

Influence...

pg.14

THE

GAZETTE

Volume 132, Number 18.

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Thursday, February 17, 2000.



North of America and Neuseiland rock the Marquee like a hurricane. More on page 16.

photos by Jenn Bethune

People are getting sick Sacred Heart protest pesticides

BY ERIC MARTYN

Students and faculty from Sacred Heart School of Halifax organized a rally on Monday to protest the cosmetic use of pesticides within Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM).

Despite the forecasted freezing rain and wind, approximately 60 people marched from the Spring

Garden Rd. School to City Hall showing their support by carrying place cards, chanting and listening to speakers.

Linda Davis, a teacher at Sacred Heart School, said the focus of the rally "is to encourage city council to come up with some strong legislation regarding the cosmetic use of pesticides for this spring."

The school has been active for the past two years trying to curb the cosmetic use of pesticides within HRM.

"By bringing speakers in [to the school] there has been some learning. We've gone out to IGA to raise awareness. We've brought councillors into our school to present petitions to express to them

our concern and hope for a bylaw" said Davis.

Davis noted that there has been no action by HRM on this issue, despite the pressure of approaching springtime use of pesticides.

Students from Sacred Heart were joined in protest by members from a local citizens group Real

Alternatives to Toxins in the Environment (RATE). Others included Elizabeth May from Sierra Club of Canada, Sean Betts from Canadian Union of Postal Workers, and the Raging Grannies who all showed their particular brand of support by singing protest songs.

continued on page 3

What is that smell? Cleanspirit in the HRM

BY MIKE PALMER

It is a running joke in Halifax that everything we put down our drains simply gets dumped into the harbour. Unfortunately, except for two small-scale sewage plants, this is absolutely true. Everyday astronomical amounts of untreated storm and sewage water are being discharged into the harbour and North-West arm, through 40 untreated outfalls, prohibiting *Homo Sapiens*, amphibious and mammalian residents of Halifax from enjoying the waterfront area.

The harbour area is littered with visible debris and a nasty stench. But these cosmetic deficiencies are superficial compared with environmental and health concerns. Recent water samples show an overly high fecal matter and bacteria count. When will this fiasco end? It may be closer than you think.

Brent McCombs of the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project, a subsidiary of the Halifax Regional Municipality recently spoke to members of the Sierra Youth Coalition on the subject of the cleanup. Mr. McCombs informed us that the project to clean up the harbour is well under way. The municipality has stated that they are fully committed to putting the plan in place and following through with it. When asked about the time line for the project, McCombs stated that it will be phased in over a maximum of ten years, with construction beginning in 2001.

As of the present time the municipality has opened itself up to offers from the private sector for the contract to build the plants. McCombs ensured us that the plants will be operated by the municipal-

ity, with only the design and construction conducted by private interests. In the spring and fall of 2000, sites for the four new plants will be researched with community input. The proposed sites are as follows, in order of date of construction. The first plant would be built in North Halifax near the Cornwallis/Lower Water Street intersection. The second plant would be located on the Dartmouth side. The third plant would be located in the Herring cove area and would service the Spryfield/Herring Cove region. The fourth and final plant would be constructed in South Halifax somewhere in the area of the Ocean Terminals.

The four proposed plants will initially be built as advanced primary treatment plants, but will have leeway for the incorporation of secondary and tertiary treatment facilities. Advanced primary treatment means that the plant will mechanically filter the sewage before it passes through a series of flocculation and disinfecting processes.

According to McCombs, the municipalities' goal for the project at the end of the pipe is to have people swimming in the North West Arm and Bedford Basin, eating shellfish from the outer harbour and boating in the Narrow and Inner Harbour.

The entire project is estimated to have a cost of \$315 million. The Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) has stated, according to McCombs, that they are prepared to cover two-thirds of the cost. The remaining one-third is being sought after from the provincial and federal governments. McCombs was confident that the federal govern-

ment would come through, although he was more skeptical about the aid from the provincial government. When asked what would happen if additional support was not received, McCombs replied that the project would continue, but that the implementation of the project would occur over a longer period of time. Throughout the discussion Mr. McCombs stressed that HRM was completely committed to the project, adding that increased financial support would result in faster implementation and vice versa. The municipality will be drawing some of its funds from a water tax that has been added to the water bills of Halifax municipality residents over the years, as well as from the Pollution Control Fund, leftover from the last cleanup attempt. The water tax comes in majority support from the community, in which 71 percent of the residents polled supported the tax in order to get the harbour cleaned up.

A few issues surrounding the cleanup still remain, one being the cleanup of contaminated sediments. At the moment there is no plan to clean up these sediments, mostly in the direct radius of the outfalls. The reasoning behind this decision, according to McCombs, is the high cost coupled with the fact that the consequences of moving the sediments are not completely understood. Research is currently being conducted at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography on this subject.

Another issue is the bilging of tanks from cruise ships and tankers. Currently tankers and ships using the harbour are not prohibited from bilging their tanks and emptying their sewage into the harbour.

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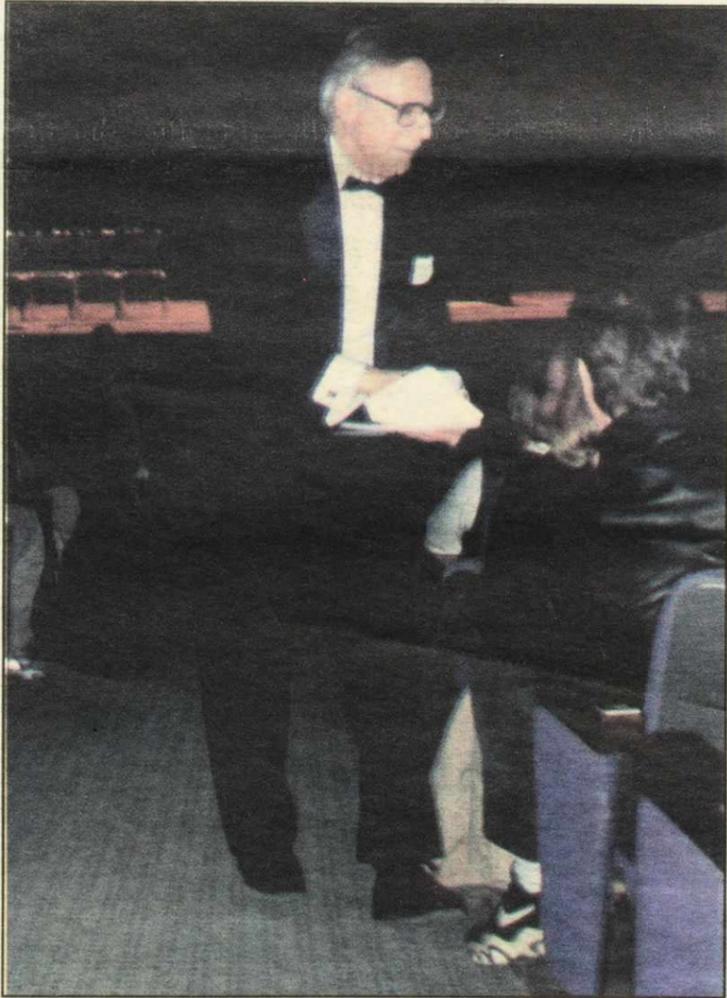


photo by Wazo Nazo

Sleight of mind. See story on page 17.

Dal charity drive

BY RACHELLE DUMAS

A third year neuroscience student at Dalhousie is playing an active role in a nation-wide campaign dedicated to giving used sports equipment to children in the North West Territories.

Sarah Giles, a Dalhousie student, and her two sisters formed Sporting Partnership of Universities and Northern Communities (SPUNC) in the fall of 1999 after

spending the previous summer in the Northwest Territories working in Waterfront Supervision jobs.

SPUNC is a small nonprofit organization which twins towns in the North with Southern Canadian universities.

In connection with Sport North and Sport Nunavut they conduct needs assessments on towns and match them with a university depending on the need and geo-

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ISU GENERAL ELECTIONS 2000

THE CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT/EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Steven Cote & Rosanne Cousins
 Zac Crouse & Jarrod Crouse
 Mark Galley & Chauncey Kennedy
 Leon Thomas & Catriona Macfarlane

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	STUDENT ADVOCACY	INTERNAL
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Atlantic universities need more government funding: report

BY AMANDA LABONTE

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — A report released by two Atlantic asso-

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ciations is calling for increased government funding for the region's universities.

The report, called Our Universities: The Key to Atlantic Canada's Future, was a joint initiative between the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) and the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council.

Among other things, the report looks into the economic impact that students have on the region's economy, the relation between a university education and the unemployment rate, and the growing enrolment in Atlantic Canada's universities.

The report says universities are one of Atlantic Canada's greatest resources. It cites several benefits to having a university education including greater access to full-time rather than part-time employment.

The report also says a well-educated workforce is critical in a globally competitive environment.

While the necessity for more people to obtain a higher education has been growing, the report says funding from both the provincial and federal government has not been increasing with the need.

"Despite the demands being placed on our universities, the public resources which support them are increasingly constrained," said the report. "There are concerns that if this persists, the quality and availability of a university education in Atlantic Canada may suffer."

Anne Marie MacKinnon, the executive director of the AAU, says the report is meant to give an overview of what is happening in the region.

She says the association hopes to use the information in the report to support their case for more government support for universities.

"It's a baseline report, a good background information," she said. "There's nothing terribly new about it, but it will, I think, be useful to us when we use it to support our cause."

MacKinnon also says the report provides a good look at the advantages of having a university education.

Student lobby groups, such as the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Students (NLFS), have expressed their interest in the report, as it supports many of their

views concerning the importance of post-secondary education and their stance against government cutbacks.

Allison North, NLFS chairperson, says the report brings together different groups with an interest in university education including students, faculty and university administrators.

"I think that the most important thing that [the report] does is it ties together a lot of different interest groups, people who have stakes

in education at different levels and we've really been trying to break down those walls," she said.

While the report focuses on Atlantic Canada, North says the issues it addresses are not unique to Atlantic Canada. She says there's a lack of priority on post-secondary education that has created a national crisis.

"I think this is a universal issue, I think it's a national issue and things are as bad here as they are anywhere else," she said.

Dal charity drive

continued from page 1

graphic area.

The idea for SPUNC evolved after Giles and her sister Audrey, both actively involved in Cross Country, noticed a lack of sporting equipment during their time up North.

Problems such as this one occur less frequently in the southern areas of Canada.

"We live incredibly privileged lives and a small donation would brighten their futures," said Giles.

Giles says she first began to recognize the problems when she took her campers to a swim meet where she found that while children from larger communities jumped eagerly into the pool wearing their swimsuits and goggles. The kids Sarah was in charge of, however, wore t-shirts and shorts. Her participants stared at the unfamiliar goggles. Their efforts in the meet were severely hindered by their inadequate swimming attire. Even worse, they were embarrassed and one girl initially refused to compete.

Despite such setbacks the kids Sarah met were always "looking for new things to try and were nuts for sports."

The reason there's a lack of equipment is that modernization and computers were more of a priority in the North than recreation

supplies, like canoe paddles and volleyballs, so the children aren't exposed to different activities.

Giles has high hopes for the used sports gear, which she says will "expand [the children's] horizons."

The project has obtained the full support of the Dalhousie Athletics Department. Dalhousie will soon be paired with 1 of 3 towns in Nunavut.

March 6-10, there will be collection boxes for new and used sporting material at Dalplex, Studley Gym and Memorial Arena. SPUNC is requesting that all varsity athletes, community groups, Dalplex members and university community members donate any equipment they no longer use.

The drive is timed to come after reading week so students can bring back any equipment from home.

Since the cost of shipping to the North is four times more expensive than anywhere else in Canada, the governments of the NWT and Nunavut, along with First Air and North-Wright Air have donated money.

SPUNC is looking for sources of transportation to their two jump-off points Montreal and Edmonton because of the expense.

Dalhousie is one of nine Canadian universities participating in SPUNC.



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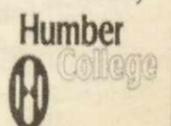
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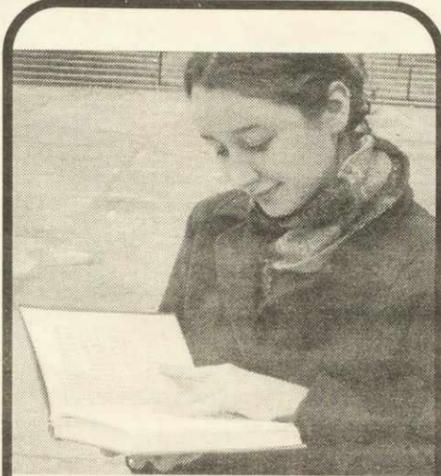
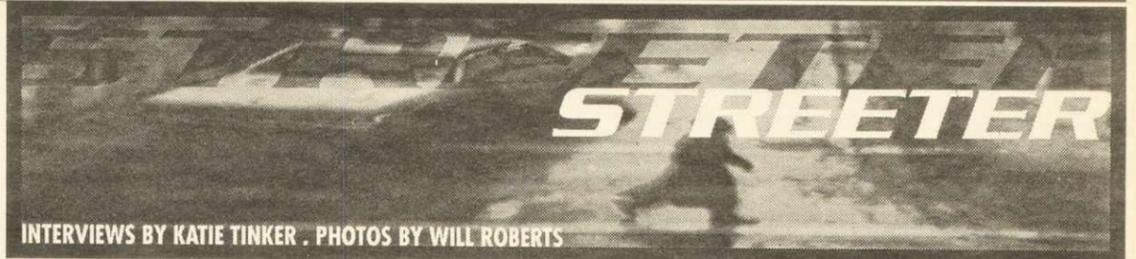
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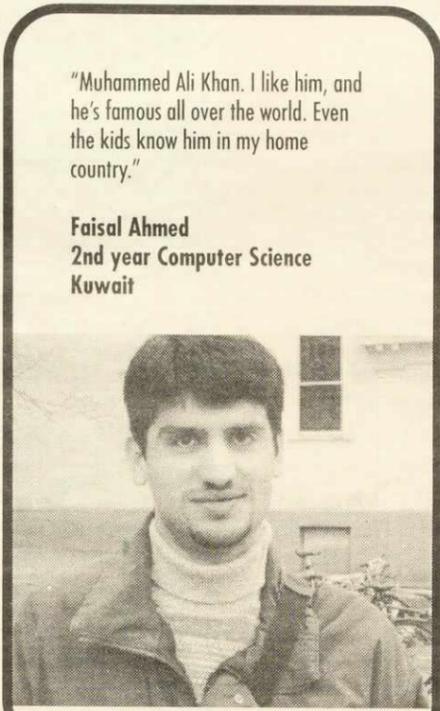
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FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH. WHO IS AN INFLUENTIAL BLACK FIGURE TO YOU AND WHY?



"Ralph Ellison. *The Invisible Man* is one of the most incredible, influential books in the twentieth century at least."

Gina Granter,
3rd year English and Women's Studies,
St. John's, NF



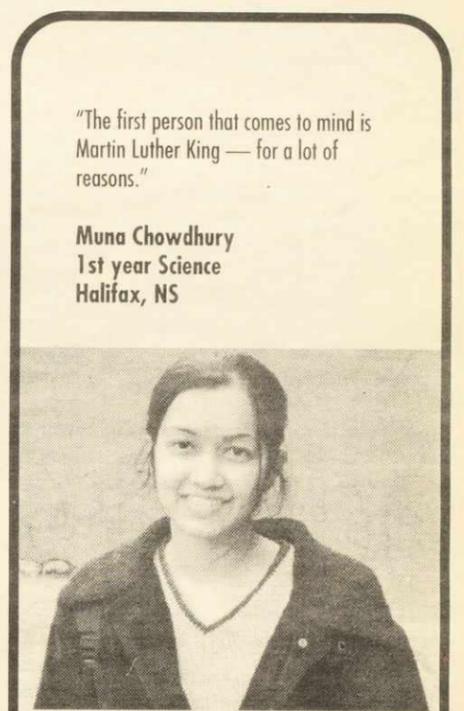
"Muhammed Ali Khan. I like him, and he's famous all over the world. Even the kids know him in my home country."

