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THE JOURNAL

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



From all of us at The Journal--
Thanks for a great year, see
you in September!

Photo: Ashley LeBlanc

smusa NEWS

GRAD WEEK EVENTS

MAROON & WHITE BALL
SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH

FARWELL TO THE GORSEBROOK
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE
THURSDAY, MAY 22ND

ALUMNI WINE AND CHEESE
THURSDAY, MAY 22ND

CONVOCATION
FRIDAY, MAY 23RD

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ON APRIL 8TH

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APRIL 25TH

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April 5th
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SUNDAY
April 6th
CLOSED

MONDAY
April 7th
WORLD
SPORTS
LOUNGE

TUESDAY
April 8th
ALUMNI
NIGHT

PERSPECTIVES

Letters to The Editor

Peter March is the only one to blame.

Dear Editor,

[Pertaining to the cover story on Peter March's retirement on January 23, 2008], if your article in the Journal has been submitted as a critical thinking paper, it would earn an 'F' for bad logic and incomplete research. Let us look at your facts and put them in a different light.

March's responsibility: Peter March retired. The University did not retire him. He decided to retire, and chose his personal writing and entrepreneurship over teaching his students. March therefore decided to abandon his students. How, then, is this the University's fault?

Oui bono? Who benefits?: Peter March retired early. Was there a financial incentive he accepted to do so? If he took money, are his motives altruistic?

Shit happens!: If professors die, they are replaced and classes go on. If professors have strokes and are struck dumb, they are replaced and classes go on. If professors are hospitalized for extended periods, they are replaced and classes go

on. No one talks about refunding credits, continuing marks, offering substitutions. So if Peter March voluntarily walks away from his classes; what's different from the circumstances above? He has to be replaced and classes go on.

Upholding the law: In a unionized environment (and it does not matter whether it is SMU or General Motors or Aliant), you cannot work for free. Employees understand that they cannot offer it; employers know that they have to decline an offer. Peter March has been a member of the Faculty Union and he knows that any offer to teach free must be refused. Is his offer sincere? How is it the University's fault when they have to honour a contract they signed?

Pandering to the media: When did Peter March know he was retiring – before or after Christmas? Did he tell his students beforehand? Did you bother to ask this question?

The university is taking a lot of undeserved heat over someone else's decision to abandon his students and his role as teacher for

writing and to run a business. Why have you not directed your approbation on the guy who turned his back on his students?

Right now, he is basking in yet another media glow from his endeavours to embarrass the University. Will he say he asked for and got a buy-out? Will he admit that he knows his offer of "free work" is not legally acceptable? If he really cared about his students, wouldn't he have insisted on staying until the end of April? Did he? Did you ask?

I think you have been suckered. I think you have bought the "Oh poor me, what could I do" stance uncritically. I think you have ignored evidence that might say "this is opportunism", and for that reason your [article, as a critical thinking piece,] fails.

- E.P.N.

Editor's note: The Journal would like to apologize for the late publishing of this letter. The Journal office only received this letter on March 24, 2008.

Career Services – For Students of the Past, Present and Future

ALICIA WALLACE

Career Services, located on the fourth floor of the Student Centre, consist of a team of professional counsellors, administrative staff and trained student staff who provide students services related to career exploration and development. Career Services values self awareness, knowledge, commitment, and achievement of goals. The department aims to assist individuals in expanding their understanding of self, academic direction, career planning and job readiness. This goal is met by the provision of professional counselling, innovative programming, and career related initiatives.

In the Fall 2007 semester, Career Services opened the Career Development Centre on the third floor of the Student Centre. The Centre is a café-style space with tables, comfortable chairs, and five computer stations in addition to a wealth of print and online resources. There is an open door policy and students are encouraged to walk-in and make use of the available resources including, but not limited to, information on selecting a major, resume and cover letter writing, interviewing, networking, and graduate schools. Students may work individually, in groups, or with professional staff, depending on their individual needs and preferences. For individual service and assistance with career exploration, resume and cover letter writing, and mock interviewing, it is recommended, but not always necessary, that you make an appointment.

Career Services does not only assist current students, but welcomes alumni of St. Mary's University. All services offered in the Career Development Centre such as mock interviewing and resume and cover letter critiquing are offered to alumni for up to one year after graduation. An alumnus can make an appointment tailor their

resume and cover letter to a particular job postings, and/or have a mock interview in preparation for a job interview. Alumni are also entitled to four individual career counselling sessions with a professional counsellor for up to three months after graduation. Sessions can be focused on developing areas of one's life such as: personality, interests, skills, lifestyle, abilities, and decision making. Other topics of discussion might include; salary negotiation, graduate schools, professional schools, labour market information, and career decision making. Alumni also have access to all available assessment inventories. Writing assessments inventories often helps individuals to identify and understand their interests, preferences, and dispositions and how they may relate to specific occupations. Our assessment inventories consist of the; Strong Interest Inventory, Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, Career Occupational Preference System – Professional Level, Career Orientation Placement & Evaluation Survey, and Career Exploration Inventory. There is a small fee associated with the assessment inventories which can be discussed with Career Services.

Career Services encourage future and current students and alumni to make use our resources and services. We are open from 9:00am - 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The Career Development Centre is open 10:00am - 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. To make an appointment for individual career counseling or assessments, call 420-5615. To make an appointment for any of the Career Development Centre services, call 420-8743. For more information, visit our website: www.smu.ca/career.

We look forward to seeing you on both the third and/or fourth floors of the Student Centre soon.

Interested in forming an Oxfam-SMU campus group?

Are you a student looking to affect change on local and global issues on your campus? Want to meet like minded students interested in global issues?

Join us for our first SMU Oxfam Campus Group Information Meeting and find out how to get involved with advocacy, campaigns and events on campus to end global poverty and injustice. Campus groups across the country screen films, have discussion nights, carry out campaigns on to the right to water and other public services, and raise awareness about global issues. For more about Oxfam, see www.oxfam.ca.

This meeting is an orientation to Oxfam, to identify students interested in forming a group and to identify student leaders to attend a national Oxfam conference in August. Join the global Oxfam movement and connect with a powerful community for

change on international development issues, women's rights and gender inequality!

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2nd, 4:30-5:30, in Loyola 274. Snacks provided. All are welcome.

If you need more information, contact:
Corrie Melanson & Janet Rhymes
Oxfam Canada
Public Engagement, Advocacy, and Campaigns Officers
2099 Gottingen St, Halifax NS
902-425-7877
Halifax@oxfam.ca

This is the final issue of the 2007-2008 school year, and The Journal staff would love to thank Saint Mary's and its students for a wonderful year full of groundbreaking news and dedicated readership.

Editor's Note: The Darcys (Featured in Arts & Entertainment in the March 19th issue) are not signed to MAPL records, they are independent.

<p>THE JOURNAL SUITE 517, STUDENT CENTRE SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3H 3C3</p> <p>EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AMANDA WENEK THESMJOURNAL@GMAIL.COM 902.496.8201</p> <p>NEWS EDITOR KIM DARES NEWS.SMU@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>SPORTS EDITOR ROBBIE NAUFFTS SPORTS.SMU@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>BUSINESS EDITOR LAURA MACINTOSH BUSINESS.SMUJOURNAL@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR RESSA PETERS ARTS.SMU@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>FEATURES EDITOR TOM WESTOLL FEATURES.SMU@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>ART DIRECTOR ASHLEY LEBLANC DESIGN.SMU@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>AD-MANAGER ALEX DONG DONG.ALEX@GMAIL.COM 902.496.8203</p>	<p>BUSINESS MANAGER ADAM KHALFALLA JOURNALMANAGER@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>DISTRIBUTION MANAGER BRYCE GILLIS</p> <p>WEBSITE MANAGER ELIE KHOURY</p> <p>THANKS TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS</p> <p>THE JOURNAL IS THE STUDENT NEWS-PAPER OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY. THE PAPER IS PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY BY THE JOURNAL PUBLISHING SOCIETY, AND FUNDED IN PART BY THE STUDENT BODY.</p> <p>ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO SUBMIT PIECES OF WORK FOR PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL. THESE SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN NOON ON SUNDAY THROUGH THE PROVIDED EMAIL ADDRESSES. SUBMIT ARTICLES ONLINE AT WWW.SMUJOURNAL.CA. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR MAY BE NO MORE THAN 400 WORDS. ALL SUBMISSIONS MAY BE SUBJECT TO EDITING, AND TO THE JOURNAL GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION. (AVAILABLE ON REQUEST).</p> <p>IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROOFREAD, VISIT THE OFFICE ON MONDAY MORNINGS. THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE JOURNAL ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND NOT NECESSARILY OF THE JOURNAL OR SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY.</p>
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NEWS

Student Services' Report set to improve life at Saint Mary's

KIM DARES

As previously reported in an earlier issue of The Journal, SMUSA and the Board of Governors issued a Report on Saint Mary's Student Services in December 2007. The report, "Measuring Up: Reaching the Industry Standard in Student Based Services," included a list of suggestions to help improve student services at SMU.

