect of the paintings. The small space the paintings find themselves in brings the work closer together, despite the fact that each painting portrays a different moment in time; a woman standing near a tree, a house with a pink room, the inside of a bedroom, a bonfire, a boat house and a gas station.

Every piece has a window to the unknown; an unexplained shadow, a room with a missing wall, a claustrophobic space, a window to and from nowhere. They each create a feeling of discomfort.

In a description posted in the gallery, Vingoe-Cram says she aims to show "points into other realities and dimensions." And this is exactly what she does.

The artist includes portals into other worlds through specific moments of everyday life. She manages to capture normal moments and turn them into unsettling ones.

This exhibition was enjoyable and stimulating, and a great success for Katherine Vingoe-Cram.

## Of Montreal— False Priest

### Indie rock band still holding steady

Peter de Vries  
Arts Contributor

Grade: B-

Ever since 2007, Kevin Barnes has been conjuring new ways to show listeners how fun it can be to go crazy. If we can take the endless nervous ramblings and obsessive identity crisis that fuelled 2007's *Hissing Fauna, Are You the Destroyer?* as precedent, then lead singer Barnes has shifted the focus this time to tortured love and feelings of inadequacy on *False Priest*, Of Montreal's twelfth album to date.


**"Barnes manages to sing 'You look like a playground to me' without sounding like John Mayer."**

The subject matter may be angst-ridden, but anyone who has stuck with Of Montreal this far knows that Barnes and company have never been the type to just whine and forget the tunes. *False Priest* contains much of the same bouncy,

frantically melodic, chemically-assisted indie rock they've been perfecting from the beginning, and it works both as a blessing and a hindrance throughout.

Long-time fans will find themselves on familiar ground with songs like "Coquet Coquette," a song about Barnes's "beautiful teenage lust" for a mythical indie queen, but it's the album's familiar feel that can make parts of it seem recycled from previous efforts. "Godly Intersex" and "Enemy Gene" are the two worst offenders here, and Barnes's cloying yelps and jarring falsetto on "I Feel Ya' Strutter" make it possibly the most polarizing opening track the band has ever created.

Thankfully, *False Priest* never becomes a complete bore past its mid-album hump. "Sex Karma" impresses not only with its catchy opening hook and charming duet of Barnes and R&B diva Solange Knowles, but also because Barnes manages to sing "You look like a playground to me" without sounding like John Mayer. From there, the album moves seamlessly into the cocaine-fuelled rush of "Girl Named Hello" and joyously bumpy climax of "Famine Affair," making its second half a blast of pure joy, even though Barnes's girl "destroys his head and un-calibrates his skull."

For all of its quirks, *False Priest* winds up being a fairly clever, if not somewhat inconsistent outing. 

## No Age— Everything in Between

Peter de Vries  
Arts Contributor

Grade: B+

Two people, a guitar, and a drum kit. Where have we seen this before?

The thudding blues-rock of the White Stripes' "Icky Thump" and the ferocity of Death From Above 1979's "Romantic Rights" both leap to mind, although Los Angeles's No Age have been bringing their own twist to the two-person band since 2007. And on *Everything in Between*, the band's second proper album and solid follow-up to 2008's *Nouns*, Dean Spunt and Randy Randall sound very comfortable in their own skin.


No Age's approach to music is perhaps best explained as subtle melodies and hooks disguised by layers of sonic fuzz and distortion. Fast-paced songs like "Fever Dreaming" come bursting out of the speakers with reckless frenetic energy, all the while remaining melodic in relation to the noise.

By contrast, the slower "Common Heat" trades the intensity of the noise on the album's faster tracks for a more relaxed—though still fairly upbeat-tempo—emphasis on melody. The Strokes-like nonchalance of the vocals give the track the feel of something you would hum along to while riding the bus, rather than tearing up the person next to you in the mosh pit.

Speaking of which, when "Depletion"—the most blistering track on *Everything in Between*—zooms by about 11 minutes into the album, you can almost smell the smoke that might have been coming from the band's recording equipment. It's tracks like this and "Glitter," a song that makes excellent entrepreneurial use of what sounds like hissing microphone feedback, that make the first 25 or so minutes of the album very satisfying.

Things get a bit strange afterward, though, as No Age take us on a three-track trip of ambient noise that becomes a little self-indulgent. "Dusted" is particularly confusing as it repeats the same hook over and over again while building up layers of melody and noise, but never reaches the climax that you would expect.

Thankfully, "Shred and Transcend" lives up to its name, unloading more of the frantic intensity heard earlier on the album. Vocals don't kick in until about the last minute of the track, while the first two give No Age plenty of time to burn some serious sonic rubber.

*Everything in Between* is a solid outing release from a band that is continuing to grow, and should be followed closely by anyone who likes their melodies wrapped in noise for years to come. 

*Everything in Between* hits store shelves on Sept. 28.

## Pete's to Go-Go

Meriha Beaton  
Arts Contributor

Grade: B+

It's a warm and sunny afternoon, as the Halifax lunch crowd enjoys their fresh sandwiches and salads. The smell of salt water drifts from the waterfront onto the patio of Pete's to Go-Go, complimenting the peaceful atmosphere of the new deli.

This offspring of Pete's Frootique offers almost all the favourites of the grocery store's takeout food section. Specializing in soups, sandwiches and salads, all the ingredients are fresh and assembled right in front of you.

Tuna, Club and BLT are some of the classic options from the sandwich menu and customers have their choice of fresh veggies as add-ons. Unlike other delis, Pete's to Go-Go gives you the alternative of adding unusual ingredients like hummus, tzatziki or guacamole to your sandwich—making it one of a kind.

Appealing to its clientele of health-conscious Haligonians, the deli is vegetarian-friendly, with yummy add-ons like roasted zucchini and eggplant. The menu is also sensitive to those with wheat allergies, offering a gluten free option.


The famous salad bar of Pete's Frootique is replicated and supplies

every ingredient and dressing you could possibly want. And for all the early risers, Pete's to Go-Go has a breakfast menu and a small coffee bar. It's impossible to be unsatisfied with your order as the menu is vast and considerate of every customer's needs.

Unfortunately, Pete's to Go-Go does not sell the smoothies that are available at Pete's Frootique, nor do they have an exclusive Panini menu. The friendly staff, however, do give customers the option of having their sandwich pressed in the grill.

