

Celebration...

pg.9

THE
GAZETTE

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Thursday, April 6, 2000.



Have a good summer from the staff and other animals at The Gazette.

photos by Patrick Blackie

Education: Right or privilege

Debate held to address issue

BY DANIEL McKILLOP

The issue of equal accessibility to post-secondary education was discussed and organized at a debate held on Tuesday, March 28, by members of the Arts and Social Sciences Society and Sodales, the Dalhousie debating society.

Student speakers included

William Georgas, Jennifer Cleversey, Gazette writer Shawn Kehoe and Sean Moreman. Although the debate addressed the serious issue of education, the speakers impersonated members of the Canadian Federal Government. Georgas played the role of "Prime Minister," and Kehoe was the leader of the Opposition.

The argumentative positions taken by the speakers on the topic were not their actual views. A wide range of opinions were presented in order to create a balanced debate.

Georgas argued that education had to be made accessible, and that it is the government's responsibility to provide this need.

"There is no 'right' to educa-

tion in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but education has many intrinsic values, like self-actualization, freedom of expression and freedom of thought. Education is necessary for these to realize themselves," said Georgas.

Prime Minister Georgas also argued that a post-secondary education is necessary for career em-

ployment, and that the citizens of Canada are able to make a more full contribution by being educated by the country's post-secondary institutions. He said that education is a starting point in allowing people to become more self-sufficient, and that it is part of the government's

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The politics of sexual labour

BY SARAH MURPHY

CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP) — To many Wendy Chapkis has become a celebrity apologist for prostitutes.

But Chapkis, an assistant professor of sociology and women's studies at the University of Southern Maine, insists she is simply a good girl who is fascinated by those who are more bold.

Some of these bolder women, or sex workers, are the subject of Chapkis' most recent book entitled *Live Sex Acts*.

In writing this book, Chapkis did not only want to pose a challenge to the enduring division between "good girls" and "bad girls," but also wanted to explore the debate within feminism surrounding commercial sex.

"Feminism was poised to have a complicated discussion about sexuality, [but it] turned to a war instead," said Chapkis, who was horrified by the bloodletting within the feminist community over the issue of prostitution and pornography.

To a number of feminists, pornography is an extreme form of violence against women. But there are also women who see recreational — and commercial — sex as liberating.

"As feminists we often thought that sex had been so brutal for some women. Sex was seen as dangerous," said Chapkis. "There is a vision of sex that is about long term intimacy. [Some] are trying to protect that which is threatened by things like prostitution."

Those feminists who are opposed to prostitution and pornogra-

phy, she added, want to protect this feeling of intimacy in regards to sex.

The material for her book is derived from comparative research conducted in the northern California communities of Santa Cruz and San Francisco, and in the Netherlands, primarily in Amsterdam.

From 1986 to 1995, Chapkis met, interviewed and worked with numerous sex workers along with others concerned with the practice of commercial sex.

There is a complicated relationship between sex workers and researchers, she said about her research.

Some people in academia, she noted, believe researchers use the stories of sex workers to merely get Ph.D.s and write books about them. The results, say critics, are skewed.

In some way this is true, Chapkis admitted. But she also said that researchers only get a version of the truth from these women who may feel they have to glorify their profession.

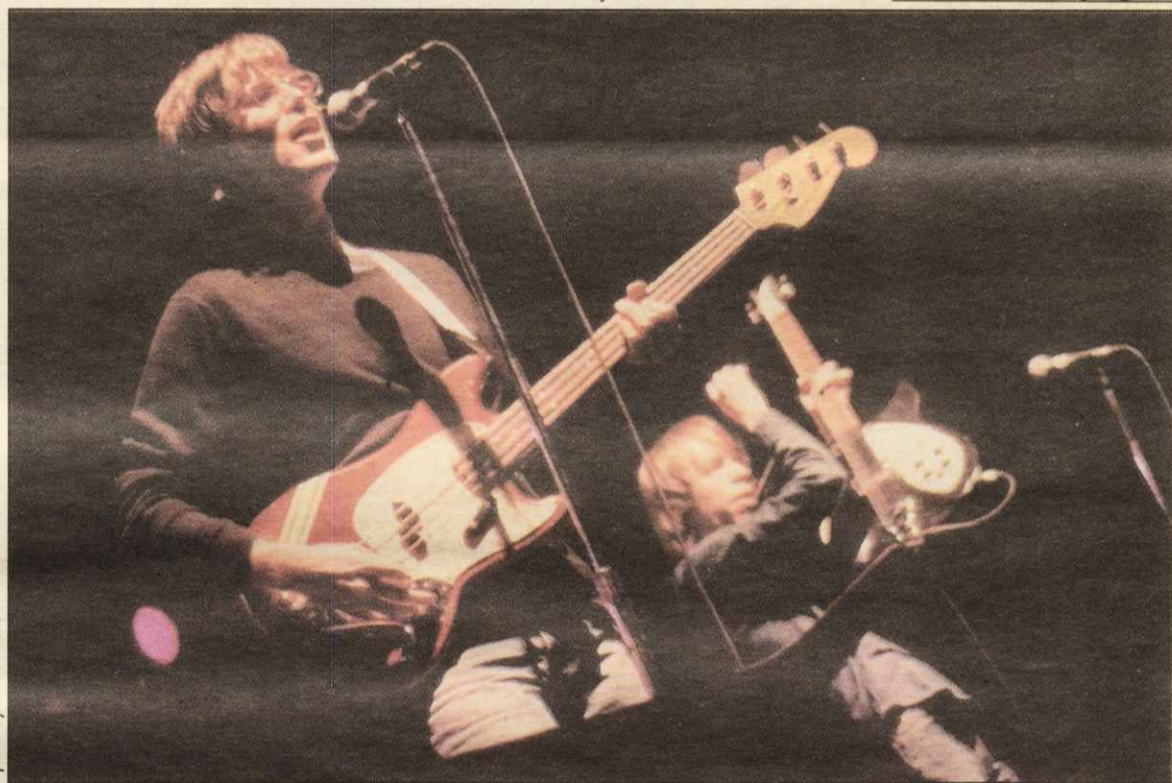
Nevertheless, she is confident that she was successful in shedding some light on these women's lives.

"The queerer I became, the more I could identify with the politicized whore," said Chapkis. "I knew what it was like to be singled out by stigma."

Chapkis does not claim to have a monopoly on the truth, and warns other feminists on either side of the debate that they make themselves sound stupid if they think that they do.

"We all want sexual safety for women," said Chapkis, "but we also want expansive opportunity for

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Sloan flashes dazzling lights at the Electropolis last weekend.

Dal Debate ends on high note

BY GAZETTE STAFF

This past Wednesday, the Dalhousie debate society, Sodales held its final meeting of the academic year, bringing a close to a memorable season in the society's history.

"This is the year Dal got back on the map," said Neal Dawe, a senior Sodales member.

Dalhousie continued its strong placing in the Atlantic debating circuit, winning first place in both individual and team categories at Acadia University last fall. Dal debaters also made considerable headway in Central Canada, winning honours in tournaments at McGill, York, U of T and Queens University. It has been years since Sodales has had such success on the Central circuit.

"All of our hard work is paying off in national recognition," said Sodales President Jennifer Cleversey.

Cleversey placed 17th out of a field of 102 in the recent national competition held at Memorial University in early March.

Fellow Dalhousie debater Sean Moreman placed 9th, the highest placing by an Atlantic debater.

Cleversey was recently re-elected to a second term as Sodales President, along with William Georgas as Sodales Vice President.

When interviewed, Georgas emphasized the social aspects of debating.

"We usually head to the Grad House after our meetings," said Georgas, who explained that tournaments have social events which range from parties at Dooley's to dances and pub crawls. Sodales

treasurer Sean Moreman noted the equality between novice and senior debaters.

"We've sent every active member to a tournament this year," said Moreman.

Sodales heavily subsidizes travel costs, making it possible for budget-minded debaters to attend tournaments in such cities as Montreal and Toronto. Closer to home, Sodales recently co-hosted the annual DASS debate, which focused on education as a right or privilege.

The returning members hope to capitalize on this year's success for the challenges that await them ahead. They hope to send a team to the Worlds competition, which is being held in Toronto in 2002.

Neal Dawe expressed his belief in the society's future:

"We're a strong club now, and we're building for the future."

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Sexual labour

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women so they do not have to resort to prostitution."

Nina Hartley, a porn star and a feminist working for better working conditions in the porn industry, was one of the women interviewed by Chapkis.

Hartley does not like the fact that some women in the pornography business are only 19 or 20, and that a lot of them are not very stable.

But she also argued that the stereotype of the porn star is wrong.

"When I first got into this business, I had lots of value judgement about some of these women: They smoked, they drank, they didn't wear their seatbelts, they didn't eat their vegetables, and they didn't finish school," said Hartley.

Despite her work, she said she did not really feel like a "bad girl."

"I don't even do porn out of a need to rebel," she said.

At heart, Hartley sees herself as a "good girl" who wants to make the world a better place for everybody.

"I want to end hunger, no more war, no more rape," she said. "I pay my taxes, I help old ladies across the street, I'm kind to animals, I visit my grandmother."

