



THE JOURNAL

Est. 1935 • Vol. 72 • No. 09 • October 25th, 2006

The Student Newspaper of Saint Mary's University • Halifax • NS

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate to Speak at Saint Mary's

Is Canadian Sovereignty in Jeopardy?

POSSIBLE FORMATION OF A NORTH AMERICAN UNION

BY KRISTIAN BERTIN

Independent media outlets are reporting that a North American Union, not unlike the EU, will be established between Canada, the United States and Mexico as early as 2010. This sentiment has been echoed by several different elite organizations and think-tanks for over a decade. The Fraser Institute suggested in 1999 that Canada and the United States would benefit from a unified currency that they dubbed 'the Amero'. The Council on Foreign Relations released a report in 2005 entitled "Creating a North American Community", which called for the establishment of a North American economic and security community by 2010. Last year the US senate saw Bill 863, which sought to create a North American Union as a method to fight against international terrorism. The Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) is a trilateral agreement between Canada, the United States and Mexico which critics argue is a pretext for the formation of a North American Union.

In March 2005, former Canadian PM and shipping tycoon Paul Martin met with Presidents George W. Bush and Vicente Fox to sign the Security and Prosperity Partnership. According to the Government of Canada's website, the SPP seeks to, among other things, promote economic growth between Canada, the US, and Mexico, allow for greater border protection and security between nations, and to create more open borders between the three nations, allowing for free-moving trade with lower tariffs. The SPP has also begun to discuss the unification of energy programs, opened up airspace, allowing for free-moving commercial travel by airplane, and free-moving staff exchange between nations for training as well as employment. Prime Minister Harper met with Fox and Bush in Cancun in March 2006 and released the Leader's Joint Statement on the SPP, which further

outlined the trinational agreement.

Corporate involvement with the SPP is abundant. In 2006, the North American Competitiveness Council (NACC), a committee comprised of ten major CEOs from Canada, the US and Mexico, from major corporations such as Wal-Mart, Chevron, Lockheed Martin, FedEx, Home Depot, General Electric and Ford, met to discuss the SPP in an advisory capacity. Of the ten Canadian members of the NACC, nine are members of the Council of Chief Executives, major proponents of the North American Free Trade Agreement. According to MacLean's magazine, the executives of the council have boiled their recommendations down to three priorities: border crossing facilitation, regulatory convergence and energy integration, each assigned to Canada, the US and Mexico, respectively.

Ron Covais, president of Lockheed Martin claimed in the MacLean's article Meet NAFTA 2.0 that an NAU had to be established within the next two years because that's when the Bush administration exits, and "The clock will stop if the Harper minority government falls or a new government is elected." He was also quoted as saying, "We've decided not to recommend any things that would require legislative changes because we won't get anywhere."

Corporate ventures revolving around the SPP include the creation of a "superhighway", a ten-lane highway four football fields wide that will travel through the heart of the U.S. along Interstate 35, from the Mexican border at Laredo, Tex., to the Canadian border north of Duluth, Minn. The first segment, called the "Trans-Texas Corridor" is set to begin construction as early as next year.

Zachry Construction Corp. along with other corporations have already been contracted for construction. The creation of the highway hinges upon the free-movement of...

see North American Union p.3



Dr. Muhammad Yunus (third from left), founder of the Grameen Bank, will be in Halifax in November to speak at various functions on development and the benefits of microcredit. He will speak at Saint Mary's on November 14th. (photo courtesy of grameen-info.org)

BY OLIVIER JARDA

This year's Nobel Peace Prize laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus is coming to Saint Mary's in November. The Bengali banker and economist is coming to Halifax to host the Global Microcredit Summit, and will also speak at Saint Mary's.

Yunus founded the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh in 1983 with the aim of allowing the poor to escape poverty by giving them loans and teaching financial skills. After seeing people in rural Bangladesh struggle to receive loans as low as \$30, he began helping poor people receive bank loans in the 1970s by acting as a guarantor. He is now the managing director of the Grameen Bank.

Earlier this month, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded Yunus and the Grameen Bank with the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts and successes in promoting bottom-up economic and social development. Other recipients have included Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, and Oxfam. Yunus is the fifth Muslim to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

In an article written by Yunus comparing the Grameen Bank to conventional banks, he states, "Grameen Bank starts with the belief that credit should be accepted as a human right, and builds a system where one who does not possess anything gets the highest priority in getting a loan. Grameen

methodology is not based on assessing the material possession of a person, it is based on the potential of a person."

The idea behind the bank's microcredit loan is that poor people who do not have collateral can still qualify for them. Instead of collateral, a borrower can obtain a loan on the condition that a small group of people will only be able to borrow from the bank after that loan is repaid.

The availability of microcredit loans in underdeveloped rural areas has diminished hunger and poverty, and has increased self-determination and participation in society. The loans have particularly helped women living in repressive social and economic conditions.

Yunus believes his long-term goal of eradicating poverty cannot be achieved solely through microcredit loans, but he argues that microcredit should play a major part. The bank has \$6.67 million borrowers, 97 percent of whom are women, providing services in 72,096 villages through 2247 branches, covering over 86 percent of villages in Bangladesh. The Grameen Bank model has been used in over 100 countries.

Yunus spoke at the International Microcredit Conference in Beijing Sunday, discussing the benefits of microfinance. He also argued that the Grameen Bank's success is due to the fact that it generates profit. He touted self-sufficient microcredit institutions as an

alternative to relying on donors to help the poor.

Yunus is trying to convince China, the world's most populous country, to embrace microcredit. The bank estimates that microcredit would help 75 million families by 2015, a figure it says it can easily reach if China allows for microcredit lenders to generate profit.

"Microcredit for me is a social business enterprise, an enterprise to help people get out of poverty," Yunus told the Yonhap News Agency. The Grameen Bank mainly focuses on helping women and is "an inclusive bank. We never reject anybody," said Yunus.

"The fact that he was picked by the Nobel Prize adjudication committee, [...] it raises that conference to a new level," said Saint Mary's President Dr. Colin Dodds about Yunus speaking at the Global Microcredit Summit. Commenting on Yunus also coming to speak at Saint Mary's, he added, "It fits in so much with [our university] in terms of our international development initiatives."

Dodds believes the microcredit model can give "access to a very marginalized group who could not otherwise participate." "If you bring in this market mechanism, albeit through microcredit, then you allow a very different scenario to evolve," said Dodds.

(See Microcredit p.3)



NAFTA Superhighway. Courtesy of nasccorridor.com



Pre-Game Party!

Join us on the field before the big game with X!
Featuring live band Ill Scarlet!

Make Mom Proud! Get Grad Pics

About iMage will be on campus
November 21st and 22nd in Loyola
Private Dining Room (PDR)



Call 429-1977 to book an Appointment
About iMage Photography Co.

Upcoming Sport Events

Wednesday Oct. 25
Men's Hockey
UdeM @ SMU 7pm
Thursday Oct. 26
Volleyball
Acadia @ SMU 7pm
Friday Oct. 27
Football
X @ SMU 7pm
Saturday Oct. 28
Men's Hockey
UNB @ SMU 7pm
Volleyball UPEI @ SMU 7pm

Upcoming Halloween Events

Halloween Spook-tacular Dance Party

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28TH - 9PM-1AM

ALL AGES/DRY EVENT

AT THE STUDENT CENTRE CAFETERIA
DJ • GREAT PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUMES

COME ROCK OUT ON ALL HALLOW'S EVE!



Halloween Party

One of the BIGGEST PARTIES of the year!

October 28th

7pm - Close



PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUMES



Mon

Come check out your favorite show
on the big screen

Tue

Trivia Night with nightly prizes

Wed

Open Mic Night with cash prizes
for SMU students

Thu

Wing Night from 6pm - 9 pm; weekly
promotions; DJ Lindelle until close

Fri

Live entertainment and special
events every week

Sat

Halloween Party!

the
Gorsebrook
since 1974
lounge



The Gorsebrook Lounge is open to SMU students, alumni, and guests.

NEWS

STUDENTS SUFFER FROM 'PARANORWALK'

BY OLIVIER JARDA

Kelsie Lempen, a student at STFX is afraid she is "definitely suffering from what people are calling 'paranorwalk'." The third-year undergraduate student constantly sanitizes her hands and everything in her apartment, and also brings Lysol wipes to class to wipe off her desk and seat.

St. Francis Xavier University has become the second Maritime university to close some of its buildings and cancel extracurricular activities including varsity sports games due to the spread of a Norwalk-type virus on campus.

Over 35 students and staff at STFX have reported some of the gastrointestinal virus' symptoms, which include vomiting and diarrhea. Other symptoms include nausea, abdominal cramps, headache, and fatigue.

Said Lempen, "I know the school is just trying to take precautions not to spread Norwalk, but that is what is making everyone so paranoid. When I go get a coffee it's a little scary to have to sanitize my hands when I enter and leave the building. Even the campus bar has hand sanitizer on the bar."

Although the number of cases at Mount Allison has climbed to over 300 people, Mount Allison has reopened its

facilities and has resumed classes and extracurricular activities.

Some students at Mount Allison have complained that some of the precautionary measures the university is undertaking are in vain; although tables in the cafeteria were separated, students taking classes in auditoriums must still sit at close proximity to others.

Others were frustrated with the fact that classes resumed before extracurricular activities did. Stephanie Canning, a fifth year science student attending Mount Allison said, "I think it was fine to go back to class provided people were careful with hygiene. It was extremely frustrating for a number of people that extracurricular activities were cancelled for almost a week. I think if classes were on so should the gym, and sports practices."

When asked about the possibility of a connection between the virus at the two universities, STFX Director of Health and Counseling Mark MacAulay told the CBC, "At this point, any prediction would be nothing but speculation."

Other universities in Nova Scotia are trying to keep their students and staff from getting sick. Officials at Saint Mary's, Dalhousie, and Acadia universities have placed hand sanitizer around their campuses.

Microcredit Guru at SMU

...continued from page.1

Dodds likens microcredit initiatives in developing countries to Canadian credit unions, cooperatives, and government subsidies through programs like ACOA. "It ties in with the history of Nova Scotia and the cooperative movement, and the development of credit unions. Not quite the same, [...] but it helps the growth of entrepreneurship," said Dodds.

Yunus can expect to receive praise as well as criticism on his trip to Saint Mary's.

Some critics of microcredit argue that the movement may entice governments to make cuts in social spending and remove public safety nets. Also, some men have taken advantage of the program by getting their wives to take out a loan and then spending the money themselves.

The loans are still not accessible to the poorest of the poor as they can become a burden for those who have difficulty turning a profit on loans, or difficulty repaying loans. The number of chronic borrowers who become dependent on loans overshadow the bank's high repayment rate.

Matt Risser, a third year Political Science and IDS student recognizes the contention over of a loan system "promoting individualism and entrepreneurship as opposed to encouraging people to collectively bring themselves out of poverty." Risser, who is in favour of microcredit initiatives, warned, "All of the theorists who criticize microcredit are well fed."

Yunus will speak at Saint Mary's on November 14th.

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THE JOURNAL IS THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY. THE PAPER IS PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY BY THE JOURNAL PUBLISHING SOCIETY, AND FUNDED IN PART BY THE STUDENT BODY.

ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO SUBMIT PIECES OF WORK FOR PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL. THESE SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 12:00PM MONDAY AT THE JOURNAL OFFICES OR EMAIL ADDRESSES. WE PREFER ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS. WHEN IN DOUBT SEND SUBMISSIONS TO THEMJOURNAL@GMAIL.COM.

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A North American Union? ...continued from page.1

...transportation between all three borders allowed by the SPP. Since then, Congressman Tom Tancredo, (R-Colorado) has demanded full disclosure from the Bush administration pertaining to what he calls an unauthorized trilateral agreement. The movement towards North American integration has gone largely underreported in the media, with little or no attention paid to the growing number of concerned citizens from all three nations. The Canadian Action Party, a grassroots political party, has built its entire platform around fighting the looming threat of an NAU. Their leader, Constance Fogal, calls the SPP and its numerous branches and committees an "administrative coup d'etat". They have reported that as many as twenty working groups have been formed to allow for integration of the three nations

over the next three years. The party views the SPP as one of many steps towards an NAU that would destroy Canada's sovereignty, giving power to corporate elites instead. Fogal, who fears further americanization, believes that a unified currency will be adopted over the next three years, and Canadian rights and freedoms will disappear.

Fogal and the Canadian Action Party have been heavily criticized by numerous Canadian officials, who disregard her claims as "conspiracy theory" and claim that an NAU can never come to pass. There has been little coverage of the topic in the US as well, save for CNN's Lou Dobbs, who also claimed that the SPP is an attack on American Sovereignty.

SPP.gov, the official website of the SSP, reports that the partnership agreement is in no way unconstitutional, will not lead to the formation of a North American Union, and is nothing more than a dialogue

between nations to ensure security and prosperity.

Aside from commercial ventures, Canada's integration with the United States branches deeply into military co-operation. In addition to the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), which has united Canadian and American aerospace control since 1958, NORTHCOM, created in 2002, allows for the US to station troops anywhere in Canada as well as the deployment of US warships in Canadian waters. Many critics view NORTHCOM as a means for US forces to control Canada, and most of the continent, as its reach extends into Mexico, the Caribbean and into international waters.

Regardless of whether or not the SPP and other trilateral committees will erode national sovereignty, it remains clear that the faces of all three nations are changing as a result of deeper and deeper integration.

PRESS RELEASE

Celebrating 70 Years of SMU in Ink!

SMU Alumni Association hosts Journal Reunion

This is the 70th anniversary of the Journal Newspaper at Saint Mary's University and former staff of this widely-read-student newspaper are invited for a big celebration.

The Journal Reunion will take place in the Gorsebrook Pub on Saturday, November 25, 2006. From 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM, this will be the time to share your memories with others who worked at the newspaper over the years.

The Gorsebrook Pub will also be broadcasting the Uteck Bowl (TSN) live on the big screen. The game is being played at Laval this year. Snacks, beverages and even prizes will be on hand for this special event.

For those wishing to attend or who have more questions, please contact Paul Fitzgerald, Public Affairs Officer, at (902) 420-5514, or email paul.fitzgerald@smu.ca

ACTIVITIES OF 1935 -- IN RETROSPECT

ST. MARY'S JOURNAL

Vol. 1 HALIFAX, N.S., THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1936 No. 1

DEATH OF PRELATE MOURNED

Saints' Footballers Cop Double Title in 1935

During the year 1935, the Journal staff and readers were saddened by the death of the late Rev. Fr. ...

Requiescat in Pace



Just as the Journal goes to press the announcement is made of the death of the late Rev. Fr. ...

The Mission Convention Highlight of the Term

The outstanding highlight of all things relative for the year was certainly the late autumn Mission Convention of the Canadian Catholic Students Mission Society, held at ...

S.M.C. Scores In Two Debates

The program of events was a very lengthy one and every ...

Tau Gamma Holds Banquet

The Tau Gamma chapter held a banquet ...

Finis Program Marks Tridium

The Finis program was held in the ...

Successful Year For St. Mary's Alumni

The Alumni Association has had a very successful year ...

FBI SHUTS DOWN CANADIAN HUMOUR WEBSITE

Corporate Media Sensationalizes Internet Rumor

BY KRISTIAN BERTIN

Last week, US Homeland Security warned officials in seven major cities of a possible impending attack on football stadiums. The "threat" Homeland Security was responding to was a single post on an internet forum in a thread entitled "New Attack on America Be Afraid", discussing recent media scare tactics. The post was a short outline of a possible attack on America by Osama Bin Laden using "dirty bombs". It was posted on October 12th by 20-year-old Jake J. Brahm, under the username 'javness'. He now faces a maximum of five years in prison and \$250,000 in fines if convicted for the prank, which he posted on 40 other sites as a joke. He claims that the insinuated attack was so preposterous that he thought no one would believe it.

The prank was found by the FBI on The Friend Society, a Canadian-owned humour website with hundreds of members. Thefriend-society.com is owned by Dave Teatro, a flash animator and creator of internet sensation Bananaphone.

The website hosts a community of young, mostly college-aged artists who publish their music, animation, photographs and movies through the website forum. Despite the fact that Brahm wasn't a member of the community, the FBI shut down the website indefinitely. Homeland Security advised in its notice that, "The content of the Web site, which requires registration to post, is sometimes crude and contains none of the hallmarks of jihadist Web sites."

The removal of the website came as a shock to its members, who were disturbed that the FBI was able to shut down a Canadian website. Many were shocked to learn that discussion on their forums was being monitored. Others believe the situation to be absurd, citing the actions taken against the website and media's portrayal as unreasonable.

"It's ridiculous to think that some kid posting a made-up threat would merit the closure of an entire internet community," said one Friend Society member. "A jihadist website is the last possible

thing anyone would call the Friend Society. The government and the media blew this out of proportion. They obviously fail to understand the internet is just a big fucking joke. This just shows how insane the media and national security is in the US right now."

The hoax made major international headlines, and became the focus of several corporate media programs. CNN reported on the so-called "terrorist threat" for hours, interviewing experts on the plausibility of the attacks and the events leading up to the FBI's warning. Despite the Department of Homeland Security's reiteration that the threat wasn't credible, major news networks chose to sensationalize the event, overlooking the fact that the "threat" was posted on a website primarily dedicated to absurdist humor and outlandish works of art. The corporate media also failed to report the removal of the website by the FBI, and to accurately report on the actual purpose of the website.

Courtesy of SMU University Archives

PERSPECTIVES

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Response to the SMUFU Strike Vote: Whose Job Is It Anyway?

This is a response to the article written by Julia Gregoire last week ("SMUSUCKS: Why Zach Churchill Needs to Shape Up", October 18th). Gregoire began her rant by presenting the issue of the potential faculty strike, and Churchill's failure to respond. This led many readers to believe that this was the issue that she wished to tackle. Nearly halfway through the article, readers became confused as the topic suddenly changed.

Ms. Gregoire proceeded to attack Churchill on a personal level based on others' perception of him, and very brief encounters. Admittedly, some of the points that she raised were cause for concern, and may have made an interesting article, but they definitely did not fit in with the (perceived) intended topic. It was upsetting to see the first issue that was raised, which was quite valid, overshadowed by the second part of the article.