The University's Budget Committee has tentatively accepted the proposed changes and improvements, and the \$500,000 price tag that comes with them. If the University does follow through with the proposal President Mitch Gillingwater says it would be one of SMUSA's most successful lobbying campaigns to date.

The proposed changes focus on improving services such as Academic Advising, Personal and Career Counselling services, as well as doing more to make Financial Aid and Awards more accessible for students, and working to ensure the Employment Centre is kept up

to date and ready to help students.

The report places the majority of its emphasis on hiring more employees to provide these services, especially counsellors and academic advisors; areas where service at Saint Mary's is severely lacking. When compared with other universities of similar size, the services provided at SMU appear almost non-existent. The University of Lethbridge in Alberta has roughly 8,000 students, compared to Saint Mary's 7,500, yet students there have access to ten advisors, whereas students at SMU have access to just three.

Recommendations given in the report include the hiring of four additional personal counsellors, many changes to Career Services including additional staff, a formalized budget and providing more access for alumni. It was also recommended that the Student Employment Centre receive an increased travel budget and become integrated with Career Services to provide students with the best information possible. The report also

expresses the need for additional Academic Advisors in all faculties, while re-evaluating the role of Academic Advisor to help ensure they best meet student needs. The final suggestion given was to change the position of Financial Aid and Awards Assistant into a full-time one.

Although the changes have only been tentatively accepted as of yet, Mitch Gillingwater says he "is confident they will be." When and if the budget is accepted, the incoming SMUSA executives would be given the opportunity to meet with SMU's Director of Student Services, Keith Hotchkiss, to determine how the \$250,000 for Student Services could be best used to serve students. The spending of the other \$250,000 on Academic Advising would be discussed with Terry Murphy, Vice President Academic and Research here at SMU.

Early Monday morning the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Nova Scotia Universities and the province. The MOU essentially

outlines how much grant money the Government of N.S. will give to Universities in the province and as a result determines the overall cost of education in the province.

The Memorandum promised additional funding to Nova Scotia Universities resulting in a tuition freeze. In the 2008-2009 year Nova Scotia students attending University in the Province will pay \$761 less, in 2009-2010 students will save \$1022, and in 2010-2011 students will save \$1283. This change, however, does little to entice out-of-province students as they save just \$261 over the next three years. This tuition freeze aims to bring tuition costs in the province down to the national average by 2011.

Although the University has not passed the official budget yet, with this additional funding it seems highly probable that the \$500,000 for the improvement of Student Services will be approved.

This report has placed pressure on the University to apply much needed changes to student services here at Saint Mary's.

Saint Mary's makes itself known at UN — almost

THOMAS FINLAYSON

The sixth annual Canadian International Model United Nations (CANIMUN) conference was held March 13th through 15th in Ottawa. The conference convened to provide interested students with the opportunity to debate, in formal diplomatic terms, pressing issues in current international affairs. Among the possible topics of discussion for the three day event were: nuclear disarmament and ballistic missile proliferation, terrorism and bio-terrorism, and water security and sustainability.

Organized and hosted by the United Nations Association of Canada, this year's CANIMUN conference was initiated by an address to the delegates from Mr. Omar Samad, the Afghan Ambassador to Canada. Speaking in the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade building, Mr. Samad spoke to the various challenges facing his country. Specifically, he outlined those challenges in terms of political concerns, the security situation and cultural considerations. Throughout his address and pursuant question and answer period Mr. Samad urged for a continued Canadian presence in Afghanistan, "...to help [stabilize] and develop this young democracy"

Saint Mary's was present at this event, and all committee meetings of CANIMUN, in the form of an eighteen student delegation. Working under the banner of the Saint Mary's University Model United Nations Society (SMUMUNS) since September 2007, these

eighteen students were at CANIMUN to study and represent the roles of Chad, Mali and Cameroon in the UN.

The presence of the SMUMUNS crowd at CANIMUN was made possible by their fundraising initiatives and the generosity of campus and community figures. Specifically, SMUMUNS would like to extend its thanks to Saint Mary's University President, Dr. Colin Dodds, and SMUSA for their financial support. Additionally, SMUMUNS thanks the department of political science, international development and economics, as well as Leonard Preyra (MLA for Halifax Citadel), for their interest and support.

Last, but nowhere near least, SMUMUNS thanks Dr. Marc Doucet for his guidance throughout the last seven months. As a professor in the political science department, Dr. Doucet spearheaded the Saint Mary's model UN project in 2002. Working with the SMUMUNS group through Political Science 4402, Dr. Doucet provided the group with a forum in which to learn the rules of UN procedure and practice diplomatic performance. The presence of Dr. Doucet and the existence of his 4402 class makes Saint Mary's one of the only schools in the country to have a course tied to their model UN society.

The opportunity to approach the CANIMUN conference as part of a class benefited the group enormously. In the end, three of the Saint Mary's delegates brought home awards for their outstanding performance during the CANIMUN simulation. As Dr. Doucet noted,

"With over 400 delegates in attendance on the weekend, our delegation was among the most successful"

Brian Leblanc, a fourth year political science student, won best delegate for his representation of Chad and (later) Israel in a simulation of the general assembly third committee.

Rebecca Winn, also from the political science department, took home another outstanding delegate nod for representing Cameroon in the general assembly's special session on terrorism. In that same special session the SMU representative for Chad and (later) Iran, Danny Melvin, received honourable mention.

Among the eighteen SMUMUNS delegates was SMUSA president Mitch Gillingwater. "CANIMUN was really an interesting and fun experience. It provided a lot of food for thought" Mitch said when asked what he thought of his time in Ottawa. "It was a great opportunity for hands on, experiential education and I'd definitely encourage any interested students to sign up with next year's group." CANIMUN, he wants to remind SMU students, is an annual event and will be held around the same time in 2009.

SMUMUNS, however, does not end with CANIMUN. The same eighteen students will be traveling to New York City late in April to attend the National Model United Nations conference. With what they learned from their model UN experience in Ottawa, the group is confident that they can make their presence known at the more competitive NMUN conference.



NEWSFEED



EARTH HOUR A SUCCESS
Millions of light bulbs and power draining appliances were switched off for an hour Saturday night in an attempt to draw attention to the worldwide need to conserve energy. Even landmarks such as the CN Tower and Sydney Opera House went dark



FLOOD KILLS OVER 75 IN TANZANIA

Massive flooding in Tanzania, has led officials in the country to fear that the over 75 people working in Tanzanite mines may be dead. The flooding affected five mines in the area.



NORTH KOREA THREATENS SOUTH

Communist North Korea has once again threatened South Korea with destruction. South Korea's new leader has put policies in place against the North; the North has begun test-firing missiles.



The Olympic torch has been lit and handed over to the organizers of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. The torch will travel over 130 kilometres in 20 countries before returning to China. The ceremony was interrupted by protestors fighting against China's rule in Tibet.

<http://www.earthhour.org/>, www.cnn.com Associated Press/Getty Images, www.cnn.com Associated Press, The Chronicle Herald: PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/AP

CYBF Mentor
Alex Read

CYBF Entrepreneur
Robert Kenfield

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- Robert Kenfield

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African Night 2008: "Celebrating the Journey of Life"

Submitted by The Saint Mary's African Student Society

The much anticipated African Night 2008 has come and gone, but the memories it created will certainly last. After its 15 year absence from the Saint Mary's University campus in Halifax, African Night was well overdue and its return proved to be no disappointment.

The Maritime Center for African Dance (MCAD) opened the night with a variety of sounds that were unfamiliar to the Halifax scene, but certainly very familiar to those of the African continent and friends of the continent as they clapped and watched everyone from five years old and up perform to an upbeat sound of the drums. Musical instruments were not missing from the show as later in the night young Ghanaian girls performed traditional songs from Zimbabwe on an instrument called the marimba; a traditional xylophone with a very rich sound.