Hartley, like Chapkis, thinks it wrong to lay all of the blame on pornography and prostitution. She believes that some mainstream images and practices are also responsible for sexual violence to women.

"In 99 per cent of commercially available pornography, a woman is depicted desiring sex, pursuing sex, having sex, having orgasms and at the end of the movie she's still alive, happy, healthy and well," said Hartley, who sees her work as important for women.

"Women really need to look at that message in light of what Hollywood has to offer and get off the kick that it's pornography that's violent."

Still, there exists a deep divide among feminists over prostitution.

Arian Amsberg, a writer and sexologist also interviewed by

Chapkis, believes the implication of the practice on society should be more closely monitored.

"One of the things that I regret is that our feminist movement doesn't think enough about the long-term effects of prostitution on society as a whole," said Amsberg.

"They only seem to be concerned about the women who want to prostitute themselves and how they can best be protected. But they don't think about what prostitution means, how it changes society and affects the possibility of equality between men and women."

Chapkis disagrees.

"Even if we want to eliminate [prostitution], we should want to make sure they [sex workers] are safe," said Chapkis, who believes a harm reduction model would be better than trying to eliminate what is seen as the "problem" of prostitution.

Chapkis thinks prostitution should be decriminalized as in the Netherlands, rather than legalized as it is in a few counties in the state of Nevada.

"The Nevada model is one you do not want to have anywhere else in the world," Chapkis said. "Sex workers are not allowed to work independently and must turn over a significant portion of their earnings to their male bosses. And women have no say into what sexual favours they will and will not perform. If they do not comply, they are fired."

Those who refuse to work under these stipulations and try to work independently, said Chapkis, face threat of arrest.

She pointed out that when inspecting these closely monitored establishments, health inspectors will examine the sex worker's health, but will never test clients, therefore putting women at risk.

Chapkis's research in the Netherlands has exposed what she believes is a better model for women performing in the sex world. By decriminalizing prostitution — doing away with laws dealing with the practice — Chapkis said women would gain control of the practice, improving work conditions.

Right or privilege

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duty to ensure the independence of its citizens.

Moreman, a speaker for the Opposition, disagreed. He argued that in order to protect a post-secondary education from being devalued, the government of Canada must not lower tuition rates below a level of sustainability.

"If the government makes post-secondary education completely accessible, everyone will have bachelors. Those who want a degree have to be serious and committed; we need [to give education] a high monetary value.

"The personal benefits [of receiving a post-secondary education] are greater than governmental benefits. Why should it be free? If you want a return from something, you have to pay for it. Education is an investment.

"The government is responsible for providing a high school education," said Moreman, "which is the logical cut-off for governmental parenting."

Cleversey, a speaker for the "Government," maintained that streaming society according to socio-economic backgrounds is an act of hypocrisy, "which doesn't follow what Canadians believe."

"The Government says that the doors are open," said Cleversey, "but one has to pay five to ten thousand every year to get credit for an education. Accessibility is not based on intellect, but on how much money can be acquired at the time of one's education."

She also maintained that universities should foster thinking, but pursuing intellectual development is not the current trend. The financial need for acquiring an education is restrictive, and is stunting the growth of intellect in our country.

"People are not able to give back to society," she said. "People must choose their own destinies, and the government must not close doors. Education should be a right."

Mr. Kehoe, leader of the Opposition, disagreed.

"Education is not a right, since it cannot be given to everyone. There aren't enough prof's and T.A.'s in the country," he said, "be-

cause we cannot compete economically with the U.S. Canadian tuition is one sixth of the tuition Americans pay, ignoring the conversion values.

"Rights must be guaranteed, and education cannot be guaranteed."

Kehoe pointed out that in the recent past, the Canadian government had set out to eliminate child poverty by the year 2000, which isn't responsible legislation. Too many people with B.A.'s are not fulfilling what they are trained to do; "there aren't enough positions to satisfy what people are trained for."

"There comes a point where

the government has to stop holding the hands of its citizens," he argued.

The Prime Minister had the final word at the debate.

"Education is not a right that is guaranteed unequivocally," said Georgas, "but there are other sources of rights, like contractual duties of the state to its people."

He also recognized that there is no such thing as an absolute right. Post-secondary education shouldn't be free, but accessible.

"Degrees are a preparation for a career," he said. "Degrees are worth a lot, which is why people have to be able to get them."



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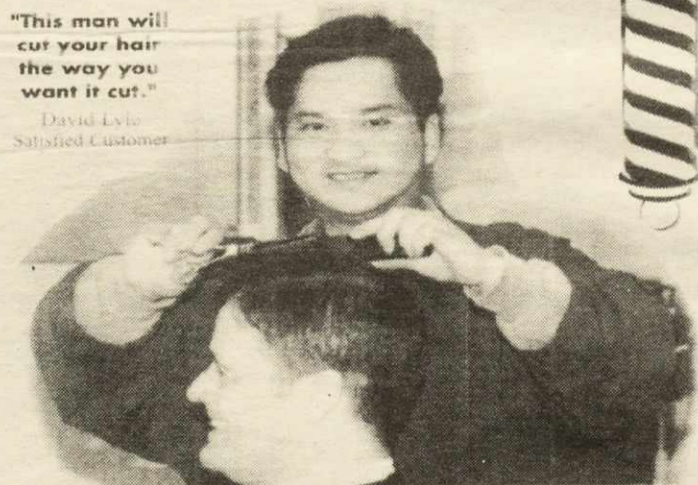
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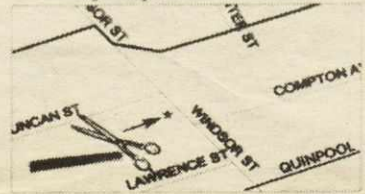


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SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

Wash your vegetables, but not your clothes

BY KIP KEEN

When I was 10, and while 'whoa-oh-oh-oh-oh ... hangin' tough' was spilling off the tongues of pre-teens, phosphates in laundry detergents had become a huge eco-enemy. People asked; how could one have nice clean clothes and simultaneously save the environment? My Mum wasn't too keen on my suggestion that we stop doing laundry, and before I could have taken any action, ABC and TIDE came out as environment saviours with the introduction of phosphate-free detergents.

Although I was disappointed

that Sundays would still include my cold feet stomping around in the basement laundry room, the new soaps helped stop the excessive pumping of phosphates into the ecosystem, which allowed certain plants to bloom and blossom where they previously hadn't, thereby bullying out other green neighbours. Fortunately, phosphate loading is less of a problem now that we have more friendly soaps.

Unfortunately, this story does not end with the prince and princess riding off into the environmentally friendly sunset.

Today, an even more pressing matter confronts us: nitrogen load-

ing.

Nitrogen is a naturally occurring element which ranks forth as the most present element in living organisms, after oxygen, carbon, and hydrogen. It is an essential part of every plant's breakfast. However, plants can only get their fill of the substance if it is in a flora friendly form, called 'fixed nitrogen'. While nitrogen makes up 78 percent of the atmosphere, occurs geologically as mineral, and is present in decomposing corpses and vegetation, it cannot be used by plants until 'nitrogen fixers' and soil microbes convert it into a usable form, usually as nitrate or ammonium.

A 1997 study, *Human Alteration of the Global Nitrogen Cycle: Sources and Consequences*, provides an overview of the large pool of data on nitrogen from all walks of science. It declares that natural nitrogen fixation, the amount of nitrogen made available to the food chain by mother nature, is estimated to have been between 80 and 140 million metric tons (Tg) per year before industrialization. Humans are conservatively estimated to be adding a further 140 Tg per year to the environment, at least doubling the amount of fixed nitrogen that organisms have access to.

Of this addition, 80 Tg is a result of the use of fertilizers, which are used to maximize the growth of crops. The report asserts that between 1980 and 1990 the amount of industrially fixed nitrogen applied to crops more than equalled all industrial fertilizer applied pre-

viously in human history. This does not include manure because recycled animal feces already presents fixed nitrogen.

The problems created by this excess of nitrogen are many, and a few are outlined by the study.

When no more nitrogen can be used by plants, the excess seeps into streams, ground water, and the atmosphere, spreading nitrogen into ecosystems which hadn't had access to it. In rivers and coastal waters this leads to serious eutrophication, or nutrient abundance. Algae and other organisms multiply and strip the water of its oxygen, suffocating other plants and animals from their habitats.

In soils, the glut of ammonium, a fixed form of nitrogen, intensifies the production of nitrates, which releases hydrogen ions into the earth, helping to acidify it. These nitrates also carry away other minerals such as calcium, magnesium and potassium, which are a vital part of most organisms' diets.

The loss of minerals allows

aluminum to reach toxic concentrations, damaging tree roots, killing fish in water habitats, and posing a threat to humans. Aluminum build up in the body is associated with Alzheimer's disease and other mentally debilitating diseases.

When one considers that fertilizer use is currently increasing, as countries respond to burgeoning populations and the need for greater food supplies, it becomes apparent that cutting nitrogen use is not going to be as simple as coming out with environment-friendly detergents was. Completely ceasing to use fertilizers is an unlikely solution, so the report calls for wiser application of fertilizers in order to curb their effects on the environment.