Faisal Ahmed
2nd year Computer Science
Kuwait



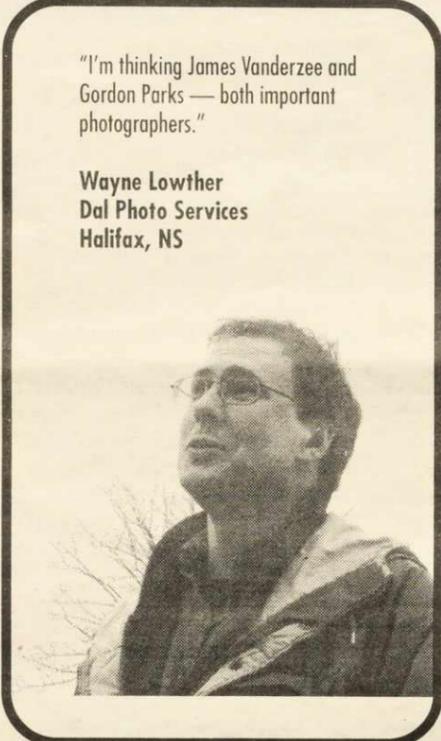
"Rosa Parks, who refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white person and went to the US Supreme Court for it. She was the first person I remember learning about in school, as far as human rights go."

Jessie Crabill
MA English
Michigan



"The first person that comes to mind is Martin Luther King — for a lot of reasons."

Muna Chowdhury
1st year Science
Halifax, NS



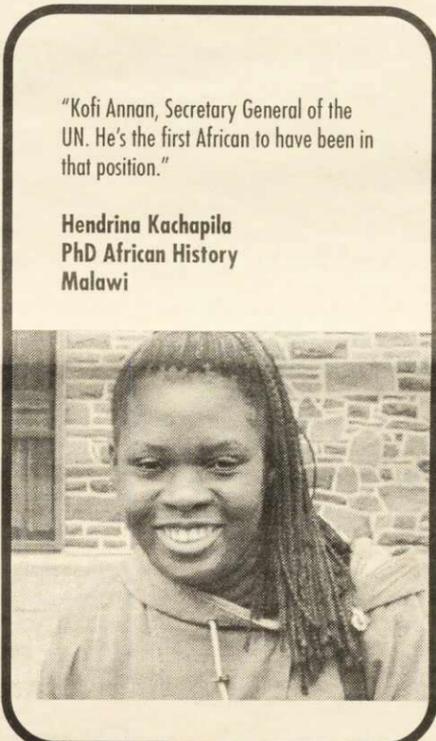
"I'm thinking James Vanderzee and Gordon Parks — both important photographers."

Wayne Lowther
Dal Photo Services
Halifax, NS



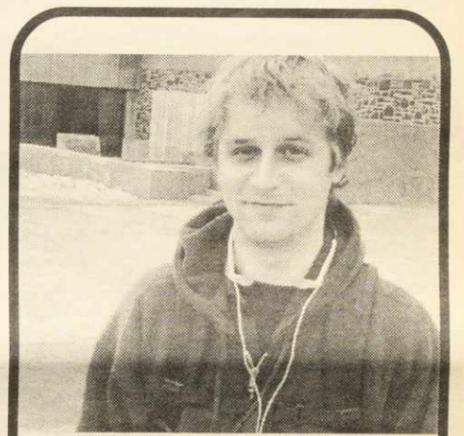
"bell hooks. She's an influential black feminist author from the US."

Doneilia Stevens
1st year Bachelor of Social Work
Dartmouth, NS



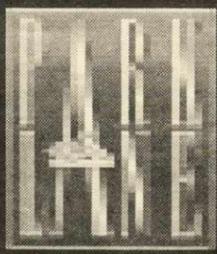
"Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the UN. He's the first African to have been in that position."

Hendrina Kachapila
PhD African History
Malawi



"Muhammed Ali. He stood up for the rights of everyone during the Vietnam war."

Jonny Payne
4th year Bachelor of Science
Corner Brook, Newfoundland



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| Snow Day | PG |
| Boiler Room | NYR |
| Hanging Up | NYR |
| The Beach | AA |
| The Tigger Movie | G |
| Magnolia | R |
| Pitch Black | NYR |
| The Whole Nine Yards | NYR |

**THE SHOPS AT
PARK LANE**



Ask the candidates: what our

Mark Galley For DSU President

Most important issue

The biggest issue facing students next year is tuition increases. Tuition has gone up over 100 percent in the last few years here at Dalhousie and this is a trend that can not continue. The situation is particularly dire this year with the state of the province of Nova Scotia finances. Our province is in debt and is facing massive budget cuts. Throughout government, departments have been projecting the impact of these cuts and the department of Education's analysis revealed that if students are to face the brunt of these cuts by having it placed on tuition then this could result in an increase as high as 34 percent!!! Students shouldn't, can't and won't stand for this kind of increase. So now the question becomes what can be done about it. This year as Vice President Student Advocacy with the DSU I presented a plan to the newly elected minister of education that would bring these increases under control. Tuition regulation is the answer. What was proposed in tuition regulation is that the yearly increase of anywhere from 5-8 percent that Dal students have been facing be regulated or in the case of the proposal tied to inflation. With this type of control put in place gone are the 8 percent hikes in tuition, the fears of differential tuition for different faculties and now students would be able to know what their tuition would cost for the four years they are here. If elected we would press both the province and the university to implement this type of control on Dal's exploding tuition.

Some people ask why not a tuition freeze? That fact is that a tuition freeze hasn't and doesn't work. What has happened across the country when one has been put into place is that tuition stays the same, but students are simply charged incidental fees, \$50 fees, fees for tutorials etc... These aren't tuition costs so they can do that but they are still costs we as students have to pay. This actually would make the situation worse for those on student loans, as the amount of money you get is based on tuition costs not total cost. So the prices goes up but your loan doesn't.

Why are you running?

This is probably what a lot of candidates will say, but I choose to run for this position because I believed that I could make a difference for Dal students. To put this in context I'll look back at some of the lobby effort that I did in Ottawa this year for Dal students. This year I was part of a national campaign for Post Secondary education. We meet with and lobbied over 100 members of Parliament all the way to the finance minister. The four things that we lobbied for were increased funding, GST off text books, lower interest rates on student loans and the elimination of discriminatory tuition. Where this gets into making a direct difference for Dal students is in relation to GST on text books. Some people argued that this was something too small and that we had to ask for more, I disagreed. If at the end of this year I am able to put upwards of \$90 back into the pockets of every Dal student then that is over \$1 million split among Dal students that they see now when they need it the most. So in short yes there are long term issues such as student loans and funding but there are also things that need and can be done to help students now.

Qualifications

Experience is something that in a political position such as President can be a great asset. For the past year I have worked hand in hand with this year's President representing and lobbying for Dal students. This year I was the Vice President Student Advocacy with the DSU. In this position I spent my last year lobbying in Ottawa and meeting with such individuals as the minister of finance, finance critics, the minister of education, the Executive director of the student loan program, and our own administration.

I have also been a member of the DSU council and the University Senate for the last two years, represent the interest of student at the DSU, Senate and Joint Senate Board committees. In short I bring

* Experience in lobbying federal and provincial governments

* Connections at other Student unions across the country

* Experience representing student interests to the university

* Knowledge of the concerns and issues facing students.

New ideas

Although not a new service one thing that I would like to see expanded so that it can be a better resource for students is the Student Advocacy Service. Currently the DSU runs a Student Advocacy service that helps students with such things as grade appeals and represents students on discipline hears of the university for such things as plagiarism. Last year the DSU conducted a service survey and 86 percent of students said that they felt that there should be a full time service to help out with these as well as such things as student loan problems, and other problems that students face. The problem is that currently this department is only allocated \$1600 to run for the entire year, and with a phone bill of almost \$60 a month there is really not much to work with. If elected this department will be expanded and financed properly so that Dal students can get the help that they need. The students have said that they want it and if elected we will provide this valuable service.

Favourite word or phrase

My favorite phrase would have to be "my cat's breath smells like cat food" Ralph Wiggum. What can I say I'm a Simpson's buff, so remember "Choo Choo Choose" Galley and Kennedy. Even though our signs don't have a train on them.

Chauncey Kennedy For DSU Executive Vice President

Most important issue

I think that by far the biggest issue facing students next year is the possibility of an unacceptable hike in tuition fees. A government funding cut is the source and will possibly cause an even greater financial strain on students. Mark Galley has been extremely involved through the VP Student Advocacy position this year plans on dealing with the political aspects of the cuts and tuition raises. As far as the position of Executive Vice President goes, I plan on a couple of different things; the first being providing more opportunities for the students to actually know what is going on. Better utilizing and marketing the SUB is key in raising awareness. Well-publicized forums, with top level university decision makers as well as government officials is key in making Dal students knowledgeable about what is happening to their education. Also, fixing the DSU web page is an absolute must! First of all, the web page blatantly sucks! There is everything from spelling mistakes to the Health Plan link that has no information. This is an avenue of marketing possibility for the DSU and SUB that is infinite. I would like to see a direct link from the Dal homepage as well as just having a complete site. The DSU web page is not known about and can become an easy and efficient way to convey what the DSU is and what we are doing for issues that specific students are worried about.

Why are you running?

The reason that I am running for the position of Executive VP is a very simple one; I feel my business and marketing experience will be a great asset to the Dalhousie Student Union. Because the position entails the running of the Student Union Building, both general operations and full and part time student staff, an experienced business student is an added benefit. I have always wanted to run for the position of Executive VP as it suits my attributes and personality, which is a laid back environment, full of open communication and last but not least a business. The DSU is a beneficial student voice and representation that needs to better utilize the student population.

Qualifications

I am currently a third year Commerce student majoring

in Marketing Informatics. The knowledge gained through three years of Commerce/Marketing courses as well as, two co-op work placements has taught me the important aspects of how a business runs and how to deal with all levels of management, personnel and external audiences. I was also heavily involved in the Dalhousie Commerce Society as a third year representative this year, and was a proud Cameron House President in 1998-1999. I have very good personal and group communication skills and feel that I am very approachable and easy to discuss any issues with.

New ideas

The new ideas and services, which Mark Galley and myself have discuss first and foremost is to improve the services that we currently have! For example, I believe that all of our services are important for a university and for Dal students, but right now some are losing money. This is unacceptable as you the students pay Student Union Fees (approx. \$52.40/year) to fund SUB operations. I want to utilize my marketing experience to make and institute improvements to make them widely used services across campus. With regards to new renovations, I feel something needs to be done to help accommodate the influx of students once the FASS opens up next year, but first we have to find out exactly what the student population needs. There is no sense in making renovations that are not needed or wanted by the student population. One quick idea that I feel will help improve the traffic through the SUB is to open a patio in front of Robins Donuts where student can gain access directly from Robins and can go outside and drink their coffees and just hang out. This is very feasible especially since there are current plans by the Halifax Regional Municipality to close off University Avenue between Seymour and LeMerchant. This will become a walkway for students from the FASS to the SUB, and this area has loads of possibilities! As well, I will work hand in hand with CARA Food Management to prepare them for the opening of the FASS. The DSU gave the Dalhousie 1 million dollars to help build the FASS, but there were stipulations. One of these stipulations was that the FASS would not provide any food services. This will directly affect the amount of students using the Union Market, Grawood and Robin's. I definitely think that changes need to be made in the Union Market but right now I honestly can't speculate what it really needs to be evaluated first.

Favourite word or phrase

I think that my favorite phrase would have to be the Newfoundland expression, "GO ON." The reason my favourite phrase is a Newfoundland phrase is because my girlfriend and best friend are Newfoundlanders and I have picked up on the lingo. The phrase is applicable in so many different ways and meanings. For example: Disbelief and empathy:
Me: Hey, how is school going?
You: Crappy man, I have 14 exams in the next two days!
Me: GO ON, that's shitty!

Disbelief and humorous:

Me: Hey bud, what is going on?
You: Chauncey, I just did an hour long presentation with my fly down and a piece of lettuce in my teeth!
Me: GO ON! (laughing)

Steve Cote For DSU President

Most important concern

My number one concern is with tuition and the quality of our education. As your president, I promise to lobby at all levels of government to ensure that they make it their mandate to support post-secondary education. Federally, we must work with our lobbying organization, CASA (Canadian Alliance of Students Association) to ensure that student interests are not overlooked in everything from scholarships to income tax. Provincially, we must work with other Nova Scotia universities to make sure that the [John] Hamm government understands that an investment in higher education is an investment in the province's future. Perhaps most importantly, we must continue to pressure at the university level, particularly the Board of Governors, to not rely solely on tuition dollars to fund our programs.

Why are you running?

I am running for DSU President because I think there is a real need for an experienced student leader with a strong voice and willingness to act as representative of the student body. We need representation at 3 main levels of government: the Board of Governors at the university, federally and provincially. There are a lot of issues that students face today: student loan repayment, rising tuition costs and overall decreased funding to post secondary education from the government. The governments MUST understand that

an investment into higher education is an investment into this province's and country's future. I believe that I have the experience necessary to be that voice to represent all students on the issues at hand.

Qualifications

The qualifications that I bring to the DSU President are four years of experience: two consecutive years on the DSU council as the DSU Vice President Internal this year and as Member at large in 1998-99. I was also a residence house president in 1997-98 and sat on the School of Health and Human Performance council 1998-99. In addition to student politics, I volunteer at the Atlantic Health promotion center with wheelchair programs and participate in many intramural sports and student clubs. I believe that from my experience and knowledge in participating in the DSU for the past number of years that I am the best candidate to represent the needs of the student body both externally and internally to the university.

New Ideas

I believe that awareness of what the DSU executive does for the student body is an important issue that must be addressed and is ultimately the responsibility of the president. As Vice President Internal this past year, Rose and I ran an awareness campaign in which we spoke to classrooms about what the DSU actually does for the average student. As DSU president, I would continue to promote overall awareness of the DSU to the student body by having Focus Forums (two per term) in which there would be an opportunity for an open discussion on how the DSU executive are doing their jobs.

Also, news of assaults and stabbings has further put the spotlight on the safety of our campus. However, security issues differ from one end of Dalhousie to the other. To deal with this, I would form a Campus Security Committee that would consist of representatives from all three campuses. Its mandate will be to assess risks and dangers with student input and tours with security. Together, we can create a real solution to a very real problem.

Favourite word or phrase

The DSU is like toilet paper, it plays a small role in your everyday life but it would sure make a big difference if it wasn't there!

Rosanne Cousins For DSU Vice-President Executive

Most important concern

I think if I were to say there is one main issue, I would be leaving a lot of people outside the ring. There are the obvious ones as Cote mentions as being rising tuition and lack of funding both of which we will lobby against if elected. I think there are other issues as well including student awareness of our services (DSU) and opportunities available within this organization that all students are automatically members of. The Health Plan is of concern and though there were problems this year with distribution and implementation, I believe they can be rectified by again inserting Health Plan information in the registration packs as well as having Health Plan Stations in both the A&A registrar's office and the students accounts and services office at DalTech.

Why are you running? / Qualifications

I am running because I believe I am the only candidate who truly has the right experience for the position. I've been at Dal for five years, graduating last May. In that time I have been involved in varsity athletics, in club sport, in residence as an orientation leader and a Residence councillor, as the Dal/DSU Orientation Week Co-ordinator, as President of the Student Association of Health and Human Performance, as a Tiger Patroller, a SUB Staff and this year as VP Community Affairs. I have an immediate working knowledge of the services of the DSU and the parts that make them up such as budgets and staff. It is of benefit to me that I have worked in so many capacities and that I have the ability to see things from many perspectives: student, employee and employer. I am running because I have a wide peripheral vision enabling me to see what is happening in many different places at one time and because this is what the VP Exec needs. You need to be a good manager, a good listener/speaker/communicator, a decision maker while taking the time to find out what new things are needed and that existing things are constantly monitored.

New Ideas

I have my new ideas for the Health Plan so that's one. As for the other services of the DSU I could say that it would be nice to have many other services but before that is considered I think it best to evaluate the ones that exist to make sure they are being used and monitored for productivity. What I would like to do is get a student opinion from focus groups and the DSU

Services Survey so that I get student input and the decision isn't solely mine.

Favourite word or phrase

COTE AND ROSE are the BEST and ONLY candidates for DSU President and VP Exec so put a check in my box!! (wink)

Zac and Jarrod Crouse For DSU President and Executive Vice-President

Most important concern

The biggest issue facing students is the distinct lack of free alcohol. We will solve this problem by giving beer to everyone who votes for us.

Why are you running?

If we are elected, we'll each make \$18,000. That's a lot of money for a job that has no pre-requisites. Seriously, all we really want is your money. Also, Jarrod feels that such a highly publicized job will greatly increase his chances of picking-up.

Qualifications

We had a lemonade stand once when we were kids. We think it'll be just as challenging.

New Ideas

We want to install an army of winged helper-monkeys to do our bidding, and erect a monument to Peter North (Nova Scotia's greatest export).

Favourite word or phrase

"First you get the money, then you get the women, then you get the POWER."