It is my expectation that Gregoire's personal opinions on Churchill will attract a large number of responses, debunking her theories and perceptions. For this reason, I've decided to leave my personal opinions of Mr. Churchill as an individual and the way that he is perceived for another time and place.

From October 4th to 6th, 2006, 92.2% of the SMU Faculty Union cast ballots, of which 87.7% voted in favor of a strike in the event

that the Negotiation Committee is unable to reach a satisfactory agreement with the administration. The next meeting of the union and administration will be November 14-16, 2006. The cancellation of classes toward the end of the semester and the lack of invigilators for examinations becomes a possibility.

Resulting problems for students include inability to complete coursework, lack of supervision and instruction for coursework, inability to take final exams, extended graduation dates, and the possible need to make alternative arrangements for travel and/or housing. Fortunately, this should not be a concern for the current semester as no labor action is expected to be taken before Christmas. Other questions on the minds of concerned students range from the average - and expected maximum - period of time that a strike lasts, to the effects on teaching assistants. The answers to these questions can be found on the SMU Faculty Union's website - www.smufu.org.

It has now been established that the SMU Faculty Union's decision to strike, should they see fit following the mid-November meetings, will affect students, to some degree. Now, consider the SMU Students' Association; we have elected the executive team and members of the SRC to represent us - the student body.

Members of the executive board have offices, are paid, and enjoy the perks of being in their positions. Aside from holding social events, distributing the U-Pass, and other such things, what else are they supposed to do? Should they be addressing our concerns, and playing the role of intermediaries between us and the faculty? The answer to the latter is, "Yes!" This is made very clear in the SMUSA Constitution which you may download from the SMUSA website - www.smusa.ca - at your leisure.

Under By-Law 9 numbers 22 and 27, there is the implication that the president is to act as a liaison between the student association and the rest of the university community. Further to this, under the job description of the VP Internal - number 36 - it is stated that he is to:

- (a) "Ensure relevant information and points of interest are circulated throughout the University campus so as to reach the membership as a whole",
- (b) "Act as a source of information to the membership on events and activities happening on campus" and
- (c) "Seek the use of publications of the Association and its subsidiary organizations to promote relevant events and activities.

Take from this what you will. I am of the opinion that the executive of the Students' Association

should have addressed its membership. There is cause for concern, and the lack of information has caused a great deal of confusion, frustration, and fear.

In article two of the constitution, the third listed purpose of the association is, "to foster understanding and fellowship between all sections of the University community and the community as a whole". In this case, the aforementioned purpose has not been served, and the members of the student body - not blinded by charisma, good looks, or charm - are disappointed, to say the least. It is my hope that those at fault see their wrongdoing and/or recognize the negative effects of their lack of action, apologize to their members, and make an effort to remedy this issue immediately. It is understood that students could have become more informed by reading the articles in The Journal and visiting the union's website, but that does not change the duties of our representatives.

Still, fellow students, I implore you to wake up and pay attention, not only to what is going on around you, but also to that which is not going on. The latter may prove to be just as important, or more important, than the former.

Alicia Wallace

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

No, SMUSA Doesn't Suck

To the editor:

In response to Julia Gregoire ("SMUSUCKS: Why Zach Churchill Needs to Shape Up", October 18th), first of all take some bitching classes before you write your next bitchy article, because it SUCKED! On with my rant about your rant.

Just because Zach was introduced to you saying he didn't "bite until the second date", it doesn't mean that he is not professional! Even presidents need time to relax and get out of their work groove.

Zach is a straight man. Straight men are interested in women, and from time to time, they look at them. Straight men do the normal thing and date women. How are they supposed to date if they don't hit on women?

Zach is popular, and he was popular long before he was voted into office. He IS NOT a "chauvinistic pig". I have a large group of female friends. Does that make me chauvinistic pig and a womanizer? I think not!

I agree with you that a leader is supposed to lead, but a leader is also supposed to be a friend, someone you can talk to and ask for help. Zach is that person. I am sorry your egotistical feminism blinds you from seeing that.

And for your information the SMUSA executives are students and will be affected by the strike. Do you think Zach sits in his office playing Solitaire all day long? NO! He goes out lobbying on our behalf, for the betterment of SMU.

Julia, did you even talk to Zach? From the way you wrote about him it seemed like you did not. You described him as a pimp sitting with his call girls. First of all, Zach is a gentleman, and gentlemen are near extinction.

How did you know about the possible strike? I know you go to the SMUSA Forums (www.smusa.ca/forum), and you must have seen the big thread about the strike. Did you tell your friends about it? Why didn't you write an article about it in The Journal?

Now I stand with you about this, Zach hasn't said much, except for saying that he was "very concerned" as you put it. Maybe Zach has been too busy trying to work on the problem. If you wanted to know what he was doing about it, why didn't you go talk to him about it? You should take things into your own hands.

Zach had nothing to do with the "Office Party" advertisement, and you shouldn't jump to conclusions about Zach having something to do with it. So your issue with the "Office Party" has to do with the "provocatively dressed woman on it." Grow up! Open your eyes; many advertisements use provocatively dressed women and men. SEX SELLS, deal with it!

In closing, you should research your facts before you publish anything. You have no right to call Zach a chauvinistic pig or a womanizer. Zach has done more for the students than you have done. So, just shut up. You don't like it? Suck it up.

Elie Khoury

NEWS TO MUSE

Celebrity Adoptions: Rational Self Interest, or Not?

BY ALICIA WALLACE

Since the Nova Scotian government made the decision to allow retail stores the freedom to select their own hours and remain open on Sundays, several issues have been raised. In last week's issue, the issues of church attendance, families being torn apart, and employee exhaustion were addressed. There are many others questions being raised at this stage.

After all of the complaints, and the constant badgering of the government, will stores actually stay open? Increased profit for the businesses remaining open on Sundays is not a certainty; on the contrary, they may stand to lose - some more than others. There are bound to be staffing problems as employees may not be ecstatic about the additional working day. Full time students, in particular, are likely to opt out of the Sunday shifts. If the

next two weeks will serve to give any indication, many retail businesses will choose to close on Sundays as midterm examinations are being administered causing students to minimize their shifts. The additional cost of doing business on another day is also a factor. Businesses will have to decide whether or not it is worth while to remain open. Managers and store operators must determine whether or not the revenue will outweigh the cost. It has also been suggested that retail stores may find it to be more beneficial to work together, and take turns opening on Sundays as the gas stations did about two decades ago. This would share the profit (of the Sunday market), and minimize the cost as the companies would only absorb the cost of doing business on the days that they are scheduled to remain open and make a profit (due to minimized competition).

Flea market vendors are certainly less than pleased with the decision to allow Sunday shopping, and are even less happy that they must experience the effect without much warning. Bill Mont, organizer of the Sackville flea market, said that with no location being available to them (on such short notice), they were forced to close the market. On October 15, 2006 the flea market in front of Penhorn Mall changed to evening hours. Did the government consider the effects on these people, and the loss of income that they have experienced, and may continue to experience for an indefinite period?

It is surprising that the bus schedule for Sundays will change due to the beginning of Sunday shopping. Has Saturday not always been a day of shopping? Do buses stop that much more frequently on a Saturday than they do on a Sunday? Apparently, the difference is great. Metro Transit

thinks it's appropriate to "beef up" the bus times. This, undoubtedly, will result in a considerable increase in transit costs. It has been estimated that an extra \$1.5 million will be needed for this implementation. In addition to that, there will be a need for twelve additional employees. With salaries and wages, we can all do the math and come up with the same answer. The amount of the increase in costs will be outrageous.

Certainly, the need exists for more consideration to be given to this particular issue. Of course, the law is just that - the law. The people have spoken - both the greater Nova Scotian public and the big business owners. The government has chosen to pacify corporate Nova Scotia, regardless of the effects. Perhaps the government knows best, and everything will be fine, but then again, maybe not.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor, Zach Churchill makes a mistake opponents of freedom often make (Letter to the Editor, 18 October). Mr Churchill supposes that freedom of expression is for something. (According to Mr Churchill, freedom of expression is "a means to criticize those in power...") Should freedom of expression not pay its way in securing some social goal he favours, Mr Churchill would straightaway kick it off the bus.

But those of us passionate about freedom of expression want it for its own sake, not (only) for the sake of something else. We simply like that we and others will say what we want to say without fear of being silenced or punished by an authority. We love freedom of expression for itself as we love many other things for themselves: our friends, political equality, knowledge and understanding, that our students become competent and committed intellectuals, the happiness and well being of our fellow citizens or of people generally, the music of Serge Gainsbourg, beauty, our children, our pets, tennis, whatever. Sometimes, of course, we have to make compromises among those things that matter to us for their own sakes. One deep commitment can conflict with another in a particular case, and then we have to choose against one of them. We will not find it easy to forsake something that matters to us and we will regret having to do so.

So I can imagine agreeing with Mr Churchill that this or that restriction on expression is justified in the context of either threats to

equality or the plight of members of a beleaguered and vulnerable minority. Unlike Mr Churchill, though, I would be terribly sad to have to advocate restrictions on expression—but, were the situation dire and the means crucial, advocate restrictions I would. One practical question for Mr Churchill and me, then, in cases like that of the Jyllands-Posten cartoons, is whether official suppression of expressions involving racist or other offensive materials is a necessary, or even effective, way of promoting the social goals we share.

Mr Churchill thinks suppressing displays of the cartoons is an effective way to promote peace among nations and equality of opportunity for Muslims in Canada. The cartoons, Mr Churchill charges, embody racist stereotypes. Displays of the cartoons, then, will or very well might work to reinforce or even to engender prejudice against Muslims. Individuals prejudiced against Muslims will act badly toward those whom they think are Muslim, and Muslims will suffer.

Let us suppose that one or another of the cartoons does indeed embody racist stereotypes. What reason do we have to think that displaying that cartoon actually promotes racist attitudes? What reason do we have to think that Dr March's displaying the cartoons might well have brought someone to the side of racism? I'd like to see studies. Perhaps Dr March's displaying the cartoons had the salutary effect of causing people prejudiced against Muslims to notice and criticise their bias. We

don't know either way. Before we can judge the effectiveness of censorship in realizing some social goal, we need to evaluate whatever relevant research we can get. Mr Churchill cites no relevant research. We ought not just assume that censorship will be an effective tool in our work.

Let us suppose that people prejudiced against Muslims will try to act badly toward those they think are Muslim. How will they try to act badly toward Muslims? By denying them equality of opportunity, jobs, education, health care, a spot at the lunch counter, a seat on the airplane, freedom of dress, effective policing? Let them try!—and then fine the bastards heavily or cart them off to jail.

While we are supposing these things, do keep in mind that even if suppressing expressions of racism has some good effect, our energies in the fight against racism and for social justice could well be better spent in ways that don't include suppressing any ideas or images. Our energies would be well used criticising bad ideas and images and making our own good ones. Our energies would be well used in at least twenty-seven other ways, including, of course, doing what we can politically to ensure that Muslims in Canada enjoy equality of opportunity and all the rest. I wonder: Are there adequate channels through which Muslims in Canada can speak to other Canadians to make their concerns and aspirations known? Are there adequate channels for Muslims here at Saint Mary's? If not, let's get to work.

Mr Churchill contends that the Jyllands-Posten cartoons embody false and pernicious stereotypes of Muslims and Islam. He might be right. Let's find out. But wait—finding out would require that we examine the cartoons. But we are not to view the cartoons. After all, they embody false and pernicious stereotypes. Viewing them might confirm us in our prejudices or, worse, instil prejudice in us. We will just have to trust the censors who have viewed the cartoons that indeed they embody false and pernicious stereotypes and that it is right that we not see them.

That's the final point I wish to make. Employing censorship and suppression in our endeavour to create a peaceful, egalitarian, just, and decent society means handing to our politicians, bureaucrats, police, and courts an awful lot of power and then turning our backs and trusting them to use it wisely. Even those who, with Zach Churchill, have no particular liking for freedom of expression might fear going this route.

Let me list the points I have made. 1) Zach Churchill thinks of freedom of expression as a tool that has been granted to us by our nation for a purpose or a set of purposes. I, on the other hand, love freedom of expression and love it for its own sake. I would no more that you and I be without it than that you or I be without music or our friends or our children or whatever it is we love for its own sake (no matter how bad your music, how no-account your friends, how rotten your children). 2) Despite this fundamental difference, Mr

Churchill and I are concerned that Saint Mary's, and Halifax, and Canada, and perhaps the world itself be peaceful, egalitarian, just, and decent. We agree that we would have a strong, though for me perhaps not compelling, reason to advocate and accept restrictions on expression were those restrictions effective in promoting peace, equality, justice, or decency. 3) Mr Churchill gave us in his letter no reason to think restrictions on expression do or could promote peace, equality, justice, or decency. (I would note on the other side that at least one great contemporary liberation movement, that of lesbians and gays, did extremely well entirely without the aid of laws against homophobic expression.) 4) We have in Canada, or should insist on having, strong protections against discrimination in hiring, housing, education, and the rest. Let the school teacher say whatever he wants to say about Jews (talk back to him, of course); fire him should he fail to teach his Jewish charges (or any of his charges) well. 5) Whether the weight of evidence, once we see the evidence, tips the scales in favour of Mr Churchill or not, much can be done to bring about peace, equality, justice, and decency without suppressing anyone's expression. 6) Trust officials to use the power of censorship to suppress only racist expression? Might as well trust the puma roaming your house to eat only the mice.

All the best,
Mark

EDITORIAL

THE DEATH OF THE CANADIAN ACADEMIC ROUNDTABLE

BY OLIVIER JARDA

The Saint Mary's University Students' Association, a former host of the 2006 Canadian Academic Roundtable (CART II), isn't sending a delegate this year. CART II is a yearly weekend conference that student leaders from universities across the country attend to discuss academic matters.

Please allow me to explain why SMUSA decided not to send a delegate. As SMUSA VP Academic, I attended CART II at Concordia University in Montreal last fall. I hoped to meet fellow student leaders to discuss academic issues, to network, and to find out what other VP Academics in the country were doing.

Our students' association had been an active participant in the past, and it had been budgeted for me to attend. In October, when I didn't hear from the conference organizers, I made some calls. I found out that the conference had been organized and was to be held at the end of the month. No one had bothered to invite SMU, DAL, or MSVU. Nevertheless, executives from all three universities flew to Montreal to attend the conference at Concordia.

Many of the representatives at the conference were not VP Aca-

demics, however, I was still optimistic, believing that we would still engage in fruitful academic discussion. My optimism quickly began to wane. The speakers were at times ill prepared and for the most part did not address issues that a smaller university like Saint Mary's could benefit from. One speaker, who was also attending CART II, told me he had done the research on his topic at the conference. In short, CART II was a waste of my time.

Apparently organizers weren't familiar with the term 'roundtable'. The speakers would speak, and a few students would ask questions or comment, time permitting. However, constructive group discussions were rare, and the chairperson did little to invigorate debate.

My report to the Student Representative Council was short and to the point: CART II was a waste of time and money, and SMUSA would be better off organizing its own academic roundtable here in Halifax. Thankfully, incoming VP Academic Mitch Gillingwater was up to the challenge and organized a successful Maritime academic conference this summer.

One inherent problem with CART II is that its organizers are chosen at CART I, a conference held every summer. Smaller schools

don't usually send delegates to both CARTs because it can be a very expensive endeavour. Last year, for example, the conference was held in Vancouver. Because the bigger schools, which can afford to send delegates to both, usually control the conference, when some smaller schools attend the second conference they find a big university agenda.

Currently, SMUSA and other student associations who only send delegates to the second conference cannot vote on what school will be chosen to organize the conference the following year, because that's done at CART I.

The organizers of CART II should be more inclusive by allowing input from participating schools on the topics to be discussed, making a bigger effort to inform student unions about the conference, and allowing delegates of CART II to vote on matters regarding...CART II.

Note: I learned twelve hours before the print deadline that CART II didn't happen this summer. I made called some of last year's delegates, and they did not know if CART II was still a go. If it is happening, I hope it's found a champion that can bring it back to life. If it isn't happening, whatever.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am writing in response to last week's attack on SMUSA President Zach Churchill ("SMUSUCK: Why Zach Churchill Needs to Shape Up", October 18). I do not wish to suggest that all of Julia Gregoire's grievances are unjustified, but I do find a number of the assumptions that were made to be problematic.

As the Coordinator of the Women's Centre here on campus, I felt compelled to respond to the accusations that Zach is "a chauvinistic pig and a womanizer" who must have been behind the controversial "CEO's and Office You-Knows" theme party. I would like to make a clarification here: the week that those posters went up, Zach was the FIRST of many people to approach me and express his disapproval of the poster. He was sympathetic to the sensitivities we expressed, and responded by personally seeing that the distasteful posters were removed immediately. The theme was thereafter changed to an "Office Party", and it was Zach who was ultimately responsible for that.

I can certainly understand that Ms. Gregoire was offended by Zach's comment at the SMUSA BBQ (and rightfully so- it was inappropriate for the Student Union President to make such a comment, especially at a Frosh function). I do not however, feel that name-calling and uninformed accusations are the proper way to deal with such situations.

Holly Taylor
Women's Centre Coordinator

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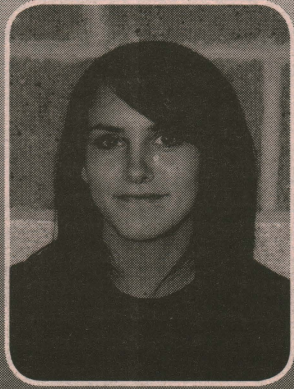
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Q: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ZACH CHURCHILL AS SMUSA PRESIDENT?



JENNA REDDEN
ENGLISH, HISTORY & GAELIC, 3RD YEAR

"Zach Churchill does an amazing job performing as SMUSA President. His volunteer list is huge, he always organizes events, he's always around campus willing to talk to anybody."



MEGAN REID
COMMERCE, 1ST YEAR

"Don't people not like him?"



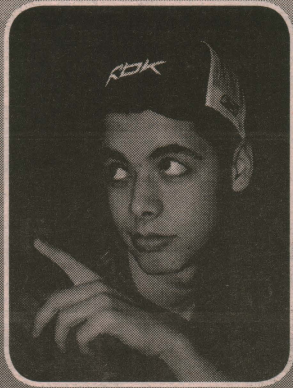
NIKKI MCCORMICK
ENGLISH MAJOR, 2ND YEAR

"It's terrible because I really don't know what he does as president. The only thing I know about is when they hold the elections and I see the posters."



