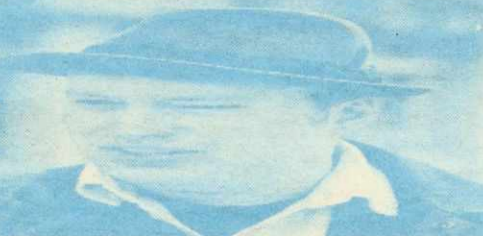


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Mind game... pg.12



THE GAZETTE

Volume 132, Number 22.

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Thursday, March 23, 2000.



St. FX takes CIAU Championship at the Metro Centre last weekend in a spoonful of great basketball.

photos by Robin Kuniski

The United States 'genocidal' sanctions

Foreign Affairs critic Svend Robinson speaks the truth on Iraq

BY JON ELMER

In late February 1991, when after more than a month of intensive round-the-clock, play-by-play coverage CNN analysts announced the end of the allied bombing campaign in Iraq, for the overwhelming majority, the Persian Gulf War was complete — another point in a

history lesson.

But alas, this assessment is wrong on two counts.

When NDP MP Svend Robinson darted through Halifax this past Thursday, he bore a message which is virtually unknown to Canadians: the war in Iraq is not over. In fact, the war in Iraq becomes more devastating with each

successive day in a process that has been compounding since first sorties of Operation Desert Storm struck Iraq more than nine years ago.

Speaking to a casual setting of a classroom, Robinson was stark about his firsthand account of the sanctions impact. "The situation in Iraq is one that I react to with ur-

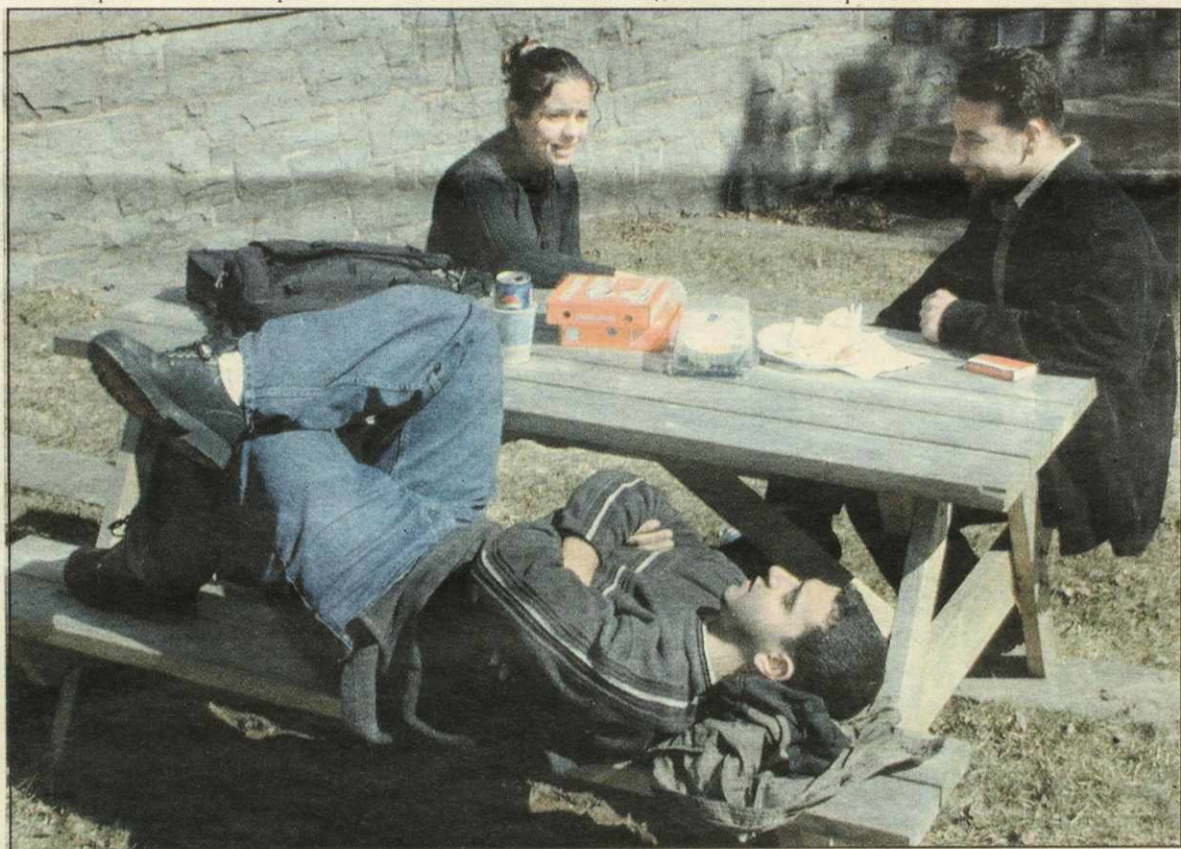
gency, anguish, anger...and shame, as a Canadian that my government is a part of this."

The sanctions have been in place on Iraq since their invasion of Kuwait, and affect all aspects of Iraq as a nation. Both military and non-military the sanctions ban import of such bare basics as soap, paper, pencils, rubber balls, and food in a

country that imported 70 percent of its food in the 1980s.

The sanctions are widely held as the most brutal ever enforced upon a civilian population; recent UNICEF studies show that the death toll among children has leveled off at 5000 per month, a direct result of

continued on page 10



Spring weather: Dema Cakash, Mohammed Sahe and Essam Faarag (lying down), take advantage of the beginnings of spring's warmer weather to enjoy lunch outdoors at the SUB last Tuesday.

photo by Will Roberts

Science library to be amalgamated

Students, faculty up in arms

BY AMY DURANT

Killam library administration has announced they plan to go ahead with a plan to amalgamate the science library with other sections of the library, despite intense opposition.

Administration at the Killam library received a recommendation from the external committee that the service available to science students should be integrated with other aspects of the library back in first semester.

The Dalhousie Science Society (DSS) responded by sending an e-mail out to science students informing them of the situation and encouraging students to discuss the issue.

"I think library services has forgotten why they're here — they shouldn't forget who they're geared towards," said DSS President Kathleen Terroux.

Despite such sentiments as Terroux's, library administration say the change is meant to help Dal students.

"This change will allow for the opportunity to use staff time more effectively during both core and non core service hours," said University Librarian William Maes. "The change will bring some core services in closer proximity to one another and facilitate the handling of multi-disciplinary and inter disciplinary questions."

Students have not been the only individuals to complain about the amalgamation.

Dean of Science, Warwick Kimmens, says the change will result in inefficiency.

"It's extremely fool-hardy," said Kimmens. "The message is very clear [to me], the present system is one that suits [students]. The amalgamation is one that will deteriorate the services."

Stuart Gossert, a Dal chemistry professor agrees the amalgamation is "bad news."

"It's going to make a huge influence on [the library's] efficiency," said Gossert. "The material and procedures are completely different between science and humanities. Students will continually have to go back and forth."

Maes responded to these complaints by saying that progress is not always met with favour.

"We would not be doing our job if we did not, despite opposition, proceed with broad changes which the majority agreed were sound and necessary to take advantage of the new technologies and the new ways in which scholarly communication is being conducted," said Maes.

Yet as well as commenting on the overall efficiency, both students and science administrators remain concerned by their own role in the decision.

Kimmens noted that no student or faculty were included in the decision to amalgamate.

"The process leaves much to be desired," said Kimmens. "The recommendations are ones which I have yet to find either students or faculty supporting. All administrators are here to provide for students and staff... That just isn't happening here."

continued on page 3

Dalhousie students can register on line

BY RACHELLE DUMAS

This upcoming school year, students at Dal will be able to register on-line for the first time.

Registrar workers say the change was needed.

Dalhousie's registrar, Dr. Curri, says the "mail system was too slow." Students can now immediately find out if they were accepted to a class without leaving their computer. Dr. Curri also thinks it will be "less frustrating" than the old first come, first served.

The on-line registration will

be done through the Dal Banner system and is as easy as looking through the Calendar. It will be done in stages, beginning with the first and fourth year students since they have summer advising sessions. Then it will be progressively open to second and third year students since their needs are not as restricted.

The web registration only applies to undergraduate and health profession students. All others will continue with the mail-in system.

As previously done, registration packages will be sent out in late

June.

Dr. Curri says it is very important for returning students leaving for the summer to select their program of study. Otherwise, Curri says, the computer will check your enrolled degree and enrollment is restricted for many of these classes.

Students are generally impressed with the idea of Dal's new on-line services.

Jeannine Gravel, a first year Dal student, is happy with the change.

continued on page 3

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Register on line

continued from page 1

"It's a good idea, it allows people from out-of-town to apply without travelling. I'd definitely consider it."

Roxanne Béland, another first year Dal student, also views on-line registration as a positive change.

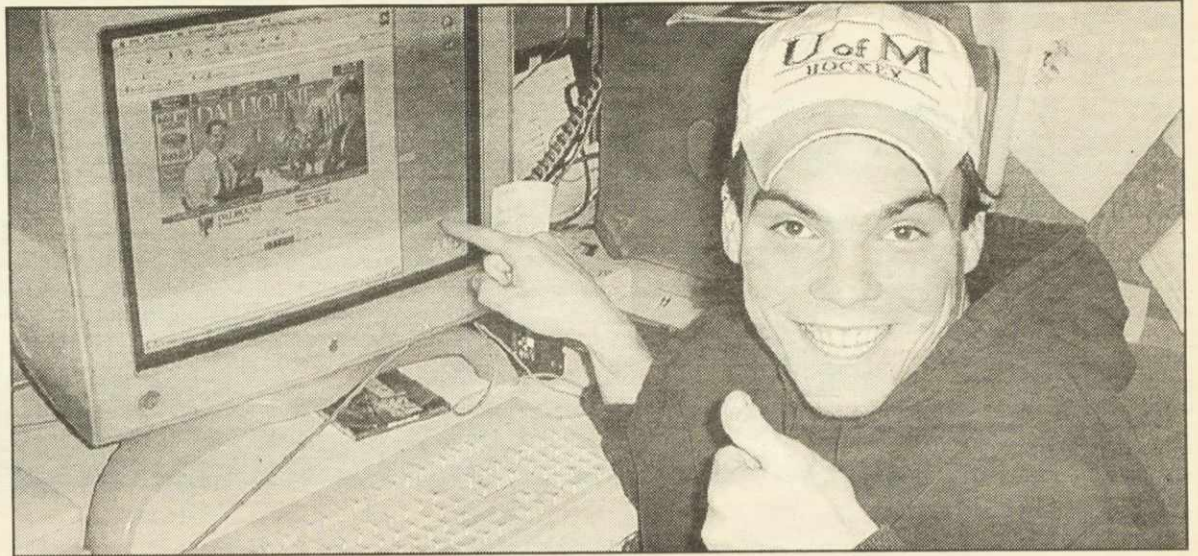
"It's very convenient, since I live in Dartmouth this saves travel time and there's less chance of losing things."

Yet not all students have reacted positively.

Crystal Lloyd, first year Dal student has no plans of taking advantage of the new system.

"I'd rather [register] in person, I don't feel safe giving out personal information even if it is just courses."

Those students who want to can still register by mail or in person.



Woohoo: Dal student gets excited about registering on-line.

Science library

continued from page 1

Students are also upset by what they say is an undemocratic process.

"Students and faculty who will be so influenced by something of this magnitude should be involved in the process," said Terroux.

Maes insists these individuals were given the opportunity to take part in the process.

"The external review was structured in a way that it went out to the Dalhousie community," said Maes. "People were encouraged to respond, the report went out on the web."

Maes, however, said this process did have some negatives.

"I'm prepared to say commu-

nication could be better but people have to respond when they have the opportunity," said Maes. "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink."

Members of the library staff are also unimpressed with the amalgamation process.

"Bill Maes doesn't seem to hear people, or talk to them," said science librarian Rosemary MacKenzie. "He certainly hasn't come to talk to the science librarians. That's not the way to run a university."

Students say library administration should be focussing on other aspects of their library before changing the science library.

"It seems there are so many

other issues they could be addressing rather than something so controversial and beneficial to students," said Terroux.

Terroux noted increasing hours, better study spaces and more friendly staff.

Maes says he and his staff continue to look at these issues, yet must integrate this change now.

"These issues are larger but we continue to look at them," said Maes. "If we don't move this now, it will never happen, we'll just be moving into the past."

Maes also says he needs to look out for other Dal students.

"There's a whole other world at Dalhousie other than science," said Maes.

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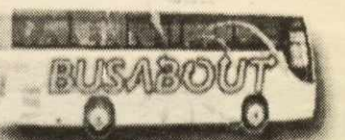
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20 years ago this week

A little somethin' somethin'

Dal President Henry Hicks admitted to being one of the trustees that supplemented the income of a former Liberal party leader. *Gazette* reporters were informed through an RCMP search warrant.

No one was charged and the politician was only named by the RCMP as the final recipient of monies collected.

Bad title for this article

A *Gazette* article, entitled "Fenwick scene of 'Massacre'", informed students of rowdy parties and stressed out night managers.

The problem came to a head when two night managers were assaulted by some of the rowdy beer guzzling, big bellied, bad mouthin thugs.

One too many strip shows

The engineering society, in and out of the *Gazette* 20 years ago for their attempt to bring a stripper on campus, closed their house until April. The decision for this closure was made by the engineering executive who complained that there had been too many parties and the people who lived in the house were always left hungover and cleaning up.

Killam staff so thoughtful

In an effort to cater to Dal students, the School of Library Service held a discussion entitled "Library service for Senior Citizens." Students flocked to the chat by the handful until they discovered that they were expected to lead the discussion.

