



The Dalhousie Gazette
 North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

Two sides to a strike, pg 3
 Brewery Market, pg 8
 AUS Hoops, pg 14

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DSU WEEKLY DISPATCH

For Information on negotiations between the Dalhousie Faculty Association and the Dalhousie Board of Governors please visit the following links:

In the coming weeks the DSU will be working in the best interest of students.

Updates will be able to be found on this page on **Twitter: @DalStudentUnion**

and on **Facebook: facebook.com/pages/Dalhousie-Student-Union/40582581617**

For a list of frequently asked questions and answers, please go to: www.DSU.ca

Updates from the DSU can be found at: TinyURL.com/DalStrike

For an introduction to the University's perspective on the pension issues:

www.Dal.ca/News/2012/01/31/An-Update-On-Pensions.html

Updates from the Administration on the negotiating process, and a helpful FAQ

for students, can be found at: Blogs.Dal.ca/Negotiations/

Updates from the DFA can be found on their website at: DFA.NS.ca

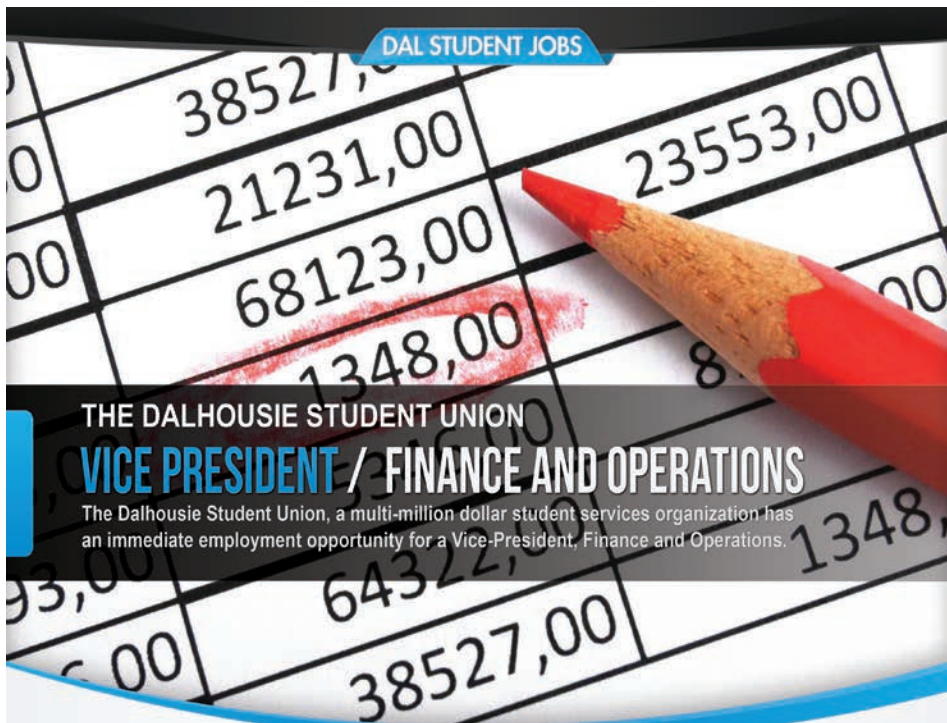
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- 2) Anyone can have the required identification photocopied FREE at campus copy.
- 3) Completed forms can be dropped off at the information desk or campus copy.
- 4) We will ensure that Elections Nova Scotia receives your completed form!

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March 9 - March 15, 2012 •

The Dalhousie Gazette

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Dylan Matthias, Editor-in-Chief
editor@dalgazette.com

Erica Eades, Copy/Arts Editor
copy@dalgazette.com

Katrina Pyne, News Editor
Torey Ellis, Assistant News Editor
news@dalgazette.com

Matthew Ritchie, Opinions Editor
opinions@dalgazette.com

Leslie Gallagher, Assistant Arts Editor
arts@dalgazette.com

Ian Froese, Sports Editor
sports@dalgazette.com

Angela Gzowski, Photo Editor
photo@dalgazette.com

Leilani Graham-Laidlaw, Online Editor
Rob Sangster-Poole, Assistant Online Editor
online@dalgazette.com

Jenna Harvie, Creative Editor
creative@dalgazette.com

Jonathan Rotszain, Art Director
design@dalgazette.com

Ben McDade, Business Manager
business@dalgazette.com

staff



contact us

www.dalgazette.com
The SUB, Room 312
6136 University Avenue
Halifax NS, B3H 4J2

Advertising Inquiries

Aaron Merchant, Ad Manager
902 449 7281
advertising@dalgazette.com

the fine print

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Torey Ellis Assistant News Editor



Two sides to the truth

Students seek the real story

Torey Ellis
Assistant News Editor

When the administration's blog sounds like only half the story and the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) seems to be silent in comparison, what can students believe?

That difference is due largely to resources: the administration has a communications team of 23 employees, 3 of whom are working on negotiating updates, while the DFA has one full-time communications officer.

So naturally, the images that students are getting of each side are going to be disparate. Ryan Robski, a DSU senate representative, says that discrepancy is a major worry for students. "We hear two different things," he says.

"Just not knowing what to believe, what the situation is—that's the concern."

While the administration has been able to email students and update their blog consistently throughout negotiations, the DFA has been less communicative to students.

On Feb. 27, the DFA invited selected student leaders to a luncheon—a step Robski says is in the right direction.

"These (meetings) could be happening more, they could be more open to other student questions in a broader forum as opposed to by invitation. But I think they're taking positive steps," he says.

DFA president Anthony Stewart said at the meeting the image of the DFA is changing as negotiations go on.

"You start to see the administration less and you start to see me more. So I, and the people whom I'm supposed to be representing, end up getting blamed for all this."

Stewart says the administration's communications have been spinning the story: for example, in saying that the DFA walked away from the table of Feb. 15.

Charles Crosby, spokesperson for Dal administration and one of three communications workers dedicated to disseminating information on the negotiations, says the allegation is unfounded.

"We're all sharing information as we understand it," he says. "There's no spin involved: we're simply saying what we know."

Robski is also the president of the Dal Association of Graduate Students (DAGS). He says graduate students have a more moderate opinion

of the two sides, being both students and people who have begun to think about their pensions.

"Graduate students specifically understand the difficulty that's here," he says.

"But without speaking to individual opinions, I think graduate students—and all students—are most concerned when they don't see negotiations going on."

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"I don't feel like students should feel helpless."
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Aaron Beale has seen that frustration as well.

"People are pissed off. They're worried, concerned," he says.

"And I think helpless is the most concerning for me. I don't feel like students should feel helpless, when we are the number one users of this institution."

Beale is involved with the Nova Scotia Public Information Research Group (NSPIRG) at Dal and was present at the last student leader meeting with the DFA. He charac-

terizes the administration's letters to students as "disturbing."

"It's incredibly tactically amazing, but also manipulative and scary," he says.

Beale says the DFA's methods of communicating with students needs work too.

"Ultimately, the interests of the DFA and the students are the same," he says. "But we don't know it, and the DFA doesn't act like it."

He also says the DFA needs to change their strategy to gain public opinion.

"If they want students on board, they should contextualize their struggle in things that students will care about," he says.

But Max Ma, the DSU representative on the Board of Governors, says the DFA has no favour in public opinion.

"They've been relying almost entirely on the *Gazette* to give their side of the story, because they cannot count on their members," he says, explaining that it's impossible for the DFA to get every one of 870 faculty members to say the same thing.

"The PR battle cannot be won by the DFA. They don't have the resources and they don't have the public sympathy," he says. "But keep-

ing that in mind, they're doing well with the resources they have."

Ma, Beale and Robski each agree on one point, though: the DSU needs to become the primary source of information for students.

Robski says it's the responsibility of the student union to take a more active role. "What I would like to see, personally, is the DFA and the administration empower the student union to be the communicator to students, so that it is coming from one source," he says.

If the DSU took on that role, he says, students could have a solid source of unbiased information, without judgment on either side. "The best tool in place right now is the DSU," he says.

But Beale says the DSU should take a mobilizing role, rather than an informational one.

"I stand by my statement that if students wanted to, and were organized under the student union, we could stop the strike," he says. "We have a student union. We shouldn't feel un-empowered." ☞

Charles Crosby is one the administration's spokespeople.

••• Photo by Angela Gzowski



ALL ABOARD THE KING'S EXPRESS

New initiative provides sustainable alternative to flying

Laura Hubbard
News Contributor
with files from Torey Ellis

Students from the University of King's College who are heading home for the summer have the opportunity to travel to Montreal for \$99 through Via Rail Canada. But not everyone thinks it's a great idea.

It's part of an initiative at King's to promote sustainability. On April 16, the train will be leaving Halifax at noon and arriving in Montreal the following morning. Students must book their ticket by March 11.

Emma Norton, the sustainability officer at King's, recently proposed the elaborate plan to Via Rail, with the help of the Sustainability King's group.

"Students can travel with Via Rail more cost effectively," Norton says. "It's also reducing your carbon emissions by 92 per cent over flying."

There are 48 seats available, and the hope is that King's students, staff and faculty will fill one car. Only 20 students need to sign up for the \$60 to still be available.

Staff and faculty are also being offered a 10 per cent discount on train travel at any time over the next two years.

Norton says she hopes the project will continue in future years.

"It would be even more of a success, though, if people use the train beyond April," she says. "If they use it as a regular mode of transportation, instead of taking a plane—that would be great."

Sarah Kraus, a former sustainability officer of King's and fourth-year student, worries about the success of the project.

"I don't know how many students at King's care enough about sustainability to take the train as opposed to flying," she says.

Kraus, originally from Alberta, says it would not be logistically possible for her. "For an extra \$50, I could fly. And I know it's not good for the environment, but if I have to get home, I have to get home."

On the other hand, Kraus says she is impressed by the idea behind the agreement.

"It's just a great idea for sustainable living and it's something different that Emma is trying," she says.

Daniel Brown, a King's student who serves on the Board of Governors, hopes the agreement with Via Rail will allow students to branch out and connect with staff and professors as well.

Although drinks are served onboard, Brown says the King's Express isn't a party train.

"This is going to be something where everybody can have a lovely social time and get to know each other. It will strengthen the commu-

nity."

Brown and Norton note that Via Rail was willing to participate in the project.

"They were very open," Brown says. "They were a little bit surprised because it was an unsolicited proposal, but from the get-go they have been very excited to work with us."

Anne Marie Martin, the representative from Via Rail who organized the deal, says the offer is unusual.

"We don't do a lot of this sort of thing," she says. "I don't know if it'll be a success or not."

Martin can think of a few reasons why students might not want to take the deal—the cost, the date being inconvenient, or just not reaching enough people.