African Night is usually held at the McInnes Room at Dalhousie University, but in an attempt to revamp the night, Saint Mary's African Student Society's (SMASS) president Patrick Kitengie, native of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and a 4th year student in Criminology and Sociology, decided to move it to the Loyola Conference Hall at Saint Mary's University. A move that proved to be a successful one as the Conference Hall was sold out [120 tickets sold in the last hour before the show], seating over 400 people and a few latecomers who insisted to be let in the show even if it meant standing through the night after the food was served.

Aramark food services, led by Chef Jean Claude, provided the catering for the event. They provided authentic dishes such as Jollof Rice, Sultan Raisin Cous Cous, Harissa sauce, Fu Fu, Chicken Yassa, and a few more from all over the African continent.

It's a tradition at African Night to have a guest speaker, and this year Barb Hamilton-Hinch, the Black Student Advisor at Dalhousie University, who is from the community of Beechville with ancestry in Sierra Leone and Ghana was the honourable guest. During her speech she touched on issues of identity and language and on how they are valuable to the African person and, especially, to the full figured African woman. She said not to accept what others say of her, but to fully celebrate her journey, who she is, where she came from, and what she is made of. This was very fitting to the theme of the night: "Celebrating the Journey of Life".

The night was highlighted by the presentation of the newly created African Citizenship Award sponsored by SMASS and The Dalhousie African Student Association (DASA). This award will be given each year to an exemplary African student to honour their work done that is making a positive contribution to the schools or community. The award will honour the individual who has shown by their words and actions that they possess the qualities, characteristics and motivation we would like all Africans to follow. The first ever recipient of this award is Kamagaju (Gaju) Karekezi a student

from Kenya for her involvement with the World University Services of Canada and its Student Refugee Program.

Recognition of individual achievement was given to Dr. MacDonald E. Ighodaro of the sociology department at Saint Mary's University. Dr. Ighodaro was recognized for his work and teachings

of International Human Rights, Equity and Anti-Racist Practice in the Canadian Society.

Both SMASS and DASA, with their respective presidents Patrick Kitengie and McCollins Jones, would like to thank all of the sponsors for making this a successful event. Special thanks goes to Saint Mary's University and the

President's office, Saint Mary's University Student Union, and Western Union Money Transfer for the Gold Sponsorship package. A long extended thank you to all of the volunteers who put in extra effort to make this event as successful as it was.

Don't throw it away



Photo Courtesy of: <http://societyforcorporateenvironmentalandsocialresponsibility.dsu.dal.ca/>

KIM DARES

Saint Mary's University Environmental Society (SMUES) is working with Dalhousie's Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility (CESR) to raise money for local non-profit organizations, while diverting over 20,000 lbs from landfills.

How did they accomplish this? Three Words: Dump and Run. Dump and Run is an annual community-wide garage sale held at Dalhousie. This will be the sixth year for the event. Last year's sale raised over \$16,000 for local charities and non-profit organizations.

If you are moving back home for the summer or graduating and you have stuff you can't store, or just don't want or need any more: Dump it. There will be a room in Loyola during the entire exam period where you can drop off all of your unwanted goods that are still in decent reusable condition. SMU Faculty and Staff are also invited

to drop off items for the sale.

Used books, clothing, furniture, towels, bedding, kitchen supplies, and electronics will be accepted for the sale. Donations of half used toiletries, broken electronics, or badly damaged clothing will not be accepted. The only damaged items that will be accepted are old blankets and towels that may be slightly stained or ripped, but would still be usable as bedding in cages at local animal shelters.

This year's sale will be held at Dalhousie on Sunday April 27th from 8-4pm. The drop off room at SMU, Loyola 186, will be open from April 10th to April 25th, Monday to Friday from 10-4pm and Saturdays from 10-2pm. No donations will be accepted the day of the sale so be sure to drop everything off before the sale. Admission to the event is free but non-perishable food donations will be accepted.

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Charter Day



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Mirage Brunet

Certificate of Distinction

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Laura Simms
Cassandra Eberhardt
Adam Khalfala

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Megan Johnston

Sophomore of the Year

Matt Anderson

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Yasmin Ann Hanna

Senior of the Year

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Mitch Gillingwater

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ACE Society

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African Students Society

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SMUFU

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Kendon Matheson Memorial Award

Brittany Hilton

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Driftwood Award

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Excellence Award

Dr. Sefa Hayibor, Management

Department

Faculty of Arts Teaching Excel-

lence Award

Dr. Carlos Pessoa, Department of

Political Science

Faculty of Science Teaching Ex-

cellence Award

Dr. Maryanne Fisher, Psychology

Department

The SMUSA Award for Overall

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Dr. Paul Bowlby, Religious Studies

Department

Teaching Assistant of the Year

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Heather Harrison, Psychology

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Photos: Joe Purcell

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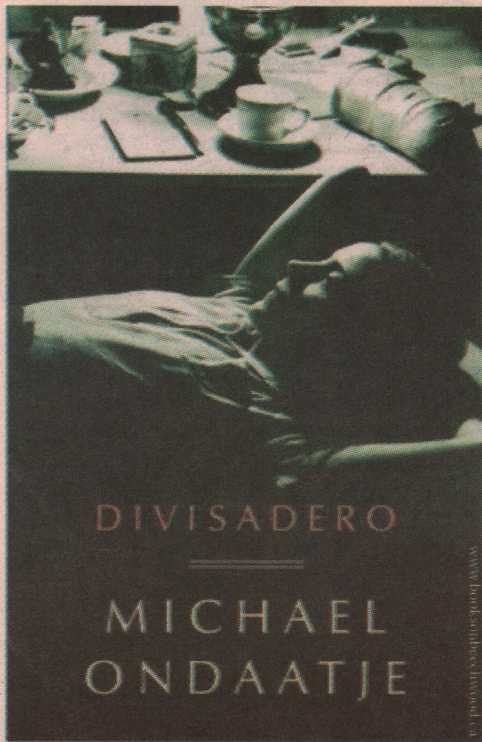
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Book Review

Divisadero by Michael Ondaatje



DAWN DAVIS

I acquired my job at Chapters before *Divisadero* was released, and *The English Patient* (possibly Ondaatje's most popular work) is still a novel that has yet to be consumed by yours truly. When *Divisadero* came out, I wondered about who this author was and how you pronounced his name. Now I feel better that I have familiarized myself with

this popular Canadian author by reaching into *Divisadero*.

Divisadero is the name of the street where Anna, Claire, their father and adopted farmhand Coop (Cooper) begin the tale. Theirs is not the conventional family. Anna's mother died giving birth to her, and Claire was adopted to keep the former company. Coop was hired to take care of the land the father owned, and yet the four of them created this unusual, comfortable home. It begins in childhood when the two girls are intimately close until the point when a youthful summer affair sends each member spinning in every direction, damaged and wounded.

The tale takes us from Gold Rush wilderness of California, to the card tables of Nevada and across the ocean to France while each family member cultivates another life, and their lives are influenced by others. *Divisadero* is about the way that life tends to move us along, into and out of relationships. No matter how much it hurts us, maybe the people we loved simply have no use in our lives any longer. While I reacted deeply to this theme, there were many other things that didn't have the desired effect.

The following are the favorite words of Michael Ondaatje: hesitation, distance, birds. To a lesser extent, water and perhaps. All of the characters that received the most attention aside from, possibly, Claire, were distant and mysteriously desirable, quiet people.

Many of the characters who grow close to our protagonists are these kinds of people,

and upon dwelling on it, I've decided that I only know one. Perhaps the idea was that people raised one way are attracted to certain people. However, when we get into the story of Lucien Sigura (who has this trait) most of the people he develops relationships with happen to be like this as well.

The prose is lovely, quiet, and thoughtful. It reminds me of the way one's mind works after spending an afternoon lazing around in the sun. The book itself is surprisingly short for its number of pages, maybe due to the inconclusive way it ended. It does the popular Canadian fiction thing, flowing slowly from one thing into another until the tale is decidedly over. I need to get used to this style, since I much prefer the tales where there is a conflict which concludes with a resolution. While stuff does happen in *Divisadero*, it just appears that little of it means anything. This could be frustrating to a reader, but in this way it emulates life. Maybe what we go through has a meaning, and maybe it's all just random decisions that eventually lead us to where they are. Think about what this means to you and if you might want to read it.

A beautiful book, I have been told it is not one of Ondaatje's best in spite of the fact it did win the Governor General's Award for 2007. If it sounds enticing for you, don't hesitate to pick up a copy. The hardcover is currently available almost everywhere, and the paperback comes out on April 27th, 2008.