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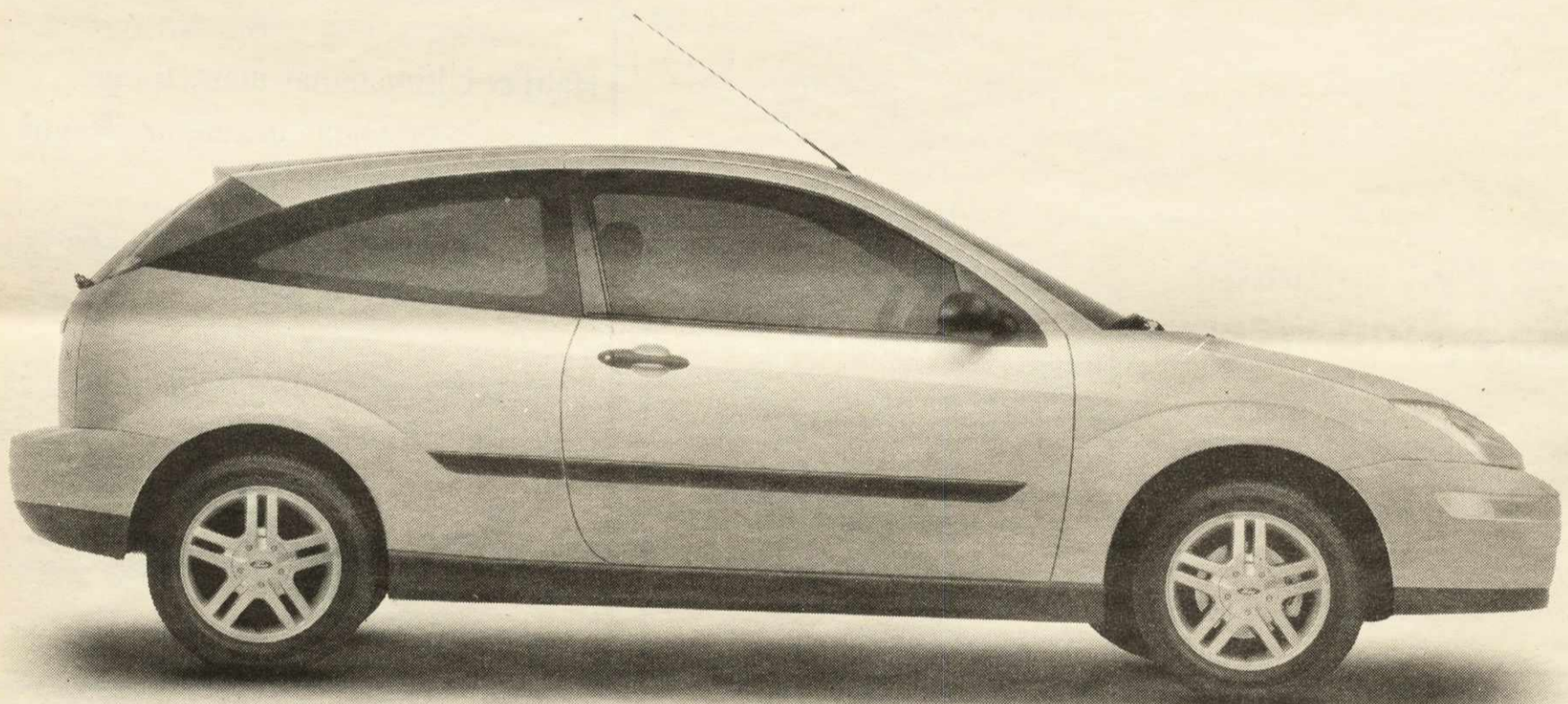


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Government, banks mum about key student loan info

BY CHRIS BODNAR

OTTAWA (CUP) — Both government and banking officials cannot provide key information about Canada's student loan system, a Canadian University Press (CUP) investigation has revealed.

Last week, three of Canada's largest banks — the Royal Bank, CIBC and Scotia Bank — announced they were no longer administering the Canada Student Loans program for the federal government.

Monetary losses and lack of financial guarantees from Ottawa for defaulted loans were cited as reasons for the pullout.

These three banks had administered the program since 1995, when Human Resources Development Canada transferred the loan system from their department to the private sector.

Yet immediately following the bank announcement, conflicting reports began to circulate about the real cost of the program and the true demands of the banks.

Media reports said the loan system cost anywhere from \$1-billion to \$1.8-billion a year to administer.

Other stories said the banks

wanted \$75-million more in risk premiums from Ottawa, while other pegged the number at \$100-million.

And questions about the true number of student loan defaults were rampant, as critics accused the banks of inflating the default rate numbers.

But clarifying details with those involved isn't easy.

"Have you called the government?" asked Shannon Bonus, a representative from CIBC, responding to an inquiry about how many student loans the banks financed.

"That sounds like an industry number. Have you called the Canadian Bankers Association?"

Sharon Wilks, of the Canadian Bankers Association, replied that only Human Resources Development Canada and the three banks involved with the program keep these numbers.

"Only three of our members are involved, so we don't keep those numbers," said Wilks. "You'll have to contact the member banks involved."

Meanwhile, Steve Dyck, a representative from the Royal Bank, cited figures as reported in the media. He said the default rate on student loans is at 27 percent, citing

HRDC figures he said he saw.

"I think that's an accurate number," said Dyck.

Dyck also said his bank may have lost between \$100- to \$160-million annually in administering student loans, but he couldn't provide specific numbers.

When asked how much the banks spent in administering the program, Dyck wouldn't commit to numbers.

Upon suggestion that some media outlets reported the amount to be \$1-billion, he responded, "I don't know if that's an accurate number."

The government wasn't being any more helpful than the banks.

Gino Trifiro, an HRDC spokesperson, told CUP he didn't know how much the student loan system cost the banks to administer.

"We can't calculate the cost last year because we were not administering the system," he said. "What we can say is that starting August 1 we will have to raise the capital to run the program, and that is \$1.8 billion."

Current figures kept by Statistics Canada show that Canadian banks had a total of \$3.6-billion lent

out in the form of government-guaranteed loans.

Government critics say this figure points to the fact that the system is likely losing money, and that a vital trust was broken between the banks and the government.

"This program was a disaster and wouldn't improve," said Henri Sader, a researcher for New Democratic Party MP Lorne Nystrom. "The banks wanted to be perceived as white knights for financing education. Instead they became the arm-twisters forcing students into debt."

If the \$3.6-billion figure is correct, said Sader, and you assume that 20 percent of students default on their loans, then you can conclude that the three banks were collectively losing \$700,000 annually.

But accurate default rates are also hard to come by.

The latest figures from Ottawa show 80 percent of students repay their Canada Student Loans without incident, while 13 percent repay their loans after defaulting at least once.

In other words, 93 percent of students eventually repay their federal loans.

These numbers, however, date back to 1995 — the same year the three major banks began administering the student loan system.

The banks have not released

conclusive data to show what the current default rate is like.

Student leaders, meanwhile, say they are pleased the government will begin administering the loan program rather than the banks.

But they quickly add, however, that the lack of concrete numbers from the program is problematic.

"From our standpoint the lack of information on this only shows the lack of transparency in the student loan program," said Michael Conlon, national chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

He said neither the banks nor the government have provided concrete figures on the cost of administering the student loan program or how much is being put up annually to finance the loans.

All of these figures were public information until 1995 when the student loan program was given to the banks to administer.

Now it isn't known if these figures are even kept.

"The primary reason the numbers aren't there is because it went to the banks. [The government] got rid of the people who administered the program," said Conlon.

The CFS leader, however, did tell CUP that HRDC officials had told him at meetings this school year that the loan system cost \$1-billion to administer.

THE GAZETTE EDITORIAL BOARD ELECTIONS for 2000/2001

Positions open:

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Election day is Monday, March 27th, 2000.

For nomination information, call 494-2507, or drop into the office, room 312 SUB.

Regular meetings are held every Monday at 4:30 as well.

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— ITP LABS, D'AVRAY HALL, UNB, FREDERICTON.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2000 7:00 PM

— HILTON HOTEL, DOWNTOWN SAINT JOHN.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2000 7:00 PM

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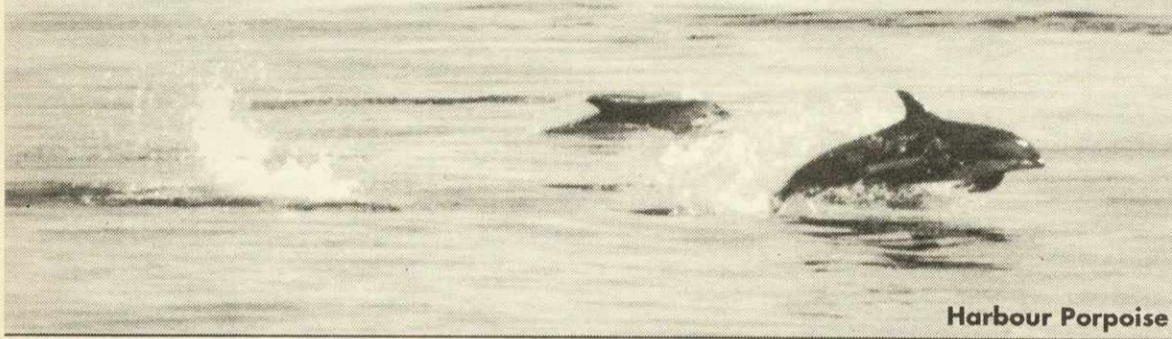
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Harbour Porpoise

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There is a constant bombardment of horrific images of mutated frogs from the Brazilian rainforest or endangered cuddly pandas and fierce tigers. We watch documentaries and read newspaper articles and think about how we hope there are still such magnificent animals around when our children are alive. We send away donations to save the chimpanzees or the gorillas. It is painfully obvious that the loss of biodiversity is the most glaring environmental problem today. But, have you ever stopped to think about the species that are at risk right here in Canada and Nova Scotia and what's being done to help them? Quick, think of all the species you know. Now, eliminate some of them from existence. The Peregrine Falcon, the Leatherback Turtle, Atlantic Cod, Harbour Porpoise, Roseate Tern, Right Whale,

Piping Plover, and the Monarch Butterfly. All these animals hold official COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada) status.

COSEWIC, a government project, is responsible for designating how at risk a species is. Species are ranked in status categories of: extinct, extirpated, endangered, threatened, vulnerable, or not at risk. The aim of the project is to prevent species from becoming at risk. Partners in COSEWIC are provinces, territories, Federal Government (Canadian Wildlife Services and Fisheries and Oceans), WWF, Canadian Nature Federation, Canadian Wildlife Federation and others. As of April 1998, 307 Canadian species were listed, while in Nova Scotia alone 32 species had population numbers that were considered to be in serious decline and six species were extinct or extirpated. Given that Canada has many National and Provincial Parks, why are these population numbers still declining?

National and Provincial Parks were created with the sole purpose of providing areas for the benefit, education and enjoyment of future generations. There is an illusion that these parks are a haven for wildlife, a place where they are untouched and safe from human activity. Yet logging, farming and urbanization occurring alongside our National and Provincial Parks are all taking their toll on the wildlife living there. Furthermore, visitors to the park, transportation in and around the

parks and programs like fire suppression are having a big impact as well. So what exactly is being done for Nova Scotian species at risk?

There is a Wildlife Division of the Department of Natural Resources in Nova Scotia dedicated to Nova Scotian wildlife at risk. The mission of the Wildlife Division is to "promote and implement the principles and ethics of conservation and sustainable use of wildlife populations, habitats and ecosystems in Nova Scotia." There are a

number of programs in place to meet these goals. For example, there is a Large Mammal Program that has seven projects currently underway. These projects are designed to maintain White-tailed deer, Moose and Bear populations. These three large mammals are hunted in Nova Scotia. Management programs are in place to make sure the populations remain sustainable and that optimal recreation hunting can be realized. It is questionable whether these animals would be protected if they weren't important for recreational purposes.

There is also a Furbearers (small mammals with fur) and Up-land game program in place. Once again the projects are aimed at keeping populations sustainable and realizing optimal recreation hunting. It is interesting to note the number of projects that have been created out of pressure from hunters in the province. The Trappers Association of Nova Scotia (TANS) has been instrumental in tracking the status of species populations in Nova Scotia. It is absolutely amazing how many reports on species' population health are dependent on kill records, sightings and carcasses that are handed in by hunters. The government sees hunters as a cheap, knowledgeable source of informa-

tion.

RENEW: Recovery of Nationally Endangered Wildlife In Canada is another government project which is aimed at the recovery of species with formal species at risk status with the objective of preventing species from becoming extinct in Canada. It is quite evident however, that, for the most part, the programs and their projects are aimed at species that either have designated status (remember there are only 32 in Nova Scotia) or species that are harvestable and therefore have economic value.

Yet there are other programs such as the Terrestrial Habitat Program, which work in conjunction with the forestry and agricultural communities, to protect and enhance wildlife habitat and biodiversity in general. But the real snag in this, and similar programs, seems to be the designation process. In a time when we understand the need to protect and preserve biodiversity we seem to be stuck at the stage of categorizing, zoning, designating and allocating.

For information on the Wildlife Division of the Department of Natural Resources in Nova Scotia, visit: www.gov.ns.ca/natr/WILD-LIFE/web/wildmiss.htm

A deeper look into endangered species acts

There are a number of wildlife related Acts and Regulations in Nova Scotia.

- Wood Sustainability and Wildlife Habitat Regulations (Draft May 1999)
- Wildlife Act
- Wildlife Regulations
- Endangered Species Act
- Conservation Easements Act

To find out more about the individual Acts, Regulations and Programs here in Nova Scotia you can visit www.gov.ns.ca/natr/WILD-LIFE/. In reality, when faced with the day to day challenges of student life, the daunting task of reading and assessing all the Acts and Regulations is almost comical in its absurdity. But there is still something you can do. This year *the Environment Act* is being reviewed.

In 1995 Nova Scotia's Department of the Environment introduced *The Environment Act*, a consolidation of legislation that protects the environment. Now, five years later, it is time to review the Act and make appropriate revisions. The Department of the Environment is seeking public input into the revisions. To find a copy of *The Environment Act*, visit the site: www.gov.ns.ca/legi/legc/statutes/. To get a copy of the Public Discussion Paper see www.gov.ns.ca/envi/dept/ess/public.htm.

The Public Discussion Paper addresses the background of the Act and its successes and where the department can see changes need to be made. Basically the Department of the Environment sees three areas where changes must be made:

1) Definition of adverse effect.

The Environment Act defines an adverse effect as "an effect that impairs or damages the environment, including an adverse effect respecting the health of humans or the reasonable enjoyment of life or property". This definition has meant that the department has been put off track and wasted valuable resources dealing with odour and noise complaints in residential areas.

2) The efficiency of the Environmental Assessment Board.

This board is made up of three to five members who most importantly conduct investigations and studies and review environmental legislation. Basically they have been found to be superfluous.

3) The ability of Part VIII to regulate the management of contaminated sites.

When the Minister of the Environment designates a site contaminated, Part VIII of the environment act kicks in, basically giving the minister a wide range of ways to manage the contaminated site. But sites that are not designated leave the department with very little authority in managing them. The Department recognizes the following as key areas that need to be fixed:

- A formal or regulated requirement to report the existence of contaminated sites.
- Formally adopted remediation standards.
- A detailed process, including timelines, for reporting.
- A consistent and reliable approach for recording the site conditions following remediation.
- Provisions for cost recovery to ease the pressure on hardship and orphan site cases.

The Government of Nova Scotia is collecting public input on the Act. Here is where you come in. It is evident that we have legislation that has very good intentions, but that is not enough. The vocabulary used in the legislation leaves it wide open to interpretation, making it difficult to uphold in court. What we need to demand from this legislation is that it be solid and more substantially bound by law. We need to have legislation that makes it easier for people in the position to enforce the laws capable of doing so. More importantly, we as a public must be better informed about the state of our environment. Public pressure is a powerful tool, reports on individuals, companies and organizations that have committed environmental offenses should be made readily available and distributed in a publicly accessible arena. All comments on *the Environment Act* must be submitted by April 14, 2000. We encourage you to ask questions and make your government accountable, but most importantly to make your voice heard.

For further information about the Legislative Review process:

Call 1-800-567-7544.

Email: ecs@gov.ns.ca

Mail: Nova Scotia Department of the Environment

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Chemical spill at UNB lab forces closure of forestry centre

BY NIKKIE SMYTHE

FREDERICTON (CUP) — A potentially explosive chemical spill last week at the University of New Brunswick's (UNB) Wood Sciences and Technology Centre sent 700 employees home for two days.