SANTIAGO ROMERO
PSYCHOLOGY, 4TH YEAR

"I haven't really been involved with him, so I don't know a lot about it. I'm not going to comment."



MATTHEW LEGAGGO
ARTS, 2ND YEAR

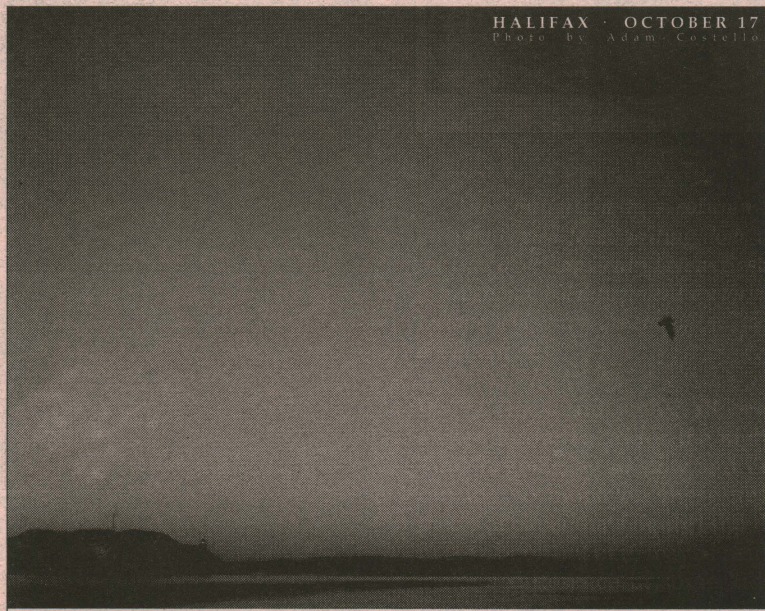
"I thought he's doing a great job. He's usually there when we need someone to represent the students. He's up there, but there is only so much someone can do when it comes to a stupid strike."



ELISSA COLLINS
GEOGRAPHY, 5TH YEAR

"I don't pay attention at all. I have no idea whether he's doing a good job or not."

PHOTOS BY JOEL MILLER



HALIFAX · OCTOBER 17
PHOTO BY ADAM COSTELLO

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BUSINESS

MISSBIZ

MissBiz's Four Steps To Saving Money

BY JACKIE HOWATT

In the past few weeks, a few people have approached me regarding the issue of saving money. I actually wrote an article on this particular theme last year, and since I still stick by what I originally stated, I figured I would re-print "MissBiz's Four Steps To Saving Money". It's always good to have a refresher in something as important as saving money. It's so easy to squander it, especially as a University student. With part-time and summer jobs, money doesn't last as long as it could because we are constantly buying food, movies, and trendy clothes. We go out to restaurants, we buy drinks (some of us more than others), we go to the Casino (some of us more than others) - you get the picture. So, with that said, I am hoping this is a source of encouragement for those who need it.

There are four main rules to saving money: 1. you need at least two bank accounts, 2. you need a budget, 3. you need to be frugal, and 4. you need to have a purpose for doing it.

When saving money, you preferably need at least two bank accounts - one for normal use (in and out), and a savings account that money strictly goes into, not out of. This is a fairly easy process. I am assuming many of you already have a bank that you deal with regularly, so opening up a savings account should not be anything new to you. Try and get a savings account that charges a very minimal fee per month, or even better, no fee. This may take some serious searching to learn how to work this out, but if you talk with your banker, they will understand your needs and goals and most likely will introduce you to a few options. It might be easier to deal with two separate banks, as different banks offer different incentives for saving.

Second on the list: you need a budget. You can actually get around this rule by knowing exactly how

much money is coming in, and how much you are going to withdraw every week/ second week/ month (whatever it is). If you do not have a job but are getting funds from another source (government, parents, relatives) you can apply the same rules, however, it may be difficult because in most of these situations, you are only given enough money to pay for immediate expenses as they come up. As an aside, you have to be committed to depositing the selected amount of money into your savings account every 'nth day.

The third point is to be frugal. I know it's hard and even impossible for many of you, but in order to save money you have to not blow it here, there, and everywhere. Remember, you control your money, your money doesn't control you. Once you start saving regularly, it becomes a habit.

Finally, you need to have a motivator for saving. Maybe it's saving to pay off that lump some of debt at the end of your university career, or saving for a down payment on a house or condo. Maybe you are saving for a car, graduate school, that graduation trip, or even retirement. It doesn't have to be one solo purpose either. You can just save for the fun of saving, and seeing the bottom line grow. Whatever it is, get on it. When it comes right down to it, think of your new savings account as a safety net - giving you piece of mind.

Update: There is a great article on CNN.com entitled, "Extreme Saver: Save Early and Save Often". Jessica Nixon began saving her money in a serious way when she was only sixteen years old. She tucked away whatever she could, even while working part time at a fast-food restaurant. Now 23 years old, she has saved \$49,000 for retirement, and an additional \$20,000 for a down payment on a home and a new boat. To read more about her tricks for saving, just search for the article on CNN.com.

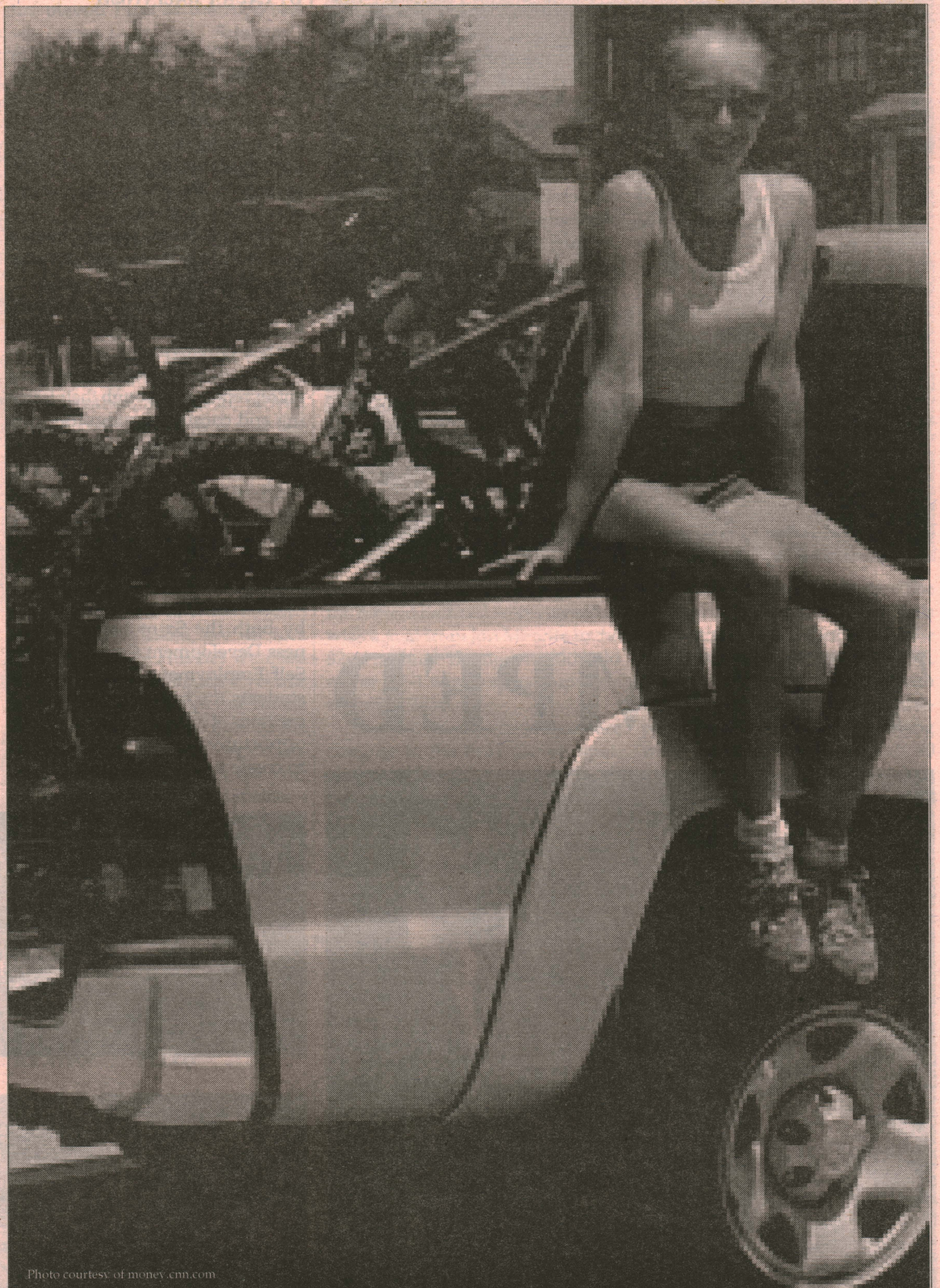


Photo courtesy of money.cnn.com

Jessica Nixon, 23, has saved over \$69,000 since she was sixteen.

BUSINESS SOCIETY CORNER

'Interactive to the Max' Exposes the Future of Marketing

BY ANDREW BREEN

TV Guide is dead. The weekly source for all that is televised will stop being published in November, and will shift to online content entirely. Newspapers are in trouble too. Free online classifieds are killing a traditional source of revenue for papers, forcing them to scramble for new sources of advertising dollars.

It's not just magazines and newspapers that are in trouble, though. Every medium is stagnant, dying, or dead. Well, every medium except the internet. The internet grew 14% in one

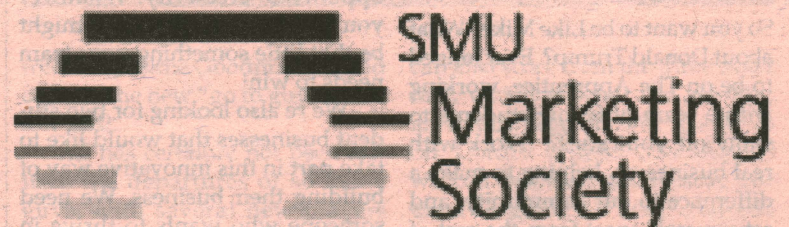
year since July 2005, and is now accessed by almost 22 million Canadians at home or work.

This was the message of Interactive to the Max, a presentation covering online and interactive marketing by Marketing Magazine and the Interactive Advertising Bureau of Canada. Several members of the SMU Marketing Society got the opportunity to attend the event last week and learn the latest in marketing trends.

With 91% of 18-34 year olds and 88% of 35-54 year olds online, it's easy to see why companies should include the

internet in their marketing mix. Interactive to the Max offers trends, statistics, and case studies on organizations like Yahoo, Alliance Atlantis, and The Globe and Mail. In each case, marketing online helped increase results, whether it was sales, awareness, or customer information.

The presentation also covered hot areas of marketing like advergames; interactive games that are created for a brand. ING Direct, the "no service fee" bank, used an advergame that allowed players to shoot big banks and their service fees with a slingshot. It might sound silly, but



those who played the game were 37% more likely to switch to ING Direct than those just exposed to ING Direct ads.

The marketing landscape is rapidly evolving, and those who aren't in the know are left behind. Events like Interactive to the Max allow students to stay up-to-date with the latest trends

and information. Armed with such information is one way to make sure you won't become obsolete - like the TV Guide.

Andrew is the president of the SMU Marketing Society. More articles and information can be found at smumar.ketingsociety.blogspot.com.

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA

BY LAURA MACINTOSH

For those of you who have heard of this Annual Competition, this year What's the Big Idea (WTBI) has taken on a new look and operation, and is being run by ACE SMU. For those of you who haven't heard about WTBI, read up on how you can win cash and great prizes by writing down what you're probably already thinking.

What's the Big Idea is a business plan competition open to SMU students. We want to know your idea for a great business. It can be anything; it doesn't have to exist yet, or ever. We want to know what you think would be an AWESOME business. All you need to do is fill out a form, answering questions about your business idea - that's it. There are six categories: Best Overall Concept, Most Creative Business Idea, Best Part-time Business Idea, Most Innovative Technology, Best Student Business, and Most Likely To. Each with cash

awards of up to \$1,000! Create your own idea or team up with a friend and split the pot!

Don't know how to write a business outline? No problem, ACE and the SMUBDC will be offering workshops throughout the competition to guide you through the process. We make it as easy as pumpkin pie. So why don't you register? There's no reason not to!

The best part? You don't even need to win a category to win great prizes! All entrants are eligible to win cash/prize draws throughout the competition.

Start looking for advertisements about this great competition, and get your idea entered! The competition will begin soon, so What's Your Big Idea?

To get more information, visit www.whatsthebigidea.ca. There, you can check out the application process, the winning categories, and even past winners.

Saint Mary's Self Employment Centre

BY LAURA MACINTOSH

Created by the Saint Mary's Business Development Centre (SMUBDC), the Self Employment Centre is a place for students interested in becoming their own boss. They offer guidance, support, and information on the rewarding journey of self-employment.

The Self Employment Center's goal is to help create and develop student businesses, and to aid existing ones. Located on campus, in the Sobey Building Room 227, the Self Employment Centre is easily accessible for budding student entrepreneurs. Through their training and consulting programs, this centre can help students interested in running a business on any level. Look around next time you're on campus, it's hard to miss the posters about the next big workshop, or the glass case of information outside of Sobey 255.

The many workshops offered by both the Saint Mary's Business Development Centre and the Self Employment Centre teaches students the basics and advanced methods of business owning. From opportunity identification (how to create an idea from scratch), to

financials, to promotion - there is plenty to learn.

The Self Employment Centre not only offers workshops, but they offer one-on-one assistance to students in need. They answer plaguing questions and help steer student businesses in the right direction. They also host networking events; which ultimately help students expose their name in the business community.

Alright. So what can the Self Employment Center do specifically for you, the reader? Well, I'm willing to bet since you're reading the business section of The Journal, that you have an interest in business, perhaps entertained the idea of starting a summer business to make a little dough? If that's the case, the Self Employment Centre is for you. They will give you the push you need to make it happen. How do you plan on marketing your business? Will you go door to door asking to mow lawns? What happens if you miss a client call while mowing those lawns? What happens when you're too tired from canvassing the area to mow four or five lawns in the afternoon? You lose money! This is great example of how The Self

Employment Centre can help you - by finding innovative ways to iron out the kinks in your business plan so your customers are satisfied, and you generate as much profit as possible.

Maybe you're curious about business and entertaining the idea of starting one. I'll tell you from experience; trying to gather all the information you need is a daunting task. It is, unfortunately, a losing battle for most students wanting to enter the world of entrepreneurship. That's why the Self Employment Centre is there, to teach you what you need to know, to help you on your way, explain things, set you straight, and to help when times get tough.

Perhaps you have an entrepreneurial itch to scratch. Maybe you have a business idea but you don't know how to start. Maybe you are having trouble marketing your business. If so, the Self Employment Centre can help you.

So check out the Self Employment Centre and take advantage of this resource by visiting Sobey 227. The Self Employment Center can help you get where you need to go.

ACE PRESENTS

TRUMPED

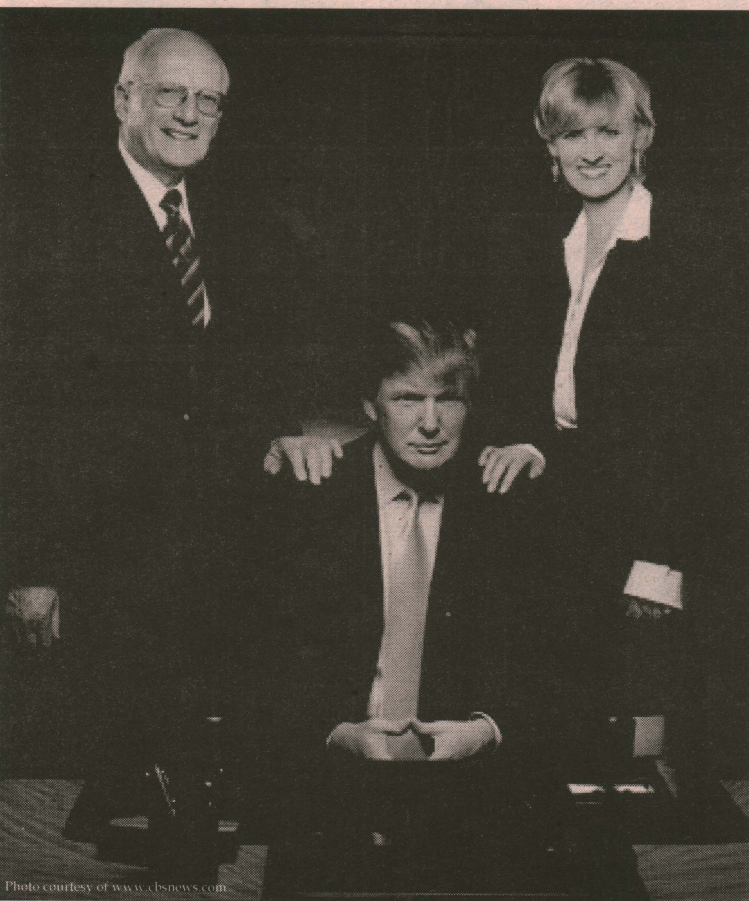


Photo courtesy of www.cbsnews.com.
Do you have what it takes to compete? Find out by joining the "Trumped" competition, hosted by the ACE SMU society.

BY LAURA MACINTOSH

So you want to be Like Mike? What about Donald Trump? Ever longed to be on The Apprentice, working with a team of fellow students to show off your stuff? Work with real businesses, helping to make a difference to our community, and set yourself apart from the rest of the pack when applying for that "big wig" position.

ACE SMU is looking to recruit students to participate in our biggest project yet - Trumped. Two teams of students working together on tasks and projects that will help make a difference for two student-run businesses. Show off your marketing skills, create innovative promotional strategies, execute financial skills, and display your

creative spirit by outdoing your opponents' creativity. Whatever you can bring to the table might be that little something your team needs to win!