"It's \$99, which I don't think is a lot, but coming out of a student's pocket it might be," she says. "And for the first year it is always a little harder to get people."

Kraus was concerned about the communication side of the project, after a fellow student contacted Via Rail about the agreement and learned they were unaware of any such deal.

Brown says the project was announced to student union council before negotiations had concluded.

The King's Express will also lend itself to the pre-existing Harry Potter vibe at King's. Brown says they hope traveling by train will be a different, "magical" experience.

"I should mention that there will be some sort of send-off," he add. "A very fun, theatrical one. We're hoping for bagpipes, the Dean and full regalia."

"And robes," says Norton. "It will be a proper King's exit." ☺

The King's Express will be leaving Halifax April 16. ••• Photo by Adele Van Wyk

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news briefs

Student entrepreneur takes first place

A Dalhousie student has been named provincial champion for his student entrepreneurship.

Akram Alotumi, owner of Azal Student Agency, got the title of Student Entrepreneur Nova Scotia Champion at the end of February. The competition was put on by a charity called Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship. Alotumi will proceed on to the next round of competitions representing Nova Scotia.

Azal Student Agency helps international students deal with housing, transportation and other issues during their stay in Halifax. It has been operating since 2011.

The two winners of the next round will go on to represent their region at the national exhibition in Calgary in May.

Laptop thefts

As exams approach and study spaces fill up, Dal security staff are warning students to be extra vigilant with their belongings.

An email from Michael Burns, director of security at Dal, says there have been multiple robberies or attempted robberies around Studley and Carleton campuses in the past few weeks.

Four incidents were reported in the email, each in a different campus building. One of the stolen laptops was found, but the items in the other three cases are still missing. None of the descriptions of the suspects match each other.

Burns says to keep an eye on valuables, even when they're locked away: some of the crimes have involved breaking into locked rooms because the valuables were visible from outside.

New faculty strike tactic

Dalhousie administration stated this week that if a faculty strike occurs, the university will not continue to pay salaries of faculty members on maternity leave, parental/adoption leave, compassionate leave or sabbatical.

In a memo to students and staff Dal Faculty Association (DFA) president Anthony Stewart says this move is unprecedented in the university's history and goes against usual bargaining procedures in Canada.

The *Gazette* will be providing updates as strike negotiations progress at DalGazette.com.

—Torey Ellis
Assistant News Editor

HMCS Galley drops anchor at King's

Healthy options may be on the menu for Dal as well

Danielle Boyd
News Contributor

The University of King's College hopes to attract students to dine on campus with a brand new selection of healthy food options and local coffees at their completely redone canteen.

Located in the HMCS Wardroom in the Arts and Administration Building, it is aptly named the HMCS Galley. 'The Galley' is internally operated by King's through Local Source, a local food supplier. Local Source collects produce and meat from farms around Halifax and Eastern Canada.

Now finishing its third week of operation, assistant manager Simon Kaplan says the feedback has been very positive. With new food services being considered in the Student Union Building (SUB) many people are looking for healthier and alternative options.

Gavin Jardine, the incoming VP (student life), says as a vegetarian he recognizes the need for food alternatives on Dalhousie's Studley campus. "There is barely anything I get to eat except a veggie sub," he says.

This is something the HMCS Galley has done well. They offer vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options.

The SUB food services are currently operated by Sodexo. The business operates a few franchises such as Tim Hortons and Booster Juice, but also the Union Market, which serves

mostly fast food. When the Dalhousie Student Union changes the food services in the SUB there are healthier alternatives they are considering.

The DSU has been working on putting new food in the SUB for the past two years. With the Sodexo contract expiring this summer, Chris Saulnier, current DSU president, is looking for innovative ways to do food.

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"Food will be the biggest issue for the DSU next year."

Saulnier says the DSU wants to take a more hands-on role with the food services. He recognizes there should be a higher quality of food in the SUB and as students, "we are concerned with where food comes from."

The DSU is currently accepting proposals for food. Council will make a decision April 18. Saulnier confirms there will be noticeable changes to the food in the SUB starting in September, but any major renovations will be held off until 2013.

The incoming DSU executive does not have a say in what company gets chosen or what the contract will look

like, but Jardine recognizes that "whatever happens, food will be the biggest issue for the DSU next year."

Saulnier says the DSU wants local, healthy and affordable food. The King's canteen has embraced this idea. The HMCS Galley offers Java Blend Coffee, a local company, for \$1.50, quinoa or bean salad for \$3.75 and a lunch special of homemade grilled cheese sandwiches with soup for \$6.

It was easier for King's to support a self-operated canteen because they are a much smaller campus, says Kaplan. Kaplan believes "with the amount of foot traffic through the SUB it would be hard to become self-operated."

However, Saulnier says they have built their business plan around the self-operated idea as well.

"We want to be more involved," he says, "whether that means going into a joint contract or paying a manager's fee."

Saulnier says all three Sodexo-owned franchises in the SUB may disappear in the coming years. Don't fret, though; the Tim Hortons isn't going anywhere, says Jardine with a laugh.

"We realize there would be a riot if the Tim Hortons disappeared." ☹

Services in the SUB are expected to change next year.
 ••• Photo by Abram Gutscher



The modern left

Defining leftist politics in modern movements



Calum Agnew
Staff Contributor

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 What do the American anti-war movement, Occupy Wall Street, the sexual liberation movement, unions and an endangered semi-aquatic mammal from Australia all have in common?

The Platypus Affiliated Society at Dalhousie has been organizing events for the past six months, discussing the history of the political left and answering that question.

Motivated by a sense that the left is disoriented, the Platypus Society draws out the connections and points of disagreement between the various movements on the left-wing today and their historical predecessors, in the hopes of dispelling "ideological murkiness, according to their website."

Andony Melathopoulos, Canadian coordinator of the Platypus Society and president of the Dal affiliate, hopes their work will prompt more thoughtful consideration about what it means to be on the left today.

On March 1, the group held a public interview between Herb Gamberg, a professor of sociology at Dal, and Tony Thomson from Acadia University, on the history of the New Communist movement in Halifax in the 1970s.

The society has organized six events this year with support from a variety of on-campus groups, such as the Contemporary Studies Society at the University of King's College, the Dal Women's Studies department and NSPIRG. Some topics have included "Does Marxism Even Matter?," "What is the #Occupy Movement?" and a film screening mini-series featuring *Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps*.

The group also meets twice weekly: once as a reading group, discussing the history of Marxist theory, and once to talk politics. The readings, which include texts from Hegel, Rousseau, Adorno and Horkheimer, are available online at the Platypus website: Dalhousie.Platypus1917.org.

The Platypus Society at Dal has been "trying to create the space where you can think critically. A space in which you don't have to simply defend your positions but take them out and have a look at them," says Melathopoulos.

.....
"The Left is dead—long live the Left!"

"This isn't your uncle's turkey dinner," he says. "You don't have to worry and you don't have to take your position for granted."

It's a place where students can hear a conversation that's very different from what they're used to, and where they can ask questions they're not used to asking, says Melathopoulos.

For some, "it's unclear why you would even need the category of the left at the moment," he says. "I remember when we did our first event at Dal in September, we asked the question 'What is the left?' and the answer we got was, 'Well, you support the CBC, healthcare and the unions.'"

Recently, movements such as Occupy Wall Street have rejected an association with the "traditional left." But people have been announcing the death of the left for a long time, says

Melathopoulos.

"If you understand the present in its historical context, you could recognize a left today," says Melathopoulos.

In the case of Occupy, both the problem identified—macro-scale inequality, and the methodological debates in the movement itself, such as the problem of hierarchy, are not new, says Melathopoulos.

The Platypus Society believes that "if we understand the problem of the left as a historical one, that might help us in the present," he says.

Melathopoulos doesn't have a background in sociology or history. He's a PhD student working with wild honeybees. He says the texts are "not that complicated if you just start reading them with an open mind."

Founded in Chicago in 2006, the Platypus Society has chapters across the globe, including France, Korea, Greece and Toronto. The group publishes a monthly journal, *The Platypus Review*, which can be found in the atrium of the Killam and at cafés around Halifax. It has featured Noam Chomsky and Slavoj Žižek in the past.

The March issue contains an essay by former Dal student David Bush, writing on the Occupy movement.

As to the name, Marx's friend and collaborator, Friedrich Engels, thought the platypus was a scheme cooked up by taxidermists in an attempt to discredit Darwin's theory of evolution; such an animal was ridiculous and patently impossible in the light of natural history. The same is said of 'the left' today, says the Platypus Society.

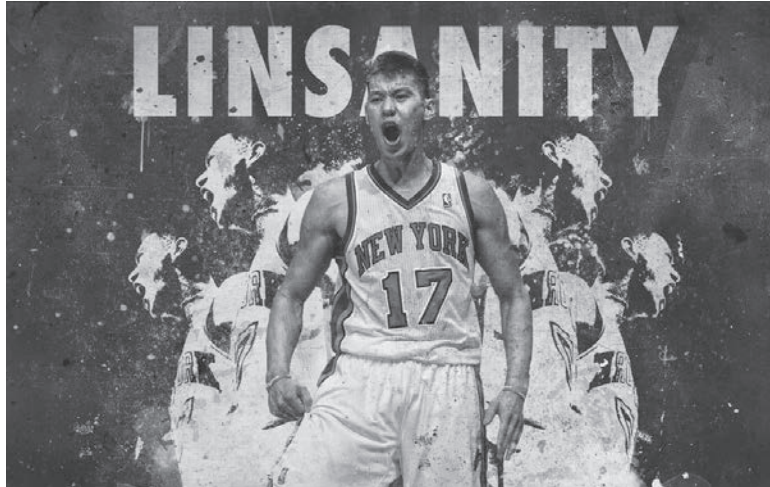
And then Engels saw one. ☹

Andy Melathopoulos.
 ••• Photo by Calum Agnew



LINSANE IN THE MEMBRANE

Jeremy Lin's rise to fame shows sports world's underlying racism



ing example of modern inclusivity.

But Jeremy Lin's true universal appeal lies in his status as a tenacious underdog. His story (though world famous by now) demands to be retold again and again. He was cut twice—once by the Golden State Warriors, then by the Houston Rockets—but overcame these setbacks, landing a spot with the Knicks and proving his detractors wrong. From unwanted castoff to trending topic in a New York minute, what more could we ask for?

Of course, as so often happens in the volatile public sphere, with high praise comes an equally high degree of scorn. Our first instinct, when watching something incredible developing in front of our eyes is to react with suspicion. To wit: a random Facebook comment underneath a shot of his *Sports Illustrated* cover photo suggests we all “get over Jeremy Lin” because “there are a lot of good no-name players this year.” Another implores the media to “get off his nuts,” while a third points out his penchant for terrible turnovers.