The university centre, which is off-campus, is located within the Hugh John Flemming Maritime Forestry Centre.

The 700 employees who were forced to leave are based in the Flemming complex.

Early last week, an employee at the technology centre noticed that a 12-by-14 foot walk-in freezer unit had malfunctioned overnight, raising the temperature in the freezer to the point that a potentially deadly explosion was a risk.

The freezer, which stores chemicals to make fibreglass and plastic, was kept at 8 degrees Celsius to ensure hazardous gases did not evolve.

If the freezer is allowed to rise to room temperature, the evolved gasses could combine with each other and spark an explosion.

The city's fire and police departments closed the centre and, after calling in a hazardous materials disposal unit from Oromocto, lo-

cated east of Fredericton, spent the day planning how to safely handle the situation without placing fire fighters at risk.

The spill was one of the most serious accidents to hit the city in years.

Fredericton police Sgt. Tim Cane said four members of the Hazardous Materials Unit were able to enter the freezer, where they discovered that a 5 litre container had exploded, spraying the interior of the freezer with a thick, black, tar-like substance.

Other 45 gallon drums had expanded and were on the brink of exploding as the chemicals they housed expanded after changing states from liquid to solid.

The 30 other containers appeared to be stable, but fire fighters installed a camera and a temperature gauge in the freezer to monitor the situation overnight.

On the morning of March 15 — the day after the accident was discovered — officials re-entered the room and began the process of removing the remaining containers.

According to Cane, university officials will be responsible for the safe disposal of the remaining containers and for clean up of the freezer.

Public safety officials said

they had contained the spill.

By Thursday, March 16, both the Flemming and UNB centres were re-opened and workers returned to work.

In the wake of the spill, university officials are initiating an internal review of chemical storage areas.

"An internal review will be

initiated immediately, jointly by my faculty, campus safety and the UNB Joint Health Safety Committee," said David MacLean, dean of UNB's Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management.

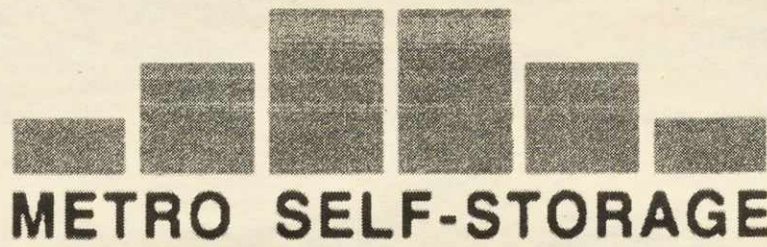
"They will examine the cause of the problem and any changes that need to be made in terms of facilities and chemical handling practices.

The committee will work with the Fredericton Fire Department and the New Brunswick Health, Safety and Compensation Commission to ensure the university meets standards for chemical storage."

A total of 19 federal, provincial, military, municipal and environmental agencies responded to the emergency.



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A mis-appropriation of facts

Do students really need a break from the cycle of school-work-school? Or is the eight months of school and the four months of summer work with no time off except for a week at Christmas the norm? People with jobs get holidays and time for vacations, so why is it that when some students take a trip, they're looked down upon?

In the *Daily News* last week (Tuesday, March 14), Sandra Porteous wrote about students who were on a plane with her from Toronto to Halifax. These students were on their way back from Spring Break in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica.

These students are taking a break from what? she asks.

"How can kids who live on Kraft Dinner find the coin to fly away to a tropical paradise?" she wrote.

I think most of the students can't and don't.

Porteous' column left readers with the impression that students are squandering their money on frivolous trips they didn't even earn. Did she ask if those students had student loans to worry about? Or how well they budgeted their meagre savings all year to afford it? Maybe those students had someone else footing the tuition and paying for their trips. They may not have the student debt that many others have. They may live with their parents and not pay rent or ever have to travel home to see family.

There may have been dozens of tanned students in the Toronto airport, how many un-tanned students had to work or study during Spring Break. Or how about those students who won't see a vacation for many years to come because of their overwhelming debt.

Porteous may have seen dozens of tanned students on their way home from a week on the beach, but she saw them in an airport, waiting for their flight. Where else would you find them?

She left readers with the impression that all students did this — that this was, in fact, the norm. Out of the thousands of students going

to university or college in Nova Scotia, she saw a select few who were fortunate enough to afford a vacation, and then left readers with the impression that all students do this.

EDITORIAL

She backed it up with a recent study which found that most students are no longer wanting to go home for a week with the 'folks', but have higher expectations for "something more unusual."

Now, that I agree with. Most students would prefer a trip to the tropics over a trip back home. But is this a reality or just a dream for most for them?

Practically everyone I know have picked up travel brochures about a month before Spring Break with a sparkle in their eye as they dream of lying on a beach in sunny Mexico. But the reality is, those same people spent Spring Break with their nose in a book or writing an essay. A trip just wasn't financially possible.

But lucky for some students, vacations are becoming cheaper. Out of curiosity, I priced a plane ticket to Cuba for \$499 plus taxes. A trip to Newfoundland cost about the same if you were to book right now with a proper airline and not a charter. With trips to the tropics costing little more than a trip home to see your parents, which do you think most students would prefer?

A beach in Jamaica seems much more appealing right now,

during this stressful time of year, than visiting my home on the cold, wet, and foggy rock called Newfoundland. (And I couldn't even afford that. I only made it thanks to help from my parents).

Students have realized that there's more to education and learning than reading text books. Sometimes seeing something for yourself can make a world of difference. Though, I admit, spending a week drunk on a beach isn't very educational.

But there are other ways to travel, cheaper ways where you can see the world and learn more about it too, and it doesn't cost a fortune. I hope this cheaper alternative of working as I go to cover the costs is my only option. I won't be lying on a beach in the sun. While a summer kicking around Ireland sounds nice, most of the trip will actually be spent working to pay for it.

But that's actually how I like it. I'm not only visiting a new place and culture, I'm immersing myself in it. Travelling in my case would be a way of seeing the world and learning more about it — things you can't learn from a book, but have to see yourself. I think people are realizing that students want to see what they read about, and are creating more travel opportunities for students.

"They developed a taste for touring and their rationale is that college would not get in the way of a good time," Porteous said of the student travellers in the airport. This may be true for some people, including those she shared her plane with, but I don't think it's fair to classify all students in this category. School may get in the way of a good

time, but for most students, there's nothing that can be done about that.

Her column left readers with the impression that if students can afford to travel, they can easily afford school without more money for loans and lower tuition. Why lower tuition and give more money in student loans when students are just going to take the money and run to Mexico?

But I don't think this is the case.

I'll agree that, like Porteous, I'm jealous of all those students who went South for the break, while I went back to cold, rocky Newfoundland to spend time with my family. I'd take Jamaica any day. But I can't afford that. And many other students can't either.

"The most important thing you learn in college is that you can

do more with less," says Porteous. In terms of travel, that means taking those Spring Break road trips with the car packed so full you can't see out the back window, and the window has to be cracked at all times in the dead of winter because nine bodies in a car for a week can get a little raunchy. Those people are still around and those trips still exist. But I guess they're not as obvious as several dozen golden tanned students in an airport. They're the ones taking the back roads and sleeping in the car because they ran out of money and can't afford a hotel. There still out there. But you won't see them waiting in an airport. You just might have to look around a little harder to find them.

Lee Pitts

CHUCK WAGON

BY CHARLES LACERTE

Food is sensual, and I am not referring to a bathtub full of Jello. Throughout history, some foods have had aphrodisiac properties associated with them. The more exotic the food, the greater its reputation. Food can give oneself a sense of euphoria. From the first asparagus in spring to falls last zucchini. Chocolate, due to its content of sugars and caffeine, is a stimulant and oysters have had a long history as an aphrodisiac. So if one could just combine the two ... who knows?

Other foods that have a superstition behind them are avocados and strawberries, due to their shape, the nutritional value notwithstanding. Herbs and flowers, such as nasturtiums and borage have a great fragrance that can easily stimulate a couple of one's senses (a combination of aroma therapy and holistic medicine) and they taste great too which is something that cannot be said about artificial fresheners. So eat, indulge and have fun playing with your food or someone else's.

CHOCOLATE FONDUE

8 oz semi-sweet chocolate
2 oz unsweetened chocolate
1/2 cup light cream
3 tablespoons rum or liqueur (optional)
Assorted fruit pieces (oranges, bananas, strawberries)

Melt chocolates with cream on low heat, stir until smooth.

Remove from heat and add alcohol.

Place in fondue pot and keep warm, serve with the fruit.

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email your comments to:
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You Need Meat (Don't Go No Further)

I eat meat, and have for most of my life. I have had endless debates with numerous articulate vegetarians, but not one has ever made an argument that actually made me think. I fell behind the usual defenses, 'good for protein,' 'What other purpose do farm animals serve?' etc. But it took two words from a friend to actually make me reconsider my carnivorous ways.

Bad Karma.

It wasn't so much the words as the sentiment. My friend felt that it was a bad relationship to have with nature, to raise animals in horrid conditions, slaughter them and use every part of the carcass to save money.

I have always felt that the human relationship with nature is horrendous, but I was unable to break it down to specifics. Growing up as I did, I spent a lot of time outdoors. I was outraged as a child to witness huge areas of beautiful lakefront land completely destroyed by deforestation.

My first years as a university student taught me just how negative the consumption-orientated nature of society actually is, and how many useless products are turned into waste. And now I'm thinking that maybe eating meat is not the best way to cleanse my relationship with the planet.

It takes 2,500 gallons of water, 12 pounds of grain, 35 pounds of topsoil and the energy equivalent of one gallon of gasoline to produce one pound of feedlot beef. 70 percent of US grain production is fed to live stock. 5 million acres of rain forest are felled every year in South and Central America alone to create cattle pasture, and this also makes me think.

Where does it go? Waste, in the form of pollution and environmental decay. If we lived off the land, and had to hunt to feed and clothe ourselves, than the waste is not waste — it is recycled into the ecosystem, but we don't. Right now, waste ends up wrapped in plastic bags and burnt, or it ends up in the nearest harbour — hardly a good relationship.

The idea of Karma may not wash for most, but for me, it puts a label on my discomfort with counter-productive consumption of the planet. It's an idea that everything you do in relationships with nature and people has an impact.

Karma is the kind of thought that, at the very least, gives people power. The shortcomings of democracy are nothing compared to the independent thought of intelligent people. It puts responsibility for the ills of society directly on the shoulders of the individual, and takes away the excuses that keep people from changing.

If you aren't happy, do your part. Changes happen best through evolution, rather than revolution, so don't try and change things in a year. Thinking long-term allows for tolerance, a vital ingredient to change.

There is no doubt that humans are destroying the planet at an alarming rate, mainly because people don't acknowledge the problem. The mindset is that environmentalists are exaggerating the problem, and if there were a problem, somebody of some social stature would point it out. The problem is that very few large corporations would be willing to institute any changes that might compromise profit, and a lot of the more powerful institutions in



North America, and elsewhere, have little to gain by environmental responsibility.

Health is also an issue. A healthy vegetarian meal has all the necessary elements for survival, and new concerns about the long-term effect of eating red meat also makes a potent point. A large percentage of health professionals are now discouraging the consumption of animal fats and red meats that have been shown to increase the chance

of obesity, cancer and other diseases.

I don't know if eating animals is wrong for me, but I now know that I need to think about it. If I am going to decide to completely alter my life based on a principle, then I need to be sure that is the right answer. The trend of not eating animals "because it's bad, man," doesn't work for me. I don't want to join the growing fad of vegetarianism. I want to do it because I feel

that it will result in at least some self-satisfaction and peace of mind that I am not contributing to the global trend of ignorance and apathy.

You can't make decisions without information, and you can't make changes without decisions, so I suggest that everyone re-examine their beliefs. If you think you know something, it's because you haven't really learned anything.

Patrick Blackie

LETTERS

Composting on Dal no good

To The Editor,

Access to composting on campus needs to improve.

On March 17, some members of the Sierra Youth Coalition (SYC is a campus enviro group) sat in the Killam Library Second Cup to observe people's composting habits. This research was inspired by the SYC waste audit where it was discovered that 45 percent of the "garbage" going to landfill was compostable organics.

Following the waste audit, discussions with facilities management indicated that composting locations on campus cannot be increased until contamination is reduced. The three current composting locations — Killam Library, the Life Sciences building, and the Computer Sciences building — have so much contamination with non-compostables (such as Styrofoam cups) that it has to be hand-sorted before being sent off campus. This is a gross job and it is truly unfair to expect anyone to do it.

If contamination does not stop, tuition will simply have to be

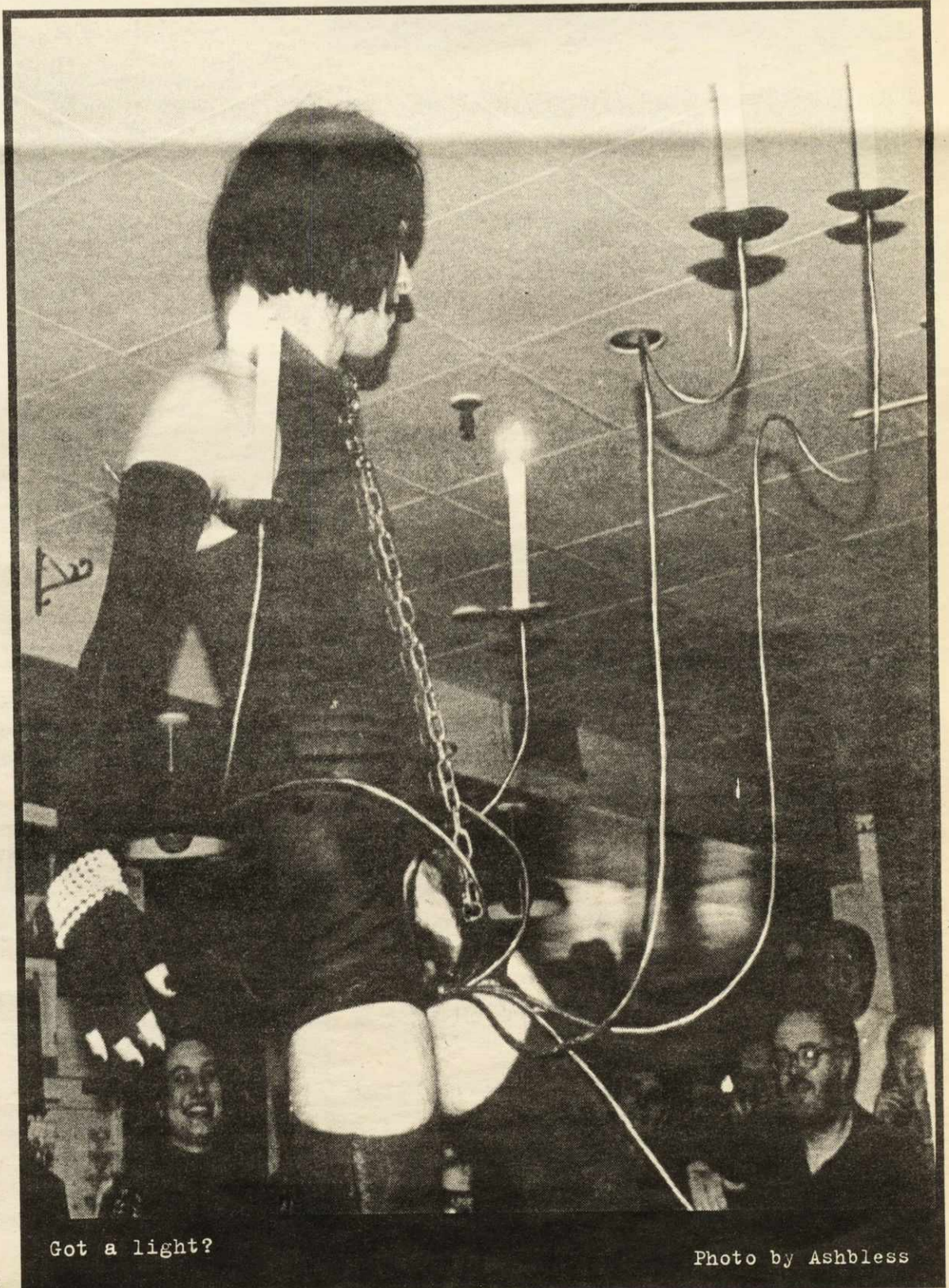
increased to hire garbage sorters.