The report concludes that "it is urgent that national and international policies address the nitrogen issue, slow the pace of global change, and moderate its impacts."

Go to www.sdsc.edu/ESA/tilman.html for a dummy friendly version of the technical report.

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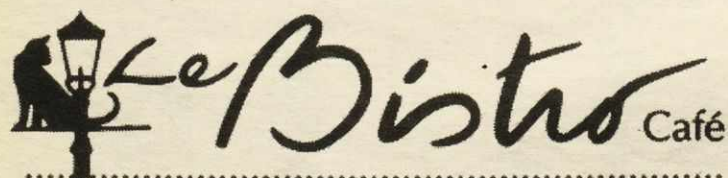
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Getting rid of books? If they are textbooks you might be able to sell them back to the bookstore in the Student Union Building. For everything else, you'll find used book stores abound in Halifax.

A great alternative to converting your unwanted possessions into green is to instead trade them for items you do need: organize a trading circle with your friends and neighbours. Trading is a fun and community-building idea. Add a little drumming, some summer sunshine, and a potluck and you've got a party!
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Nova Scotia: The greenest region in North America

BY SARAH McNEILL AND PETER SIMPSON

In Canada we have a national identity which has always been synonymous with our landscape. Ours is the land of canoes, wilderness, pristine streams, beavers and moose. We see ourselves as people who live as one with our environment, appreciating its diversity on some divine level.

Being rustic Canadians ourselves, we've always thought of the country in this light. Needless to say our sense of nationalism took a blow when we heard a recent statistic from Environment Canada, in which Canada had been declared the most wasteful country on earth. Apparently the land famous for nature is one of its biggest enemies. Recent statistics show that we create more household waste than Americans, although just barely.

The average Canadian produces 1.8 kilograms of garbage each day, while the average American produces 1.6 kilograms daily. Although these stats are for a minute staggering, recent announcements have solidified the faith in our nation's commitment to the environment.

The Nova Scotia Department of the Environment has announced that it will be the first province (or state) in North America to divert 50 percent of its solid waste in the year 2000.

At a time when many regions are facing a critical shortage of landfill space, Nova Scotia is currently diverting 44 percent of its waste through mandatory composting programs, and disposal bans on recyclable materials. Other regional governments must realize what the people of Nova Scotia already have: that most of the items that we throw out are actually valu-

able resources that can be reused.

Despite our province's great head-way there is one problem with conservation programs in Halifax. There is a failure to inform students on how these programs work. There have been complaints at the municipal government level that students are not utilizing Metro's recycling and composting programs.

But this is more due to a lack of effort on part of the Municipality when it comes to informing students, rather than any lack of integrity on the part of these students. Many students who are from out of province are not familiar with composting programs. If your house is anything like my house, then you and your roommates probably have limited knowledge about what goes into that green-bin in the backyard, what exactly can be recycled, and what to do with all your useless junk when its time to move back home for the summer. So we did a little investigating and compiled an easy little chart to help all you rustic Canadians out there save our wild, untamed, pristine country.

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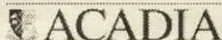
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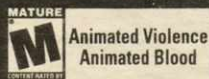
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Student apathy — If you don't like it, do something!

I don't know about you, but I am tired of having to pay a lot for my university education. It seems that every year, the tuition goes up, and the quality of education goes down. Teachers are cut, services are scaled down, and education becomes diluted as a result.

It also seems that every year there is a movement to protest, but nothing ever changes. It also seems like it is always the same few people protesting. But at the same time, everyone complains that things can not stay the way they are.

Everyone complains, but few do anything about it. It is almost as if people are waiting for the situation to fix itself, or are waiting for others to do it for them.

There are over 12,000 students attending Dalhousie University this year. That is a lot of people! That is a lot of voices and opinions! Imagine the power of 12,000 voices saying the same thing!

But for some reason 12,000 voices together never happens.

Why? I wish I knew.

Why do people find it difficult to act on their opinions?

Why does there seem to be such student apathy here at Dalhousie?

Why do so few people vote in the Student Union elections?

Why do so few people get involved with protests and activism?

Why do so many students prefer to just not get involved with any aspect of their university other than their classes?

Other generations of students

fought opposition. I know so many 'hippies' who, in the '60s, fought through demonstrations and civil disobedience. Those actions gave us the infrastructure that we have today. The infrastructure that we

EDITORIAL

should be proud of — student safety webs and student services.

Where would we be without student action? In a bad place, that's where. But where are we now, and how have things changed? It is essential that we look at where we are now and correct things, if not for us, then for the students that will be here next year, or 10 years from now.

I believe that it is time that our generation of students take our destiny in our own hands. It is time that we stop being apathetic and start doing what's right. In order for things to work. And we need more than just 10 percent of the student body to participate.

We need action. But how can you act? Well, writing for a student paper, like *the Gazette*, is one.

Another is supporting on and off-campus social groups. Yet another is making your voice count by voting in elections. You can even write a letter to the Education Ministers of Nova Scotia and Canada.

Remember, nothing happens by itself. If you want anything to change, you have to do something. If you do nothing, you have no right to complain.

Andrew Gillis

Embracing roots

To the Editor,

In my first year at university, I've learned a great many things — some from my classes, and some from my friends. But the most important thing I learned came from myself. No, I didn't read a self-help book. I finally embraced my surroundings. The story starts in 1981, when I was born in Montreal. I moved to Halifax when I was three years old. For certain people it would have been natural to adopt the local culture as their own. I, being the stubborn person I am, refused. I rejected any activities that may have opened my eyes to Nova Scotia. I went to a french immersion school and lost my french accent by grade two. It frustrated me a great deal. I wanted to be anywhere but here. In grade four, I switched to an all-french school in Dartmouth. There I tried to distance myself from the prominent Acadian culture, which seemed all too closely linked to the Maritimes and not Quebec. I visited Quebec annually and missed it a lot.

Now to come to my point: I am Nova Scotian, and as much as I hate to admit it, it grows on you. I noticed this semester how I became Nova Scotian. It's as easy as feeling like you live in a community and that there are familiar faces you see there. I found myself walking down Spring Garden Road looking for people I knew, or at least had seen in one of my classes or something. I'm not a shy person with strangers so I look everyone in the eye. Once in a while I would find an acquaintance or an old classmate I would smile at or chat with in the street. What I found is that it's good to know lots of people and not be afraid to smile or say hi. A friendly face on campus would have made my transition from a small school to Dalhousie a great deal easier. So play up that stereotype that Canadians are polite and reach out to someone, anyone, it'll make their day.

Rachelle Dumas

Killam ignored

To the Editor,

I just want to express my disappointment in *the Gazette's* coverage of the changes that are to take place in the Killam Library. Your brief article reflects a single viewpoint and does not even begin to consider the benefits to students and faculty that will result from the move of Science Services to the ground floor. Increased visibility is just one benefit.

But the worst part is that no effort was made to gather opinions from other library staff whose feelings about the move might be far more positive than the one expressed. It also seems evident that the Science faculty members who were quoted have not been given all the information. Bill Maes has consulted with everyone in the library about the changes he wants to make, as well as a large contingent from the university community, and to imply that he hasn't is just plain wrong.

In future, it may be wise to gather a bit more information and consult with a broader community before committing an article to print.

Ian Colford
Killam Library

Tae What? — Doh!

To the Editor,

This is in response to Patrick Blackie's article on the Tae Kwon Do tournament. Tae Kwon Do is a martial art and you would know that if you did any type of research on the subject. The type of training and how much and how hard a person trains doesn't depend on the type of art, it depends on the person. You seemed to write a lot about the Kung-Fu school that attended the tournament and I don't blame you,

they were very well trained and put a lot of effort into their work; I judged one of the guys from Kung-Fu in forms competition and I gave him a winning score. But that doesn't mean that they were trained any better than anyone else.

The reason I am writing you is because you have the power to voice your opinion, and therefore you must be more considerate than you have been in the past. Your article seemed to favour the Kung-Fu school for reasons that aren't true and FYI that tournament was put on by a Tae Kwon Do school, meaning that if it wasn't for Tae Kwon Do there wouldn't even have been a tournament for you to go to.

I agree that Tae Kwon Do is a crowd pleasing display, but it is also an ancient Korean martial art. If you reply to my letter I would like you to not only tell me that you will never refer to Tae Kwon Do as a sport again but I want you to tell me why you did it in the first place. Every opinion must be backed up by some sort of reasoning and I would like to hear yours. I'm interested to see how a *Dal Gazette* reporter justifies changing the category of Tae Kwon Do from a martial art to a sport. Don't try to answer that.

My point is, Tae Kwon Do has been a martial art for thousands of years. It has survived generations of death and war. It deserves more respect than you give it.

Sure, since it came to America it has been changed a little but it will always be a martial art.

Do the school (Carabins Tae Kwon Do) and the martial art some credit by apologizing for that remark. That's the least you should do considering all the people that dedicate a lot of their time to the martial art and all those children that put their hearts into it.