Leon Thomas For DSU President

Most important concern

University access and success: tuition fees that are outpacing growth in family incomes and inflation; wide disparities between the needs of DalTech and Dalhousie students; and continuing and increasing isolation for off-campus, international, and minority students. Quality education, inclusion, and equity on campus are not only rights, they are fundamental to the University! My focus will be on creating a fair, accountable, and efficient DSU administration, with a more proactive approach in dealing with student issues. We will initiate more partnerships, dialogues, and forums (within and outside the university) to create a greater exchange of information and a broader base for dealing with the issues. It is crucial that we revive the political will of policy-makers who have the ability to facilitate the futures of students. Moreover, the DSU must challenge the university to be open about its spending and priorities.

Why are you running?

The DSU has become a system of misrepresentation, which has left many students feeling alienated. "Its time to get the students back!" Running for this position allows me to help create a more responsible student union that concerns itself with the needs of off-campus, graduate, and international students. The DSU is in need of sound leadership, offering fair representation to their constituents.

Qualifications

Thomas & Macfarlane offer the best alternative to a new DSU administration. It is time for a change; to act more coherently than the DSU has in the past. My qualifications and experience include; Political Science and Sociology major, organizer of many public forums, constitutional and Board member of the North American Student Forum, and former DSU Councillor. Serving as your President, I can provide a critical review, analysis and dissemination of emerging and existing policies, protocols and legislation pertaining to University students. The change Thomas & Macfarlane offer is new, vibrant, and exciting.

New Ideas

Leadership is essential to any Presidential position. Therefore establishing a vision is firstly in order to move the DSU in a clear direction. More practically, opportunities exist to improve the look, feel, and flow of an efficient and representative DSU administration. Let's develop partnerships between faculties and the S.U.B for student placements to foster and promote student entrepreneurship and business, arts and drama, and science and technical skills. Let's expand the usefulness of the Grawood and other DSU facilities by encouraging more diversity and programming for students. We need to establish more person-to-person contact to get people excited about DSU activities and aware of services the DSU offers.

Favourite word or phrase

THE QUESTIONS:

1/ What do you think is the biggest issue facing students next year and how will you deal with it?

2/ Why are you running for this position?

3/ What qualifications and experience will you bring to office?

4/ What new ideas/services will you bring to the DSU?

5/ What's your favourite word or phrase and why?

DSU hopefuls had to say

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

Catriona MacFarlane For DSU Executive Vice- President

Most important concern

The biggest issue facing students in the next year will be whether Dalhousie adopts online and phone registration. Many universities throughout the country have already implemented such a program to become more efficient and better service student need. I would strongly agitate to have Dalhousie switch to this proven and reliable service. This way we could ensure that Dalhousie students have the same effective technology as other universities.

Why are you running?

I am running for this position because in the past four years I have seen a number of changes. These changes have been good and bad, but at the same time too much has remained the same. I want to be able to help initiate changes! Dalhousie should be leading other universities in its student programs and services, rather than falling further and further behind. I would lobby to ensure that this period of hesitancy concerning student concern ends.

Qualifications

As far as qualifications, I am a political science and English student. I am vice president and a mentor for the political science society and am also a councillor on the Dalhousie Arts and Social Science Society. I lived in residence my first year and from this I know it is possible to have a strong and united campus when people are made to feel they belong. I will strive to make sure that this feeling is strengthened, with a fresh approach and new ideas for both Dalhousie and DalTech.

New Ideas

I am full of new ideas and services that could be brought to the DSU. One of which I have already mentioned, online and phone registration. In addition I would like to see open and innovative communication between the DSU and students. This could be accomplished by bringing back campus criers and holding public forums, to let students know about upcoming events. Also I would like to publicise Tiger Patrol, by better advertising what it is, the routes it takes, and where to catch it. This, coupled with using the van as a shuttle service between campuses will further help to integrate the diverse university community.

Favourite word or phrase

One favourite phrase is too little. Any phrase uttered by Jay and Silent Bob is my favourite.

Brianne Johnston For DSU Vice-President Internal

Most important concern

Without question the biggest issues facing most university students are rising tuition and the quality of education. Yet in my individual position there is not a lot I can do to directly improve these dilemmas. However what I can do is be in contact with societies and other members of the university and voice their concerns to the members of the executive who are directly involved in dealing with those type of student issues.

Why are you running?

I am a huge advocate for societies and strongly believe in the opportunities they provide to students. I feel that all students should be given the chance to participate in societies and it is my goal as VP Internal to inform Dal students of the societies on campus so they can benefit from them as myself and many others already have. I also want to be there for societies by helping them fundraise, recruit new members and most importantly by making myself accessible to them. It's unfortunate that the relationship between Dal and DalTech is strained. However, I want DalTech students to know that helping them is a priority of mine and as VP Internal I want to work with DalTech to establish their place and role in the greater workings of Dalhousie. I want to make them more aware of what is going on within the university and ultimately develop a better relationship with them.

Qualifications

My experience as a Residence Assistant, summer orientation leader, Welcome Fair Co-ordinator and current Editor-in-Chief of the Dal Gazette have allowed

me to see societies from both perspectives, that of someone who is involved in them, and someone who has also helped promote their benefits.

As Editor-in-Chief of the Dal Gazette I have had the responsibility of planning budgets, holding regular staff meetings, chairing committees and dealing with issues as they arise. This job has taught me a great deal about the importance of organization, communicating well with others and with the university and it's workings in general.

New ideas

There are a lot of new ideas that I would like to implement during my term in office and the advantage to them is that they are all feasible.

I love the idea of having a Welcome Fair to introduce students to societies and would like to see that type event happen more often during the first two months of school and at different locations across campus. I would also like to see societies receive their money from the DSU earlier in the year to allow them to begin their activities and attract new members sooner. I would also like to improve the web page, give more societies the chance to create their own web page and possibly provide links to other university societies. I would really like to work with the newly elected president, vice president executive and DalTech to try and resolve some of the issues that exist there. Tackle the communication barriers and discuss the possibility of more autonomy.

Favourite word or phrase

I have a lot of rather odd words that I like to use but one of my favourites is "superfantastic" because it's taking two great words and putting them together to put an even bigger emphasis on what you are trying to say.

Chrystal MacAulay For DSU VP Student Advocacy

Most important concern

I think the biggest issue next year will be tuition increases. Right now all we hear are rumors, but some say we will face increases of anywhere from 10 percent to 15 percent next year alone. The reason for this is the federal government's plan to slash funding to the provinces through CHST payments. We won't know anything for certain until the budget comes down at the end of this month, so this will be a controversial issue in the news very soon.

As VP Student Advocacy, it would be my job to voice student opinions to both the federal and provincial governments, as well as the university administration. An increase of that magnitude would be devastating for the majority of students, particularly if scholarship and bursary programs are not infused with a comparable amount of funding (which is unlikely). Accessibility has always been a major concern for me, and I would like to lobby specifically for a regulated system of tuition increases.

Why are you running?

I've always been interested in leadership and lobbying positions, especially dealing with academic issues. I've had an interest in the VP Advocacy job since my first year at Dal, and I believe I am now prepared to take on that role and to excel within that portfolio. My Frosh name was "Mouthy" and I'd love to let the government know why.

Qualifications

I am currently a University Senator, so I have already been heavily involved with academic issues at Dalhousie for almost a year. I've tried to get involved in as many ways possible, and have done so through the Fall Orientation Committee, the Dal Arts and Social Sciences Society, the DSU Election Committee, the Gazette, and the DSU Council. Credentials aside, one thing I have prided myself on is my dedication and active participation. I don't believe in simply attending meetings, I like to speak out and visibly represent the students who elected me. As VP Student Advocacy, I would have an even larger audience and more opportunities to make our opinions known and voices heard.

New ideas

First, I would like to work on strengthening Senate caucus - that would mean working closely with all five student Senate reps to plan a team strategy. From there, I would like to see the caucus conducting informal polls of students on relevant issues and taking these responses directly to the Senate. What better way to hear student voices than asking to actually hear them? I would also like to see a monthly article published in the Gazette and the Sextant to let students across all three campuses know what issues we are facing, and how we are serving their needs. As for external issues, I would first work to build a dedicated academic/external committee, and together come up

with a viable plan to lobby for student interests (e.g. regulated tuition increases).

Favourite word or phrase

Mmmm, CHOCOLATE!!! It helps me stay focused. And if I'm elected, my first task will be to see that all concrete in the LSC is replaced with chocolate. And vendors in the SUB giving away chocolate everyday. And anyone who voted for me would be entitled to give me a large gift of chocolate. See how I think of YOUR needs?

Shawn Tracey For Vice President Community Affairs

Most important concern

Undoubtedly the biggest issue facing students in the upcoming year is the university's response to the much anticipated provincial budget to come in early March. But these types of things are left to the DSU President, VP Student Advocacy and their committees. My job, as VP Community Affairs, would be to help students forget about such stressful issues and try to have fun during their stay at Dalhousie. By no means am I trying to make light or downplay the seriousness of tuition increases, but I would consider no part of my potential portfolio to be "The biggest issue facing students".

Why are you running?

I am running for this position because I feel it to be the fun position on the executive. Honestly, where else could you find a job where not only do you get to plan week-long parties and fundraisers, but you also are given the awesome powers of being on the executive. (ok maybe not so awesome, but it sounds pretty cool)

Qualifications

I am currently one of the student representatives to the Board of Governors, so I have experience on the DSU council. I am also Chairperson of the Dalhousie Science Society, President of the Dalhousie Association of Biology Students and a member of various committees. One of those committees is Community Affairs, so I have helped to plan or run most of the events which fall under the portfolio of the VP Community Affairs. I feel this takes a bit of the "steepness" off the learning curve and gives me a unique perspective whereas I have seen the events run first-hand.

New Ideas

As for new ideas, I do not have a lot in mind. This year Rosanne Cousins, the current VP Community Affairs, helped to bring back the Booster Club as well as supported a new fundraiser called "Raising the Roof" which benefits Halifax's homeless. These, along with all the traditional events and fundraisers, makes for a very busy year. I'm not saying new events are out of the question, but my first priority will be to run those established event to the best of my ability.

Favourite word or phrase

Nothing like a good "get to know you question". To be cheesy and quote a line from a song by Dave Matthews; "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we'll die." It seems a little harsh, but the underlying meaning is sound. Let's make the best of the time we have here at University. These are supposed to be some of the best years of our lives. Get involved and have FUN!!

Ian Robson and Jo-Anne Galarneau For Board of Governors Reps

Most important concern

Rising tuition costs are a huge concern for all students. As a Board of Governors Rep., we would ensure that the BoG was made explicitly aware of the fact that today's students are debt-ridden, and under increasing financial pressures. To do this, not only do we have to be elected, but we shall also require the constant input of the student body. We are merely representatives of the Dalhousie student body, and as such we can only express the will of the students. Tell us what concerns need to be brought before the BoG, and we shall bring them forth. Increased communication coupled with tenacity and vigour is what is needed.

Why are you running?

We are running for this position to bring our involvement to the next level. Both of us, have been involved in the Dalhousie community and we feel that this position helps us continue that. The board of governors is the highest decision making body at Dal and if you want to make a difference this would be the best opportunity.

Qualifications

Both of us have been involved with the DSU for a number of years. We would bring a high level of maturity and experience to the BoG as well as the DSU Council.

New Ideas

The BoG is a small council, and the number of student reps on it is even smaller. This necessitates a strong voice for students, and we can and will provide a strong voice.

Favourite word or phrase

Ian - "Every man must believe in something, I believe that I'll have another drink." W.C. Fields

Jo-Anne - "Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt, and dance like you do when nobody's watching."

Devin Roberts For Senate rep

Most important concern

There are many issues facing students these days. I believe one of the hardest issues students will have to face next year is tuition increases. Dal currently has the second highest tuition in Canada and I believe there are plans to increase tuition by another eight percent. This will put a real strain on the student body because many students have difficulties affording university.

Why are you running?

Currently, I work many part time jobs on top of my school work and volunteer work, and I know many other students have to work in order to afford

university. With tuition increases students are going to have to work more and more just to make ends meet. This is one of the main reasons why I would like to be part of the DSU. I want to work together with the new council and find some feasible solutions to these difficult problems. I will work hard for the student body if elected because I know how hard it is being a student these days and I want to do my best to ensure that a university education at Dalhousie is attainable for all students.

Qualifications

As for my experience, I have been involved with many councils, committees and teams in the three years that I have been here. Here's a quick run down of a few of these activities.

- Henderson House Vice President
- Employee of the Grawood and the Corner Pocket
- Member of the Dalhousie booster club and Dalhousie Community Affairs committee
- Announcer of the IWK Charity Cup and many varsity sports
- Participated in the "Toque Tuesday" charity event
- Chair and National Representative of the Nova Scotia Youth Committee for Scouts and Venturers.

As you can see I have tried to stay involved in as many different organizations as possible and all the experience that I have gained from each of these organizations I believe will help me as a DSU Senate Rep if elected.



GENERAL ELECTIONS 2000

THE CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT/EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Steven Cote & Rosanne Cousins
Zac Crouse & Jarrod Crouse
Mark Galley & Chauncey Kennedy
Leon Thomas & Catriona Macfarlane

VICE PRESIDENT POSITIONS

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	STUDENT ADVOCACY	INTERNAL
Shawn Tracey	Chrystal MacAulay	Brianne Johnston

REPRESENTATIVE POSITIONS

SENATE	BOARD OF GOVERNORS
James Eaton Ryan Macdonald Devin Roberts	Jo-Anne Galarneau W. Ian Robson

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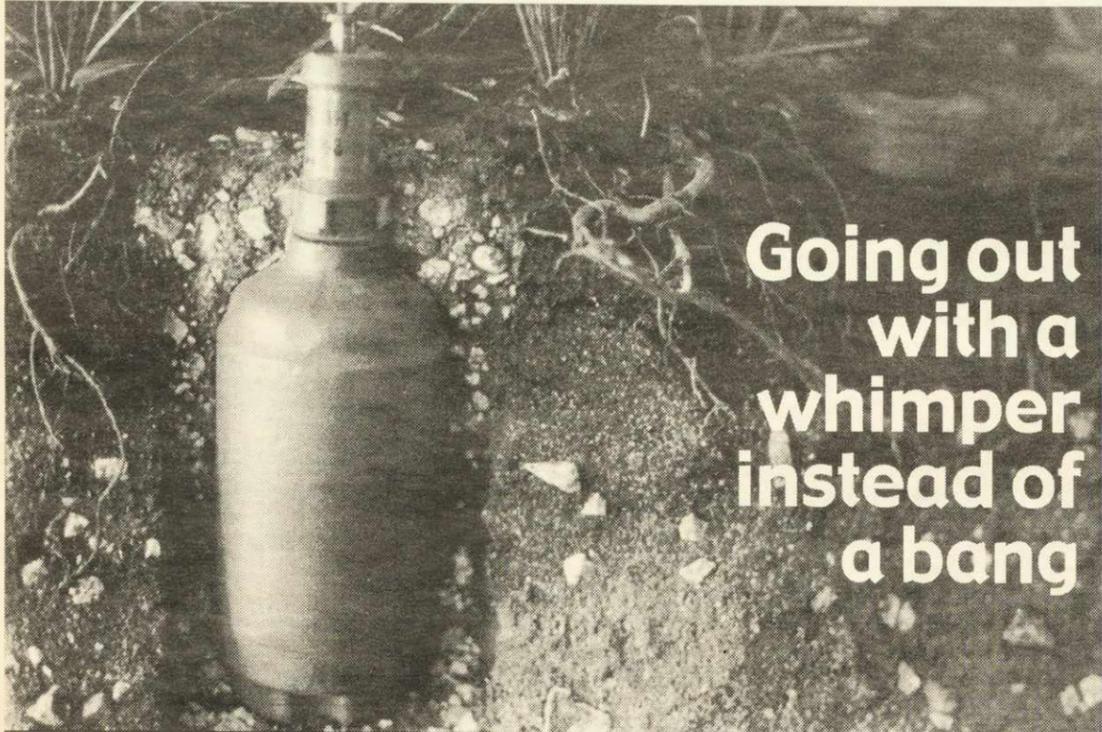
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Douglas Gordon, Chief Returning Officer
Or any member of the elections committee

Neil Horsley • Nadia Fournier • Pete Robar • Randy Nanjad
Rm 220, Student Union Building
(902) 494-3854 E-Mail: election@is2.dal.ca

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT



Going out with a whimper instead of a bang

Day of landmine action — panel discussion

BY DANIEL MCKILLOP

The first ever Atlantic Landmine Exhibition was held as a part of International Days at the Student Union Building on Tuesday, February 8. As a component of the event, a panel discussion was held for approximately two hours, beginning at noon. The forum was moderated by Brian O'Neill, Canadian Program Officer for Oxfam Canada. "Landmine issues must be understood in terms of human

rights, such as protection from violence," said O'Neill. "Areas which are mined can [also] prevent access to water, growing and retrieving food," and a whole host of other restrictions to freedoms of movement and property.