As awesome as Pete's to Go-Go is, however, it may lose its appeal when the cold weather returns. What sets the new deli apart from Pete's Frootique is its patio and location, which is much more enjoyable in the summer. When the seasons change for good there will be less of a reason to go to the Hollis Street location, as the original Pete's is much closer to university housing.

Also with less space to eat in, Pete's to Go-Go may become much more crowded in the winter, taking away from its relaxed vibe.

Nonetheless, Pete's to Go-Go is a convenient new addition to downtown Halifax. It will be great for picking up your favourite Pete's dish, when you are, in fact, on the go. 

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# sports.

sports covers athletic events and topics relevant to Dalhousie. E-mail Dylan at [sports@dalgazette.com](mailto:sports@dalgazette.com) to contribute.

Dylan Matthias Sports Editor



## Tigers take cross-country meet



Gina Stewart, Cara Groves and Carolyn Schlosser lead a women's cross-country team currently ranked ninth in the country. Photo by Omar Bawhab

**Ian Froese**  
Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie Invitational cross-country meet was hosted on familiar ground for the home side and it showed as both the men's and women's teams won their respective divisions on Sept. 25 at Point Pleasant Park.

Gina Stewart won another race to give her victories in both of the AUS 5 km women's exhibition runs this season, whereas Dan Gorman moved ahead of the pack to win the men's 7.5 km race after spending the first of three laps nestled within the top 20 grouping.

"It felt very good," Stewart said responding to her convincing victory with a time of 18:24. "We ran real well as a group. Cara and I only pulled away towards the end."

Teammate Cara Groves was seven seconds behind Stewart and came in second place.

The results of the top five runners per school were averaged together to accumulate the team score. Dal was first with the lowest tally of 24 points. St. Francis Xavier and Memorial University filled in the rest of the top three.

The Tigers got ahead early in the race and refused to let go. Stewart, Groves, Caroline Schlosser and Jessica Belliveau portrayed a united front as they remained neck-and-neck in the top five through a majority of the first lap. In the gruelling stages of the second, the gap between the competitors widened but the Tigers ignored the pressure and kept four of their athletes in the top six.

St. FX's Natalie Kannenberg crossed the finish in third with a time of 18:51. Dal's Jessica Belliveau was fourth and Stephanie Bennett was sixth overall.

"I wanted them to tap into some discomfort (in the second half)," said head coach Heather Hennigar after witnessing both her men's and women's teams improving as the race wore on. "We want them to get some momentum from each other."

Schlosser was in the leading pack until complications from a previous hernia surgery required her to bow out of the event.

**"I wanted them to tap into some discomfort (in the second half)."**

"I've never dropped out of a race before," she said dishearteningly to the Gazette. "It's disappointing because I knew I could have been up there with my teammates." She will recover in time for the next race.

In the afternoon's later race, Dan Gorman took advantage in the second lap of an opportunity to gain traction on his opponents to coast his way to an individual victory and direct his team to top spot with 22 points above St. FX and Saint Mary's University.

"This is the first race where we kind of put down to see what everyone's got," Gorman said, remarking about the previous exhibition race where the Tigers did not push themselves to the level they are capable of. He placed second in the Moncton Invitational.

Unlike the ladies' dominating performance in the beginning of their

race, it took their male counterparts some time before their presence was felt in the front of the crowd. Josh Coyle completed the first lap in fourth place, and only dropped a spot to fifth after the second lap. Focus on the Tigers' side however was shifted to Gorman who suddenly held an estimated six second lead with a lap to go.

Gorman and Coyle preserved their first and fifth positions at the finish line, respectively. The winner's time was 24:35. Three more Tigers belonged in the top 10: Bruce Russell in sixth, Ryan Kiros holding the eighth spot and ninth place for Adam McGregor.

"We've got a lot of depth," Gorman said about the young, developing team. "We have lots of room for improvement, but we have good rookies."

The Tigers race again on Oct. 9 for the third and final exhibition meet of the season. The University of New Brunswick will be hosting. Both Dal squads have high hopes for the AUS championship at St. FX at the end of October. **g**

### CIS Women's Cross-Country Rankings

1. McMaster
2. Guelph
3. Western Ontario
4. McGill
5. Victoria
6. Queen's
7. Alberta
8. Calgary
9. Dalhousie
10. Saskatchewan

## Tigers football storms past PEI Hurricanes Dal 2-0 after 56-42 weekend win



Safety and defensive captain Bryce Wade has registered six interceptions in the team's first two games. Photo courtesy of Dal Football Club

**Henry Whitfield**  
Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers Football team continued to make history this past weekend, heading to PEI to face the Holland College Hurricanes in a battle of the Atlantic Football League's expansion 2010 teams.

Both teams were coming in fresh off of big wins in week one, with Holland College displaying its feisty offence in a 44-33 over Moncton Junior Mustangs, and Dalhousie showing strong defense in a 22-19 win over the UNB Fredericton Red Bombers.

It was the Tigers who came out strong in this game, storming to a 14-0 lead early in the game. The Hurricanes had no answer for the Dalhousie offence and the Tigers took a dominating 42-7 lead into the second half.

In the second, the Tigers offence fell apart and failed to keep the pressure on. Injuries started to pile up for the Tigers, and with seven of their starting defensive unit out, Holland College started to mount a comeback. The halftime deficit was too much for the Hurricanes to handle and despite putting another 33 points on the board, the Tigers held on for a thrilling 56-40 win.

Head coach Mike Tanner was excited by the play of pivot Brendan Festeryga, "He threw for six touchdowns and over 400 yards. Outstanding game for him; what more could you want from your quarterback?"

Receivers Darko Stasevic and Andrew Adamczyk had a pair of touchdowns each, while running back James Green also ran the ball into the endzone.

The defense allowed more points than they'll be happy with but combined for six interceptions, with defensive captain Bryce Wade adding three more to his season total.

"Our offensive group obviously played well," said Tanner, "You can't be disappointed when they put up 56 points."

"On the other side of the ball, it was disappointing to give up 33 points in the second half, but that was due to some guys missing on the defensive line. The injuries were nothing serious and the boys should be good to go next weekend."

**"He threw for six touchdowns and over 400 yards. Outstanding game for him; what more could you want from your quarterback?"**

"Special teams played well but right now we don't have a true kicker. Bryce Wade is filling in and doing an admirable job. I wouldn't try a field goal outside of 20 yards, so it's safe to say we're still looking for a place kicker."

"The team and coaching staff is truly excited. We have two wins after two games and we're looking forward to playing the same team next week. Tonight was a wide open game and we expect nothing less the next time out," finished the head coach.

