

THE GAZETTE

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Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Dalhousie students apathetic about AIDS walk

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL

Only twelve Dal students came out to support the AIDS walk



photo by Mimi Meir

this past weekend.

On Sunday afternoon a

handful of people met inside the Student Union Building and walked to the Halifax Commons to participate in the fourth annual AIDS walk.

The walk's low numbers — 650 less than last year — were attributed to the soggy conditions. But these numbers have also left some wondering where all

the AIDS activists have gone.

Dean Naugler, DSU vice-president of community affairs, says he was surprised at the lack of student participation.

"It's pretty well known on campus that Dalhousie has been pretty apathetic," he said. "I don't want to blame anyone [but] the message was out there, it was just a

matter of people responding to it."

Naugler also says that support for causes has a tendency to dwindle after a period of time.

"It's hard to pick [a cause] and keep it going strong... a lot of people think that one cause has been dealt with and move on," he said.

According to the Canadian Aids Society 8,500 people

worldwide are newly infected with HIV everyday.

At Dalhousie, the few students participating in the walk to fight the disease didn't have much to say about why they bothered attending.

Chryssa McAlister, in her

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Dal's race against time

Will computer system run smoothly before digital doomsday?

BY ANDREW SIMPSON

Dalhousie's complex new registration system was purchased to side-step the year 2000 problem — but the real problem is getting the entire system running smoothly in the 15 months left before the lights go out.

The year 2000 problem, also known as Y2K, is associated with storing dated information using only the last two numbers of the year as an identifier. The year 2000 will be indistinguishable from the year 1900, possibly causing computers to crash and systems to fail.

The university's new computer system, called Banner, was bought in part to address these problems.

It will be implemented in stages, the first of which will be the new student information and admissions component. Put in place by the end of October, it will accept applications from students entering the university for the 1999/2000 academic year.

Over the summer, the plan is to transfer current students to Banner and activate the system's personnel, finance and alumni components.

Ted Chiasson, Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) president, says the tight schedule has left the university vulnerable.

"I was under the impression that they were going to run it as a dry-run... to make sure that there were no bugs," he said. But with only weeks until the first stage of implementation, Chiasson says the stakes are much higher.

"They've got one shot and, from my experience, with anything this complicated you don't get things like this right on your first try," he said.

"It runs everything... I just hope they get it right."

Gudrun Curri, Dalhousie

registrar, says there is little need for concern.

"I don't know why people would make these predictions," she said.

"Our most experienced people, the most knowledgeable people, [are on] the Banner project."

She admits the pace of implementation is hectic, but says the worst she expects are minor irritations.

"I feel confident we will be able to get through it without a disaster," she said.

"I would never be able to guarantee that we won't [have problems], but certainly that's the last thing we want."

Curri says Dalhousie's pace of implementation is not unusual, and points to the successful integration of Banner at Memorial University of Newfoundland, where the system has been in place for more than two years.

"We did a site visit with them and it was very impressive," she said. "They are very pleased with it and so are the students, apparently."

McGill University has also purchased Banner. But McGill opted to fix the Y2K problem in their existing system, then integrate Banner after the year 2000.

"This is insane from our perspective," Curri said.

"We couldn't afford to go this route — to fix [a system] that most people were not happy with."

But Roger Rigelhof, McGill's project manager for the Banner Information System, says the high demand for replacement systems, and the complexities involved in implementing them, could drive costs up in the next 15 months.

"We made the decision to look after the Y2K problem before choosing a new packaged system," Rigelhof said.

"It might, in the long run,

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photo by Mike Davenport

Dal Womens' Soccer shut out the opposition in both of their games on the weekend. See story on page 23.

Disputing sides will meet in conciliation

BY TRISTAN STEWART-ROBERTSON

A conciliator has been appointed in an effort to avert a potential strike by one of Dalhousie's service unions.

Talks to be held on Oct. 13th and 15th between Dal and Local 77 of the Nova Scotia Government Employees' Union (NSGEU) will be mediated by Robert Duran, a conciliator in the Nova Scotia Dept. of Labour.

The union is made up of approximately 700 to 800 members, including secretaries, employees in payroll services, financial services, the registrar's office, and lab technicians.

Brenda Crozman, president of Local 77 of the NSGEU, also known as the Dalhousie Staff Association, says the union plays an important role in the university.

"Dalhousie would look very seriously at the possibility of the NSGEU going on strike," she said.

"It would create a dent... certainly the [lack of] support services that we provide would create a problem."

Crozman cites wages as one

major stumbling block.

"There are no monetary items on the table [at this point]," she said. "So there are issues like vacation, severance... [but] issues that can be deemed as monetary have not been settled yet, at all, haven't even been discussed," she said.

The union has proposed a five-percent wage increase, effective November 1997, followed by increases of three-and-a-half percent in each of the following two years. Crozman says this would increase wages above the average \$25,000 a year union members currently receive.

The university says it hopes conciliation will resolve any outstanding issues.

"We are committed to reaching an agreement with the assistance of a conciliator," said Christine Smith, a spokesperson with the university.

However the university's tone was less positive in a statement released Aug. 13.

"While the university acknowledges that conciliation is often a component in the negotiation process, we were surprised with the union's application at this time,

especially given the significant progress in the negotiations to date," it stated.

Employee benefits, a single job evaluation process to replace the current two, and the employer's ability to exclude members from the bargaining unit are cited as the other contentious issues still unresolved.

The union last went on strike in Jan. 1991 for about a month. It was a rotating strike, rather than a full walk-out, enabling some union services to remain operational. This diminished the adverse effects associated with a full strike.

The issues then were much as they are now, revolving around wages, job evaluation, and sick leave.

Conciliation is intended to help negotiations and avoid strikes. The conciliation process, however, is a complicated one.

Should talks break down, the conciliator files his report with the Dept. of Labour, at the request of either the union or the university. Once this has been done, the union or university is legally bound to wait two weeks before filing notice

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DSU Dalhousie Student Union

More fun than pickled herring!

Health Plan Referendum

The Dalhousie Student Union is conducting a referendum question on whether Dalhousie Students wish to have an opt-out health plan. The highlights of this plan include:

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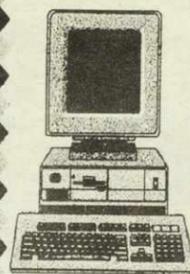
you ain't seen nothin' yet!!

For more information e-mail Dean at dsuvpca@dal.ca

Get your society ratified TODAY!!

All DSU societies must be re-ratified by October 1st. That means you're late! Come to room 218 in the SUB and talk to Nick Murphy, VP Internal or call 494-8814 or e-mail dsuvpi@dal.ca

Dalhousie Student Union, 6136 University Ave., Halifax, NS, B3H 4J2
<http://www.dal.ca/dsu>



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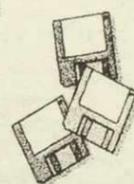
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www.dal.ca/dsu

Contract talks are moving along

BY SALLY THOMAS

One of Dalhousie's unions says its contract talks won't sour like the faculty negotiations and strike of last year.

The International Union of Occupational Engineers (IUOE) represents Dalhousie's carpenters, plumbers, electricians, custodians, and technicians.

Martin Beaver, Dalhousie's union representative, says talks are

difficult but moving ahead. He also says that the union is not close to a strike.

"[Negotiations] are taking excessive time. We do have difficulties, but I think we're working through it," he said.

Christine Smith, a university spokesperson, says the talks are moving forward.

"We've made steady progress," she said.

Steve Slaunwhite, an IUOE

member, is a heavy duty custodian. He says the union hasn't been given anything to vote on yet.

"We get no information from the meetings, we're kept in the dark," he said.

Slaunwhite also said nothing is final until the members vote on the proposed contract.

Last November, the contracts with the faculty and IUOE both ran out. But the faculty negotiated with the university first.

Martin Beaver says these contracts are different from faculty talks because they encompass the whole campus.

The union is also responsible for security on campus. If a strike occurred, which both sides say will not happen, security on campus would be disrupted.

When Dalhousie and the Technical University of Nova Scotia (TUNS) amalgamated over a year ago, four different labour organizations merged with the IUOE. Beaver says a lot of the problems with renegotiations are coming from trying to squeeze four unions into one.

He also says he doesn't know how long the new contract will last. "It could last a year, it could

last four years, I have no idea. But we want our contract to be the same as the [Dalhousie Faculty Association's]," he said.

The university says it expects the talks to last until October, but Beaver says he's not sure.

The contract's main issues are salaries, benefits, and seniority.

Steve Slaunwhite says his major issues with the contract are better working conditions, job security, supervisors, and raises.

Both the union and the university say there is no threat of a strike — that talks are hard, but moving along.

Slaunwhite says he's anxious for the contract to be finalized.

"I just want everything to get over with, to see where we stand."

Scholarships at Dal: "unfortunate reality"

Change in GPA requirements will affect students with renewable scholarships

BY KATIE TINKER

Students who've been given renewable scholarships this year will have to work a little harder to hang on to them.

In previous years, the Grade Points Average (GPA) requirement for renewing scholarships was 3.7, an A-minus average, but this year that average has been raised to 3.85.

Elizabeth Yeo, associate registrar in charge of awards, says the decision to raise the requirement came as a result of an imbalance between two different types of scholarships — in-course and renewable.

In-course scholarships are awarded to upper-year students, based on the marks they get at Dal, whereas renewable scholarships are normally given to students entering from high school.

"Raising the GPA cut-off for renewable scholarships was the only way to make the awards more equitable," Yeo said. "We were finding that the cut-off GPA for getting in-course scholarships was way up, and at the same time students with renewable scholarships were getting more money with lower GPAs."

Whether the change will

affect the imbalance depends on how well students with renewable scholarships do. If less students are able to achieve the higher GPA needed to renew their scholarships, there will be more money for in-course scholarships.

The change will not affect students who have renewable scholarships from previous years.

Students have mixed feelings about the change.

Kelly Mackenzie, Dalhousie Student Union vice-president student advocacy, says the change is both good and bad.

"There's more money for the upper-year students that are in university working their butts off, that don't have the security of a renewable scholarship," she said. "They deserve some help."

But Mackenzie says her biggest problem with the decision is that it helps one group of students by taking money away from another.

"A person that earns a 3.7 GPA should get a scholarship regardless," she said. "You're on the Dean's List...you should be eligible for a scholarship."

Heather Stone, a third-year English major, supports the university's decision. As a transfer

student, in-course scholarships are her only hope of getting money from Dal.

She says it's not fair students trying to get in-course scholarships should have to work so much harder than students who got renewable scholarships based on their high school grades.

"Transfer students are just as valuable as people who've been here from the get-go," she said. "There's definitely some inequality."

Hildi Konok, assistant dean of the faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, says she wishes the change wasn't necessary.

"It's always a question of weighing what's fair and reasonable with what's available," she said.

"There's only X-number of dollars, and more students are qualifying for that money. It's an unfortunate reality."

Konok says she thinks finding the money to go to school is already a big enough struggle.

"Things are much harder now than when I went to school," she says. "In those days we never had to hold down part-time jobs while we were in classes. These days it's the norm. I really think students are having to take on too much."

News from home

BY TYSON JAMES

A new magazine shop on campus is aiming to bring news from all over the world to Dalhousie, and sell the stuff all Dalhousie students want to read — regardless of their interests or backgrounds.

The store, called News from home, is on the ground floor of the Student Union Building (SUB), and run by the Dalhousie Student Union.

Joanne Knox, the store's manager, says the store will serve Dalhousie's diverse population.

"We thought it was a good idea to carry international newspapers and a wide variety of magazines because there is such a wide variety of students on campus," she said.

And one first-year student agrees — if they actually accommodate all students.

"I just hope I'll be able to buy magazines that are about black people," she said.

Knox says the store, near a lounge area and a coffee shop, is an attempt to improve the SUB's atmosphere. A place, she says, students could grab a coffee and donut and sit and read the

newspaper.

"We're trying to make people feel more at home," she said. "We would like to see people requesting newspapers from their hometown."

Brian Kellow, executive vice-president of the student union agrees that the new store is a good addition to the building.

The store is in a spot left empty when Pizza Hut moved into the building's cafeteria.

Kellow says he had received complaints that the SUB is just a place where companies could advertise, so the school could get money. He says this store is a good way to address these concerns.

"The [SUB] is a center of a community and in the last years it has looked more like a discount mall than the centre of one of Canada's oldest universities," he said.

"No one is offering an alternative, and this new store is an alternative. We're going to be operating it and no one else."

This alternative includes student input into store stock. There is a catalogue and people will be able to order newspapers and magazines.

International papers will be written in a country's native language.

Kellow says that since the store is mainly for students, they should get what they want — with some exceptions.

"Students have total control, if they want a magazine in, then it's in. The obvious exception is porn," he said.

"If a student raises an objection about a magazine then we'll investigate. We don't want to have anything that goes against [DSU] policies, such as sexism, racism and homophobia."

Both Kellow and Knox say they expect the store to do well, but that they aren't looking to make a profit.

"Everything we do, we shoot for a break-even," Kellow said. "If we make a profit, that will be translated into more jobs for students."

The store will employ at least eight students.

Magazines and newspapers are pre-priced by the supplier so Knox, the store's manager, says students can't get student discounts.

But she says the name reflects how she'd like people to think about the store, and the SUB.

"Everybody has a home and we want the students to feel comfortable here and that they are still in touch with home."

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Corner of SPRING GARDEN and QUEEN (Bank of MONTREAL building)

APEC shouts awaken Chretien from slumber

BY ALEX BUSTOS

OTTAWA (CUP) — Prime Minister Jean Chretien is no longer making jokes about putting pepper on his plate.

And opposition parties who hammered the Liberals all last week over the security scandal at last November's Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit are eager to rub salt in his wounds.

A growing paper trail is adding fire to allegations that the Prime Minister's Office instructed the RCMP to stop protesters from embarrassing then Indonesian president Suharto during the APEC summit in Vancouver.

One handwritten note by former Privy Council official Patricia Hassard stated the "PM will want to be personally involved" with security measures at the meeting of 17 Pacific Rim leaders.

When the House of Commons resumed sitting last week, opposition parties jumped on the documents to attack the Federal

Government.

"It is clear the Prime Minister and his staff made a decision to sacrifice the democratic rights of Canadians in order to create a comfort zone for a brutal foreign dictator," New Democratic Party leader Alexa McDonough told the House.

The government immediately brushed off the opposition attacks.

"I have seen many people in the departments speaking on behalf of their ministers or on behalf of the Prime Minister" without those ministers knowing about it, Chretien said.

Initially, the government refused to comment on the security scandal, saying the RCMP public complaints commission investigating police actions during APEC was studying the matter.

But with each passing day, new allegations arouse and the Liberals' "no comment" approach turned into a string of denials.

Wednesday of last week, Gail Sparrow, chief of the Musqueam Nation, told reporters she saw

Chretien shout orders to security personal during APEC.

Sparrow, who was present at the APEC retreat for foreign dignitaries, said conference officials told her Chretien was talking to security personnel and that there was concern about student protestors.

Reform Leader Preston Manning used the eye witness account to attack the government's integrity.

"An eye witness who was with the Prime Minister's guest claims that she saw him personally involved in directing security activities," Manning told the House last Thursday.

"Will the government now revise its position that the Prime Minister was never personally involved in police actions at the APEC summit?"

The government didn't even blink before denying the charges.

"The Prime Minister categorically denied the allegations of Mrs. Sparrow so I think that should end that aspect of this,"

Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray told the House.

The government then had to deal with NDP charges that crucial documents linking Chretien to APEC security were destroyed.

"How can the [RCMP public complaints] commission do its job and get at the truth if the Prime Minister is not to appear and if the [Prime Minister's Office] has destroyed crucial documents?" McDonough asked Thursday.

Gray again put up a wall of denial.

"The Leader of the NDP is

making an allegation which as far as I am aware is not founded on fact," he said.

The government's reply doesn't surprise Jaggi Singh, a former University of British Columbia Student who was arrested and jailed during APEC.

"It is clear from the very beginning that the response of the Federal Government has been very political, to think otherwise would be naive," said Singh. "So with the new revelations that are coming out they have to respond politically."

PM's office should also produce APEC evidence, Reform says

BY ALEX BUSTOS

OTTAWA (CUP) — It's unjust that student protestors at last year's Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Vancouver are being asked to produce more documents than the federal government, opposition parties charged Monday.

The comments were made in reference to the RCMP public complaints commission that is investigating police actions during the meeting of 17 Pacific Rim Leaders last November.