Tae Kwon Do can be considered a sport but it will always be considered a martial art, even if you don't.

Paul Cosgrove



Somebody should do something about that student apathy thing...

Yes, somebody should... Hmmm... Soon... Coffee Reggie?

THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Volume 132, no. 24

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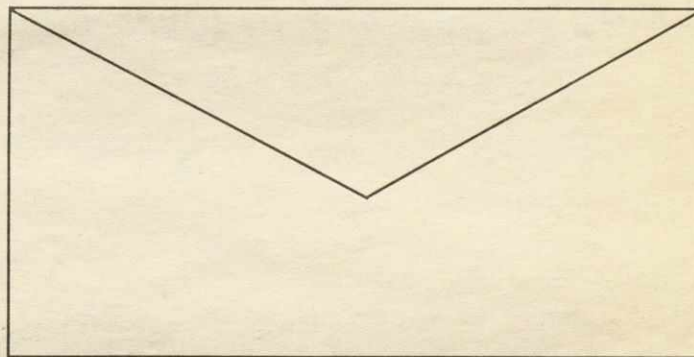
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All submissions must be typed double-spaced on paper, e-mailed, or on a Mac or IBM 3 1/2 inch disk, in a WP version not greater than Word 6.0 or equivalent. The deadline is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, the *Gazette* is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, the *Gazette* is published every Thursday by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all students of Dalhousie University are members. The *Gazette* exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. All editorial decisions are made collectively by the staff. To become voting staff members, individuals must contribute to four issues. Views expressed in the *Gazette* are not necessarily those of the editors or the collective staff. Unless otherwise noted, all text © 2000 the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. ISSN 0011-5819

Comments?



Too bad - see you next year!

In the meantime email your comments to:
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OPINIONS

One last manifesto

The time has come...I'm leaving on a jet plane...say you, say me...we are the world...

But, I cannot leave this school which has given me so much, without taking one last look at what Dalhousie is taking.

Dalhousie — you've lost your way. I'm not sure when it happened, although I suspect it was a federal-Liberal-dictatorship-thing. While you raise IT partnerships, computer-building-gray-boxes, business-management-terrorists, you are killing the liberal arts. While money steadily declines to arts faculties, it sores like the extinct Avro Arrow to everyone else.

"But you're getting a new building." Yes, and I'm impressed this one actually has more than 5 windows. But, isn't it convenient that rather than a faculty spread out over the campus like secure barnacles, you will collect them into a small clump, easy to stamp out with the foot of the Board of Governors. Last year, rumour had it you wanted to change the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, to the Department of A&SS. Build bigger classrooms, add more power, have more digital professors, more cubicles, more compartmentalized departmentals, more white walls, less student societies, less will to fight and to oppose.

Dalhousie, like every other university in this country, will have to decide what future they wish to write for themselves. The status of "university" is dependent on the existence of strong liberal arts — it is designed to inspire good citizens. Yes, this is the historic origins, but

to change the definition is not sufficient. If you want to make money, if you want students who will return alumni money, simply so you can maintain a liberal arts department to clutch onto your status as a university, then perhaps you should just change your status to a community college. "Community College of Canada — Dalhousie Campus." There is nothing wrong with the community college, but they have their type of training and we have ours. Either you want to produce good citizens or exploitative business persons. You are trying to produce both which is fine, so long as each side doesn't hate, despise, and disrespect the other at every turn. Maybe you have been inspired by Harris-ites who would rather have a society of automaton-taxpayers, rather than thinking individuals. People think in business, but do they know the history of the country they are funding, the culture, the philosophy that has led to now and that influence now, despite the denial of these.

If you kill liberal arts, you kill any future for this country. We will never get rid of the narcissistic, self-absorbed, individual-identity-crises that permeates every politician in the country to worry about me, me, me, not Canada, Canada, Canada.

I am leaving. I'm flying the coop. When I return, someday, to this country, I expect liberal arts will be one more department like the "Trojan Dept. for the Sexual Reproduction of Computer Circuits." All we really need to teach children is to surf the net, and that's all you need for a modern society — plug

yourself in, turn yourself on, turn everyone else off. Information is not knowledge and knowledge, understanding, and wisdom is what this country needs. It is the job of the university to produce and inspire these.

On that point, I do want to leave on a positive note. Not to discount my criticisms of this institution, but I want to thank every pro-

fessor I've ever had, all the ones who put up with my changing degree ideas, the ones who inspired, the ones who let me talk, the ones that didn't, Howe Hall, Bronson House and all the people who lived there during my years, the ones I appreciated, the ones I didn't, those who appreciated me, and those who didn't, the DSU which was always good for a laugh (and usually little else), the admin-

istration who always tried but never had the resources to do very much, even *the Gazette* and my various editors, and all the little people, anyone and everyone who crossed paths with me and made these the most interesting, exciting, entertaining four years out of my 21 yet.

Thanks to all. Play hard, learn harder, live hardest.

Tristan Stewart-Robertson

I ride my bicycle...

Watching Cirque de Soleil on Sunday night, I began to ponder exercise bicycles and energy use. I don't know if everyone has seen these performances, but they are the most amazing example of human creativity, dexterity and athletic ability that I have ever witnessed. After watching the performance, I truly felt that I could train, prepare and fortify myself towards any goal that I wished to complete. For lack of better words, it was inspirational.

How does this relate to energy use and exercise bicycles? I simply believe that a lot of the drive and energy exhibited by the general population here in America has the potential to be applied in more efficient ways. The Cirque de Soleil performers give you such a visual feast that it can be compared to a great work of art, a testament of the greatness of humankind.

For a moment consider the regime of an avid exercise biker: I have biked for one hour a day, say three days a week, for about two years at a speed of 10 to 15 kilometres an hour. This is really not a horribly intense regime for some nice leg. The total distance covered would have been 4000 km! This is the equivalent to the distance from one coast of Australia to the other, or from Great Britain to Newfoundland. Of course, you would have to account for the efficiency of a pedal powered ocean vessel, water resistance and storms in the case of the trans-Atlantic distance, so hypo-

thetically you would have to add in another year. On the same note, imagine the mountains one may have climbed if the steps taken on a 'stepmaster' had been applied to climbing up your favourite mountain.

This is not by any means a direct attack on stationary exercisers. I am the most firm proponent of strong calves and believe in break-neck speed cardiovascular capacity for keeping fit and training for the sports I game. At the same time, I have never been an advocate of excessive energy use, whether it be in the sense of personal activity or in the sense of our planet's quickly depleting resources such as fossil fuels, water or food.

Now consider if you had an exercise bicycle connected to your central heating system, whereby all the energy generated from exam anxiety pedalling was collected and put towards your heating or electrical needs. I'm almost positive that our bills would be lower. And look! We've just avoided using x-amount of fossil fuels that we really shouldn't be wasting on keeping the lights on so it looks like someone is home.

I find it somewhat comical, yet horribly sad that all these bicyclists are cycling away to nowhere. At least if I was on a real ten-speed, madly pedalling towards the horizon it would be more poetic. But convenience reigns king and people continue to use exercise bikes,

because hell, they're right there.

Gas prices are rising because we've used up a lot of this resource, water is dirty because we've used up all the clean stuff, and people in developing countries are dying from hunger and malnutrition, while people in developed countries are dying from obesity. Not to try to sound like a raging environmentalist, which I may be considering a career in, but it seems that folks in developed countries such as our own are choking in our own decadence. I am not asking you to solve all these problems that have been and are presently accumulating, but I do ask you to question your self and your lifestyle. My example is probably not an idea that will be realized, at least not until I form my private army of do-gooders, but I do hope that you will consider some of the ways I which you use and apply your energy.

Now I know I've asked you to use your imagination many a time already, but for one last moment consider how much energy is generated by all the exercise bicycles at the Dalplex and the TUNS gym. I would say that the force generated from about a decade of stationary energy from those pumping legs could have provided the energy to move the Killam library from its place on Dalhousie campus into the murky depths of Halifax harbour, where most of us think it belongs right now.

Jason Kun

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How will you celebrate the end of exams?



"I think I'll have a nice cold beer and take my friends out for a night on the town."

James DeMond,
2nd year Computer Science,
Southbrookfield, NS

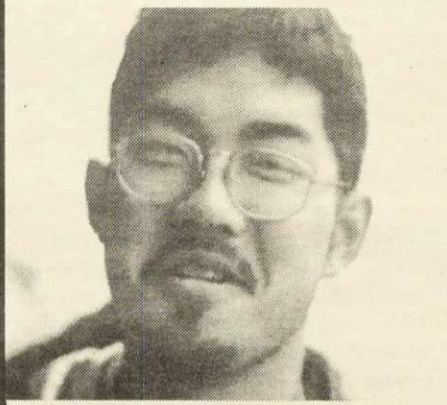




"We're going to Cuba with the IDS program, so that's going to be part of our final exam. I don't finish when everyone else does. I'm going home after that."

Laura Olsen,
1st year IDS,
Norway


"I'm going to smoke a really big joint!"