Compost is, basically, paper products and food. Included are food waste, paper cups, napkins, wax paper, paper bags, and tea bags. Compostable organic material is not permitted in landfill by law in Nova Scotia, so sending the currently contaminated organics to landfill is not an option. Without separating organics at the waste bin, the only solution would be to pay people to sort the contaminated compost, and tuition hikes would have to fund this effort.

Observations at the Second Cup showed that approximately one in 10 people use their own cups (and, thus, create little waste), and about one in five people are not sorting their waste properly.

If you want to reduce the amount of garbage going to landfill, you should request a paper cup at the coffee vendors instead of using a Styrofoam or plastic cup. Paper cups are compostable while plastic and Styrofoam are not. Of course, bringing your own mug is the best option of all.

Amelia Clarke & Kevin Blair



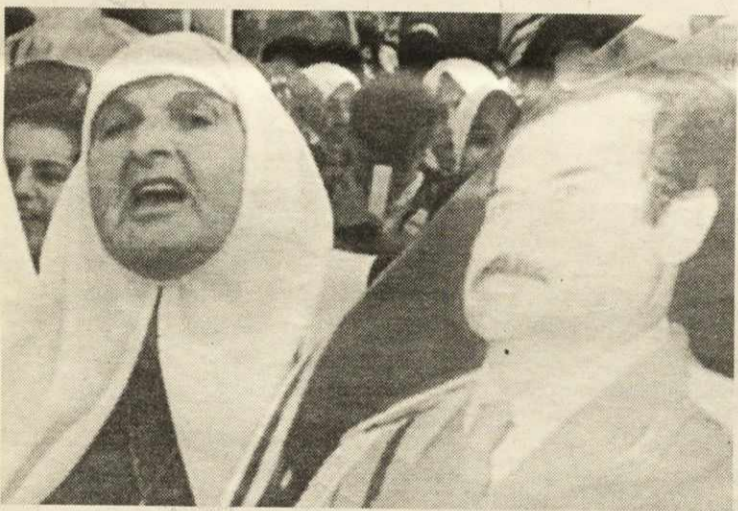
Got a light?

Photo by Ashbless

FOCUS

Hunger & poverty as instruments of war

Svend Robinson on Iraq



continued from page 1

the embargo which Robinson said have "used hunger and poverty as instruments of war" — a direct contradiction of the Geneva and UN Charter accords, which condemn the use of starvation and malnutrition as warfare.

The embargo prohibits import of anything that can be of "dual-purpose" for use in military devices — a list which includes such materials of war as toilet paper, children's potties and pencils — "because of the lead content of graphite."

Under the UN's Aid Resolution, commonly known as the 'Oil-for-Food' program, by selling a fractional portion of their oil supply Iraq is afforded aid by the UN — amounts to \$0.25 day for each Iraqi. Poverty and mass hunger have been imposed upon a nation ravaged by bombing, with extensive targeting of civilian infrastructure.

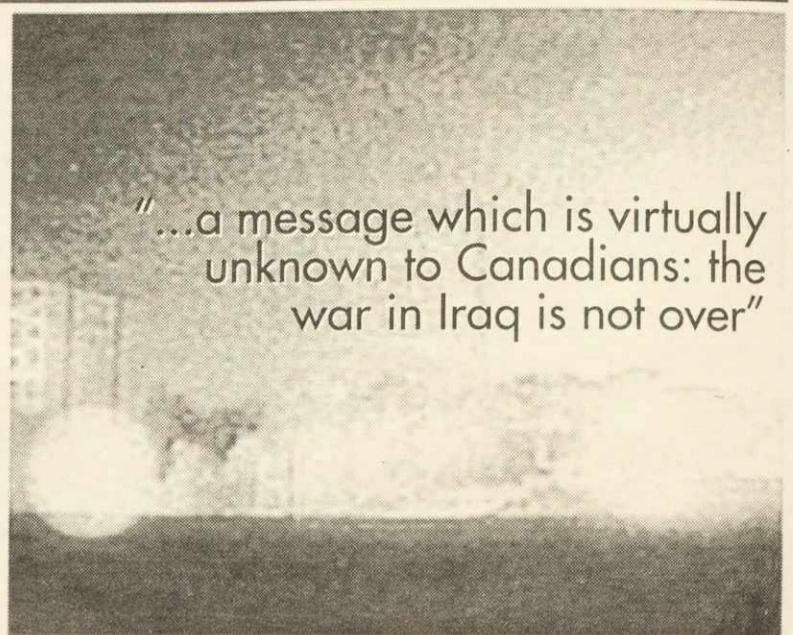
"I was returning to a situation of collapse; not just of physical infrastructure, but the whole social and intellectual infrastructure as well," Robinson said.

Because only three percent of funds are allocated to education and with a ban on all types of books and journals prohibited for import, it is the "intellectual genocide" that is so destructive, said Robinson, adding that it will take generations for Iraq to recover from the total annihilation of the intellectual integrity in Iraq.

In his January 2000 Delegation Report on Iraq, Mr. Robinson notes that "it is often forgotten that in 1990, despite the Iran-Iraq war, Iraq was one of the most advanced countries in the Middle East in economic, social and cultural rights."

Today it is a system in ruins, unemployment is epidemic, inflation is skyrocketing, and the average salary is US\$5 a month. When added to appalling cancer rates and massive numbers of congenital deformities — 165 this past year in a single tiny clinic in Basra — due to thousands of tonnes of depleted uranium in bombs that have been rained down on Iraq. Bombing that continues, in the 18 months between May 1998 and January of this year, some 22,000 "combat missions" were flown in southern Iraq alone.

Robinson acknowledged the clarity of the situation is such that once Canadians truly know what our government is party to in Iraq, they will demand change. Because the debacle transcends political agenda and nationalist tendencies,



"...a message which is virtually unknown to Canadians: the war in Iraq is not over"

the issue is about fundamental human rights on the base level. Being in support of the removal of non-military sanctions in Iraq does not mean you are for Saddam Hussein, Robinson emphasized, because clearly the sanctions do not affect the ruling class, let alone the ruler.

While imposed in practice by the UN, de facto legislation of the sanctions is controlled by the US and, to a lesser degree the UK, essentially because the power-brokers have the UN Security Council "in their back pockets." In today's global economy, to irk the US would be to commit economic suicide; consequently, veto-power members France, Russia and especially China, who are itching to join the WTO, make scant little noise.

Originally scheduled to speak at the Dal Law School on Wednesday night, Robinson was forced to postpone last minute as the critic vote on the government's proposed Clarity Bill — which deals with secession logistics — arose in the

House of Commons. Adjunct Dal professor and medical Dr. Shiela Zurbrigg stepped in aptly in Robinson's absence, illustrating the essential truths that she encountered in her tour in Iraq, which is the most recent delegation to visit. Dr. Zurbrigg testified before the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa on Tuesday, an initiative under Robinson's recommendation that will have delegation members and experts shed light on the catastrophic impact of the sanctions. It is a critical first step in a saddening "conspiracy of silence."

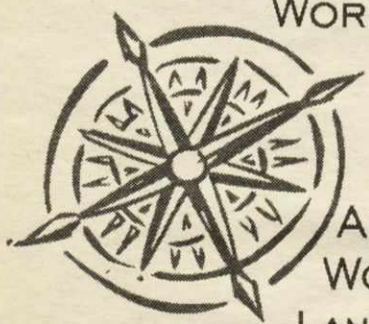
Cutting the afternoon short in a dash to catch a plane back to BC, Svend Robinson left a parting thought, in the face of a series of questions about the feasibility of having the sanctions lifted by the US, courtesy of Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

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The fight over Native culture at the U of Michigan

Secret society degrades Native culture



Members of Michigamua publicly painted themselves red, wore Native American headdress, smoked pipes and gave themselves names like "full moon," to make fun of Native American culture.

BY RICHARD MCKERGOW

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (CUP) — Among the company of family, mentors, friends and supporters, Joe Reilly hunches over a drum, pounds it and sings in victory with three fellow members of the Native American community.

Behind him, other members of the University of Michigan's Students of Color Coalition, who are overwhelmed by the crowd's pride and gratitude, embrace each other while tears soak their faces.

On March 13, at 3:30 p.m., members of the Students of Color Coalition, of which Reilly is a founding member, ended their grueling 36-day occupation of club space belonging to the University of Michigan's secret society Michigamua.

They spent the previous 20 hours barricaded on the seventh floor of the Michigan Union's (U of M) student centre, without sleep, while weighing options and working towards such a conclusion.

The goal of the coalition's occupation was to end Michigamua's admittedly mocking traditions of Native culture.

Driving 10 hours through a blizzard to join the coalition members at the conclusion of the sit-in were University of Toronto (U of T) activists Elan Ohayon, Chris Ramsaroop, Oriol Varga and former U of T student Selwin Pieters.

Before the 1970s, members of Michigamua publicly painted themselves red, wore Native

American headdress, smoked pipes and gave themselves names like Full Moon, to make fun of Native American culture.

The society has not been allowed to do this in public since that time, and its members insist they do not continue to mock Native Americans behind closed doors.

They say they have abided by a 1989 agreement with the university's student services promising to remove any element of Native culture from their organization.

But according to Reilly, on February 6, 2000, the coalition decided Michigamua had failed to live up to that promise.

After a meeting with the Michigamua society, coalition members were told their suspicions of continued mockery of Native American culture were false, and that the club possessed no signs of aboriginal culture.

The coalition decided to find out for themselves and occupied the "tower," a term which indicates the fifth to seventh floors of the student union building. The tower houses three secret societies, Michigamua being one of them.

A boardroom and storage closet full of Native artifacts, mock native characters and Michigamua records and yearbooks were discovered by the coalition.

Over the next month, they catalogued the items, and categorized the property of the Michigamua, determining what the Native community would repatriate.

Native artifacts included spiritual items such as pipes and drums, and other items like arrowheads, artwork and a carry case for an infant.

These are items the Michigamua have collected since their inception in 1902.

The coalition presented the university with three demands. They called for the university to sever all affiliation with the secret societies, eliminate the space given to those societies and give all Native American artifacts back to their original community.

"It is the students' intent that the personal items of the Michigamua are returned and the others will be repatriated," said Bob Meggimson, a Native American associate professor of mathematics who has volunteered his time to help with the negotiations between the university, the coalition and Michigamua.

Meggimson said the materials are now under the provost's control.

Throughout February, the coalition negotiated with the university and Michigamua, and all three finally agreed that the artifacts would indeed be repatriated. The coalition began to move out the objects.

But on March 12 — the day before the protest ended — the coalition was interrupted by campus security who had been called by members of Michigamua.

"The Michigamua felt that the [coalition] was trying to move rapidly, but by Monday morning [March 13] they had it all worked out," said Julie Peterson, spokesper-

son for the university.

But a stand off between members of the coalition and Michigamua ensued at the base of the tower. Tensions heightened as one member of the coalition demanded repeatedly to know what was the mock name of one member of Michigamua.

The society member would not answer and could only look away.

During this point, U of T students Ramsaroop and Ohayon stood with the coalition to provide their support if it was needed. Ohayon suggested that Michigamua help the coalition remove the artifacts.

"We are here as international observers, and we will act on the [coalition's] best interests," said Ramsaroop. "It's not a matter of the U of M anymore."

On February 25, Lee C. Bollinger, the university president, announced the establishment of a panel to assess whether the secret societies would be able to keep using university space.

The panel will consist of three university administrators, according to university spokesperson Peterson.

"The university will then make a decision about the assignment and use of the Michigan Union tower and any other exclusively assigned space that may exist," added president Bollinger.

However, this was not enough for the coalition, who demanded the panel have a broader scope than just looking at student space. They wanted to look at the broader issues of racial equity.

"The panel is a total subversion of the real issues," said coalition member Reilly.

But the university president would only expand the panel under certain conditions.



"The university told the [coalition] that if they wanted to have the scope of the panel expanded they really needed to come down," said Peterson.

She added that Bollinger would not take their recommendations into account if they did not leave the tower.

So the coalition exited the tower six-and-a-half hours after the Monday, March 13, 9:00 a.m. deadline issued by Bollinger. At that point, the university president agreed to expand the panel's field of investigation.

The university cites the first amendment and freedom of speech when discussing how it has and will treat Michigamua.

"Under our principles it is clear that student organizations must not be recognized or de-recognized, or suffer any other penalty, because the ideas they espouse or beliefs they adhere to are offensive, or even dangerous, to our community," said Bollinger on February 17.

Paul Seguire, another spokesperson for the university, adds that the society has a lot of history with the university as well.

"The members of Michigamua were instrumental in building the Michigan Union," he said. "They raised the funds for the building and as a result they got the space."

Nick Delgado, spokesperson for the Michigamua, added that the society is being sensitive to the criticism.

"They [coalition] highlight critical issues and we are doing everything to address these issues with the Native American community," he said.

Although they do not deny that the artifacts found are indeed reminiscent of Native American culture, Michigamua members claim they had no idea the items found in the closet existed.

"I did not know the artifacts were there," said Delgado. "We agree that those artifacts need to be removed from the tower."

Delgado said there is nothing left for them to do.

"We have apologized for the historical appropriation of Native culture," he said.

Seema Pai, in her fourth-year at the College of Literature, Science, and Arts (LSA), says being a mem-

ber of the Michigamua is difficult.

"There's a level of prestige. They only chose 25 members across the board," she said, adding that she was approached to join the Michigamua for her involvement in student government at the LSA.

She said the organization tries to find ways to improve the campus, but she had a difficult time giving specific examples.

"The concept is very hard to articulate because the effects are intangible," she said.