We're also looking for two student businesses that would like to take part in this innovative way of building their business. We need someone who wants to thrive in the business world and needs a few extra hands and minds to make it happen.

"Out work, Out Play, Out Trump the other team" in what will be your biggest adventure of the year!

To apply, or to get more information, email acesmu@gmail.com, or stop by the office, 511 in the SUB on the 5th Floor.

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SUBJECT TO CLASSIFICATION

A&E

Sofia Coppola's
MARIE ANTOINETTE

BY NELSON MACDONALD

Marie Antoinette is the latest film from Sofia Coppola, the daughter of the great Francis Ford Coppola who is responsible for such classics as *The Godfather*, *The Conversation*, and *Apocalypse Now*.

There. That's the last time I'll ever begin a review of a Sofia Coppola film by rehashing her father's successes. After all, she's earned it for making *The Virgin Suicides*, *Lost in Translation*, and now *Marie Antoinette*.

Coppola is a rare success story, a female filmmaker who has garnered international praise and popularity. There have been other successful female filmmakers: Jane Campion,

Gillian Armstrong, and Canada's own Deepa Mehta are a few names that come to mind, but none of them have reached the pop-icon status that Coppola has. *The Virgin Suicides* was chosen by "Les Cahiers du cinéma" as one of the best films of 2000, *Lost in Translation* was nominated for three Oscars including Best Screenplay for which it won, and Marie

Antoinette debuted this year at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival.

One must inevitably ask the question: Would Coppola ever have been able to make her films without her father's financial support? It would be idealistic to think that, in the male dominated world of filmmaking, Coppola would have been able to rise to the top purely on her artistic abilities. But hopefully Coppola's films will blaze a trail that will lead to more opportunities for female filmmakers.

Coppola's latest film is fresh and exciting. It tells the story of Marie Antoinette (Kristen Dunst) as she is married off to the Prince of France, at a time when most people her age today would be starting high school. As the story begins, audiences will find themselves siding with the rebellious young heroine, who acts like a twenty-first century teenager slouching and giggling her way through life while those around her are only concerned with royal formalities. However, your opinion of Marie will likely change, and by the end of the film the audience should

be feeling something more than just sympathy for the Queen of France.

Some will argue that Coppola's film is too sympathetic a portrayal of Marie Antoinette, but this is an unfair criticism. Coppola is right in making the viewer empathize with the pressures the young and inexperienced Queen felt, and she expends just as much time and energy showing the Queen's utter disregard for her responsibility to the people of France, her lack of knowledge, and extravagant spending.

Leaving the theatre, I wondered what I would have done in Marie's position. I'd like to think I would be an advocate for the people of France rather than a self-absorbed and materialistic ruler. Surely no one who knows anything about history could ever act like Marie Antoinette! Right? Well, as I walked outside Park Lane Mall by the stylish and extravagant boutiques on and around Spring Garden Road, I watched a Hummer drive by and shuddered. Are many of us really that much better than Marie Antoinette?

Check out Faded Blue

On Friday October 6th, Halifax's own Faded Blue officially launched their debut album, *The Blue Mountain Gate*. The band, consisting of Tyler Lopez (vocals/guitar), Bryan Page (drums), Mike Gorey (lead guitar) and Matt York (bass) played two amazing sets at their official CD release party at The Attic.

The *Blue Mountain Gate* was recorded this summer at Feswick Productions in Summerville, NS by the one and only Tim Feswick (www.feswickproductions.ca)

- and Faded Blue is certainly getting their name out there. You can hear these talented guys rock it out on CKBW (Bridgewater), Big Dog Radio (Truro), CJLS (Yarmouth) and watch out for them on Q104's, "Route 104." The band have also scheduled a mini tour, so if you are going to be in Antigonish, Truro, Canso or Cape Breton between November 1st and 5th, check out one of their shows!

Faded Blue's new album is available at all major music stores

in Halifax and on the South Shore. If you want to learn more about Faded Blue or take a listen to some of their tunes, check out their website, www.fadedblue.ca. Don't forget - if you love their music (which you certainly will) and like supporting local talent, vote for them on the East Coast Countdown, eastcoastcountdown.com, where the band is currently sitting in the #5 spot. See also their website for upcoming local shows!

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HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

October 13, 2006 - There are some who say writing a novel takes awesome talent, strong language skills, academic training, and years of dedication.

Not true. All it really takes is a deadline - a very, very tight deadline - and a whole lot of coffee.

Welcome to National Novel Writing Month, a literary crusade that encourages aspiring novelists all over the world to write a 50,000-word novel. In a month. That's where the caffeine comes in.

At midnight on Nov. 1, more than 75,000 writers - poised over laptops and pads of paper, fingers itching and minds racing with plots and characters - will begin a furious adventure in fiction. By 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30, thousands of them will be novelists.

Last year's 60,000 participants included a couple who lost their

home in hurricane-ravaged New Orleans; a man in England who has fought chronic pain for years; and a woman who led National Novel Writing Month's first chapter in Tunisia. Every year, thousands of schoolchildren and graduate students, grandmothers and grandfathers, new moms and nine-to-five workers toss sanity aside for a month and submerge themselves in their fiction.

Many of those people are right in your backyard. In November they will meet at local cafes and libraries for collective write-ins, because if you're going to attempt something as crazy as a 175-page novel in a month, you might as well have company.

Sign-ups are taking place now. A Municipal Liaison in your area is organizing parties and other events. Please contact Jaymee Goh if you're interested in hearing more about

National Novel Writing Month and events in the Halifax Region.

About National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)

National Novel Writing Month was founded in Oakland, Calif., in 1999 by Chris Baty, a freelance writer. On Sept. 29 this year, the organization was granted nonprofit status under The Office of Letters and Light. There is no cost to enter and anyone can participate. This year, 18 local writers are signed up as of now. For more information, visit www.nanowrimo.org.

Contact:

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TV GEEK

Teletoon's F-Night
Part 1: 11-12 pm

BY RESSA PETERS

Robot Chicken (11 pm) - Seth Green puts his toys to good use in these bizarre, one scene skits acted out with dolls and action figures in a mish-mash of pop-culture. Toys you'll remember from your childhood get caught up in sick, Family Guy style humor. Unlike Family Guy though, it doesn't pretend to have an episode long plot, it's just a string of jokes. You decide if that's genius or attention zapping acid trip imaginings. I vote the latter.

Aqua Teen Hunger Force (11:15 pm) - They're supposed to be some sort of product placement anthropomorphic food mascots like Grimace but they're unemployed and have little ambition. Frylock (voiced by Carey Means) is the voice of reason, talking like a black high school principal in an afterschool special, Master Shake (voiced by Dana Snyder) is a selfish, borderline psychopath, and Meatwad (voiced by Dave Willis) is naive and childlike. The ATHF don't do very much enforcing but instead just clash with their scuzzy landlord Carl (also Willis) and odd characters, such as the Mooninites or the Cybernetic ghost of Christmas past in plots that are never quite resolved.

Tom Goes to The Mayor (11:30pm) - Its animation is unique; pictures of the cast are filtered and added to traditional animation backgrounds with occasional live action thrown in. Tom Peters (Tim Heidecker) visits the mayor of Jef-

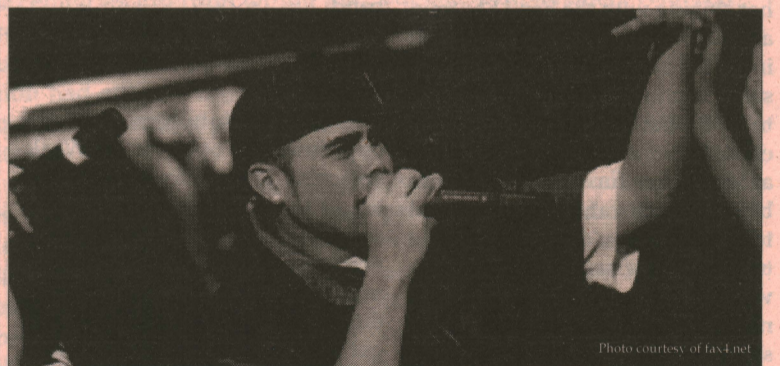
feron (Eric Wareheim) every week with some sort of suggestion or business plan that the mayor then misinterprets, twists or downright steals, which leads to financial ruin, disrepute and catastrophe. The journey is only half the fun, along the way there's made up swear words (shirt! crickets!), crazy characters and guest stars like Jeff Goldblum, Tenacious D and Sir Mix-A-Lot. Formulaic, but never boring.

Harvey Birdman, Attorney at Law (11:45pm) - Ever wonder what would happen if characters from old 1960s cartoons got into legal trouble? No? Well there's no need now that you can watch it all on Harvey Birdman Attorney at Law!

Harvey Birdman (voiced by "Office Space's" boss from hell Gary Cole) is an attorney at Sebben, Sebben and Sebben, a law firm lead by megalomaniacal Phil Ken Sebben who punctuates sentence fragments with an exclamation of ha HA! (the superstantial voice of Stephen Colbert!) His assistants are the Eagle Avenger and Birdboy Peanut (voice of Thomas Allen). Along the way they meet characters you'll remember, like Fred Flintstone and the Scooby Gang and ones in which we're too young to remember, like Yakky Doodle the duck or Secret Squirrel.

The legal battles may be serious (being arrested for possession of marijuana, accusations of being a Mob boss), but the antics are hilarious.

Spesh-al Delivery



BY DANNY CAREW

Spesh K (AKA Kevin Kinch) is our resident rapper. Kinch, an Arts student at SMU, kicked off his new CD "Media Coverage" in front of a live crowd this past Friday at the Gorsebrook. The show started off with the debut of his brand new music video, "Retirement Days", which is set to hit MuchMusic later in the week. After that, Spesh went on to rock two separate shows in front of his faithful fans.

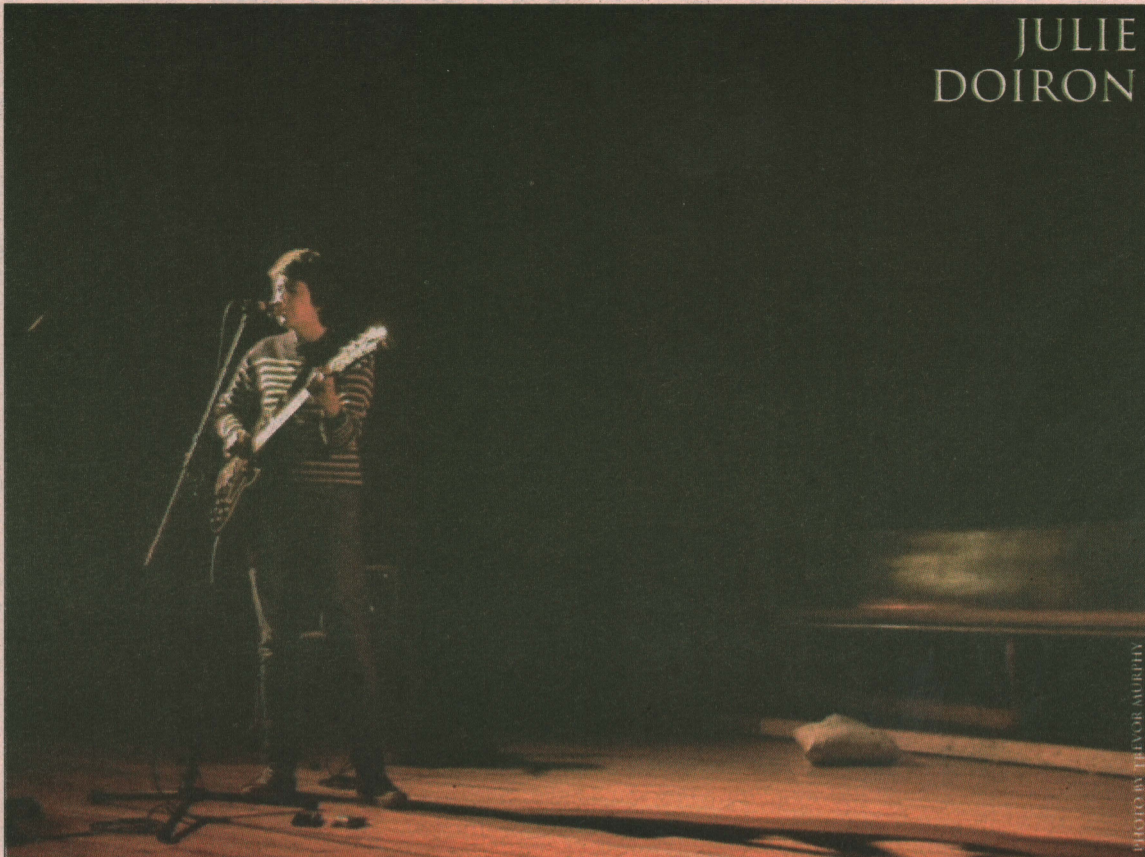
I had an opportunity to sit down with Spesh and discuss his new album. "Media Coverage" is his 5th album and any "hip-hop connoisseur" who listens to it is in for a treat. The beats are banging, and Spesh has the ability to rap on all levels; bringing various rhymes ranging from weed, phony rappers, buying cigarettes with credit cards, and other topics of the sort. Spesh was able to incorporate members of his group "Fax 4" into the album along with Tassja, Jordan Croucher, and DL Incognito to name a few.

When I asked Spesh about the significance of the title of the album, he told me that "Media Coverage is my journalistic approach to making music." In other words, Spesh sees himself as a journalist. Like any journalist, he believes he should inform and educate his audience.

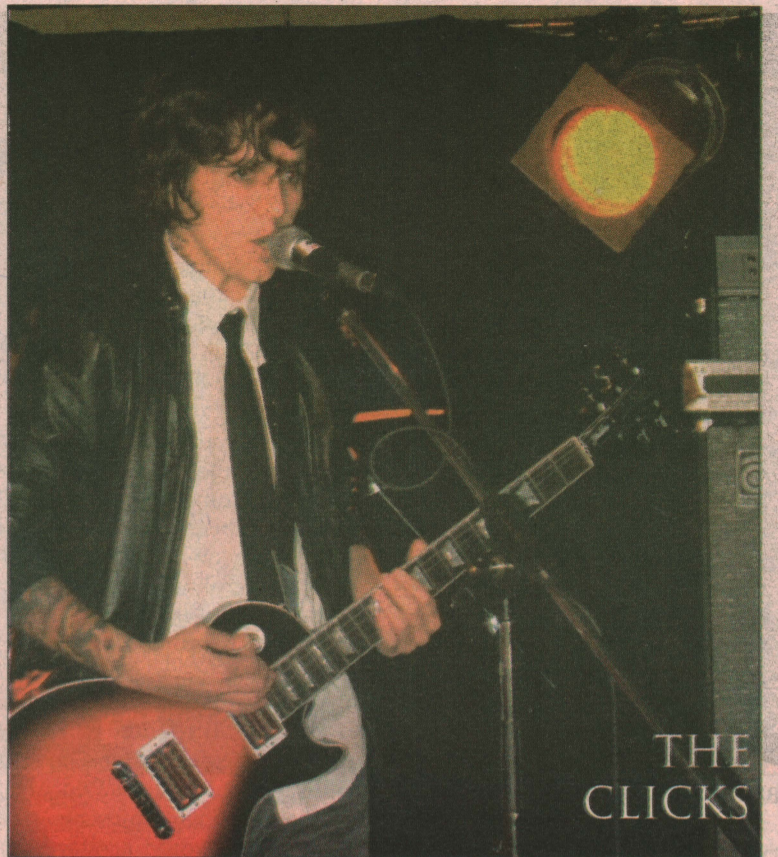
Speaking of education, Spesh has a PhD in hip-hop. Spesh K began rapping with friends in high school for fun. He and his buddies would make mix-tapes, play shows throughout the city, basically do whatever he had to do to promote his music. Now the promoting is paying off.

Spesh K is in it for the love of his craft, "I'm realistic about how far I can go... whatever happens, happens." He is a pioneer in the Halifax rap scene and if "Media Coverage" is any indication of his talent, his best is yet to come. Check out Spesh K at www.fax4.net and buy his new CD at all major music locations.

HALIFAX POP EXPLOSION REVIEW



JULIE
DOIRON



THE
CLICKS

BY ALLYSON MARSH

This year's Halifax Pop Explosion was filled with great music. I hope all those that went out had as great a time as I did and that if you followed my choices from last week you weren't too let down. With a few exceptions I was granted the opportunity to discover some great new music and hear some old favourites perform. Here is a run down of the highlights of my musical journey.

JULIE DOIRON AT ST MICHAEL'S UNITED CHURCH
Julie Doiron has a voice and sound that translates beautifully into any music she makes. Whether it be her singing with the band Shotgun and Jaybird, with former band and indie heroes Eric's Trip, or doing solo songs in French, you are bound to love what you hear. If that's not enough, her charming stage banter as she makes fun of herself, stumbles on words and thoughts, and tells stories you'd never imagine to hear from a singer will have you wanting to see her again. On this night, hearing Julie talk about the story behind "Elevator Song" was a treat for any fan getting a look into the Eric's Trip past. Hearing her talk about forgetting her instrument for her later set even though she had it written on her hand had the crowd laughing at this absent minded delight.

Julie has a uniqueness about her I've never seen anywhere else. A small voice, a tiny amp releasing barely-there guitar riffs sum up this lady's slow, sweet melodies. Hearing it in a church, her voice, alone on stage, filled the sacred space and was an indescribable treat. Even the less than one minute song she played had an undeniable beauty. This tiny little woman managed to command a presence that had everyone in the room hanging off her every word.

THE SUPERFANTASTICS AT STAGE NINE
The Superfantastics opened the show at Stage Nine on Tuesday and showed the crowd that they are a power duo as they poured out one catchy tune after another. Singer Matt Macdonald's voice is a throw back to an early nineties Hali-

fax sound. Drummer Stephanie d'Entremont is a refreshing sight as one of Halifax's only female drummers, she's also a testament of pure talent as she has been drumming for only a little over a year. These two quirky kids played music that was fun, including a song about Theodore Tugboat. At the tip of a hat they were able to change from true pop to a slow rock sound with a tune they called "Triceratops." The two also had great banter on stage and someone in the audience was overheard saying that they had a great stage presence. Chalk it up to the two being good friends, but they both just seem like naturals on stage. All this combined makes up for a great show from a great band.