"It was Canadians who made a lot of difference on this issue," said Bob Lawson, Deputy Director and Senior Policy Advisor within the Mine Action Team of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. "Canada took the issue outside of

conventional routes, forming an unusual coalition of small to middle Powers like South Africa, the Philippines, Norway," who signed what is called the 'People's Treaty.'

The coalition worked with civil society organizations, and sent supporters to places where mines directly affected people. Since it was composed in Ottawa in 1997, the People's Treaty has been translated into other languages, including local dialects, and distributed to countries all over the world. Given

the long term damage done by landmines, combined with the hopeless difficulties in regulating their distribution in the world, the Treaty requests the total ban of mine usage, mine production, stockpiling, sale or exportation of the weapons.

"We have been putting pressure on local governments," Lawson said. "Moral voices and political voices are being heard all over the world."

Lawson attributes the success of the treaty to its brevity and elegance. Its initiatives are clear; all mines are to be cleared within 10 years, while existing stock of mines are to be destroyed within four. But support for this treaty is critically needed now, while Canada begins to actively implement it. "This thing will fall apart if the momentum doesn't sustain itself, said Lawson. "The issue has to be taken out of Ottawa, and brought to local regions [of the world]. All Canadians have a stake in this, and have to get involved."

"The U.S. is stubbornly refusing to sign the treaty," said Nathaniel Raymond, media assistant in the communications department of Physicians for Human Rights, co-winner of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize. "Landmines affect the civilians of the world, who have lived with this scourge for longer than what [many] governments have acknowledged."

Raymond also stresses the important role that Canada has to

play. If Canadian leaders can persuade the US to sign on, "there will be diplomatic pressure for other countries to sign, where they have not...it is a partnership that we need."

"There is no more of an extreme challenge than sending soldiers into a mine field, knowing that you're responsible for their lives and limbs," said Greg James, a representative of the Canadian Forces School of Military Engineering. James served 21 years in uniform, and lost a soldier to a landmine explosion during Operation Harmony in Croatia in 1994. "We're often there [as Peace Keepers] to separate the fighting sides, not to demine the area."

During Operation Harmony, the Serbs and Croats had signed a cease-fire. Because of the large number of landmines in the region, troops had difficulty manoeuvring, and it was decided that the mines would have to be

cleared. On the first day of the cease-fire, the first casualty of the mission was claimed. The Serb engineers took the soldiers down a path, and hit an anti-tank mine. One of the victims of the explosion, who survived, had even helped plant the mine.

"In the end, we declare the route or area mine-free after clearing it, and then we have to go down the unforgiving path, hoping that we did our job, said James. "There is fear before, and after, clearing a mine field. In the evening, when you reach down to take off your boots, you realize you are lucky that on that particular day you turned out all right. Then, when the next day arrives, you have to do it all over again."

Countries which are currently threatened by landmine activity include Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia, Cambodia, Chechnya, Croatia, Iraq, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Somalia, and many others. More than 50 countries have manufactured millions of anti-personnel landmines over the past 25 years.

At the Ottawa Conference in 1997, 122 countries signed the People's Treaty. Presently, over 135 countries have signed. In addition to banning landmines, the treaty also requests that able countries provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation and social reintegration of mine victims, as well as support mine awareness projects.



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VANCOUVER	-	18:55	-	-	-	-	-
CALGARY	-	18:55	-	-	-	-	-
TORONTO	-	23:25 ¹	13:50	12:10 20:35 ¹ 23:35	-	-	-
ST. JOHN'S	-	18:30	-	18:40	-	-	-
HALIFAX DEPARTURES TO USA							
ORLANDO	-	15:50	-	-	-	-	-
ST. PETERSBURG	-	-	06:00 ¹	-	-	-	-

¹ Begins Feb 7 ² Ends Feb 27

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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Sweat Shop Fashion show

Sexy, flashy, ugly truth

BY JAY CLEARY

Camera flashes, runway models, sexy music and flashy clothes usually characterize the typical fashion show — but this past week's Sweat Shop Fashion Show in the Green room of the Dalhousie Student Building put it in a disturbing perspective. These were not runway fashions from Paris, London or New York. Rather, they were clothes seen on the streets of Halifax and in the halls of Dalhousie. The glamour and sex appeal were definitely presented, but the glitz of fashion was brutally over-shadowed by an ugly truth; the fashions presented were made using sweat-shop labour.

A sweatshop is a workplace in the apparel industry where workers are subject to extreme exploitation, including poor working conditions, arbitrary discipline, and the absence of a living wage or benefits. This phenomenon is becoming

more common in the 'global economy.' Corporations can now trade between countries freely with little or no restrictions and seek to out-source manufacturing to areas where labour costs are lower. They often look to use labour in countries with the lowest wages, poorest employee rights laws, and most lax environmental regulations.

Garments made by Levi's, Tommy Hilfiger, The Gap, Guess, The Hudson Bay Company, Nike, Adidas, Ralph Lauren and even Disney graced the runway, as representatives of the worst of this industry which profits from the unfair treatment of workers and disrespect of the environment.

Oxfam, a sustainable development organization, hosted the fashion event. They are an international non-governmental organization dedicated to fighting poverty and related injustices around the world. The goal of Sweat Shop

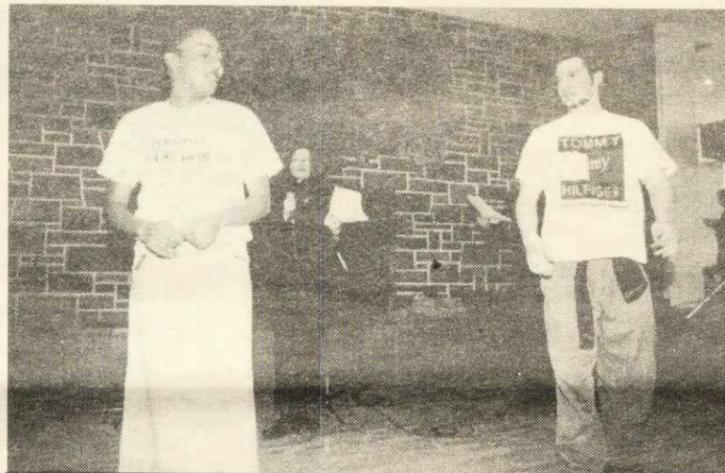
Fashion Show was to inform the public about the intolerable situation of exploited workers and the realities of the global economy. The presenters were graphic in their description of the working conditions in the garment companies, with stories of unbelievable below poverty line wages, worker abuse, child labour, and over-crowded employee dormitories. These companies have been employing slave labour workers in 'developing countries' and surprisingly also maintain sweatshop facilities in North America.

The sweatshop workers here and abroad are primarily females between the ages of 16 to 25. In North America, these sweatshop facilities exploit newly immigrated women who may have few opportunities for employment. The conditions here are remarkably similar to those which workers experience abroad, with employees threatened with firing if they speak out against the injustices. However, the violations go far beyond this overseas. For example, in some Mexican and Central American plants, women

are given Depo-Provera shots as a precondition for employment to prevent pregnancy and menstruation. This allows the company to increase productivity by cutting down on, not only maternity leave, but even bathroom break time. In many places, if a woman becomes pregnant or if she refuses to submit to the shot, she is immediately fired — a clear violation of human rights which goes primarily unnoticed.

The most disturbing aspect of the sweat-shop phenomenon is that these companies launch incredible expensive advertising campaigns. Tommy Hilfiger, Gap and Nike spend billions of dollars a year on marketing campaigns targeted to promote class structure and sex-appeal. These companies charge premium prices for their slave labour goods. In fact only 1.3 percent of retail price of a Nike sneaker, reflects the actual cost of the labour. These companies could pay decent wages to these workers instead they spend millions of dollars on campaigns that are directly aimed to play on emotions, to instilling feelings of inadequacies, trying to make people feel like their product will fill the void.

What can you do? Use your consumer power. Don't support companies that exploit workers and are trying to exploit you. Tell people who are wearing labeled clothes what industry they are supporting: Slave Labour. Realise that consumers must take responsibility for their buying actions to not perpetuate this type of activity. Boycott organizations. Seek alternatives. Buy clothes from local merchants or buy used clothes. A small number of wealthy people created this situation that has allowed sweatshops to thrive, if consumers can work together and spread the message to make ethical consumer choices, we can dismantle it.



photos by Robin Kumiski

"If you assume that there's no hope, you guarantee that there will be no hope. If you assume that there is an instinct for freedom, that there are opportunities to change things, there's a chance you may contribute to making a better world. That's your choice."

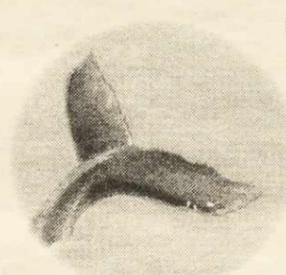
— Noam Chomsky

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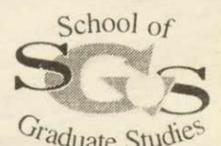
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Council of Canadians panel discussion

BY MELANIE WRIGHT

The masses are indifferent and apathetic. No one can really make a difference.

If you believe these pessimistic sentiments then you obviously were not at the Council of Canadians panel discussion "Reclaiming Democracy: Food, Water, and the WTO — Whose Future Is It?"

The panel of influential individuals including: Tony Clarke, Victoria Gibb-Carsley, Jennifer Story, Elizabeth May and Cassin Elliot tackled a variety of issues currently on the global agenda.

Clarke, Vice Chair of the Council of Canadians said, "something far beyond governance is controlling this country...rules are being set elsewhere that the government must follow." Clarke was referring to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and its present power in the international marketplace.

The WTO was established in 1995, at the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The official web site of the World Trade Organization states that their purpose is to ensure trade between nations flows smoothly, predictably, and as freely as possible.

However, Clark argues that the WTO is not just about eliminating trade barriers and tariffs. The institution represents a new world government that holds tremendous

judicial and legislative powers. Such powers include the ability to challenge the laws, policies and programs of countries that do not conform to WTO rules. What emerges from this is "a world governing body for and by transnational corporations," according to Clarke. There is no direct connection made to everyday people affected by the actions of corporations.

However, the WTO claims to be involved more democratically. If there is a dispute between countries, the WTO can directly influence government policy. The Dispute Settlement Body, consisting of all members, decides if a country has broken a rule and in some cases forces them to conform.

Recall December 1999, the WTO met in Seattle to discuss negotiations among its 134 member countries. Cassin Elliot, member of the Youth for Environmental Action Network was actually there. He claims the activists who stood their ground in Seattle, were partaking in peaceful protesting for direct action.

Unfortunately, there were some vandals and unruly people causing problems. Yet, the police perpetuated the 'riots.' Pepper spray, tear gas and rubber bullets were used by the police "in their riot to control the protestors" said Elliot.

The Council of Canadians is an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. They do not take money from corporations or government, as they believe that would

compromise their goals.

Jennifer Story, the Council's Health Protection campaigner, has successfully fought against genetically engineered food. She began her discussion by asking the audience "is economic profit killing the planet?"

Though not everyone has necessarily heard about Genetically Engineered (GE) foods, Canadians have been involuntarily taking part in a food experiment driven by the GE food industry.

Genetic engineering involves joining together the DNA from organisms that would never naturally breed. Genes from one organism (possibly a fish) are spliced and injected into the cell of a host organism (possibly a tomato). Yet, Story claims that the technology is unstable, and those promoting it may be operating under outdated assumptions about how genes work. The result is the creation of "foods" that may be pest-resistant, or pesticide-resistant. It is a worry that if these crops become ubiquitous, and if they spread into wild populations,

we could face crops failures and environmental devastation.

The European Union (EU) is a good example for the possibility of keeping GE foods out of Canadian grocery stores. The EU wants GE foods labelled and refuses to import any GE crops. However, Canada and the United States are big promoters of the trade in genetically engineered products. The Canadian government, apparently siding along with Monsanto — the maker of GE seeds, pesticides, and Bovine Growth Hormone — has not supported the labelling of GE foods, or consumer bans to hinder GE trade.

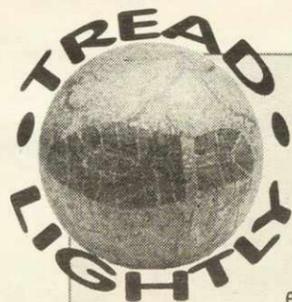
Story claims that as much as 70 percent of prepackaged goods "may contain" GE food. In Canada, 57 percent of the canola, 45 percent of the corn and 25 percent of the soya produced are genetically engineered. The consumption of these products can be considered an experiment on Canadians because there has been testing of its long-term effects on human health. Another major issue is that no one

knows what may happen if GE crops cross-pollinate with other plants. There has not been a serious addressing of how GE organisms may damage our health, and the health of the environment.

Furthermore, several global corporations, Monsanto, Dow, and DuPont dominate the GE food industry. They promise the possibility of solving world hunger as a justification for GE technology. Yet some suggest that the problem of world hunger has little to do with the gross amount of food produced, but rather can be contributed to its unequal distribution world wide — a problem which may be exacerbated by the corporate control of the world's food supply.

Jennifer Story put it best when she emphatically stated "we aren't convinced that your science is sound. We need evidence of safety before we can accept it versus evidence that it is harmful before we can say no."

As Jennifer Story said: "Think global act local."

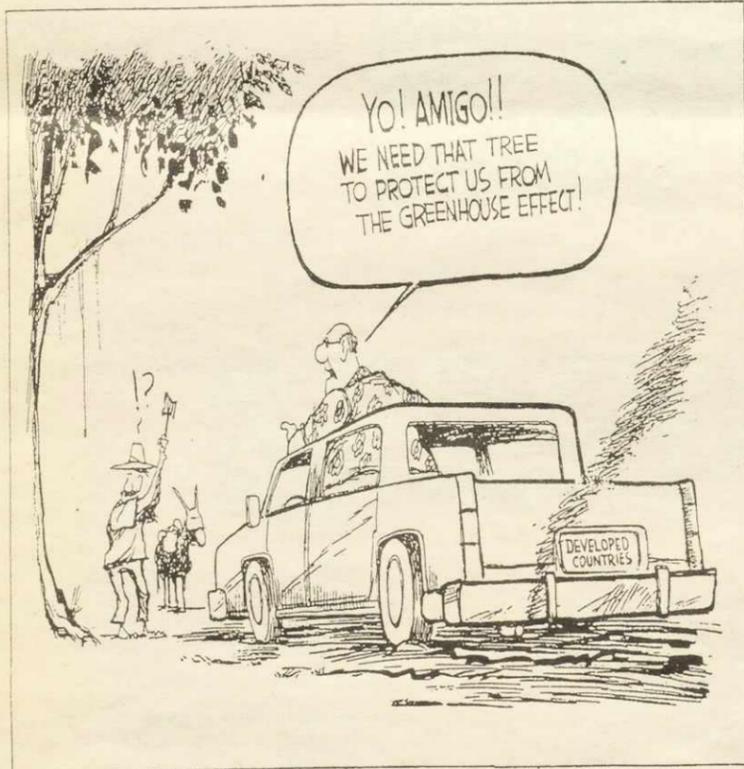


DID YOU KNOW?

The temperature on earth is regulated by a system called the greenhouse effect. This natural phenomenon is caused by water vapour and other gases in the atmosphere. As energy is used it adds to the gas in the atmosphere, increasing earth's temperature. An estimated 60 to 65 percent of greenhouse gas emissions are energy by-products, which can cause shifts in rainfall and weather patterns, increases in sea level, create risks to wildlife and humans, and alter growing seasons.

Here's what you can do to decrease your energy use:

- Use natural light as the primary source whenever possible
- Turn off your lights when they are not needed
- Seal off or separate unused or storage areas to keep in the heat
- Turn off your computer when not in use — screen savers on computers are used to avoid screen burn; they are not energy savers. In fact, some consume even more energy.
- Use cold water instead of hot whenever possible
- Maintain your car to ensure fuel-efficiency and low pollution emissions
- Accelerate and decelerate smoothly — speeding can use up to 25 percent more fuel than driving at the speed limit
- Car pool, take the bus, bike or walk to school



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WTO: Trading the environment?

BY KIP KEEN

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has been in the news a lot lately. It is the subject of much talk among activists, especially when the conversation turns to how it will effect the environment. But before we jump into that messy soup, here's a little background info for those who don't know much about the WTO.