Last week, RCMP lawyer George McIntosh demanded University of British Columbia law student Craig Jones release Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC)-related documents to the commission.

The Reform Party Monday described the request as an outrage.

"It has been demanded that protester Jones release between 800 and 1,200 documents to the public complaints commission including private correspondence even with his girlfriend," Reform member of parliament Jim Abbott said.

"By contrast, the Prime Minister's Office has released one thin binder. Are we to believe a 33-year-old student protester has more documentation on (APEC) than the Prime Minister?" he told the House Of Commons.

Solicitor General Andy Scott immediately sidestepped the question.

"The public complaints commission is the instrument that has been established by Parliament to get to the truth," Scott said. "I think most Canadians would appreciate allowing them the opportunity to find that truth, as that is ultimately what we are all after."

Jones, who was arrested and

jailed during the summit, says he'll comply with the document request — but says the RCMP already has access to the same evidence.

It can be found within the 17 binders of information supplied to those involved in the hearings, he said.

"If you listened to Mr. McIntosh on the radio last weekend, you'd realize he is well behind in his facts," Jones told Canadian University Press.

"I think I should bill him, frankly, for the amount of legal and factual research," said Jones, who estimates his research will shave 12 hours off McIntosh's preparation time.

Documents recently reported in the media suggest Prime Minister Chretien instructed the Mounties to stop student demonstrators from embarrassing then-Indonesian President Suharto at APEC.

Student protesters were eventually pepper sprayed, arrested and jailed at the summit.

The RCMP complaints commission hearings into those events have been called a whitewash by complainants and politicians alike.

Peter MacKay, Progressive Conservative House leader and justice critic, said Monday the Liberals are using the inquiry as a smoke screen. Earlier this month, he called on the federal justice committee to hold formal hearings on APEC. That motion is expected to be discussed at the committee's next meeting early next week.

In a related development Tuesday, Jones announced a lawsuit against Chretien and Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, CBC Newsworld reports. Jones alleges the two officials conspired to violate the constitutional rights of protesters.

AIDS apathy

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second year, was one of these students.

"I think its a good cause," she said.

Troy Langille is not a student. He was far more definite about his reasons to walk against AIDS.

"I know so many people affected and infected. Everybody needs to do their part," he said.

But not everyone was disappointed with the walk's turnout.

Jane Allen, the program coordinator for the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, says she was satisfied with the outcome.

"The turnout was phenomenal given the weather. I was pleased with the cross-section of people at the walk. The event was heartwarming."

But Allen said the weather wasn't the only reason walk numbers dropped. "[People have] a false sense of security about this disease being manageable because of new treatments," she said.

This year in Halifax, over \$ 64, 000 has been raised to fight AIDS. The money goes towards educational campaigns and health funds for people living with AIDS.

The AIDS coalition lights a candle for every AIDS related death in Nova Scotia. And Allen says these candles serve as constant reminders of what the AIDS walk is trying to prevent.

"There is a candle lit today. The horror and tragedy of this disease is still alive."



THE ATTIC

RHYTHM SEED



THURSDAY, OCT. 1ST
RHYTHM SEED



FRIDAY, OCT. 2ND
HU NOO

MIR

SATURDAY, OCT. 3RD
MIR with NATHAN'S FLAT

THURSDAY, OCT. 8TH
WOODERSON



FRIDAY, OCT. 9TH
BURNT BLACK with TENAC

SATURDAY, OCT. 10
KNIFEY MOLOKO

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**Getting the news you know
into the news**

UBC to teach alternative therapies to med students

BY JAMIE WOODS

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Medical students at the University of British Columbia will soon learn how to treat patients with acupuncture as well as Tylenol.

Beginning in January, the university will become the first in Canada to offer its medical school students a course in alternative therapies. The fourth-year class will introduce students to techniques such as acupuncture, ayurveda, homeopathy, orthomolecular medicine, shen therapy, Native American spiritual healing and therapeutic touch.

Students who elect to take the class will also spend a month studying one

or more of those fields with a certified practitioner.

The course, which will operate on a trial basis from January to May, will go one step further than an existing class that outlines the concepts of alternative, or complementary, medicine.

Dr. Nazmudein Merali, a general practitioner who proposed the course to the faculty, says UBC needs to integrate alternative

therapies into its teaching if it wants to keep up with the times.

"People are asking questions about complementary medicine and if we turn around and say, 'look this doesn't exist,' then we are only fooling ourselves," she said.

An Angus Reid poll conducted in October 1997 revealed 7 in 10 Canadians think provincial health care plans should cover alternative medicine costs, and 56 per cent of British Columbians now use alternative medicine.

The widespread use of alternative therapies is the reason UBC's faculty of medicine is introducing the course, says Andrew Chalmers, associate dean of the faculty's undergraduate program.

"Students need to understand what people are doing, they need to understand what kinds of potential problems there are, as some complementary medicines react very nastily with some of our traditional therapies," he said. "They also need to understand that complementary therapies have a therapeutic effect."

But Dr. Jim Lane, president of the British Columbia Medical

Association, says while it's OK to make students aware of complementary medicine, he's sceptical about the scientific basis of alternative therapies.

"I'm a little surprised that [UBC is] putting the course on," he said. "I think that our major concern would be that we would always emphasize that medicine should be evidence-based, and some alternative therapies are less than adequate in a scientific evidence base."

NDP to tackle bankruptcy legislation

BY TARA ATLURI

OTTAWA (CUP) —

Debt-ridden students who need to declare bankruptcy but can't under changes to student bankruptcy laws may soon be presented with a ray of hope.

Libby Davies, education critic with the New Democratic Party, is expected to introduce a private members' bill as early as next week that would amend six-month-old changes to the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act.

Davies wants to undo section

178 of the act, which was first passed last spring. The new section extends the waiting period for students who need to declare bankruptcy from two to ten years for graduates enrolled in full or part-time studies at Canadian post-secondary institutions.

"This is scandalous," Davies said of the change. "On the one hand, the Liberals are crowing about all the wonderful things they

are doing for students. And with the other, they are pushing through this section."

"Student debt is so high it has become an oppressive part of students' lives," Davies said.

She argues the new section disproportionately targets student debtors, and will force students who have exhausted all other options to

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Labour dispute

continued from page 1

of strike or lockout. After a successful strike vote the union may go on strike at any point with a minimum 48 hours notice within the next six months.

Robert Durdan is one of four full-time conciliators on staff at the Dept. of Labour. He joined the department in Feb. 1996 with extensive background in labour relations.

Durdan was also the conciliator during last spring's faculty and university negotiations.

Brenda Crozsmann says "the ball's in the university's court."

"We don't want to do that to the students," she adds. "And even if [we went on strike for] a week, it's a big impact on our salaries."

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Nfld's \$ 4-million scholarship fund to begin in January

BY DAVID SKINNER AND JEANETTE TAYLOR

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Cash-strapped university students in Newfoundland will be eligible for a new provincial scholarship fund by January.

The provincial government announced the \$4-million program last March to bridge the gap between 1999 and 2000, when the federal Millennium Scholarship Fund will kick in. It will provide 4,000 post-secondary students awards of up to \$1,000 each based on financial need and academic merit.

Students attending private colleges and those who leave the

province to finish programs that could be completed here won't be eligible for the fund, which will be administered through the province's student aid office.

The fund will be distributed to students in their second semester as long as their academic standing is decent.

Tracey O'Reilly, president of the student union at Memorial University, was a member of the committee that drafted the criteria that will be used to administer the fund.

She says committee members wanted to make sure high marks would have nothing to do with who will receive the awards.

"There was nothing there for the average student who needs

money and we wanted to get away from the idea of it being solely merit based," O'Reilly said. "That's not to say that academics don't matter, we just want to open doors for people who would normally find them closed."

"There are students who, for example, have kids or work or are involved in student groups, who can't study as much to get the grades that they need for a scholarship," she added.

Dale Kirby, president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Students, says while

the fund is a start, larger initiatives are also needed to curb student debt.

"What we would like to see is a grant program, like the one [the provincial government] eliminated in 1993, that pays a much larger amount of students' fees while they are at university and college," he said.

O'Reilly says that cutting the grants program in 1993 was a mistake.

"They used to give students enough money for a whole semester and you wouldn't have to pay it back. That obviously reduced

student debt."

Hopefully, the provincial fund will be expanded and will serve as a foundation for the Millennium Fund, she added.

"Either way, students are losing," she said, referring to the fact students considering post-secondary education can either stay away or take on the debt.

"This system, and hopefully the Millennium Fund, will allow people not to take on student debt. It will only be a small amount of money that we can give, but it could make a difference."

NDP bankruptcy legislation

continued from page 5

declare bankruptcy twice, making it difficult to ever get a line of credit.

But according to Human Resources Development Canada, the point of the new section is to help students, not lock them into debt.

"The way the system worked before, students felt they had to resort to bankruptcy after just two years, which is problematic for the banks and problematic for the students," said Anna Kapiniari, spokeswoman for the ministry.

Kapiniari added that last year's budget extended protection of students to last the lifetime of their loan.

"It's more helpful now. [the 10 year minimum] is there to ensure students are protected when they're having a hard time repaying their loans, and they don't have to resort to bankruptcy."

Elizabeth Carlyle, national chair of the Canadian Federation of Students, says the changes are punitive. The only other debtor demographic which confronts such punitive measures, she says, are those with outstanding alimony and child-support payments.

Student debtors don't deserve these measures, Carlyle says,

pointing out that only \$70-million of the \$3.6-billion of consumer debt in 1995 was due to student loans.

"This whole thing seems so Draconian," she said, adding the changes were not announced very publicly.

Carlyle also criticized part of the legislation that says graduates can be refused credit if they are late with payments by 90 days three times, and rack up a total of \$3,000.

"Students make mistakes," she said.

Many students only learned of the changes, which were buried in last year's budget, as they returned to school this month.

"I never knew anything about this," said Binh Troung, a fourth year biochemistry student at the University of Toronto. "I think it sucks. Interest rates will kill you alone."

"Two years is better for students," said general arts student Olga Baliakina. "Ten years is better for the government."

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Student unions form historic pact

BY AMANDA LABONTE AND SEAN RYAN

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Student unions at three Canadian universities have joined forces to create Campus Trust, a benefits trust company aimed at increasing buying power and improving students' ability to govern their insurance plans.

Memorial University, Acadia University and the University of Western Ontario registered the Ontario-based company in August.

The three student unions were given 30 days to approve the initiative. At Memorial University, the student union ratified Campus Trust Sept. 23rd in a move it says will save students about \$90,000 this year.

Student union president Tracey O'Reilly says while formal negotiations began in June, the general managers at the three unions had been developing the idea for the company over the past several years.

While student unions have formed other alliances in the past, Campus Trust is the first of its kind in Canada. With \$4-million in

assets, the company will deal in health, dental, auto and home insurance, although O'Reilly says it may eventually branch out into other areas.

"This setup is really good because we have the ability to self-govern our plans; we can tailor our plans the way we want them," O'Reilly said. "We also have the benefits of bulk buying."

A six-member board of trustees will oversee the company, including the

student union president and general manager from each university. Two of the students will serve two-year terms, while a third will only serve for one. All six were randomly selected for the board.

To ensure confidence is maintained in student representatives, any union can replace its trustee at any time.

David Small, a vice-president with the student council at University of Western Ontario, says Campus Trust will provide several advantages for students.

"We're going to see a decrease in administrative fees, increase in accountability, probably a better coverage, and more control over (the insurance plan)," he said.

Acadia students' union president Chris Houston agreed the deal means increased control over funds that go to insurance companies.

"(In the past) a student could come to me and I could tell them where every penny of their student fees go, (but) I couldn't tell them where every penny of their (insurance) fees go," he said. "That was a big concern for us and our students."

Houston added that students won't see changes right away.

"After a year or two, when we get enough reserves, (we'll) either decrease the premiums or increase the benefits," he said. "Then there

will obviously be some benefits that the students will notice."

The only drawback to switching to the new company, O'Reilly says, will be the cost of travelling to the board meetings in Toronto four times a year. But the gains will be well worth it, she says.

"The ability to appoint trustees to the board which administers the plan directly is a very big benefit," she said. "We've had numerous calls from other student unions to get into it, for that reason, because they are tired of companies dictating to them what they are going to have."

While Campus Trust is willing to consider new members,

O'Reilly says, none can join until next semester, since insurance plans can't be switched partway through the academic year.

Student union representatives at the three universities say they've encountered little criticism since introducing Campus Trust to their respective universities.

"We haven't heard anything bad from the students, from the insurance companies, or from the administration," Small said.

"There's really nothing negative that we've come across yet as far as the plan, so there's not really any reason for people not to be excited about it," Houston added.

Student group challenges bankruptcy law

BY CARLA TONELLI

TORONTO (CUP) — The Canadian Federation of Students is preparing to launch a constitutional challenge of recent changes to federal bankruptcy laws, the national chair of the organization says.

"Given the current state of student debt levels across the

country, this is one more blow that students can not take," said Elizabeth Carlyle, referring to changes to the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act that were passed last spring.

Those changes extend the waiting period for university and college graduates who need to declare personal bankruptcy from two to ten years.

The federation, which

represents about 400,000 Canadian students, says the legislation violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms because it treats students differently by imposing discriminatory limitations on their bankruptcy procedures.

The vast majority of students who declare bankruptcy are under age 30 so the new law amounts to age discrimination, Carlyle says.

The federal government was taken aback by the news the federation was pursuing a legal challenge of the bankruptcy legislation.

"I think we're surprised," said Lee Gill, director of corporate law policy at Industry Canada.

"I'm sure the government wouldn't have done this if they thought it was a charter issue," he said, adding it had the best interests of students in mind when it developed the law.

"(The Minister of Finance) made the changes in the interest of making sure students are provided with protections of the new financial aid program," he said.

In the six months since the changes to the bankruptcy bill were passed his office has only received a handful of complaints, Gill added.

But members of the Canadian Federation of Students aren't the only ones criticizing the law.

A private member's bill amending the new legislation is expected to be introduced by Libby Davis, New Democratic Party education critic.

If passed, the bill would undo the new 10-year wait for graduates who need to declare personal bankruptcy.

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Toronto says "yes" to solar power

BY CRAIG SAUNDERS

TORONTO (CUP) — Greenpeace couldn't have asked for a better day Thursday. The morning sun shone brightly, glinting of Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman's colourful tie, as he proclaimed the city's support for solar power.

"People can install these systems in their homes," Lastman said, pointing to a pair of shiny new solar panels displayed in front of city hall.

"I hope everyone starts buying these solar panels. They sound great to me."

Lastman donned a yellow hard-hat emblazoned with the Greenpeace logo as he threw the switch, patching the panels into the power system at city hall.

During their expected 20-year lifespan, the panels will prevent 30 tonnes of coal from being burned,

said Kevin Jardine, a climate activist with Greenpeace.

The city hall panels are the first to go up as part of the group's Solar Pioneers campaign, which started earlier this year. The nonprofit environmental group hopes to promote not only the concept of solar power but also the purchase of solar units.

Toward that end, the group is trying to enlist Toronto school boards in a raffle that will facilitate the purchase of systems like the one at city hall.

And recently, Greenpeace built a smaller, home solar unit in Toronto. It generates enough electricity to power a television and about three lights. Although it sells for \$2,500, Jardine expects the price to drop once demand is high enough for a mass-production facility to be built.

Promoting solar power will once again allow Toronto to claim its on the cutting-edge of

environmental conservation.

"We've been studying new cities in Europe where every rooftop has solar panels," said city councillor Jack Layton, president of the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, which paid for the panels.

"These solar panels are right on top of the mayor's office. This is not happening in any other city."

Ironically, the city's unveiling of the project came just days after city council voted on the very existence of the fund that financed it. A motion was introduced to council to see the money on the \$25-million endowment fund used to offset projects for which the city is currently borrowing money.

But council voted overwhelmingly in favour of preserving the fund that has put Toronto on the map for green-thinking urbanites worldwide.

"I'm very pleased," said Layton. "It was a strong

endorsement of the fund."

Based on similar funds in Oslo and Phoenix, the fund received its funding from the sale of city land in 1992. Last year, it spent about \$1 million on residential, transportation, renewable energy, commercial energy efficiency, school, communications and training and research projects.

And it is being looked at as a model by other cities, including Vancouver.

"We certainly look at the Fund with some envy," said Morris Mennel, a director with Vancouver's air quality department.

Mennel added that although an endowment fund is not a current possibility, Vancouver does have a \$6-million management plan that includes monitoring and regulation of industrial emissions.