After an entertaining and high-scoring affair, the Tigers will look for more of the same as they play host to the Holland College Hurricanes at Wickwire field in their first home opener in 34 years this Saturday.

The game promises to be a spirited one with the Hurricanes looking for revenge and the Tigers looking to continue their undefeated record. **g**

## Promising start Dal volleyball shape up for season



A young Dal women's volleyball team has an AUS championship in their sights.  
••• Photo by Miguel Cortel

**Natasha White**  
Sports Contributor

There was no prize at stake, but the Tigers Women's Volleyball team bared their teeth and took a bloody chunk out of the competition last weekend at the inaugural 'friendly' Tiger Invitational. The ladies went 3 and 1 against Acadia, SMU, UNB and St.FX, respectively, dropping only 4 sets the entire tourney.

The most impressive performance from the Tigers came Saturday night when they found themselves down 9-21 in the fourth set against UNB. Having taken the second and third sets, it looked

like Dal would need a fifth set to take down the Varsity Reds. But a never-say-die effort led by middle Kirstie Sheperd saw the Tigers rally back. Twelve straight service points by Sheperd brought the score to 21 all. With one final push, Dal took the fourth set 25-22, and the match was won.

Weekend stand-outs for the Tigers were Raeesa Lalani and Marlee Powers. Lefty Lalani's cross-court kills and blocks were major factors in all of Dal's victories. In an interview after Saturday night's heroics, Lalani described her play as 'crafty,' adding "we're a young team, but this year the squad is

.....  
*"Twelve straight service points by Sheperd brought the score to 21 all. With one final push, Dal took the fourth set 25-22, and the match was won."*  
 .....

really starting to mesh."

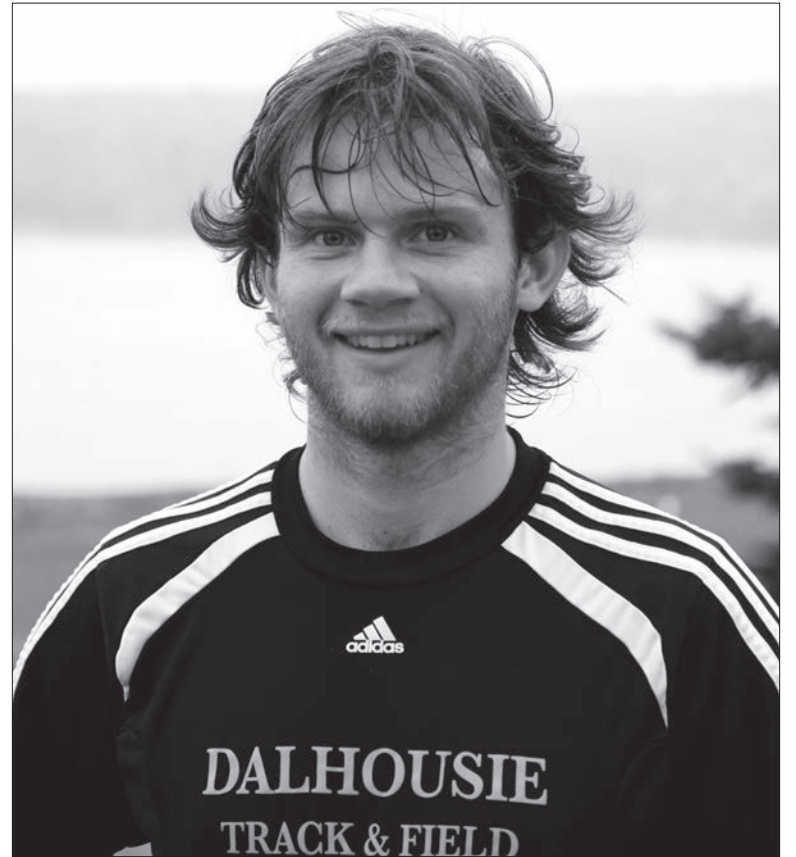
Lalani and teammate Lauren Smith were chosen as tournament all-stars. Assisting Lalani, Smith and the Tigers was the second-year Powers. Living up to her name, Powers crushed a number of balls to aid in the host team's showing. Player of the game for Dal on Sunday's losing effort to St.FX was six-foot hitter Louise Facca. Facca's violent smashes found hardwood on a number of occasions.

It wasn't all pretty, though. Every team was subject to major breakdowns in communication. It's early in the season so chaos and ugly plays are to be expected as teams are trying to find their grooves. Tiger Coach Rick Scott played around with a number of line-up combinations on the weekend. It will be interesting to see the progression of the youthful Tiger squad this season and beyond. Scott's crew is made up largely of second and third year players, and won't lose anyone to eligibility for two years.

The weekend crowd at the Dalplex was a thin mix of Tiger supporters and visitor parents. Friday, however, did produce a good turn-out, thanks in part to both the men's basketball and volleyball teams coming out. ☺

*AUS women's volleyball league play begins Oct. 22 when the Tigers host St. Mary's, 6pm at the Dalplex*

## Profile: Bruce Russell Varsity Cross-Country



Why did track athlete Bruce Russell cross the road? ••• Photo by Omar Bawhab

**Ian Froese**  
Sports Contributor

In high school, Bruce Russell was that guy you would find on nearly every sporting team. This wasn't because he was an athletic prodigy, but rather because his school had slim pickings to choose from.

"I graduated with 14 people in my class, so they basically needed people who were moderately athletic to play every sport," said Russell. "I mean, I played basketball. I can't shoot."

The Halifax-native graduated from Ambræ Academy, a stones throw away on Oxford St. Today, he runs cross country for the school across the street.

"I did track and cross country in high school. I wasn't any good at it. But in Grade 10, I realized I could be sort of decent at it," said the modest Russell.

The Classics major has been a Tiger for three-years, as long as he's been a student, and is now among the five runners whose scores contribute to the team average. Russell attributes his

progression to a particular off-season when training became a main focus.

"At first, I was in the back of the pack in all my workouts. But I made a huge improvement over the summer going into my second year and it has continued."

Russell's training regime is vigorous. He runs twice a day, every day. He also consumes a substantial amount of calories to overcome the losses sustained through his exercising.

Listed at 5'7", Russell's smaller frame has not deterred him from making appearances on the score sheet. He placed sixth in both exhibition meets thus far, and third on the Tigers behind Dan Gorman and Josh Coyle.

Russell's sights are set towards being on the winning end of the AUS championships, and hopefully a trip to nationals.