This last comment actually contains a measure of truth. Over the course of his unprecedented run, Lin served up the ball to the opposing team almost as often as he served up the points, averaging an ugly 6.2 turnovers in his past five starts. In fact, during a Feb. 23 game against the Miami Heat, Lin had as many turnovers as he did points—eight

apiece—which led some to wonder: Is Linsanity for real?

The question is a valid one, but misleading. The truth is, nothing in contemporary sports is actually all that authentic.

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“Jeremy Lin is exactly the kind of present day hero we need.”
.....

We love our heroes, but we love creating them, not sustaining them. Our collective attention span is, sadly, volatile and short. And the fact remains that pro sports are now part of the entertainment industry, which prizes temporary glamour as much as, if not more than, sustained achievement.

Does this mean Linsanity is just another temporary distraction, a media-fueled blip on our pop-culture radar? Yes, and no. Yes, because media frenzies generally do not last very long and Lin's recent stats (including the glaring number of turnovers) suggest he is most likely human after all, incapable of continuing to score at such an incredible pace. But this does not mean Jeremy Lin will necessarily fade into obscurity. If nothing else, his emergence has forced us to confront ugly aspects

of our society that we often overlook.

For example, following one of his few bad games, *ESPN.com* published a story bearing the headline “Chink in the Armor,” a squirm inducing reference to Lin's ethnic heritage. While such a slur is both unprofessional and unforgivable, it should serve as a wake up call, a reminder that, even within mainstream North American culture, xenophobic stereotypes regarding those of Asian descent remain unfortunately present.

In addition to *ESPN's* miscue (for which the responsible party was promptly fired), it was revealed in the *Vancouver Sun* and elsewhere that Ben and Jerry's new “Taste the Linsanity” flavoured ice cream originally contained fortune cookies.

Unpleasant though they may be, these controversies give us good reason to believe Lin's legacy will extend beyond the basketball court. After all, it is only by facing our prejudices head-on that we can hope to overcome them, and Lin's exploits provide the perfect opportunity to begin the self-examination.

As a symbol of how far we have come and how far we have yet to go, Jeremy Lin is exactly the kind of present day hero we need. ☹

Lin is MVP material, whether you like it or not. ••• Designed by Ishaan Mishra, photo via Getty Images

Daniel Bergman
Opinions Contributor

.....
We live in a world in desperate need of heroes. Every day the headlines hit us with some depressing new development: an earthquake, a war, a politician cheating on his cancer-stricken wife. So when people do something unexpectedly positive, we tend to overreact. We splash their faces across magazine covers, praise them online and shower them with televised plaudits. They become our champions and saviours, even if only for 15 minutes or so. Ours is a culture of myths and mythmakers—and nowhere is this culture more entrenched than in the world of professional sports.

Once upon a time, Jeremy Lin was just a basketball player. Now, due to our collective hunger for feel-good stories, he is an icon and a pioneer. A first-generation Taiwanese-American playing point guard for the New York Knicks, Lin set both the NBA and the blogosphere alight in recent weeks due to a string of impressive performances. According to *Sports Illustrated*, his 109 point total through his first four starts is the most by any player in the modern-era NBA and includes an impressive 38 against one of the NBA's premier franchises, the Los Angeles Lakers. He also happens to be the first American-born athlete of Asian descent to play in the NBA—something to be celebrated as a shin-

NO LOGO: The feminist image



Samantha Elmsley
Staff Contributor

.....
I thought about using the “f-word” in this article. Harry Potter forced me to reconsider.

Potter fans will remember that those too cautious to speak his name use the phrase “You-Know-Who” to refer to Voldemort. Like Harry, I choose to be precise in my nomenclature and for this reason I will use the term to the full extent of its (perhaps controversial) nature: feminism.

As a self-identified feminist, I often find myself entering into discussion concerning the relevancy of feminism to a middle-class Canadian female. We're equal already, right? In many respects, at least from my own (extremely specific) position, I believe this is true. However, feminism to me is not simply about equality. Feminism offers a lens through which to view the world.

Let's take a look:

Last April I read an opinion article in a paper whose main points went something like this: Women must use their sexual power over men in order to get ahead in the world. This means dressing (and eating, and exercising, and make-up-ing) appropriately. Anyone who doesn't do this (I believe the phrase was, “Naomi Wolf and her feminist sob sisters”) is just plain ignorant.

Not surprisingly, I don't agree with this on many, many levels.

The question of self-presentation, when viewed through a feminist lens, becomes a question of self-containment. Feminism, to my mind, does not demand that feminists dress in a certain way—indeed, to move toward

this seems to defeat the whole purpose of the philosophy, which for me, is self-directed choice.

The key here is the emphasis on the self: however a woman or man chooses to dress should be a self-contained decision. I don't dress this way because my boyfriend tells me to or because my peer group says I should. I make a conscious decision as to how I wish to present myself and I dress accordingly.

This may result in a bra-burning. It may mean that I do choose to exert my sexual influence, such as it is. Perhaps it will change, over time or from day to day. Whatever the case, feminism asks that I simply choose for myself. Similarly, I may not agree with the image that the person beside me has chosen, but if it has come from a place of self-actualization, I must respect it.

Of course, image presents a challenge because it operates in a double-vision: I present myself, and others see me. Because these two aspects exist in tandem, it is hard to disentangle the outside influences from those which are self-contained. My only answer to this is that I get a feeling. I get a sick, measly, wormy feeling when, deep down, I know I've made a choice to present myself in a way that is not my own. Maybe that's my conscious, or perhaps just my pig-headedness. Whatever it is, I believe a person knows the difference between their image and that of someone else.

If you don't, well, maybe you should learn. ☹

Feminism offers a lens through which to view the world. ••• Photo by Angela Gzowski



The sound of music

The Voice proves that consumers don't just want a pretty face

Matthew Ritchie
Opinions Editor

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If there is one program I would consider to be the most interesting show on television in 2012, it would have to be NBC's reality talent show *The Voice*. This may seem kind of odd, considering I am a journalist who makes a large chunk of my income listening to bands the general public hasn't heard of. But for whatever reason, when I put down the remote control at night and lie in bed trying to fall asleep, *The Voice* is the television program I think about most.

For those who don't know, *The Voice* has a pretty simple premise. Four musical celebrities sit on a panel and judge singing contestants. The panel consists of country singer Blake Shelton, pop star Christina Aguilera, Gnarls Barkley mastermind Cee Lo Green and Maroon 5 frontman Adam Levine.

The show's season begins with a blind audition in which the judges hear live performances of each singer, but are faced away, forcing them to choose a singer based solely on their voice (hence the title). Each judge is looking to stock a team of 12 singers who will then battle each other in front of a live studio audience. Slowly, the contestants are whittled down until one contestant from each judge's team remains. Finally, the audience and the panel of judges vote on their favourite singer, who then wins \$400,000 and signs a deal with Universal Republic.

But none of that stuff really matters. The interesting thing about the show is the blind audition process.

As I mentioned before, the judges

face away from each contestant. As the singers perform, the judges have about a minute to decide if they want this person on their team. At that point, the judges hit a massive button, their chair spins around and they finally get to see what the singer looks like. If only one judge wants the singer, that contestant is automatically placed on that judge's team. If multiple judges want the singer (which happens frequently), then they must coerce the contestant into joining their team.

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"But here is the weird thing about the show ... logic doesn't really apply."
.....

But here is the weird thing about the show, and what I suspect really draws viewers in week after week (the show premiered this year to 17 million viewers): logic doesn't really apply to how the singers are chosen.

Think about *American Idol* and their winners (and sometimes losers) who landed recording contracts. Kelly Clarkson, Daughtry, Clay Aiken, Adam Lambert—they're all pretty similar in the sense that they sound like the usual pop star.

This is not the case with the contestants on *The Voice*.

The crux of the show lies in the fact that the judges can't see the singer.

Logic would dictate that because these are all mainstream, multi-platinum recording artists, the safe bet would be to choose the most mainstream sounding singer. However, this never happens on *The Voice*.

Take for instance singer Tony Vincent. Vincent came on episode three of the show's second season. He is a classically trained singer who got his start singing country, moved on to musical theatre and has had a successful career singing in Broadway productions such as *American Idiot* and *We Will Rock You*. Vincent is the perfect singer. But when he came on *The Voice* and sang his favourite Queen song, only one person turned around (Cee Lo Green).

Tony Vincent sounds too normal. He sounds like a Broadway singer. He hits all the right notes.

That's not what the judges of *The Voice* want. Time and time again, the singers who have the most judges turn around are the ones who sound different.

Two other singers performed in the same episode that sounded almost exactly the same as one another. Their names were Naia Kete (who performed Bruno Mars's "The Lazy Song") and Mathai (who sang Adele's "Rumour Has It"). Both singers sang pretty ordinary pop songs, but they both sang them in the weirdest ways possible. Essentially, they sang like Joanna Newsom, a pretty unlistenable artist to the general public who kind of sings like a kindergarten teacher. They also kind of sounded like Fiona Apple.

Logic would dictate that no one would be interested in these singers (if they auditioned on *American*

Idol they wouldn't even make it to the first round). But the judges of *The Voice* loved them. Kete got two offers (going with Shelton), while Mathai had three (going with Levine). And you know what? The audience loved them, too. People went crazy for these two singers, which seems to suggest something that most people have known for quite some time: being pretty doesn't make you a good musician.

When the Buggles wrote "Video Killed the Radio Star", they were mostly talking about how music videos would make it so that ugly people never became famous in the music industry again. To be a famous singer, you had to look beautiful.

The thing that is so interesting about *The Voice* is that it proves that the majority of people don't actually want that (neither do established recording musicians). What they want to hear is something unique.

Although the show is based solely on the premise of not seeing the artist, the second most exciting part of the show is when the judges spin around and see the singer for the first time. Time and time again, the judges are most excited when the singer either looks totally unlike the genre they're performing in (i.e. tiny white boys singing soul music), or has some sort of visible "flaw" (i.e. being too short, too fat).

I kind of credit this to the success of Adele this past year. Adele gained a lot of coverage for two main reasons. The first was that she was a really powerful soul singer. The second reason was that she was a pretty overweight, white British lady who was a really powerful soul singer.



As much as we don't want to admit it, the latter is the main reason she has drawn so much attention. She has a unique voice, but she also looks unique, in the sense that she is not what you'd expect upon first hearing her.

Now that the recording industry is going downhill people no longer want a pretty face to sing an OK-sounding pop song. They want something that is different, whether that's sounding like something someone has never heard before, or looking unlike what they would imagine.