Nova Scotia is also considering duplicating the fund, and might start a similar program with proceeds from their oil and gas

rights.

And south of the border, there was some initial interest in duplicating the fund in Chicago. Plans there, however, have been moved to the back-burner, sources say.

Greenpeace hopes to see solar power considered on a national level. Jardine recently met with federal finance officials in Ottawa to discuss possible new alternative energy initiatives for the next budget.

He wanted the Liberal government to introduce a program that would provide 100,000 rooftop solar units — a move that would match U.S. President Bill Clinton's promise of one million. But he described the meeting as "totally unproductive."

"It's clear they have no intention of introducing any new green measures at all," Jardine said.



Banner

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actually save us money. You're competing with a very high cost... consulting fees are going up, it's harder to find consultants, you have to put a lot of resources into it to get an implementation up and running that quickly."

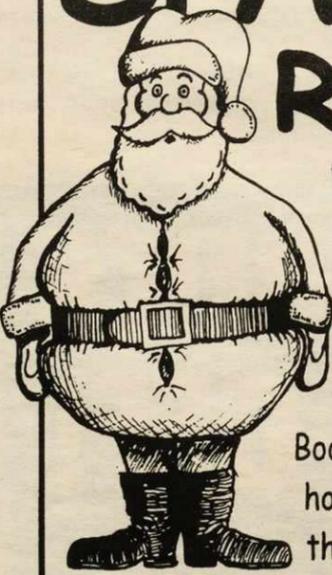
"It was the decision we made, and I think it was a good one."

At Dalhousie, Ted Chiasson says students concerned about Banner's implementation can take steps to protect themselves.

"The main thing is just to keep all of your paperwork," he said.

"Keep copies of everything... just in case anything crashes."

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SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

McNab's Island a little bit cleaner this week

BY JANET FRENCH

Despite the rain and the cold, 40 people came out to volunteer for the 17th beach sweep of McNab's Island on Sunday, September 27. The beach sweep was organized by the Friends of McNab's Island Society.

The Friends of McNab's Island Society (FOMIS) is an organization devoted to the preservation of McNab's Island and is heavily involved in politics surrounding the island. FOMIS members feel that such a clean-up is necessary because of the huge amount of debris and sewage that wash up on the shores of the island. The beach sweep occurs twice annually and has been coordinated since 1991, when FOMIS was originally founded.

Located alongside Eastern Passage and Shearwater, in the middle of Halifax Harbour,

McNab's Island is around 1000 acres in size and is home to many historical sites such as Fort Ives and Fort McNab. The island's scenic beaches, historical archives, and picturesque trails serve as a popular attraction for many visitors and tourists. However, because of its harbour location, the shores of McNab's Island collect a lot of the debris from industry and sewage.

Although beaches strewn with trash are unappealing to visitors, Dusan Soudek, member of the FOMIS board of directors, insists that the motivation for the sweep is "not just for cosmetic purposes." The island wildlife and surrounding sea life, such as turtles, rodents and birds, can choke on, or become entangled in various debris.

During garbage pickup, the most common objects found were plastic, styrofoam and glass, most of which originate from the sewers. A copious number of unnecessary

pollutants such as plastic tampon applicators and styrofoam cups were found. These items are easily replaceable with their more biodegradable cardboard counterparts, a choice that is in the hands of consumers. Although FOMIS members are pleased at how much less trash is found on the island's beaches as compared to when the beach sweeps began, FOMIS board of directors member Catherine McCarthy claims she is still surprised at some of the garbage that appears.

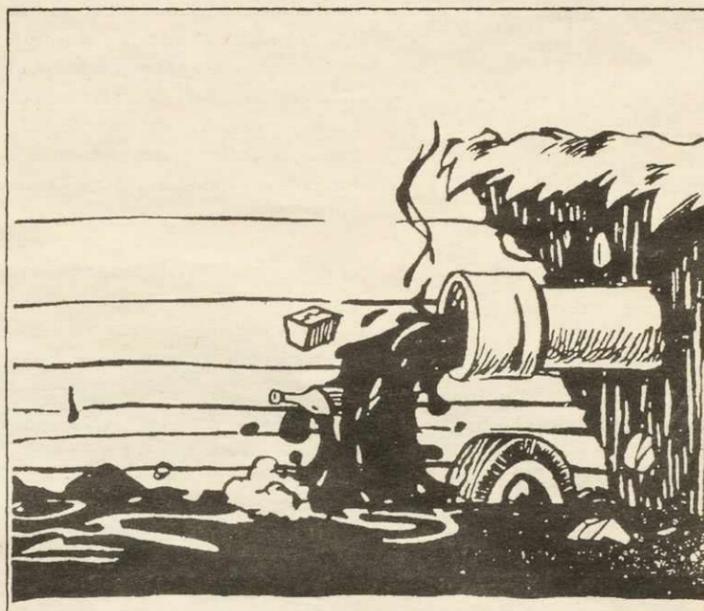
"You'd think there would be more public education for these things," McCarthy says about the amount of biodegradable materials found on the island's shores.

Unfortunately, the turnout of this season's sweep was uncharacteristically low due to the poor weather. In the past years, as many as two hundred people have turned up to help with the island

cleanup, with up to 300 bags of garbage collected. Despite the appeal of the free boat ride and a virtual island tour, only 39 people

were willing to brave the rain and give a little something back to their

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CUP graphic/ John Klossner/ The McGill Daily

Can Nova Scotia foresters see the forest for the trees?

BY CHRISTINE PRESTON

Will Nova Scotian forests be able to exist despite the onslaught of foresters? A panel discussion on the state of Nova Scotia's forests was held last Thursday evening. The aim of this meeting was to examine whether or not our forests are a sustainable resource.

The panel consisted of four members, all with special interests in forestry management. Anthony Hourihan, woodlands manager for J.D. Irving Ltd., accepted invitation to the discussion, but did not attend.

In 1996, the amount of wood harvested exceeded the number set by the Department of Natural Resources by a million meters squared. There also appears to be little information on how much wood is being exported from the region. Only recently did the Dept. of Natural Resources implement a registry of buyers, which could be used to assess the amount of wood leaving Nova Scotia.

Another major problem contributing to the crisis in our woodlands is the predominance of the use of clear-cutting, which can have devastating effects on biodiversity.

Current practices of overcutting are "absolute suicide," said Charlie Restino, a private woodlot owner and environmentalist from Cape Breton. "About 90% of logging in Nova Scotia is done by

clearcutting," Restino said.

Many clearcut areas are used for plantations. This has caused a shift natural, mixed forests to a

forest," said Jim Drescher, private woodlot owner and ecologist from New Germany.

"If trees are used wisely they can last for a very long time," said Bill Freedman, professor of Biology at Dalhousie and author of books on environmental ecology. "Trees are a renewable resource," Freedman said.

He also maintained that the ecological values, like biodiversity, must be considered in forestry management.

"Nothing is sustainable," says Drescher, who denounces the notion that sustainability is possible. "(People must) rediscover a personal... connection with the forests. We must show the importance of recognizing forests for the ecological value, not only their economic value."

Government policies play a major role in the current harvesting practices. Large subsidies are given to private and corporate land owners who clearcut then replant. There is little incentive for those who use ecologically sound practices when harvesting.

The Department of Natural Resources has been slow in developing and enforcing regulations which would ensure that foresters use biologically sound ways of harvesting. The Forest Improvement Act, which has one of the more stringent

guidelines for cutting, was never implemented due to pressure by Nova Scotia's pulp and paper industry.

Scott Paper and Stora Forest Ind., two of Nova Scotia's pulp and paper giants, which moved into the region in the 1960's, "did not follow the regulations of cutting set by the Department of Lands and Forests," said Dr. Willfrid Creighton, Deputy Minister of Dept. of Lands and Forests during 1949-69. "There was little done to enforce the regulations on these companies."

The issue of pesticide and herbicide spraying was also addressed.

"There are alternatives to spraying," stated Charlie Restino. "Insecticide programs are paid for by tax-payers," Restino said, "but there is little input from the public and a lot of input from big business into the decision to spray areas."

Spraying threatens species other than the target organism and chemical run off may enter soil and natural water sources. Gary Westoll, of the Dept. of Natural Resources, admits that there have been no cost/benefit analyses of

not spraying areas infected with pests.

The problem of sustaining renewable resources like our forests is not new to Nova Scotians. The current collapse of the fisheries may give us insight into what Nova Scotia's forestry industry may face if current practices continue.

The consensus is that changes are desperately needed. What remains to be seen is how quickly these changes will come and what will be the driving forces behind them.

"We have a window to do something about our forests," said Freedman.



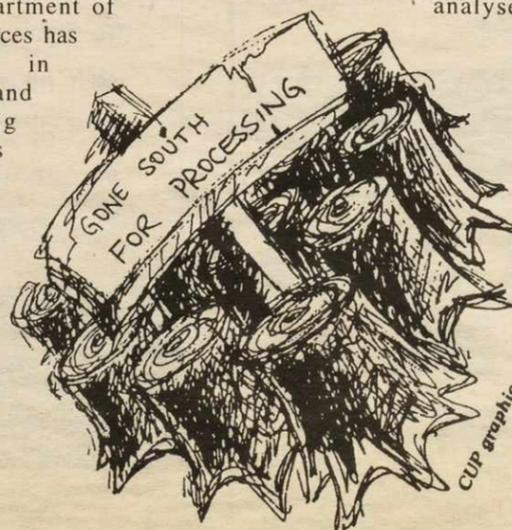
Dal Professor Bill Freedman discussing the state of N.S. forests.

photo by Luke Doherty

monocultured forest. Because plantations usually have one species of tree, it results in a loss of wildlife, resulting in low biodiversity and altered ecosystems.

These forests are also more susceptible to infestations and fire because the natural regulating mechanisms have been greatly reduced.

Over 16,000 Nova Scotians are employed directly or indirectly by the forest industry. Some believe that changes may result in job losses, but selective cutting requires "five times as many workers per unit of biomass removed from the



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Dal professor tries to make a difference

BY PHIL E. LEWIS

Dollar Lake, outside the city of Halifax, has toxic levels of acid pollution. Paul Mandell, limnology professor at Dalhousie University, says that at least half of the lakes in Nova Scotia are toxic to the fish that inhabit them.

Mandell is trying to restore Dollar Lake to a healthy ecological state.

Mandell has received \$10,000 from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to do a year long study into the water quality of the lake. He is trying to find out if liming the lake will eliminate some of the acid pollution in the lake.

The lime is also supposed to create a necessary buffer that will absorb and dilute the acid from the rain before it reaches the water. He says that the lakes in Nova Scotia are in particularly bad shape because half of the province has a neguma foundation. Neguma contains no buffering unlike other

bedrock.

Mandell says liming is like trying to recreate the state the lakes were in before humans acidified the rain.

"It's (liming) like when someone loses a leg and you give them an artificial one," says Mandell. "They can walk and have a life but it is not the same as you're own leg."

Mandell has done approximately 23,000 water samples over his career and says Dollar Lake is a perfect candidate for a liming project.

Mandell wrote an initial proposal to the DFO but it was rejected. The DFO requested another proposal with more data. The Department approved the second proposal last Thursday, after he had already looked into alternate sources of funding.

Mandell sent proposals to the Sierra club, the Body Shop, and about twenty other organizations for any financial help. The grant

from the DFO came as a surprise to Mandell.

"I was shocked... when I heard I got the funding," says Mandell.

Mandell's project has generated some interest from the community.

Friends of Dollar Lake is a group of mostly biology students that supports Mandell's work. Mandell says the group works towards education, fund raising, public awareness, and building a facility at the site. Friends of Dollar Lake has raised \$37,000 in kind for the project in equipment and facilities.

Mandell says he is frustrated from the lack of support from his peers.

"They have no interest," says Mandell. "They do not feel they have a social responsibility to do anything except write papers and teach. That's the job. The fact that the world is going to hell in front of them doesn't seem to bother them. I really have no use for them."

A spokesperson for the financing department of the DFO says they approved the grant through a program started in 1994. The program is aimed at community based organizations. The spokesperson says there are approximately 6 lakes currently undergoing the liming process through the program.

The program funds 50 per cent of the costs for the first three years with a maximum of \$10,000 per year. The spokesperson says to successfully lime a lake it takes approximately 10 years but, they only fund past the first three years in rare cases.

Anita Hamilton, habitat division of the DFO, says that the only negative side effects of the lime could be in its application. She says in the application they may have to dig up some of the soil around the lake with the equipment they use.

Mandell says that there are is no down-side to liming.

"Some people say you lime 30

per cent in the first year. We did it for 11 years and the fish population increased every year."

Mandell has selected Dollar Lake as his new project because it is a provincial park. He says this offers him a research site with protection from industry.

In the future Mandell plans to use the site to develop a school of applied ecology. He says the school would also involve a summer program for families to take their kids to collect water samples, and look at them through a telescope.

Mandell says that the public needs to inform themselves about their environment rather than living in the paranoia the media and government creates.

"We want to use it as a demonstration project for other groups in Nova Scotia for the educational component," says Mandell. "People feel impotent. Unfortunately most of the media is lying because the government lying to them. They should see what they really can do."

McNab's Island cleaner

continued from page 10

community. Despite the unfortunate weather, which hindered and eventually stopped the garbage collection so that the volunteers could seek cover, spirits of the

participants were high. The only disappointing aspect of the trip was seeing all the waste resulting from consumers' negligence to educate themselves on the environmental effects of the products they endorse.

Most Common Garbage Found in McNab's Island Beach Sweep:

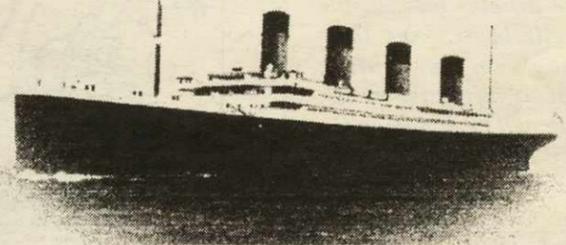
1. Plastics, including tampon applicators. Plastic applicators are still widely popular even though biodegradable cardboard applicators are available.
2. Styrofoam, including coffee cups and fast-food packaging.
3. Glass, most originating from the sewer networks.

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8-2AM

**THURSDAY IS PUB NIGHT
AT VINNIE'S PUB
MOUNT SAINT VINCENT**

Ad boycotting - a smoky issue

Even smokers know the evils of cigarettes. They pollute lungs and lead to fatal diseases — including heart disease and lung cancer. And they don't just hurt smokers. Second-hand smoke affects everyone — a smoker's roommates, children, the woman next to them at a bar.

Recently, cigarette companies have been accused of targeting young audiences with their advertising. The claim is cartoon personality "Joe Camel" appeals directly to children, while "Belvedere Rocks" tours are aimed at university students. It's horrendous — cigarette companies splash the walls of concert halls with their ads in an attempt to lure more young people into a life of addiction to a dangerous drug.

But they can't do it alone. Advertising goes nowhere if someone isn't willing to take the cash, put up the posters and print the ads.

For the past three weeks, the Gazette has run full colour back page ads for the "Belvedere Rocks"-sponsored Big Sugar concert. We have been accepting cigarette advertising for many years, though the odd debate

regarding whether or not we should have occurred several times over the years.

At the beginning of every school year, the Gazette is faced with deciding on a boycott list — companies whose advertising we won't accept. For the past two years we have been unable to come up with a list — because once you start boycotting, it's difficult to stop.

Say, for example, we were to pull all cigarette advertising (an option discussed for a number of years). In doing so, we would be sending the message that the

stand against marketing one drug to students, can we support another?

Ads for alcohol are ads enticing people to drink — leading possibly to liver problems or alcoholism. So liquor and bar ads are gone. That alone averages five pages of lost ads for every issue the Gazette prints.

Then consider that products we use every day can be linked to tobacco companies. Kraft foods, Jell-O, Post Cereal, Maxwell House coffee and Shake and Bake are all owned by Phillip Morris, the largest tobacco company in the world. Who else may be connected?

If the Gazette were to take a moral stand and pull all the ads that are possibly contentious, quite honestly there would be no Gazette. It doesn't mean that the Gazette as a whole or our staff as individuals support or do not support the advertisers we publish. Our hands are tied.

Advertising revenue makes up over two thirds of our budget. Without it we would cease to exist, and we would not be able to confront other issues that are important to our readers as well. It's difficult to take a stand against an issue without an issue in the stands.