The WTO is an organization that regulates trade. In its own words it is "a forum for countries to thrash out their differences on trade issues." Although the WTO did not come into existence until the early 1990s, the basic trade laws it enforces are those that were adhered to by a previous trade umbrella known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Now over a hundred countries abide by these trade rules.

What makes the WTO so revolutionary compared to any of its predecessors is its structure and power.

Every two or so years it has a Ministerial Conference where all the members attend to discuss new agreements on trade, such as they did at the recent and notorious

Seattle conference. Beneath this general governing body lies the General Council, the backbone of the organization. From this council stems all the other committees, and where countries, as previously mentioned "thrash out their differences" through the Dispute Settlement Body.

Nations can bring forward a complaint to this body if they think that another WTO member's trade policies are unfair. Three unelected trade experts hear the case and decide on whether or not the accused's trade policies are fair. If they believe those policies to be unfair, they penalize that country with very costly fines, making it in their best interest to change those trade practices deemed unfair.

How does this affect the environment? According to the WTO, part of its mandate is "to identify the relationship between trade measures and environmental measures in order to promote sustainable development." It outlines one of its ruling parameters in respect to the environment as being the following:

"WTO competency for policy coordination in this area is limited to trade and those trade related aspects of environmental policies

which may result in significant trade effects for its members. In other words, it is not intended that the WTO should become an environmental agency. Nor should it get involved in reviewing national environmental priorities, setting environmental standards or developing global policies on the environment. That will continue to be the task of national governments and other inter-governmental organizations better suited to the task."

However it goes on to say that in matters concerning trade:

"Non discrimination is the cornerstone of secure and predictable market access and undistorted competition...Subject to that requirement being met, WTO rules place essentially no constraints on the policy choices available to a country to protect its own environment."

Non discrimination is key in WTO directives. All trade must be fair. This is where warning lights start flashing for some.

The International Institute for Sustainable Development comes up with this example. If you had two different types of paper, one produced with bleach and the other without, under WTO rules you

could not accept the importation of only the non bleached paper (which is better for the environment). The institute writes that "the inability to discriminate on the basis of how a good is produced is one of the fundamental conflicts between the GATT law and sustainable development." The same would go for non shade grown coffee, and shade grown coffee, among many other products.

So does the WTO jeopardize a nation's ability to set their own environmental policy? In theory the WTO does not. Among its many legal clauses lies article twenty, which according to the WTO allows a "member legitimately to place its public health and safety and national environmental goals ahead of its general obligations not to raise trade restrictions or to apply discriminatory trade measures." The article specifically says a country may do what is "necessary to protect human, animal, or plant life" and to further protect non renewable resources, even, in theory, if it gets in the way of trade. However, the matter is not so straightforward.

For example, a few years ago the United States was brought to the Dispute body by Thailand, Malaysia, and other countries over its ban on the importation of shrimp that were not caught with TEDs (Turtle Excluder Devices). The U.S. had initiated the ban because certain sea turtles on the endangered species list were being seriously jeopardized by the shrimping industry's catching methods. Under the ban, the States outlined that it would only import

shrimp from countries that they certified as compliant with U.S. standards. At the hearings the US tried to defend themselves under article twenty, but were rejected by the panel for several reasons, among which was that the article was only to be used if absolutely "necessary." Furthermore, because the U.S. was partially biased in the countries it had certified, having excluded some countries who were up to crack, the panel felt that ich the U.S. was being unfair. As a result, they said that article twenty "only allows members to derogate (deviate) from Gatt provisions so long as, in doing so, they do not undermine the WTO multilateral trading system." Other cases have subsequently been decided similarly.

Some say that the WTO still needs to play a crucial, but limited, role in the world. At a recent forum on the WTO and Seattle, Elizabeth May, environmentalist, writer, activist and lawyer, eluded to just that. She is adamant that the WTO needs to undergo some serious changes as its current structure gives it too much power. May outlines the major problems with the WTO to include the following; that decisions are made behind closed doors, that experts on trade law are making decisions on scientific issues outside of their field, and that the world is subjected to the rule of trade law.

If nations are to have sovereignty over environmental issues, than the WTO needs to stick to the forum of trade, or as Elizabeth put it, "play in their own sandbox and stop grabbing everyone else's toys."

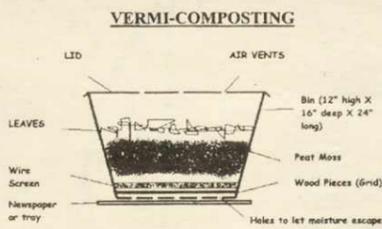
ASK

GREEN GIRL

How does vermicomposting work?

Vermi-composting is composting with worms. Save your 'yucks' for later — worms are magnificently efficient little recyclers of waste! These worms transform soil and decaying plant material into an excellent plant fertilizer. Your food waste will disappear while your worms produce soil.

To start recycling your food waste with worms, you need to buy or construct a worm bin and get a few pounds of red worms. The number of worms you need depends on how many pounds of worm food your house generates each week. If you stock your worm bin with two pounds of worms (about 2000), it should be able to process a pound of food scraps a day. You can feed your worms small amounts every few days or their whole week's food supply at one time. Be careful not to overfeed the worms. They can be fed manure, compost, kitchen waste (fruit, vegetable, pasta, coffee grinds with filters, tea bags) paper (cardboard, newspaper, craft paper, paper towels, etc.) but not meat, dairy, or dog doo-doo. Large items, such as broccoli stalks, should be cut up. To feed the worms move some bedding aside, add your food waste and then cover it back up. Each time you feed the worms bury the food scraps in a different part of the bin. Worms will eat both the food and the bedding, producing a dark, crumbly soil — usually in one to four months. Now it is time to harvest your vermicompost. The soil contains a wealth of soil nutrients that are great for indoor gardens — check out the center spread for more information! Ha ha.



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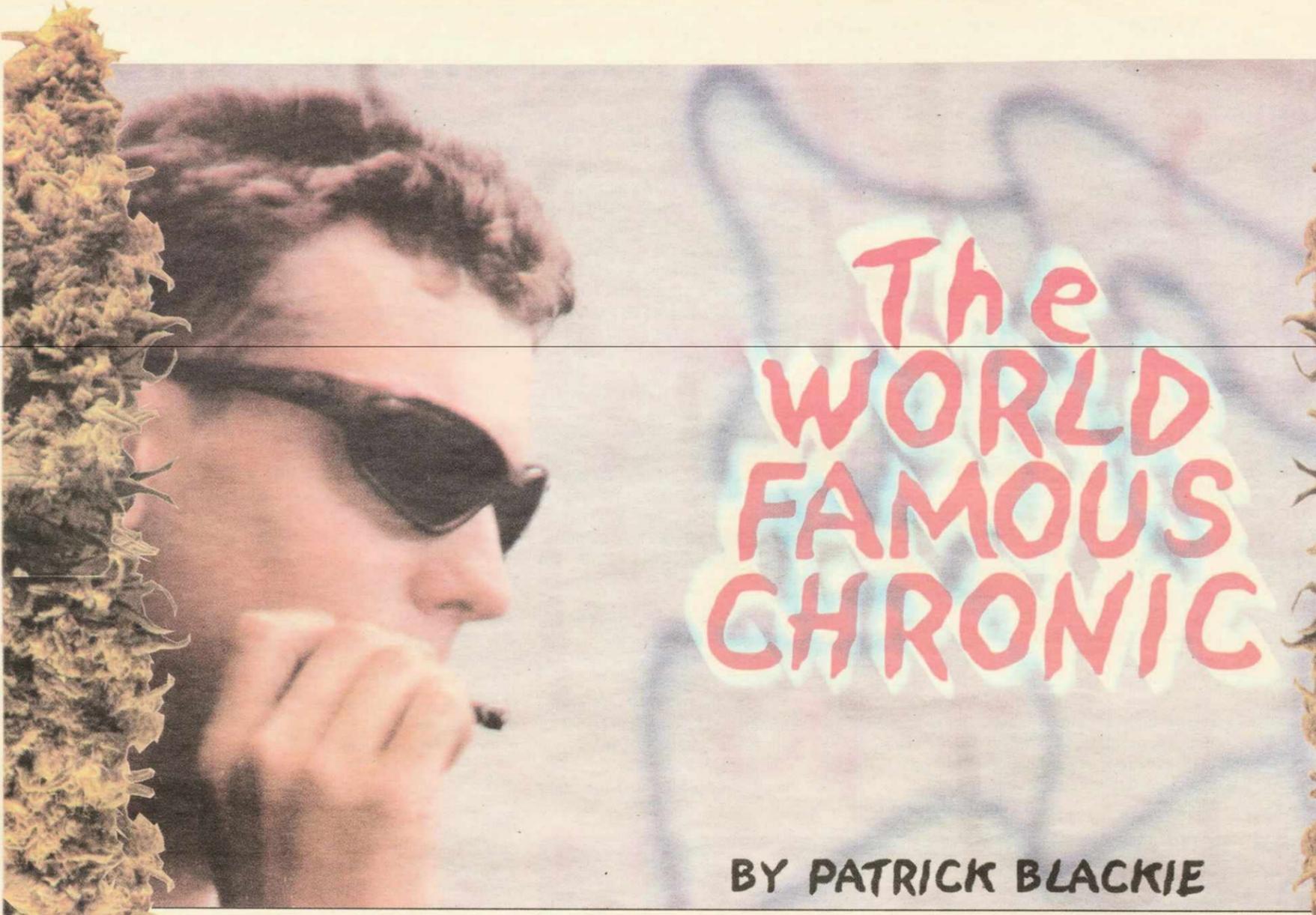
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The WORLD FAMOUS CHRONIC

BY PATRICK BLACKIE

It's green, natural, has a strong aroma, and it can be expensive. Known by a variety of names, including cheeba, marijuana, ganja, pot, weed, dope, pokalolo, reefer, hemp, budda, herb, chronic, doobies, fat bat, amongst others, it is also known by a lot as a curse, a plague that is pushing people into a life of crime and depravity, and to others, a blessing that adds a pleasant spin on everyday life.

With millions of dollars spent on the war on marijuana in North America, the availability of pot should have declined over the last few decades, but that is not the case. The use of marijuana is steadily growing around the world, and the push to have the drug legalized for medicinal and even recreational use is growing rapidly. The number of recreational marijuana users of people between the ages of 16 and 59 has doubled since the beginning of the 80s, according to a story published on Marijuanamagazine.com.

In the US, several states have loosened their stance on pot. Six states have recently allowed for the possession of marijuana to be legal for medicinal purposes, following the example of California's long-time relaxed stance on medicinal marijuana. The Seattle Police Department has even recently adapted a guideline for police procedure when encountering a marijuana grower, to ensure that someone growing for medicinal purposes, with proper qualifications, is not wrongfully apprehended.

Laws like this make it a lot simpler for people who use pot for medicinal purposes to do so without too much scrutiny from drug enforcement, but it also is allowing an illegal drug to be legal for certain people, obscuring the once clear governmental stance on pot.

And where did the pre-conceived notions of the effects of marijuana come from? Looking through the media and the government's presentation of marijuana through the last 100 years, the truth becomes apparent.

In the 1970s, tests of marijuana used on lab rats produced a fear that the use of marijuana blew holes in the brains of its users. The study, although inconclusive, was enough to put fear into the opposition for legalized pot. In 1968, a report on the effects of marijuana



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<http://members.xoom.com/seedlink/index.htm> (Seed banks)
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was released, dispelling the myth that its use caused violent crime or aggression, anti-social behaviour or mental breakdown. The report, called the Wootton Report, was not well publicized at the time of its release, and the results got very little attention.

These misconceptions were perpetuated by anti-drug campaigns that portrayed marijuana users as criminals and junkies, and the message that only losers smoke pot

"People who know nothing about pot, who have never smoked it, have a bad impression of it because of what they were told," said Dalhousie University student Rory Tweedie. "They rely on old propaganda, like [the movie] *Reefer Madness*, that made pot look like a harmful drug that changed people into something bad."

The concept of a marijuana overdose has also been proven impossible. The Wootton Report calculated that it would require about a pound and a half of cannabis to cause someone to fatally overdose.

A report by the World Health Organization (WHO) determined that marijuana not only was less of a health hazard than cigarettes and alcohol, but that someone that used pot on the same scale as alcohol or tobacco would suffer less medical repercussions, according to NewScientist.com. The report, which was the first report on cannabis done by the WHO since 1984, also highlighted instances where violence and crime could be directly linked to alcohol — a legal substance — whereas no cases were linked to cannabis — an illegal substance.

But despite all the evidence that cannabis is not the brain-killing monster it was once thought to be, the opposition to legalization in any degree is huge. In the US, opposition has arisen from anyone from religious groups to First Ladies. Nancy Reagan made a concentrated move against drugs, including marijuana, with her Just Say No campaign, which is still being repeated in the US.

One of the problems expressed by opposition to legalization for medicinal purposes is the argument that smoking marijuana — one of the most effective methods of consumption — is too detrimental to the respiratory system to justify medicinal use. However, several companies are presently in the process of developing inhalers similar to that of asthma inhaler, designed specifically for marijuana consumption.

The problem with weed as seen by some is when it becomes another substance to abuse. It is felt that while occasional smokers pose no threat to themselves or others, but chronic smokers are doing irreparable damage.

"It is a form of substance abuse. Abuse, beyond use, is detrimental physically and mentally," said Const. Peter Keirstead of the RCMP Drug Awareness force. "Public awareness is the best way to deal with weed, to give good information so that people can make educated decisions for themselves. People who want to just legalize [marijuana] don't look at both sides."

The wide-scale popularity of the drug also insures that its availability remains relatively constant. "[Large seizures in Halifax] don't really make much of a difference," said Keirstead. "The demand for [marijuana] means it will just come from somewhere else."

So where does the war on pot go from here? With such a divergence in opinion and lack of sufficient education, who knows? The benefits of medicinal marijuana need to be looked at without the stigmatized perception of its effects before our culture will be able to look at legal recreational drug use.

Even living examples are of little use. The Dutch, for one, legalized small amounts of personal possession of marijuana in 1976, and even have designated places for consumption, but whether or not this has a negative or positive effect has never been agreed upon. There are those who feel that the Dutch have opened themselves up to a barrage of harder drugs, claiming that marijuana is a 'gateway' drug, leading to other, more harmful drugs. There are also those that feel that the legalization of pot has made the Netherlands a more pleasant, relaxed atmosphere, and has opened their culture to a more profound development.

The present situation has to change, however. The illegality of pot means nothing other than the people that are consuming it, for the most part, are being labelled criminals.

Pot-related movies

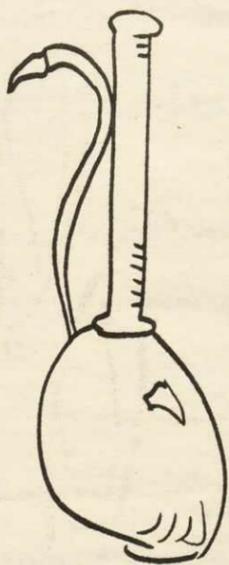
Half Baked
All Cheech and Chong
Homegrown
Easy Rider
Dazed and Confused

Pot-references in TV

That 70 Show
The Cosby Show
Degrassi High
The Wonder Years
WKRP

Musicians for pot

Crypress Hill
Tom Petty
Dr Dre
Willie Nelson
Bob Marley



Jumping the gun

Last week, an article in *the Gazette* suggested that the Nova Scotia Education Minister Jane Purves would like to reward students with free tuition for their final year.

That's if she had the money. She doesn't.

So, if the government doesn't have the money to even pay one year of students'

tuition, how can we expect them to provide "grants, not loans" as suggested by Access 2000 walk-out two weeks ago, spearheaded by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)?

According to the Nova Scotia council of higher education, the government says it can't even afford to pay for one year's worth of students' tuition. And we're asking for them to provide us with grants that will pay for all of it. Let's be realistic here. We're not getting it.

Maybe we need to focus our attention elsewhere. Come up with a solution the government can handle. It'll be a start at least.

I'm not disagreeing with having a walk-out to protest rising tuition, but I do question the strategy of asking for grants instead of loans. Mostly because I know it's not going to happen.

Those who believe the government can easily afford grants must also believe it's well within their grasp to provide free tuition for the graduating year. So why don't we all work together and campaign for something to that effect? Start

small and work upwards.

Grants aren't a solution the government is going to buy. Grants essentially mean having the government pay for students' tuition. How many people honestly believe the government is going to do this?

EDITORIAL

But if we start campaigning for something on a smaller scale that will help students, we might actually get somewhere. And from there we could move forward to bigger and better things — like grants.