WKY is taking over the world and you're invited along for the ride
Be a part of the good times that only Fast Times can provide.



YAEL GLINA

All the way from Toronto after shows in California, Detroit and coverage across the globe, We Kill You is coming to Fast Times Halifax. Featuring a new never-before-seen series, as well as a showcase of live art, The Marquee welcomes We Kill You on Thursday April 3rd. Be prepared for a show like no other.

We Kill You does not support violence.

The name comes from the expression "You kill me!" used when something is really funny. Based out of Toronto, WKY is a team of creatures: The Ghost, The Bat, The Sasquatch, The Bunny, The Bear, and The Ape all looking to put a smile on your face! Spreading like butter on a hot day WKY has been seen popping up all over the place.

Starting in 2003 and influenced by a lack of color, sad people and the joy of life itself, We Kill You started creating collages of

creatures because it seemed like a fun thing to do. Over time, WKY realized that people were starting to notice and enjoy these monsters so they felt the need to step it up and give more. The goal is simple: make the world a happier, brighter place!

The project expanded into an exterior decorating project; decorating the streets by covering furniture found in the garbage and the walls of abandoned property with collages and designs.

Slowly, this street work expanded even more to include t-shirts, stuffed animals and all sorts of fun goodies, and it has been growing like crazy ever since. Artwork has been featured in galleries around North America and clothing sent all around the globe! WKY has so much more up its sleeves planned for you and will NEVER DIE!

Stars in her eyes: An inside look at Canadian Idol

CATHERINE SANDERS

Doesn't everyone dream of the fame and fortune that comes with stardom? Well, we know at least a few thousand Canadians do. These are the people who audition for shows like Canadian Idol. Curious about how the process works and hoping to get an inside view of the show, I auditioned for Canadian Idol this past weekend.

I began my audition process a couple of weeks before I even ventured into the Cunard Centre, this year's location. I scouted out the CTV- Canadian Idol website for tips and information like "bring lots of water" and to "be yourself and let your personality shine". After figuring out wardrobe and makeup, all that was left was the challenge of choosing a couple of songs that would reflect my supposed talent and personality. I went for classic and upbeat with The Beatles

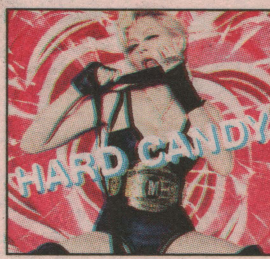
"Revolution" and Marvin Gaye's "I Heard It Through the Grapevine"; "Grapevine" being my favorite of the two. After some practice auditions in front of the bathroom mirror, I was ready to go.

Two fairly recent changes in the Idol audition process pleased me. The first was that I would not have to line up before sunrise. As long as I showed up by four o'clock I was good to go. The second was that competitors are allowed to bring instruments this year. While I don't play myself, I was excited to see what others would bring. I was slightly disappointed to see many guitars, but no oboes or saxophones. In short, a slight lack of creativity. Since I opted to audition on a Sunday, there were many less people than Saturday's three hundred and fifty. When I arrived after 10:00 about fifty would-be Idols had already auditioned. Approximately four hundred people had gone before me.

After a quick registration and a small dance sequence with a security guard, I was taken into a trailer to wait for my chance at Idol fame. The closest I got to someone famous that day was Breakfast Television's Maria Panopalis who was warm and encouraging to everyone. After a brief wait I was taken with four other people into a trailer to audition for one of the show's producers.

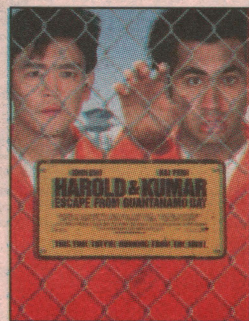
The first up, I stepped out of line and jumped right into "Grapevine". I may not have been as smooth and styling as the epic Marvin Gaye, but I'd like to believe I did him justice. However, as good as it may have been it was not enough to put me into the second round. So, as quickly as it began, my career as a chanteuse was over. However, I came away with exactly what I had sought: an interesting experience and an inside look into what is known as a Canadian mainstay. Besides, there's always next year.

Bite Sized Entertainment



NEW CDS OUT:

April 15th: E=MC2 by Mariah Carey, April 22nd: Flight of the Conchords by Flight of the Conchords, April 29th: Hard Candy by Madonna, May 6th: Anywhere I Lay My Head by Scarlett Johansson, May 13th: Narrow Stairs by Death Cab For Cutie.



NEW MOVIES OUT

April 11th: Smart People, Prom Night. April 25th: Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay. May 2nd: Iron Man. May 22nd: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull. May 30th: Sex and the City: The Movie.



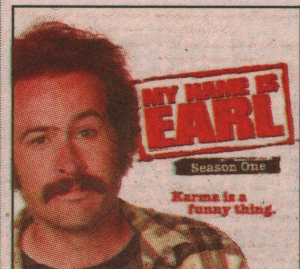
THIS SPRING IN TV

Most of your favourite shows will get back to airing a few new episodes in April that were produced post-writer's strike. Some, like Heroes, have decided to start working on their new fall seasons instead of hastily filling in the spring.



SOFT DRINK GOADS AXL ROSE

Dr. Pepper has promised to give everyone in America a free can of the tasty soda if Guns n' Roses release their album Chinese Democracy this year. The album has been in progress for 17 years.



TV GEEK'S PICK OF THE WEEK

My Name is Earl, Thursday April 3rd on NBC and Global Earl's back! He's in a coma after being hit by a car and one of his alter egos is Paris Hilton.

Photos: wikipedia, www.online.com, www.carolinacanners.com, www.mortystv.com

Real hip-hop is over here! KRS-One at the Marquee Club

RESSA PETERS WITH SEAN PENNY

If you thought the Marquee Club's recent Afrika Bambaataa performance, and Valentine's Day's Grandmaster Flash show was the greatest hip-hop Halifax would see in a long time, just one month later KRS-One took the stage on the Gottingen Street venue.

Halifax and the Marquee Club could quickly gain a reputation for being one of the hottest stages for beats north of New York. Just as Flash was impressed with the hometown crowd and their feedback, KRS-One, "the teacher" proclaimed proudly that real hip-hop was indeed right here in Halifax, in this room.

Opening acts Myles Jones and Heavy Spittaz were a worthy introduction to hard, heavy hip-hop. After triumphantly taking the stage and spitting out a few phat rhymes of his own, KRS-One ("Knowledge Rules Supreme Over Nearly Everyone") wanted to see what the crowd had to offer, so he invited "any b-boy or b-girl" to take the stage and showcase their own moves as he performed. About seven or eight guys from the audience came up, KRS asked the security to leave the stage (let's see that happen in New York!) and the guys let loose with some old school break dancing moves and some

freestyle as well.

One proved his reputation for being a political thinker was deserved when he held up a Canadian flag and proclaimed "Canada, you spend too much time watching America! Every time I turn on the tv it's HBO, Showtime and American news" and began an a cappella freestyle about border patrol, racial profiling and nationalism. "Up here [Canada], hip hop is the supervisor."

It wasn't all serious, though. He freely encouraged the crowd to take pictures, hold up their cell phones and at one point told everyone to get to their voice mail and yelled "Hey, this is KRS-One, leave a message." He then grabbed cellphones out of the crowd and started conversations with those at home "yo, your man ain't home now, he's with me at the Marquee." Of course he performed some of his famous songs such as "Sound of da Police."

KRS-One has been called one of the original MCs and one of the greatest to ever hold a mic, and he proved that in Halifax on March 14th and 15th when he spoke at a free lecture at Mount Saint Vincent University for the first 600 lucky entrants.

The hall was packed with students eager to listen, learn and think. He touched on many different subjects as he discussed

"the metaphysics of hip hop". He traced its spirit and attitude from Napoleon 'tagging' the pyramids to Ronald Reagan's early DJing career, before what we think the birth of hip-hop to be.

He argues that hip hop is a transcendent form of expression, spanning many cultures around the world, and that it can be best seen in its ability to distinguish between objects and how our interpretations of them can be shifted to bring about real change. To demonstrate, he took an ordinary beer cup, wrote the date and his autograph on it, and asked us to think about how much it would sell for on eBay now that it had become something beyond a cup; a manifestation of his main point.

The next hour-plus was taken up in Q&A, touching on everything from race relations to his concept of God; each point receiving a thorough, eloquent, on-the-spot explanation which any philosophy professor would be hard-pressed to match in content, let alone delivery.