NATALIE MACLELLAN

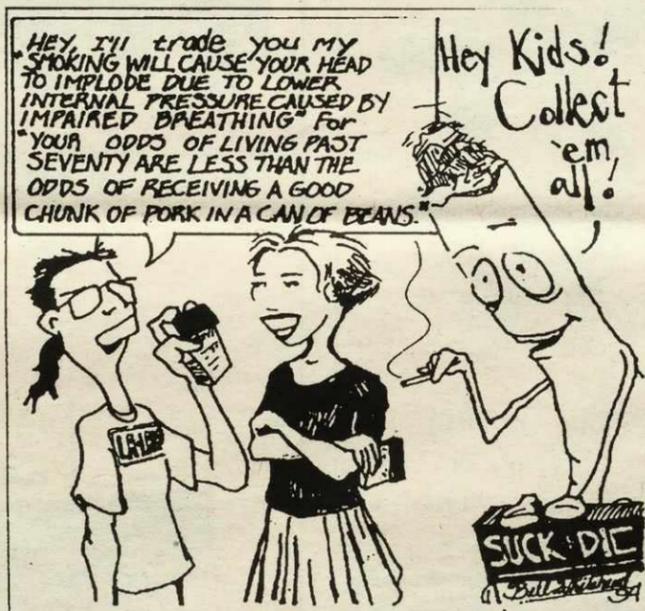
Editor-in-chief

Editorial

Gazette does not support tobacco companies in any way, and that even though we stand to earn money from the advertising, we feel cigarettes are too harmful to the health of fellow students to do so.

That's fine, and perhaps for a little while we could feel good about ourselves. But take a glimpse through our paper. At least a third of our advertising revenue comes either directly from liquor companies or from bars, which sell liquor. Students are directly targeted through theme nights and drink specials. If we are going to take a

In a review published in the Arts and Culture section of this issue, Karen Parker looks at the issue of tobacco sponsorship of arts events. Next week's news section will feature an article dealing with the issue of cigarette advertising in the SUB. Editing and researching these articles has led the Gazette to examine their policy on accepting tobacco advertisements. There will be a vote on the issue at Monday's staff meeting.



CUP graphic/ Bill Whitehead/ The Guelph Peak

THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

editorial board Volume 131, no. 4

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For advertising information, call 494-6532 or visit our ad manager, 9am to 5pm daily.

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor and commentary. All letters will be printed up to four per week. The printing of additional letters will be at the discretion of the Opinions Editor. Letters may be edited for length above 300 words and we reserve the right to edit commentary.

All submissions must be typed double-spaced on paper, e-mailed, or on a Mac or IBM 3 1/2 inch disk, in a WP version not greater than Word 6.0 or equivalent. The deadline is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, the Gazette is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, the Gazette is published every Thursday by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all students of Dalhousie University are members. The Gazette exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. All editorial decisions are made collectively by the staff. To become voting staff members, individuals must contribute to three issues. Views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the editors or the collective staff. Unless otherwise noted, all text © 1998 the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. ISSN 0011-5819

Letters

Bathroom talk

To the editor,

I would like to respond to the article entitled "Flies unzipped, heads forward". The article stated that I (Brian Kellow, DSU executive vice-president) "could not release the details" of the agreement with the company which provides the ad boxes. I was clear with the writer, John Elmer, that I did not know the details of the agreement signed by the council two years prior to my term, but that he could find that information perhaps in council minutes. I also stated that while I did not know whether the agreement had confidential aspects I could look into it if he wished. Mr. Elmer did not make any effort to contact me again. Apparently Mr. Elmer did not find it necessary to do any research whatsoever as his mind was made up on the story prior to writing it. Mr. Elmer seems determined not to let anything like evidence or accuracy get in the way of a smashing good jab.

My rationale for the advertising was not, as printed, "the school needs more money". My rationale was that more dollars allow the student union (a not for profit organization) to employ more students. This is a long way from "the school needs more money". In short, Mr. Elmer was not satisfied with my point of view or not willing to do research and find the answers so he made some up. That is disgraceful.

As far as his opinion is concerned, I think that perhaps some of us miss the pornographic drawings, filthy limericks and phone numbers that previously occupied those spaces more than others. I also question what kind of mental midget would be reduced to a man "left paranoid about our computers, in search of a pint of Canadian" by a trip to the bathroom. Personally, I work in the student union 50 hours a week; I visit the bathroom probably three times a day (lotta coffee) yet I have not succumbed to fall shopping at the Park Lane Mall. Could I be a mental Titan impervious to advertising. Probably not. Could the truth of the story be that helping students attend this university outweighs the questionable evil of urinal advertising? I know what I think.

Finally, contrary to Mr. Elmer's approach, I "look at the ceiling" and "close my eyes" even with the "off chance the guy beside me looked over — what would he

think?"

Sometimes I even talk to my neighbour, my stars!

Eyes closed and whistling,

Brian Kellow

DSU executive vice-president

Playboys respond

To the editor,

The Dalhousie *Playboy* Campus Reps would like to commend Ms. Shelley Robinson on being the first to write an article in opposition to *Playboy* magazine and *Playboy* on campus. We appreciate her opinions of the magazine and our involvement with *Playboy*, however it is of one perspective only — that of Ms. Shelley Robinson. We would like to clarify some points for Ms. Robinson and other students at Dalhousie regarding *Playboy* on campus.

First, and foremost, we as campus reps do not receive any direct financial assistance from *Playboy* magazine. Our second-year marketing class has taught us to look for a market niche that is not being filled. The niche we have identified is a venue/event whereby emerging artists, DJs, designers and musicians can showcase their talents in an atmosphere that is fun and different. We feel that the *Playboy* name will help to attract talent and open venues that otherwise would not be available in Halifax.

Playboy magazine emerged in the sexually repressed 1950s as a publication that was different, innovative and challenged the status quo. In the spirit of its anti-conformist stance, we invite discussion from various groups and individuals both pro and con *Playboy* magazine. *Playboy* magazine's editorial content can be viewed from a variety of perspectives and we as campus reps encourage freedom of speech in this area. That is why we became *Playboy* campus reps, not to preach but rather to test the limits of censorship in Halifax and encourage free thought on the campus of Dalhousie. We are always open to any ideas for events that you may have and are constantly looking for emerging artists to showcase their talent.

Bruce Wayne Yip

and B.W. Wildsmith,

Dalhousie *Playboy* campus reps

Playboy can be reached at
Byip@is2.dal.ca

Write here. Write now.

The Gazette welcomes letters and opinions from the Dalhousie community.

Letters can be a maximum of 300 words, while opinions pieces are limited to 800 words.

Many stains can be removed with vinegar.

Thank you and good night.

The Letters/Opinions section of the Gazette is meant as a campus forum for all Dalhousie students. The opinions expressed within may not necessarily be those of the Gazette staff or editorial board. We welcome all submissions, but reserve the right to edit for style and content. It is the Gazette's mandate not to print racist, sexist or homophobic material.

Taking back the night from *Playboy*

I can't help but laugh. Really, you must be joking. Right there on page three, "Bunny boys promote *Playboy* at Dal" directly above "Take Back the Night 'about power'". Both articles contained some false information, so let me share.

First, Take Back the Night. Lisa LaChance states, "either 250 angry women or 250 empowered women in solidarity..." Guess what? We were angry and empowered. These are not mutually exclusive. In fact, I suggest they're unlikely to happen independently. Next point — "reactions ranged from silence to shows of support". There were shows of support — there was also violence. My girlfriend was assaulted by some drunk assholes at the rally, right in front of a couple of cops and a camera crew. Bet you didn't see that in the news. Neither group did anything — I pulled the guy off my girlfriend while she disentangled herself and her sign. He was shouting "love!" Sorry dude, not for you. The same guy showed up later along the march route,

hollering something incomprehensible, but angry. The organizers tried talking to him, but when that didn't work they resorted to chasing him away with a dog.

Good thing he was



was outnumbered, at least this time. Later, on the way to the car, my girlfriend, myself and another friend were harassed by another drunk asshole who got in our faces about "what the picket signs are for." Since he wouldn't

leave us alone, we got in the car and left — he was still talking, explaining to us that we should be less hostile.

So let's talk about *Playboy*. Yip and Wildsmith (*Playboy* reps on campus) say that *Playboy* is not demeaning to women. Right, guys. Have you read the magazine lately? Better yet, have you read anything lately? *Playboy* promotes a skinny, white, able-bodied standard of "beauty" that oppresses practically everyone. Newsflash—women don't look like that. Even the women in the magazine don't look like that. Find out what the models pay for plastic surgery. Then find out how much *Playboy* pays for airbrushing. *Playboy* is about plastic people. Contrary to popular belief, plastic does not have a "lifestyle." Nor is it entitled to freedom of speech. Cuz guess what? Freedom of speech is legally contingent upon the obligation to tell the truth — that's why slander, libel and false advertising are illegal. With fake women, often portrayed without heads or as disconnected collections of body parts, *Playboy* is libelling women. We aren't who they say we are.

And this one: "*Playboy* has provided the largest forum for feminist thought..." (Yip and

Wildsmith, it doesn't say which. Maybe they only have one brain between them). Excuse me while I fall out laughing. Do you guys really expect anyone to believe that? heheh. Really though. The largest of what? The largest in the world? Right. If *Playboy* seemed to be on the side of feminists in the 60s because of their stance on reproductive control, think again. *Playboy* endorsed abortion because they wanted an easier lay. When women who had had abortions stopped saying yes — realizing what the hell an abortion could be — *Playboy* and its footsoldiers stopped being so concerned. In fact, they got downright hostile. In the 70s, in response to a journalistic piece submitted for publication to *Playboy*, a leaked memo from Hugh Hefner stated, "doing a piece on the pros and cons of feminism strikes me as rather pointless for *Playboy*... What I want is a devastating piece... a really expert, personal demolition job on the subject." (Steinem, see reference below.) Let's here it for journalistic integrity: this is what you really get when you "just read it for the articles."

If you care even a little, you'll read the mountains of documentation available on the

subject. This one's a no-brainer. Start with "I was a *Playboy* Bunny" by Gloria Steinem (in *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions*), progress to *Backlash* by Susan Faludi, and graduate to *Letters From A War Zone*, by Andrea Dworkin. If you can stomach it, try Dworkin's *Pornography*. Now that's hardcore.

If you won't read any of these, or anything else explaining in detail why *Playboy* sucks (you do know how to use the library, don't you?) then we'll both know the truth: you don't care to find out whether *Playboy* is hurting women because that's less important to you than getting off to a plasticized Cindy. That's your cue that *Playboy* got you too — you've been turned into a plastic person with no feeling anywhere except your dick.

And "grrls," remember this: the more we threaten the patriarchy, the more it seeks to punish us with misogyny. If that drunk was willing to attack in the midst of a crowd of hundreds, what would he have done to a woman alone? Just because the misogyny calls itself a "lifestyle" (which is true, it is) doesn't mean we owe them an explanation or an apology.

MYLENE DIPENTA
"A GRRL"

The difference between democrats and demagogues

A democrat believes in social equality and governing power derived from the people. A demagogue makes use of popular prejudices and false claims and promises in order to gain power.

If there is a citizen in our country who is not alarmed by the APEC scandal please pick up a copy of our Constitution and move to China. You can use it for your handkerchief after the government detains you. My friends, we are citizens who have fundamental rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It is the social contract established between the Canadian citizenry and the individuals who obtain the power of our government. We are obligated to accept the legal authority of our government as long as the sovereign respects our Constitution. If Jean Chretien instructed the RCMP to arrest APEC protesters he should not be our Prime Minister. I base my views on the following ideals that are listed in our Constitution:

1. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees the rights and freedoms set out in it subject only to such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.
2. Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms:
 - (a) freedom of conscience and religion;
 - (b) freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication;
 - (c) freedom of peaceful assembly; and
 - (d) freedom of association
3. Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice.
4. Everyone has the right not

to be arbitrarily detained or imprisoned

12. Everyone has the right not to be subjected to any cruel and unusual treatment or punishment.

The Prime Minister is the leader of our country and this office must defend our Constitution. Time and time again we have seen him use harsh tactics to crush dissent within his own party caucus. Now it appears he may have used the same tactics against the citizenry. If he did this we cannot tolerate his actions.

Who runs Dalhousie anyway ?

It is unsurprising if a little bit disappointing to find out how few people really know how Dalhousie actually fits together and who has responsibility for which sections. For those of you who are curious (history has shown that's not many), I shall try to explain how things work inside the university administration.

The first thing you should know is that the university is *big* and so requires a lot of administrative structure. Managing an approximately \$150-million dollar budget and between two and three thousand employees is a task which is split up between Senate, the Board of Governors, the president and four vice-presidents, along with many other coordinators and associate vps. As I stated in my last piece, the senate handles mainly academic decisions and the board mainly financial ones, but these are mainly bodies which guide the university in long-range decisions and planning. The day-to-day management of the university is left to the president and vps.

While the president must ultimately answer to the board, all of the vps must answer to him.

The reason I place such significance on the APEC scandal is twofold. First, if the Prime Minister suppressed our legal right to peaceful assembly he will be responsible for creating a constitutional crisis. If he can rebel against the Constitution why can't the citizenry? For example, the Supreme Court of Canada recently ruled that Quebec secession must take place according to the rule of law under the Canadian Constitution. The Prime Minister and his Cabinet were quick to

demand the Parti Quebecois abide by the ruling of the court. How can the federal government justify such demands if the Prime Minister does not respect the rule of law?

Secondly, if the APEC allegations are true, the Prime Minister has challenged the Canadian public. Intentional or not, he is testing our tolerance for such actions in the future. If we do not send a clear message against the APEC affair we will be acknowledging our acceptance of similar actions in the future. How

would you feel if the Board of Governors or Senate oppressed our protests against the Faculty Strike and Board Lockout last year? This is a serious matter and we cannot let it be swept under the carpet.

Jean Chretien was the Minister of Constitutional Affairs during the patriation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982. The difference between a *democrat* and a *demagogue* is becoming very blurry in Canada. We need to use our Constitution to straighten the pair out.

DAVID A. COX

Dalhousie's newest vp is our vice-president Academic and Research, Sam Scully. Dr Scully just arrived at Dal this August, fresh from a stint as vp Academic at the University of Victoria. We'll see how keen he is on this move once he experiences February in Halifax. Dr Scully is diving into his job by dashing around campus and meeting all of the deans and department heads. The vp Academic and Research is responsible for academic departments and so is the direct superior to all deans (including Arts and Social Sciences, Science, Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Henson College, Health Professions, Graduate Studies and Management.) He is also responsible for the university's librarian, William Birdsall who just arrived at Dal in the spring and Alan Wright, who heads up the university's instructional development and technology office. Last but not least he is responsible for and works closely with Bob Fournier, the Associate vp of Research and International Relations. Dr. Fournier has held this position for such a long time that,

now that he is thinking of leaving it, the position itself is being reviewed.

Some of you may have noticed that I seem to have left out a few faculties and deans. The deans of architecture, computer science and engineering live down at Daltech, and their status within Dalhousie is being reassessed. Currently, Daltech is acting as a separate college within Dal. This was designed to give a sense of collegiality and to try to change as little as possible what has worked for years at the former TUNS. Unfortunately, the reality is this also adds one more level of bureaucracy to an already thick system. The Dean of engineering, Adam Bell, is currently wearing another hat as acting principal of Daltech until this gets sorted out, hopefully to the satisfaction of all parties.

At university as like anywhere these days, money talks, and the man who holds the purse strings is vp Finance and Administration Bryan Mason. He handles the day-to-day financial management of the university and administers the budget as passed by the Board and the Senate Academic Priorities

continued on page 14

BUCK OFF!

Now that we've got your attention. Present this coupon for a buck off any regular wrap after midnight. Cannot be combined with any other offer. No cash value.

What d'ya think we meant?

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Fighting for the Maritime provinces

An article recently appeared in the local Newspapers in Toronto and Ottawa which promoted the relocating of Maritimers to the prosperous areas of the country where they were really needed. Like, "would the last one out of the Maritimes please turn off the lights?"

They had a lot to say about the handouts that are being given and have been given to Maritimers. Not a word was said about the handouts to "Upper Canada." The fact that Canadian icebreakers keep the St. Lawrence River open so that shipping into Quebec ports is open year round. Is that a handout? As a result of that action who suffers?

If we go back in history and look at all the benefits bestowed upon Upper Canada we can see where the Maritimes were placed at a disadvantage. The St. Lawrence Seaway opened up the Great Lakes to ocean shipping. A multimillion dollar project, paid for by all Canadians, including Maritimers. Now, does anyone wonder what happened to all the grain and other products that used to be shipped out of Saint John and Halifax? That wasn't a handout to Upper Canada (not to mention what it did to our railways)?