DOG DAY AT THE MCINNIS ROOM

The Halifax foursome had the opportunity to open for the Weakerthan's. They unfortunately had an all too familiar indie can-pop sound, but at least they played this tired sound well. The light show may have been the most exciting thing about this set and even that got a little annoying after awhile. The crowd was receptive but I mostly felt underwhelmed. One particular song had a catchy rock beat and was something that I wouldn't mind hearing again but that may have been the only tune I'd care to listen to a second time. The vocal harmonies between lead singer and bass player worked well but when the bass player sang alone for the verses of one song her mic volume was not loud enough to hear the majority of what she said. The keyboardist, who was at the centre of the stage taking pictures while she played didn't seem particularly interested in doing either. I have never in my life seen someone look so bored and unimpressed while playing. If you want your audience to enjoy themselves, at least pretend you are enjoying yourself too. For a band that had been so hyped by those I trust for music advice I was extremely unimpressed. I regret putting this band in my picks last week.

LAND OF TALK AT THE MARQUEE

Montreal's Land of Talk could be

Canadian radio's next big thing. The singer has a sweet voice with a hard edge and the sound is rocky in a non-intrusive way. The three piece band had a Portishead quality that could be the soundtrack to any college party. This was the first time Land of Talk played the Maritimes, oddly enough, seeing how two thirds of the band originated from New Brunswick. Let's hope it's not their last. This band, who this year signed with Dependent Music, played a solid set of so-fi rock. Each song had a great groove that pulled together to make a great set. It's no surprise that this band is all over college stations these days.

INSTRUMENTS AT THE MARQUEE

Never having seen Instruments before, I didn't know what to expect besides the warning that it would be a lot of "noise." The first few songs were free of lyrics and relied on computer sounds to provide the vocals. Computer noise took precedence in another section with a bass rumble affect crescendoing into something that felt and sounded like an earthquake, shaking right through your body. This was both cool and scary, and also something I've never quite seen done before live. The Instruments were a sonic feast of hard rock hi-fi sound. Each song gave something different but continued in a similar manner with a cohesive pleasing sound that just worked. This band drew an impressive crowd for an opening band, unlike anything I've ever seen before during a 10pm set at the Marquee during HPX. The anticipation of Instruments had most of Halifax's indie elite curious and they weren't let down. Instruments were probably the best band at this year's event.

BE BAD IN HELL

Be Bad were the first band to play the Marquee this Pop Explosion. They played loud and they did it well. On top of that they were a sight to see, or rather maybe not see, as all but one member played with their back to the audience and the bass player covered his face in an American flag mask. Unfortunately, given their early start there were not many there to witness this



DOG
DAY

explosion of sound. I usually complain when words are inaudible during a live set but for this style of screamo metal-rock the lack thereof worked. The speed of almost non-stop playing was impressive and the guitar techniques were strong and entertaining, save for some high pitched squeals which my tired ears could have done without. The band apologized for being so loud but no one in the crowd seemed to mind. The scream/talk style of the vocalist combined with the thrashing sound of the band tie together to make Be Bad a must see for Haligonians that like to rock.

JON MCKIEL AT STAGE NINE

In the past two years since I first heard Jon Mckiel play at the Gorsebrook, his sound has evolved and matured into something spectacular. Playing alone and then being joined by a band, Mckiel stepped up and played a beautiful set that ranged from whispery vocals to a near scream. The accompaniment of a trumpet and the bass player playing his guitar along with a hand bell both added something new and different that advanced the musical experience. The tunes were soft at heart; rock infused with heartbreaking lyrics. Mckiel's

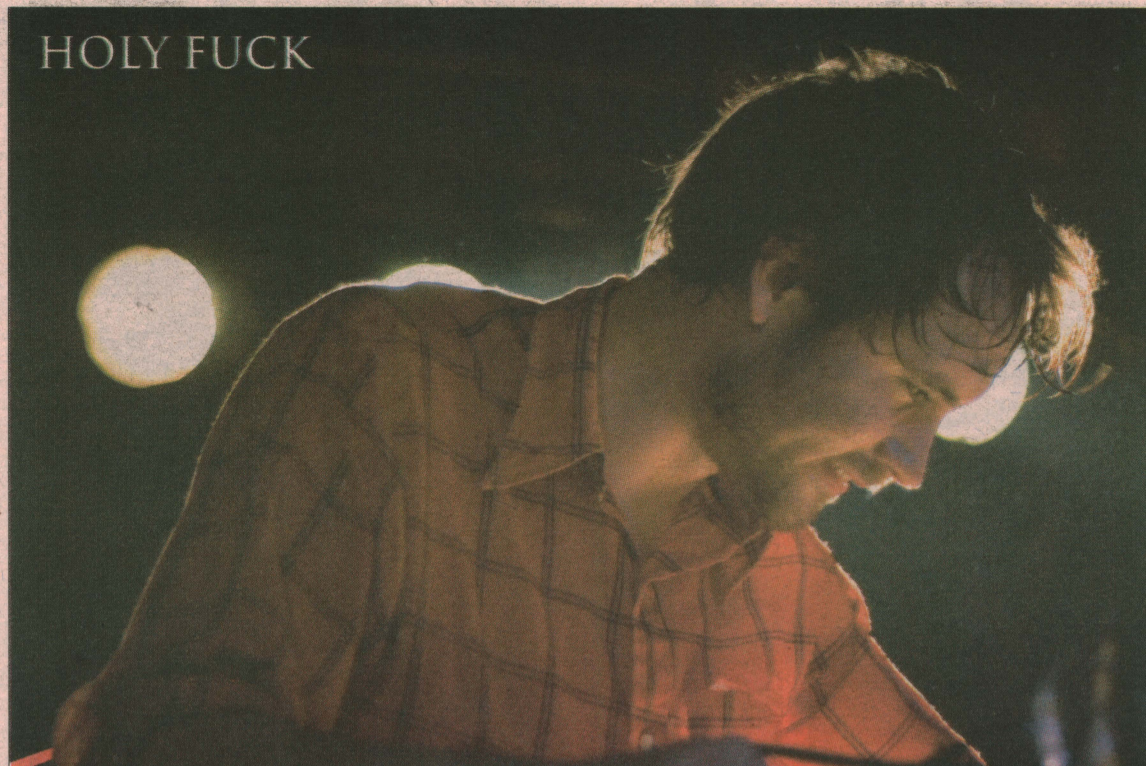
music could make you cry or make you fall in love without realizing it at all. The emotion evoked through his voice has a compounding effect that is infectious. Perhaps it is because they got to play twice this HPX or maybe because they have been touring extensively, but the band has come together to produce stellar music that could easily make them Halifax's next big thing.

THE CLIKS IN HELL

These Toronto kids had an amazing dance-rock style. The singer led the music with a deep throaty voice capable of some interesting vocal acrobatics. While they played a great set of their own songs, the cover of Justin Timberlake's "Cry Me a River", which had harder spin put on it, was the gem of the set and may have been better than the original. A guitar solo in one tune stood out to show that sure enough, chicks really can rock hard. The audience loved this band. Even though they weren't the last band playing the crowd screamed enough that they were convinced to come back for an encore, a rarity in my concert going history.

Photos by Trevor Murphy

Olivier's HPX Review



BY OLIVIER JARDA

DOLLARAMA AT THE BUS STOP

Last week we encouraged our readers to check out Dollarama at the Bus Stop on Thursday. The band bought Dollar Store junk and attempted to make music with it. The audience participated by blowing whistles and popping balloons.

The highlights included an audience member jumping on to the stage and pouring bubble soap on one of the performers' head, and the crowd-enhanced chant, "I want to go to Koala, Ontario". At times nauseating, at times exhilarating, yet most of the time not worth it. Cool idea though.

A/V GOES TO THE BUS STOP

A/V, a one-man show with keyboards, drumbeats, and a microphone also played the Bus Stop on Thursday. Originally from Halifax, A/V pleased the crowd by making the speakers pop and the floorboards buckle. The rumbling bass and techno drumbeats, and eighties-synth sound kept the crowd moving. A/V's frantic, sometimes out of breath vocals were a nice complement.

MARDEEN IN HELL

Rock ensemble Mardeen played in Hell's Kitchen on Thursday. Two of its members are students at Saint Mary's but that is not the

reason they are getting a mention. Mardeen took its carefully and precisely orchestrated rock tunes and let them loose. The band's rotating singers all delivered powerful high-range melodies. Be on the look out for Mardeen in stores; they recently finished working on their latest album with producer Charles Austin.

THEIR MAJESTIES PLAY IN HELL

Rock quintet Their Majesties, formerly known as The Porcelain Gods, played Hell's stage on Thursday. Along with the new-ish name, the band played a bevy of new songs reminiscent of their older material, but of a much higher caliber. The pop rock tunes they're now churning out have more to them, adding tasteful and subtle guitar melodies and strengthening the conversations between instruments. Vocals and cohesion also improved, giving Their Majesties more than a few notches up on my 'Best of Halifax Indie Rock' list. Check out their newest CD.

HOLY FUCK AT THE MARQUEE

Holy Fuck electrified the Marquee on Friday night, with analog. No computers, midis or drum machines were used to make the techno dance sounds coming from the stage. I still don't understand what Brian Borcherdt was doing on stage with that film thing. The

instrumental band's improvisational jams produced interesting sounds, reminiscent of The New Deal. The band's use of a film editing device and toy keyboards to create their sound was impressive, perhaps more impressive than the sound itself. Unfortunately, the music got caught in a few repetitive grooves, and did not pack as much punch as I'd expected.

THE SLIP IN THE ATTIC

Saturday night marked The Slip's first appearance at the Halifax Pop Explosion. The guitar/bass/drum trio of Berkeley dropouts started the band ten years ago, and has gained international success. Although they were formed in Boston, two of the members now live in Montreal.

The Slip played to a full Attic with relentless energy. Drummer Andrew Barr's fusion of real and electronic drumbeats kept their motor revving all night long into a deafening scream for encore that packed more intensity than even Wintersleep's loud Marquee crowd.

Although singer Brad Barr's vocals were low and muddled, and backup vocals were almost inaudible, the musical trio still put on an incredible show of solid 'avant-rock' tunes. The smooth fretless bass and the guitar's jazz licking acrobatics and rock riffs rounded out my favourite performance of HPX 2006.



BOOK REVIEW

ZERO:

A BIOGRAPHY OF A DANGEROUS IDEA

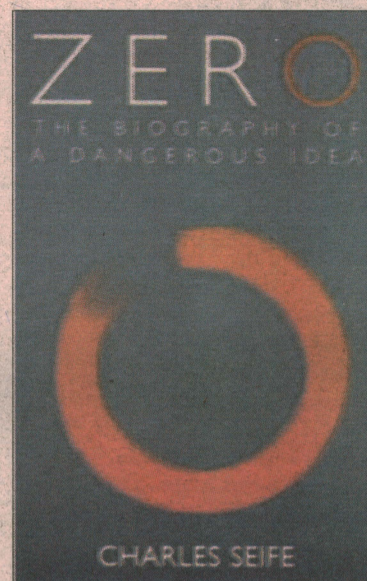
BY ADAM COSTELLO

There is an amazing book available at any Chapters outlet which I'll be reviewing. It's an integral piece for explaining any universal existence theory not contrived by a magical supernatural being. The book is called "Zero, The Biography of a Dangerous Idea" and was written by Charles Seife. It received the PEN/Martha Albrand Award and currently sits as a New York Times notable book. As the title portrays, it is a book about the number zero, the concept of which may seem simple at first, but after just the first few chapters of "Zero", its reading quickly shows the intricacies and complex nature the actual concept of zero can hold.

Being the only number that is non-representative of any physical or lack of physical characteristics, zero resides in a realm all on its own, acting as somewhat of an intermediary between the representation of having an amount of something or lack of amount pertaining to the something in question. The book talks of initial human society's concept and perception of zero and how it relates to the initial insurgence of numerical and linguistic literacy. Some early and current societies feared the concept of zero, because to them, zero reflected the chaos before nothingness. Others accepted its insertion within the relatively new concept of math, using it to show when an equation had entirely been balanced out and left void of purpose after its use.

The writing of Charles Seife is thought-provoking to say the least. The book talks of zero's relation to early society's progress, as a correlation that can be seen between numerical progress and the development of language and literacy in humanity's earliest societies. He talks of how the Greeks banned the concept of zero, while the Hindus worshipped it, and how the Christian church used it to fend of heretics. Seife's ideas regarding early conceptions of numeric concept relate to human society's first efforts to conjure up organized pictures of thought, an accomplishment that can be awarded to the Babylonians and Egyptians. This tended to set the stage for literacy in these developing societies because once a numerical system was in place, reading and writing was transcendently needed to better communicate with one another.

Understanding the mathematical properties from which our lives are ultimately composed is the first step to understanding the complexities of syntax, cultural value and cultural belief. These forms of numerical understanding, from past to present, have and always



will, form the values and goals our culture chooses to advance upon. But in understanding the true nature of what the "number" zero represents, one may choose to advance upon a field of knowledge not drudged upon by many religions. One problem that can be accompanied by Seife's contentions is that the view of deeply religious people towards the real concept of zero will tend to always strike fear of chaos. If the concept of zero is analyzed by the atheist, however, one can find a somewhat viable conclusion to the universes existence - rather than basing beliefs on something like God, which offers no mathematical proof or understandable explanation. With zero, we can instead base our beliefs on something we are more logically able to understand.

Since zero is the only number we can conceive of that isn't an example of a physical or chemical property, it is void of the causal rules we tend to base our beliefs around. We ask: But how could the big bang have created physical reality if something

Would've had to cause the big bang? If we imagine nothingness before the big bang, and consider the Occams Razor method to allow physical reality having been created as an automatic positive by-product of this negative reality (nothingness), then where did the negative reality come from? Surely if this realm of dark energy is able to be representative of not having something, it still must have had something as its creator? These questions of causation can be answered by zero, for it is the only numerical concept that exists without anything causing it. But for this concept to exist, what must stem from it is separate negative (nothingness) and positive (the universe) realities that both interact on each other to allow for infinite regressive and progressive balance. The concept of zero and, more importantly, mathematics can be held as the key to all of this - and explains all of this in a much more viable and logical way than any spiritual being we can't perceive.

SPORTS

Hockey Huskies Win Home Opener

BY ADAM COSTELLO

It wasn't the prettiest home opener the St. Mary's Husky hockey team ever played, but SMU net minder Cory Roberts kept the puck out of the cage when it mattered. The Huskies opened their without a win the previous week and hoped to get their first of the season against the defending Atlantic champion Acadia Axemen last Friday night at the Forum; Acadia also had opened the season winless.

SMU was up by two goals before most fans got to their seat, due in most part by a dreadful first 15 minutes by Acadia. The game was full of bad turnovers that essentially handed the game to the Huskies, despite a five-point night by Acadia Axemen captain Brandon Benedict (two goals and three assists). The Axemen were down 3-0 just 12 minutes into the game, twice giving away the puck in their own end at key times. Later in the game they did, however, manage to capitalize on a flurry of penalties, some questionable and some indiscipline, committed by the Huskies. In fact, special teams was the only bright spot all night for the Axemen, as they managed to score twice short-handed and three times on the power play. Acadia even managed a goal with just one second left on the clock to tie it at four going into the third.

The St. Mary's offense rose to the challenge as Ryan Rorabeck, Brandon McBride, Travis Chapman, Kyle Doucet, Dan Rudisuela and Scott Hotham all scored for SMU.

As the heckling of Acadia goalie Lanny Ramage got louder to start the third, he allowed 2 goals by SMU through the first 5 minutes by Rudisuela and Hotham - just 20

seconds apart. Acadia answered with a goal in the later stages of the period and for the rest of the game pressed Cory Roberts into making one miraculous save after another in his attempt to stay the Huskies countdown to victory. The Huskies won 6-5.

Doucet, a former Quebec league star, is one of the teams most promising rookie's this season. He scored off a rocket of a shot on a huge power-play and is skating on the wing of SMU's top line with Rudisuela and Rancourt - a line which accounted for eight points on the night. Center Dan Rudisuela, a former captain of the Mississauga Ice Dogs, will be counted on along with his new line-mates to show a continuance of the key offensive ability shown on this night. If they are able to do so, the void left by graduating skilled forwards Brad Self and Ryan Lauzon should be filled.

The next night the Huskies faced off against the lowly Tigers at Dalhousie arena, a game that ended in a 7-2 victory for SMU. The Huskies top line combined for another eight points and SMU dominated the entire game - when they weren't fighting that is. SMU and DAL together combined for 90 penalty minutes overall with skirmishes, hacks and slashes taking center stage rather than hockey. SMU plays its next two games at home, welcoming UdeM to the Forum on Wednesday and UNB on Saturday. Both have 7pm start times.

On the women's side, SMU opened both its games at home with wins last weekend by scores of 5-2 and 2-0 against UPEI and STU respectively. Their next two games both go on the road as they also travel to UdeM and UNB.



PHOTOS BY ADAM COSTELLO



PHOTOS BY ADAM COSTELLO

Concordia Gets By SMU On Field Goals

BY DANNY CAREW

The Saint Mary's Huskies just can't seem to win the close ones. The Huskies lost 34-31 in overtime to Concordia, which ends their two game winning streak and consequently brings their record to 2-4 on the season. So far this year, SMU has lost 4 games by a total 11 points.

SMU was trailing 16-7, but Jacques-Olivier Lumbala and Eric Glavic scored late rushing touchdowns to put SMU in the lead. However, SMU threw an untimely interception that led to Concordia's kicker Warren Kean being set up to hit a 33yd field goal to win the game. Kean actually set the record

in this contest for most field goals made in a game with 9.

SMU QB's Billy Robinson and Eric Glavic both saw action in the game. Robinson showed some rust after coming back from his one game suspension - he connected on just 5 passes on 18 attempts for a meager total of 84yds. Glavic was 3 for 9 for 78yds. Saint Mary's was also out-rushed 334-163.

St. Mary's next game is against ST. FX at home this Friday. It is imperative that the Huskies pull out a victory this Friday because Mount Allison, ST. FX, and the Huskies are all 2-4 - which means a victory will bode well for a better seeding in playoffs. The game will be televised nationally on the Score.