Coalition member Reilly, in his final year at U of M's school of natural resources and the environment, said Native Americans compose less than one percent of the student body, and number 250-300 at the University.

The continued use of drums on the part of Michigamua was particularly offensive to Reilly.

"Drums to Native American people are a heartbeat and the living spirit, so we take it very personally when organizations or groups of people use them for their own purposes," he said.

At a press conference, Reilly suggested members of Michigamua might be bothered by conscience.

"It's a hard road once you start looking in the mirror," he said. "I think Michigamua has a pretty hard time looking in the mirror and they see those headdresses, and their bodies painted red, and they wonder, 'What am I doing? What the hell am I doing?'"

U of T activists felt that they witnessed an historical victory.

"It was effective, it was an important victory that they accomplished," said Ohayon.

"There was a victory after years of trying to negotiate, it showed that activism clarified the situation," he said, adding that such victories are remembered and appreciated years later.

Ramsaroop felt that their presence at the sit-in formed an international bond.

"We showed that each has the other's back, and we know that we are going to get their support in the future," he said.

Ramsaroop was especially moved by the crowd's reaction to the coalition when they finally emerged from the tower.

"That was amazing, it was one of the most touching and inspiring moments," he said.

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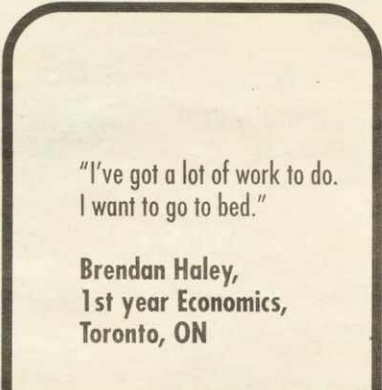
INTERVIEWS BY KATIE TINKER. PHOTOS LEE PITTS

What's on your mind?



"I have to go to class and I'm late."

Tanya LeClair,
3rd year Sociology,
Halifax, NS



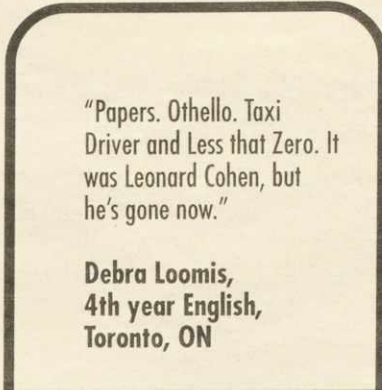
"I've got a lot of work to do. I want to go to bed."

Brendan Haley,
1st year Economics,
Toronto, ON



"Schoolwork."

Jim Kung,
2nd Year Computer Science,
Halifax, NS



"Papers. Othello. Taxi Driver and Less than Zero. It was Leonard Cohen, but he's gone now."

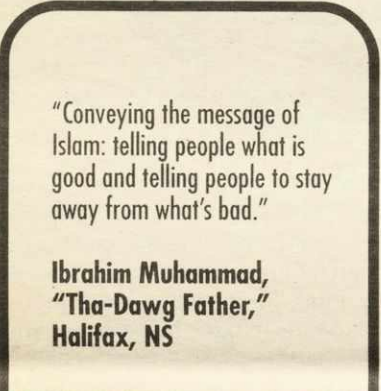
Debra Loomis,
4th year English,
Toronto, ON



"I'm really surprised to see Hieu — I haven't seen her since last year."
Angie Arsenault, NASCAD foundation year, Sydney, NS

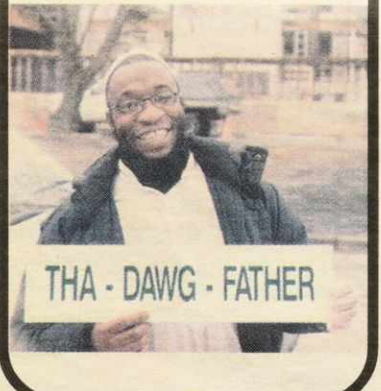
"I wasn't thinking anything."
Blythe Church, NASCAD foundation year, England.

"I want to know if those hot dogs are free."
Hieu Nguyen, 1st year Arts,
Sydney, NS



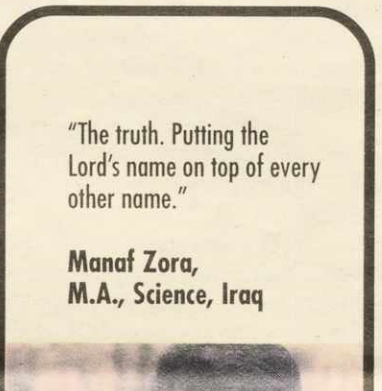
"Conveying the message of Islam: telling people what is good and telling people to stay away from what's bad."

Ibrahim Muhammad,
"Tha-Dawg Father,"
Halifax, NS



"I'm really hungry."

Scott MacKenzie Hughes,
1st year Law,
Halifax, NS



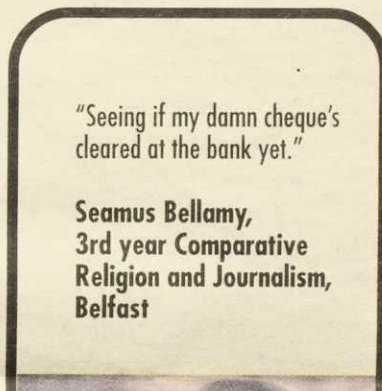
"The truth. Putting the Lord's name on top of every other name."

Manaf Zora,
M.A., Science, Iraq



"Finishing the year. That's it."

Keith Little,
3rd year Philosophy,
Halifax



"Seeing if my damn cheque's cleared at the bank yet."

Seamus Bellamy,
3rd year Comparative Religion and Journalism,
Belfast



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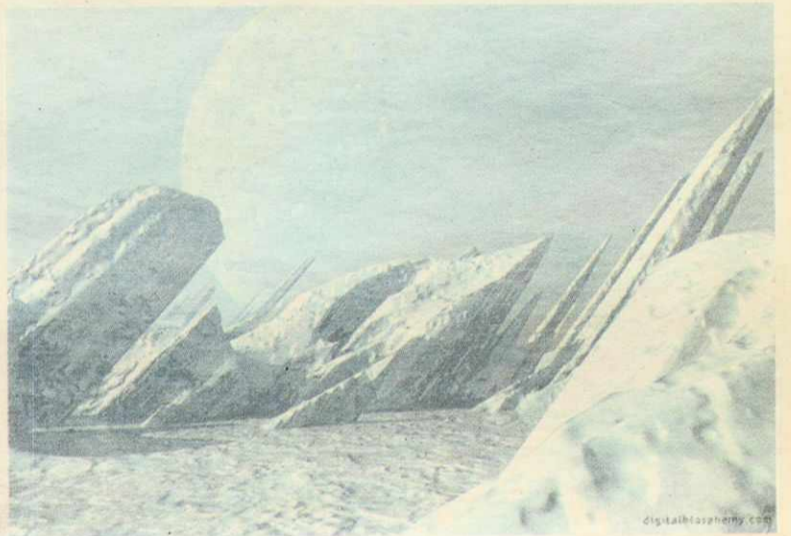
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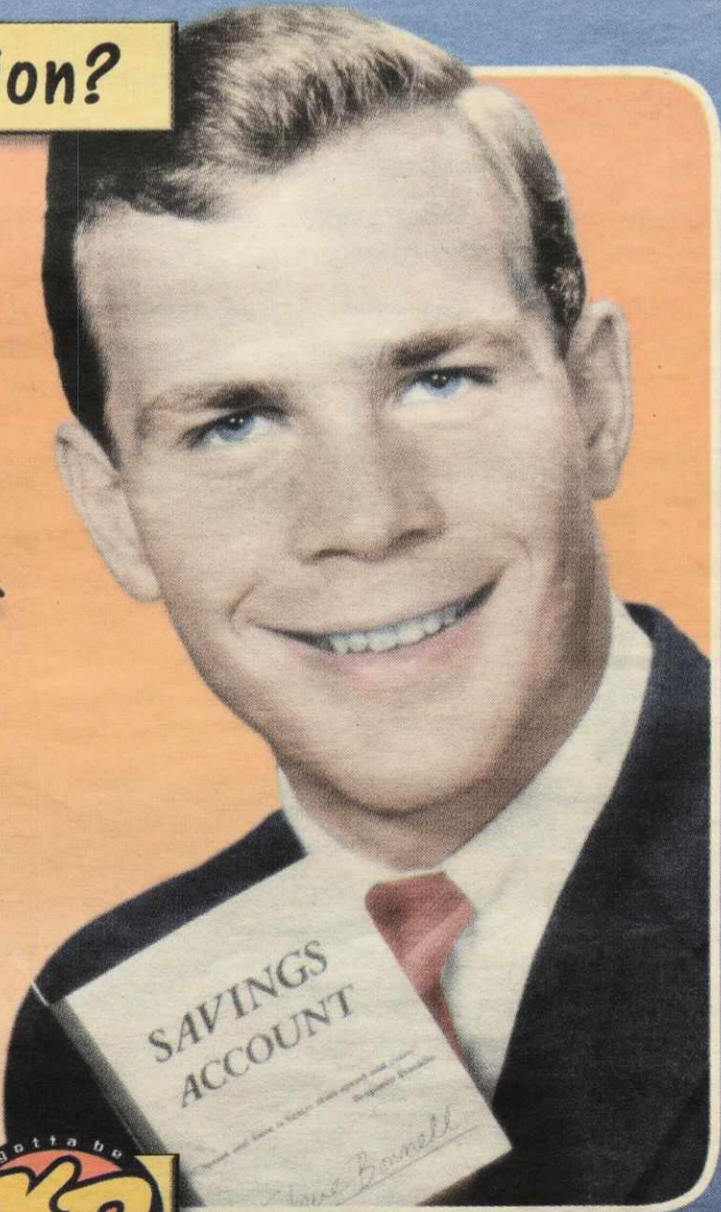
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lcognito (left), Frio (bottom left), Fluorescence (top right), and Borealis (lower right), free computer wallpaper available from digitalblasphemy.com. The site also features dozens of images available for a membership fee. Wallpaper images displayed on the site vary from natural landscapes to surreal art.



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Jane Jacobs explains how the world works

BY CHRIS BODNAR

OTTAWA (CUP) — Hanging up the phone after interviewing Jane Jacobs, I felt as though I could have been putting down one of her books, having just finished another chapter.

The thoughtful written dialogue, for which the 83-year-old activist is known by urban aficionados around the world, also typifies her verbal conversation.

But, admittedly, there is a bit more apprehension when speaking to this woman, who was named by renowned alternative magazine *Utne Reader* as one of the 20th century's most influential thinkers.

Jacobs is best known in urban planning circles as the person who revolutionized the way the world views cities.

Her classic 1961 book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, outraged many urban designers by challenging the conventional wisdom of the day: that planners knew how to build and manage cities and the evils they contained, and that citizens need only to follow the prescribed wisdom of authority.

Instead, Jacobs explained that cities are complex creations of social interaction, and that the best cities are planned by the very people who live in them.

She put her beliefs into action, challenging urban construction projects in New York, and then in Toronto after becoming a resident in 1963.

In her new book, *The Nature of Economies*, Jacobs is continuing her dialogue on what makes things work and this time her subjects of analysis are economies.

Undoubtedly, her practical theories are sure to challenge many tradition notions of how economies work, and give new insight into human interaction and production for many others.

"Different cultures produce different things, and even the same cultures produce different things at different times in its history," said Jacobs about her economic theories. "But the processes, which is what I'm concerned with here, occurs

throughout history and across cultures. That is the practice of development itself and the process of expansion and of self-correction."

Using Socratic dialogue throughout the book, Jacobs argues that economies are intrinsically linked to nature. She says that through a process of learning to develop products and production methods from nature — which she calls biomimicry — people will develop diversified, sustainable and healthy economies.

"You can see it in very macho societies where women's work is held in contempt and is isolated and women don't have any chance to develop it," she said. "That's part of the poverty of such societies. There aren't many men who wash diapers, but there are lots of men who will work for a diaper service."

While Jacobs contends Canadian society has succeeded in reducing many barriers of discrimination, there are still entire regions dependent upon natural resource-based economies.

She offers some observations, using the collapsed cod fishery in Newfoundland as an example, concerning what is happening in the national economy.

"Your look at Iceland which has a very similar climate and a small population and the same sort of natural resources, yet they're very prosperous and much more capable of a variety of work and they're doing it more economically successfully than Newfoundland is," she said.

And overall in Canada, Jacobs says having one national currency is detrimental to many regions across the country.

At a time when the regions don't correspond economically, she says the dollar is valued too low for major centres like Toronto and Vancouver, while it is too high for smaller economies like the prairie provinces and Atlantic Canada.

"I don't know how this can be cured," she mused. "I think it could be done fairly easily with computers, it just hasn't been done. It hasn't been figured out."

Nonetheless, Jacobs remains optimistic in her view of the world.

She says people have a much better notion of economic realities, especially in regard to human worth.

"The real capital, and this was always true but it's only becoming clear to us now, the real capital is the natural capital and the human capital. Money can't substitute for that. Money can only represent it and I think that's very wholesome thing for people to become aware of."

In addition to her optimism, Jacobs maintains a large dose of modesty.

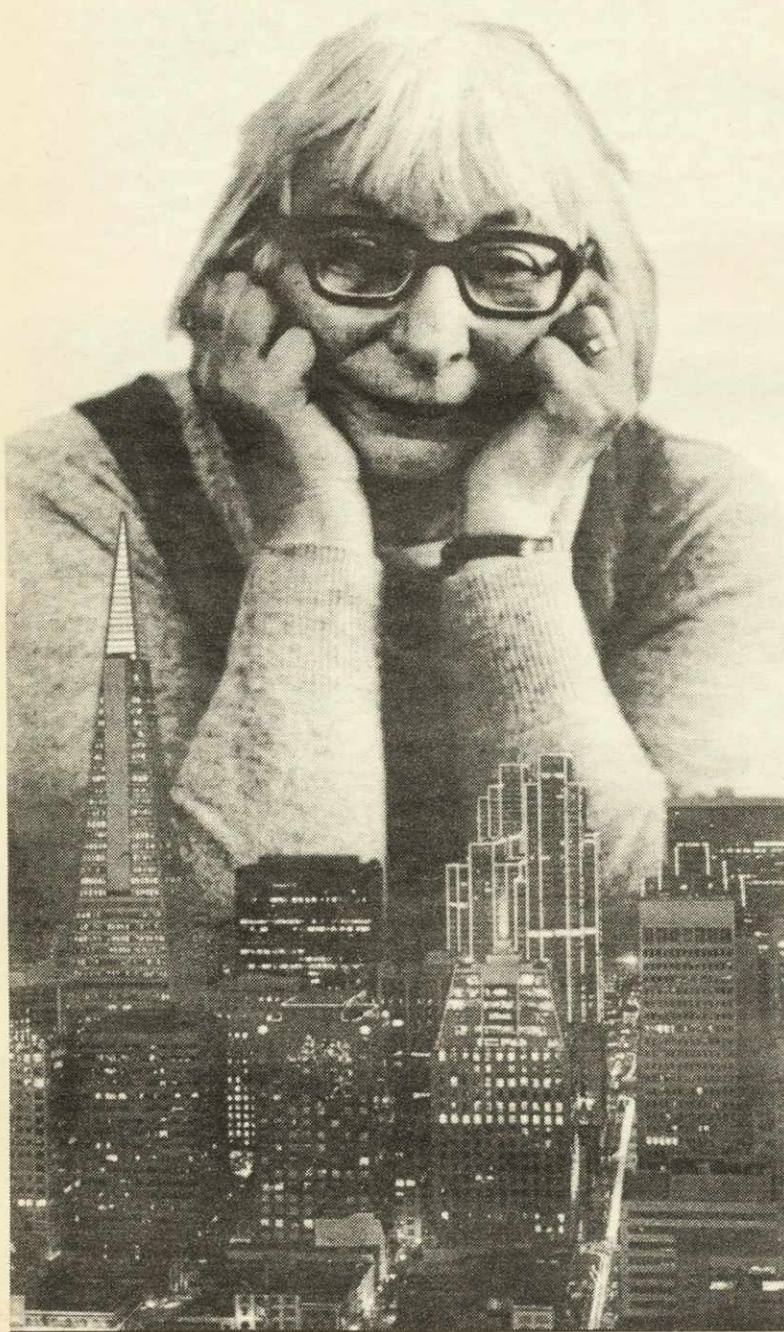
She refuses to take credit for her work in diverting the building of the Spadina Expressway that was to cut through downtown Toronto and numerous urban neighbourhoods in the 1960s.