"It's still early in the season, but we still hope to beat X. We're fairly even with them this year." ☺

## IT'S LIVE WELL @ DAL WEEK!

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.

**FRIDAY**  
October 1

**Soccer vs. SMU**  
@ Wickwire Field  
W 5pm, M 7:15pm  
Faculty

**Women's Basketball vs. Guelph**  
@ Dalplex, 7pm (Exh)



**SATURDAY**  
October 2

**Women's Basketball vs. Wilfrid Laurier**  
@ Dalplex, 5pm (Exh)

**Intramural Co-ed Softball Tournament**  
10am-6pm

**Dal Football vs. UPEI/Holland College Hurricanes**  
@ Wickwire Field, 6pm



**SUNDAY**  
October 3

**Zoto Zen Meditation FREE as part of Live Well @ Dal Week**  
Dalhousie Multifaith Centre  
1321 Edward Street  
9:00am

**MONDAY**  
October 4

Pants feeling a little snug? Sign up for 'The Freshman 15 - A Preventative Program' @ Dalplex from 7:45-8:45pm. \$15 for Dal students - pre-registration is required!



**TUESDAY**  
October 5

Sign up for one of the hottest new fitness trends - Kettlebells! Tuesday/Thursday, 9:30-10:30am for \$120 - pre-registration is required. **STARTS TODAY!**



**WEDNESDAY**  
October 6

As part of Live Well @ Dal Week try the **Group Fitness Boot Camp @ Dalplex** 9:30am-10:30am

**THURSDAY**  
October 7

Only 2 days left for the **INVENTORY BLOWOUT SALE!** Save up to 60% off select items at the Dal Athletic Shop located at Dalplex.



## sports

## Fencing at Dal

### Swashbuckling and thinking combine



Fencing practice at Studley Gym. ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher

**Ian Froese**  
Sports Contributor

Swashbuckling Captain Jack Sparrow from *Pirates of the Caribbean* notoriety has nothing to worry about concerning his job security.

Attempting to follow the adventurer's lead, I lunged at the chance—pun intended—to trade attacks with fellow fencing amateurs, en route to my eventual training sessions with the savvy pirate, of course.

Unlike the weighty sword swung gracefully by pop culture's favourite buccaneer, fencing uses a lighter, different kind of sword in each of the sport's three divisions. The instrument I used was the foil.

The introductory class at the Studley Gym advanced through the lunging and stepping motions gradually before enabling us to put them together against an opponent.

Donning a stuffy mask, white glove, jacket zipped from the back, and weapon, I was matched with another beginner to attempt striking each other without any interference. The fluid movements from forward bounce to the lunge with outstretched arm then the hop back to the defense position and all the intricacies in between were difficult to recreate as elegantly as I would like. Instead, I ran over the steps in my head as I clumsily sprung towards my competitor connecting on

occasional junctures.

"You have to think a lot in fencing. It's a combination of physical motion and trying to outwit your opponent. There's definitely a mental element to it," said Mike Casey, instructor for the introductory class.

Fencing doesn't contain nearly the quantity of sword-on-sword contact one might anticipate. The objective is to score 15 points if it is in direct elimination play, or five points in a round-robin game, before your opponent does the same. In a foil bout, the tip of the foil must hit the competitor's torso, from the shoulders to the groin. You don't get a point if you hit the head, neck, arms, hands or legs. A lone poke registers a score. Thus, you will not often witness a competitor lunging at their rival with full force.

The movements were challenging for me to master or even avoid flunking once we were instructed to begin duelling with official rules. However I eventually recognized I could ignore much of what I was taught and use my natural advantage as a 6'3" member of society instead, my long arm length.

My newfound tactic could only get me so far, and I found I needed to compile my accumulated knowledge if I wanted to attain Jack Sparrow status. Casey described that strategy is a crucial way for me to improve.

"It's a subtle thing," he explained. "You're trying to draw them in, but the

thing is, if you're close enough to hit somebody, they're close enough to hit you. It becomes a question of who feels threatened and who feels they are the attacker."

At the end of the session, I was matched with third-year neuroscience student Marya Leslie. She packed a punch in her smaller frame and my previous method of exploiting my reach was fruitless; I had to outwit her. However, our energy levels collectively drained from the footwork-intensive duel and to maintain both of our prides, or at least mine, we chose to end the bout in a tie.

When asked if she could criticize the performance of a writer who has awkwardly paraded his way through sporting endeavours since he was a young child, chuckles ensued.

"I saw some kind of Power Ranger move. You were doing this weird backhand thing," Leslie laughed, remarking about an instance where my foil-clutching arm had uncomfortably swung a distance from my chest while still lunging at my opponent. "I haven't seen that yet." ☺

*The Dalhousie Fencing Club is always looking for new recruits. Before you become a member, join the introductory course happening every Monday and Wednesday for five weeks. The next session offered begins on Oct. 27. Visit the Dalplex or call them at 494-3372 if the sport piques your interest.*

# sports.

## COVER SPORTS AT DAL

contributor meetings  
mondays @ 5:30 pm  
room 312, the SUB

pizza served.

MAINSTREAM WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

**MARITIME WRESTLING Expo**

with **Bret "HIT MAN" Hart!** WWE Hall of Famer

**LIVE! EXHIBITION PARK, HALIFAX SAT, OCT. 16**

Vendors! Call 753-6668 for Tables!

Paying Our Canadian Hero a Fitting Tribute.

Vendors, Displays, Meet & Greet Wrestlers from 6 Countries, 2:00 PM  
Charity Auction, Wrestling Fantasy Camp, Music by LevyStep 7:30 PM  
Bret Hart Ceremony & Live Wrestling Feat. a STEEL CAGE Match! 10:00 PM

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW! \$42 "HIT MAN" V.I.P., \$30 RINGSIDE, \$18 GENERAL**

AVAILABLE AT TICKET ATLANTIC BOX OFFICE, PARTICIPATING ATLANTIC SUPERSTORES, WWW.TICKETATLANTIC.COM, OR CALL 1-877-451-1221. LIMITED "HIT MAN" V.I.P. INCLUDES RINGSIDE SEAT, BRET HART AUTOGRAPH SESSION, AND GIFT. VISIT WWW.MAINSTREAMWRESTLING.NET FOR COMPLETE AGENDA.

OFFICIAL AFTER-PARTY AT DAVE DOOLITTLE'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL, 90 TACOMA DR., DARTMOUTH, 435-5311.