PHOTOS BY JOEL MILLER

SMU Cross Country Team Travels to the Laval Invitational Cross Country Meet

BY KENNY FRASER

The Saint Mary's Cross Country team travelled to the University of Laval for an inter conference meet on October 14. Teams from Laval, Concordia, Sherbrooke and McGill as well as AUS rivals Dalhousie, St. F.X. and UNB all competed at the meet. The race provided the runners an opportunity to compete on the same course that the CIS Championships will be held on later this season. Several SMU runners had breakout performances and looked good for the upcoming AUS and CIS Championships.

The men's race was 8km and had a total of 104 runners. Our men's team placed fifth out of eight teams. Captain Gerald Demers led the way for the SMU men placing 14th in a time of 26:24, followed by first year runner Brad Orchard, 18th place in a time of 26:34. Brian

Lewis finished 25th place in 27:05, Gerrard Lewin finished 47th place in 28:41 and Matt Ramsay rounded out the five in 53rd place in a time of 29:20.

On the women's side the women raced 4km and there were a total of 107 runners. Our women finished fourth out of eight teams. Leading the way was last years CIS rookie of the year Kelsey Daley, who placed 15th with a time of 15:06. Close behind Kelsey were Christine Carey and Ashley Ryer in 17th and 18th place, both finishing in 15:10. Chris Etter finished 42nd place in 16:24 and Denise Harrietha, 48th place in 16:38.

Having several athletes beginning to peak, the SMU Cross Country is looking for a strong performance at the upcoming AUS Championship. The AUS Championships are set for October 28 at St. F.X.

SLOW WEEK FOR SOCCER HUSKIES AS PLAYOFFS APPROACH

BY NEIL JORDAN

Both husky soccer sides are in the playoff hunt as the AUS season comes to an end. Saturday's matches at St. FX were cancelled due to an outbreak of the Norwalk virus, which left the Huskies with a Sunday afternoon doubleheader with cross-town rivals Dalhousie, who Saint Mary's visited last Wednesday. That day the ladies fell 1-0, and the men took a 2-1 result home with them. Sunday would turn out to be eerily similar.

In the womens' match, Leanne Huck was once again the bane of SMU's existence when she scored 13 minutes into the first half to give Dal a 1-0 lead. Huck's goal, her seventh of the season, proved to be the difference as it was last Wednesday, with Dal's defense holding firm and Heather Armstrong collecting another clean sheet. The Huskies' drought continues, as they have scored only 13 goals this season.

The men were up next, looking to keep their unbeaten record intact, and as usual, got off to a quick start. The Huskies were led by goals from freshmen Ryosuke Asano, who is having a fine rookie season with his third goal of the season, and Ahmad Negahban, who notched his first of the year from midfield to give the Huskies a 2-0 lead at halftime. Once again, the



BY JOEL MILLER

Tigers would step up their game in the second half and were rewarded with a goal from Jon Merette in the 82nd minute. The men would hold on for a 2-1 win to spruce up their record to 7-0-3.

So, as it stands, the women are clinging to the final playoff spot, sitting at 12 points with a 4-5-1. A huge match still looms with St. FX, who are one point behind

the Huskies in the standings. The women must find a source of goals in a hurry to secure their spot in the postseason. The men are now 7-0-3, tied with Dal in second place with 22 points, five points behind first-place UCCB. The men are playing well, but need to play a full 90 minutes every game to retain their AUS crown.

SMU Field Hockey Finishes Second

BY SHANNON MATKOVICH

The weekend of October 14th-15th, the Huskies' field hockey team traveled to PEI for their final tournament of the season. The Huskies started off the tournament with a tie against Dal. Their next game was the "game of the weekend". It was under the lights against UPEL. This was when the girls pulled together and played as a team. Everything fell into place and the Huskies battled hard in the pouring rain. The

game result was a tie, but it was the best game of the season for many of the girls on the team. The following day, the field hockey team finished the tournament with two wins against Acadia and UNB, 4-0 and 6-0, respectively. Additionally, Alyssa Campbell, Maria Barreiro, and Linette MacInnis were selected as AUS Conference Allstars. Even though the Huskies finished in second place in the AUS, they had a great season with only one loss. Quak!

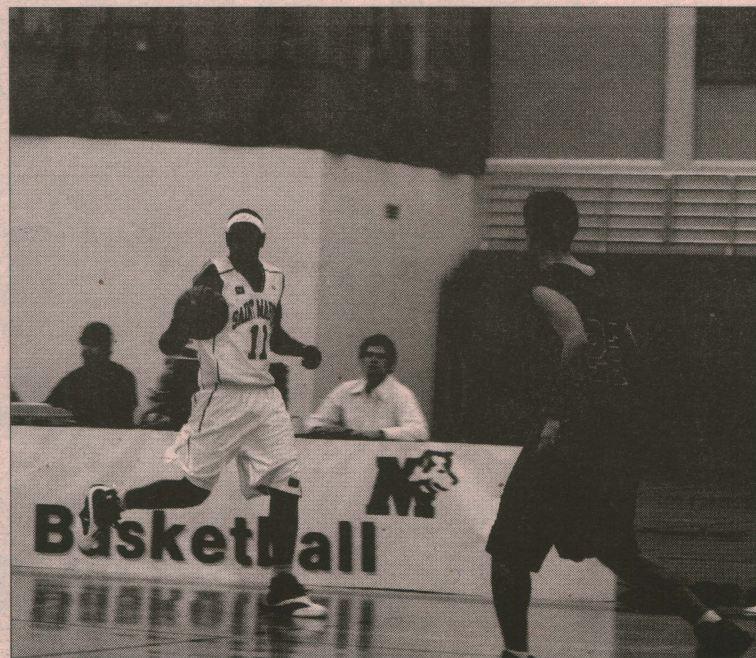
BASKETBALL PREVIEW

BY ADAM COSTELLO

The Men's Basketball team this year has a much different look than it has in previous years, with many veterans from last years experienced and formidable squad having departed. There are plenty of fresh faces in the line-up, and the team style of play will have to be tweaked accordingly to compensate for differentiating talents their new and returning players now bring to the table.

The departure of big names like Jerome Goodman, Jonathan Thibault, Nelson Carvery, Morgan Gallagher, Ibraheim Muhammad and Dean Jones have switched the focus of SMU basketball fans to the teams prospects, but with a solid core of returning players, the Huskies should, as they have the last few years, still be able to contend for the AUS championship.

Returning players include Mark Ross, Mark McLaughlin, Aaron Duncan and Ike Uchegbu. Mark Ross was last seasons starting point guard and has the experience and talent necessary to once again excel and lead the team. Mark McLaughlin will also be integral to the Huskies chances, as he was last year's AUS Rookie of the Year. He has shown a committed work ethic during the off-season that will undoubtedly rub off on other young guys on the team. Those two, combined with the versatility of Aaron Duncan (20 point, 10 rebound average at the AUS Championships last year) should assume the



BY JOEL MILLER

role that Jerome Goodman left and become the new "go to guy" in the low post.

All has certainly not been lost with the departures of so many guys, with several new players expected to make an immediate impact. Michael Poole, a stand out with J.L. Ilsley's provincial semi-finalists from last year, Sackville High School's three point specialist Basil Habib and Dartmouth High School's Peter Gilfoy are all expected to fill the huge shoe sizes of the 2006 graduates accordingly. Clint Bateman, a transfer from Acadia, is one new player that brings already displayed maturity and experience to the team. Clint

can also score from the three point line, which is what the Huskies are in dire need of come season tip off. Cordell Wright, who showed wicked promise last season, has great range on his jump shot and takes the ball hard to the hoop, combining speed with a knack for finishing his J's in traffic.

This year's team should play an exciting and riveting tempo of basketball that will look to utilize the shooting talents that so many of the newcomers possess. Defense, as always though, will be their main concentration and the Huskies should, once again, be one of the top defensive teams around the league.

The Journal's Sports

Rollback

SMU club Rugby goes October 29th and November 5th at the Halifax Wanderer's grounds with a 1:30 start time. The guys are playing great and some support at their games can be nothing but positive. Get out there.

Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick has never lost to an AFC team at home (now 7-0). Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger had never lost to an NFC team (7-0), until his loss to Atlanta Sunday afternoon. He was also badly injured in the game and did not return.

In another game, Tampa Bay Buccaneers kicker Matt Bryant kicked a 62-yard field goal to win it for his team in the dying seconds. It was the second longest field goal in NFL history - and he had a few yards to spare.

Since 1970, three teams have allowed just three touchdowns through the first six games of the season (Minnesota, 1970; Atlanta 1977; Miami, 2000). Denver has allowed just one touchdown in its

first five games this year. Kansas City Chiefs tight end Tony Gonzalez became only the second tight end with 8,000 receiving yards in NFL history last Sunday. Matt Leinart is the only player in NFL history to throw two touchdown passes in the first quarter in each of his first two career starts.

Before last week, teams in the NFL with a positive differential in turnovers in 2006 had won 59 of 72 games. Teams with a positive differential in turnovers since 2000 have won 1,035 of 1,304 games played.

The Buffalo Sabers have opened their NHL season with 8 strait wins, a franchise record and only a few away from an NHL record. In other NHL news, Philadelphia fired coach Ken Hitchcock and let GM Bobby Clarke step down last week. This marks the end of an era in Philly, as Clarke has been the face of the team for about 3 decades, first as a player and then as a GM.

SCHUMACHER: F1'S BEST EVER?

GERMAN RACING LEGEND RETIRES

German racing legend Michael Schumacher, arguably the greatest driver the world has ever seen, saw his final checkered flag this past week. The youngest double Formula 1 World Champion ever (1994 and 1995 seasons) told the media in the summer this would be his final season, as the 7-time world champion will now live on as a driver only in the record books. Schumacher currently holds nearly every record in Formula One, including those for most drivers' championships, race victories, fastest laps, pole positions, and most races won in a single season. He is also the world's first billionaire athlete, with a yearly salary reported as \$80 million in 2004.

While many people say he is the best ever, there are just as many that believe his often "shady" behavior sits him behind Juan Manuel Fangio on the list of all-time greats, with even Schumacher himself denying any comparison with Fangio, the poster boy of racing in the 50s - and the only other driver to achieve five F1 championships. The only major record Fangio still holds over Schumacher is for the highest winning percentage to races partaken in rate, with 24 wins from 51 starts (47.1%) to Schumacher's percentage of around 35%.

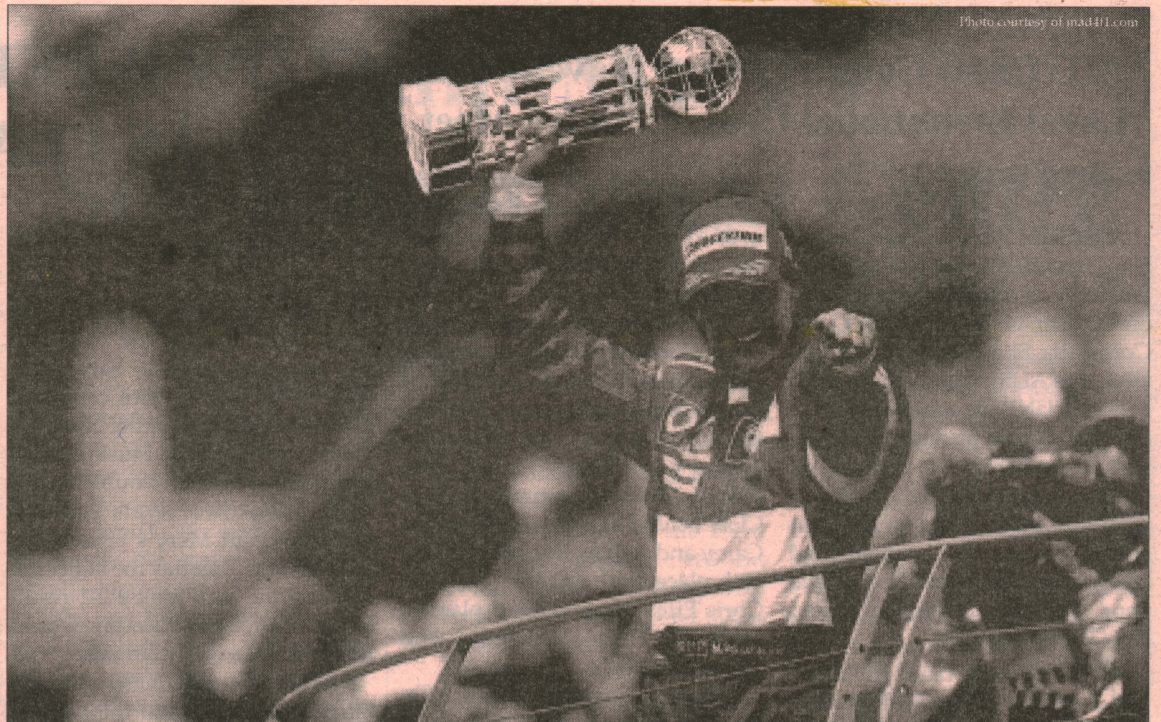
Schumacher began kart racing at the age of four and a half, using a homemade pedal-kart that had been fitted with a motorcycle engine by his father. He quickly mastered the vehicle, winning his first kart championship at the age of six. Schumacher made his Formula 1 debut with the Jordan-Ford team at the 1991 Belgian Grand Prix as a replacement driver for the im-

prisoned Bertrand Gachot (who had been incarcerated for spraying CS gas in a London taxi-driver's face). Schumacher impressed his on-lookers by qualifying seventh in his first competition in an F1 vehicle, matching the team's season-best grid position. Unfortunately though, he retired on the first lap of the race with clutch problems.

The next year he was signed by Benetton-Ford and finished third in the final standings. Two years later he won his first world championship; however, he began receiving accolades of cheating after his seemingly intentional collision with Damon Hill during the last race of the circuit. Hill happened to be only one point behind him in the driver standings before the race - the collision took them both out of the contention, giving Schumacher a free pass to his first F1 championship.

After winning another championship in '95 and signing with Ferrari in '96, Schumacher took the title fight down to the last race in '97, narrowly leading in points over Canadian racing great, Jacques Villeneuve. Schumacher and Villeneuve collided after Villeneuve attempted to overtake Schumacher on a right turn. Schumacher again was deemed by many to have deliberately initiated this crash, and this time racing officials showed their agreement by stripping him of his championship points and denying him his third title.

2000 began the stint of dominance by Schumacher and Ferrari, as he won the next five straight drivers championships. Highlights included breaking the record for wins in a season with 11 in 2002,



then winning 12 of his first 13 races in 2004 to break the record again with 13 total.

In 2005, Schumacher didn't perform as well after rule changes, which required tires to last the distance of a full race, clearly hampered his ability to dominate the opposition. According to the Associated Press, the rule changes were entirely targeted to ending the domination of Ferrari and Schumacher - and they did.

Despite all the broken records and achievements, his retirement has people talking about whether or not he is the hero many make him out to be because of his questionable character. Schumacher has never been overly warm towards the media and there have been 2

or 3 incidents throughout his career that have made his integrity questionable. The real question people overly critical of Schumacher must ask themselves is: whether or not it is right to chastise the entire career of someone as great as Schumacher, just because he doesn't enjoy talking about his life and possesses an intense desire to win.

In 2005, Schumacher donated \$10 million dollars U.S. to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake charity show on the German television network. In fact, his donation surpassed that of any entire sports league combined, many worldwide corporations and even some countries. He is still an active advocate of road safety, promoting it around the world during his travels. Schu-

macher is also a special ambassador to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and has donated 3 million U.S. to the organization. He has funded projects for the construction of a school in Senegal, a clinic in Sarajevo, and a centre for street children in Peru.

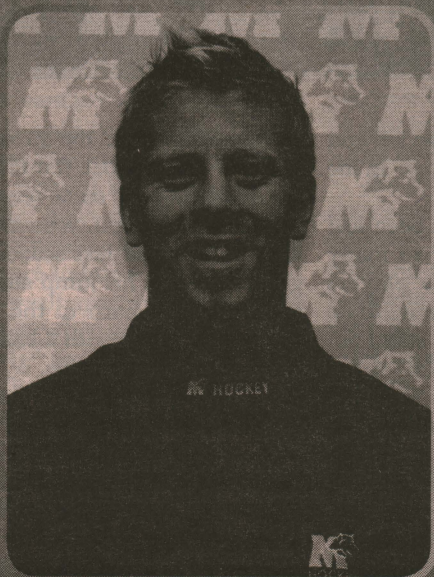
Are a few harsh words from Jacques Villeneuve and Damon Hill (combined with the bitterness of people who just wanted to see someone else win), really enough to tarnish Schumacher's reputation as the best racer ever? Seven racing titles, almost every record imaginable and a soft spot for charity - his legacy doesn't seem all that questionable to me.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



**JUSTIN
PALARDY**
FOOTBALL

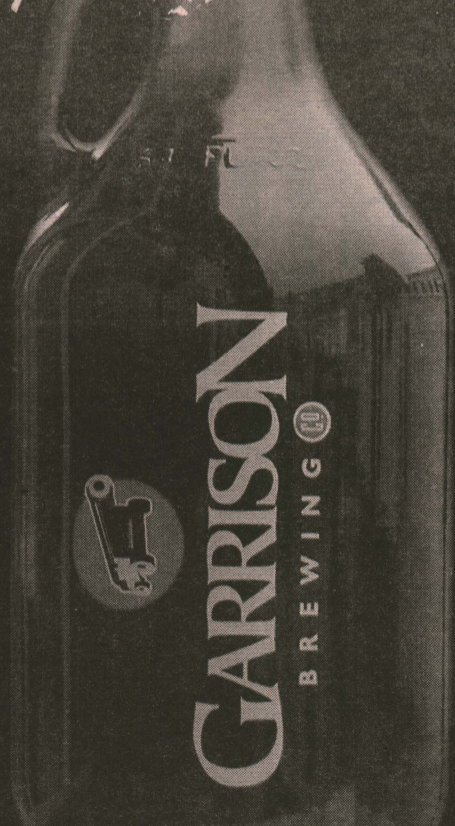
1st year from Truro, NS
11 points and a 48 yard field goal vs Concordia



**DAN
RUDISUELA**
MEN'S HOCKEY

Dan had a goal, 2 assists vs Acadia and 1 goal 2 assists vs Dalhousie...4 point weekend.