The audiences at the Marquee and the Mount learned some valuable lessons from "the teacher" about his perspectives of history and the manifestations of hip-hop, and hopefully he learned a lesson in what Canada and the Maritimes have to offer it.

Summer 2008 Video Game Preview

NICK MADORE

Well, final exams are quickly approaching, which means that summer is not far away (and yet not close enough...). What to do with all that free time, you ask? Here's a few ideas for summer entertainment.

Grand Theft Auto IV (360, PS3) (April 29) - The franchise returns with just as much violence, debauchery, and controversy as ever. In the first true sequel to the smash hit Grand Theft Auto III, you control Niko Bellic, an Eastern European immigrant trying to start a new life in Liberty City, to discover first-hand the real American way. Gunfights, car chases, and general mayhem ensue. You're free to run around Liberty City and do whatever you want, which gives you a great opportunity to admire how gorgeous and detailed this game really is. And as if the game wasn't going to take long enough to finish (one Rockstar employee speculated in an interview with VideoGamer.com that it would take around 100 hours to complete), episodic content is also coming for the 360 version starting this autumn.

Soulcalibur IV (360, PS3) (June 24) - The weapon-based fighting game franchise comes back for another shot this summer. Most of the same cast returns, as

well as a few new additions. Once again, picking up the habit from Soulcalibur II of console-exclusive characters, the PlayStation 3 version will include Darth Vader as a playable character, while the 360 version includes Yoda, from Star Wars. Apparently the creator of the game was trying to think of franchises that could fit well into the Soulcalibur universe, and somehow he landed on Star Wars.

Metal Gear Solid 4: Guns of the Patriots (PS3) (June 12) - The final Metal Gear Solid game features our hero Solid Snake as an older gentleman (with a very stylish moustache), out for one last mission. This story-driven stealth adventure game features Snake on a mission to assassinate his enemy, Liquid Ocelot traveling everywhere from the Middle East to South America in the process. Honestly, if you haven't played the others, or at least read their stories on Wikipedia, you probably won't get much of what's going on. That aside, the graphics and environments in this game look outstanding, and his gadgets and tools are among the coolest in the series. If you're a fan of the other MGS games, or are a fan of stealth games with very deep and contrived plots (and don't mind spending a while on Wikipedia), this one will keep you busy for quite some time.

Mario Kart Wii (Wii) (April 27) - Breaking the quaternary monotony of this list comes the sixth installation of the Mario Kart franchise. As with the other games in the franchise, it features your favourite Nintendo characters of the Mushroom Kingdom racing go-karts around stages of various environments. There are several new features, including the new racing wheel attachment for your Wiimote that comes bundled with the game, the option to drive a motorcycle as opposed to a kart, and perhaps the greatest addition, online play. Other than that, it plays pretty much just like the others, with item pickups to slow down your enemies or help you gain the lead.

**As of writing this article, these games are set to come out this summer. I don't control the release dates, and they are subject to change. *A correction to my last article. The first Super Smash Bros. came out just under nine years ago, not eleven.*

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 <p>..:COMING UP IN HALIFAX:..</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY Language of Cloth, explore the meaning of textiles with NSCAD Professor Naoko Furue. Asahi: Levelling the Playing Field, the history of the Japanese Canadian baseball team from the 1910s to WWII. Pier 21, Harbourside Gallery. Free reception 5:30-7pm</p>	<p>THURSDAY FAST TIMES! Presents DJ Contra and DJ Huggs with live act Windom Earle, and an art show reception featuring We Kill You, straight out of Toronto. The Marquee, 10pm, \$7 advance/\$10 door</p>	<p>FRIDAY Necro, the controversial "King of Death-rap", with local rapper Joe Buck and Arch NME at The Marquee, 9pm, \$19 advance/\$25 door. Yellow Jacket Avenger. The Seahorse, 10pm, \$6</p>	<p>TUESDAY Live taping of The Candy Show pilot. The Marquee Club, 7:30pm, tickets \$5 at The Madrigal and CD Plus Barrington. Comedienne/Activist Candy Palmater hosts her own talk show for a pilot and potential series to air on APTN.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY ?uestlove and Peanut Butter Wolf. The Marquee Club, 10pm, \$10. Legendary performer and producer ?uestlove is a part of The Roots and has worked with Common, Bjork and Mark Ronson</p>
<p>THURSDAY April Wine at The Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, \$35 advance at Dal Arts Centre/\$40 at door.</p>	<p>SATURDAY Halifax Comedy Fest. April 19-26 at various venues. Cult comedian ANT and <i>Whose Line is it Anyway?</i> regular Greg Proops appear this year in addition to Canadian acts. visit www.halifaxcomedyfest.ca for a complete schedule and prices. Cadence Weapon at The Marquee Club, 10pm, ticket prices to be announced.</p>	<p>MAY Leonard Cohen at The Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, \$74.50. Shows on the 12th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th. Three extra shows were added due to demand.</p>	<p>TUESDAY Queens of the Stone Age at The Cunard Centre, \$39.50 advance.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY Bob Dylan at The Metro center, \$49.50 or \$65.50. One of the most influential singer-songwriters ever, Dylan's career has spanned nearly 50 years and has had an effect on almost everyone who came after him.</p>	

FEATURES

Facebook taking sides

ADAM KHALFALLA

Recently Facebook announced Jerusalem to be the capital of Israel and removed Jerusalem, Palestine as an option for home town, leaving Palestinian users living in Jerusalem with no option other than listing their home town to be a part of Israel which has been illegally occupying Eastern Jerusalem since 1967 (after the six day war). The United Nations does not recognize Jerusalem to be the capital of Israel and recognizes Eastern Jerusalem to be a part of the West Bank, which was occupied the same year.

To make matters worse for those concerned about the Palestinian cause, Facebook is now allowing Jewish settlers the option to list their illegal settlements as city/town of Israel or Palestine. There were many groups such as "If Palestine is removed from Facebook, I am closing my account" created; the group has over 5,500 members and invited its members and others to an event urging Facebook users to deactivate their accounts for one day to let Facebook know of their disappointment. More than 1,020

members were listed as "attending".

Members sent complaint messages to Facebook, such as the following:

"Dear Admin,

For this reason I am deactivating my account: I was very upset to learn that Jerusalem is no longer listed under Palestine and is now the capital of Israel? I thought that this "Social" network is unbiased, but that strikes me as being the opposite...

Think of all the Palestinians who are living in this world, and the fact that they have been stripped of their right continuously since 1948 and much much worse since 1967 while our political leaders stay silent. The propaganda we see in the world around us misleads many into believing what is not true... and when a "social" site like Facebook takes the Palestinian's right of listing their home town as a part of the country they belong to/are originally from is just very upsetting and disappointing... I also wanted to mention that the fact that you are allowing those living in the illegal settlements in

the West Bank to list those settlements under city/town of Israel, makes my point of you being biased that much stronger!

I simply wouldn't want to be associated with a site like this, I say "NOT IN MY NAME."

Options you can do: First of all, settlements should not be listed under Israel because they are illegal and will be removed sooner or later. You can have East and West, Jerusalem East being under Palestine, (refer to the UN website, You always make it so much easier for yourself and just allow people to type where they are from rather than select from a list of options

So please review this matter as quickly as you can and don't disappoint us all.

Peace & Justice
Ex- member of Facebook"

Even the media has shown interest on this topic as both Reuters, and The Sunday Telegraph interviewed the creator of the group Saif Qadoumi (20 years old)

For more information go to <http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/index.asp?id=376>

Selecting an Editor in Chief of The Journal

Mark Mercer
The Cranky Professor

A good student newspaper makes a tremendous difference to the quality of life at a university. By reporting campus goings-on and by providing students and professors with rich commentary and considered opinion, a student newspaper can help make a university community vibrant and exciting. Just as important, a student newspaper provides a great opportunity for one to forge one's voice. Writing for the paper should be part of every student's university experience. A student newspaper needs security and independence. Student journalists and other members of the university community involved with the paper need to know that the paper will be distributed on time and across campus, that they have offices and equipment, and that the bills are paid. That's security. Independence means that decisions about content and presentation are made by the people who write and edit the paper, and only by them.

I hasten to add that though security and independence are necessary to a good student newspaper, they are far from sufficient. Security and independence are almost always in tension with each other. Security requires money and permission, and money and permission requires pleasing both those who have the money and those who give the permission. But to please funding agencies and authorities, one might have to do their bidding, and that means surrendering one's independence. The tension between the need for security and the need for independence cannot be eliminated—not in newspapers, universities, or anywhere else. It is possible, though, to manage this tension. The tension between security and independence can best be managed when those who have the money

and those who give the permission swear they will keep their distance. Distance, that is, should be written into the charter of our newspaper. Without codes in place that ensure its security while enabling it to maintain its independence, The Journal could, at the whim of a politician or administrator, become a mere publicity sheet or an exercise in public relations.