David Ito,
1st year "Artsbomb",
Halifax

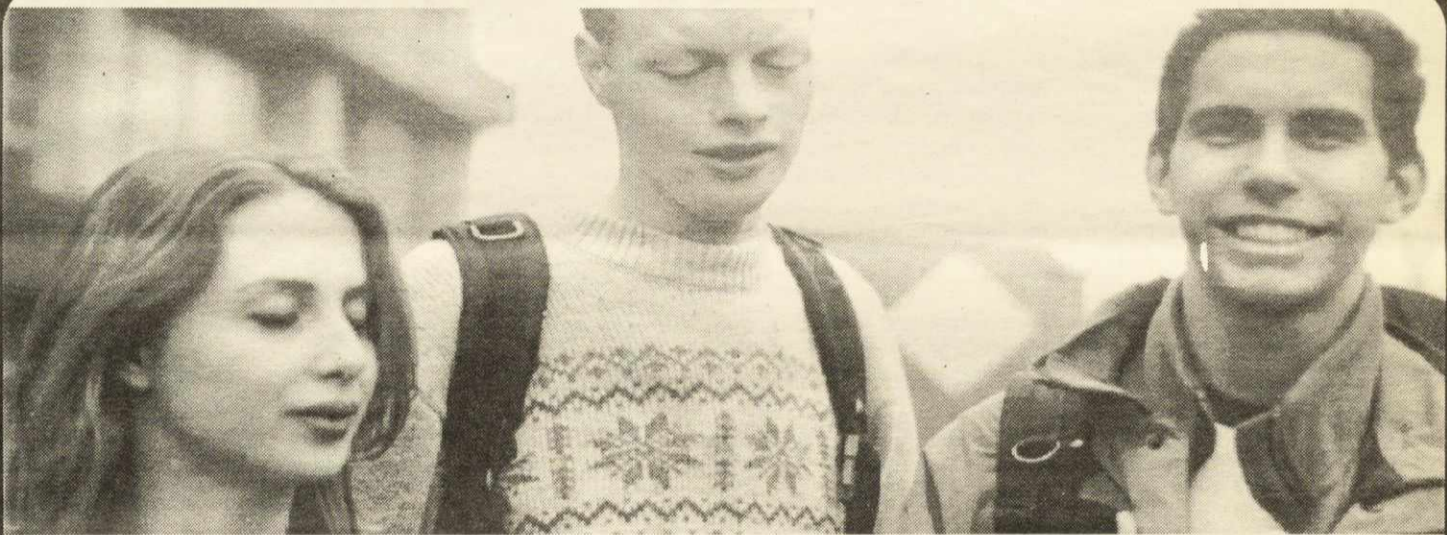
"Writing my thesis! That's it."

Abigail Moriah,
4th year IDS/Political Science,
Halifax



"Honestly, I don't know cause I'm going right back to class. I'm doing summer school."

Jeff Addicott,
2nd year Psychology,
Timberlea



"We'll have kite day. We'll make our own kites and fly them at the Commons."

Left to Right:
Marcy McGregor, 1st year BSc, Bathurst, NB
Steven Roy, 1st year Theatre, Halifax
Nicholas May, 1st year BA, Halifax



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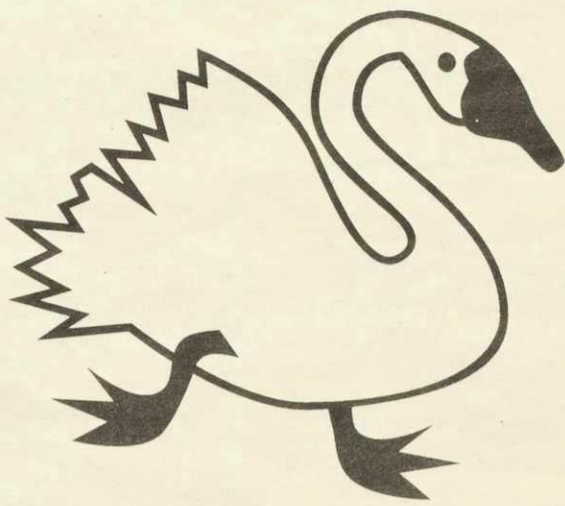
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Duck, duck, goose: a look at Memorial U's feathered friends



BY MICHAEL ROSSITER

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Take a closer look, for the birds on Burton's Pond at Memorial University of Newfoundland are a rare and wild breed indeed.

As welcome members of the university community, the seagulls, pigeons, and, in particular, the ducks have a quiet spot away from the hustle of the campus. At one time or another, many students, employees and children enjoy a trip to the pond to feed these animals.

William Montevecchi, a professor of Biopsychology, teaches numerous animal behaviour classes at Memorial. He says Burton's Pond is a great spot to observe the wonders of nature.

"There are some incredible animals here," he said. "Some of these wild ducks probably crossed the ocean sometime and are way out of range. Even some of the gulls, that some people might be less attracted to, are rare."

But despite this diversity, it's the ducks that draw the most attention. For several years, the birds have had a great reputation among campus-goers. The pond itself is home to two distinct varieties of this animal: wild and domestic.

Montevecchi says that you can identify the wild ducks by their colours.

"The non-wild birds have a lot of white in them," he said.

In fact, he says most of the

ducks of Burton's Pond are not deliberately introduced, but came on their own. He added that the biggest mistakes for the pond were the introduced ducks.

"We periodically seem to buy these [ducks] and put them in here but I don't think we should do that at all," said Montevecchi. "What happens is the mallards, which are sort of the domesticated ones, will interbreed with these wild ducks and it is not the kind of thing we want to be encouraging. That is a potential problem, we don't want to introduce ducks here."

Montevecchi says Burton's Pond shouldn't be a place for introducing birds but for "the black ducks that are wild birds that come here on their own."

Adam Hunt is one Memorial student who likes to feed the ducks.

"I think they provide a nice diversion," said Hunt. "It's a nice sort of cross cultural thing there. You got the ducks, the pigeons, the gulls and they're all interacting nicely. The gulls are a bit ruckus, they try and steal the ducks food and the pigeons just chill out."

Hunt suggested the ducks stay there over winter because "they have all the perks of people going over and picking up a loaf of bread at the store and feeding them."

Other regular visitors to the pond include the children attending Memorial's daycare.

Tracy Hatcher, the daycare's coordinator, says the children feed them about once a week or more

depending on the season.

"It's great, the children love to do it," said Hatcher. "I think [the ducks] have come to know the children because some times in the summer they will come down from the pond and actually meet us when we come out our front door."

She says feeding the ducks is now part of their program at the daycare, becoming a family activity when some children bring in bread from their home. "I think we got everyone involved in the feeding of ducks," Hatcher said.

Hatcher says that the children usually sing songs to the ducks to call them over, but most are a little nervous when the ducks get too close.

"We did have one little girl about three years ago who had a great technique for letting them feed right from her hand," said Hatcher. "She won them over."

Simon Lono would agree. His daughter, who is in the daycare "just loves the ducks."

"My kids go mad for the ducks," said Lono. "Whenever they go out on a little field trip to feed the ducks that's all she talks about when she gets home."

Another character at Burton's Pond that is quite popular with the kids is the mysterious goose.

"My girl was really keen on the goose until she realized that it would chase her just as much as she would chase it," said Lono.

Hunt added that he doesn't know how the goose got to Burton's

Pond but says that he is like "a big bully."

"The goose is great," said Hunt. "He is like this weird entity. How did he get there — does anybody know?"

Hunt says he was also curious one day when he went to feed the ducks and discovered that the goose was missing. He immediately logged onto Memorial's news groups to find out what happened and there were a couple of people posting their concerns.

"People were wondering if the goose was alive or dead or whether it tasted good," said Hunt.

"I seriously figured he got cooked," added Lono.

Professor Montevecchi says it is great that people come and feed the birds but added that they won't survive on white bread alone.

Over the last five to ten years, Montevecchi says the population has really increased, mainly because it's such a popular place for people to come and feed them.

In addition, he says the pond is "artificial" due to a "bubbler" system underneath it meant to keep the water from freezing. The ducks will then tend to stay there over winter.

"They would [leave during winter] but like bird feeders that we have at our houses, they stay here because we make that opportunity," said Montevecchi. "We are actually changing the ecology of these animals by doing this, there is no question about it. It is basically a bird feeder for ducks."

"They will get a good carbohydrate hit from the white bread but in fact if people have brown bread that's a bit better than white bread," he continued. "Some people will actually bring chicken mesh - that really is much better for the ducks."

Montevecchi added that he has a few ideas to improve the living conditions at the pond.

"We shouldn't manicure it and let some sedges grow along the edges," he said. "It is kind of sterile around the edge. If they could not mow the lawn right to the edge in some places and let that grass grow up and have people feed it at par-

ticular places that would be really good for the ducks."

One student said that there was a problem last summer when some ducklings fell through the sewer grate and got trapped down the manhole.

Another student went into the manhole and retrieved some of them. When this happened a second time and a couple of ducklings were lost, screens were quickly put over the manholes for their protection.

Other people have a problem with the seagulls and pigeons at the pond.

"The pigeons are not really much better than rats with wings and seagulls are sort of bigger rats with wings," said Lono.