**GET
FRESH!**



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\$4 GROWLER!

* BOTTLE PURCHASE ONLY
WITH VALID STUDENT I.D.

**ALWAYS \$8 FOR 2 LITRES OF
FRESH GARRISON DRAUGHT**

FEATURES

Political Science is the Fastest Society at SMU; Racing comes second

BY JAMIE KIDD

The Fastest Society on Campus race went rather well despite a scheduling problem at the Kartbahn indoor go-cart track in Bayer's Lake. Instead of booking the event for three races, they booked it for one race, which forced drivers to be on their best in a one shot chance at the title.

"Even though we only got to race once, everyone seemed to look past it and still had a good time", said SMU Racing President Jamie Kidd. The drivers were broken up into two groups, some confusion caused the groups to be 6 and 4 drivers, with the goal of getting the fastest single lap of the day. The first group was dominated by Omar Dill, and with newcomer Stefan

McCormick coming second, both drivers from the Racing Society. Will Dingwall from the Services society (SMUSS) rounded out the top three of the first group. With Racing holding the top two spots after the first group, things were looking good for them to clean up, but Micheal Hughes from the Political Science Society had other plans, smashing Omar's quick lap by over a half second. Jamie Kidd who also ran in the second group had his worst fear come true, "When I heard that we would only be doing one race, I knew someone would get a bad kart and have it ruin their run, I unfortunately fell victim to this". Jamie's kart had terrible acceleration, killing his times out of the turns, eventually he stopped using the breaks all together, and just

took wider turns to hold some of his speed. "One of the employees told me that apparently they couldn't turn off the cart before our race, so it just sat in the pits wasting power, leaving me with a half charged cart. it's too bad, even if I didn't win, I still would have enjoyed battling with Hughes, he put on a good show, hats off to him".

Race Winner Micheal Hughes said, "Thank you to Jamie for organizing a great event. The race was fun and it's great that the Poli Sci society came out on top. I was fortunate to be in the second group that was smaller so there was a bit more space. Overall the track was quite slippery and it keeping control in the fast corners without allowing the sliding to slow down the kart or prevent it from acceler-

ating was quite difficult. It was a great event and hopefully the Poli Sci society can defend its title again next year."

Third Place Stefan McCormick "It was a great time out at Kartbahn on Saturday regardless of the slight mix-up. Everyone had fun and we are definitely looking forward to the competitive league as well as future races. I would recommend anyone interested to come out for the open race as it is a great place to meet people and have a good time. Being only my second time around the track, I posted a 3rd place time overall and 2nd place time for the Racing team behind fellow team member Omar. Congratulations Micheal".

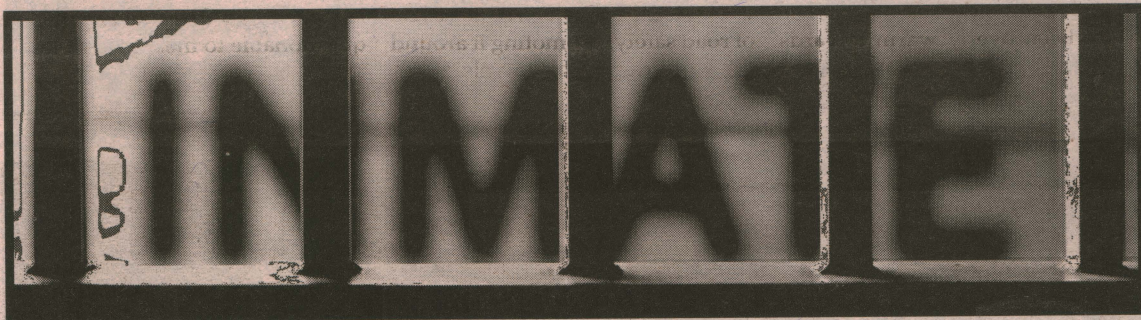
OFFICIAL CLASSIFICATION (BEST LAP):

- Micheal Hughes (Political Science) 30.26
- Omar Dill (Racing) 30.76
- Stefan McCormack (Racing) 31.50
- Will Dingwall (Services) 31.70
- Jamie Kidd (Racing) 32.28
- Oskar Schulz (Racing) 32.55
- Micheal Broadfield (Sigma Chi) 32.65
- Carl Chan (Services) 32.68
- Dawson (Sigma Chi) 33.27
- Caleb MacDonald (Services) 33.36

SMU Racing will be starting up their competitive racing league coming in November, if you want to go fast, check out the SMU Racing website at <http://husky1.smu.ca/~smuracing>, or join their user group on SMUPort.

C H R O N I C L E S

OF AN



The content in this column is directly copied from writing done on the back of yellow Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility inventory forms. Details of this crime are classified. These are his stories:

It's 11'clock and we've all been locked in our cages for the night. Time is going by so slow and I'm ranting so much on these ugly pieces of paper that I figure I should make a book out of it, maybe really make a difference in some kid's life someday. Today was fucked and this place is more awful than I ever could have imagined. If I had known just how horrible it would be in here, I would have thought a few more times than twice before getting myself into this mess I now call a life.

I've been finding out lately that there are a lot of things you can't say in Jail. There are actually a lot of do's and don'ts in here, made apparent by the poor guy who got his face cracked in the other day for whistling. Some things I can remember off the top of my head include never saying the words goof or retard when referring to someone else, and never call anyone a piece of shit or refer to them as shit. Calling someone an asshole is strictly prohibited, and especially don't ever refer to anyone's family. Also, calling someone a rat is probably the most insulting thing you can say around here and it will immediately incite group beat downs...unless there is

actually proof he is in fact a rat, in which case he receives the group beat down.

I'm writing right now as if I'm talking to somebody, am I really that lonely? After our afternoon lock-up today I just wandered aimlessly around my cell, or my "range" as the guards un-gloomily refer to it. For hours and hours I just paced, why? There is nothing else to do other than write and I figured I'd save that privilege until now, when I was in serious need of winding down.

After they let us out, me and these two guys sat down to play crazy eights. I had only played with these guys once before and it was somewhat relaxing until they started talking about guns. I immediately became awkward but tried to pretend it didn't bother me. They talked about different types and who had fired or possessed what while I told them straight away that I had never fired a real gun. I've held some rifles but I was always supervised and never had any desire to own one. Then one of them said something that made my body grow cold. He asked us if we had ever seen someone get shot. I thought "Wow, now there is something to brag about" and not only did he confess to seeing someone get shot, he elaborated to describe a time he had watched someone die from a gun shot wound. The other guy asked him if he'd ever seen what brains look like coming out of the back of someone's head.

I wanted to yell, scream, fight, get sick and leave all in the same instance. Before these comments they had seemed completely normal like me, I mean of course they were a little shifty but who isn't in jail? The words had shot out like daggers of ice. Cold and deadly. The other guy said he too had witnessed situations like that but not to the head. An announcer's voice broke out in my head "and the Emmy goes to..." I quickly changed the subject before I said anything stupid and really hoped they were just trying to impress each other and that they had not actually said anything factual. One thing I've noticed in here is that people tend to make a lot of shit up.

I did manage to squeak out a meek "I have never and would never kill anyone, I just don't have what it takes, and I'm proud to admit it." They let out mild scoffs and looks of inferiority in my direction but seemed disinterested. I felt like I had dodged a bullet. I felt like I was going to puke. I could barely shake myself free of the event enough to call my girlfriend, who said she was meeting with my family and lawyer the following morning. I wanted to cry at the sound of her compassionate efforts regarding my situation, but could not tell her why I was so distant. For some reason telling her of splattered brain conversations didn't seem like the most important thing to bring up at present. I told her I loved her and would talk to her tomorrow.

G SPOT

A New Look For Sex!

Do you think that the G-Spot needs a fresh look? Well, here's your chance to give it just that. We need a new icon to show off the best university sexual health column in Halifax. If you have a wicked icon idea then draw it up and send to me, ssrandyblue@smugspot.ca and if your icon is the best then it will become the new G-Spot Icon. Please submit all entries before October 31st. Good Luck and Go at it!

A Randy Note:

In last week's article I said that lube should be used sparingly during anal sex. It should have been liberally, use as much lube as it takes for it to feel comfortable. The last thing you need is to have too much friction and someone putting their back out. Use a lot of lube, there's no shortage!

Q: "I am a straight male who enjoys protected sex. However, I also enjoy the tip, unprotected. Is tipping alright? - Tipster

SS RANDY BLUE

Tipping is alright and can be a great way to heighten your partner's sexual desire. Since this form of sex is unprotected you need to be ready to accept any of consequences of un-safe sex. These include AIDS, HIV and other STI's. Also something that you may not be aware of is that your partner can get pregnant from tipping. If there is any precum on the tip of your penis then it can get into the vagina when you are touching your penis to her. If you are in a steady relationship and are ready for a child then, by all means, tip to your hearts content...especially if she loves it.

If you are tipping just so that your partner can have a better time and you don't feel comfortable with having unprotected sex then there are many other forms of foreplay that you both can enjoy. If you are good with your hands then I would suggest hunting for the g-spot. Try to tap her belly button from inside her vagina. Start off slow until you are sure you've found the g-spot (she'll either let you know or you can tell by her expression) and then start to tap a little more aggressively. When you notice that she has almost climaxed pull your fingers out leaving her wanting more. If after this she isn't in the mood for sex than you wouldn't have gotten any further if you were simply tipping. Don't worry about your gun being left out during the hunt, she has two hands free to stimulate you and will no doubt be looking for some hunting gear to hold onto during the hunt.

If you enjoy tipping because you like the feeling of your penis touching something and not being wrapped up in a condom then I would suggest you get your hands on a fleshlight or a toy of a similar design. The fleshlight is the number one selling sex toy in the world and is as close to a vagina that you are going to get. It can also be a good friend on those lonely nights out of town and some models even let you get some stamina training.

E-mail your questions to questions@smugspot.ca

HOT OR NOT

This week we have a special treat in the form of TWO "Hot or Not's". Due to the hecticness of last week's rush to meet our deadline, we shamefully oversaw Hot or Not; one of the more popular features in the section. We apologize for any inconvenience, and look forward to it never happening again.

Hello SMUdents, each week we strive to tell you what is new and exciting, what everyone is talking about. Also we will warn you about what is so over and done with, what no one is talking about. So check out this weeks list...

HOT

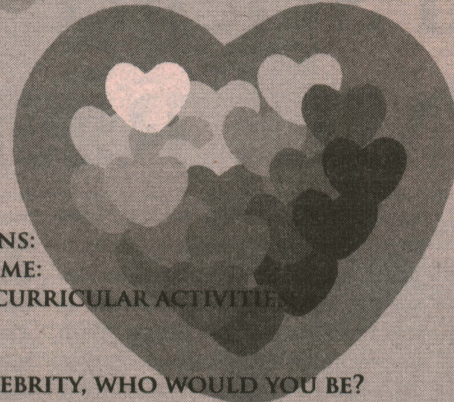
- ▲ Adopting African Babies
- ▲ SMUmazing race video footage
- ▲ Defying Authority
- ▲ Cheating on your girlfriend/boyfriend
- ▲ Hooking up in a halloween costume
- ▲ Heaven's Disease
- ▲ "Doggy Style" with Belinda Stronach
- ▲ Long John material shirts
- ▲ Lungs
- ▲ Graduating (Congratulations grads of Fall 2006)
- ▲ Halifax Pop Explosion
- ▲ Having classes cancelled
- ▲ Teaching English in South Korea
- ▲ Oktoberfest
- ▲ The former Q104 morning crew
- ▲ Studio 60
- ▲ Snow Patrol
- ▲ Slug and Schwartz
- ▲ Two-game winning streak
- ▲ Adam Lordon's SMU-SA events

NOT

- ▼ Having your own kids
- ▼ The random guy who jumped in the harbour
- ▼ Getting Caught
- ▼ Cheating on a mid-term
- ▼ Finding out who's under the mask
- ▼ Team Serious/ The Hussies
- ▼ "Rolling over" off of Tie Domi
- ▼ Leg warmers
- ▼ Lines
- ▼ The real world
- ▼ Boy bands
- ▼ Having the Norwalk virus
- ▼ Testing nuclear bombs in North Korea
- ▼ Sausagefest
- ▼ Harv Stewart retiring
- ▼ Joey
- ▼ Nada Surf
- ▼ Andes09
- ▼ Momentum-killing cancelled game
- ▼ Adam Lordon trashed at his SMUSA events

BLIND DATE SUBMISSION FORM

NAME:
GENDER:
AGE:
SIGN:
HEIGHT:
HOMETOWN:
SMOKER?
DRINKER?
CHILDREN?
MAJOR:
CAREER ASPIRATIONS:
FAVOURITE PAST TIME:
SOCIETIES/EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:



IF YOU WERE A CELEBRITY, WHO WOULD YOU BE?

REASON FOR JOINING THE JOURNAL'S BLIND DATE:

Let the Journal set you up. Submit by e-mail to thesmujournal@gmail.com or drop off this form at the Journal office, 5th Floor Student Centre.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR OUTSIDE THE G-SPOT WITH THE JAGERETTES ON JAGER NIGHT LAST THURSDAY



TALES FROM THE GORSEBROOK

The Journal tradition continues

Happy

Halloween



HALLOWEEN CLASSICS

BY NELSON MACDONALD

When I was a kid, watching movies was as much a part of Halloween night as trick or treating. Every year my friends and I would go to the video store and try to decide what to rent. It was never an easy decision; after all, anything with zombies, psycho-killers, aliens, vampires, or monsters is suitable to watch on Halloween night. I don't think we were the only ones who would usually end up watching a horrible movie instead of a horror movie. Sorry that was a bad one. Okay, I'll stop.

Picking out a movie to watch on Halloween isn't easy, so I'm going to do my best to help you out. Before I give you a list of some of my favorite Halloween movies, let me give you some advice. If you're going to rent a movie get it early, because every horror flick in the store will be gone by 8pm, even *Children of the Corn III*.

And now for a list of some of my Halloween favorites. These movies are not guaranteed to scare you to death, so don't complain to me if they don't. At the very least, I hope they remind you of a movie you'd like to see this Halloween.

NOSFERATU (1922)

Directed by the legendary F.W. Murnau (*Sunrise* and *M*), *Nosferatu* is regarded by many as the greatest silent horror film. It's based on Bram Stoker's story of *Dracula*, but because they couldn't get the rights to use the story, they changed the name of the film to *Nosferatu* and the name of the vampire to Count Orlok.

FREAKS (1932)

I wouldn't call this movie scary, but it is downright disturb-

ing. The plot is simple; a beautiful woman marries a dwarf for his money and then tries to kill him. I promise you this is a film you will never forget.

PSYCHO (1960)

One of my favorite films, this Hitchcock classic stars Janet Leigh as Marion Crane, a secretary who steals a large sum of money from her employer so she can run off and marry the man she loves. She doesn't get far before she decides to stop at a tiny motel in the middle of nowhere. You guessed it, big mistake.

THE SHINING (1980)

Based on the novel by Stephen King, *The Shining* is Stanley Kubrick's one and only horror film. It stars Jack Nicholson as Jack Torrance, who along with his wife and young son, become the caretakers of an isolated hotel that is closed for the winter.

SILENCE OF THE LAMBS (1991)

Clarice, a FBI detective, is trying to solve a case of a missing woman. Believing that the crime is the work of a serial killer, she goes to a known one, Hannibal Lector, in hopes of getting some insight into a killer's mind. The first and best of the Hannibal Lector trilogy, *Silence of the Lambs* was nominated for seven Oscars and won five including Best Picture. You probably won't have to rent this movie; it's on TV pretty much every day.

THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT (1999)

Three student filmmakers set out to make a documentary film about a local legend, the Blair



PSYCHO

Courtesy of www.lagcc.cuny.edu

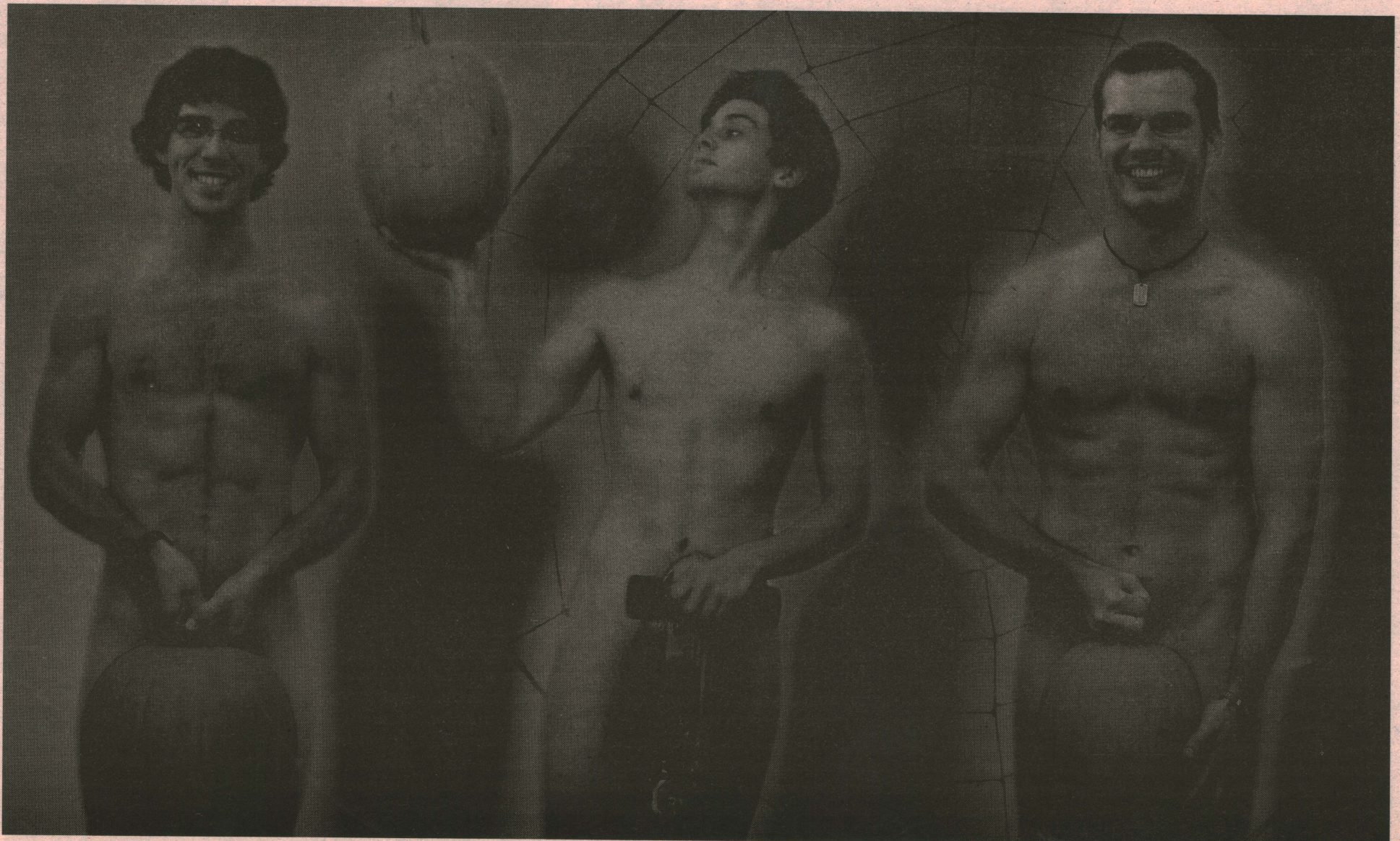
Witch. As the story progresses, the trio interview locals, head into the woods to shoot some scenes, and eventually become lost, terrified, and confused. Without a frightening soundtrack, elaborate special effects, gore, or violence *The Blair Witch Project* manages to scare the audience. By the way, you can find this movie in pretty much any bargain bin for \$0.99.