## THE TIGERS IN ACTION!

**SEPTEMBER 29**  
Men's Hockey vs ACA (Exh), 7pm

**OCTOBER 1**  
Soccer vs SMU, W 5pm, M 7:15pm (FREE Faculty & Staff Friday!)  
Women's Basketball vs Guelph (Exh), 7pm

**OCTOBER 2**  
Women's Basketball vs WLU (Exh), 5pm

Admission is free for Dal students with ID

## MEET THE TIGERS!

**#9 LAURA SHEARER, WOMEN'S HOCKEY**  
Hometown: Falmouth, NS  
Position: Defense  
Year: 5th  
Program: Sociology  
Career Ambitions: Own my own gym  
Favourite pro athlete: Cheryl Pounder  
Actor who would play you in a movie: Malin Akerman  
Biggest rivalry: SMU

**#36 BEN BREAUULT, MEN'S HOCKEY**  
Hometown: Montreal, QC  
Position: Centre  
Year: 2nd  
Program: Commerce  
Career Ambitions: Pro Hockey  
Favourite pro athlete: Mike Cammalleri  
Actor who would play you in a movie: Mark Wahlberg  
Biggest rivalry: STU



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## Tigers still got it Dal lacrosse repeats winning performance of last year's final



The Tigers beat the St. FX X-Men 12-7 in a rematch of last year's final. ••• Photo by Martina Marien

**Ryan Lum**  
Sports Contributor

The Tigers improved their record to 3-1 on the season with a 12-7 victory over the St. Francis Xavier X-Men Saturday afternoon at Wickwire Field.

The teams met for the first time since having competed for the Maritime University Field Lacrosse League title last November, a hard fought match which Dal won 8-6. The rematch was a crucial game for both teams, as the victory put Dal in a tie for first in the standings with St. Mary's, and dropped the X-men below .500 for the year.

The Tigers opened scoring early in the first quarter, when they broke through

the St. FX long poles and slid the ball past goalie Chris Soucie. Dal retained control of the game's momentum for the better part of the first half, closing with a 3-1 lead. However, the X-Men stormed back early in the third quarter, cutting a three goal deficit to sit one back at 6-5. But the Tigers regained their composure after a gutsy marker by attack Jaime Dunbar was followed by 3 unanswered Dal goals.

Crucial saves by Tigers' goalie Mike Cowan, who leads the league in goals against average, kept the Tigers in good enough shape to cruise through the fourth quarter on goals by attack David Gagnier and midfielder Dustin Nadeau. **G**



Chris Haughn marks Jonattan Cordoba tightly. The Huskies' striker had two goals last Wednesday in a 6-1 win over Dal. ••• Photo by Martina Marien

## Women's soccer move up with win Huck's third goal gives Tigers a 2-1 win



Amanda Henry of Dal fights for the ball against St. Mary's Wednesday. Dalhousie won 2-1. ••• Photo by Martina Marien

**Arfa Ayub**  
Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers women's soccer team came out with a close 2-1 victory against Saint Mary's last Wednesday.

Although the Tigers came away with the win, Jack Hutchison, head coach of the Tigers was not happy with his team's effort.

"Mid-week game, lack lustre. Not enough sense of energy. We had a lot of things on our mind this week, I didn't think the girls stepped up. They didn't step up and play 90 minutes like I know they can, they did in moments of the second half and they pulled another one out. Not really what I like to see," said Hutchison.

In the first couple minutes of the game the Tigers controlled the ball but were unable to get anything going deep inside the Huskies end. In the 7th minute, rookie midfielder Daphne Wallace managed to find open space with a lot of room to shoot and shot the ball with a strong finish to make the

score 1-0.

SMU then responded with a great chance by midfielder Sophie Langille-Broderick on a header right after a corner kick attempt. The header missed and the score remained 1-0.

SMU wasn't done just yet. A sprint by Heidi Pentz created yet another great chance but a great lunging save from Dalhousie's goalkeeper Taryn McKenna kept the lead intact.

With the Huskies starting to look confident the Tigers began to falter. As the game went on, Jeanette Huck, Dalhousie's co-captain took it upon herself to bring her team back into the game, which led to some frustration on Huck's part as every time she got near the ball she had two or three Huskies on her tail. She could not seem to find any open space.

The Huskies scored their goal in the 17th minute. Heidi Pentz banged home the first goal the Tigers have allowed all season long.

In the second half, Huck's frustration finally caught up to her as she was given

a yellow card after she argued with the referee on a foul call.

As the game pace picked up so did the intense rivalry between the teams. In the 79th minute Stephanie Holland threw a backhand punch at Dalhousie's Katie Richard, which made contact. Both players were given yellow cards.

"That definitely shouldn't be on the field. Sometimes in the heat of the moment stuff happens but she should have been off the field for sure. If you swing you should be off the field," said Huck in regards to the incident.

Just when things were starting to look bad for the Tigers, Huck found open space and shot the ball into the back of the net, to give the Tigers a much needed 2-1 victory.

"It was definitely an emotional game for me," said Huck. "I definitely was frustrated but I took some deep breaths and started to get my head into it and then when I got the opportunity I kicked the ball as hard as I could and it felt so good going in, it made everything more calm and relaxing for sure." **G**

## Tigers suffer worst loss of the season

**Arfa Ayub**  
Sports Contributor

It was a match-up anticipated by many AUS fans: the Dalhousie Tigers facing off against their arch-rivals, the Saint Mary's Huskies. Sloppy play by Dalhousie's defense led the Tigers to 6-1 loss, their worst of the season.

"We actually thought that Dalhousie was going to be a team that was gonna try to kill us at the first moment, that's why we tried to score as many goals as we could and I think it was a well done job," said Jonattan Cordoba, midfielder for the Huskies.

Before the game the Huskies were averaging two and a half goals per game while the Tigers seemed to be in a bit of a funk, struggling to score against Cape Breton. The game started with a good

pace, with both the teams feeling each other out. The Huskies opened the scoring in the 23rd minute on a goal by Cordoba.

The Tigers tied the game on a header by Nathan Rogers. The goal was a huge relief for the Tigers because someone other than Ross Hagan had finally scored. It seemed as if it was game on. Just as the Tigers began to gain momentum, the Huskies' Cordoba scored his second goal of the game to make it 2-1. This time, Cordoba came running down the field to Dalhousie's end and kicked a shot right over the head of Dalhousie's goal keeper Ben Ur.