"Any great victory of that sort, or any great social change, we can always count on it having taken a great many people," she said.

Rather, she credits her book with giving many ordinary people the credentials they needed to fight against urban planners of the time.

"Lots of people knew just as much as I did. They knew expressways were bad for cities," she said. "People who already knew these things maybe they didn't know just why some of them were true but they understood right away they now had a book that gave them some backing."

"It's a good thing to have some confidence and to be not a bad writer. And you can overcome a lot of bad thinking that way."



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ARTS & CULTURE

Plumtree CD Release with Tigre Benvie

BY JENNIFER BETHUNE

Every one keeps telling me that Rock and Roll in Halifax is dead, dying, on a downward spiral. If that's the case, I have to say that I believe in reincarnation.

In yet another episode of the Thrush Hermit-experience, Tigre

Benvie opened for Plumtree (who, I might add, have yet to die and come back in another form) at the Marquee on Saturday, March 18.

While names, songs and band members come and go, one thing about these reincarnation bands cannot be erased: experience. Tigre Benvie, led by ex-Thrush Hermit

Robb Benvie played a set that flowed like the stories I learned how to write in Grade Five, with a clear beginning, a distinct climax, and a somehow touching denouement.

The set began with an eerie synthesizer number, but quickly moved to controlled, reserved Rock and Roll. About two thirds of the way into the set, the synth player switched to guitar and added the requisite stage antics, which seemed to loosen up the other band members. An emotional denouement ended the set, with Benvie on his knees, cradling his guitar in true Rock and Roll fashion.

Unlike most of Halifax's early-to mid-nineties Rock and Roll scene, Plumtree has remained unchanged, at least in name and make-up. I can't tell you, though, how much they've changed in terms of their sound.

Plumtree has grown up — it's like their voices have changed as they've finally made it though puberty. In high school (circa 1994) Plumtree were offering me breakfast food as a snack (*Have a Banana*), now, with the release of their third, and most recent recording, *This Day Won't Last At All*, they're offering a 10-course feast, complete with booze.



photos by Jenn Bethune

Katriona Sturjon tickles the bass, Amanda Braden and Carla Gillis both flex on guit and add some vox as well while Linette Gillis hits the skins for the band, whose latest effort is handled by Endearing Records, a most able Canadian indie-outfit.

Their appeal is enormous — they are relaxed, but not so relaxed as to come off as flippant, they look great, but not so great that they look like they should be happening in a more cosmopolitan centre than Halifax, but best of all, they sound great. So what more do you want?



photos by Patrick Blackie

FUR PACKED ACTION VS. THE ZIT REMEDY

BY PATRICK BLACKIE

After fruitlessly scowring the downtown Halifax area for hookers late last Thursday night, I stumbled into the Marquee. It had been a long day, and one way or the other, I was getting some Fur Packed Action.

The St. John's based trio consisting of guitarist/vocalist Jody Richardson, bassist Geoff Youngusband and drummer Barry Newhook came full on with precision, delivering a solid performance that I would describe as post-Alt/Punk with traces of Pop, if I didn't feel 'Pop' to be equivalent to 'shit.'

FPA is in the process of touring for their new CD, *The Dull Thud of Fur*. I was astounded to find a remarkable resemblance between Richardson and Snake from Degraasi, and in premature excitement, began hopefully singing the Zit Remedy's #1 hit. A few more drinks and the dread-locked Youngusband could have easily passed for Wheels, but the fantasy shattered when a few stern looks from Newhook told me that there wasn't a bit of Joey present, and they were not the Zit Remedy.

Having little knowledge of their music, I was impressed by the excess of musical adrenalin. Richardson's mouth was occupied with belting out energetic vocals to the point that I could, and did, throw things into the open space. The flying debris had little effect, however, as Richardson laid down a performance that would definitely bring me back for more.

Youngusband wailed on the bass like a guy who wasn't allowed any caffeine as a kid — lunging around the stage in a flurry of madness, pausing only to holler some back-up in to the mic. He was backed by Newhook's no-nonsense drumming. With skill and sternness, Newhook is probably capable of intimidating most people into enjoying their music with harsh looks alone.

Fur Packed Action may not be the Wild Stallions or the Scorpions, but they rock, and in a most non-heinous way. Halifax needs something to get people moving other than hard drugs, and these guys did the job. The crowd was as enthusiastic about the show as the undoubtedly inebriated band was.

I inadvertently became drunk

at some point in the night and had to leave immediately prior to the band finishing up. As a result I didn't get to talk to them about their Degraasi antics, but they'll be back.

Fur Packed Action will be touring the country this summer in support of their new CD, and will be back at the Marquee on July 16. If you haven't had any action, I strongly suggest you get some. You'll feel a lot better.

(With files from Kathy Reid)



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¹Begins March 20 ²Ends March 19 ³Ends March 26 ⁷Week of March 27 only

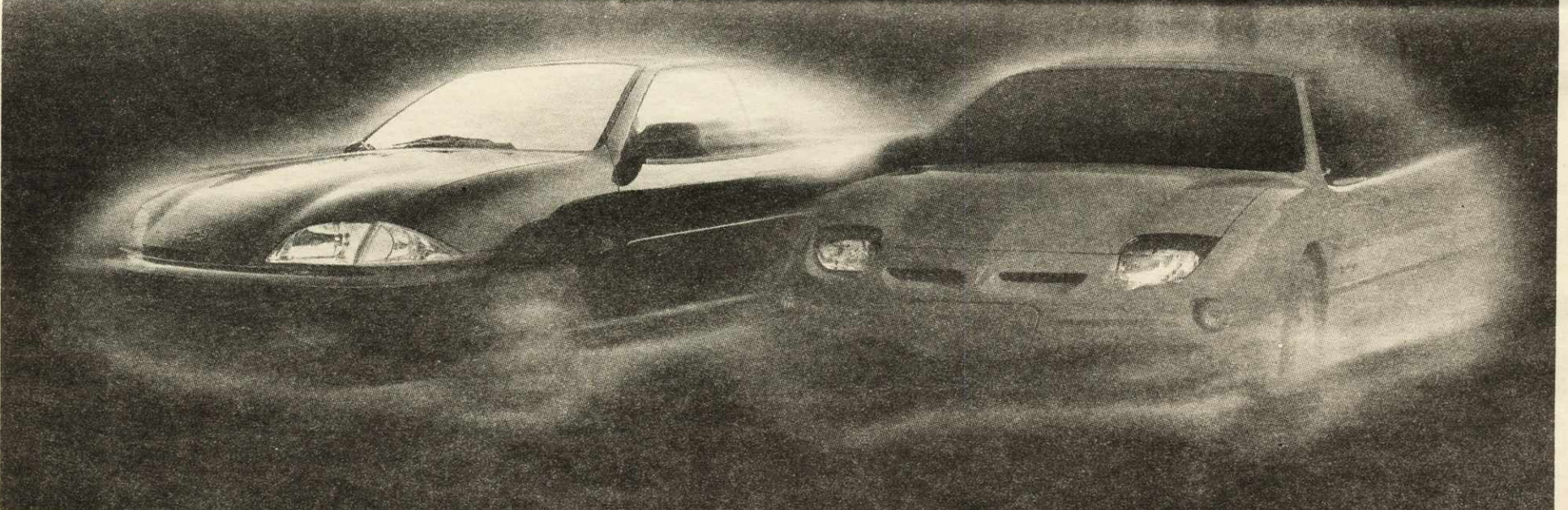
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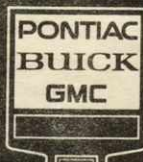
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Erin Brockovich

BY MARK EVANS

Movie ideas, for some reason, seem to travel in packs. There have been numerous cases in the recent past where one movie has come out and another of very similar plot has been close on its heels. A couple summers ago we had the duelling asteroid movies, *Deep Impact* & *Armageddon*, we saw *Antz* & *A Bug's Life* duke it out at the box office, and *Volcano* went up against *Dante's Peak*.

While *Erin Brockovich* is not exactly near the release date of last year's *A Civil Action*, the two are more than a little similar. Both films concern the fight of the little guy against big business, both involve small-town America, both are based on true stories, and both are about tainted drinking water.

That said, *Erin Brockovich* is far and away the better movie of the two. For starters, Julia Roberts can act circles around John Travolta. Not exactly difficult, but it's still something. Erin's story is just as important as the case she's looking into and it gets a lot of screen time. With *A Civil Action* everything was put on the backburner except for the case, and the consequences of it were only mentioned in asides. Here it's placed front and centre with everything else.

Erin (Roberts) is down on her luck as the movie begins, having just gotten turned down for another job. As she's leaving, however, she ends up with even more troubles as her car is sideswiped by a Jaguar at an intersection.

Determined to see justice done, Erin hires a lawyer named Ed Masry (Albert Finney) to sue the car owner. The jury finds for the defendant, however, since Erin does not present a very good picture of herself in court. The defense does its best to paint her as white trash, which she is to a certain extent. She responds with some harsh language that does little to endear her to anybody.

We see Erin's family and the circumstances she has to live under, and her need to support her kids sends her to Masry's law offices to plead for a job. Once she finally gets employed she becomes entangled in a complicated real estate deal between a power company and the houses that surround it. The

company has not exactly been ecologically friendly and is trying to cover its tracks against a lawsuit.

One great thing about this movie is that it doesn't always do what you'd expect, always a hallmark of a good film. As I mentioned above, we see lots of how Erin lives and why we should care about her character. We get to watch her home life disintegrate as she becomes more and more involved with the case. Her character also undergoes a transformation in the eyes of the audience as well, as we see that Erin is far from the person she seems at first glance.

Another great aspect involves a situation that looks like it's going to become very 'Hollywood' with regards to sinister-looking individuals and big-guy/little-guy law cases. However, this goes in completely the opposite direction and it's nice to see that break from the norm at work.

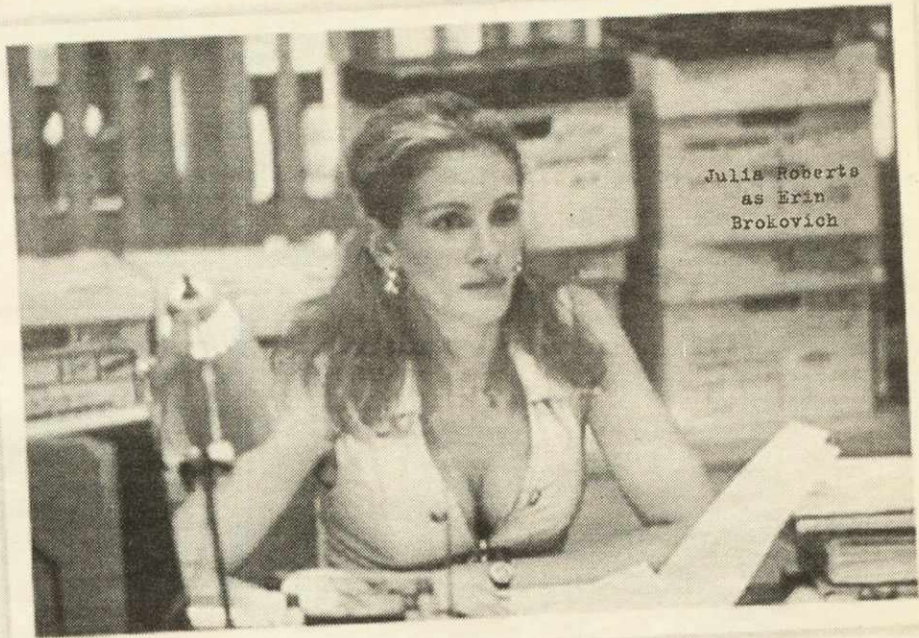
A lot of the reason that *Erin Brockovich* works stems from the great acting work. Julia Roberts does a great job with her part of Erin, easily making her into a character that is both sympathetic and worth rooting for. Her chemistry with Finney is spot on as well, the two have a great dynamic together and it's fun watching their working relationship grow and change over time.

Again like most films, *Erin Brockovich* is not perfect. There are

a couple problems I had with the film that drag down my score a little. First, a favorite theme of mine, the ending. For some reason a lot of movies in the last year have had trouble coming up with a satisfactory ending and this one comes so close to a great ending. However, just when the movie is winding everything up it leaves one huge plot thread flapping in the breeze with no closure whatsoever.

My other problem is admittedly more personal, in that this is still just another lawyer movie when all is said and done, even without courtroom scenes. The last really great legal movie that got made was *A Few Good Men*. *Erin Brockovich* downplays this somewhat in favor of the domestic side of things — a good move, I might add — but it's an inescapable part of the proceedings.

Bottom Line: Minor annoyances with the ending aside, *Erin Brockovich* is another fine movie from Steven Soderbergh. It's not quite as entertaining as *Out of Sight*, but it's darn close.



Julia Roberts as Erin Brockovich

If you've already seen *American Beauty* it's the best film in theatres right now. Three and a half stars. Oh, and I didn't mention it, but this film is wicked funny to boot.

Extra note: For anybody who

wanted to catch *Princess Mononoke* while it was in town but didn't because it was only playing during winter break, it'll be back at the Oxford theatre April 1 & 2 as part of their Film Series. Worth checking out.