Psycho, *The Shining*, *Silence of the Lambs* and *the Blair Witch* are available at most video stores. *Nosferatu*, *Freaks*, and a lot of other great films can be viewed online for free at: <http://www.jonhs.net/freemovies/movies.htm>



FREAKS

Courtesy of trloudidou.cannablog.com



Myspace: An Outlet for Eating Disorder "Support" The Phenomenon of a Pro-ED Lifestyle

BY AMANDA WENEK

While searching the popular website Myspace, I came across something completely and utterly baffling...an underground network of girls who are pro-eating disorder (pro-ed). I have come across such networks which inspire and support people to overcome their eating disorders, but never before have I seen this bizarre sub-culture which seems to abhor the idea of living without their disorder. Weeks later, I still can't wrap my head around it. With add requests such as "add only if you have an eating disorder and are not in recovery" or "add only if you are pro-ed", one can only wonder what the intentions of these girls are.

They are all self-admittedly anorexic or bulimic, yet they claim they don't want to get better; they enjoy living with their disease, they "want it" as one girl posted. I always thought that the first step to recovery is admittance, but perhaps that is naïve. This group of girls proves that you have to take it one step further than admittance, and in order to get better you must want to get better.

With screen names such as Porcelain Bones, Wanted.Bones, or simply their current weight

you can tell that these girls define themselves based on this disorder. Default pictures consist of Nicole Richie and other emaciated celebrities who are referred to as "thinspiration".

All of the girls have a goal weight posted and it generally seems to be losing about 40 pounds to get into the 90 pound region - a weight that the majority of average women haven't even weighed since puberty. Many of them don't even have their own pictures or names posted due to privacy issues, referring to this profile as their alternate profile.

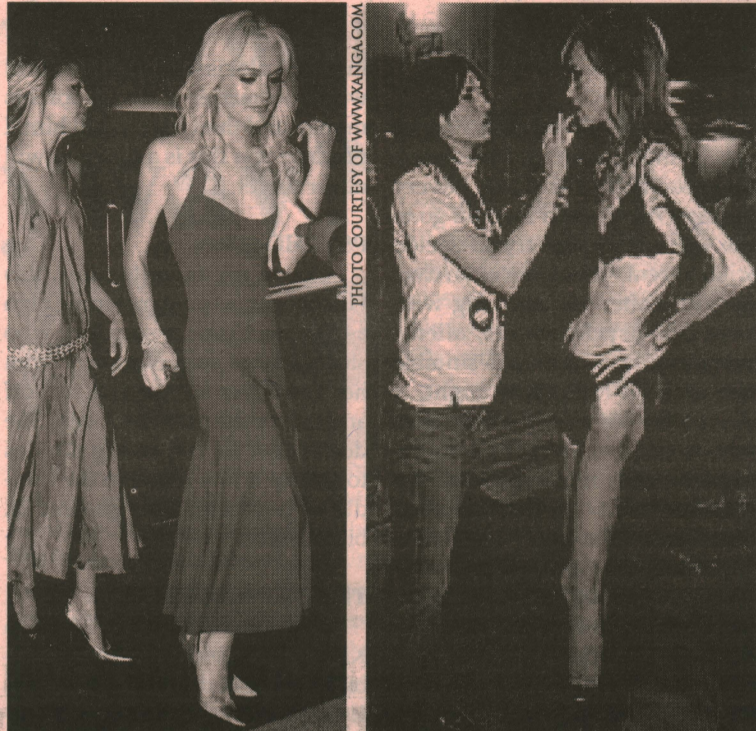
When asked about their disorders and what compels them to keep going, this is what a few of them had to say, "I hate bulimia, I absolutely hate it. I just can't stop myself from continuing because I'm afraid...it controls my life." Another stated, "It rules my entire life. It's a curse and a blessing at the same time. I feel as if I need ana (anorexia) to survive." Finally, one girl expressed, "It will never stop. I will deal with it for the rest of my life." Comments which I thought were interesting because I always thought a core aspect of eating disorders was that sufferers felt it was the one thing they have control over, but these girls seem to convey

the idea that it controls them.

When reading comments on the many profiles, all of the talk is centered on weight loss, weight gain, bingeing, fasting, guilt for eating, and simple words of support. But no matter how much people differ in their own personal goals, and the means in which they will take to achieve them, there seems to be one common goal among them which can be found stated in many comments and profile descriptions: "strive for perfection".

When seeing this, one has to wonder how it got into these girls' heads that emaciation equals perfection. Remember the days when Marilyn Monroe and other curvy women were considered the norm? I do. Now you see the poster girl of a woman as a stick thin, six foot tall blonde. Yet, people seem to forget that even the most gorgeous women have physical flaws, hence the reason why Photoshop and airbrushing exist.

With celebrities such as Mary-Kate Olsen, Lindsay Lohan, and Nicole Richie all promoting a thin image as the right image, it is no wonder that many teenage girls who are still insecure in their bodies jump on that bandwagon with them. All three of them used to be a healthy weight, but due to societal



Nicole Richie and Lindsay Lohan are only two of the many celebs who jumped on the thin bandwagon

"So pretty, so emaciated. I love it" said one of the girls about this picture.

pressures even they felt that wasn't good enough.

If all countries follow in Madrid's footsteps in terms of their proposed ban of skinny models, only good can come of that. To erase the image of the perfect girl which is being portrayed in modern day media and replace it with

what the average woman actually looks like, a lot of girls can be saved from this desire to "strive for perfection".

For more information on eating disorders, visit <http://www.bergen.org/AMST/pc/eating%20disorders%20SS/anorexia.html>

INTERVIEW

Leonard Preyra: A SMU Professor in the Legislature

BY CHRIS HATTIE

It is the evening of June 13th 2006. A small group of dedicated supporters are gathered in a cramped campaign office on Dresden Row, well into the second bottle of wine, and with tension at a point almost unimaginable. As the night progresses the tension gradually builds into excitement as each person slowly comes to the same realization; Leonard Preyra will become the next MLA for Halifax Citadel. This is not just extraordinary because he is the first New Democrat to be elected in Citadel during a general election, or because he is one of the first Asian born Canadians elected to the Nova Scotia legislature. He is also one of few professional political scientists to successfully make the switch to public office.

It's about four months later that I sit down with Leonard to share a coffee and discuss the events that have led to his sudden change in careers. What immediately becomes clear is that even when Leonard was a political scientist, he did not act the same way as many of his colleagues. As he explains, most political academics choose to "act as a monitor for the system," where he saw his position as an "obligation to make a real and direct difference." This led to Leonard becoming heavily involved with many community groups, as well as developing a reputation as an exceptional media commentator. Although these activities seem to be consistent with someone considering a run for political office, Leonard says it was never something that crossed his mind, and that he was very content with his life as a "professor, activist,

coach, and father."

Leonard still gives credit for his transition to the small group of individuals who first approached him to run, convincing him that public office was a natural continuum of his current work. However, victory was never part of his reasons for entering the race, since at the time Danny Graham was still leader of the Liberal party, and Bill Black appeared to be John Hamm's heir apparent. "Winning was not as important as putting certain issues and values forward," Leonard states; but it may be this very thinking that led to his surprising victory.

Upon winning the NDP nomination in Citadel, Leonard set out to build a new social democratic coalition in the community, relying on students, seniors, the LGBTQ community, anti-poverty activists, environmentalists, and other like-minded individuals to come forward and unite behind his campaign. By election day, Leonard's campaign had developed a base of financial resources and volunteer support that had previously been unimaginable for many New Democrats. Even with such an impressive campaign on the ground, Leonard's academic background keeps him from taking too much credit for the victory, stating; "90 per cent of the vote comes from larger forces." In his opinion it was the NDP's focus on a "families agenda" and the leadership of Darrel Dexter that led to his victory in Citadel, as well as the NDP's other historic victories across the province.

Being the candidate in a successful election campaign would be enough to take its toll on anyone,

but Leonard also had to balance a full time job as a professor at the same time. This required him to leave a "well balanced life" for a chaotic schedule that was primarily out of his control. The unusual length of the by-election (which was eventually rolled in to a general election) had an obvious effect on Leonard's personal life, seeing that he struggled to find time for family and leisure. It would also be naive to think that the campaign didn't affect his role in the classroom, as he had to abandon his traditional reputation as a non-partisan political observer. In his opinion, this was not a major issue, since he was still able to "bring a critical eye to students and research." He also points to the fact that students who are active in all parties have provided him with positive feedback, and it was not rare to see former students volunteering on his campaign.

Although he has only been an MLA for four months, Leonard feels that he has already had a positive impact. Shortly after the election Leonard was named the NDP's critic for youth, post-secondary education, and immigration, and has been actively working with cabinet ministers and top bureaucrats in order to play a positive role in these areas. He has also been busy in the community, attending an endless stream of functions, meetings and demonstrations. Leonard explains that this has all led to a continuing struggle to "keep my personal life in balance." It's a struggle that he is working to overcome, saying that he has learned that sometimes you have to say no to people; a difficult task for a person who seems



Serving hotdogs at SMU Education Day, Sept 2006

to know each of his constituents by name.

As we finish our coffee it becomes clear that Leonard is in danger of being late for his next engagement, a guest lecture at a SMU political science class. I use my last question to ask Leonard if he ever sees himself leaving public

life and returning to academia. He explains that he will continue to work as an MLA as long as he feels he is making a positive difference (and as long as the voters allow him to). He ends our conversation with a simple but somewhat prophetic statement; "I'll end where I began."



HUSKIES AT HOME

MEN'S HOCKEY

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25 VS UDEM 7PM & SATURDAY, OCT. 28 VS UNB 7PM
 BOTH GAMES AT THE HALIFAX FORUM

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

THURSDAY, OCT. 26 VS ACADIA 7PM & SATURDAY, OCT. 28 VS UPEI 7PM
 BOTH GAMES AT THE TOWER

FOOTBALL

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27th VS STFX 6 PM AT HUSKIES STADIUM

NOTE: GAME TIME IS 6PM TO ACCOMMODATE NATIONAL TV BROADCAST
GATES OPEN 5PM – STUDENTS USE THE NORTH WEST MACNALLY GATE.

MEN'S BASKETBALL (EXHIBITION)

SATURDAY, OCT. 28 VS RMC 3 PM & SUNDAY, OCT. 29 VS OTTAWA 1 PM
 BOTH GAMES AT THE TOWER



SOCIETY BULLETIN BOARD

SMU YOUNG LIBERALS MEET & GREET

The Saint Mary's University Young Liberals will be hosting a meet & greet event this Friday. All are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact us.
Date: Friday, October 27th
Place: Gorsebrook Lounge
Time: 2:00PM-4:00PM
Contact: thesmuyoungliberals@gmail.com

SMU ATHLETE COUNCIL PRESENTS FOOTBALL TAILGATE PARTY

LIVE BAND, BBQ and BEVERAGES
 Admission to the tent for the evening is \$3.00
Date: Friday October 27th
Place: MOLSON TENT at the South End of the Stadium (SMU HUSKIES vs. SFX)
Time: 3:30PM - Game Time (6:00PM)

BOOSTER BUS FUNDRAISER

Tickets \$10 each or 3 for \$25
 Winner and 15 friends will be given first-class treatment on the Ambassadors Executive Charter Bus, with complimentary food and drinks and sideline VIP treatment for the AUS Semi-Final Football game at SMU

on November 4th.
 Tickets are being sold at all SMU homegames until October 31st, at the Tower, and through the Athlete Council.

smu.athlete.council@gmail.com

LITERATI HALLOWEEN MOVIE NIGHT

The SMU English Society presents Halloween Movie Night! Come out for food, a flick, and some frights! Meet us at the SUB and walk with a group (7:00PM). No cover. Everyone's welcome!
Date: Friday, October 27th
Place: Darrell's (5576 Fenwick St.)
Showtime: 8:00PM

MARIO KART TOURNAMENT

The Saint Mary's University Chemistry Society and Engineering Society are getting together for another go at a Mario Kart Tournament. Again, we'll be battling in true style on the 5-foot screen and surround sound! There will be lots of food and prizes, and all for just \$2! (Non-members only \$4!). Register by email. You can pay at the door, and we will send out location information and a reminder closer to the event!
Date: Thursday, November 9th
Place: TBA
Time: 6:00-9:00PM

Email: chemsoc@smu.ca

CURL FOR CANCER FUNSPIEL

The Dartmouth Curling Club and the Canadian Cancer Society, Dartmouth Unit, is hosting the third annual Dartmouth "Curl for Cancer" Funspiel. Only 20 teams can participate so register early. Registration fee is \$100 per team of 4. Pledge sheets issued upon registration. Deadline is October 31, 2006. Funds raised will support research on all types of cancer, offer credible information on cancer, treatment and risk reduction; and provide support for people living with cancer. Spectators are most welcome at this fun-filled event.
Date: Saturday, November 18th
Place: Dartmouth Curling Club, 35 Canal Street
Time: 12:30PM
Contact: Margaret Taylor-Munro or Jackie Anderson, 462-4725

2ND ANNUAL STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

The Saint Mary's University Film Society is busy organizing the second edition of the Halifax Student Film Festival. We are currently looking for submissions from students. If you are interested in submitting a film, you have until November 15th to do so. Entries are already pouring in from all of the post-secondary institutions in the HRM. For more

information on how to enter, and for a copy of the rules and regulations, please email us.

Date: Thursday, November 23rd
Place: McNally Theatre Auditorium
Time: TBA
Email: studentfilmfest@eastlink.ca

SATURDAY NIGHT - FASHION SHOW AND MORE

"A Caribbean Vacation - a slice of paradise" is the theme so come on out and get a slice!!!! It's gonna be another BIG event for the weekend so make sure you're there.
 And to end OUR CULTURAL WEEKEND off with Bang!!! WE HAVE AN AFTER PARTY from 11:30pm to 4am at the King's Palace, Quinpool Road.

Here are the following prices for the Cultural Weekend:

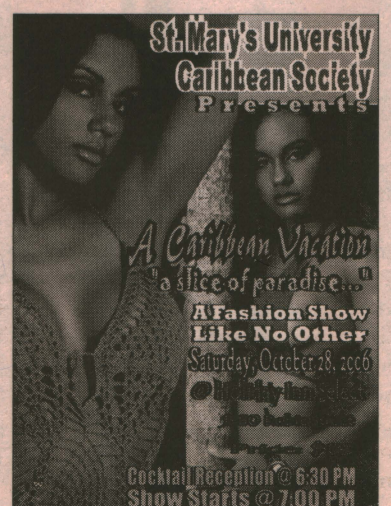
	Members	Non
Package Price.....	\$20	\$25
Soca Party.....	\$7	\$10
Fashion show.....	\$10	\$15
F.Show After Party....	\$7	\$10

There are limited amount of packages which will have to be purchased by Next Friday 27th October by 5PM. Members are only allowed 1 package at the membership price for which you must show your membership card upon purchase. For RSVP member package contact either Melissa @ 449-6589 OR Montez @ 448-0402.

RENOWNED WORLD PEACE LEADER VISITS HALIFAX

Reverend Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter Sr. will be in Halifax to open an exhibit that pays tribute to three world peace activists. Dr. Carter will officiate the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Gandhi King Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace exhibit at St. Andrew's United Church (6036 Coburg Road; Corner of Robie & Coburg, Halifax) on Friday, Nov.10 at 3:30 pm. The ceremony will be held in the church sanctuary and is open to the public.

For more information, please contact Lui Uy at (902) 446-5712 or email luy@eastlink.ca



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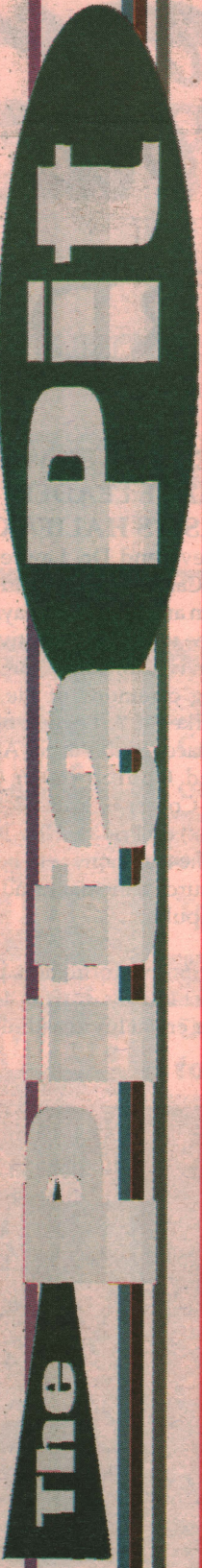
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