"In the summer, some people really have a problem with the gulls because they have actually gone after some of the ducklings," said Montevecchi. "That always struck people as rather tragic but it is just the way it goes."

"[The pond] should be made more friendly for the ducks or more friendly for the people because right now there is a really bad combination of neither," said Lono.

Lono says one side of the pond is really steep and it's really easy for people to fall into the water.

"It is not a problem that has come to a head yet but it definitely should be looked at before it comes to a head," said Lono. "Either put a rail around it or landscape it and put a path around it."

Montevecchi says that despite some problems the birds do enjoy living in Burton's Pond.

"They like it because the water is open and they like it because we feed them," he said. "I think they are pretty happy — they're eating, they're mating, they're quacking around...they look pretty content."

Hunt added that, "it's a weird thing you wouldn't expect to find in a university in a middle of a city. I'm really glad [Burton's Pond] is there but I think some people don't appreciate it enough."

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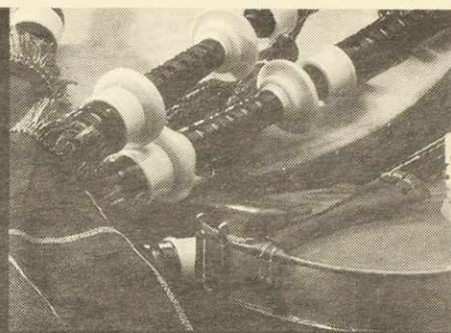


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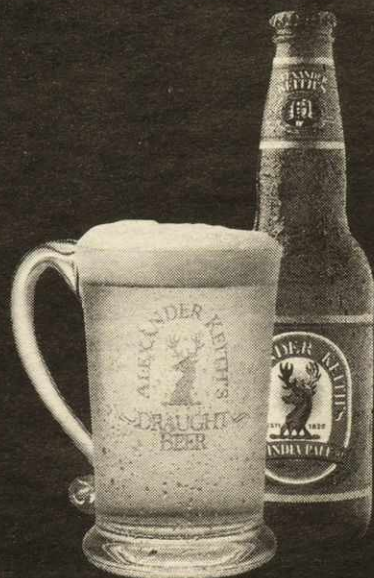
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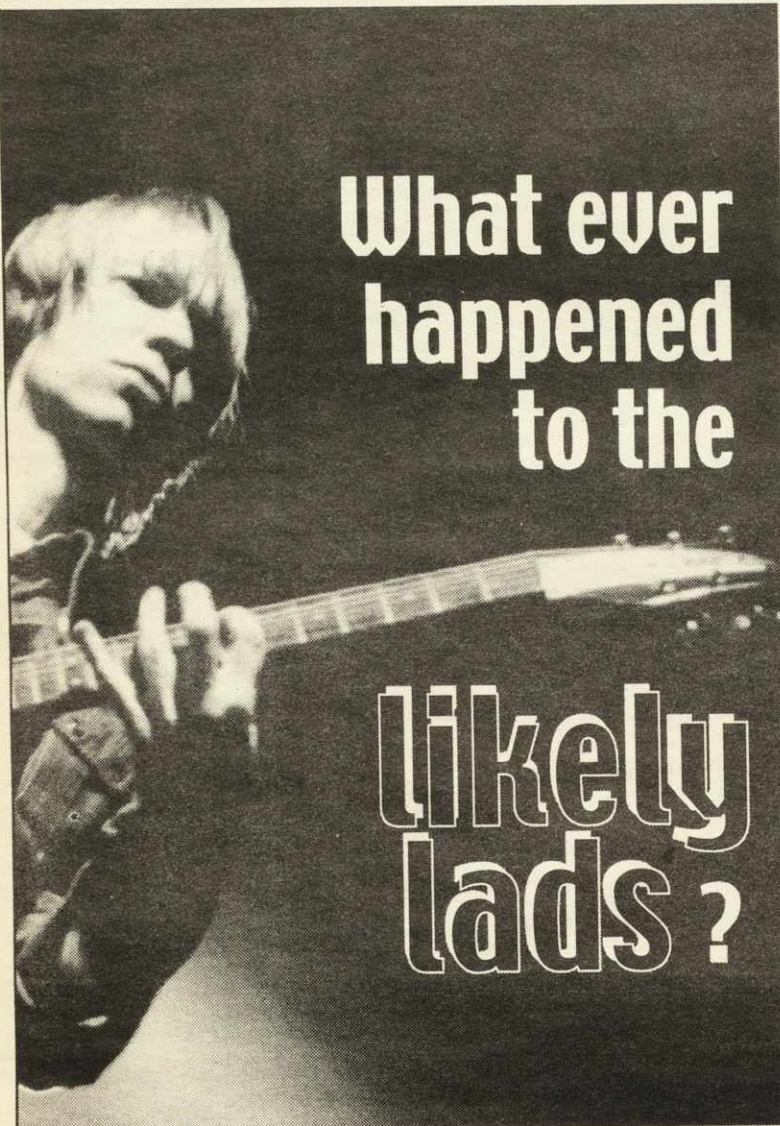
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ARTS & CULTURE



What ever happened to the

likely lads?

BY GAZETTE STAFF

When I went to see Sloan last weekend, I wasn't sure what to expect. I had seen them before, and although they put on an interesting show, I was somewhat surprised.

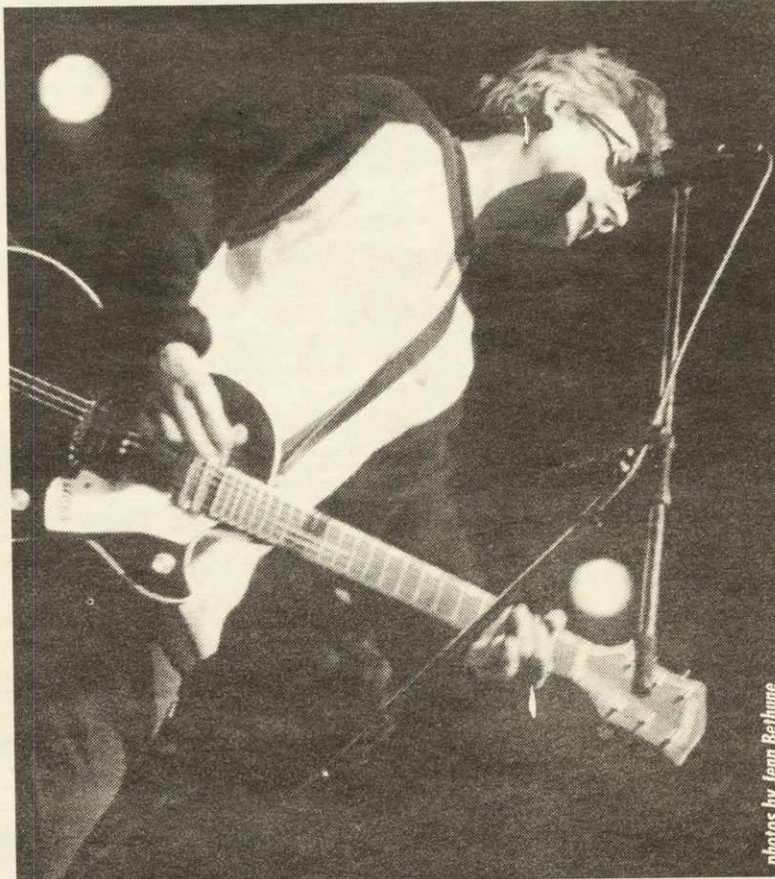
These guys have slowly declined, in my mind, from a new explosion on the Halifax scene to a mediocre Canadian band that only plays Halifax when they come home for a break. But after Friday night, I'm not sure this is the case.

The Electropolis was filled with an interesting mix of fans when the band made their dramatic entrance. They played mostly new tunes, mixing in some old classics, and the performance was solid, but there were a few weak points.

Chris Murphy pulled the old switcheroo, taking a seat behind the drum kit while the others mixed around, a very old stunt for the Halifax boys. Although this was interesting to watch, Murphy was not up to drummer Andrew Scott's calibre, and it was more distracting than entertaining.

Also, the band tried far too hard to entice the drunken crowd to participate. The sing-along worked once or twice, but it failed more than that. In the long run, it had a flavour of desperation.

The crowd was enthusiastic,



photos by Jean Belhumeur

but the stage presence was flat. The only song to really get the crowd moving was "Money City Maniacs," and that had more to do with the lights than the band. They bopped their heads, threw in the

occasional kick, and the sloppy madness on the kit was always entertaining, but no band can rock without putting their hearts into it.

The new material pales in comparison to older stuff like *One Chord to Another* and *Smeared* despite being remarkable similar in styles. It's a lot easier to appreciate quality music when a band works for it, like Sloan did all those years ago. Now they are recognised nationally, and although you can't fault anyone for success, it is harder to look at them in the same way.

However, despite all my criticism, I liked the show. Sloan may be no Journey or Richard Marx, but they do know how to entertain. They have the talent, but not the presence, to pull off a great live show. Their music speaks for itself on CD, but gets lost on stage. Give them haircuts, pump them full of drugs and alcohol, and let em rip — that's what Sloan's live show needs.