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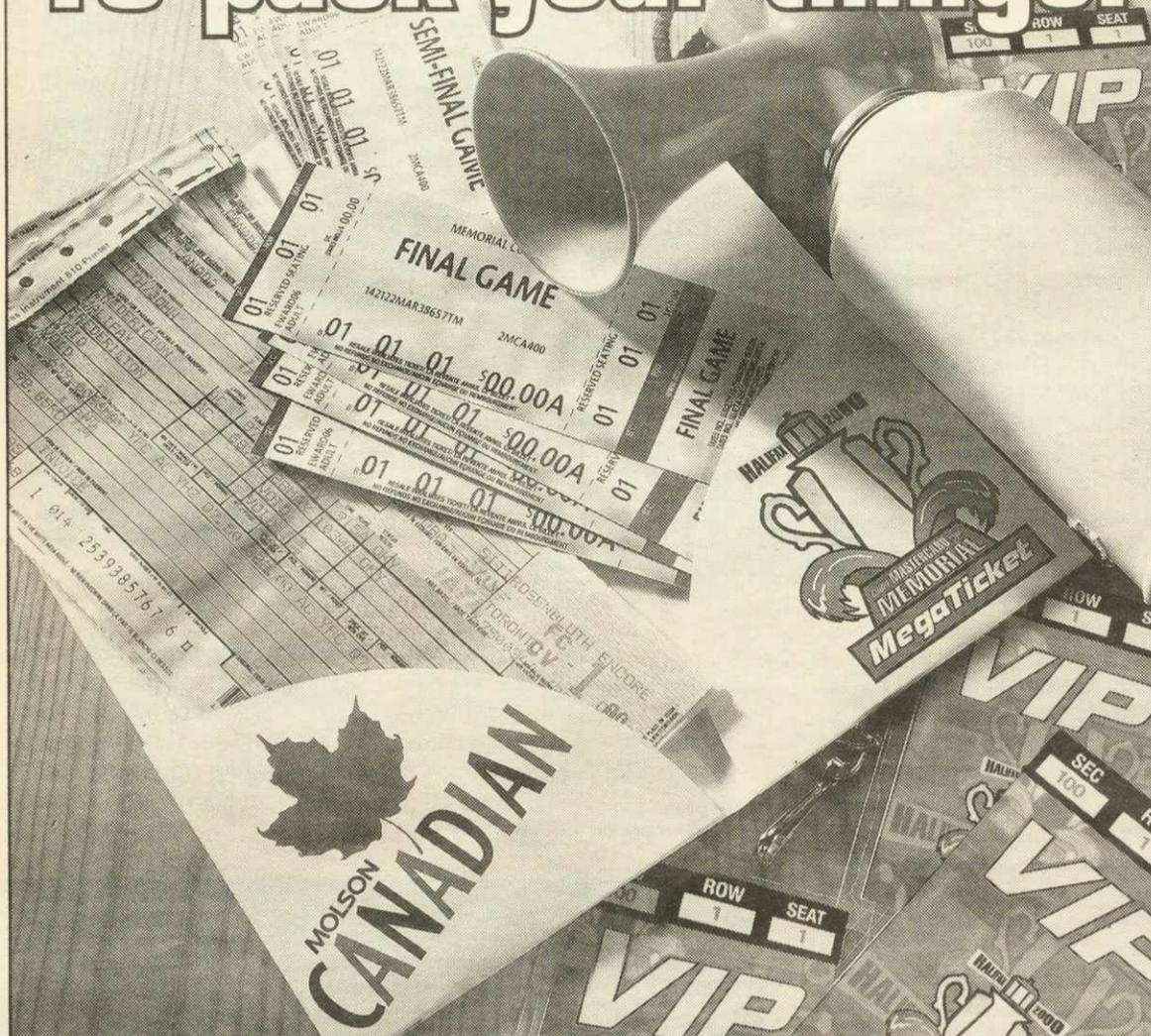
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Burt Neilson — shakin' St. Patty's day

BY JAY-DOG CLEARY

Last Friday, large groups of people braved the cold, chilly winter night to experience the dance-floor grooves of the Burt Neilson Band. The spirit of the night was high, as droves of Haligonian youth packed into the Attic in anticipation of one of Canada's most talented improvisational live bands (read: Jam Band).

For what seems now like only a brief moment, BNB played a musical marathon of over 3 hours, which shook the audience as if every note was passing through their bodies. The ability of the group to feed of the energy of the audience was overwhelming as the band wove a tapestry of colours and moods, with a seemingly endless balance of tight instrumentation.

The highly involved group fed the crowd a funky mix of Bluegrass, Folk, Rock and Jazz in the spirit of the jam. The dance-floor surrendered to the soulful grooves which drove the colourful crowd into a trance-like state.

Formed in 1997 at Lakehead University, The Burt Neilson Band evolved out of a weekly musical project (and co-

pious amounts of marijuana) which eventually took on a life of it's own.

They have been touring across Canada ever since taking their Jam-Rock all over Canada. The traveling band's core strength is the song-writing chemistry of guitarist Mike Filipowitsch and keyboardist Jeff Heisholt and the balanced interplay between the six seasoned musicians.

Each member of BNB has their own thread in the musical fabric of the band, making beautiful music of the moment.

BNB is currently touring in support of their new album, *Orange Shag Carpet* on their own independent label Red Beard Records. Although there has been some line up changes since their powerful self-titled 1997 debut release, the new album features new drummer Gavin Maguire and former horn player with One Step Beyond.

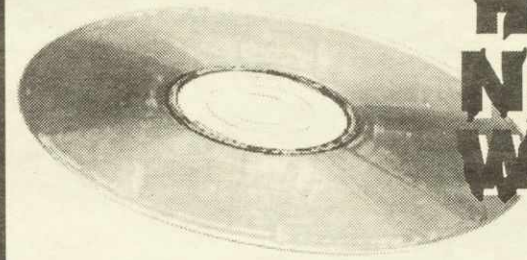
They have now recorded versions of live favourites "Chevron" and "Funkin' Shoes," which documents the maturing of the young band. BNB intense touring schedule has helped the band evolve and musically master their craft, in a few short years BNB has developed their own unique and original sound.

The albums come very close to paying homage to the live expe-

rience of Burt Neilson, only because the Burt Neilson Band is about playing live. The band will be touring this summer across Canada and plans to venture into the United States.

As the eve drew to a close, fans could not believe the heart felt fun of the night. The word is out, get on your dancin' shoes because BNB is on the freeway to soothe your soul.

FYI: *Orange Shag Carpet* is exclusively available at their live show and through their homepage, www.geocities.com/burt_neilson or you can also get free songs from www.mp3.com/burtneilsonband — but you knew that right?



**HOT
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Mogwai — EP + 2 (Matador)

This record is so good its taken me two months to get the nerve up to articulate, lest I fail to do what may be the best Mogwai release to date justice, because when you take the seasoned spaced-instrumental-post noise that Mogwai created on *Young Team* some three years ago and add the fact that they keep getting better with each subsequent release — including *Come on Die Young*, which may well be the best release that happened to the music world in 1999 — then the recipe is delightful as the band takes a little more soundscaping moodiness without the shattering climaxes of previous into *EP + 2*, perhaps just a little reminder from Glasgow boys that they still run the show round here — the only reason this isn't a 10 is because when they release their next record what'll we do then? — Jon

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CIAU Final-8 Men's Basketball National Championships

BY DAVID BROCK

Halifax Metro Centre —
March 17 — 19, 2000

Day #1

1:00pm Alberta (1) vs.
Brandon (8)

Last year, the Alberta Golden Bears found themselves surrounded by a roaring capacity crowd at the Halifax Metro Centre. Unfortunately for them, the Sunday night frenzy was the result of Cory Janes' clutch shooting and the St. Mary's Huskies national championship overtime victory. This year the Bears opened the tournament on St. Patrick's Day wearing green, and hoping for better luck. Again playing the number eight ranked team, they didn't find any shamrocks in their shoes. In a fast paced game that treated fans to plenty of above-the-rim action and the explosive talent of Brandon's Earnest Bell (31pts), again Alberta's long trip east ended in disappointment.

Brandon 73 — Alberta 57

3:00pm Western (4) vs.
Laurentian (5)

Both of these Ontario teams are regulars at the Palace on CIAU weekend. Both constantly make the trip to Halifax after impressive regular season records but fail to produce victory here. Maybe its the sea. Or maybe Alex J. Walling of TSN is right and the defending national champions, St. Mary's — who were 20 seconds short of beating the third ranked X-Men for the AUAA title — should have received the wild card instead of Western. From the tip-off to the final buzzer Western shot the ball extremely well, especially from beyond the arc. LU could not make up the 15 point deficit that the Mustangs established early on. Unfortunately, this game was the last for one-time Tiger and CIAU 1st team All-Canadian Ted Dongelmans.

Western 90 — Laurentian 78

7:00pm St. Francis Xavier
(3) vs. McMaster (5)

Both Coach Konchalski and Coach Raso commented that this game hosted the country's two best back courts. Mac's Steve Maga and X's Randy Nohr are both tough, smart players who know how to run an offence. Nohr need only look up to find one of the Halifax connection's Perry-Croucher-Oliver streaking to the hoop. As for his reported hip injury — good strategy Coach K — the B.C. native finished with 20 points. The X-Men built up a 45-34 lead at the half, but couldn't keep a lock on the lead any better than they did their locker room door. Mac climbed back within one point after Rodney Baptiste calmly dropped two free throws with 5.3 seconds remaining. An inbound to Jordan Croucher, and a quick foul resulted in two free throws at the other end, giving the X-Men and their 7,000 enthused fans an 82-79 lead with 4.0 left on the clock. After a time-out, Mac's Ostojic caught

the ball in the backcourt, dribbled to behind the three-point line and launched a one handed runner. Back of the rim - X to the semifinals.

St. FX 82 — McMaster 79

9:00pm Lethbridge (2)
vs. Concordia (7)

OK, so by this time your humble scribbler has eaten a "few" donuts and washed them down with a couple pops. It was getting late, and with all that nutrition in my system I was needing some further excitement to suppress my periodic yawns. My request was granted...by the Bridgewater Dynamo Dunkers, and their half-time dunk show off the trampoline. As for the CIAU's player-of-the-year Danny Balderson and his Lethbridge team, one young fan summed up the affair appropriately by yelling repeatedly, "Pronghorn! What's a Pronghorn!?" Balderson finished with 16pts and teammate Spencer Holt added 19pts, in the easy victory.

Lethbridge 90 — Concordia 77

Day #2 Semifinals

5:00pm Western (4)
vs. Brandon (8)

Before graduating from my high school's junior to senior basketball team, our home-town Gravenhurst Gryphons hosted the provincial finals. The championship game was the single most exciting basketball game I've ever witnessed, and our team lost. I was the scorekeeper and Cheto Ndur was the opposing team's starting power forward. Now I am faithfully taking notes on the score again, and Cheto Ndur is again on the court, this time for the Western Mustangs. Five minutes into this game, when Brandon's Greg Walker rose above the rim and dunked an alley-oop pass, fans knew that there was no need for the Middletown Highschool band or Brittany Spears on the speakers. This semifinal was all the excitement one heart could handle.

At half-time the Mustangs lead 30-26. The game was very physical, as the two teams' 250 and 280lbs centre's had already established their dislikes of one another.

Western's four point lead held for most of the game, as the back court of Grozelle-Tweedie-and all-Canadian Michah Bourdeau continued to shoot with deadly accuracy. But that's why they play the whole game. Finally with 1:20 remaining, Greg Walker's jump shot tied the game at 56-56. After two trips down the floor, Western's Ndur tied the game again at 58-58, prompting Brandon's Jerry Hemming to call a time-out. The play was executed as drafted. Earnest Bell drove the lane, and dished to centre Jermaine Harden for a thunderous dunk with only 1.8 seconds remaining — ohh, by the way, shot clock violation — no basket. After a time-out, with the game still tied at 58-58, Western centre Chris Brown lobbed a pass from his own base line looking for Bourdeau. Instead, he found

Brandon's Josh Masters dashing across the middle of the court. Masters stole the ball, took one dribble, stepped one foot over the centre line and launched a prairie prayer. Again, Cheto Ndur was on the court and I was taking notes of the score, during the most exciting finish I've ever witnessed.

Western 58 — Brandon 61

8:00pm Lethbridge (2) vs.
St. FX (3)

When you're named player of the year in any league, there is a certain pressure to perform well and lead your team to victory. It was the task of Jordan Croucher and his X-Men teammates to shadow the 6'4" shooting guard. Lethbridge centre Chris Wilde scored six points in the opening minutes of play, including a post-up dunk, and looked to take the crowd out of it early. But with Croucher shooting the ball well from behind the arc, and defending Balderson to a 6 for 38 night of shooting, the X-Men lead 46-39 at the half and never trailed again. The crowd was clearly the sixth man in this one. With 2:28 left in the game and Lethbridge surging, a charge was called on AUAA MVP Fred Perry. The call was a clear jump ball, and fans responded with a chorus of boos. Our Milk sponsors turned this into a symphony of Moos. The Pronghorns, who were ranked #1 in Canada for seven straight weeks this season, had their opportunities, but on this night Balderson's shots would not drop. With 30 seconds remaining, Randy Nohr iced the game with a 12 foot jump shot and finished the game with 28 pts and player-of-the-game honours.

St. FX 80 — Lethbridge 75

Consolation Champs: Alberta Golden Bears

Tournament MVP: Randy Nohr St. FX X-Men

All-Stars:
Steve Maga

McMaster Marauders
Nick Maglisceau

Alberta Golden Bears
Michah Bourdeau

Western Mustangs
Earnest Bell

Brandon Bobcats
Fred Perry

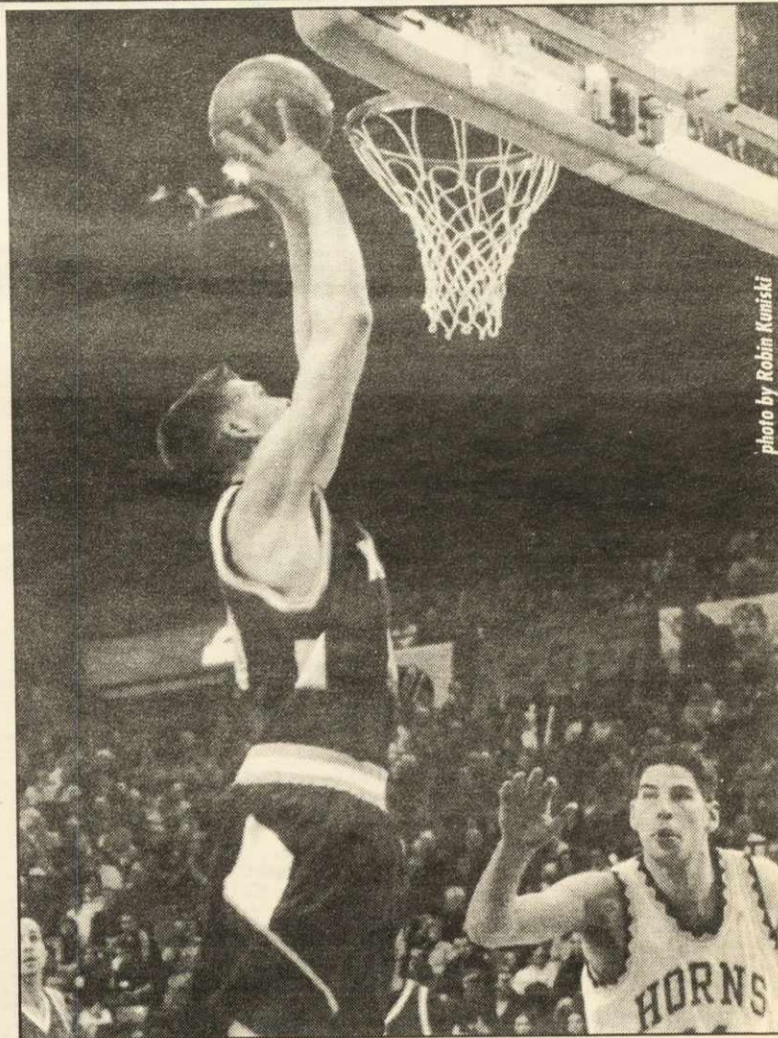
St. FX X-Men

Day #3 Championship

5:30pm St. FX (3) vs.
Brandon (8)

When 8,200 people gather in Halifax on a Sunday night to sing O'Canada, you know it is going to be a special evening. This past weekend's CIAU Final-8 men's national basketball championship was just that — special.