Look at our tariffs and trade treaties. They generally favour Upper Canada.

The trans-Canada Pipeline sure helped the West, paid for by all Canadians, including the Maritimers.

Go back even further, for example during the war. Federal funding of dry-docks on the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes that at

the time were closed in the winter. Funding of Algoma on the Great Lakes rather than Sydney, Nova Scotia.

The depletion of the cod stocks. My view is that it was mismanagement by the federal government. They funded the trawlers and the multi-nationals to build the fish plants and then failed to evaluate the impact on the cod stocks.

What's to be done? How can someone such as we, lone voices crying in the wilderness, bring about change? How can we influence matters so that the Maritimers get their fair share? Should we threaten separation? The following are some recommendations for action:

1) Why not a Chignecto canal, coupled with tidal power. The St. Lawrence Seaway, Hibernia and the Confederation Bridge were all justified one way or another and were built.

2) The funding of mega-projects is questionable. Ever hear of Heavy Water, Bricklin, cucumbers in St. John's, Clairtone and the list goes on. Rather than waste the money on Bricklin, it wouldn't have cost anymore to give every man, woman and child living in New Brunswick at the time \$5,000 each and the province would have been further ahead because the money would have stayed in the province.

I recommend the promotion of small and medium enterprises and co-operatives. Such as:

A more flexible taxing system. Laws that require financial institutions to invest a portion

locally. For example, Canadian financial institutions invested in South America and they ended up losing a lot of it, and now they are into Asia. They cover losses by hiking up the bank charges we pay.

Letting people have more deductions for investments in small businesses.

A simpler tax system for small business. When you figure that profits can be transferred to offshore shelters, why not let Maritimers make deductions that will at least stay in the country, to support local oil companies, advertising, newspapers, stores, construction and other companies.

Lets have the federal government do a trial run in the Maritimes on a simpler tax system. For example: let's make the Maritimes the friendliest place in North America to start a small business. No handouts, no mega-projects, no funding fish plants or trawlers. Just simplify taxes, regulations, etc.

3) Energy is the basis for development. There must be an alternative to charging what the market will bear and it should be sustainable and non-polluting. Everyone should express their views so the policy makers will be influenced. Alternatives for the provincial monopolies should be researched. As an example, for New Brunswick, let's split up NB Power distribution. Ontario is doing this. By the way, Ontario rues the day they ever took the Nuclear option. Three main objectives are recommended for the Distribution Branch: security of supply; minimum cost (e.g. a non profit corporation,

same price to everyone, no more freebies to industry). The Distribution Branch should buy the power from anyone at fair market value, even private homes with surplus capacity.

Promoting conservation, alternatives and renewables even recycling and saving the environment — let's plan on getting rid of Point Lepreau before we have another Chernobyl or a Pickering and Darlington. Halifax and St. John's are downwind from Point Lepreau.

There are alternatives to nuclear, such as conservation, which are non polluting and benefit the local economy regardless of what is reported. Nuclear power is not economically viable when disposal of used fuel and research is included. Our government is out selling nuclear reactors now which we are subsidising with tax dollars that have been used to provide fuel for nuclear bombs, e.g. Pakistan, India. Let's get out of the nuclear business. It can't be done overnight, but its being done in the Scandinavian countries. Why not here?

4) Let's invest in the Maritimes. I worked for the New Brunswick Development Corporation "a few years ago" and I never understood why they gave a preference to Brits and Yanks who always kept coming up with mega-projects, a la Bricklin, Clairtone, Heavy Water, etc. The contention was that Maritimers didn't have the expertise. Well even without the expertise, Maritimers couldn't have done worse and maybe they could have done better. I'd venture to say

that any St. John's, Halifax, Summerside or Saint John resident would have done better.

Hire local engineers, accountants, fisheries experts, professionals; fund their acquisition of the expertise if necessary, let them go out and acquire the expertise.

5) The fisheries? Lets ban the trawlers, especially in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In shore fishing only.

The TAGS program has been mismanaged as well. Training was a big thing. But how many hairdressers and computer programmers are needed in the outports. As an alternative, how about having every community that has been hit by the fisheries mismanagement provided with a development office, staffed by locals with technical support as required. For example: lets try new things like investing in the upgrading or building of new spawning grounds for salmon. Permaculture, cleaning up the environment, fish farms and sustainable communities. Improving conditions for wildlife to improve the harvesting of moose and deer and others. Plant trees for the common good, not only to supply mills, local theatres, music, herbs, labrador tea and other sustainable development. Emphasis must be on sustaining and non polluting.

Anyway, Maritimers lets continue to fight for the good fight and not turn out the lights.

JOHN VAUTOUR,
B.E.M., P.Eng

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Who runs Dalhousie anyway ?

continued from page 13

and Budget Committee. This budget is developed through an iterative, consultative process by the president's Budget Advisory Committee and is available freely at the Killam library. Any students with questions on this budget can try to see him, or track me down for a student perspective. Bryan is also responsible for the Facilities Management department run by Bill Lord (they make this place run), Personnel Services, the University Computing and Information Services (UCIS), the Arts Centre and Environmental Health and Safety.

Eric McKee is the vp Student

Services. His portfolio includes all of the "front line" services that you probably have to deal with. The first department that most students run into, the registrar's office, run by Gudrun Curri, Dal's Registrar, is part of student services. So are housing and conference services, under Heather Sutherland, Athletics and Ancillary Services (e.g. Bookstore), Psychological Services and Health Services. In short if it's at Dal, it's not teaching, and you are dealing with it, it's probably Eric's problem.

The last vp is Dale Gódsøe, vp Development and Alumni Affairs. The alumni office workers and volunteers are the people who give out those little pins during convocation and ran the barbecue for the parents during orientation week. This office also spends most of its time trying to raise money for

things like those shiny new buildings and research chairs. Coordinating the efforts of all of these vps is Tom Traves, the university president. His portfolio is both everything and nothing. He is ultimately responsible for everything, but must delegate it all away. He also acts as the public face of the university to outside bodies.

So what, you are probably asking yourself, does any of this boring crap have to do with me? Well, these are the people who make all of the decisions at the university and will affect your next few years here. If a policy you don't like or decision that really helps you out comes along, this is where it came from.

TED CHIASSON
DSU PRESIDENT

Ted Chiasson can be reached
at 494-1277 or at dsupres@dal.ca.

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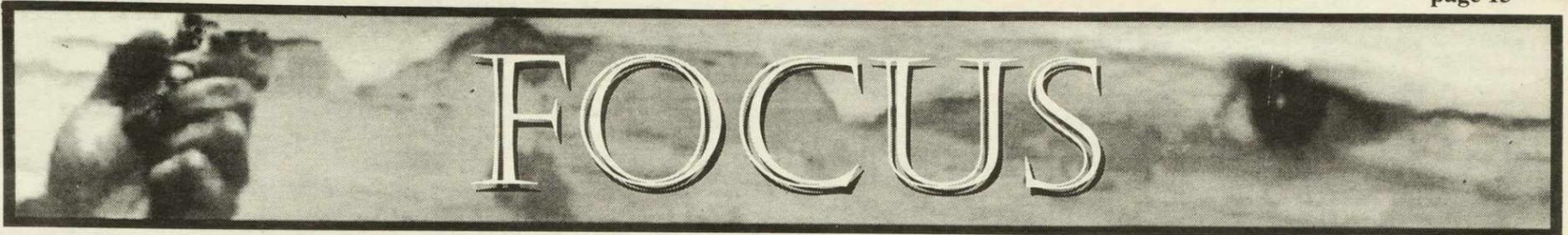
Best Buddies is an international non-profit organization which creates friendships between people with developmental disabilities and university and college students.

A Best Buddies chapter is coming to **Dalhousie University** this fall. If you'd like to volunteer to be there for someone who could really use a friend (and have a lot of fun at the same time), give us a call:

Shannon @ 423 0510

ATTENTION JEWISH STUDENTS

The Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation is your organization that is there to represent your wants and needs. We have a large variety of social, cultural and educational events ranging from parties, Shabbat Dinners, multicultural events, regional conventions, our annual ski trip and more. We currently have over 225 members across Atlantic Canada. Our membership is primarily Jewish, but we are open to anyone who wishes to join. For information about the representative of the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation on your campus, please contact Yakov at (902) 422-7491 Ext. # 27 or e-mail at ai993@chebucto.ns.ca



Well educated, white grade A eggs for sale

Attractive, Caucasian females sought out for ova donations

BY KRISHNA LALBIHARIE

WINNIPEG (CUP) — An increasing number of reproductive clinics and infertile couples have been soliciting young Caucasian women in elite universities for the sale of human ova, prompting concerns about selective breeding and medical risks.

Some critics — including students, health professionals, biotechnologists and ethicists — are alarmed by the commercialization of gamete donation among young women and the preference for Caucasian donors. Many also worry about the invasiveness of egg retrieval procedures.

"They have turned [universities] into... meat market[s]," said Patricia Baird, a medical geneticist at the University of British Columbia.

Baird, who in 1993 chaired the Canadian Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies, says couples and fertility clinics are focusing advertisement efforts on universities because they exhibit a higher percentage of young, intelligent women than other sectors within society.

Baird says ova donation is worrisome because procedures for the harvesting of eggs incur potential medical risks. Donors must undergo a series of hormonal injections, and retrieval of ova from ovaries is often painful and extremely intrusive.

"There's a real difference between sperm and egg collection—young guys are ejaculating all the time anyway," Baird recently told *the Globe and Mail*. "Handing over your eggs is not a trivial procedure. It's one thing to take these risks because you want a child. It's quite another thing to do it for money."

The sale of ova is prohibited

in most countries. In response to the Royal Commission, the Canadian government developed legislation in 1996 to ban the sale, purchase or exchange of ova, sperm and gametes. But the legislation remains tabled in the House of Commons.

Fertility-related organizations admit many egg donors are young, white university-age women. The Infertility Awareness Association of Canada and the American Center for Surrogate Parenting and Egg Donation admit the majority of their candidates for egg donation are Caucasian women between the ages of 21 and 35, with a minimum of 13 years of formal education.

The fact most candidates are white, industry insiders say, doesn't mean fertility clinics don't want donors who aren't Caucasian. Commercial operators of egg donation are "simply responding to market demands," said a representative of the Infertility Awareness Association of Canada. Often, that market demand is communicated through ads in university newspapers. Student newspapers at the University of Toronto and York University in Canada, and Princeton and Harvard University in the U.S., are some of the ones that have run ads petitioning egg donors.

"You're going to get a better grade of person [at a university]," said one Toronto woman who advertised in the York University student newspaper, *the excalibur*. "I didn't want to get some addict off the street," she told *the Globe and*

Mail.

The editor of the paper that ran her ad says the ad was allowed because it didn't contravene the paper's guidelines prohibiting content that is racist, sexist, homophobic or genocidal in nature.

"We consider the student newspaper a vehicle for public debate," said Derek Chezzi, editor-in-chief of *the excalibur*. "This is an institution for higher learning, after all."

But while there may not be specific policies prohibiting non-Caucasian women from donating their ova, advertisements seem to want "upper-class, rich, white couples that are looking to have the perfect child," says Ruth Williams, co-ordinator of the University of Manitoba's women's centre.

Some ads for egg donors read like personal ads.

"My sister has completed her Ph.D. in Pharmacology... my brother holds a Ph.D. in Genetics... I have a B.A. in Music Engineering and Communications with a GPA of 3.25... couples please email me," reads the Website of one woman, a student at the University of Colorado. The woman uses her Website to advertise to prospective couples and fertility companies.

"[My education] has cost me a great deal of money and it isn't done yet. Egg donation would help me with my school expenses," she says.

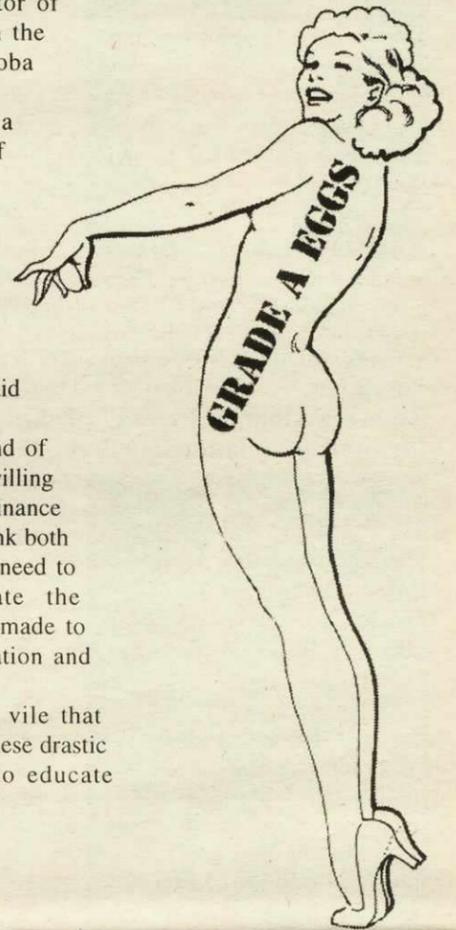
But having to harvest one's eggs as a means of financing higher

education is unacceptable, says Kelly Friesen, director of public relations with the University of Manitoba Student Union.

"As a representative of student interest, I'm horrified to think that some students would be put into such dire straits that a reasonable option to them is the selling of their ova," said Friesen.

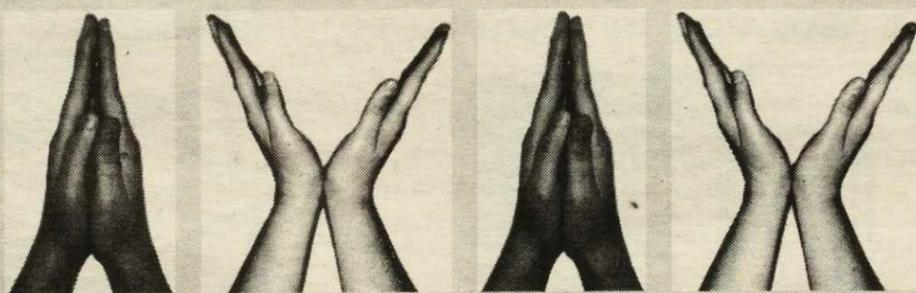
"If that's the kind of move that women are willing to make in order to finance [their education], I think both levels of government need to seriously re-evaluate the commitment they've made to post-secondary education and enhance it," she said.

"It's absolutely vile that women have to take these drastic measures in order to educate themselves."



"There's a real difference between sperm and egg collection - young guys are ejaculating all the time anyway"

The International Sign for Talking out of your Ass

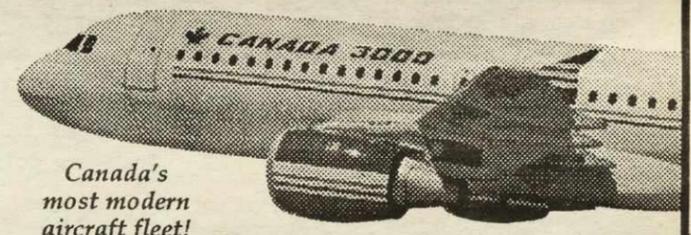


photos by Katie Teed

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE - HALIFAX DEPARTURES

OCTOBER 1998

TO	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
VANCOUVER	18:45	16:10	18:45	13:55	10:35 ⁸	—	—
EDMONTON	—	16:10	—	—	10:35	—	—
CALGARY	18:45	—	18:45	13:55	—	—	—
TORONTO	15:35	14:35	11:45 ⁸	12:40 ⁴ 15:40 ⁶	10:20 ¹¹ 11:30 ⁴ 12:30 ² 23:35 ⁶	10:35 ⁵	—
ST. JOHN'S	—	19:55	—	18:35	—	—	—

¹Begins October 12 ⁴Ends October 11 ⁵Ends October 25 ⁶Week of October 5 only ⁸Week of October 26 only

AIRPORT STANDBY FARES: Are subject to available seats prior to departure. Passengers may register 2 1/2 hours prior to the scheduled departure of flight. Fares are subject to change without notice. Travel on any specific flight is not guaranteed. Payment (Cash or Credit Card only) must be made on departure. One way travel only. Schedule subject to change without notice.

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Interviews by Red Saunders, Photos by Mimi Meir.

Only 12 Dal students showed up for Sunday's AIDS walk. Is public concern for AIDS a passing fad?