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BY KATHY REID

Punkfest '00 kicked open its doors Thursday night at the Pavilion, for the three-day jam that has been in session for seven years now.

Ready? Heres the lineup of band's: Jokes Over, Deep Woods, Existench, Last Few Years, Knot for Long, By Any Means, Falling Short, Dry Leaf, Nothing To Say, Bound To Happen, Bad Luck#13, HGM, Slump, When All's Been Said, The Lewinskys, Phew.

I made it to Friday's show and had a pretty rockin' time despite the fact that the majority of the people there were high school punkers. I got to the show a bit late and missed most of Bound To Happen's act but from the sounds of them I'm glad I did.

Nothing To Say were alright although their songs didn't get much past girls and people who are narrow-minded. They were quite out of rhythm and would sound a lot better if they would define their sound and try not to sound like other punk bands. Despite these downfalls they were pretty silly and amusing to watch.

The second band, Dry Leaf were more hardcore than the former bands, and a mosh pit broke out. Their sound was punk but had an undertone of Slayer with tons of distortion. During their act I got punched trying to take a picture and lost all hearing in one of my ears — but it was worth it.

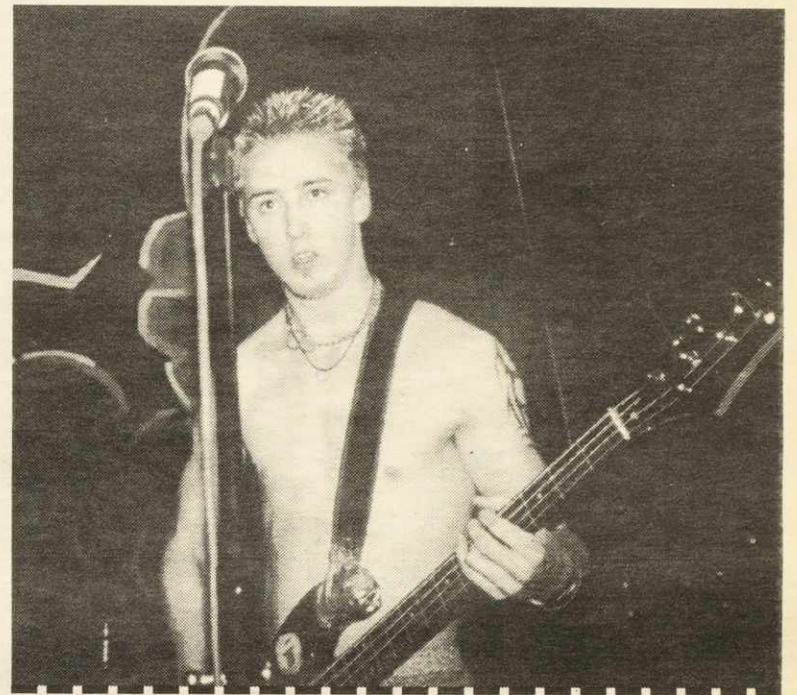
The next band was Falling Short, and they were my favorite. These four guys sung about cultures being destroyed and deeper issues than the other bands. Their sound was also pretty hardcore. Looking out into a sea of piercings and dyed hair I observed one drunk guy in the middle of the moshpit flinging around like a fish out of water and another swinging from the rafters. This band got the crowd really worked up with their energy and vocal anger — is an element of punk rock that is a must.

The last band was By Any Means who were also decent. One

of the members gave a speech at the beginning about how he had just heard a Holocaust survivor speak. He told everyone that there is no point in hating each other and we should love each other and get involved. He decided to play after a girl screamed at him to shut the *\$@? up.

They had a hot guitar, bass and drum sound which was great together but the vocals definitely lacked. They started a song with acoustic singing and the vocals improved greatly.

I left the show ready to go slug some beers and kick some ass.



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High Fidelity is high quality entertainment

BY MARK EVANS

This movie scores big, big points right out of the gate for having one of the most hilarious uses of a telephone I've seen in recent film. That might have something to do with the fact that the scene it's involved in is near-classic, or it might just be because *High Fidelity* is a rock-solid comedy that mixes everything in just the right way to make a really great movie.

Rob Gordon (John Cusack) is a record junkie. Music rules his life. He listens to it, talks about it, and runs his very own record store in a small Chicago neighbourhood. The

other thing that rules his life is disastrous relationships. He has a habit of putting everything in terms of 'Top Five' lists and he has a list of break-ups that his most recent ex, Laura (Iben Hjejle), doesn't even rate on.

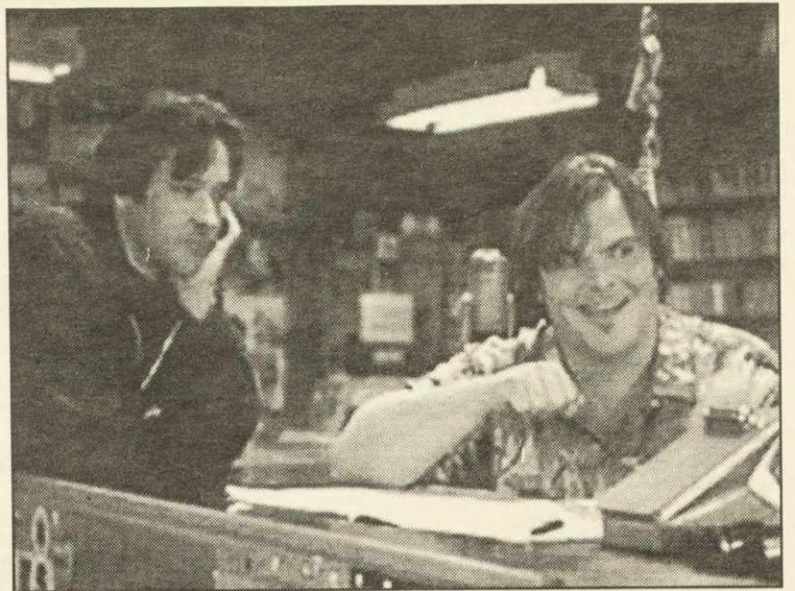
This is the story of a man coping with a terrible dating history and how he deals with break-up after break-up. Rob is a man heavily into denial. He seems incapable of realizing any faults within himself and puts the blame largely on the women he's been seeing. A lot of Rob's conversations take place with the audience, however, and we do

get some insight on what he's been through.

One of Rob's great strengths is that he's a very likeable character, even when he's clearly being a total dimwit. Much of this is based on Cusack's acting, but it's critical to the film. Rob becomes somebody that people are rooting for. After all his hard luck he at least deserves something for his troubles. The message gets pretty deep at times, and this depth is not only refreshing but it doesn't get in the way of the comedy so the two parts both work.

If ever a movie had great casting, it was *High Fidelity*. There is not a single miscast part in this film, from Lisa Bonet as a semi-famous singer to Iben Hjejle as Laura, one of Rob's many love interests. There are a couple of uproarious cameos, notably a wacky appearance by Tim Robbins as a yuppie self-help guru and one by a famous singer that is used to great effect.

The real strength of this film lies in the hands of three people: John Cusack as Rob, Jack Black as Barry, and Todd Louiso as Dick. Barry and Dick are Rob's employ-



Rob (John Cusack) leans on a counter in *High Fidelity*.

ees at the record store and they form the real background of Rob's world. Barry gets most of the films great lines and he reminds me of a funny Chris Farley. He has the strangest hand gestures and acts like a real maniac at times, but that's part of the many things that make him so funny.

The three have an attitude very similar to that of Dante and Randal in *Clerks* - they're absolute geniuses, especially when it comes to music, and that gives them a right to look down on more ignorant customers. This is all great material to work with, and the script is mined

for some great gags. Cusack is just as great here as he was in *Grosse Pointe Blank*, although Rob Gordon is very far removed from the neurotic hit-man Martin Blank.

Bottom line: If you want a good laugh, go see this movie. For some reason it reminded me of *Wonder Boys*, although this is much funnier while *Wonder Boys* has more of a dramatic angle. Not to say that *High Fidelity* doesn't mix things just right, it's just that the amounts are skewed in different ways. Great comedy, great characters, great movie. Three and a half stars out of four.

Final Thought: I'd like to thank anybody who read any of my 22 reviews over the last few months, hope they were entertaining at the very least. I had a blast writing these, and if you're curious as to how the semester broke down...

- 4-star movies: *American Beauty, The Hurricane, Princess Mononoke*
- 3.5-star movies: *Boys Don't Cry, Dogma, Erin Brokovich, High Fidelity, Three Kings, Toy Story 2, Wonder Boys*
- 3-star movies: *Cradle Will Rock, Felicia's Journey, Pitch Black, Romeo Must Die, Stigmata*
- 2.5-star movies: *Fight Club, The World Is Not Enough, Whole Nine Yards*
- 2-star movies: *Scream 3*
- 1.5-star movies: *House on Haunted Hill*
- 1-star movies: none.
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- 0-star movies: *Double Jeopardy*

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Sex and a train

A portrait of smalltown life

BY LOUISE MATHESON AND
NATASH WIRTANEN

Dalhousie Theatre Productions presented the play *Lilly, Alta.*, from March 28 — April 1.