That's ultimately why the show is a success, and a fun by-product is what it proves about the average music consumer. Deep down, what matters—and what has always mattered—is that people like the unexpected. To succeed in the music industry and have lasting power, you need to be different. ☺

Also, why does Cee Lo like cats so much?

••• Photo by Phillip Barth via Picasa



Yeah Girl!

With BlackBerrys and freeze-dried granola, we're all crunching the numbers, making light of it all and "liking" our lives in preformed, formatted opinions.

Options are slim, slimming opiate shakes, an aspartame IV, some carcinogenic carrageenan for thickness, careening us into greener pastures and detached frontal lobes.

Lobbing the ball, we're swinging blindly into singed fingers, signals that we should have stopped typing years ago.

You think we'd learn, not lean on wall posts for support; our pasts presented fast, in 140 characters or less.

—Nick Laugher

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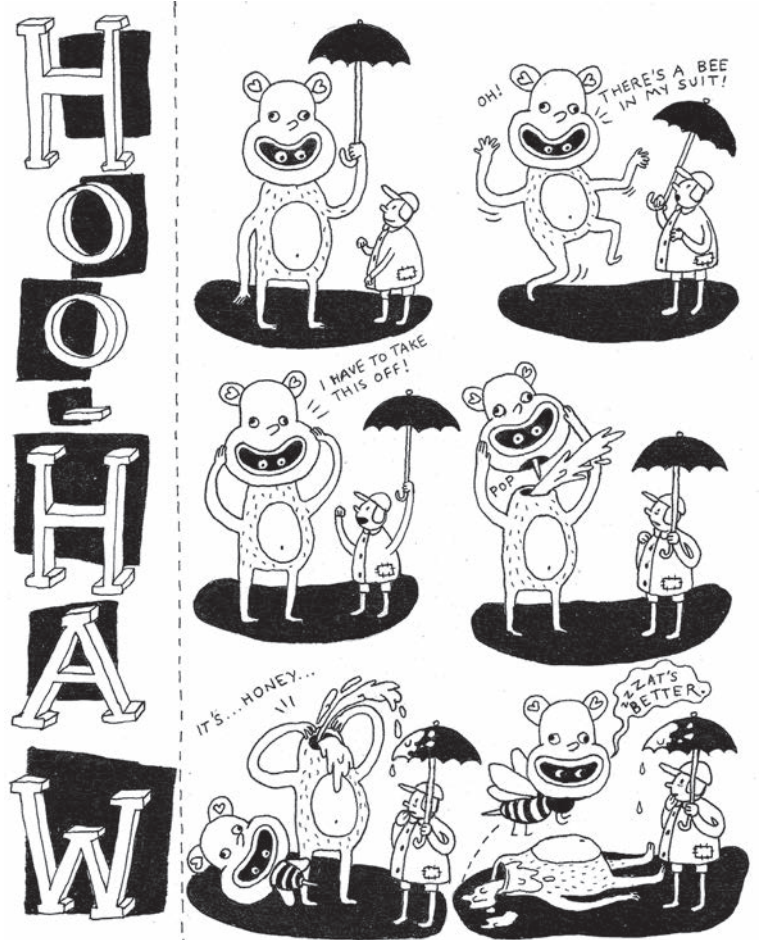
And They Offer All This to Their Father

When they see an innocent, Who outshines by difference, They declare think-headed laws That blame these sheep as outlaws. And they offer all this to their Father, Whose only Son was an outcast and Jew And whose Command is to comfort rejects.

When they see some challengers Whose beliefs they do not share, Blood and chaos were the keys But their excuse is safety. And they offer all this to their Father, Whose tolerance and mercy infinite — Enough to shake men's hearts if not their doors.

When opportunity's ripe, They put up a champion's fight But turn losers to numbers, Dissipated forever. And they offer all this to their Father, Who champions the forgotten And will put down the highly.

—Adrian Laeson



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A tale of two farmers' markets

The Seaport Market green, but impersonal

Nick Laugher
Staff Contributor

I remember the day I first saw the startlingly avant-garde mockups for what would inevitably become the Seaport Market. I was disheartened. I think I was just too enthralled with the romantic stone-stacked meticulousness of the old brewery—the archaic, tiny hallways and cavernous echo of voices. I've since warmed up to the Seaport Market and jettisoned my nostalgic disillusion, but I still have this feeling of nagging discontent when I roam that stark, steel monolith.

Although there are a multitude of eco-conscious implementations—the green roof and the windmills come to mind—it just seems like the soul and the heart of a farmers' market has been tossed out for a quick sense of convenience and the sleek shine of modernity.

While they promised to eradicate the claustrophobic clutter that plagued the brewery market, they've really only spread it out. Making aisles smaller and forcing traffic around and around in a perpetually awkward, winding path where I find myself unable to stop to talk to people for fear of elbows and egregious stares is hardly something to consider an improvement.

But while I could wax poetic for days about the ways in which an aggressively modern building pales in comparison to visceral brick and mortar, what it really comes down to is that the Seaport Market seems to be forgoing all of the integral attitudes and intentions of a farmers' market.

Now, while I'm more than content to stumble in on a Saturday, hungrily hankering for a giant sausage broiled in beer, it always dawns on me that I'm surrounded by a slick gloss of established local companies and a severe lack of local farmers and quaint vendors.

While Steve-O-Reno's and Bramoso may be great local merchants who caffeinate me and bewilder me with breakfast pizza, you've got to stop and consider what the hell they're doing at a farmer's market. There's the odd vendor who's there, albeit infrequently, peddling their homemade delicacies or homegrown produce, but by and large, the Seaport Market is dominated by already established companies who it seems are just vying for another franchise location.

Isn't the point of a farmers market to allow small farms and their farmers a place to sell their produce?

While we could lament our tragic losses and whine about an oversaturation of Nova Scotian wineries, why not consider our options? The fact is, the old Brewery market is still there, just waiting for our lovely contributions and support. While it's been laying somewhat more dormant than it was three years ago, there are still hardworking and dedicated vendors who are sticking it out and selling

their delicious delicacies and home-spun handtowels. With cheap table prices, a charming aesthetic and a thirst for new talent, what's stopping intrepid entrepreneurs from setting up shop in its hallowed halls?

The wait for busking at the Seaport Market, coupled with their haphazardly managed "trial period," is almost begrudgingly bureaucratic. They're slowly turning a time-honoured musical tradition into a gigantic chore, a process that consistently churns out only the generic and geriatric. So why not chisel your musical chops in a venue that not only sounds incredibly rich and vibrant, but doesn't make you jump through hoops? The fact of the matter is, there's a wealth of opportunity at the Brewery market, not just for buskers but start-up vendors as well.

The problem is that people have either forgotten about it, believed it closed down or are new to Halifax and don't even know about it.

"The Seaport Market seems to be forgoing all of the integral attitudes and intentions of a farmers' market."

"It's a great chance for people to just do their thing," says Dalhousie student Tara Paczkowski, an avid apron maker and food enthusiast. "With the Seaport Market, there's such a demand that it's usually just people who are lucky enough to have days off through the week or people who have seniority and can get a Saturday table. But that's only if you're not doing something that's already being done there. With the Brewery market, you don't have to work your way up, you can just be a student with a niche talent. It's open for everyone, and it's less stressful and stringent. I just think more people need to realize that."

So while the Seaport Market may be getting gold stars in staying green and contributing to a growing economy, those who are pining for a more legitimate, less stressful market-going experience should know that there is an alternative. It's there, and it's ours to shape and support.

So the next time you trudge through the sardine can-like confines of the Seaport market, consider popping over to the Brewery, if not only for the sake of contrast and curiosity. Who knows, maybe you'll fall in love. Or at least you won't have a panic attack. ☺

The Brewery Market should not be this empty. ••• Photo by Calum Agnew

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Sam Roberts' Canadian success

ROBERTS BRINGS SHOW TO HALIFAX MARCH 9

Sam Littlefair-Wallace
Arts Contributor

.....
Apparently, Americans don't listen to Sam Roberts. But luckily for us, people from Halifax do.

Last year the Canadian rock and roll musician recorded his fifth album, *Collider*, in Chicago. The album debuted at number three on the charts in Canada, but didn't chart at all in the States. Roberts followed the release by touring across Canada and America.

On March 9, he'll be taking the tour to Halifax. It will be Roberts' first show at the Halifax Forum, though not his first in the city. On the morning of March 2, Roberts, a 37-year-old stay-at-home dad, took a break from parenting to chat with the *Gazette*.

"The thing about playing in Halifax is it doesn't matter what venue we play," said Roberts. "It's the crowd, really. That's the magic of the east coast. The depth of the love of music there is just on its own scale. Music is a big part of people's lives out there... it's on the tips of everybody's tongue

all the time. People play instruments. People sing. People place music—in my mind—where it ought to be placed, in a spectrum of civilization or society. They give it a place of honour, which is where I feel it belongs."

The first single, "I Feel You," from his latest album, *Collider*, came out a year ago. The album marks a more rhythmic, brassy sound for Roberts, which is inspired by the album's birthplace: Chicago. Roberts and his band went to Illinois to search for creativity, and they found it, infusing it into the new album.

Though Roberts basks in his Canadian fame, his success has floundered on the international scene. Music listeners outside of Canada have yet to start buying Roberts' albums in large numbers.

"I take pride in what I do, and sometimes too much so, for sure, where I just don't get why people don't see in it what I see in it.

"When I write a song I'm like, 'man, who's not gonna like this song?' Well, it turns out that a hell of a lot of people don't like the song. All the people

sitting there and listening to Rihanna and Katy Perry, they don't like that song even though you're like 'are they fools? Are they not hearing what I'm hearing here?' But they don't."

.....
"That's the magic of the east coast. The depth of the love of music there is just on its own scale."
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Roberts explained that this level of self-confidence is necessary to succeed as a musician.

"You need that pride in what you do, because it helps you see something through from start to finish," he said. "But there's gotta be a point where you have to let go of that. I

struggle with that, for sure. Especially when I make a record, I'm like, 'this is the one, man, this is it, this is gonna blow the doors wide open. Not just here, but everywhere!' Roberts laughs, "Six months later, you're scratching your head, going, 'Why is it that the world doesn't see things the same way that I do?'"

That may change soon, as Roberts just completed a two-day-long photo shoot for *Esquire* magazine in the California desert. Roberts was placed with four other musicians, who he wasn't permitted to name. Each of them had to write a song and then had 90 minutes to record it.

Roberts said that more than anything, he felt relief as he finished his 90-minute recording session. He described the challenge as "like an exam that you haven't studied for. And you're at the end of the exam, the allocated time, and you're sitting there staring at a blank page. That could easily have happened."

Already, he forgets what the song sounds like. "I'm looking forward to getting a mix back, though," said

Roberts.