After that it all started to fall apart for the Tigers. For the rest of the game the Tigers seemed to lack spirit.

"We have great strikers, basically a great team—we play very quick, that's

what I think killed their defence," says Cordoba.

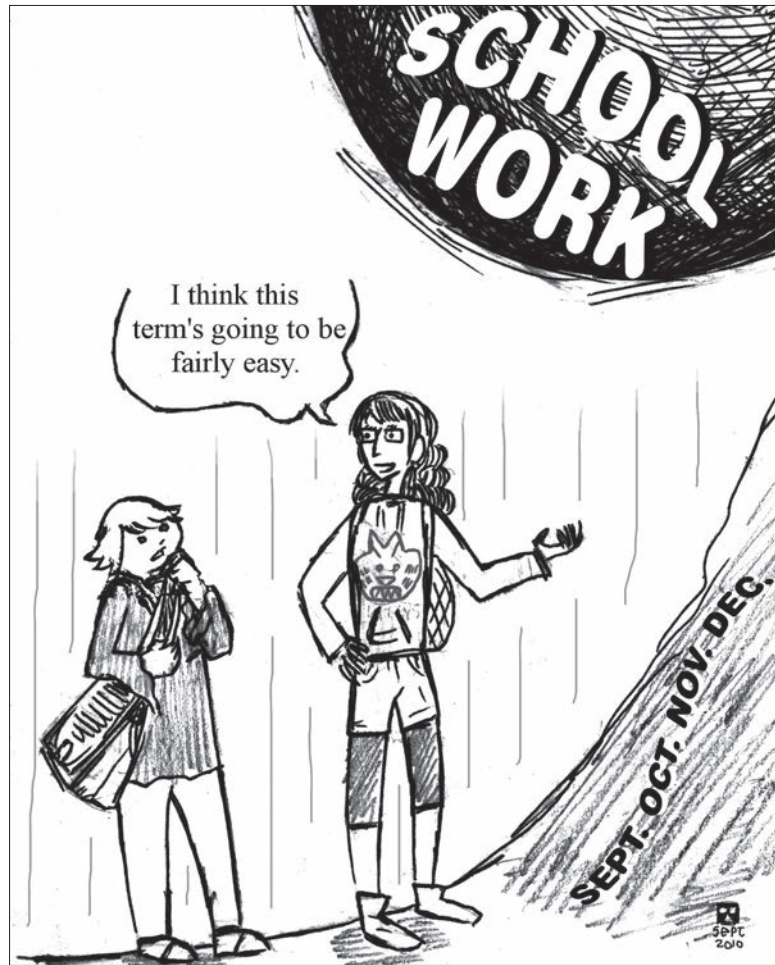
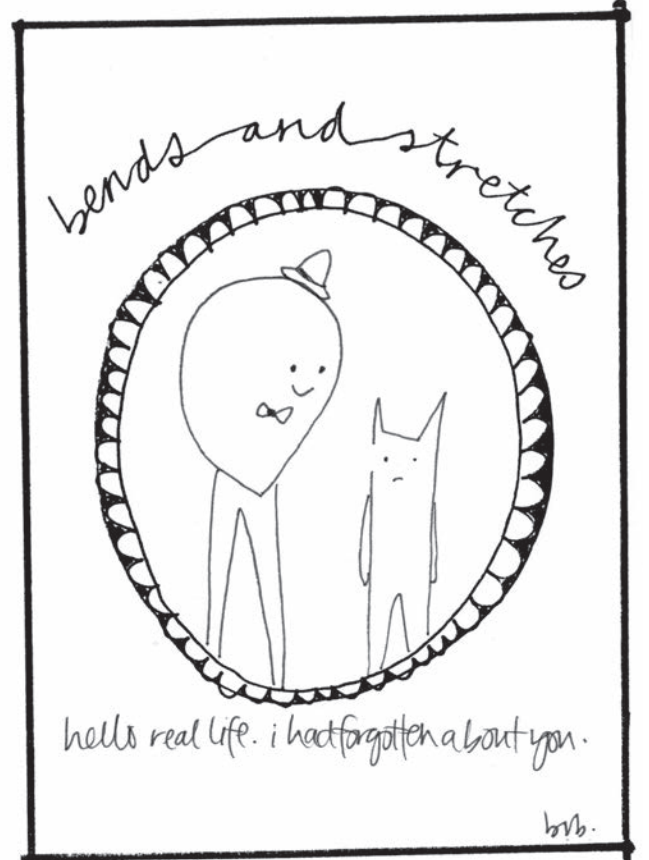
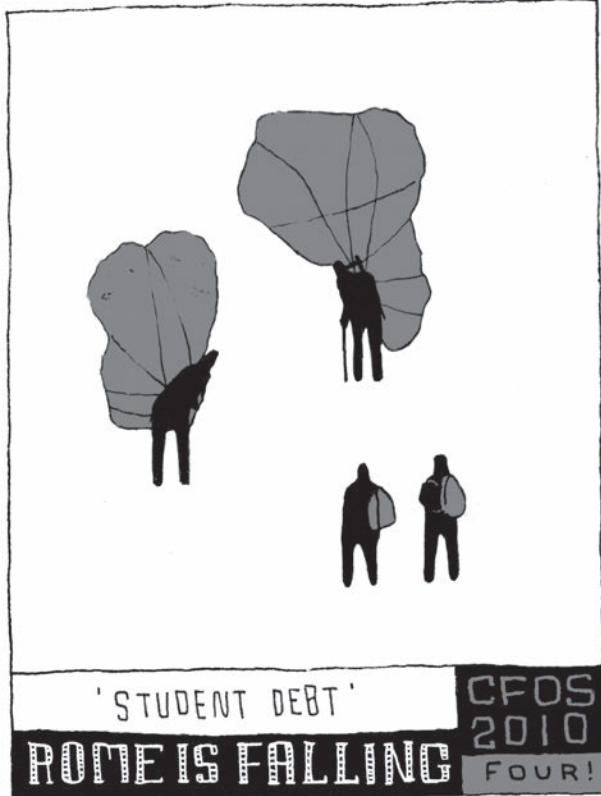
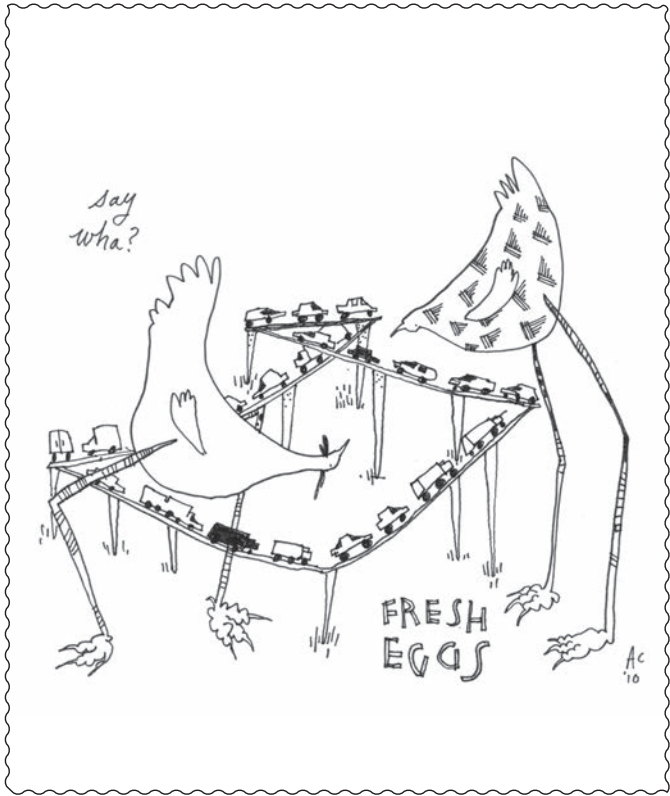
With the score 2-1 Huskies, the Huskies weren't about relax just yet. Adding to the Tigers misery, Elvir Gigolaj scored in the 43rd minute to give the Huskies a 3-1 lead.