Brian McKay, twice nominated for a Dora Award, and an ACTRA Award Winner, directed it. McKay has directed celebrities such as Mickey Rooney, Jamie Farr, and Margot Kidder.

Written by Kenneth Dyba, the story is based on Nordegg — which is a small village in Alberta that is now a ghost town and exemplary prison. He has written two other plays, *The Sun Runner* and *Teaser!*, along with novels, short stories and biographies documenting Canadian history.

Lilly, Alta. is centered on the coming of a train every Tuesday that never seems to take the people away from the small town, or from all their problems. The town of Lilly seemed like a cage that each character was trapped in, which is an accurate picture of small town life. Everyone knew everyone else's business, and life was very much like a soap opera, with adultery occurring in almost every household. It was almost like there was nothing else to do in such a small town than watch the train come in and have sex.

Augusta Maude Lilly founded the town. Mrs. Lilly stole a child from a local woman, Gypsy, who had an affair with Mrs. Lilly's husband Quentin Boone, and then became impregnated with his child. Mrs. Lilly then raised the baby, Calla, as her daughter. She controlled every character's life in her obsession to have a child, and it is implied that she killed to get what she wanted, including killing Quentin Boone when he was going to leave her for Gypsy.

An entertaining display of emotions, the play seemed to represent a cycle of life, death, birth, and sex. Each character seemed to bring out the best and the worst in each other. The play kept the audience enthralled for over two hours as each actor/actress convincingly performed several different characters.

Willy, the central character, re-created the events that led up to a catastrophic moment in his life. Craig Gunn, who portrayed Willy, was very realistic in bringing to life the young and the old within Willy, with both the mannerisms of an old man and the optimism of a young man.

The train symbolized people's hope of leaving the town and starting a new life, but it delivered the death of Dick, the town drunk.

After Willy became old, and lost hope of ever leaving Lilly, the train stopped arriving.

It was the minor roles that brought the play to life with outstanding performances. Susie Counsel was very convincing as the town's prostitute, Nomie Dubinsky. She added a charm to the role, which made you like her, and pity her at the same time.

George MacKenzie brought fire to the role of the town's slow-witted arsonist, Dim Denny, who caused the fire at the town's Christmas social that changed Willy's life forever, killing Calla, played by Leslie Seiler.

Shane Monk and Kevin Kincaid provided a bit of comedy, as funeral home operators who delighted in death and sniffed embalming fluid.

The character of Edwina Edith Edwards was performed by Beth VanGorder, who hit the spot in playing the fake-French accented bitch-one moment, and then changing to the lustful woman who was screwing the town's Reverend next. Every girl's dream!

The production crews made the play flow together well, with stage design, costumes, lighting, and sound effects that brought the reality of small town life in *Lilly, Alta.* to the audience.

Comedy with a change of pants

BY NATASHA WIRTANEN AND
LOUISE MATHESON

Comedian Peter Anthony and his Friends had all the attention at the Grad House, Saturday, April 1. Stopping in for a beer was a well-deserved treat, with Anthony providing the free entertainment.

There to promote his comedy CD *Whats Matter You?*, he opened with an imitation of Britney Spears "Hit Me Baby One More Time." He put humor into his song about his best friend having big ears, no arms or legs, meaning his TV of course. Comfortable on their little stage Anthony and his friends gave a performance that ended in great applause.

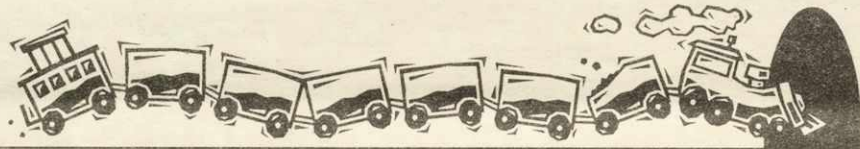
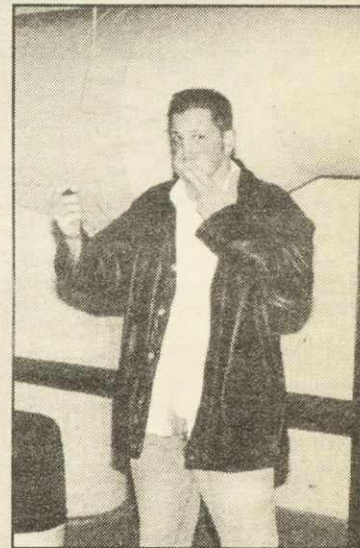
Track #1, "Did you Order Pizza?" has a hilarious routine of dealing with pizza guys. His "Food Wars" routine, about two drunk guys starting a fight with a McDonald's employee on his way to work, definitely had everyone laughing.

"Food wars New Glasgow people can relate to", Anthony called it. With quotes such as, "you want fries with this ass kicking?" and, "that'll be a foot long dick you'll be sucking". Unless you have sensitive ears to bad words or your sense of humor is just nonexistent, Peter Anthony and his Friends will crack you up.

The idea of his newly released CD was born in May of last year. "Haven't eaten for three months to pay for it," said Anthony. But he wasn't the only one involved in the making of the CD. Dan Stewart was introduced to the happy crowd as producer. Jeff Long, Scott Lewis, and Scott Scarvelli were applauded for their voice impressions. And Rob Curley with his guitar playing completes the package.

Peter Anthony and his friends played a song devoted to throwing up. Which brought many experiences to mind. The song "Ode to a Whore" had Anthony singing about taking a girl home and finding out she is going to charge him for certain sexual favours, then ends up ransacking the place.

Made to humor, Peter Anthony and friends guaranteed to almost have you pissing your pants.



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SPORTS

Exposing the grey area in CIAU rules

BY JORDAN PEARL
AND ADAM BENMOISE

TORONTO (CUP) — CIAU rules are made to be bent.

The Canadian Inter-University Athletics Union (CIAU), governing body for university sports in Canada, is currently reviewing their rules regarding university athletes playing professionally.

Dean Labayen, a third-year men's basketball player at York University, spent the first half of this season playing basketball in a professional league in the Philippines.

According to CIAU regulations, Section C.8.5a) "Any professional athlete may participate in

CIAU competition one calendar year from the date that the athlete last participated in a professional game or event in a sport."

This seems to put him in direct violation of the CIAU guidelines, punishable by one year's loss of eligibility.

But there is confusion as to what constitutes a professional league.

"In the past we have allowed Canada Basketball to make the distinction for us as far as what a professional league is," said Tom Huisman, Director of Operations and Development with the CIAU.

Yet Labayen will face no repercussions for playing profession-

ally. Why?

Ken Shildroff, president of the Men's Basketball Coaching Association, quotes a CIAU rule that states, "An athlete shall be classified professional if he has participated in a league that has been recognized as professional by the CIAU."

But the obscurity of this rule lies in the lack of defining a professional league.

"We as a basketball group have not recognized any league as professional," said Shildroff.

This contradiction in the rules allowed Labayen to play overseas. Due to this discrepancy the CIAU is in the process of providing a clear

definition to this rule.

York basketball head coach Bob Bain has been one of the principles in the creation of new rules to counter such situations. He says the allowance of professionals to play in the Olympics caused a diminishing presence of amateur leagues.

This caused a very murky situation for the CIAU because there were less leagues for their athletes to participate in.

In Labayen's case, the CIAU chalked up his salary to "living expenses", thereby avoiding professional status.

But there are other loopholes that players can use to bend the rule.

According to Bain, players can sign a contract to teach, play pro ball and still be declared eligible without teaching regularly because initially they were contracted to be instructors.

Meanwhile, university athletes remain uninformed of CIAU rules and requirements regarding involvement with professional leagues.

Neither Mike George nor Tom McChesney, starting guards for the York basketball team, were aware of the rules that do not allow a university athlete to compete in a professional league.

Bain concurs CIAU eligibility rules are not clear to student athletes.

"The major rules they [the athletes] know, the minor rules such as eligibility are fairly confusing and sometimes contradictory," he said.

While a player like Dean Labayen earned money by playing in the Philippines for a sum estimated to be anywhere between \$700 and \$12,000 a month, it's his absence at home that was felt the most.

Labayen only played in one game for York upon return due to injury, with the result that the University fell one game short of making the playoffs.

Shildroff, meanwhile, has promised new CIAU rules are in the works. It may be introduced as early as 2001 pending approval. Its sole purpose would be to fill the black hole Labayen was able to slip through breaching league rules without consequence.

The revised rules would be similar in nature to those of the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) in the United States.

Bain, inspired by the situation with his star player, has stated that all of the loopholes will be closed.

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- Be a returning Dalhousie student paying Dal Student Union fees
- Be 19 years of age or older
- Have an interest and dedication to student union events
- Have some computer skills
- Have flexible hours and a willingness to work evenings and weekends

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday April 14/00
Position start Sept/00

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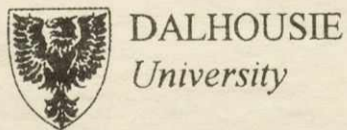
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