A serious threat to the independence of The Journal lies in the present way in which its editor in chief is chosen. The editor is selected and appointed by The Journal Publishing Society, a board in the hands of the Saint Mary's University Students' Association. SMUSA, then, through the Publishing Society, each year makes a decision that has wide consequences for the tone and orientation of the newspaper.

A better arrangement would be for those who participate in the life of The Journal to choose their editor themselves. It could go like this: any student who contributes to the paper twice in each term, say, or five times during the year would get a vote in an election for next year's editor. Those who wish to be editor would make their case to their peers—that is, to the other newspaper people on campus. Under this arrangement, SMUSA and the administration would be at arm's length from The Journal in the matter of who edits the paper. This proposal, or any other that creates distance between, on the one hand, the money and the power and, on the other hand, the newspaper, won't appeal to either the money or the power unless they think that independence is necessary for a student paper to do what it should do. One of the things a student paper should do is regularly to hold the feet of student politicians and university administrators to the fire.

A message to graduating students

TOM WESTOLL

Students look forward to graduating as soon as they start their academic careers, but now that the actual time is quickly approaching for those who are about to graduate, things start to get a little stressful. Questions start to cloud the mind; questions of the utmost importance, such as 'how will I ever pay back my loans?' and 'what am I going to do with my life?' There are no clear cut answers. Everyone is going to end up doing something different and the paths that we will take to get there will all differ as well. Just as we all come into university with different backgrounds and histories, we will leave with different goals and aspirations.

Hopefully our degrees will be worth something, right? It all depends on what our motivation levels are for one thing. But it also depends on where we are willing to go. While not a new realization, it is increasingly obvious to many graduates from a Nova Scotian university that they will have to move out of province in order to find meaningful employment in their field. This may be fine with those who are originally from out of the province anyway, but for those who are from "out east" it can be frustrating to come to terms with the fact that our futures lie elsewhere (do we really want to be just another maritimer working in Alberta?) and that we can only hope and dream of returning here as middle aged retirees. Not

exactly a fulfilling thought to all. The fear of change is a driving force in our society, one that shouldn't be taken lightly, especially when that change directly involves our own lives. Graduation is a change; a transformation that could be seen as the student becoming the teacher. There is a whole generation of people coming up behind us that needs to know we are willing and able to accept change and to embrace it because if we don't, what can we expect of them?

Let us, the graduating class of 2008, be the people who make things happen for the better, whether that takes us across Canada, around the world, or here in little old Nova Scotia.



LET'S GET BAKED

WITH MAT AND DAVE

This week's recipe is from the episode we did with Halifax's reggae sensations, Andru Branch and Halfway Tree. They are in the kitchen showing us how to make Ital stew. The Ital diet is the traditional Rastafarian diet and this Caribbean styled stew meets all the requirements, so go ahead and give it a try, it's delicious!

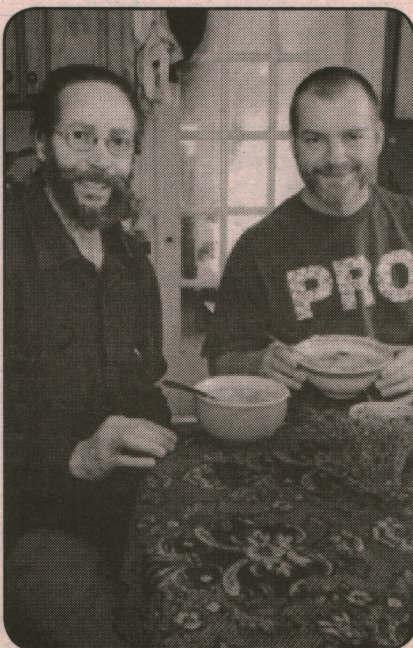
Ital Stew

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. Broad Beans (Lima)
- 1 Coconut
- 12 or so fresh Okra
- 1 Scotch Bonnet Pepper (Habanero)
- 1 lb. Yukon Gold Potatoes
- 1 lb. Yellow Yams
- 1 lb. Jamaican Pumpkin (Buttercup squash)
- 1 medium ripe Plantain
- 1 bunch of thyme
- 1 bunch of green onions
- 2 small coco's

Directions:

Crack open, peel and grate the coconut. Squeeze the "milk" and water out of the coconut and then strain it to make sure there are no strands in the liquid. Add the coconut milk to one large pot of boiling water and boil the lima beans for an hour. It's good to have his done beforehand. When the beans are boiled, add the yellow yam, potatoes and squash, which should all be chopped up into nice bite sized pieces. Next, add the scotch bonnet pepper. Throw it in there whole, so that it can work its magic. Add a handful of the fresh thyme and the okra and lastly throw in the green onions. Let the stew boil and then simmer it, so that it "melts" down. There you go; it's ready to serve up. Enjoy!



Brian "Bassie" Atkinson and Andru Branch of the Halifax reggae outfit, Halfway Tree, get ready to enjoy a sampling of Ital Stew. Mmmm...

Photo: Mat Dunlap

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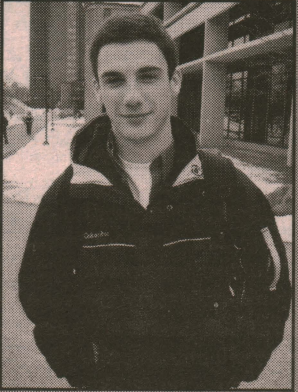
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THE JOURNAL PRESENTS T&A ASKS...


Q & A with Tom and Amanda

“After the brawl in Quebec last weekend, the QMJHL has put together a commission to look at banning ‘all violence in Hockey. What are your thoughts on fighting in Hockey?’”



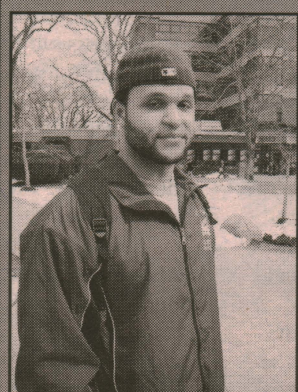
GREG HOWARD
2ND YEAR GEOLOGY

“I can see both sides of the argument. But I think that fighting should be gone. There are [already] enough big hits and physical play.”



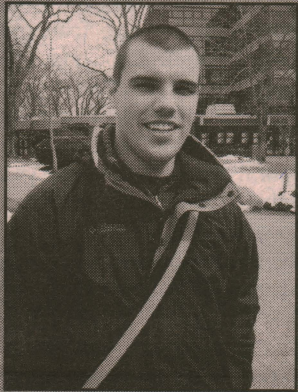
JOSETTE TWOHEY
5TH YEAR CRIM

“I always thought fighting was part of it. How can you get riled up and not fight? It’s a big testosterone thing for guys and it would be like telling girls not to straighten their hair.”




IAN SHAW
2ND YEAR UNDECLARED

“Everyone signs waivers so when tempers flare, they all know it’s gonna happen. Tempers flare.”




GREG BLUNDEN
2ND YEAR ACCOUNTING

“Leave it in. It’s always been there. It’s part of the heritage and part of the sport. You can’t draw a line. Both guys know they are about to fight and what is about to happen. It’s their decision to do it.”



NICK MYERS
1ST YEAR UNDECLARED

“I like it personally, it’s a good thing. They have instigators. There are going to be fights anyways.”



SHAUNA FOWLAR
1ST YEAR PSYCHOLOGY

It should be there to some extent, but it shouldn’t get to that extreme [as in the Quebec league game].

Photos courtesy of Tom Westoll
Filling in for Amanda this week was Robbie Nauffts.