On stage, he's more comfortable. Five minutes before a show starts, Roberts and each of his band mates take a shot of whiskey and wait.

"We've done it enough times. We're in there, joking around a bit, trying to keep the mood light, and then the lights go down, and then you walk out on to the stage and it's like you're crossing the threshold into a whole other world. It's almost a physical sensation... It's like you've gone through a teleportation device."

"What I'm looking for, in a selfish way, is that feeling of unconscious communication, where I'm not trying to do anything. I'm not trying to remember the words of the song, I'm not trying to put my fingers on the guitar, I'm not trying to get the crowd to do this or that—I'm just giving it. Fortunately, that's a state for me that I get to more often than not."

Canada: conquered. Next up: the USA.

..... Photo supplied

Spring cleaning

Begin packing early to make moving a breeze



Rachel Eades
DIY Columnist

March is finally upon us, and that means the worst of winter is almost done. While it may not feel like it now, that also means the end of the school year is fast approaching. For many students, this means that on top of writing essays, studying for exams, attending the requisite year-end parties and trying to find a summer job, you also need to move. Many student leases end on April 30, and if you're like most students, that means you'll leave all of your packing until April 29. Many of us have been there—the night before you have to be out of your student house, cramming all of your stuff into garbage bags at 3 a.m., sobbing silently to yourself and swearing you're going to be more organized next time.

Except, of course, you never are, and the next year comes around and you find yourself repeating the cycle, panicking as you try to get everything you own sorted into some semblance of order so you can move out on time.

Wouldn't it be nice if it was different this year? If moving day arrived with an air of calm and organization, with all of your belongings neatly sorted into labelled boxes? If you didn't end up moving seven bags full of garbage and clothes you no longer wear, simply because you never got around to sorting through what you wanted to keep, and what you wanted to get rid of?

The key to making this fantasy a reality is to break it down into small steps, and then break those steps down even further. The main thing you need to do is purge, and the easiest way to do that is to tackle one part of your room at a time. By tackling one small area at a time, you can break up the work over a few days, or even a few weeks (if you start now).

Let's say you want to start with your closet. You'll want to have four clearly defined piles set up: one for things you want to keep, one for things you want to donate, one for things that need to be thrown away (this pile can really just be a garbage bag). If you really want to take the organization a step further, you can sort your 'keep pile' into two sub-piles: one for things you'll still need to use before moving day, and one for things that can be packed now (things like out of season

clothes, textbooks from last semester, etc). Take everything out of your closet, and start sorting. Be ruthless; the more you decide to get rid of, the less you have to move.

Once you've sorted the full contents of your closet, put everything you're donating into a box or bag and take it out of your room. Do the same with everything you want to sell, and then the same with your garbage pile. Then all you have left is your keep pile. Assuming you sub-divided your keep pile, you can now put all of your stuff that you won't need before moving day into moving boxes, which you should then label and put aside. The remaining items can be neatly returned to your closet. You can then repeat the same process (either on the same day, if you're feeling ambitious, or in small chunks over the next few weeks) with the rest of your room—your desk, under your bed, etc, as well as the bathroom, where you presumably have quite a lot of stuff as well.

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“The key to making this fantasy a reality is to break it down into small steps.”

Once you've tackled your whole room, you can take your donation bags to your nearest charity shop, post an ad on kijiji for the contents of your sell pile, and put your garbage aside until the next curb side collection. Done and done.

If you have lots of stuff spread out in the rest of the house (kitchen tools, plates and utensils, etc), now is also the time to start rounding up stuff you won't use before you move. You don't want to wait until moving day to find out that half of your plates are sitting under your roommate's bed covered in mould, so start tracking down your stuff now.

By getting organized now and purging the stuff you no longer need, you'll significantly reduce your stress levels when moving day arrives, even if you do leave the rest of the packing until the night before! ☺

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STREET INTERVIEW

What will you do if there's a DFA strike?

by Jonathan Rotsztein & Pau Balite



"Focus on my King's classes"

Ryan Allen
4th-year English



"Try to self study—but if I have questions I'm screwed"

Victoria Doig
1st-year nursing



"Work"

Greg MacDonald
2nd-year kinesiology



"Study"

Lindsay Carney
1st-year kinesiology



"Chill"

Reggie Wilson
3rd-year psychology



"Study and party"

Tasha Smrdelj
3rd-year psychology



"Go on vacation"

Mohammad Alqahtani
1st-year engineering



"Go on a trip somewhere in Canada"

Lili Hang
economics master



"Catch up on work"

Mandy Burke
2nd-year physics



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Recipe: Deep-fried potato and lentil samosas

Flip Atkins the bird and enjoy



Rob Sangster-Poole
Food Columnist

In the early 1970s, Robert Atkins came up with a diet that would become wildly popular in 2002, after a slight reinvention. Originally, the diet involved drastically limiting a person's consumption of carbohydrates in order to alter their metabolism; the idea was that people would lose weight and therefore become happier and healthier.

Sucks to you, Atkins diet! I like carbohydrates. They make me happy. Plus, with all the walking I've been doing since the transit strike started, I could use the extra carbs for energy. And what better way to get them

than in the form of potato and lentil samosas?

Step 1: The dough

As far as doughs go, this recipe is pretty easy. Mix the flour, salt and oil in a bowl. With oil-greased hands, pour in the water and work the ingredients until you've got a firm, but elastic, dough (you might need a little extra water for this). Then, placing your ball of dough on a lightly floured surface, knead for a couple minutes until your dough is nice and uniform. Rub a little bit of oil on the dough and set it aside for at least 20 minutes.

Step 2: Filling prep

The potatoes and lentils can be

cooked simultaneously. Boil your diced potatoes until they're cooked, but not mushy (about 20 min). In another pot, bring the lentils and water to a boil, and add half a teaspoon of masala and half a teaspoon of coriander. If the lentils absorb the water too quickly, add an extra quarter cup of water to be safe. Once the lentils have been boiling for about 10 minutes, reduce heat to medium and simmer. Stir every few minutes with a wooden spoon to prevent them from sticking to the bottom of the pot. After another 20-25 minutes the water should be absorbed, and the lentils should be nice and mushy. Turn off the heat and let cool for a few minutes.

Step 3: Mixing the filling

On medium heat, put the three tablespoons of oil in a frying pan. Throw in the cumin, coriander, cayenne and masala, followed by the peas (if using frozen peas, be sure to thaw/rinse them first). After about a minute, toss in the cooked potatoes and add the sugar and salt. Cook for two more minutes, stirring frequently. Add the cooked lentils and mix everything together. After about a minute, remove from heat and let cool.

Step 4: Packing

Divide the dough into five or six balls. On a lightly floured surface, roll out each ball into a circle, six inches in

diameter. Then use a sharp knife to cut each circle in half.

Here's where it gets a little tricky: Starting with the first half-circle, dab a little cold water along the edges. Form the semi-circle of dough into a cone by bringing together and firmly closing the two halves of the straight edge. Holding the cone loosely in your hand (as you would an ice cream cone), pack in as much of the filling as you can, leaving room to seal the top. When you seal the top, do not leave any openings. Pinch the edges tightly together. Repeat this for each half-circle of dough.

Step 5: Frying

Put about two cups of oil in a wok or deep skillet, and set the stove to med-high. Use a little crumb of dough to test the oil. If it starts to sizzle right away, you're good to go. Throw in as many samosas as can fit in the oil, and cook for about five minutes on each side or until golden brown. When they're done cooking, let them cool on top of a paper towel for a few minutes. (If you like, you can save the remaining oil for future use.)

Now you can flip Atkins the bird and enjoy your meal.

Dough:

2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. salt
3 tbsp. vegetable oil
1/2 cup warm water

Filling:

2 medium potatoes, peeled and diced
1/2 cup green peas
1/2 cup red lentils, rinsed
1 1/4 cup water
1 teaspoon ground cumin (or 1/2 tsp. cumin seed)
1 teaspoon coriander powder
1 teaspoon garam masala
1/4 tsp. ground cayenne
1 teaspoon sugar
1 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons vegetable oil

Other:

2 cups vegetable oil
(not olive oil!) ☹

Mmm... samosas.

••• Photo by Leilani Graham-Laidlaw



tunes review

Plants and Animals—The End of That

Frances Dorenbaum
Arts Contributor

The title of Plants and Animals' third LP, *The End of That*, especially resonates with those who are about to finish their four-year stay in Halifax. Endings evoke all sorts of emotion—confusion, anger, frustration, sadness, nostalgia, excitement—often all jumbled together in our minds as we enter into a period of transition. The Montreal trio's new album explores all of these emotions and at times conveys the psychological commotion as they sing about various endings: of relationships, seasons, mischief and young adult life.

The opening track, "Before," feels like a warm breeze blowing away the end of winter. The electric guitar

is soft, smooth and uncomplicated. There's a sense of calmness, contentment and acceptance as lead singer Warren Spicer sings: "Forget about me and everything that came before." The track is reminiscent of Daniel Lanois, mixed with a Radiohead-like sound.

Repetition occurs in the melody and lyrics of many of the tracks, but most notably in the darker songs. "Lightshow" has one short guitar riff used throughout. The repetition could be taken as less exciting, but it seems to fit with the album's theme. Though it may seem tiresome, it does mimic the struggle in the lyrics: "What a disappointment I thought there'd be so much more/ But all this talking is driving me insane." The lengthy "2010" has one ascending riff

for the first four minutes, exemplifying the determination it takes to get past an ending. Lyrics come in sets of threes in "Control Me," as if to desperately fight the end that's coming.

The realization that life goes by faster than expected is expressed in "Crisis!" It's a song about noticing that everyone around you has grown up. The cool but dissonant chords, contrasted with peppy tambourine reflect the tensions between "a crisis and a pretty good time." There is a point where the guitar sounds sharp and high-pitched, evoking memories of an alarm clock signaling that it's time to wake up and get on with things, despite feeling exhausted and hung over. After that the song changes into an epic search for "something more," getting louder

with lead Warren Spicer screaming, finally ending it all with aggressive guitar and pounding drums, similar to the chaos of saying goodbye to your youth.

The band itself is in their own transition state, as this is the first time they decided to plan their songs before recording. The transition from the liveliness of a jam band to the more conventional method of recording leaves listeners a tad nostalgic for the vibrant energy of the trio's past albums. Whether it is the constant reminder of the difficulty of things ending, or the band's new approach, listeners will really feel the group's growing pains. ☹

IN FULL BLOOM

Great Bloomers and The Wooden Sky prove they've finally made it

Matthew Ritchie
Opinions Editor

As Toronto's The Wooden Sky and Great Bloomers climbed the tiny stage of The Seahorse on March 3, they did so as veterans of Halifax's most famous venue. Both bands had clocked many appearances at the home of Horsepower beer, but this time felt different. These were clearly two bands with bright futures ahead of them.