The previous evening, the Brandon Bobcats — ranked eighth coming into this tournament — Josh Masters sunk a half-court buzzer beater to send the prairie team in to the national finals. Meanwhile, the



Xmen erase Brandon at Final-8.

home crowd favourite St. Francis Xavier X-Men had advanced to the championship game by beating Lethbridge. Arguably, Canada's two most exciting teams were scheduled to compete for 40 minutes, the winner taking home the W.P. McPhee Trophy.

It didn't take long for these two teams to demonstrate their athleticism and competitiveness. On the first play of the game, Halifax's Fred Perry dunked an alley-oop pass from fellow Haligonian and former Brandon player Dennie Oliver. Only seconds later Brandon's star Earnest Bell was swinging on the other rim, a play identical to the previous. So, Perry answered with a three-pointer, raising the chant of MVP, MVP! Brandon quickly quieted that with a three of their own. And so the evening went, dunk after ferocious dunk, three after three, the only thing disappointing about this game was that it had to end.

The X-Men continued to hold the lead until 10:16 in the second half, when the self-motivating Bell, who finished with 14pts, hit a jump shot, to give Brandon a 48-47 lead. The Bobcats roared out of a time-out, after Bell growled, "I'm sick of this shit, lets take this!" They extended the lead to 60-53 with only 3:16 remaining.

Former QEJ guard Jordan Croucher, who shot well for the weekend, then missed two consecutive three pointers, and with only

2:41 left on the clock the X-Men appeared finished.

It was at that critical moment when every player from the X-Men made an impact. Guard E.L. Adams — who stands at 5' 10" on paper only — drew a charge, reigning the Halifax crowd and his teammates. After two quick X-Men lay-ups, Brandon inbounded the ball to guard Charlton Weasel-Head, who lost his footing for only a second, enough time for Adams to dive, steal the ball and call time-out.

After failing to score, X's Randy Nohr, who entered the game averaging 24pts per game for the weekend, pressed Brandon's Masters, forcing him out of bounds. Nohr then delivered a lay-up at the other end, and again the X-Men pressed. This time forcing the Bobcats into a ten second violation. Still trailing 60-59, Nohr drove the length of the court, dribbled right off a screen and nailed a hanging jump shot with 18.9 seconds left on the clock.

After a brief scuffle in front of the TSN control booth, Brandon went into a time-out and drafted the play for Bell one last time. But this time there would be no Brandon miracles, as two shots hit the rim and rolled out. For the second time in as many years, Nova Scotia's fans piled onto the floor of the Metro Centre to celebrate a national championship.



A sporting Year in Review

BY MICHAEL HARTLEY

Well, here we are and another year has gone by in the confused and sometimes clouded world of Dalhousie sports. A year — like many others — that has brought us a national championship of some form or description and more ques-

tions than answers. Shall we start from the beginning?

The men's soccer season was an overall success with an automatic birth in the national championship tournament because of their AUSA dominance. This year marked a transition in the Dalhousie soccer

program, as intern coach Pat Nearing was extremely successful and worked well with many of the players. So much so that the much-maligned former head coach Ian Kent no longer carries the title of "former" or — with Nearing's one year appointment as full time bench boss — "coach." So many parallels can be drawn between the Dalhousie coaching position and the quarterback spot in Buffalo. Consider Kent to be in similar circumstances as Rob Johnson and Nearing the Flutie-type hero from an unproven league. Kent did not coach this year because of illness and, with the team's performance this season under the watchful eye of Nearing, is not working next season. As for Kent's return to the Dalhousie sideline, only time will tell.

The woman's team can definitely be considered the team of the year. Winning a national championship seems to warrant such praise. The women Tigers overcame so much controversy in the off-season with the departure of national team member Mary-Beth Bowie, who took the year off and will pursue her carrier in the US. Not only did they

lose Bowie but they were also hurt by the season-ending injury suffered by fourth year star Nathalie Lindthaler in September. Stef Finatari and Julie Pigozzo stepped up for Dal this season and Roxanne Murphy was brilliant in the cage at the CIAU championship. Head coach Dara Moore can breathe a sign of relief and start to look ahead to next year as the daunting task of repeating as champions awaits the team.

The hockey team had another tough year, finishing at the bottom of the pack in the Kelly Division. Let us not allow ourselves to think that because they took SMU to a third game in the first round of the playoffs that they were close. They weren't. Some major re-tooling is necessary in order to compete against great playoff teams like Acadia and UNB come February. Winning a playoff round next year will no doubt be considered an unlikely success. Hey, we all have to start somewhere.

This brings us to basketball. What can be said about our men's team and, more specifically, head coach Tim McGarrigal? Is it just me or have these guys really sucked for

the past three years or so? I'm not making the team any better, but something has to be done...like get a new coach. McGarrigal has lacked professionalism, the ability to keep his players in the program and most importantly the ability to win in the AUSA. Let's not kid ourselves here folks. If we had records like this guy we'd all be out of a job. The guys don't seem to want to play for him and, more specifically, don't seem to care. In short — start over.

The women's team had a great regular season but could not continue their consistent play in the playoffs. They ended up losing to eventual AUSA champs MUN in the first round. They do return a lot of players for next year so the disappointment of the early exit that was experienced this season could hopefully be used in some positive manner for next season.

The Men's volleyball team experienced a huge change at the helm as long time head coach Al Scott opted to take the vacant position as Athletic Director and handed the coaching reigns to his protegee Dan Ota. After a rocky start to the season, the team was able to put it together in time to knock off the number one seed at CIAU's. This victory will be one of the more cherished ones by the program. The team lost only two players to graduation. Next year is the year for a number of players to step up both on and off the court and make names for themselves at the national level.

The women's team did not experience the same level of success as they have in the past. The team did not make the playoffs this season and, to add insult to injury, lost to UPEL. This was an extremely inexperienced team with the leadership coming from third year outside hitter Melanie Hansen. Who is to say if head coach Christine Frail will be back with the team next year? Apprehension accompanied her when she took the job a couple of years ago. Some of the off court problems the team has experienced over the past couple of years may have her questioning her decision to come back and coach at her alma mata. If she is not with the program next year then the question may arise, was she pushed or did she jump?

Ah yes, the Dalhousie sporting scene. What will you bring us next year? Will it be a year filled with AUSA banners and All-Canadians or will be it a woeful year of early playoff exits and more talent leaving us rather than coming to this fine institution? I know one thing is for sure — there will not be a football team wearing the Black and Gold any time soon. This begs the question, why did we students anti-up one hundred thousand dollars — it's cooler when you say it like Dr. Evil — for a team only to see the former volleyball coach appointed as Athletic Director? Who is kidding whom? The last thing Al Scott — or any sane individual for that matter — is going to do is dump a bunch of money into a football program and take money away from already depleted budgets of existing programs. For all those who are that desperate to see football on Wickwire field, you can come and watch me and my buddies play touch football on the weekend. We are always looking for people. Two o'clock Sunday sound good?

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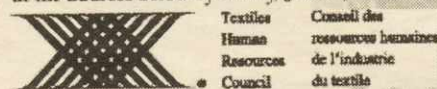
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DALENDAR

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Wednesday, March 29, 2000

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Cheap Ambra computer for sale. Monitor, 486 SX, 8 MB Memory 500 MB HD. With Windows and Microsoft Office. Excellent for word processing. Sound card. High-Speed Modem. \$250. Call 422-7956

Mulgrave Road Theatre is pleased to offer a 35 week internship about the ins and outs of how to run a not-for-profit arts organization. We want to train someone in the fundamentals of the arts management in an active hands-on environment. It will be a taste of the real thing. This full time position is sponsored in part by the Cultural Internships Program of Canada. Deadline: April 17th, 2000. Contact- Mulgrave Rd. Theatre, PO 219, Guysborough, N.S. B0H 1N0. P: (902) 533-2092 or F: (902) 533-3320 or mrt@atcon.com

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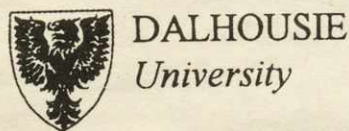
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STUDENT EMPLOYMENT NEWS



Dalhousie's **Student Employment Centre** is your one-stop student employment location. Offering on- and off-campus employment opportunities as well as summer and permanent placements, SEC services are available to Dalhousie, DalTech and Kings students as well as recent Dalhousie graduates. Visit us on the 4th floor of the SUB, 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, or on our web site www.dal.ca/sec. The **Dalhousie Tutoring Service** and **Dalhousie Student Volunteer Bureau** are also services of the Student Employment Centre and are located next to the Centre in the SUB. Visit your Student Employment Centre today!

Arts & Culture COMING ATTRACTION!

Cultural Career Connections - A unique arts & culture career fair focussing on careers in the cultural sector will be held Thursday, **March 23, 2000**, Pier 21, (behind the Westin) 12 - 6 pm. Did you know that the cultural sector is the fourth largest sector in the Canadian economy? Did you know that 70% of cultural workers have post-secondary education? Come to Pier 21 on March 23 to find out opportunities for you in this growing and exciting area.

Visit our website at: <http://users.andara.com/~culturalcareer/>
Free Admission! Free Transportation!
(Check out website for bus schedule)

PARTNERSHIPS IN THE LABOUR MARKET

Information Session: **Thursday, March 30**

12 - 1 pm, Council Chambers

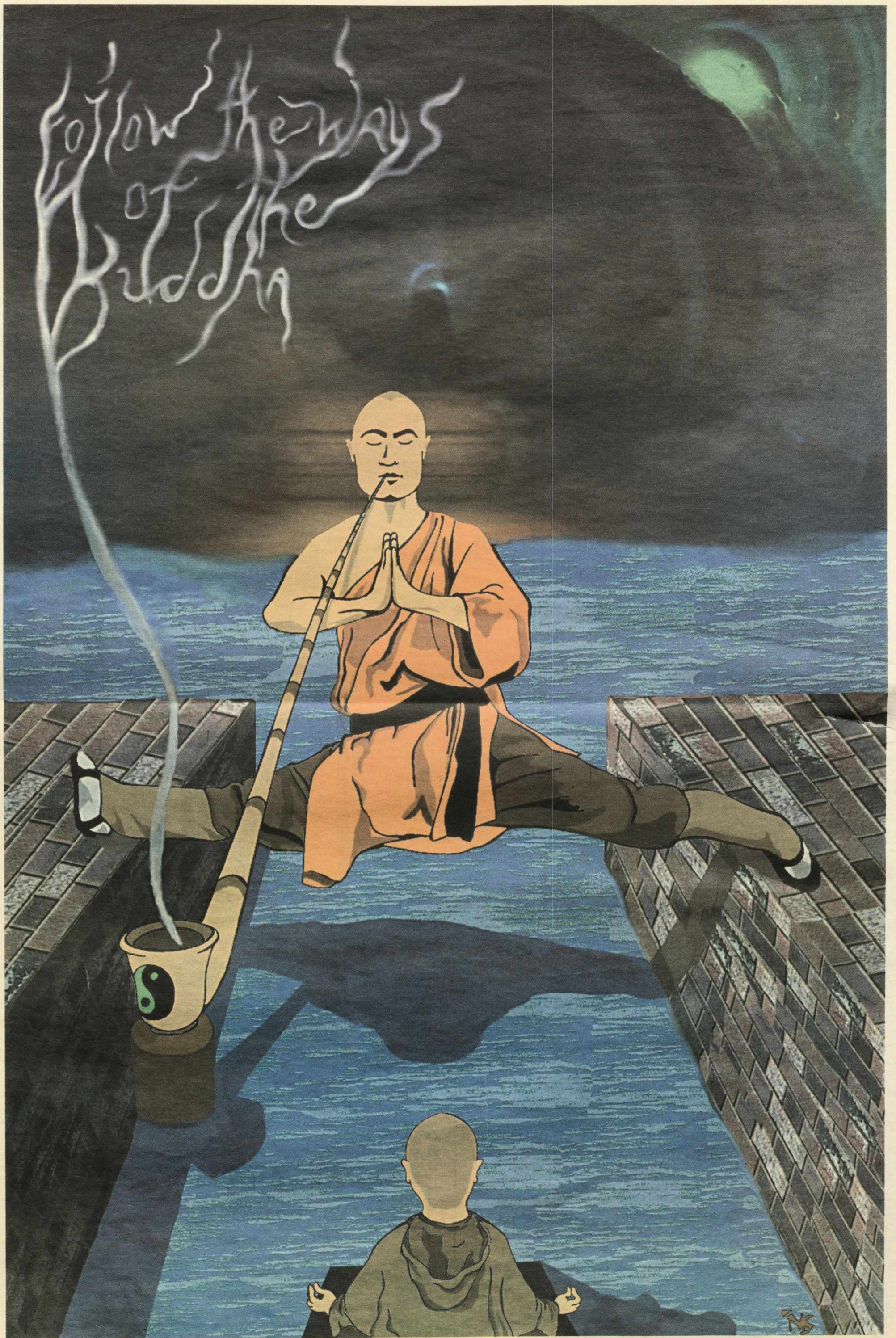
The Partnerships in the Labour Market program is a partnership among Dalhousie University, Economic Development, and successful project applicants from private sector business. It was initiated to create summer employment opportunities for Dalhousie Arts and Social Sciences students. What is the purpose? To create summer employment opportunities for Dalhousie Arts and Social Science students who are entering third or fourth year. Must be a returning Dal student and able to demonstrate financial need ie receipt of student aid; to help you develop a career action plan while earning money to finance your studies; to enable you to acquire skills and experience which will lead to successful employment opportunities after graduation.

Pick up program brochure at the Dalhousie Student Employment Centre.

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY POLICE RECRUITING

In September of this year, Halifax Regional Police are planning a recruitment drive targeted to racially visible and aboriginal persons to better reflect the communities we serve.

To learn more about a career in policing you are invited to attend a drop-in session on Wednesday, March 29, from 1 - 3 pm, Council Chambers, SUB.



Drop into Nirvana, every Monday at 4:30, room 312 SUB, 494 2507