"I think it is because it's gotten so much attention by celebrities and media spokespeople. I don't think many students have come in contact with it in their lives."
Ambreen Athar, 3rd year Microbiology, Bathurst, NB



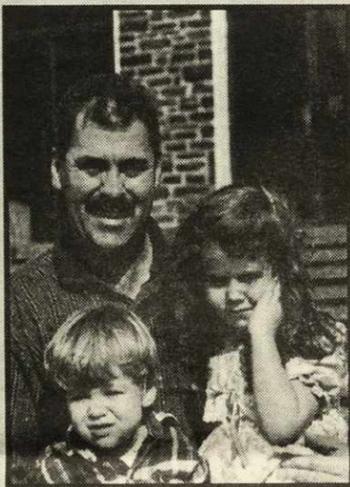
"It's a big concern to some people. I care about people with AIDS but right now it just doesn't hit me."
Asha Lawson-Igge, 1st year Arts, Carleton Place, ON



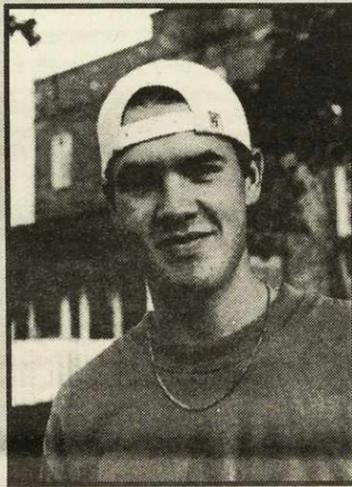
"I don't think so. I think people are still concerned with it, but people see so few cases close to hand and they do think it's irrelevant or impossible."
Brad Hefford, 2nd year Commerce, Gander, NF.



"Yeah, I think it is. It was really big when it first became publicly known, then it seemed to die off. Why, I don't know."
Jason Ruel, 1st year Computer Science, Moncton, NB



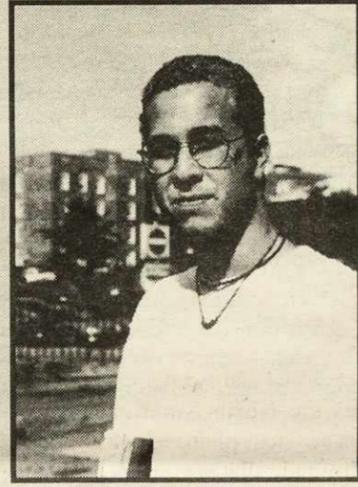
"I don't know that it is. You need to look into whether or not there was enough advertising — if they were aware."
John Smithers (with Ben and Alex), Lawyer with Federal Dept. of Justice Halifax, NS



"I don't think AIDS is as publicized any more. I didn't know about the walk. AIDS isn't the big thing on the news anymore. I think public concern has faded a bit now that the big shock has worn off."
Josh Morgan, 1st year Arts



"I don't know. I would imagine there are other ways to demonstrate your interest in AIDS than coming out for a walk. I'm sure people are aware of it."
Mimi Lam, Chemistry Post-Doctorate, Vancouver, BC

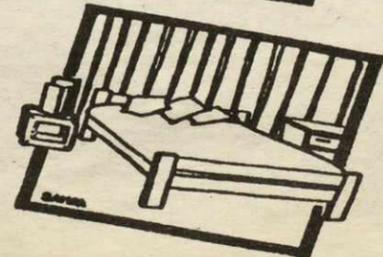
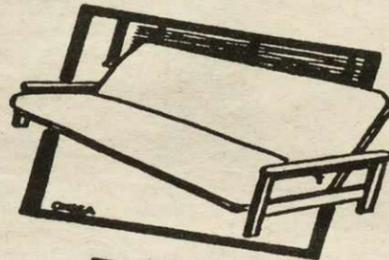
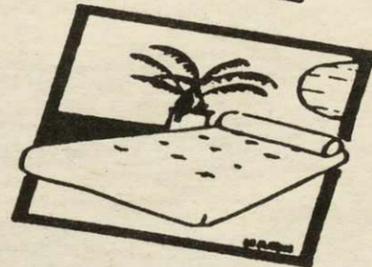
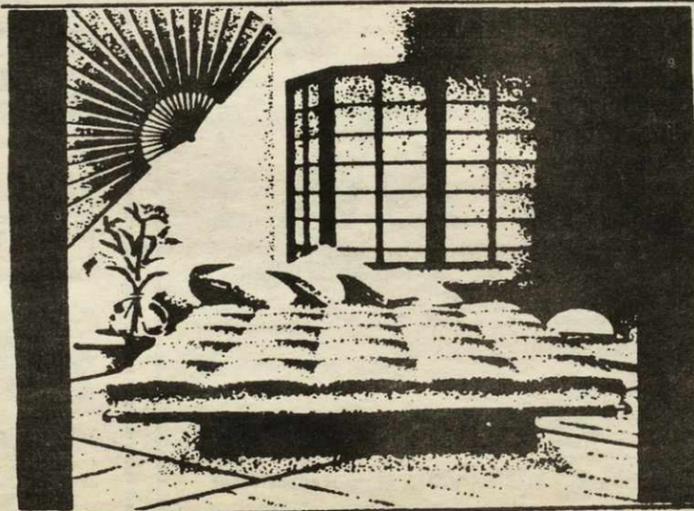
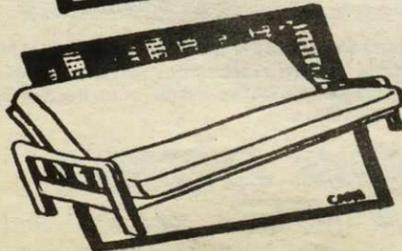
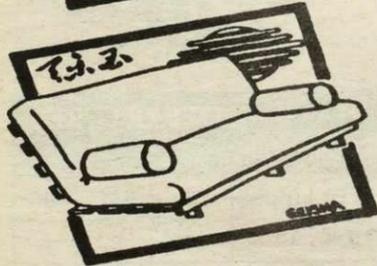
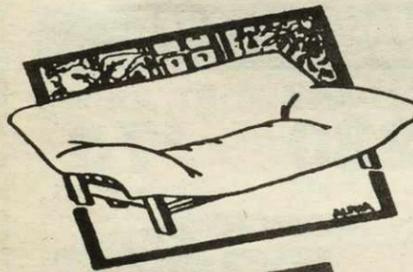


"Not at all. It probably wasn't advertised enough. I heard about it after it happened."
Jamie Davis, 2nd year Economics, Toronto, ON

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Free swim takes on nude meaning

BY NICOLA LUKSIC

TORONTO (CUP) — In a move believed to be unprecedented for a Canadian university, the University of Toronto has approved a nude swim at the school's athletic centre.

The initiative was driven by a campus club called the U of T Naturists, who took the first plunge earlier this month when about 37 members jumped in the pool — stark naked.

They and other club members will be able to swim in the nude periodically throughout the year.

"There's absolutely nothing obscene about being nude," said Thomas Lundy, an organizer with the club and student at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

"Nude swimming is definitely not erotic. Sex and eroticism are in the mind, not in the naked body," he said as he floated into the shallow end.

Lundy, who spent most of his life in Europe, was introduced to naturism when he was eight, and says he has difficulty understanding why North America is so behind the times when it comes to basking in the buff.

"People find nudity hilarious. Why does the North American population react to plain, simple, sheer nudity and call it perverted or sexual?" he asked. "I don't think I can ever adjust to this way of thinking."

Some swimmers who participated in the nude swim seemed to share Lundy's desire to change what they refer to as restricting North American attitudes.

"It is very liberating to be naked and in touch with the water,"

said Mickey Cirak, a U of T student and volunteer at the campus Sexual Education Centre.

The event ran more smoothly than the clothed lifeguarding staff at the athletic centre expected.

"I thought it would be a little more rowdy — more jumping around and noise," said lifeguard Missy Field. "They just seem fun-loving and down to earth."

Despite the social taboos surrounding nudity, the naturist group is receiving the same kind of treatment from the university as any other of the 185 student groups on campus.

"I'm happy that there is such a diversity of student interest groups for people to choose from," said Jim Delaney of the U of T student affairs office, adding he would rather take part in the Beatles' Appreciation Club than sign on for a nudist colony.

Still, attitudes on campus vary.

"I think it's very inappropriate for an academic institution of this stature to endorse this kind of group," said Mark, a first-year U of T student. "I think that the body is sacred and private. That's my moral standing and personal opinion. Although I'm opinionated, I'm also open. I have to say that it's great that there's so much diversity."

It's difficult for him and society not to equate nudity with sexual activity, he added.

Others couldn't believe the nude news.

"I thought it was a joke," said student Paul Sanders upon hearing of the nudist accreditation. "I would never do it. I'm way too self-conscious."

But breaking down negative body image is part of what naturists

claim they're about.

"You become shameless. These people don't have the body taboo created by our society. I think it's great for people with body image problems."

"You see all kinds of bodies here," said film student Bulen Akman while drying himself off on the pool's deck. He says he no longer feels painfully aware of what many would deem a small penis.



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The Gazette
Rm 312
the SUB

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ARTS & CULTURE

Hiphop and you just don't stop

BY GINA GRANTER

Last Friday night a fantastic hiphop lineup, featuring The Goods, Solitair, Choclair, and Kardinal Offishall took to the Marquee — and showed that rap is unabashedly alive in Canada.

The show was one of the headlining acts of the three-day Halifax On Music festival. The festival took the city by storm with tons of local and international musicians.

While locals the Goods attracted a lot of attention, more attention was given to the absence of Halifax's Stinkin' Rich. The fans I'm sure begrudged him nothing, knowing he was cutting a record with Kool Keith in Los Angeles.

The night got off to a slow start. When I heard one of the artists was out of the lineup, I worried. I

hadn't heard Stinkin' Rich before and was disappointed he wasn't there. This wasn't a good sign. Instead of Rich, a DJ from the Goods spun for a while. He was good, but the lack of volume and lyrics dragged down the atmosphere. The energy of live performance just wasn't there. To add to that, the bar wasn't too full and those who were there were awaiting the acts to come. Opening acts never get the attention they deserve and the audience response doesn't do much to help the atmosphere. So the DJ wasn't to blame for any lack of enthusiasm.

By the time the Goods came on, things had picked up a bit. All sorts of promotional stuff was going 'round, from cassette tapes to stickers. The place had filled up a little more and the Goods brought energy. After a good set they left the stage and I thought the moment we'd

been waiting for would come.

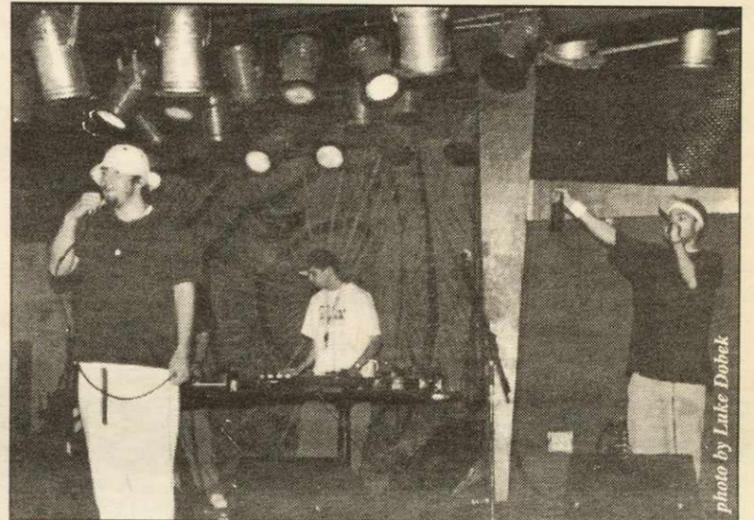
I was wrong.

After an extremely long wait — I didn't have a watch on but it must have been more than an hour — out came the three everyone had been waiting for: Kardinal, Solitair, and Choclair. Nobody seemed to expect them all at once but it was a welcome surprise.

By the time the three of them were finished their first song, any doubts I had about the evening were gone. It had all been worth it. The crowd agreed with me, flooding the dance space. Others stood or sat back and enjoyed the music. Everyone was moving in some way. The beats were great, the volume was perfect, and the three performers played the crowd. They did a long set with enough variety to keep everyone interested and they never seemed to tire.

If you've never been to a hiphop show, you've got to go. This show definitely gave me a new appreciation for this under-rated

form of music. In particular, pay attention to the artists we've got here in Canada. They've proved themselves worth hearing.



The Goods take to the mic at the Marquee

A brief history of time - Halifax On Music, "small but mighty"

BY JOHN ELMER

Rock n' roll: is there anything it can't do?

The remarkably unifying force of damn good music was on display at this weekend's Halifax On Music festival. Drawing on some of North America's hottest indie and micro-label acts, as well as a generous helping of many of the east coast's finest; HOM was, once more, a delicious success.

Spanning three intense nights of crowded venues, the festival staged the finale Sunday afternoon at the McInnes room in the SUB.

I encourage all readers to insert the index of hyper-descriptive, live rock adjectives here. I am certain most of them apply.

Conspicuous by their absence at the closing were Boston's Mary Lou Lord, who was stalled by sickness all weekend. Also, closing act Brian Jonestown Massacre was

apparently held up at the Canadian border. In accordance with their work all weekend, event organizers quickly picked up the pigskin and plugged in comparable acts.

Performing comfortably within the already carved niche of female angst acoustic rock, Toronto's Emm Gryner was flown in on only hours notice to cover Mary Lou Lord. Sonic Unyon rockers The Mooney Suzuki capped off the evening in place of the detained Brian Jonestown Massacre.

But on a weekend where entertainment was the buzzword, it was the pride of Clayton Park that took centre stage.

Always a crowd favourite, Thrush Hermit stayed the course Sunday before a crowd frontman Joel Plaskett described as "small but mighty".

With songs from their forthcoming Sonic Unyon release accounting for the lion's share of the band's hour-long set, Thrush Hermit gave the excited crowd a taste of what's to come from the rejuvenated quartet.

With high hopes of putting their major-label debut *Sweet*

Homewrecker behind them, Thrush Hermit will release their second full-length album, fittingly entitled *Clayton Park*, early in the new year.

Dawning an ever-useful motorcycle helmet, bassist Ian

McGettigan, only half-jokingly, told the crowd that according to extensive marketing surveys by the band, the album is best suited for a February release date.

"It allows us to be better prepared," added Plaskett after the show. "It gives us a chance to complete the artwork, the marketing and everything that goes along with it."

Judging by the enthusiastic reaction of Sunday's crowd, *Clayton Park* will be well received.

"We are excited about this release," Plaskett stated. "We weren't happy [with *Electra*]. They were mad [*Sweet Homewrecker*]

didn't sell like they hoped; we were mad they didn't promote it like we hoped."

With their new bosses, the band likes how their future is unfolding.

"Sonic Unyon is the most able independent label. They're nice guys. From here, we're just going to keep it simple," Plaskett said.

With a fine balance of simplicity, talent and contagious energy, it would appear Thrush Hermit has inherited the torch that was so unceremoniously dropped by estranged poppers Sloan.

And for Halifax On Music, a wonderful closing to a festive weekend.



Joel Plaskett live

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Big Sugar competes with Belvedere for top billing

BY KAREN PARKER

Concert-goers at the McInnes Room this weekend found themselves bombarded by propaganda from "Belvedere Rocks".

Belvedere, a subsidiary of tobacco company Rothman's-Benson and Hedges, was the major sponsor for Big Sugar's most recent Canadian campus tour, which wound up in Halifax on Saturday night.

Student councils across Atlantic Canada came under fire a couple years ago for allowing similar sponsorships. When Spirit of the West toured the region under the sponsorship of Belvedere in 1996, anti-smoking activists saw it as a deliberate attempt to promote smoking in the youth market.

Spirit of the West saw it differently.

"It was quite expensive [touring Atlantic Canada]," said Linda McRae, the band's accordion player. "We would not have been able to if it had not been for

[Belvedere]. It is one of those things that is a necessity sometimes."

Before even entering the Student Union Building (SUB), students were stopped outside the main doors to answer marketing surveys. Questions included general background information such as age and occupation, but the surveyers also wanted to know how we had found out about the concert, and who we thought the major sponsors were. When asked who was responsible for the survey, the marketing people outside couldn't tell us. According to SUB promotions staff, though, the survey was put on by a marketing company hired by Belvedere Rocks.

Inside the SUB, the walls were plastered with Belvedere banners and posters. Upon presenting our tickets, each of us was given a numbered raffle ticket which was entered in a draw for a leather jacket which had "Belvedere Rocks" emblazoned across the back.