The show started early with Great Bloomers taking the stage around 10:15 p.m. As the band grabbed their instruments, you could easily see the confidence in the young band that earlier in the week had announced their singing with rising Canadian indie label Dine Alone Records (label of The Wooden Sky and Yukon Blonde, which bassist Anthony McKnight proudly sported a T-shirt of on stage).

After touring for the past four years in support of their critically acclaimed album *Speak of Trouble*, Great Bloomers played a set list made primarily of tracks off their upcoming full-length.

Launching into the set with new single "Something More", lead singer

Lowell Sostomi sounded like a mixture of Tom Petty and Jeff Magnum, as the band lay into the track's propulsive Neutral Milk Hotel laden stomper.

The band followed it up with *Trouble* favourite "Young Ones Slept" and a rockier rendition of album opener "Lobbyist" later in the set. As the sizeable crowd swayed at the front of the stage, new songs became crowd favourites as the band rocked into their darker new sound.

The band left the stage with a stream of new fans clamouring for their attention. Luckily for those late to the show, the band will be back with Yukon Blonde in early April.


After a short break between sets, The Wooden Sky joined the stage with ambient lighting and atmospheric distortion.

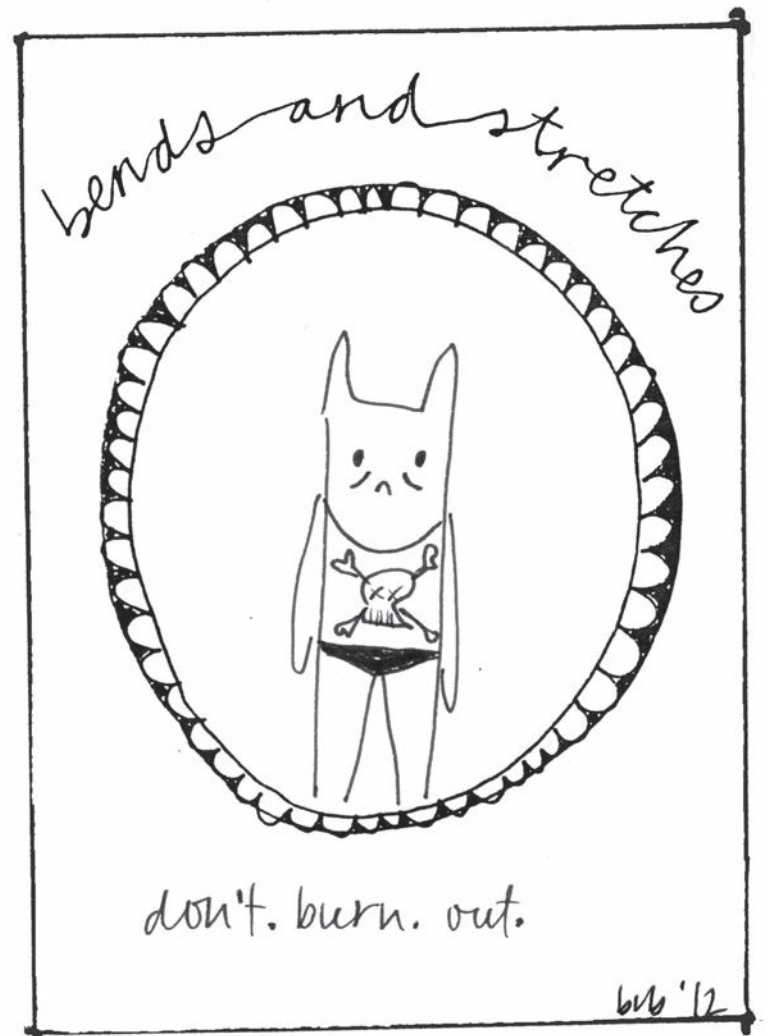
Playing tracks off their just released *Every Child a Daughter, Ever Moon a Sun*, lead singer Gavin Gardner captured the audience's attention with the band's set of new tunes (and a pretty sweet Guns N' Roses cut-off tee).

The band ran the gamut of the group's last few albums, delighting old fans and new ones alike, before finishing up their set with an immac-



Toronto's Great Bloomers blossom at the Seahorse. ••• Photo supplied

ulate cover of Nirvana's "All Apologies". To finish off the encore the band invited Bloomers up on stage to perform a final song together. As both bands stood with their instruments facing the crowd, it was plain to see that with Great Bloomers signing to Dine Alone next to their buddies in The Wooden Sky, the future of Canadian music would never be the same. 




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ACADIA TOPS IN AUS HOOPS

Axemen avenge last year's title defeat to Dal

Jason Savoury
Andrew Johnson
 Staff Contributors

Atlantic university basketball has a new champion. The Acadia Axemen climbed to the top of the mountain with an 82 - 71 victory over the top seeded St. FX X-Men Mar. 4 at the Halifax Metro Centre.

Although Acadia has not won an AUS title since 2007, this was the second straight year the team made the championship game. The victory helps salve the wound of losing last year to the Tigers.

Despite winning the conference, Acadia was selected as the last seed for the CIS Final 8 held in Halifax this weekend. They will meet against the No. 1 Carleton Ravens Mar. 10 in the quarterfinals. St. FX was ranked sixth and will contest the RSEQ champion Concordia Stingers the same day.

Both AUS finalists came into the championship match streaking, Aca-

dia having won their last seven games in a row, and St. FX topping that with a nine-game winning streak. All those who expected a close match between the clashing titans, however, were disappointed early. Acadia blew open the doors in the first quarter, sinking six three-pointers and staking themselves to a 26 - 10 lead by the end of the quarter.

Acadia continued to hold the lead for the entirety of the game, boasting a 14-point edge heading into the fourth quarter. The point spread was not due to an overly impressive defence on the Axemen's end, but rather a lacklustre X offence.

In that final quarter, though, the X-Men showed the fight that led them to the No. 1 seed coming into these playoffs. Facing that 14-point deficit, St. FX had a 12 - 4 run, shaving the lead to six points, and seeming to have the momentum behind them with seven minutes to play. Unfortunately, the hole they dug themselves

in was too deep. The X-Men would come no closer than closing the gap to five with about 2:30 remaining.

Acadia danced with the girl that brought them to the game, shooting 38 per cent from behind the arc, a shade above the 37 per cent average that led the AUS this season. On the flip side, St. FX struggled from the outside, shooting 0-for-15 from three-point range.

Offence for the Axemen proved stellar, shooting over 50 per cent for most of the game. Third-year forward Owen Klassen was a dominant force in the paint for Acadia, leading his team with 20 points. Forward Jeremy Dunn led the X-Men with 27 points, adding 10 rebounds as well. Only one other X-Men finished with double-digit points, second-year guard Terry Thomas had 19 points.

Axemen third-year guard Anthony Sears was awarded Final 6 MVP honours after the game. 🏀

CIS FINAL 8 at the Halifax Metro Centre

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

QF #1	No. 5 Fraser Valley	vs	No. 4 Lakehead	12 p.m.
QF #2	No. 8 Acadia	vs	No. 1 Carleton	2:15 p.m.
QF #3	No. 7 Ryerson	vs	No. 2 Alberta	6 p.m.
QF #4	No. 6 St. FX	vs	No. 3 Concordia	8:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

Cons #1	Loser QF #1	vs	Loser QF #2	12 p.m.
Cons #2	Loser QF #3	vs	Loser QF #4	2:15 p.m.
SF #1	Winner QF #1	vs	Winner QF #2	6 p.m.
SF #2	Winner QF #3	vs	Winner QF #4	8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Consolation Final (5th place)	11 a.m.
Bronze medal game	1:15 p.m.
Championship game	4:30 p.m.

LEFT: X-Men guard Tyrell Vernon doesn't want to look back. RIGHT: St. FX, in white, drives to the basket in their championship defeat. ••• Photos by Shauna Brown

Nortmann closes Tigers career

Defending champs bow out in quarterfinals



**Andrew Johnson
Jason Savoury**
Staff Contributors

The start of the AUS men's basketball playoffs Mar. 2 marked the elimination of last year's champions as fifth-seeded Dalhousie fell to the No. 4 ranked Cape Breton 85 - 61.

With Dal out of contention, Cape Breton moved on to the semifinals Mar. 3 to face St. FX; however, the Capers' run came to a close as they could not overthrow the X-Men.


As the final seconds ticked away on Dal's season, Tigers fifth-year Robert Nortmann could be seen staring at the clock. His last game in black and gold would be a tough loss to swallow. Nortmann finished the game with 22 points, receiving player of the game honours for the Tigers.

Nortmann played as hard in his final game as his entire five-year career with Dal. He finishes his AUS career with 434 points, a solid total considering the sparing minutes he played as a role player in his first four seasons. He averaged 14.6 points and 6.4 rebounds this year.

Nortmann is Dal's only graduating senior this year.

After his last game, he reflected on his time as a Tiger.

"I feel pretty positive. I had a lot of accomplishments throughout my AUS career: two championships, a conference all-star award and now I'm about to graduate. I've had a good time."

It's the same sentiment shared by fans, who have enjoyed watching Nortmann play. 

Robert Nortmann aims for one of his last Tigers baskets. ••• Photo by Alice Hebb



Women's basketball bows out at AUS semis

Ian Froese
Sports Editor

An upset brought Dalhousie to the semifinals, but luck would not shove them any farther.

The No. 6 Tigers entered the AUS women's basketball championship in Antigonish as the lowest seed, but that didn't stop them from overpowering No. 3 Saint Mary's in the quar-


terfinal 80 - 53 Mar. 2.

AUS second team all-star Keisha Brown led her side with a strong 31 point performance.

Luck ran out for the Tigers the next day as they were unable to defeat No. 2 Cape Breton. The defending champs endured for a 77 - 61 victory.

Dal was in the match until the third quarter when they were outscored 31 - 12.

Courtney Thompson took player of the game honours for the Tigers. She netted 17 points.

Acadia left the tournament as league champs, taking home the program's first banner since 1952. 

Keisha Brown helped bring her Tigers to the semis with a 31 point game.

••• Photo by Erica Roberts via St. FX Athletics

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Panthers at the top of the class

UPEI wins first ever women's hockey banner

UPEI hoists the trophy. ••• Photo by Pau Balite

Ian Froese
Sports Editor

If you would have told UPEI forward Jenelle MacKenzie when she first became a Panther five years ago that her team would own the AUS banner in 2012, she wouldn't have believed you.