Having a year's worth of tuition, especially for your final year, isn't a bad idea. That's the year you need it most. Your savings are shot. Your yearly loans are getting smaller (while the grand total keeps getting bigger) and the workload is getting harder, making it more difficult to juggle jobs.

With the final year paid for, that would be 12 months where students could save money. There would still be rent and food and other necessities, but at least the tuition and books for that year would be covered. When you graduate and immediately have to start paying back loans, at least you would have had 12 months to prepare for it. That's got to be a big help.

And it's something the government might actually be interested in if we lobbied enough.

An election campaign plat-

form in the last provincial election in Saskatchewan promised the first year of post-secondary would be free for all students. But I have to agree with DSU council executive Mark Galley when he said "[that's] going to make the class sizes swelling." It would force university entry level requirements to increase just to keep the number of first year students down. And think of all the people who'd go to school to kill a year while trying to figure out what to do with their lives. It'd be a free ride.

But that final year. Just think about it. It's a reward for getting so far and committing yourself to your work. You could argue that loan remission programs are the same thing, but that doesn't cover all the costs that a year of tuition would.

I'm not just saying this because I might graduate next year. If the Nova Scotia government said today they'd pay for the final year of university, I wouldn't apply. I'm from another province. But if all provincial governments offered to do it, or better yet, the federal government offered to do it, so all students could benefit, then we'd be laughing. And we'd be on our way to more accessible education. It'd be one step forward, and from there we could pressure for something else.

This is just one solution. But it's a smaller and more realistic solution than asking the government for grants. And that means we might actually get somewhere with it.

Lee Pitts

OPINIONS

The cell phone menace

LONDON, ON (CUP) — Of all the 20th Century gadgets, the most annoying has to be the cell phone.

While I understand that some people just want to be wired to the world at all times, the cell phone has become an intrusive force in today's society. The cell phone is spawning a new generation of rudeness, in young and old alike.

Take, for example, the other day when my wife, youngster and I decided to treat ourselves to breakfast. We weren't seated 15 minutes when some guy decided to make a cell phone call. Now that isn't bad in itself, but for this person to leave his table to get up and walk around in a restaurant talking on the phone is downright rude.

If a call was absolutely necessary, this person should have removed himself from his table — and from the presence of other patrons — and headed to the lobby where he could conduct a phone conversation properly. But not in the middle of a restaurant.

This isn't a new phenomena either. It seems every time I go out for a coffee there is always some ass making or receiving a call. A call that 99.9 percent of the time could

have waited.

And if you haven't noticed, those on cell phones tend to talk louder so that everyone, including those outside the building, can hear them.

While many may think it looks cool to talk on a cell, most times you look silly. I suppose it's all part of the 21st Century. You can't go anywhere without being in contact with everyone imaginable.

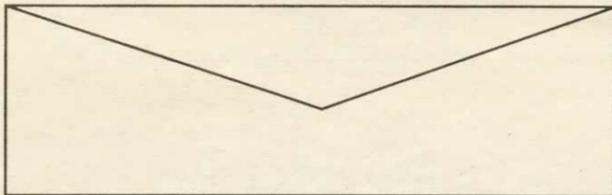
I've seen various editorial comics sharing the view that cell phones should be banned from public places, namely theatres and restaurants. Frankly, I support that view. Cell phones have become a menace that needs to be curbed.

One of the most pathetic sites I have ever seen was the lonely girl at a restaurant, fork in hand chatting away on a cell phone. At the time I thought this person must be very lonely for a dinner companion if she'd actually make a phone call through dinner. Then it dawned on me that she's eating alone because no one wants to eat with someone so wrapped up in themselves and their cell phone.

Welcome to the "me" generation!

John Said

Comments?
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THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

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Volume 132, no. 18

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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.

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CHUCK WAGON

BY CHARLES LACERTE

More meals are being eaten out now than ever before and the trend is still on the rise. And with the variety of cuisine available in the area, there is something for everyone. The majority of these meals involve going out to eat as opposed to dining out. Dining out is not a matter of spending a lot of money. It is a matter of attitude. It starts by making reservations to ensure a table upon your arrival. And to add to the evening out, one should dress up to signify its importance. If you require a cell phone or pager, you should turn these down or have call forwarding to the desk. And make any phone calls away from your fellow diners. You should allow plenty of time for the meal, even if you plan to attend another event after. If you have any questions or requests, talk to your server. They are there to help you. They can also assist you in choosing a wine, if so desired. And if your meal is not as expected, do not be afraid to return it. It is better for you and the restaurant that you are a happy customer. So sit back, relax and enjoy your evening.

CHOCOLATE NUT COOKIES

(makes about 48)

- 1 cup unsalted butter (room temperature)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/2 cup white chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts

Preheat oven to 325° F. Beat butter until light and fluffy (3 minutes). Add both sugars and beat until well combined. In a separate bowl, combine flour, salt and baking soda. Add eggs and vanilla to butter mixture, beat until smooth (2 minutes). Add flour mixture in 3 additions. Stir in chocolate and nuts. Place on ungreased baking sheets by the tablespoon (1" apart) and bake 10-12 minutes.

Between the ballot and the bedroom

Oh yeah, that's it. Give it to me baby. Common. Hurry. Hurry hard. Hard. Hard. Hard. Hurrayyyy...

Porn? Curling? Or a candidate looking for votes? I love it when a great coincidence erupts like so many teenage wet-dreams. This week marked Valentine's Day — that annual Hallmark-moment when guys forget to doubt its significance, and girls mourn getting dick-all from all-dick, even when they know

better than to expect much else. It also marks the return of student union elections — another annual event like a festering cold-sore that burns the lip of society, oozing with puss, etc. etc. Much like love-day (or gag-day for the more evolved single-types), students forget to doubt the significance of elections, and candidates mourn getting dick-all from voters, even though they don't expect much else.

Both events? Pointless. We

need a day to waste paper on cards like we need a month to waste paper on posters. Yeah, real necessary. But you have to wonder why we keep coming back for more — more love, more elections, more crap.

Valentine's Day: you walk around wishing "happy..." to all like it has meaning or value. If you need a corporately-dictated day to express your affection, then there are no real affections (except maybe in a platonic or animal-human-plant

way).

Similarly, when you walk around telling people to vote, no one cares. I'm less likely to vote than a beaver. Same for most when it comes to student elections. If you need a 60s-style constitutionally-imposed set of elections, just to provide a whipping-post for university administration, then there is neither a union nor democracy.

And that's link — union. "I join you, Mr. Prez, with you students, in socialist matrimony." Student elections are supposed to unite students in one common goal — protection from individualism and separation. Academics is an isolating activity — it's lonely. Some remain The Academic-Bachelor, stuck in a book, for the duration of their years. Why not try to fix them up at the dating service of student politics? "Pick up the phone, we're all alone." Why not inspire fraternity, etc. in your fellow students and make them care, not about politics, but about each other. Touching really.

Well I say "don't touch me in my special place." The campus bar has a more unionizing effect than elections and it's not the place, it's

the booze. Again, like Valentine's Day, you can make anyone or anything look good after the right dose of tequila. Sure, you'll go home together and have a passionate, drunken union, but the next morning, all that's left is two singles, some empty bottles, and a bizarre green smell emanating from the bathroom. Sure, people and elections look good now, but wait for the hang-over.

But, most don't participate in democratic intoxication. They let well enough alone, do their work (unlike those running for office) and lack the hangover. There is no hangover, no consequences. It's like a new year's bash where you go through one tough night and forget it till the next year. Ya get all fancy-like, screw around, and expect it to all work out.

Yeah. Drunken fantasies rarely work so nice outside the sheets. Put down your cards, your box-of-chocolates-of-life, your *Gazette* editorials. Don't confuse union and love, invalid and valid, card holiday and reality. Don't mix water and wine, education and politics.

Don't drink and drive.
Don't love and vote.

Tristan Stewart-Robertson

Choking to death on cigarette smoke

EDMONTON (CUP) — So how about I light up a bunch of toxic waste and then blow it around in the room? Would you like that? I hope most people would have the good sense to leave the room, and that someone would kick me in the head for endangering other peoples lives.

But that's not what happens.

No, we non-smokers sit politely and remain courteous while someone lights up a cigarette. As one who is not often prone to telling others what to do or how to live, I find myself simply sitting back in my chair and trying hard not to cough.

That would be impolite.

The other side of this etiquette demands that smokers, for instance, delay lighting up around the dinner table until all have finished eating. I am told that some people are bothered by other people's smoking while they eat. This makes sense enough to me. I would even consider it courtesy were it not for the fact that I happen to be bothered by smoke whether I'm eating or not.

What difference does it make if a smoker is slowly killing me while I'm eating or while I'm sipping my coffee afterwards? This bullshit etiquette exists so smokers can feel less guilty about the harms that they are inflicting on others.

If there was any substance to this etiquette, then people would smoke outside. Even being in the same building as a smoker is harmful to an extent, if the air is re-cir-

culated, to say nothing of walking past smoking areas and being subjected to the stench.

People have argued that smoking causes harm to smokers' lungs and hearts, and that smoking causes harm to other people through second-hand smoke. Now this is no news flash. But try this on for size: smoking is retarded. Yes, that is a news flash. It must be since so many people don't see the problem with it.

I guess you've got to see how the other half lives before you know what's really going on. So picture this: I'm sitting, voluntarily, in a smallish room with a whole load of smokers puffing away like Rene Levesque. At the time I am annoyed by the difficulty I'm having with breathing.

But the real joy comes the next day when I crawl out of bed feeling like I have ash in my sinuses. Coughing, I stagger my way into the bathroom for a shower and find that the smell of burnt tobacco is following me around. The shit is in my skin. It'll take a few days before I feel clean again.

Having never been a smoker I can only imagine that one must get used to that kind of feeling. But what happens when you need to run to catch a bus? What happens when you kiss someone?

If people start smoking because it's cool, then lung cancer and heart disease are cool by inevitable extension. If people keep smoking

because it's addictive, they must love the way it slowly weakens their body. If people smoke to relieve stress, then stress is ok. I don't understand any of this.

But if people want to do this to themselves, let them. I'm not going to tell them to stop. But I do demand that they stop doing it to me.

Don Iveson



"Gettin' those warm furrries."

photo by Allison Capstick

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ARTS & CULTURE

T H E ALGORITHM R O C K S

North of America and Neuseiland at the Marquee

BY BRIAN PETTIGREW

The pink stage lighting was fucking guitarist Mark Mullane up: he couldn't see the light on his effect pedal. Curse number one.

Halfway through the set he broke a string. Curse number two.

And even though a lot of people showed up to watch them play, North of America didn't get called back for an encore (the low key cover band playing the same night at the Palace got to play "Summer of '69" as an encore...). Curse number three.

As the name of their album says, these songs are cursed.

Halifax math-rockers North of America played with Neuseiland to a full house on Friday night at the Marquee. The place filled up around 11 p.m. with good-hearted, wet people (read: Haligonian down-pour). Neuseiland took the stage with Indie Rock veterans Tim Stewart of Kid Twist (formerly of Coyote and Bubaiskull) playing bass; Charles Austin, of the now-defunct Super Friendz, on guitar; Joel Plaskett of Halifax indie rock legend Thrush Hermit beat drums; while Drew Yamada, also of Super Friendz fame and Andrew Glencross of Al Tuck and No Ac-

tion switched back and forth between guitar and 12" organ. Naturally, they put on a heck of a show.

Before the show, I got a chance to talk to Jay LaPointe, the guitar engine ear for North of America, who said the band has been enjoying their recent success in Halifax and is anxious to get on the road again to preach their good evil mathematical sounds across the country, in the U.S., and in Germany. He compared their recent luck to being in a bar 24 hours a day with some idiot trying to buy your affection with booze and kill you with smokes.

Lapointe grew anxious when I told him to break his legs, and his anxiety mixed with nausea as he stared at the colour of the walls at the Marquee. He left my company and went backstage to smoke, drink and relax.

North of America hit the stage a little before midnight, easing into their set with a mixture of melancholy and thunderific sounds.

The layering of powerful guitar chords, simple but catchy bass lines, and a drum beat that perfect time with brilliant fills and cymbal crashes filled the top floor of the Marquee with a harmony of noise.



photos by Jenn Bethune



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Master of the Mind



BY PETER WOODS

Arriving in our very own Rebecca Cohn Theatre last Tuesday was the "world's foremost mentalist," The Amazing Kreskin. As part of a six date Maritime tour, the entertainer dazzled the audience with incredible feats of the mind and a rare combination of wit and showmanship.

The show began with a variety of basic magic tricks and two and a half hours later showed no sign of slowing as Kreskin revealed an incredible ability to guess audience member's phone numbers, birth dates, names of friends and relatives, not to mention a hilarious demonstration of hypnotism.

Kreskin has become known around the world for his uncanny ability to read the thoughts of audience members through a variety of routines that go way beyond run of the mill magic tricks. Despite an overt presence of skepticism at the Halifax show (one audience member was reamed from the stage by Kreskin for suggesting a press photographer was supplying him with direction), Kreskin's not afraid to put his money where his mouth is.

A regular highlight of Kreskin's routine is to have his cheque for the night hidden by audience volunteers anywhere in the theatre. He then has to find it or forfeit it. Despite performing this trick thousands of times and having the cheque stashed in a few extraordinary places — once inside a turkey, this night down the cast an audience member had on his leg — Kreskin has only failed the challenge nine times.

In a conversation after the show Kreskin explained how he first noticed this ability in himself.

"In third grade our teacher did not let us go out and play because it was raining outside so we played a game called 'hot and cold.' I was disappointed that the teacher didn't pick me so I went to my grandparents house and told my brother 'Joey hide a penny.' But I forgot to tell him to say if I was getting hot or cold.

"I walked into my uncle's room, climbed on an old chair,

reached behind the curtain rod and pulled out the penny. My grandparent's must have thought this guy's got the evil eye. They didn't know what to think."

Soon after discovering his telepathic abilities, Kreskin began to perform publicly. By grade's nine and ten he was putting on concerts at his high school and was billed as "The World's Youngest Hypnotist."

**"Forget the facts, the imagination is more important."
— Albert Einstein**

His career has since spanned five decades, produced numerous television series as well as eight books.

To Kreskin's credit, he seems to deliberately distance his shows from the smoke and mirror cheesiness that has become modern magic thanks to performers like David Copperfield.

Kreskin doesn't rely on a magic wand and flashy sets to propel his stage show — he doesn't need to. He's obviously a man who has accumulated an impressive amount of knowledge about the human mind and how it works.

What makes Kreskin's show even more intriguing is his belief that everyone has the ability to send and receive thoughts telepathically, although as he has said "I've just harnessed it."

Kreskin's latest stunt can be found on his website (amazingkreskin.com) and involves him turning his power of perception on himself. Hidden throughout the website are 13 clues that when pieced together reveal the date of his death.

"Yes! Isn't that wild!" Kreskin responded when asked about the site. "I'm going to be around for a long time. Believe me, it's way off. I don't look at the hereafter with any morbidity because I believe in and my religion is based on life continuing. Don't look for anything in the near future, it's way out there. But yes, the clues are there."

While Kreskin believes he's going to be performing for a long

time, the world received some sad news on the day of the show; the great Canadian magician Doug Henning had passed away.

Henning and Kreskin had written to each other since Henning was attending university. Kreskin was naturally saddened by the news of his passing.

"To give him credit, he kept his spirituality because whether we believe in his faith or not, Transcendental Meditation became a part of his life. He believed in the spirituality of life. And at the same time when he left the field and became part of the Transcendental Meditation movement he kind of forgot his beginnings — magic.

"But I'll tell you something very sad. In the last nine months he wanted to come back. But his spirituality, I'm sure he's benefiting from it now more than ever. Very

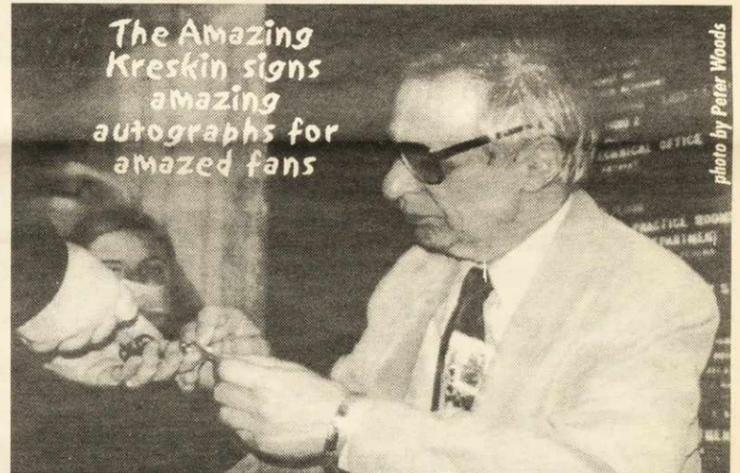
fine man."