SMUDOKU

	5	6	9	4	
		6	7	4	3
8					6
7					9
	9	1		7	6
5					3
3					1
		5	4	7	9
	7	8	1	5	

LAST WEEK’S SOLUTION

4	1	6	7	8	2	5	9	3
8	2	5	1	9	3	4	7	6
9	3	7	4	6	5	8	2	1
3	7	9	5	1	4	2	6	8
6	8	4	2	7	9	1	3	5
2	5	1	6	3	8	9	4	7
7	6	2	9	5	1	3	8	4
1	9	8	3	4	6	7	5	2
5	4	3	8	2	7	6	1	9

HOT	OR	NOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanitarian work • Travelling • Jason Reeves’ music • Quiksilver/Roxy sample sale • Expressing your feelings • Having a date for Maroon and White • Reuniting via Facebook • Summer sun • Athletics Banquet • Graduation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brangelina • Jet lag • Christopher Reeves’ injury • Everything being picked over • Emotional breakdowns • Leaving with someone else’s • Trying to pick up via Facebook • Finals • Practice the next day • Real life

G SPOT

What’s good for the goose is... not another goose

“Dear Randy,
“My boyfriend of two years has been hinting at the idea of a threesome with another girl for a while. And when he told me about it, I told him only if we have a threesome with another man. However he does not seem too keen on the idea of doing it with another man. What should I do? Should I just go ahead with the threesome for him?”
SS RANDY BLUE
In the gay community there is a saying that “the difference between a gay relationship and a straight relationship is that in a straight relationship your

partner never says ‘Honey, it’s been awhile since we’ve had a threesome.’” Having overcome the taboo that threesomes carry, gays have enjoyed their crowds for years. Many straight relationships, however, seem keen on keeping the “two is a couple, three is a crowd” mentality and are reluctant to pursue them. One of the reasons for this is that the third person isn’t the same sex as both of the partners.
When it comes to straight partners choosing who they want in their threesome it can cause major debates and it can even end some relationships. The trick to overcoming this is diversity in your third person; ensure that the third person isn’t always a girl, or

always a guy. Give each other the chance to fulfill their fantasy to have two men, or women, having sex with them at the same time, or whatever your fetish might be.
In your case, I would suggest that if your boyfriend isn’t comfortable sharing the bed with another man’s penis, then you either need to stop the talk of threesomes, or find a partner who’s more open for a playful evening.
Onto some other news, this will be my last GSpot column. I am passing the torch on to my good friend NN Ginger Snatch for the next academic year. Not only is she well versed in sexual matters, but she has a vagina and can answer those female questions I

know little about.
Before I go, however, I’d like to recap the top ten things we’ve learned from the GSpot over the last two years:
10. Never leave your dildos in your underwear drawer, you never know when your mother will come by and do some laundry.
9. Rolling down Husky Stadium has another purpose other than being good for your health.
8. If it’s itchy, swollen, or covered in spots, chances are she’s not the virgin she said she was.
7. Warming lube doesn’t make things hot, it makes things burn.
6. Men have balls, and they like to be played with.
5. There is such a thing as being too big.

4. If you want people to play in your garden, you better keep it trimmed.
3. Lube should be used liberally, not sparingly, there is no shortage.
2. There are multiple ways to have fun in the Sunfire.
1. The “AH-CHOO” method isn’t meant for sneezing.
That’s it for this year everyone. Have a great summer and don’t forget to send in your questions in the fall for NN Ginger Snatch. Send them in to SMU. GSpot@gmail.com. Farewell from SS Randy Blue

BUSINESS

Student loans - everything you need to know

LAURA MACINTOSH

With the end of the semester right around the corner, are you ready to pay for next year's tuition? Or if you're graduating are you ready to start paying back those pesky student loans in November? Here's what's been happening with Canadian education funding, and a few quick tips on how to keep your payback to a minimum.

Earlier this year SMUSA, along with lobby group CASA (Canadian Alliance of Student Associations) lobbied the government to renew the Millennium Scholarship Foundation (MSF), a foundation which had a \$350 million annual budget. The government opted not to renew the foundation, and has instead; put the money into the Canadian Student Loan program as a bursary program. What does this mean for students?

By having an increase in allow-

ance for student loan funds, more students can be rewarded funding; unfortunately it's a lot less funding per person than the MSF was dishing out. The loans based program is not based on merit as the MSF was, therefore we can not award those students who are excelling in specific areas, including academic and volunteer.

Quite possibly the biggest impact from the dissolution of the Millennium Scholarship Fund is the research void. The MSF was dedicated to researching student on access issues. "The Foundation was the only group that was doing research on access issues. Looking at Aboriginal students, low income students, and first generation students," said Zack Churchill, CASA national director. "We haven't seen any indication from the government that the federal research will be picked up."

The new program will feature

a prestigious award program for doctoral students, but the undergraduate level awards leave much to be desired. Franca Gucciardi, executive director of the Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation had this to say about the programs lack of undergraduate funding, "You don't get to do your PhD unless someone supports you to do your bachelors".

For those students looking to apply, or reapply for a student loan, and any of the federally funded grants, visit <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/learning/> for information. The Human Resources and Social Development of Canada site offers the most comprehensive knowledge of the loans and grant application process.

Students are eligible for up to five full time loans for each degree and there are part-time loans available as well. Loans are based on as needed assistance; many factors

are taken into account including living expenses, years out of high school, and parental contribution. The site offers information about a host of scholarship and bursary options, as well as a how to fill out a loan application guide.

Be sure to have your tax information handy (and your parents unless you're 4 years out of high school) before you start filling out the online loan application. It is best to beat the rush and get cracking on a loan application as early into your summer as possible, to allow ample processing time (that can take several months).

For those of you leaving Saint Mary's for the working world; here are a few tips that can help keep your loan payments to a minimum.

Refinance your student loan through a variety of methods that can help take the edge off. Look for education tax credits that can help repay a few thousand dollars

off your total over your first few years out of college. Companies like Halifax run Maritime Student Loan Solutions Centre can help you drop up to half of your student loan debt through a variety of methods. See if they can help drop your monthly payment by checking out <http://www.mslsc.ca/>.

The best advice for helping to lower your loans is to pay more than the minimum required payment. Even \$50 more a month will help shave months off of your payment plan as it shaves interest off the total amount. Also, interest (the killer) starts compounding the day after your studies end; despite you not having to make a payment until November. Try to make a big payment before the interest starts up, it'll help ease the pain for sure!

Good luck graduates! And to all those students planning to return; see you next year!

The ACE society wins Society of the year at SMU Charter Day



Current President Andrew Parlee and former President Laura MacIntosh shared in society glory at Charter Day.

ANDREW PARLEE

It all came back full circle when SMUSA announced that the Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship Society had won the Society of the Year Award at Charter Day last Saturday. Preparation for this success started early in 2007 and there were many signs that 2008 would be a special year for ACE. The excitement started when ACE (led by Laura MacIntosh) won Most Improved Society at the 2007 Charter Day Ceremony. ACE members suddenly realized that their society might just have what it takes to be "Society of the Year" in the future. Another signal came when the society won the Spirit of SIFE (Students In Free Enterprise) award while representing SMU at the Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship National Competition in Toronto in May 2007. This runner-up award boosted the society's confidence even further.

With this resolve, ACE worked hard to deliver innovative projects that would engage students at SMU, such as What's The Big Idea, Trumped, Ask A Pro, ESIS, Mimi Breton, and many Journal articles. Some of the most outstanding results came from the What's The Big Idea (WTBI) and Trumped projects. WTBI Project leader Brad LeBlanc and Communications Agent Erin Devine contacted sponsors from Innovacorp, CBDC, Atlantic Business Magazine, CGA, SMU Self Employment Centre, CGA, The Fightstore, NewCap Radio, Steele Auto Group, and Grant Thornton. The money enabled ACE to award business plan participants with \$7,000 in seed money to help them start their businesses. WTBI delivered training workshops, provided one-on-one help to students who were writing their business plans, and taught them how to communicate their ideas to audiences. WTBI was wrapped up by a graceful Breakfast Gala that was attended by seventy participants and sponsors.

As well, project leaders Leah Skerry and Adam Ouimet delivered a fast-paced business competition called Trumped. With the overwhelming participation of nineteen teams from SMU and Dal, Trumped raised over \$19,000 in ten days for the Breast Cancer Foundation & Cancer Society, started an

online business called Jockface, and created a \$100,000 IHF Molson promotional plan and presented it to the senior management at Molson's headquarters. Through this, students received \$6,500 in awards and bursaries. After three stages of competition, Team CMA members James Christianson, Marianne Doe, Peter Panais, and Adam Charles McLean were awarded the title of the Trumped 2008 Champions.

These projects equipped ACE with serious ammunition for the SIFE Eastern Regional Competition at the World Trade and Convention Centre in March 2008. While there, Andrew Parlee, Leah Skerry, Erin Devine, and Brad LeBlanc won the HSBC SIFE Financial Education Challenge and the CIBC Student Entrepreneur of the Year award. ACE would like to thank faculty advisors Michael Sanderson and Jason Turner for "revving up" the team, Professor Ellen Farrell for her encouragement & support, and last year's President Laura MacIntosh & Vice President Andrea Ngui for laying the foundation for ACE's success this year.