"I would have laughed in your face," said a jubilant MacKenzie, celebrating not only a conference championship but her birthday as well. "Five years ago we were lucky if we kept X to single digits and we beat them yesterday."

What a difference five years can make.

A surprising upset of the nationally ranked St. FX X-Women the day before set the stage for the graduat-

ing senior and her UPEI Panthers to accomplish what was unthinkable not long ago: winning the AUS championship. The Panthers rode another strong goaltending performance from Kristy Dobson to shutout the Mount Allison Mounties 3 - 0 Mar. 4 in front of a packed house at the final varsity sporting event at Memorial Arena.

MacKenzie said the last two days have been an "emotional roller coaster."

"I think our win yesterday put us so over the edge. We have nothing left. Like I bawled crying yesterday; I have no tears left. We literally just won two championships. It's amazing."

Akin to the Mount Allison group at the opposite end of the rink, UPEI has steadily improved over the years, making themselves cozy around the

league's basement for a number of years. However, a respectable 13 - 10 regular season record, a hot goaltender at the right time and a shocking upset over St. FX has propelled the team from league's worst in 2011 to AUS title-holders in 2012.

This is UPEI's first championship in the program's 10-year history.

The Panthers gave their vocal fans something to cheer about, including members of UPEI's eliminated men's basketball team in town for the AUS Final 6, when Christina Kelly scored 4:48 in to get her side on the board. Mount Allison had a five-on-three power play to try and even the score late in the frame but were unsuccessful.

UPEI scored another early in the next period when a wrist shot by

Kelsey O'Donnell flew past goalie Meghan Corley-Byrne to give the Panthers the 2 - 0 edge. The Mounties didn't help their chances much further in the second, only registering four shots.

Even without much sustained pressure from Mount Allison, UPEI head coach Bruce Donaldson told his girls to not take the competition lightly.

"My concern was that Mount A has a history of digging out of holes and they do a really good job of it. For me, it was about making sure we didn't give them any momentum," said Donaldson, honoured as AUS coach of the year earlier in the weekend.

UPEI appeared to take the advice to heart as their opponents struggled to get anything going. With 22 seconds remaining, Kelly sealed the Pan-

thers' victory by scoring on an empty net.

With the game's fate already determined, Donaldson elected to put his fifth years on the ice to run down the clock—a gesture that didn't go unnoticed by MacKenzie.

"The five of us went on and we got to finish our last moments at UPEI on the ice with the other seniors we played five years with. We couldn't ask for much more than that."

The AUS banner also provides a berth to nationals for the Panthers. They are seeded fourth ahead of this weekend's tournament in Edmonton.

Before that competition begins, MacKenzie says she has the rest of her birthday to enjoy.

"It's going to be a long but very happy bus ride home," she smiled. ☺

Tigers on the outside looking in: Dal's season ending win not enough

Graeme Benjamin
Sports Contributor

The Tigers closed their season in dramatic fashion, and more importantly, on a winning note.

Dalhousie beat the UPEI Panthers in overtime 2 - 1 at the AUS women's hockey championships Mar. 2 in their last ever game at Memorial Arena. The win improved, but still ended, the team's post-season record at 1 - 1.

The downside to the win was simply that it came in overtime. To stay alive in the playoff race, Dal had to beat the Panthers in regulation since the point UPEI gained in overtime prevents the Tigers from leapfrogging over either the Panthers or St. FX for top spot in the pool.

Despite being knocked out of the playoffs, Tigers head coach Sean Fraser thought his ladies played one of their best games of the year.

"I'm happy, pleased and proud of our girls," he said. "We worked hard and I felt we deserved that."

The Tigers needed to win by at least two goals to move on to the finals.

Fraser pulled goalie Zoe Zivolak with more than two minutes remaining in the third when the game was tied at one, but the Tigers couldn't get one past opposing goalie Kathy Dobson.

Both teams had identical chances to tie the game earlier in the third. There were back-to-back breakaways for both teams, but Dobson and Zivolak turned the respective chances aside.

Tigers captain Elizabeth Matheson said she has never been more proud of her teammates.

"It was definitely a bittersweet end," Matheson said. "We would have wanted to get a few more goals to give us a chance [to move onto the championship game]."

Cassie Banfield was named player of the game for the second match in a row. Her overtime goal will go down in lore.

"Even though it didn't really mean anything, it will still be the last goal ever scored in [Memorial] Arena [for the Tigers]," she said.

UPEI ultimately won the league championship at weekend's end,

upsetting St. FX and then knocking off Mount Allison for the first title in the program's history.

It was an emotional end to the season for three particular members of the Tigers. Jocelyn Leblanc, Robin Nicolson and Robin Mullen all played their last game in a Dal uniform.

"The way we've grown since September until now is unbelievable," Mullen said, while holding back tears. "The way we've grown as individuals and as a team—it's been the best five years of my life."

Mullen was also happy to win her final game in front of their fans.

"To play our last game in this building and to come out with a win is just the cherry on top," Nicolson said.

Early in the season, Leblanc set the all-time Tigers women's hockey record for career points. She added her last goal when she tied the game in the second period.

Leblanc contributes the majority of her success to her linemates.

"All the way through I've played with the best players on the team and we always jelled together," Leblanc



said.

Leblanc will graduate with a kinesiology degree and plans to apply to physiotherapy school. She hopes to take next year off to play overseas in a semi-pro league.

The bright spot for the Tigers is that most of the roster will stay intact between now and September. They are only losing three veterans but have a lot of young returnees to

choose from. Sean Fraser has also been signed as the head coach for next season after holding the interim title this year.

This season may not have gone the way the Tigers hoped, but the future is bright. ☺

Brooklyn Winch takes aim.

••• Photo by Pau Balite



DAL SWIMMERS HEAD FOR UNCHARTERED WATERS

Established AUS champs need to do better on national stage

Paula Sanderson
Staff Contributor

Dalhousie swimming is a big fish in a small pond.

They don't just win, they crush everyone else.

Both the men's and women's teams take home AUS titles year after year. Both teams are constantly ranked in the top 10 schools in the country.

This year was no exception.

The women's team claimed their 11th consecutive AUS title. At one point the women were ranked third in the country. Heading into the CIS championship, they were ranked seventh.

Meanwhile, the men won their 14th straight AUS banner. For three different weeks Dal's men's team was actually ranked first in the country. Entering nationals, the men were seeded fourth.

It looked like this was the year to show everyone else that Dal could be a big fish in the big ocean, too.

Then nationals happened.

The women held their ground, finishing seventh, but the men landed a disappointing sixth in the country.

The men are better than sixth.

They could have, and should have, ranked higher. The difference from fifth to sixth place came down to a few hundredths of a second in a few races.

Last week's announcement that head coach David Fry will retire leaves the swim team in uncertain waters. Fry is one of the country's best coaches, losing him will be tough on the program.

Next year the team could go either way. They could be placed in a state of precariousness or this could be the opportunity to achieve their potential.

Which direction the team will go can be broken down into four main questions.

The first question that needs to be answered: Who is winning?

"There have only been two teams to ever win CIS in the last 20 years and that's by no accident," says Fry. "They have a significant amount of funding from Swimming Canada that nobody else enjoys."

Those two teams, UBC and Calgary, have national training centres which bring a higher caliber of swimmer than Dal can get. This type of program helps both the athletes cur-

rently in the program, but also gives them more recruiting power.

"It does have an impact," says Fry.

"I don't want to put down the other teams, but we probably aren't pushed as much as we should be."

If David Sharpe makes the Olympic team, perhaps it will draw Swimming Canada's attention to the Maritimes and their investment in the team?

But having one Olympian is not the same as multiple. UBC sent four swimmers and two coaches to the 2008 Beijing Olympics and Paralympics—Dal sent zero.

The dream of a national training centre run out of the Dalplex may still

be far off.

The second question that needs to be answered: How is the team training?

Fourth-year Kit Moran explained that some of their opponents have different hard training and tapering (the rest prior to a major competition) schedules than Dal's outfit. When one team is tapering and the other is not, the resting team posts better results. When all teams taper, then the rankings are more accurate. Different systems also post stronger results at the end. So if the best teams have a better system of hard training and tapering, why not adopt it?

Moran thinks this system, which involves a longer tapering period before nationals, may work for Dal. "I don't know if it would work better or worse for us."

The third question is all about how and when the team is competing.

Currently Dal, unlike teams in other conferences, has a little more than a week between their AUS and CIS tournaments. Fry thinks moving the AUS tournament earlier in the season could improve Dal's results at nationals. This would allow more time for the swimmers to rest.

Before he announced his retirement, Fry said he would consider recommending the move to the AUS.

Moran also thinks racing against other teams outside the conference would benefit the Tigers; giving Dal a challenge could push them to even greater heights. "I think we would definitely see improvements," he says. "I don't want to put down the other teams, but we probably aren't pushed as much as we should be."

The final question is a clear one: What will the Tigers do without Fry?

Moran sums it up nicely.

"The team is sad to see Dave go, but at the same time it is kind of exciting to see what new changes will bring," says Moran. "Dave's done a lot to build our team into something that really has the ability to go places. I'd like to see a coach that has a vision to carry on what he is doing and make us into a CIS championship team."

The team is good, but it is time for Dal to be great. ☎

Ready to roar.

••• Photo by Pau Balite

sports brief

Men's volleyball topped at nationals

The AUS champion Tigers were simply outclassed on the national stage.

Dalhousie fell in the quarterfinal, and then were defeated 3 - 0 once more in the consolation to bow out of the CIS men's volleyball championship in Kingston, Ont., without posing much of a threat.

The Tigers, the lowest seed in the tournament, were unfortu-

nately matched against the defending champion Trinity Western Spartans in the quarterfinals. The Tigers proved to be a minimal challenge for the top-seeded team, which beat Dal in straight sets.

Kenneth Rauwerda led the Tigers with nine kills and seven digs.

Dal was relegated to the consolation round the day after against the No. 4 Alberta Golden Bears and didn't fare much better, again losing in straight sets.

Later in the weekend, the top-seeded Spartans repeated as national champions.

Residence hockey game Saturday

Howe and Risdley will once again take their rivalry to the ice.

Memorial Arena is often at its loudest during the residence charity hockey game, and the seventh annual game this weekend should be no exception. The Howe Hall

Trojans and Risdley Big Horns will face off Mar. 10 at 6:30 p.m. in what will be the final charity game played at Memorial Arena.

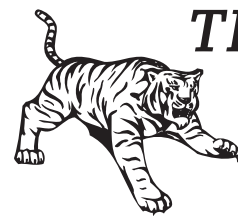
The Dal residences have been raising money for the past five years for the IWK Health Centre. They are expected to exceed a fundraising total of \$100,000 this year.

Tickets go for \$7 in advance at the SUB info desk or \$10 at the door.