At the beginning of the night, I'd have to admit that I was attending the show for the same reason many of the other audience members were — I wanted to see how he does it. I was skeptical.

By the end of my conversa-

tion with Kreskin I no longer cared if his tricks were of the mind or hand. I'll leave it up to the man himself to say it best.

"For those who believe, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not, no explanation is possible."



The Amazing Kreskin signs amazing autographs for amazed fans

photo by Peter Woods

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BY TYLER HAWKINS

I like the beach, as much as the next guy. There's something about the sand and sun combined with endless sights that produce that why-is-summer-so-short feeling.

Upon seeing the first few breathtaking scenes of the beach used as the set for the movie "The Beach," those summer feelings drifted back as easily as the words for "Surfin' U.S.A."

The island used for the filming is called Phi Phi Le, a small island off Phuket, Thailand. According to the director and producer, Danny Boyle and Andrew Macdonald respectively, "the beach

was quite neglected but it had exquisite white sand." So, they played god and planted over 100 coconut trees and tampered with the sand dunes in an attempt to beautify an already heavenly island, hastening the erosional patterns and essentially washing the beach away. In the meantime, they shot a pop-movie.

Leonardo DiCaprio is hot. With his shirt off and sporting a sweet tan, DiCaprio powers his way into an exciting yet haunting character portrayal. He plays Richard, a young American backpacker who arrives in Thailand with adventure and his urbanized mind. He encounters a young French couple, Etienne

(Guillaume Canet) and Francoise (Virginie Ledoyen) along with a crazed, sun ravaged traveler named Daffy (Robert Carlyle).

Daffy describes to Richard, basically within seconds of meeting, a secret island, a perfect beach interrupted by tourists. The day after, Richard finds a hand drawn map to the island, pinned to his door, and the dead body of Daffy in the next room.

He persuades Etienne and Francoise to come with him, and they set off to the island — swimming across open sea, crawling past armed guards, who are actually farmers watching over fields of dope, and finally jumping off a gigantic waterfall.

What they discover on the is-

land that reminds me of the scene from *Easy Rider* where Fonda and Hopper get welcomed in to the hippie commune.

Anyway, the island doesn't turn out to be all that perfect. Petty jealousy and personal conflict ferment to create rivalry and some tragic events fragment the community. Richard finds himself increasingly isolated and disturbed, having flashbacks of Daffy — (Why did he really leave the island?).

I'm not going to give anymore away, but I will say that if you watch "Lord of the Flies" and "Apocalypse Now" one after the other, you might understand what Doyle is trying to say. Simply, *The Beach* is about the inner journey, the search for real emo-

tion and answers, and each person's confrontation with their own heart of darkness.

DiCaprio also entertains the viewers with some sarcastic humour and his one captivating line, "I will not die today!" coming straight from an epic moment in *Braveheart*.

One thing that still strikes me as odd is why no one has taught DiCaprio how to smoke properly. He just doesn't hold up to Sean Penn, Robert Deniro, or Al Pacino, who all demonstrate the cool way to inhale.

So, what's the verdict I say? I liked it enough to suggest you see this flick kids (unless you care about big movie companies wrecking pristine islands, then boycott it).

Michael Douglas

Undependable.
Unpredictable.
Unforgettable.

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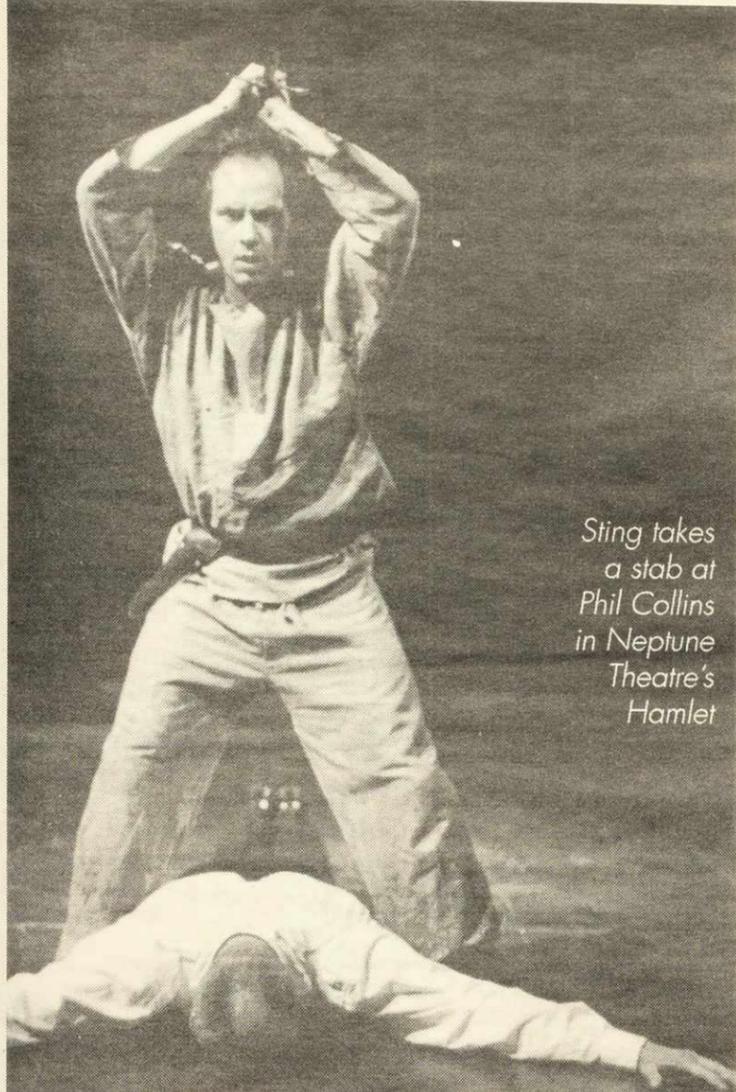
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Sting takes a stab at Phil Collins in Neptune Theatre's Hamlet

Know when to hold 'em, when to fold 'em

The Gambler takes his revenge at Neptune

BY GREG MCFARLANE

Sting, Phil Collins and even Kenny Rogers.

Billy Idol was missing, but the cast that took the stage for Neptune's production of *Hamlet* still resembled the pantheon of 1980s country and pop hitmakers. Hamlet was played by a guy who looked remarkably like Sting (Tom Barnett); Hamlet's uncle, Claudius, was played by a Phil Collins wannabe (Nigel Bennett); Hamlet's mother was Bette Midler (Nicola Lipman); and the Gambler himself, Kenny Rogers (Lee J. Campbell), played the ghost of Hamlet's dead father. Even the lead singer from Midnight Oil showed up to play Polonius (Andrew Scorer).

And in what appears to be a 1920s setting, this all takes place. The epic story — son loses father, son finds out his uncle killed his father; son exacts revenge on uncle — doesn't change, though. Hamlet does pay for his vengeance, being struck dead by the sword of Michael

Damian, or should I say Laertes (Raoul Bhaneja).

The acting, for the most part, is commendable. Barnett is noteworthy as Hamlet. He plays the part with a hint of lunacy in his eye, and nowhere does that lunacy take command more than when he liberally gropes Ophelia, played wonderfully by a Debbie Gibson lookalike (Patricia Zentilli). It was this vicious rubdown that actually awoke my friend and viewing partner from an appreciated slumber, which was brought about by the digestion of the sandwich he bought from Subway during the intermission.

He missed more decent acting, too. Bennett is weaselly as Claudius, and Christopher Shore and Geoff McBride are appropriate as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, portrayed as two prep school kiss-ass goof balls — too stupid to deceive Hamlet, but smart enough to try to, if only for the favour of a king.

But, with the switch to 1920s garb (hey, again, I'm only speculat-

ing on the era), the play lost some historical accuracy. First, Michael Damian killing Sting makes no sense. Damian sucked. He always did. There's no way he could kill Sting, who although shitty now, was excellent while with the Police. And the Midnight Oil guy working in tandem with Phil Collins? Self-righteous indignation never mixes with sappy studio pop, even with the common interest of sedating Hamlet at stake.

However, the production rectifies itself at the end, when the Midnight Oil guy, Michael Damian, Sting and Phil Collins are killed — because that is the state of their current music/entertainment careers: lifeless corpses lying on the floor.

But the ghost of Kenny Rogers still stalks the night. Maybe he's pissed off that the whole Roasters thing went awry but, at least in this production of *Hamlet*, he gets his revenge.

Now if he could only do something about Michael Bolton...

Going (To) The Whole Nine Yards

BY MARK EVANS

The Whole Nine Yards is one of those movies that's much funnier than it deserves to be — although that being said it still doesn't deserve much.

The chances of this film racking up the \$200 million-plus grosses of Bruce Willis' last two movies (*Armageddon*, *The Sixth Sense*) are as good as your chances of seeing the Pope host a Protestant fundraiser.

Bruce Willis hasn't starred in a comedy since *North* — and lord knows that he shouldn't be doing any more based on its box office performance — but he is still a popular actor, although whether that popularity can carry this film is debatable.

The plot in a nutshell involves Willis playing Jimmy "The Tulip" Tudeski, a contract killer on the run from the mob who moves next door to Nick "Oz" Oseransky (Matthew Perry), a dentist who is tied down to a domineering French wife (Rosanna Arquette) and a terrible accent. Oz wants to get a divorce, but can't due to a massive debt incurred by his father-in-law.

Things aren't quite as cut and dried as the synopsis would suggest, and there are a few clever turns to the script. Most of the plot works best if left as a surprise, so instead I'll concentrate on the actors and their performances — or lack thereof.

First off, the good. Michael Clarke Duncan proves that his work in *The Green Mile* was not a one-time accident. Playing a 'colleague' of Jimmy's named Frankie, he's the most complex character in the film and gets some of the movie's better laughs — and it doesn't hurt that his voice is just plain cool to listen to.

Jill, Oz's assistant, is played by Amanda Peet, and her role is

equally as entertaining as Frankie's. Most of what happens to her character tends to be as predictable as the movie. But, there's some very clever work later on that makes up for these mis-steps.

Matthew Perry, however, seems incapable of playing anything beyond variations on his character from *Friends*. Sure that's all that's being asked of him here, but that doesn't excuse the fact that people pay to see something other than what they're getting for free (?) on television. His paranoid, wishy-washy character is hardly even interesting. Then, just when he looks about to turn from that style, he goes straight back into it.

Bruce Willis looks like he's just phoning this one in, getting his chance to deliver some of the cheesiest and mawkkiest lines in the film. To call him wasted here as some mob figure who's devoid of any real personality would be letting him off light. Having a poorly

written character is bad enough, having him as the main character and then doing nothing with him is worse.

Uneven is a good way to describe this script. About half the dialogue is funny or at least worth a chuckle, the other half is pointless and inane — a needless mobster character done by Kevin Pollak illustrates this perfectly.

Some of the physical humor is funny, but a lot of it is insipid. Trying to think of more than a handful of funny bits after the movie's ended is more difficult than it ought to be for a supposed comedy.

Bottom Line: Since the funny outdoes the unfunny by just a little margin, I'll give this movie a recommendation by just a little margin. Two and a half stars. The movie seems to be shooting for mediocrity and hits it square on. If you want a true black comedy go rent *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned To Stop Worrying And Love The Bomb*.

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Making up for my lack of culture

BY CHRIS OULLETTE

It was a Thursday morning and I was recovering from a night of cheap yards and random heckling at the Grawood when I realized I didn't want to go to this shindig.

When I was originally given the opportunity to attend, I was convinced this *thing* — a violinist and pianist performing as part of the St. Cecilia Concert Series — was go-

ing to be the answer to the persistent lack of culture in my life.

The line-up for the evening was interesting, for sure. Jasper Woods, from Moncton, is a distinguished violinist who debuted with Symphony Nova Scotia at the ripe old age of 13. He has recently released a new album that has had wide play on CBC Radio.

His counterpart, Richard Raymond, an accomplished pianist

also from New Brunswick, has won several national and international competitions and was also nominated for an East Coast Music Award. And then there's me, armed with a friend and a large box of Junior Mints ready to experience culture.

What struck me the most about these guys was their energy — you could feel their excitement for the music in the air.

Clipped lines usually reserved for reviewing the newest of Indie Rock doesn't seem to fit a set list that comprised of Chopin, Grieg and Schubert, but nothing could have been more true: hands were pounding on the keys, bowstrings were being popped. Then I turned

around to view the rest of the audience only to be confronted by a sea of blue hair and perfect posture.

From the looks of it, my friend and I were the only ones having fun. The only time I did catch myself admiring the stained glass and not really listening was during a contemporary piece performed by Woods, but the classical pieces were excellent and complemented their talent.

The St. Cecilia Concert Series — named after the patron saint of music — is held at St. Andrew's United Church at the corner of Robie and Coburg. Its purpose is to expose different musicians from around Canada to a Nova Scotia audience.

There are concerts of one form or another almost every two weeks and the prices are reasonable thanks to sponsorships from such companies as the Royal Bank and our very own CKDU.

Due to my lack of exposure to classical music, I may not be able to tell the difference between good and bad, but I do know what I like and what I don't like. The St. Cecilia Concert Series offered me a night of entertainment that was a pleasant departure from the Split Crow/Attic combo that would have surely happened otherwise.

I enjoyed a night of culture in the presence of two very talented musicians and, best of all, my roommate taped Friends. Sweet.

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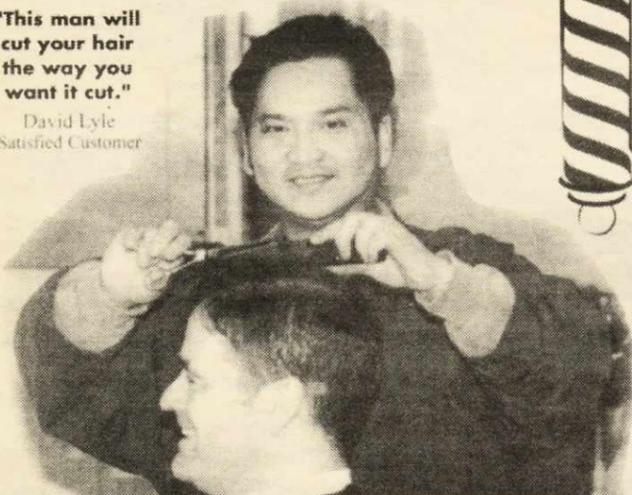
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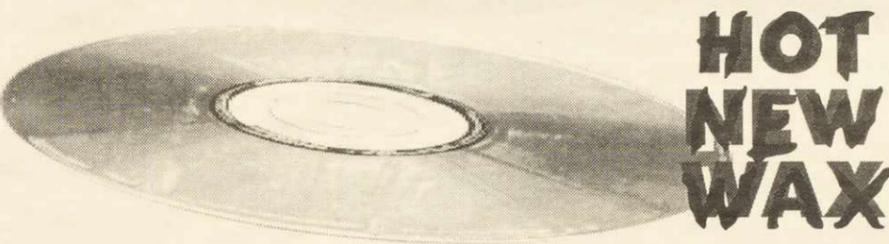
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HOT NEW WAX

the almighty Trigger Happy — I Hate Us
(Bad Taste)

Punkers the almighty Trigger Happy have produced a superficially entertaining album, but if you're any bit of a Punk fan, the frustrating similarity to Fat Mike's vocals and the gutter-esque use of power chords that is so reminiscent of old Snuff that you'll want to drink moonshine through a funnel. The album, like far too much other Punk, is not doing anything new. Interesting to listen to, but it is not enough to make me want to vandalize, and therefore is not very good music. Steal it, but don't buy it. — Pat

Morphine — The Night
(Rykodisc)

There has always been something haunting about Morphine. But since Bassist/Singer Mark Sandman's onstage death on tour in Europe, they are even creepier. Their signature dark and mysterious music features a detuned 2 stringed bass, baritone and bass saxophone and jazz drums. The album, which took 2 years to complete features notable guest appearances by John Meseski (Mesdeski, Martin and Wood)

Sandman's sinister bass lines, deep vocal deliver an interesting album that deserves multiple listens. — Jay



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Nothing for their efforts

Tigers lose final games before playoffs

BY TERRY HAWES

As has been the case for most of this AUAA Hockey Season, the Dalhousie Tigers have played well enough to win a share of games, only for their efforts to go unrewarded.

This was evidenced by the boys' last two contests before their playoff match-up with St. Mary's starts on Wednesday. The Tigers went down 4-3 to the Acadia Axemen on Friday and 3-2 to the Huskies on Sunday in a playoff preview.