Even inside the McInnes room itself, the blatant tobacco

advertising was evident. Back-lit "Belvedere Rocks" signs hung from the ceiling on either side of the stage. Cigarettes were being sold at the bar that had been set up at the back of the room. And while one side of the stage backdrop featured the characteristic Big Sugar steering wheel, the other side was covered by a majestic lion which looked suspiciously like something you might find on a cigarette package.

The concert was well-attended, and the first band, Pluto, started early. Much of the crowd was still filing in while they played their set. The second opener,

The Matthew Good Band, seemed to be more popular with the crowd and played a fairly long set, but neither of the opening bands really managed to capture the crowd's full attention.

Headliners Big Sugar played an incredible set — so incredible that it almost made me forget the fact that the whole event was a big corporate marketing tool. I was quite impressed when frontman Gordie Johnson stopped the show to admonish the body-surfers in the crowd, basically telling them to stop it or else they'd be removed. But I also lost a lot of respect for the band,

selling out to a tobacco company. Although, one must wonder, if you were a struggling Canadian band and a big corporation offered to pay for your cross-country tour, would you turn it down?

Upon leaving the building, we were once again stopped and asked to answer even more marketing questions. This time it was evident that Belvedere had set up the survey. Among other things, we were asked if we smoked, and, if so, to name our favourite brands. There was no question that Belvedere had spent a lot of money on the concert.

McCulloch's *Dog Park* a big disappointment

BY KARAN SHETTY

Bruce McCulloch's new film *Dog Park* is nothing less than a colossal disappointment. Written and directed by a man whose reputation as a comic talent precedes him, the movie is a lame attempt at a *Four Weddings and a Funeral*-type romantic comedy.

McCulloch's stint as a "kid in the hall", his cameos on *Saturday Night Live* and his humorous appearance in a hit music video have established him as one of the new generation of Canadian comedians ready to assault and infiltrate Hollywood the way Dan Ackroyd, John Candy, Catherine O'Hara and others did so many years ago. But if McCulloch has any real designs on Hollywood stardom he can't keep making poor films like this one. With a big name cast (for a Canadian production)

and McCulloch at the helm, the film held promise for many I'm sure.

Dog Park tries to be a commentary on modern romantic relationships but falls short of saying anything poignant or even

known. This story and the other subplots (which also focus on twenty-something relationships) play out in the local dog park where these people converge each weekend to walk their pets.

I went into the film expecting some of McCulloch's trademark off-beat humour but was treated to a pretty conventional love story. Don't get me wrong, even if I had gone in without any expectations whatsoever, I still would have left with a negative impression of the film. A good film will linger in



Boy meets girl, Wilson and Henstridge in *Dog Park*.

your thoughts, even after you've left the theatre. I didn't give this film a second of thought from the moment the credits started rolling.

It wasn't the acting or directing which did the film in, but the writing — which was bland and unimaginative. Watching these people thrash out their relationships wasn't the least bit entertaining.

funny for that matter. The story centres around a young magazine writer (Luke Wilson) who is trying to pick up the pieces of his life after being dumped by his girlfriend. In the process he meets the girl (Natasha Henstridge) whom he thinks is "the one". Unfortunately she doesn't want much to do with him and makes her intentions

Getting high in Montreal

BY JEN CLEARY AND KATHERINE HEBB

I find myself once again on the floor in the public urinal; broke and deprived of the heroin I need to get me through this day. I take

out my empty syringe and start stabbing it into my pale chest, draining my blood, desperately seeking a high. Each time I do this I spray the walls with my own blood until I become faint and fall unconscious. I dream of waking

up in a hospital surrounded by doctors who inject me with morphine ... I am laughing again.

I wake up a few hours later clutching a toilet bowl unaware of my surroundings. The walls are painted red with my blood and my head is pounding. I start to cry. For the first time in my life reality is staring me blank in the face and I admit to myself that I need help...

The documentary *Confessions of a Rabid Dog*, written and directed by John L'Ecuyer, captures the real life situations of the Montreal heroin scene.

The film is based on the lives of six recovering heroin addicts between the ages of 20 and 40, and the documented experiences of the participants offers a heartfelt and informative approach to drug addiction.

L'Ecuyer himself spent seven years of his life abusing heroin and selling his body on the streets of Montreal. He combines his personal experiences with those of the participants being interviewed as the film takes us through the tragic realities of lives plagued with hopelessness and despair.

Separating each interview are black and white segments poetically narrated by L'Ecuyer describing the vile pattern of heroin addiction. The explicit and graphic

continued on page 21

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Moving pictures from the end of time

BY GINA GRANTER

In one month you're going to die. Don't worry, it won't only be you. The whole world is ending. Try not to panic. At least you've got some time to plan out your final hours. Now, what are you going to do?

This question sets the scene for *Last Night*, a special presentation in the Canadian Perspectives series at the Atlantic Film Festival last week. Written and directed by Don McKellar, the film takes a look at the final six hours of Earth's existence through the lives of several intertwined characters in Toronto.

McKellar stars as Patrick Wheeler, a man who decides to spend his last moments alone, much to the dismay of his parents, who have arranged a final "Christmas" family reunion. Sara Polley (*The Sweet Hereafter*) plays Wheeler's sister, who is going downtown with her boyfriend for a final New Year's Eve in Times

Square-type countdown. We also meet Wheeler's friend Craig (Callum Keith Rennie of "Hard Core Logo"), who wants to "go out with a bang", and, through the convenience of internet personals, acts out most of his sexual fantasies before it's over. Talk about valuing bodily pleasure.

One of the most captivating characters is stranger Wheeler meets named Sandra, played by Sandra Oh (*Double Happiness*).

is this turn of fate that leaves the two of them spending their final moments together. The interaction between these characters is the most powerful force in the film.

The movie features an incredible survey of the ways different people would choose to spend their last day. It shows us the criminals, the families, the insane, and the lonely.

It's assumed one would likely choose to die with loved ones.

But what if you've already lost your loved one? This is the case for the cynical Wheeler, whose wife died just days before the news of "the end".

It is this and other ironies that make the film so beautiful, and force us to

think a little more about fate and circumstance. The atmosphere is just right, with abandoned streets and awkward silences. There are constant pauses in the dialogue before each character speaks, revealing the discomfort of the entire situation.



Sandra (Sandra Oh) loses her car to a mob in *Last Night*.

One of the first characters we see in the film, she stops at an abandoned grocery store for some provisions. While inside, her car is flipped by a chaotic mob, leaving her with no way to get across town to be with her husband. She runs into Wheeler and asks for help. It

High in Montreal

continued from page 20

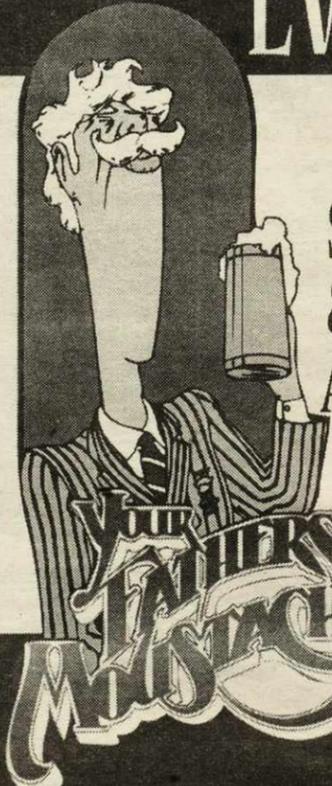
language in the narration was descriptive to the point of vulgarity. This realistic interpretation allowed the audience to almost feel his

needle in their arm. L'Ecuyer made no attempt to tip-toe around the social stigma of heroin, leading us right to the hard and cold truth.

The young L'Ecuyer has recently worked as a television

producer for such series as *Ready or Not*, and *Traders*, and has also released a jazz CD. Moreover, he won the Jury Prize at the Toronto Film Festival in 1995 for the critically acclaimed film *Curtis' Charm*.

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A welcome return from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet

BY JANET FRENCH

Giant Renaissance wigs and dramatic, passionate embraces were just some of the many highlights of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's Atlantic Canada Tour, performed at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium on September 25th and 26th. Featuring internationally renowned principal dancer Evelyn Hart, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet (RWB) presented pieces for all tastes with a mixture of classical and contemporary ballet, ranging in mood from jovial to subdued.

The first of the five pieces presented was *Allegro Brillante*, a classical piece brimming with technical choreography. Although lively, this piece was not the best choice for opening the show because there was a great deal of stagnancy interspersed with the

more boisterous parts. The lead female dancer was notably weak, which contributed to the lack of brilliance. There were moments when it was feared she might topple over her more talented male companion in mid-pirouette. However, the *corps du ballet* were quite strong, coming through with vibrant energy and excellent technique.

Allegro Brillante was followed by the energetic and highly technical *Grand Pas Classique*, featuring Jesus Corrales and Evelyn Hart. As expected, Evelyn Hart was astounding, and this piece gave her the opportunity to demonstrate her incredible strength and balance. Hart performed a series of developers and other such holds throughout the piece without so much as a quiver, and all throughout she maintained an expression of

innocence and modesty. Corrales was a most fitting companion for Hart in *Grand Pas Classique*. He was technically superb and appropriately expressive, and did not fall into her shadow whatsoever. Notably, Corrales performed the most astonishing set of straight legged foute turns I had ever seen.

La Soif was the most contemporary piece of the evening, with flowing costumes, dim light and live piano accompaniment. Described in the program as a piece about "two vulnerable souls trapped in the solitude of the night reaching for the same quest," *La Soif* conjured up thoughts of the trials and tribulations of love. Although perhaps unnecessarily lengthy, this piece was well executed with movements so beautiful and powerful one was distracted from the technicalities involved.

The final and most enjoyable piece of the evening was *L'Etiquette*, an amusing spoof on the pretentious antics of Renaissance characters in the court of Versailles. Fully equipped with period costumes, props and furniture, the dancers careened around the stage in slapstick ballet to create a satirical vision of the pleasantly drunk and socially dysfunctional upper class of the time. What made this piece so enjoyable was the choreographer's ability to co-ordinate such mayhem and drama with good dancing. The only complaint from the audience

about the piece was that so much was going on they couldn't catch all the humorous events.

Overall, the performance showed much improvement compared to past performances of the RWB in Halifax. It was comforting to see that no overly-cheesy pieces featuring technical showoffs in gigantic pink fluffy tutus and other such drivel were included in the program. In the future, it would be a pleasure to see more pieces like *L'Etiquette* from the RWB — pieces that include more theatrics and comedy with their dancing.

Literary noodling in the rain

BY RED SAUNDERS

After the film festival, one

comes to expect a certain degree of flamboyancy among festive artists. But there was a dearth of pedagogues braving the foul weather at Sunday's *Word on the Street* festival.

The annual literary festival, which occurs simultaneously in a handful of Canadian cities, suffered significant losses in dampened books thanks to the rain.

One tent, however, did not have its contents soddened by the downpour. The rain simply could not permeate the cans that made up the Alphagetti desk. Even if it had, it couldn't have made the letter-shaped noodles any soggier.

Although the pavilion was set up for a Heinz promotion of children's author Robert Munsch, the appearance of Alphagetti at a literary festival deserves some scrutiny.

"It's a good call," said Darryl Marshall, the chief on-site Alphagetician. "If you put all the letters together..."

Marshall didn't push the concept but instead turned attention to the desk and chair made out of cans of mushy pasta.

Since he didn't have an answer, the experts were consulted.

"Well, it does have to do with the alphabet," said Elizabeth Stevens, a graduate student at the UNB writing department who works with Fiddlehead.

"It's a bit of a stretch," she added. "It could be literary art on a plate."

She likened the alphabetical noodles to fridge magnet poetry kits.

"No," said Halifax freelance writer Carol Johnstone once someone described Alphagetti to her. She was joined at the Periodical Writers Association of Canada booth by Fred Desjardins.

Desjardins is another freelancer.

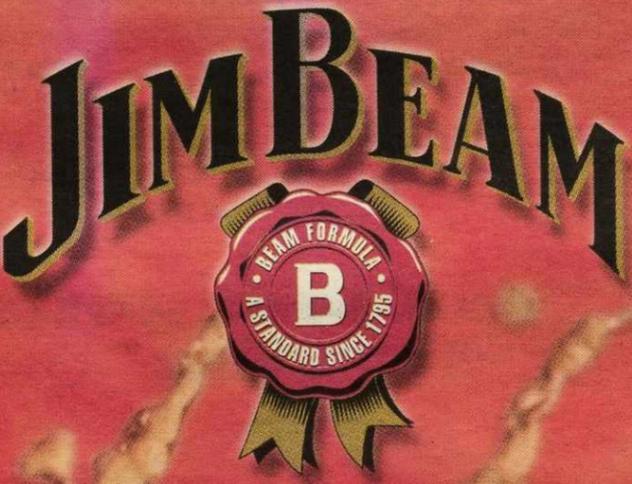
"Relative to what's written in the Chronicle-Herald it is [literature]," he said. "Alphagetti is to the daily news what F. Scott Fitzgerald is to Barbara Amiel."

Overall, most respondents said that yes, Alphagetti constitutes literature because one can write with it. That seems a bit of a stretch, as it would indicate that a mere alphabet constitutes literature. Doesn't something have to at least form a word prior to being considered literature (ignoring the potential necessities of character development, plot, or at the least some vague concept)?

"One time I threw up Alphagetti," said fourth-year Dalhousie History and English major Sarah Mian, who was working at the Geist table. "It spelled P-A-I-N."

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SPORTS

Dal soccer leaves UNB seeing red Men & Women defeat Moncton to complete sweep

BY TERRY HAWES

The Dal soccer Tigers continued their successful season as the men defeated the New Brunswick Varsity Reds 2-0 on Saturday and won 3-2 over the Moncton Blue Eagles on Sunday and the women cruised to easy 5-0 and 6-0 victories over female teams from the same two schools.

Women's Soccer

Dal 5 UNB 0 — Dal dominated this game from start to finish and cruised to the easy victory in their first game at Wickwire Field after four games on the road.

Only two minutes into the contest, Dal was in front as Mary-Beth Bowie sent Kelly Larkin in alone and her shot beat UNB goalkeeper Catherine Gillis. It became apparent that UNB's hapless defensive record (the worst in the AUA) was not a fluke as the Tigers proceeded to run them off the field.

The Tigers made it 2-0 in the 23rd minute as Larkin scored her fourth goal of the season. Dal's defense was so strong that keeper Roxanne Murphy didn't face a direct shot the entire game — UNB's only real chance was a drive sent over the net in the first half.

UNB's misery was completed with six minutes left, when Dal was awarded a penalty kick as Natalie Lindthaler was tripped in the box. Bowie converted the shot to end the scoring.

For Tigers coach Dara Moore, capitalizing on open opportunities was the key to the game.

"We're pleased we were able

to put away opportunities," said Moore. "We were quite solid today and we worked a fair bit on our defensive shape in the midfield and the back."

Dal 6 UDM 0 — Dalhousie rolled to victory over winless Moncton (0-4-1) with goals from Lindthaler and Bowie in the first half. Defender Amy Harding scored her first goal at 47 minutes, Larkin



photo by Mike Davenport

got her fifth goal at 61 minutes, Norman scored on 73 minutes and Bowie completed the scoring with her second of the game with six minutes left.

With tough games in Antigonish, Sydney and at St. Mary's this weekend, coach Moore is taking nothing for granted.

"Every game is important because the season's very short and we recognize that the trip will not be easy."

Men's Soccer

Dal 2 UNB 0 — The Tigers were pushed by UNB throughout the game, but solid goalkeeping and a little bit of luck helped claim the victory.

However, the Reds had the opportunity to open the scoring as Dal was penalized for a handball infraction in the 13th minute. It was 31-year-old Terry Elles who took the kick, but his shot came off the left post and the Tigers were off the hook.

"I was trying to be too precise on the penalty [kick] and it cost us," said Elles.

Goalkeeping was solid by both teams as UNB's Shawn Connell and Dal's Andrew Sears took centre-stage on various occasions. But a piece of artistry from Dal forward Joey Fraelic opened the scoring

at the 25th minute. Fraelic turned past a defender and beat Connell with a brilliant drive to the left hand corner for his first goal of the season.

The insurance goal came 65 minutes into the game as Carl Ensminger went past the defender and chipped Connell from about 20 yards to seal the match.

"Today was our best effort this season," said Ensminger. "We used the big surface to our advantage and we definitely hustled more."