—**Ian Froese**
Sports Editor

**CIS
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TIGER TONING REVISITING THE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Question? Sports@DalGazette.com

Colin Hebb
Health Columnist

"I've managed to maintain my New Year's Resolution to become a regular gym-goer, but I am fading fast. Any advice on maintaining my progress and how to avoid failing my resolution like so many others?"

— **New Year's Retry**

That's a great question, and a brave one at that. While New Year's Resolutions are on everyone's mind in January, it's taboo to talk about them in March. That's because so many of us have already fallen off our commitments and reverted to our original practices.

It comes back to the fact that changes we make will remain temporary unless we adopt them as lifestyle changes. Hence, this is why diets rarely work.

Now that we are a couple months into the year, let's reevaluate our resolutions and see if we can't make them a bit more realistic and achievable given what we've learned.

Let's begin by restating our resolution, regardless of whether it has been a success, failure or somewhere in between. Saying it out loud again and resetting it puts past mistakes where they belong and allows us to focus on the weeks ahead.

Next, let's look at why we may have struggled and what barriers prevented us from achieving the success we are looking for. So, if your goal was to exercise more, evaluate the methods you were using and what other options are available. Perhaps you were doing a home exercise program, but a lack of motivation stood in your way. Now it might be time to look at the gym (where things have gotten a lot less busy with the New Year's crowd falling off), or a yoga studio, for example.

After that, build a support system for yourself. While in January, it's easy to find others focused on a goal similar to yours, March is a bit different. We are moving into a lull, an end of semester territory where it's much harder to stay motivated

and find those that will remain there with us. Even if they are not working toward the same goal, our friends, family, significant others, etc. need to be brought on board to help create an environment of success. If your goal is nutritional, the contents of your kitchen are important and bringing roommates on board may be critical.

Finally, plan and schedule! Bearing in mind a potential faculty strike, end of semester assignments and exams are going to make the next few weeks hectic, but that's no reason to give up on our personal health. In fact, achievements and good personal upkeep make us more productive and less stressed. While in the moment it doesn't feel like working out is a priority, we'll be better off for it.

Scheduling is the key to making sure we achieve our goals. I think I've said this before, but if we don't want our exercise resolutions to meet their end in March, we need to put them at the same priority as school, work and our social life. Once they have been bumped to a secondary priority, it's easy to justify putting almost anything ahead of that trip to the gym.

Remember, if your resolutions are falling by the wayside, don't fret. There is still time to salvage your goals and have something to celebrate when this year comes to an end. New Year's is not the only time we can make positive changes in our lives. Follow these simple steps to reevaluate your goals and make the best of the upcoming spring (a "new year" in itself) to better yourself and get that wonderful feeling of achievement.

If, by chance, you are one of those people that are actually accomplishing your personal health-related resolutions—besides being despised by all of your friends—give yourself a pat on the back and find a friend that needs a little extra motivation. Your support could go a long way in spreading your personal success around. ☺

You'll need balance in your life to keep—or restart—your New Year's Resolution. ••• Photo by Rose Ordinario via CoreYogaAsia.com

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FRIDAY
March 9

Metro Universities Relay For Life! The fieldhouse will be closed as of 5pm for the entire night.



SATURDAY
March 10

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SUNDAY
March 11



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MONDAY
March 12



Sneak in a morning meditation with a Yogaflex class! 9:30am in the fieldhouse today and best of all, it's FREE for Dal students!

TUESDAY
March 13

Shake and shimmy your way to a healthier and fitter you in tonight's Zumba class! FREE for Dal Students, 7:45pm in the fieldhouse!



WEDNESDAY
March 14

Curious about climbing? Try it today in an Intro To Bouldering 101 session. 2-3:30pm, \$5 for Dal students. Note: pre-registration required.



THURSDAY
March 15

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DALHOUSIE'S OFFICIAL ENGINEERING NEWSPAPER

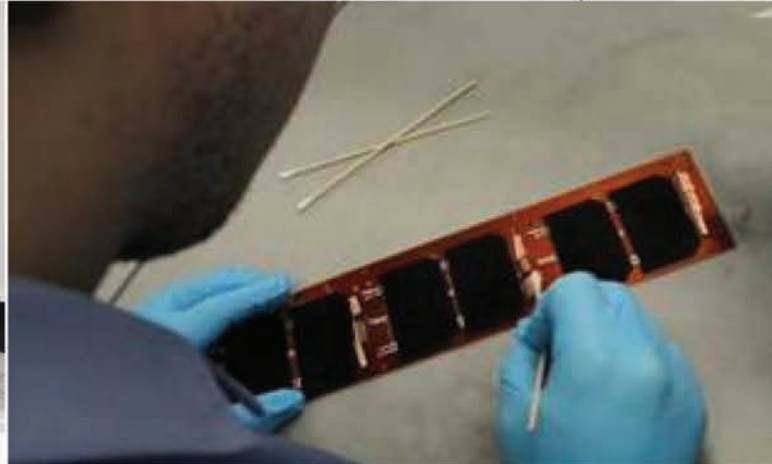
Editor in Chief:
Ben Wedge

March 9th, 2012
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Design at Dal: Satellite Design Team reaches out to the community



Ashley Hardman (Ind. '13) and Joseph McNeil (Materials '14) make a presentation at the Discovery Centre as part of the Dalhousie Satellite Design Team



A worker builds one of the team's solar cells. (Submitted by Alex Holgate)

Ben Wedge
Industrial '13
Editor in Chief

Design teams at Dal exist in order to cover a broad range of objectives. Some exist merely to complete degree requirements, while others participate in competitions for prestige, jobs, cash, or a combination of the three. The Dal Satellite Design is competing for the chance to have their communications satellite launched into space, which would normally cost over \$500,000 just for the launch.

On Saturday, March 3rd I had the opportunity to head to the Discovery Centre, a facility on Barrington Street featuring interactive exhibits for youth and children to learn about science. On the first Saturday of each month the Dal Satellite Design Team makes two presentations as part of the community outreach mandated in the competition guidelines. Today's presentations are facilitated by Ashley Hardman (Industrial '13) and Joseph McNeil (Materials '14).

The room is approximately 3/4 full, with some 10 children and their parents in attendance. The kids seem to be between 5 and 10 years old, and eagerly await the presenters. The presentation itself is full of trivia and interaction - the kids are shown, using props, how close the Earth and the Moon are located, then the relative dis-

tance of the space station (essentially touching the surface of the Earth due to scale). Then Hardman pulls out a solar-powered toy car and a halogen lamp and leads two children in "chasing" the car with the light. The kids are eating the presentation up, answering questions and having fun learning about Sciences, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

The presentation wasn't all fun and games - some aspects were cold, hard facts, such as the maximum dimensions of the satellite (10x10x30 cm, or half the size of a shoebox), the requirements of the competition, and a little bit about space exploration history. I even learned that the Saturn V rocket (the most powerful machine ever built) had the equivalent horsepower of 4300 minivans (though direct comparisons aren't truly possible).

Speaking with team CEO Alex Holgate (Industrial '13), I gleaned some information about the plans. In addition to the monthly presentations at the Discovery Centre there will be some outreach to different groups such as sponsors, academia, high schools, and the public. These are all mandated by the competition, but the Discover Centre series will put them well beyond the minimum requirements.

The team is hard at work with the design, and have already acquired a key component: photovoltaic cells (solar collectors). These cells will power the satellite when in orbit, and it was important that

they be lightweight and efficient. The team was successful in finding great solar panels, which are not only lightweight, but quite efficient, well above the efficiency of earth-based solar cells. The exact specifications of the cells could not be shared as they are classified, but Holgate assured me they are "far superior to the cells you see everyday." Typical solar cells are less than 25% efficient.

The competition as a whole received a \$12,000 grant from the Canadian Space Agency in order to put on a workshop in Ottawa over Reading Week. MASc candidate Colin O'Flynn attended the workshop, which focussed on solar panels and was held at Neptec Design Group in Ottawa. In an email, he says that attendees were given hands-on experience building solar panels, and that the panels and casings, worth approximately \$2,300, were donated to the team. The casings were donated and machined by ProtoCase in Sydney, Cape Breton.

Back at the Discovery Centre, the children are shown a silica brick, the material used to shield the recently-retired space shuttles on re-entry. The bricks line the bottom of the spacecraft and are approximately 12x12x12 cm. They protect the astronauts and structural components from damage from the intense heat generated by the air friction.

After learning about the bricks, they get down to hard work. Hard-

man breaks out the craft supplies and they begin building their own "satellites" from plastic bottles, wooden skewers, tongue depressors, and chopped plastic straws. The kids eagerly assemble their space vehicles with the assistance of their parents and guidance from Hardman and McNeil. As they finish the build, they slowly file out, gleefully headed toward the next adventure in the building.

Canada's space program is based in Vancouver, BC and makes a small, but mighty contribution to space exploration. The CSA and its precursors and partners launched the first national domestic communications satellite (Anik 1) which allowed the CBC to broadcast in the far north. Our most famous contribution are the Canadarm and Canadarm2 robotic arms.

In September, the four kilogram satellites will be sent to Ottawa for testing at the Canadian Space Agency's David Florida Laboratory. According to a CSA press release, the DFL "can simulate the harsh environments encountered during launch and while in orbit, to ensure that the spacecraft are fully capable of performing their missions." Of those which survive the rigorous tests, only one will be selected as the winner at the end of September. No matter where the first attempt goes, Holgate is confident that the Satellite Design Team will become an annual project akin to the Formula SAE race car profiled earlier this term.



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CO-OP CORNER

Round II is underway until May 4. Offers can be received at any time.



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Sexton Events

Friday, March 2nd
1:30PM - Engibeering in the DC
9 PM - Engineering vs Law Trivia

Saturday, March 10th
Neuroscience Trivia

Thursday, March 15th
9 PM Enviro/Bio night, DJ TBA

In the event of a faculty strike the T-Room will remain open.



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Editor-In-Chief: Ben Wedge
Assistant Editor: Damon Surgenor
Treasurer: Sebastian Manchester

News briefs

- DUES is running a quality of life survey to find out about your experience at Dal. The survey is available on the DUES website, www.daleng.ca.

- Pulling for the Kids will be held March 27th from 8am - 8pm. Teams will pull cars around the loop in the Sexton entrance road to raise money for the Halifax Region Chil-

- dren's Aid Foundation. Contact engineer@dal.ca for more information on this event or to register your team of five.

- The Sextant is looking for articles, please email

us if you have any ideas.

- Discipline shirts are now available for purchase in the Design Commons for \$10. They feature the DalEng logo and a cog on the side.

Questions, Comments and to Contribute sextant@dal.ca



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