Despite SMU's perfect 6-0 record against the Tigers during the regular season, the Sunday match was a clear message that the Black and Gold will be anything but a roadblock in the Huskies' path towards the AUAA title.

Simply put — the regular season is one thing, but the playoffs is what it's all about!

Acadia 4 Dalhousie 3
(Feb 11)

The Axemen rallied from a 3-0 deficit in the third period to tie the game and eventually win it in the shootout despite playing their 'B' game for the first 45 minutes.

Dalhousie took the match to Acadia in the early stages as rookie Jeff Sutherland let go of a shot that hit an Axemen skate which got through goaltender Donovan Nunweiler's legs but went only a couple of inches wide of the net.

Chances were few and far between, but Dalhousie opened the scoring at 13:37 as Chris Pittman was left all alone on the edge of the blue line, walked in and snapped a perfect shot along the ice off the left-hand post.

Pittman had a great opportunity early in the second period as he was left all alone again, but he partially fanned on the deke attempt. Acadia's first meaningful chance came later as Drew Kehler stepped in over the blue line and delivered a wrist shot that was gloved by Neil Savary in the Dal net.

The Tigers soon doubled their lead as defenceman Jason Metcalfe's shot was turned away by Nunweiler, only for Denis Aucoin to pot the rebound over the goalie's shoulder.

Acadia decided to switch to Mark Cairns between the pipes for the final 20 minutes. Things didn't start well for him as he misplayed the puck behind the net and Sutherland scored off the feed from Derrick Pyke to give Dal a 3-0 lead at the 5:40 mark.

It should have been game, set and match to the Tigers, but the Axemen finally decided to come out of their shell and were rewarded only 15 seconds after Sutherland's marker with a goal from Eric Hunter — his first of the season.

The Tigers started to go into a more defensive mode and conceded a second goal with under six minutes to go as Barkley Sauter put the rebound in from Chad Cavanaugh's initial shot.

Dal did have an opportunity to put the game away in the final minute as Brian Surette and Kalmakoff came down on a 2 on 1 break. The latter fed the former, but Cairns was there for the pad save.

It would come back to haunt the boys as Russell Hogue levelled the match at three with just 25 seconds left and send the game to overtime.

Acadia defenceman Kirk Furey had the best chance to win it in the extra period only for his shot to ring off the cross-bar. Thus, a shootout for the third successive home game.

After both teams failed on their first shot, Cavanaugh let a quick wrist shot past Savary to give the red and white an early advantage. Metcalfe failed on his attempt and when Hogue was stopped by Savary, it all came down to Pittman.

Pittman tried to deke, but Cairns was there to save and give Acadia the victory, despite being outplayed for much of the game.

Game Puck: First-year centre Chad Cavanaugh picked up two third period assists and scored the

only goal in the shootout for Acadia.

Saint Mary's 3 Dalhousie 2
(Feb 13)

In a spirited contest at Alumni Arena, the Huskies scored two third-period goals to defeat Dal in a preview of the Kelly Division semi-final.

Saint Mary's had the better of the play early on, but Dal opened the scoring midway through the first period. Pittman fed Metcalfe just outside the faceoff circle and fired it past a helpless Mike Weatherbie.

Tempers flared later in the stanza between Dallas Gray of the Tigers and defenceman Steve Gallace of SMU as the teams tried to get their points across for the playoffs. Gallace received the only penalty during the melee much to the disgust of SMU head coach Trevor Steinburg, who could be heard yelling from the bench 'ask the linesman' more than once.

Weatherbie made a blunder that almost resulted in a goal for Pittman late in the period. The SMU goalie attempted to clear the puck, which he did — right to Pittman. He attempted to deke Weatherbie and thought he scored, but the puck failed to cross the line.

When called upon, Tigers goalie Neil Savary shut the door on any SMU scoring chances, including a brilliant pad save off of forward Jason Byrnes.

Sloppy defensive work by the Huskies left the Tigers with a partial 2 on 1 in which Pittman kept it himself and slapped the ensuing shot through the pads of Weatherbie to extend the lead to 2-0.

St. Mary's continued to come out second best in every facet of the game until the late stages of the middle period where despite playing shorthanded, the Huskies caught a break as a Justin Steinbach clearing attempt got through to Billy Manley, who went in alone and slipped the puck under the outstretched Savary.

Scott Gouthro came in for some work in the third period as the game went back and forth. Both teams were treating the contest as a playoff match in itself. But SMU tied the match as a Ryan Davis pass found Steve Gallace, who drilled the shot past the unsuspecting Gouthro.

The Huskies were stepping up their game and took the lead for the first time with 6:30 to go as a carbon copy play took place where Gallace took the puck from the drop of the puck and scored again from another slapshot.

SMU could have padded the lead late as Davis went in alone on a breakaway, but was denied by

Gouthro as he played the deke from the rookie right-winger.

The final chance belonged to the Black and Gold from a Dan Gustavson blast, but Weatherbie was there for the easy glove save — Saint Mary's had hung on for the win.

Overall, a fairly even game that could have gone either way, if this game is any sign of the games ahead, then we're in for something special.

Game Puck: SMU defenceman Steve Gallace scored the tying and winning goals to defeat a game Dalhousie team.

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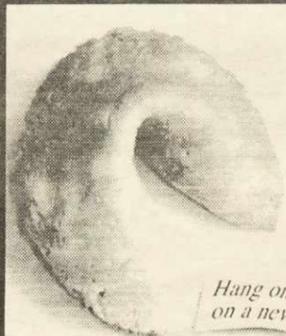
The Story So Far — Dalhousie vs. Saint Mary's

	Dal	SMU
Record	5-21(5)	18-8(5)
Head-to-Head	0-6	6-0
Goals For	14	30

Previous Matches

February 13	Dalhousie 2	@ Saint Mary's 3
January 26	Dalhousie 2	@ Saint Mary's 7
December 1	Saint Mary's 5	@ Dalhousie 2
November 17	Saint Mary's 6	@ Dalhousie 2
November 9	Saint Mary's 4	@ Dalhousie 2
October 12	Dalhousie 3	@ Saint Mary's 5

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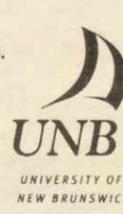
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Tigers send message: Still the team to beat in AUAA

BY MICHAEL HARTLEY

In a match that used to mean so little — until this year of course — the Dalhousie Tigers men's volleyball team let the AUAA know that they're still king of the hill in this conference. They also let it be known that teams like MUN have a long way to go before beating the 19-time champs in their own barn.

After the embarrassing flight home — that almost turned into a bus ride — a few of weeks ago from St. John's where the Tigers were upset, Dal came out with only one thing on their minds — Revenge.

The Tigers jumped out to an early lead in the Friday afternoon affair and never looked back.

"We looked good tonight," head coach Dan Ota said after the match.

He was right. The Tigers looked like their old selves as they handed MUN their heads in a 5-0 debacle - 25-18, 25-20, 25-18, 25-

14 & 25-18 - at the 'plex. The only point of concern for the Black and Gold was the high number of service errors.

The exclamation point on the victory was a nasty "six-pack" delivered by Ryan Andrews to an unsuspecting Sea Hawk in the fourth. Folks, take it from a former junior high star — ok, benchwarmer — those don't tickle. Not only was this game important in terms of the AUAA standings — which Dal now tops — but this match sent a message to their potential opponents across the net.

The win was to say that the loss the Tigers suffered in St. John's earlier in the season was a sort of "miscommunication" between the two teams.

The following day, Moncton arrived in town and was quickly shown the door. Dal swept 5-0 and the game was marked with some new faces making considerable contributions for the Tigers. That same

day in Fredericton, MUN traveled to the New Brunswick capital to face the Varsity Reds in a pivotal tilt. This game was to determine second place in the division and a date with the Tigers this coming weekend for the AUAA banner. The well-rested Reds disposed of the Sea-Hawks 4-1 ending a dream season for Newfoundland entry. Their season — which saw them gain some well-deserved respect from within the division culminating in a win against the conference powerhouse — is over. Their last game was against Moncton on Sunday and the result simply isn't important enough to print in a publication that values its precious print space (see hockey, previous page).

The stage is set for the upcoming weekend. In what has become a rite of February at this school, the AUAA championships will be hosted at the Dalplex with an invitation to the national dance on the line. As the weekend ap-

proaches, I can finally say that someone is listening to me. Since the inception of the five-set match — as opposed to the best of five — I have been calling for its banishment because of its lack of appeal and non-family viewing qualities. For the AUAA championships, my wish has been granted. Well it hasn't really but a winner must be determined in each match, so they have to play best of five. This begs the question however, what the hell were they doing playing all five during the season anyway? Some

never listen.

Tip off for the AUAA's will be Friday night at 6:00 p.m. at the Dalplex. The match on Saturday will take place at high noon. In this best two-out-of-three-matches event, the game on Sunday — 12:00 p.m. — will be marked with an asterisk, noting its possible necessity. The winner of this mini tournament will travel to Quebec City at the beginning of March to battle for the national championship at Laval University.

To abstain or not to abstain?

BY DENA VANDALFSEN

There is no absolute answer, but a recent study suggests that sex before a sporting event could benefit rather than hinder an athlete's performance.

Emmanuele Jannini of the University of L'Aquila in Italy told the International Journal of Andrology that an increase in the rise of sexual activity is accompanied by an increase in the male hormone testosterone.

It is testosterone that makes men aggressive and this high level of aggression can be advantageous in competition the next day.

The study, which is contrary to the widely held belief that men should abstain from sex before sporting events to conserve energy, only addresses male athletes who play sports in which aggressiveness is an asset.

Not all medical professionals believe in the rule of abstinence.

"Before you believe that love-making before an athletic competition will sap your energy realize that the Buffalo Bills were separated from their wives before four Super Bowl games," said Dr. Gabe Mirkin, a sports medicine specialist, in the National Post. "And you know their record: four and zero."

There are some notable athletes who ignore the rule to abstain. After getting the gold at the 1992 Albertville Olympics, Canadian downhill skier Kerrin Lee-Gartner was quoted saying: "[Max and I] made good vibrations for the race."

Another story goes back to the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. Bob Beamon tried something new and had sex the night before a major competition.

Beamon feared he had lost his

chances for Olympic gold, but the 22-year-old American jumped 29 feet 2.5 inches beating the world record by nearly two feet.

If anyone, the late basketball star Wilt Chamberlain and his claim to have been with 20,000 women, shows that sex can accompany an athlete to the top of his game.

Some people are quick to dismiss the new findings.

"What a bunch of crap," said Ron Wilson coach of the NHL's Washington Capitals, in the National Post. "What about guys who [masturbate]? That doesn't count?"

It is believed that celibacy allows an athlete to focus energy and make it available for the game. Boxing heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali was celibate up to six weeks before a fight. The 1998 Brazilian World Cup soccer team did not allow visits from wives and girlfriends.

Dr. Elizabeth Abbot author of A History of Celibacy traced anecdotal evidence of athletes abstaining back to the Greek Olympics.

"If you're not discharging energy in sex you are somehow hoarding it in your body and releasing it into sports," said Abbott.

However there is no actual proof that abstinence has any effect positive or negative. The act of sex itself is not the problem. The average sexual encounter burns four calories a minute. Not enough to exhaust a trained athlete.

The problem lies in the pursuit of sex and it is the wild lifestyles that are not good for performance. The issue has not been resolved.

Some people believe in abstinence. Some don't. The key is moderation. A maxim to live by: sex before six.

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DALENDAR

Friday, February 18

CKDU coverage of the Dalhousie Student Union election. Meet the candidates and call in between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.

"Resentment and Assurance" is a lecture by Dr. Margaret Walker of Fordham University's department of philosophy. Weldon Law Building, Room 207 at 3:30 p.m.

"Low-Dimensional Anionic Networks in Ternary Rare-Earth Antimonides" is a presentation by Professor Arthur Mar of University of Alberta's Chemistry Department. Starts at 1:30 in Chem 226. Coffee and donuts provided at 1:15 in Room 225 (bring your own mug).

Saturday, February 19, 2000

Seedy Saturday: Urban Farm Museum Society and Nova Scotia Organic Growers Association presents the opportunity to buy, sell, trade and share seeds, including heritage and non-hybrid flowers and native plants. No admission fee, but donations would be appreciated. Happens at the Golden Age Social Centre (212 Herring Cove Rd., Spryfield) from 2 until 5 p.m.

The Princess Bride will be shown at midnight at the Oxford Theatre. Tickets are \$5.99 at the door to benefit Veith House.

Sunday, February 20, 2000

Bugs in Your Food: a public talk in the Museum of Natural History's auditorium. Free admission; food bank donations accepted. Join food safety specialist, Gary Moulton, Department of Agriculture and Marketing at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 23, 2000

Whales and Seabirds of the Bay of Fundy: a public talk with naturalist Carl Haycock. Museum of Natural History's auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Also on Thursday at 7:30.

Humans Against Homophobia meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. In the Dalhousie SUB. All ages and orientations welcome. HAH is a working group of the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG). For more info call 494-6662.

Thursday, February 24, 2000

NSPIRG's Tenth Birthday Party: The Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group celebrates ten years of advocacy and community activism with a community birthday party. Lots of activities, free food and musical guests including Piggy, Halifax's own Calypso Orchestra. All are welcome to this social for social justice. The festivities begin at 7 p.m. In the Green Room of the Dalhousie Student Union Building, 6136 University Ave. Free. 494-6662.

Announcements

International Language Institute Certificate in English Language Teaching. Call 429-3636.

Humans Against Homophobia is looking for submissions that communicate your experiences with homophobia and heterosexism. We're looking for a broad range of experiences in any material form, to be published as a booklet and display. All are welcome to submit, anonymously or otherwise. Info call 494-6662. Deadline is Feb. 29.

Solutions: a relationship loss group: A group for students who would like to learn how to move beyond the loss of a romantic relationship. The group consists of four 1 1/2 hour sessions. Topics include grieving loss, improving self-esteem, developing goals, planning for the future. The Solutions Group will be offered on Mondays in March. Pre-registration is required at Counselling and Psychological Services, 4th floor SUB. Call 494-2081.

Anger Management Program: for students who would like to learn how to moderate upsetting and self-defeating angry feelings. The program consists of four 1 1/2 hour sessions. Topics include identifying anger triggers, moderating angry feelings, asserting oneself appropriately, and preventing self-defeating responses. The program will be offered Thursdays in March. \$20 deposit required. Pre-register at Counselling and Psychological Services. Call 494-2081 for more info.

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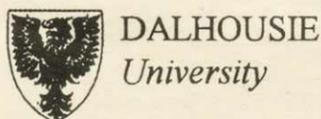
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University

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT NEWS

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

RECRUITMENT FOR SPRING GRADUATES

Communications Security Establishment (CSE) - Recruiting for Careers in Languages and Intelligence Analysts. Deadline to apply, May 1. (see info sessions section)

3M Canada Company - Senior Chemist positions. Deadline to apply, Feb. 21.

Great-West Life - Product Marketing Specialist position. Deadline to apply, February 29.

TREE PLANTING

Various tree planting companies are hiring tree planters for the summer. Numerous locations across Canada. Please check job postings on how to apply. Deadline dates vary. Apply early.

SUMMER 2000

Senate Page Program 2000 in Ottawa - Deadline to apply, March 10.

Nortel Networks - Various IT positions. Deadline to apply, Feb. 25.

Inventa Sales & Promotions - Promotions Reps and Program Supervisors. Professional rep on behalf of multi-national companies such as Coca-Cola, Molson etc. Deadline to apply: Feb. 23.

Camp Wahanowin - Various camp positions in Ontario. Deadline to apply, Feb. 24.

Camp Rotary - An extraordinary summer camp for 400 campers with disabilities. Located on the shore of Grand Lake, NB. Deadline date to apply - March 1.

Nova Scotia Lifeguard Service - Lifeguard positions to work at various beaches. Deadline to apply, March 10

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Camp Winaukee - A sports camp in New Hampshire is now hiring for summer. To learn more about these positions please attend the Information Session on February 22, Room 307, 10 - 11 am, interviews will be held the same afternoon.

Camp Wahanowin - Located just outside Orillia, Ontario, various positions available. Information Session, Feb. 24, Room 307, SUB, 10 - 11 am. Interviews will be held from 11 - 5 on Feb. 24.

Communications Security Establishment - Careers in Language, and Intelligence Analysts. To learn more about these exciting careers, come to the Information Session on March 20, Room 307, SUB at 12:00 - 1:00 and 3:00 - 4:00 pm.

"...just a few more times over the horizon."



The Gazette, meetings Mondays at 4:30, rm 312, SUB, 494-2507