You may be asking, what does it take to make a society

successful? Members must have persistence, be dedicated, innovative when things don't work, have lots of guts, and be self-motivated. I would encourage all of you to get involved in a society. There is really no other way to love SMU and learn about its inner workings. For those who will be society executives next year, I strongly suggest that you make an appointment to meet with next year's VP Internal, Fadi Al Qassar. The VP Internal is a society's lifeline and it is their responsibility to take care of SMU's societies.

ACE would not have been able to accomplish what it has this year without the dedication and sacrifice of its members who donated 3,800 volunteer hours. We have a long road ahead of us as we prepare to go to Toronto to represent SMU at a national level on May 12th -15th, but we will persist. Members will be conducting a fundraising campaign, preparing presentations, and wrapping up ACE's operations. If you are interested in supporting ACE or becoming a member next year please call the office at 496-8216 or email acesmu@gmail.com.

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SPORTS

Mooseheads gain momentum



Victoriaville and Halifax have already had an intense season this year. A long series could be bad for both teams.

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

After defeating the Victoriaville Tigres on home ice two games in a row, the Herd had gone cold on the road. Halifax lost game three 3-2 as the Tigres changed their game play and filled up the neutral zone with four players. The tactic worked well as the Herd had several long passes intercepted and turned around on them. The loss stunned Halifax and their fans who were expecting a sweep in the series after a 6-2 win in game one and a score of 11-1 in game two.

Game four was a hard fought battle for both teams as the Tigres again filled up neutral ice and forced the Herd away from their tactic of sending players up the boards on a rush. At the end of game four it was 3-1 for Victoriaville and the Moose looked as if they may have lost their momentum and were in danger of being beaten out of the first round. But with the Halifax coaching staff analyzing game play footage and trying to find a way to counter the clogged neutral zone, Halifax kept the play in the Tigres' end and cut their passing back between the blue

lines to reduce the dangerous turnovers that were catching them in games three and four.

Game five put the Mooseheads back on top by one game as they made a few key changes in their line-up with Jakub Voracek, Logan MacMillan and Colby Pridham back together. Putting more shots on net and keeping the puck on a string, the Herd slammed the Tigres with a much needed 7-2 win to build their momentum.

With such a long series, both teams will be getting worn down and the Herd needs to win Monday night to finish off the Tigres. If the Tigres' win and force a game seven it will be up for grabs for either team, and like most long series the benefit is that both teams know how the other team operates. Game seven, if needed, will be a low scoring, high intensity game for both clubs.

Also in the QMJHL, the Saint John Sea Dogs shot-down the PEI Rocket in four straight games for a sweep. The Sea Dogs will be rewarded with a few days off to recuperate and practice for the next series.

League looking to stop glove-dropping

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

If you have ever gone to a hockey game at the Metro Centre or watched the Huskies play at the Forum you know that hockey is intense, fast and sometimes aggressive.

When the intensity starts to rise in hockey you are going to see bigger and harder hits that put players on the ice for a few seconds. Often this player gets up and starts looking around for the number that caught him. Then he finds that number and the other player is a marked man and had better watch out.

A few shifts later, that player who took the bad hit rushes the net after a loose puck and the whistle goes and he gets shoved back out of the crease with a hard check. Then he realizes this is the guy who checked him earlier and drives him back. Now, depending on the league, one of two scenarios take place.

Scenario one: Another shove is sent back and the two aggressors drift into the corner away from the eyes of the referee, and words are exchanged. Now with fighting allowed in the QMJHL, these two players decide to get it over with and the gloves come off. The fight lasts roughly 30 seconds to over two minutes and eventually one of the guys goes down and the linesmen break it up. The linesmen guide the two contenders to the

penalty box for their five minute penalties and the fighting for those two are over for the game because neither of them are willing to sit out another five minutes. Both teams are hyped up and possibly a goal gets scored.

Scenario two: The linesmen get between the two aggressors and keep a fight from breaking out, but the two have it in for each other. The players keep yelling at each other; they go to their benches and continue to let the rage build up inside of them.

A few minutes later they are on the ice again and the original player sees his opponent in the corner and makes a run at him and slams him from behind with an illegal check. The player is down with a possible neck/spine injury and now both teams are looking for blood over the dirty hit. The player who checked from behind is gone for ten minutes, gets a game misconduct and leaves the match. But with the intensity still at an all time high someone else is looking to express his rage and someone gets a punch in the back of the head. Remember the NHL player who was kicked out of the league for five years because of this? (the first person to email sports.smu@gmail.com wins their choice of pop if they know the answer).

Now, because two players couldn't have a scrap and get their aggression out, they are both at a loss because of the outcome of the

exchange. Player one has a neck injury and is going to be in a brace for three months, while player two's hockey career is over.

Fighting is dangerous, especially on the ice, but with two linesmen on the ice they can break it up when it is over instead of having a referee who breaks up every tussle before it breaks into a fight. When that happens you end up with a brawl similar to the one last weekend in Quebec with several players getting suspensions. A single fight in hockey solves more issues than it causes in the long run.

The AUS Hockey league doesn't allow fighting because they think it can make universities look bad. But the American University league allows it to keep tensions low on the ice. When SMU took on the Saint Thomas Tommies late in the season several shoving matches broke out and Captain Bowness received a ten minute major for unsportsmanlike conduct while the other team got off without being penalized. Then when he came back on the ice the aggression increased with several hits and dangerous cross-checks.

If the QMJHL decides to cut fighting from the game the league could see an explosion of dangerous stick-play and aggressive hits that are meant to hurt players. They are hopefully keeping this in mind as they go over the footage from last weekend.

SMU Gearing up for summer camps

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

Even though the Season is over for our sports teams here at Saint Mary's, it doesn't mean that the athletes are kicking up their heels and taking it easy.

If you didn't know, SMU offers summer camps for all ages and all sports that we have here at the University. Hockey, Basketball, Football and Volleyball camps are offered to the public and often a lot of off-season players from the HRM area join these camps to stay in practice for the next regular season. Saint Mary's is proud to have some of their athletes teaching the classes and volunteering their time for the camps. They also know that

the generations they are coaching could be the rookies on the SMU roster down the road.

"This is the best thing for a high-energy kid. They burn up so much of their energy having fun and learning some cool things from who they look to as pro-athletes" replied a single mother whose son was enrolled in the football camp last year. "He made a lot of new friends there who were all interested in the same things he was."

That kid from last summer's football camp is trying out next year for his school's football team. So if you have kids and are looking to get them out of the house this summer you could look into

the programs offered here at SMU.



Some youngsters learn the ropes at last year's Football Camp.

SPORTS MINUTE

BROUGHT TO YOU
BY ROBBIE NAUFFTS

Kerri Smit Attending Selection Camp

Kerri Smit, one of the key players on the Saint Mary's Volleyball team, has been invited to attend the selection camp for the Canadian Senior Women's Volleyball Team. The camp runs from May 5-9 and is held in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The team joins the Pan American Cup that starts May 28th in Mexico.

Dan Rudisuela Most Sportsmanlike Player

Incase you missed the news because of studying, Dan Rudisuela of the men's hockey team, a fourth-year centre was awarded the R.W. Pugh Award for Most Sportsmanlike player in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport league. Rudisuela finished 10th in the Atlantic Conference with 33 points in 26 matches. For penalty minutes he had a scant 14 minutes total.

Fighting to Stop in the QMJHL?

After the brawl last weekend with Jonathan Roy's "assaulting" (as quoted in the QMJHL press release) Bobby Nadeau, the QMJHL is looking to "Stop acts of violence in hockey." The QMJHL already has rules in place that suspend players for fighting in the last two minutes of the game but the commission is looking to have anti-fighting rules in the QMJHL.

ASSHOLE OF THE WEEK

"This weeks Asshole is Michelle Courchesne (Quebec's Minister for Amateur Sports) for being the next guy to try and take fighting out of hockey. Hockey players know and understand that fighting is part of the game and that it is often the release of tension between two players. Without fighting, if someone throws a dirty check in the corner the guy who took the hit is going to retaliate with an even dirtier hit that may cause injury. If Courchesne can't handle that, maybe he should push to have checking taken out too, it's also a "form of violence". Get off your high horse and go see a hockey game. More people come because of the fights than stay home because of them."

-Taken a few to the chin

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