The second half was no different than the first, with the Huskies adding three more goals. A sloppy play by Dalhousie's defense, allowed Shane Rajaraman to find open room and put the ball into the net past Ur.

Only two minutes later, Nils Webber scored a goal set up by the speedy Cordoba near the sideline.

Late in the second half the Huskies were awarded a penalty kick, which they took advantage of on a goal scored by Shawn Kodejs. Kodejs kicked the ball to the low left side, just past Ur. **G**

# comics.

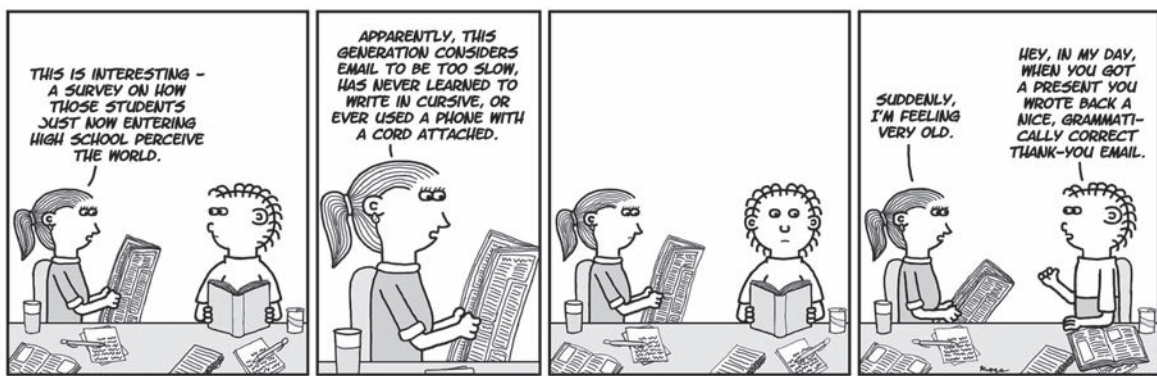


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Mike Roache

## INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING CO-OP TERMS



**Phil Thibodeau**  
**Mechanical '11**

Students looking to travel might find themselves frustrated studying engineering at Dalhousie University. There are generally few, if any, postings in PlacePro for outside of Canada.

However, there is an exchange program available to students who want to work abroad. IAESTE is an association for engineering exchange students with 85 member countries. In recent years, Dalhousie Engineering students have had co-op terms in Switzerland and Thailand with IAESTE. This past summer, I had my final mechanical co-op term in Helsinki, Finland.

Students looking for excitement in their next work term should strongly consider applying to IAESTE. Student feedback usually contains statements like "unforgettable, invaluable experience" and "opportunity of a lifetime". The experiences are impossible to predict, but guaranteed to be life changing.

Personally, I consider it one of the best things I've ever done, and hope to see more students join the program. A work term with IAESTE stands out on the resume and is a relatively inexpensive way to travel for 3 months since you're being paid to work at the same time.

This past summer I worked at the Helsinki University of Technology doing fluid mechanics research. During my co-op I had the opportunity to explore Finland as well as Estonia, Sweden, and Russia with about 20 other international IAESTE students. Throughout the summer I found myself cheering on rally racers in northern Finland, experiencing night clubs in Estonia, and of course, gaining technical experience doing research at the Helsinki University of Technology.

There are significant sacrifices, however, that students must make if they do want to do an international work term. Most notably, students are only paid enough to survive and many students return having spent as much as they made

during their term. Costs include the program itself (\$550), visas, flights, insurance, and weekend trips. Also, students must be open to working wherever the job may be and adapting to culture shock. For most though, a little culture shock is what they're looking for.

While the Dalhousie Co-op office is supportive of IAESTE students, it is up to the student to take initiative and find an international placement. This is done by filling out an application (including a \$200 deposit) and then ranking the available positions. The application and more information can be found at the IAESTE Canada website at [www.queensu.ca/iaeste/](http://www.queensu.ca/iaeste/). It is important to note that the application deadline is long before the actual work term (usually mid-December for a summer work term). More information can also be obtained by emailing [philthibodeau@gmail.com](mailto:philthibodeau@gmail.com)

## FROM THE EDITOR

An unorthodox place to fit this piece, I know. This week's column is purposely brief. I just want to let all of our readers know that our future with the Gazette has yet to be determined. There have been some ups and downs in our relationship this semester, and things were on the up & up. Then, the new cost figures came out. All told, the cost of printing our own bi-weekly paper is only marginally greater than the expense of staying in the Gazette, if we want two pages per week in their paper. To us, it makes sense, but we need your support. So come out to our general meeting, and write, take pictures, draw, write poetry, whatever you can do. It's your paper, so let's bring the Sextant back.