Dal 3 UDM 2 — The Tigers saved their blushes with a last minute goal from Tomas Ernst after blowing a two-goal lead to the lowly Blue Eagles.

Dal dominated the game and were up 2-0 early in the second half on goals by Jeff Hibberts and Nador Awanen. The Eagles scored goals in the 85th and 87th minutes to level the score, but Ernst's goal gave the Tigers the victory.

Both the men and women are 4-1-1 heading into three games on the road next weekend. On Friday, the Tigers play St. F. X., Saturday it's the

Cape Breton Capers and Sunday witnesses the cross-town rivalry with St. Mary's.



photo by Mike Davenport

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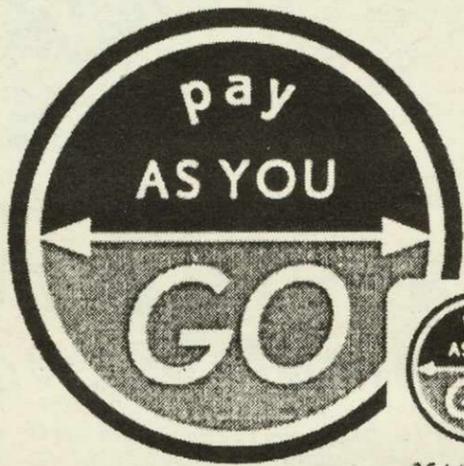
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Dal Parachute Club gears up for another season

Many first time jumpers take a leap of faith

BY LEE PITTS

Jumping out of a perfectly good airplane at 3500 feet may not be everyone's idea of a good time, but for some 30 Dal students, it was an "adrenaline rush" that addicted many of them to the sport.

Members of the Dalhousie Parachute Club

especially since it was so costly," she said. "Everybody who jumped had a good time and those who didn't get to jump plan to go back again."

Watts said she was a little disappointed there wasn't enough time for all students to jump, but says most of the students will be back.

The Parachute Club's new members, along with others interested in the sport, spent five to six hours in ground school learning the ropes before they took their leap of faith.

The introductory skydiving course was offered by the Atlantic School of Skydiving, where instructors not only prepared first-time skydivers for their first jump, but also prepared them for possible malfunctions.

"Safety is number one," said Dave Williamson, an instructor and owner of the school. "Enjoyment of the sport is number two — a close second. The two go hand in hand."

And Williamson says he could tell from everyone's screams they enjoyed it. "Everyone had the mandatory 'yee-haws'," he added.

First-time jumper Rob Goulding agreed, saying he enjoyed the experience to the fullest.

"It was definitely an adrenaline rush," he said. "It was a thrill. It's something I'm definitely going to do again."

Watts says the parachute club intends to jump every Saturday and Sunday of the school year. The club has started another poster campaign to encourage even more students to sign up.

"There are between 125-150 [students] on our email list right now," Watts said. "We want to get others to join and skydive with us."

Williamson says his school

tries to create a relaxed atmosphere so people can get the most out of skydiving.

"Our goal is to not only introduce people to skydiving, but have them stay in the sport and have them become experienced skydivers," he said.

First-time jumpers pay \$135 for the ground school and the jump, while every other jump costs \$35.

"It's hard to describe the feeling when you first jump from the plane," Goulding said. "There's so much happening at once. You've got the ground rushing toward you and you've got to make sure your chute deploys properly and you

have to remember everything they taught you in ground school. There's a lot more going on up there than most people think.

"You feel like a different person after you jump," he added. "After each person landed they all walked away from the drop zone with the same look on their face that said 'I can't believe I just jumped from a plane'."

Those who completed ground school and experienced their first jump Saturday became registered members of the Canadian Sport Parachuting Association and are eligible to skydive anywhere in Canada.

Attracting American athletes

BY MIKE VAN NYE

WINDSOR (CUP) — Andre Mixon was a typical American high school football player.

During his senior year of high school, Mixon explored football scholarships at big-time U.S. colleges such as Brigham Young and Western Michigan. But then he made a last minute decision to embark on a different route than his teammates, many of who were headed for the football fields of major American schools.

Mixon came to Canada.

The rookie wide receiver decided to play in the Canadian

Inter-university Athletic Union (CIAU) for the University of Windsor — a league and a school his American teammates had probably never heard of.

Mixon's decision stands in stark contrast to the usual direction of cross-border athletic talent.

Each year, American college recruiters swoop into Canada, hand pick the best high school student athletes, and entice them to American schools with scholarship offers Canadian universities can't even begin to compete with.

But few American student athletes ever consider pursuing an education in Canada — and the

University of Windsor wants to change that.

It's trying to convince high school athletes in the Detroit area to consider playing in the CIAU.

"It could be a terrific avenue for us, with such a large number of athletes not far away," said Dr. Joanne MacLean, athletic director for the U of W.

Mike Morencie, head coach of the university's football team, says the push to recruit Detroit-area players will increase in coming years.

"It is something we really want to pursue," said Morencie,

continued on page 26

met Saturday at the Waterville

Airport drop zone for the first skydiving event of the season. Many new members jumped for the first time.

Dalhousie Parachute Club president Wanda Watts, who has more than 75 jumps under her belt, was more than pleased with Saturday's turnout.

"It was a good turnout for just two weeks into the school year,

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The Results People

Kartbahn provides "the thrill of driving" 20-year old Daltech student making a go with kart business

BY GREG MCFARLANE

How many times have you driven your car, wishing that you could speed past the ignoramus clogging up the inside lane and leave him in your dust?

Well, Halifax's Kartbahn provides you with a safer venue to live out your exhaust-laden motorsports fantasies. Located on Prescott street in the north end, it is the only indoor go-kart track east of Montreal.

And if you're envisioning an image of the rinky-dink slowpoke carts that the word 'go-kart' usually summons, get a clue. The machines at Kartbahn have kick.

With a chassis so low your ass would be dragging along the floor were it not for the seat, and a speed limit that feels, well, without limits, these aren't vehicles for the faint of heart.

But what's more interesting than Kartbahn itself is Kartbahn's president, Lucas Strackerjan — a 20 year-old third-year Engineering student at Daltech. With a full course load (that's six classes) and his own business, you'd think his time was stretched a little thin. But he's the last person to buy into that philosophy.

"I don't believe in people who say, 'oh, you're too busy to do that'. That's BS," Strackerjan said. "If you have the ambition and the want to do something, then it's limitless."

A graduate of St. Pat's High School in Halifax, Strackerjan began racing karts at the age of 15. He turned professional at 16 and began racing Formula 1600 cars. At that age he also earned his Glider pilot's license and a year later he obtained his private pilot's license. When he turned 18, he began flying gliders in France, and last year he

opened Kartbahn at the age of 19.

Over that time, Strackerjan began his schooling at Dal and was also briefly hired on as a spokesperson for the federal government's *Stay in School* program. Spending an estimated 32 hours in classes and 15 hours on homework every week, he seems the ideal candidate for the job. Having a business on top of that was a goal of Strackerjan's.

"I really wanted to start a business," he said, "and I was thinking more along the lines of a sub shop, just to get my feet wet, sort of be my own boss. But why would I even start something I know nothing about? I'm not a chef... so I took something I knew a lot about."

He knew about racing, he knew about karts, and he knew about driving fast. And he wanted to pass the excitement he felt behind

the wheel on to others.

"It's hard to get people in here for the first time because automatically, when you think about go-karts, you think 'I went to an amusement park and they went five miles an hour and putt-putt-putt' and every time you'd try to accelerate, the guy would wave his hand and say 'go slow,'" Strackerjan said. "Here, we want you to go fast and enjoy yourself. This is the thrill of driving."

"You can't do this on the street."

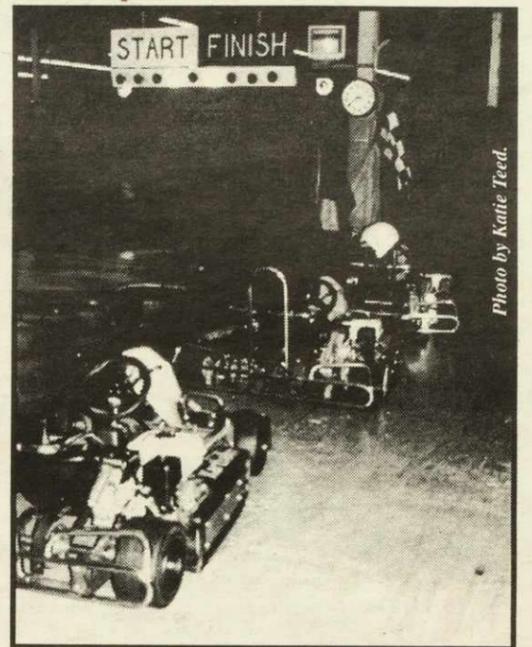


Photo by Katie Teed.

Pit lane at Kartbahn.

Attracting American athletes

continued from page 25

who recruited Nixon last year. "We're an unknown entity to them, but we want to try to advance this thing as well as we can."

Located at the foot of the bridge connecting Windsor and Detroit, the U of W has an advantage over other Canadian universities that may be looking to recruit American college athletes.

Students who live in Detroit can drive to the U of W campus faster than some who live in Windsor.

The university also hopes it may attract student athletes who have been wrongfully passed up by the American college circuit.

"So many kids over there fall through the cracks," Morencie said. "We hope to be a safety net for them, to catch the kids that fall through."

Still, strict regulations about team composition mean U of W teams aren't about to become dominated by American players. CIAU regulations, for example, prevent men's basketball from having more than three non-Canadian citizens on a team.

And athletes with star potential aren't the only students the U of W is hoping to win over from Motortown and other American cities.

It's also making an effort to promote the university to American students in general — a task that's not so hard given the low Canadian dollar and the fact Ontario tuition is cheaper than in the U.S.

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February 5th - February 11th, 1998

Thursday, October 1

Nudity, Heroism, and Lust: the Idealized Body and the Desiring Gaze. Public lecture by Halifax writer and critic Robin Metcalfe, at the Dalhousie Art Gallery, 8:00 pm. Call 494-2403 for more information.

Friday, October 2

Dalhousie Christian Fellowship, Power Praise Evening. 7:30 pm, Rm 307 SUB. Everyone welcome.

Dal Debating Society - Sodales 114th birthday. Free cake and \$1 barbecue at the Grad House. Live band and DJ. 7pm. For more information call Alexandra at 425-8011.

Killam Library's annual booksale, beginning at 9am in the Killam lobby and continuing into Saturday while supplies last. Prices range from \$0.50 to \$5.00, with expensive items priced accordingly.

Saturday, October 3

Oktoberfest for Multiple Sclerosis. Live Entertainment from the John Manders Band and Signal Hill. Feast on German fare and beverages. Admission is \$5.00. From 5pm-1am, VIA Rail Station, Halifax.

Tuesday, October 6

Seniors Health Education Series. 10am-12pm, new Halifax Infirmary (enter via Summer St.). No scented products please. Call Natalie Fraser at 473-5537 for more information.

Wednesday, October 7

Camille Claudel: A Bruno Nuytten film dealing with modern sculpture and the human form. Screening at the Dalhousie Art Gallery, 12:30pm- 8pm. Free admission. Call 494-2403 for information.

Announcements

Parliamentary Guide Program: Looking for bilingual, full-time university students from across the country to work as Parliamentary Guides in Ottawa from Victoria Day to Labour Day. Application forms available on the Parliamentary Internet Parliamentaire at www.parl.gc.ca. For more information call the Library of Parliament Information Services at (613) 992-4793. Application deadline is Monday, November 9, 1998.

The Bachelor Stripped Bare: The male nude in paintings and drawings from the renaissance to the 20th century is now on display at the Dalhousie Art Gallery. Gallery Admission is free. Open Tuesday to Sunday 11am-4pm. Call 494-2403 for info.

Peers Against Sexual Assault (PASA) needs male and female volunteers. PASA is a student run peer education group whose goal is to promote healthy sexual relationships and to educate students, staff and faculty about the prevention of sexual assault and sexual harassment. No experience is necessary as training is provided. For more info, please contact 494-1137, or susan.brousseau@dal.ca.

The Adventures in Science program is looking for volunteers to help get children interested in science and technology. They are looking for science students (undergraduate or graduate) to help facilitate workshops for Sparks, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Girl

Guides, and Scouts in Halifax. Contact the Adventures in Science office at 494-6715, email sits@is.dal.ca, or visit room 4609 in the Centre for Marine Geology.

Volunteers Needed: match your skills and interest with a program that makes a difference at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Volunteer opportunities available now. Call 573-5420 to make an appointment with either Carol or Roy about openings.

Speakeasy Program: Learn how to talk to groups calmly and confidently. This five session program will be of particular interest to students who find that anxiety makes it difficult for them to give class presentations. A \$20 deposit, refundable upon attendance, is required. See Victor Day at the Counselling Centre (4th floor SUB) or call 494-2081.

Overcoming Procrastination. A five session group program will take place in the Counselling Centre (4th floor, SUB) for students who want to learn how to get their academic work done on time. The program starts Thursday, October 15, 11:30am-1pm. Pre-registration required.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

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HOUSE FOR RENT- beginning Jan 1999, for 1 to two years. Located in Herring Cove, 15 to 20 min drive from Dalhousie campus. Three bedrooms, wood stove in family room, large yard. Non-smokers, please. Children welcome. Phone: 494-6432, 494-2737, 479-3051.

DALHOUSIE CHINESE BOXING CLUB- If you want to learn Kung Fu, Tai Chi, Chi Kung, Self-Defense, give me a call. John. 429-3415

Beginner Tai Chi - King's College Fitness Center (below gym). Mondays 12 noon- 1pm. Newcomers welcome. For info please call Sandra 857-9531

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DALHOUSIE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT CENTRE

Graduate Recruiting

Bank of Canada - is conducting its annual recruitment program to meet the 1999 staffing requirements. Degrees & deadlines: Students in Business, October 9, 1998; and students in Economics, November 13, 1998.

Nortel (Northern Telecom) - - - Recruiting for permanent positions and Summer. Grad recruiting deadline is October 5/98. Summer deadline: February 26/99. Also see their website: www.nortel.com/students.

J.D. Irving, Limited - - - Seeking students in Business Admin. for career opportunities in: Accounting, Human Resources, Purchasing, Retailing, and Sales/Marketing Management. Deadline: 1:00 pm, October 9/98.

IBM - - - Permanent positions: Personal Systems & Channels Management, IBM Home Computing, Personal Systems Sales, and Product Support Services. Apply online at www.can.ibm.com or visit DalTech Career Services office and pick up IBM business card on how to apply. Deadline: Oct. 9/98.

Procter & Gamble Inc. - - - Entry level positions available in: Product Supply Manufacturing, Customer Business Development (Sales), Information Technology, and Marketing. Deadline date is 1:00 pm, Wed., October 14/98.

Public Service Commission - Graduate Recruitment 1998/99
 For details on jobs available with the various government departments, please pick up application packages in the Dalhousie Student Employment Centre. Also, for more info, check website: www.psc-cfp.gc.ca/jobs.htm
 Note application deadline is October 5, 1998.

Information Sessions:

* **Export Development Corporation** - Thursday, October 15/98, 9:30 am - 11:00 am, Council Chambers, 2nd floor, Student Union Building. Students from Dalhousie and St. Mary's who are in Commerce or MBA majoring in Finance are encouraged to attend.

* **Canadian Airlines International** - Tuesday, Oct. 27/98 at 3:00 p.m., Room 224/226, 2nd floor, Student Union Building (MBA and B. Commerce). Please sign up at the Dalhousie Student Employment Centre before Oct.22/98.

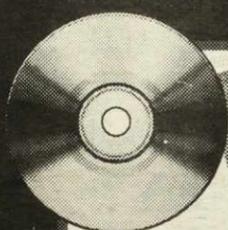
If you are a Dalhousie, Daltech, Kings student or recent Alumni, please visit the Dalhousie Student Employment Centre.

Website at <http://is.dal.ca/~sec/>

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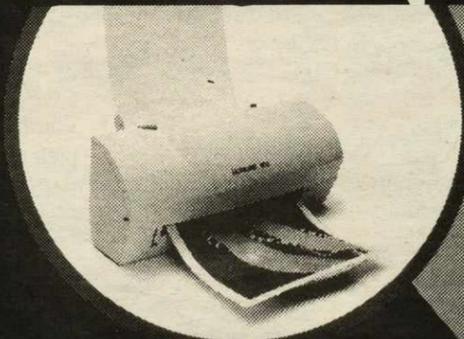


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