## VOLUNTEERISM AND VIOLENCE

**Dan Hoyda**  
**Chemical '12**

It is essential that our society moves to one of non violence and volunteerism. Today we are seeing more and more the demise of the middle class due to violent and coercive behaviour of the state. It is a growing issue that requires our attention immediately. Last year over 1.4 million Americans filed for personal bankruptcy and as of today more than forty million Americans are living on food stamps. The gap between the rich and the poor is widening ever more quickly with average Wall Street bonuses up 17% in 2009 from the previous year. The ratio of executives pay to the average workers' pay has increased tremendously in the past sixty years from a ratio of 30:1 in 1950 which is now close to between 300:1 and 500:1 today.

Today 43% of Americans have less than \$10,000 saved for retirement. In addition the bottom 50% of income earners in America collectively own less than 1% of the nation's wealth. Not surprisingly 66% of the income growth between 2001 and 2007 went to the top 1% of all Americans. Socialists will argue that this result is a failure of Capitalism but I would disagree. If it were truly a failure of Capitalism then greed would be to blame. I would argue that greed has always been a constant throughout human history and it could not have caused such a dramatic change in the allocation of wealth so recently. It is not freedom nor volunteerism which has failed, it is violence that has failed. The governments success in its forceful redistribution of wealth has been catastrophic in its attempt to establish a more egalitarian society. The intention of lowering the gap between the rich and the poor with an increasing amount of social programs has shown to be a complete failure.

Imagine that you are unable to find a job and you are very poor so you decide to go and steal some

money from someone. It is certainly true that you have solved your problems in the short term but not in the long. The same is true on a grand scale. When a group of people takes an individual's wealth by force and gives unearned wealth to another group of people those recipients problems are solved in the short run. In the long run all that has been achieved in doing this is awakened the rich to the power of the government. Those with the most wealth will have the greatest influence on those in government. When the government starts to prey upon the rich in order to bribe the middle class and the poor to purchase votes, the result is that the rich bend their lobbying efforts to the government and begin to control the machinery of the state. The violence that is initiated through legislation, and forced taxation provide the rich with more and more wealth. The end result of all government programs and applications of violence is the opposite of its actual intended goal.

The intention of establishing an equilibrium between the rich and the poor by lowering the wealth of the rich and raising that of the poor could not possibly have been achieved this way. This was an attempt to attain a more egalitarian society however the result seen today is that the top 1% of income earners in the United States controls nearly all of the wealth. The challenge for us today is to live to the full extent of our morals and virtues and apply them in a practical way. Simply discussing solutions to social problems is not enough to solve them. We must be involved in aiding our community on a personal basis. To reverse ourselves from the overwhelming despair approaching we must reject our current solution of violence to solve complex social problems and engage in increasing amounts of volunteerism.

## PICTURE OF THE WEEK



This week's picture was taken by George Gavel (Electrical '11) and shows him at the Louvre in Paris. Have a neat photo? Send it to [sextant@dal.ca](mailto:sextant@dal.ca)

The Sextant is published by the Dalhousie Sextant Publishing Society and aims to represent all of the students studying and living on Sexton Campus.  
Editor: Ben Wedge, Assistant Editor: Shani Blankrot, Treasurer: Elizabeth Croteau



# THE SEXTANT

DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER 1ST, 2010

EDITOR IN CHIEF: BEN WEDGE

## DSEUS, DUES, AND DEGS LAUNCH NEW WEBSITE

**Laura Weeden**  
DSEUS VP Communications

It's a new year, so time for a new start! Maybe you are new to Dal this year, or

have just entered your 3rd year here on the Sexton campus, or like many of us, it's another year and you're one step closer to graduation. Whatever it may be, with a new year, come new things. So without further ado, we introduce the new Dal Eng website! Your source for all the current happenings on campus. It is now the place to go for all things engineering. DUES (Dalhousie Undergraduate Engineering Society for 1st and 2nd years), DSEUS (Dalhousie Sexton Engineering Undergraduate Society) and DEGS (Dalhousie Engineering Graduate Society) are all under one roof. You can check out the Dal Eng merchandise, all the societies or meet your executive. Then see what the ROV team is up to of the concrete toboggan! You can read the latest issue of the Sextant, or find out what cool events are going on at the T-room.

The best part about the website is if you have something you want to add, a new event, a society or club or a fundraiser we can post it! The new website is all about communication and it's packed with new information. This is your society, your campus and you need a place to go to find out what's going on.



Photo: <http://www.vmart.pk/main/images/G-Pen-450.jpg>



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## THE PEOPLE OF SEXTON CAMPUS: LUKE SCANLAN

Editor's Note: The People of Sexton Campus is a new feature from us, to you. Our goal is to introduce the students who are making a difference at Dal, and on Sexton Campus.



Our first profile is of Luke Scanlan, a member of the Dal Football Team, who are back after a 34 year absence. At the time of writing, they are 2-0. Their first home game is Saturday, October 2nd at 6pm at the Wickwire Field on Studley Campus.

Name: Luke Scanlan  
Program: Electrical Engineering '12  
From: Pictou, NS.  
Position: Defense

Favorite football player: Drew Brees, as a fellow Sigma Chi I have respect for him, and the hard work he put in when he was told he'd never be big enough or strong enough to win the big one. The Saints win last year really made my experience in Biloxi and New Orleans a memorable one.

So whether you are a 1st year, just started your 3rd year on Sexton or a grad student, we are all connected and now it's easy to find out about everything the societies are up to and more!

Check it out! <http://daleng.ca>

The Sextant is having a General Meeting!

Come out Wednesday, October 6th at 6PM for free pizza in the Design Commons. RSVP to [sextant@dal.ca](mailto:sextant@dal.ca) so that we can estimate how many pizzas to order.

Check out our website for more details. (\*Venue subject to change)

## CO-OP CORNER

Things to Remember:

- The co-op website offers many tips and is very informative. The website is: [www.engandcompcoop.dal.ca](http://www.engandcompcoop.dal.ca)
- Round 1: Going on now.
- Last job posting: October 13th.
- Check PlacePro



Trivia every Friday!

Thursday, September 30: Open Mic  
Friday, October 1: Green Trivia  
Friday, October 8: Engineers vs Nurses Trivia

## WORD OF THE WEEK

Feature (n):

Design flaws that could not be removed from a product, and were therefore documented and advertised as unique.

Editors' note: Word of the Week is a humour column defining common engineering terms. If you have any complaints or suggestions, please email [sextant@dal.ca](mailto:sextant@dal.ca) Obviously, we prefer suggestions.

**the Palace nightclub**

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Wear a Sweater Vest for a Free Beer!

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