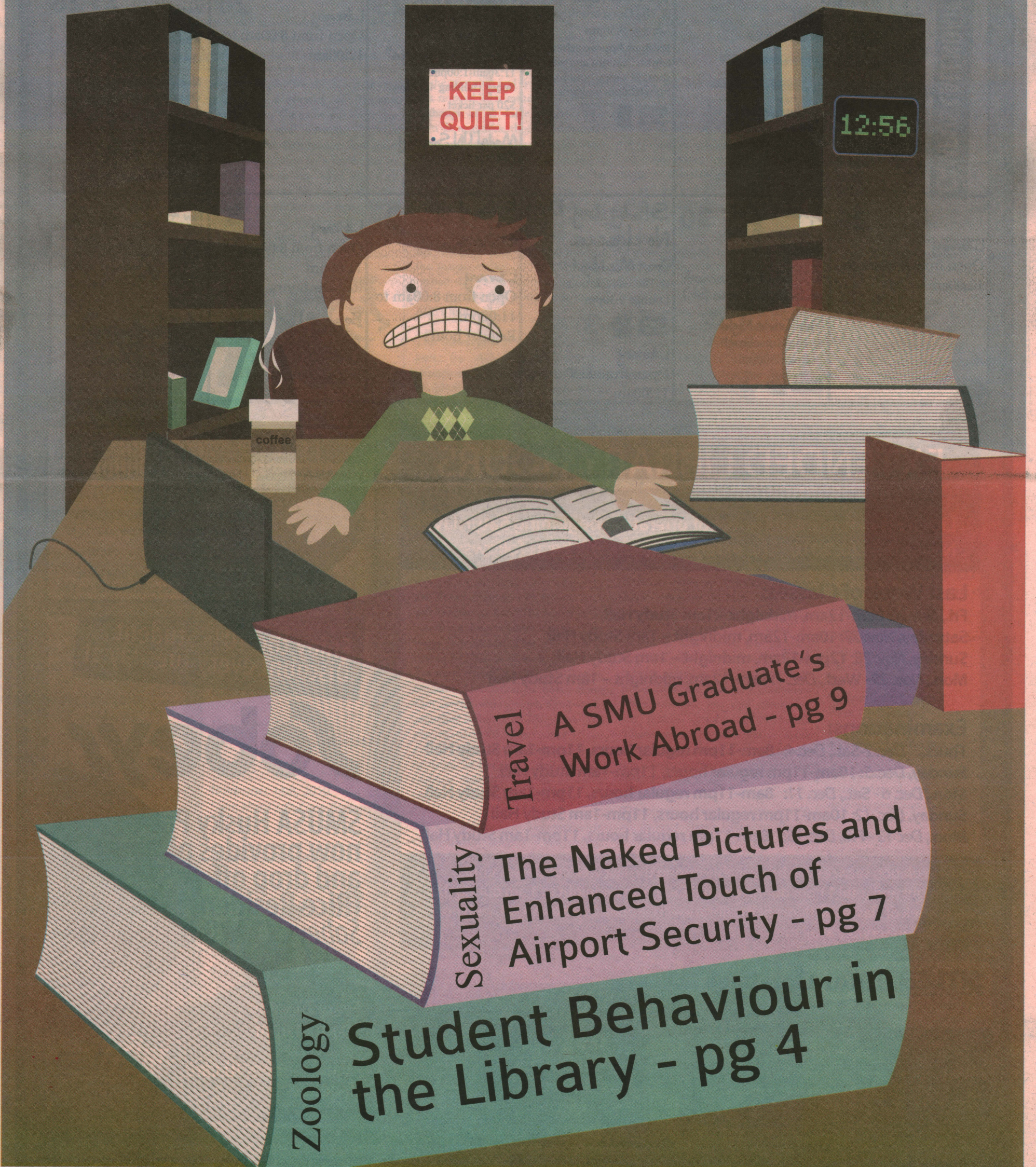


# The Journal

FREE | November 24 - 30, 2010

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



KEEP  
QUIET!

12:56

Travel A SMU Graduate's  
Work Abroad - pg 9

Sexuality The Naked Pictures and  
Enhanced Touch of  
Airport Security - pg 7

Zoology Student Behaviour in  
the Library - pg 4

Saint Mary's University Students' Association

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
<b>CAMPUS CALENDAR</b> <b>LEGEND</b> Presented by SMUSA Sporting Event / SMU Athletics Academic Event or Presented by SMU Alcohol Available No Entry Fee for SMU Students No Minors (19 years+ only) Gorsebrook Special <small>To get your event added to the Campus Calendar, send an email to marketing.manager@smusa.ca</small>	<b>29</b> Library Open from 8:00am to 12:00am	<b>30</b> Last day of classes in Fall term! 10% Student Discount at Sobeys (Queen St.) Pub Trivia Night @ The Gorsebrook Lounge 7:00pm 	<b>24</b> Open Mic Night @ The Gorsebrook Lounge 9:30pm Student Appreciation Night. Draught and well shots @ happy hour prices from 6:00pm onwards. 	<b>25</b> Aramark's INK Silent Auction Luncheon: "Cooking for Cares" 11:30am-1:00pm Sobeys Building 4th Floor \$20 per ticket Model UN Society Presents: Live Music in the Pub	<b>26</b> Library Open from 8:00am to 12:00am
	<b>29</b> Library Open from 8:00am to 12:00am	<b>30</b> Last day of classes in Fall term! 10% Student Discount at Sobeys (Queen St.) Pub Trivia Night @ The Gorsebrook Lounge 7:00pm 	<b>1</b> Study day. No classes. Open Mic Night @ The Gorsebrook Lounge 9:30pm 	<b>2</b> Start of exams Library Open from 8:00am to 11:00pm Regular hours	<b>3</b> Library Open from 8:00am to 11:00pm Regular hours Best of Open Night @ The Gorsebrook Lounge 9:00pm win cash prizes \$500
	<b>4</b> Library Open from 8:00am to 11:00pm Regular hours	<b>5</b> Library Open from 8:00am to 11:00pm Regular hours		<b>27</b> Vanier Cup Winner of Uteck Bowl vs. Winner of Mitchell Bowl 12:45pm Nov 27: Library Open from 10:00am to 12:00am Nov 28: Library Open from 12:00pm to 12:00am	<b>27</b> Vanier Cup Winner of Uteck Bowl vs. Winner of Mitchell Bowl 12:45pm Nov 27: Library Open from 10:00am to 12:00am Nov 28: Library Open from 12:00pm to 12:00am

## EXTENDED LIBRARY HOURS

Library is extending its hours of operation beginning Saturday November 20, 2010. The extended hours will be as follows:

### Last Week of Classes:

- Fri., Nov. 26: 8am-12am, midnight - 1am Study Hall
- Saturday, Nov. 27: 10am-12am, midnight - 1am Study Hall
- Sunday, Nov. 28: 12pm-12am, midnight - 1am Study Hall
- Mon., Nov. 29 - Wed., Dec. 1: 8am-12am, midnight - 1am Study Hall

### Examinations:

- Thurs., Dec. 2-Sat., Dec. 4: 8am-11pm regular hours, 11pm-1am Study Hall
- Sunday, Dec. 5: 10am-11pm regular hours, 11pm-1am Study Hall
- Mon., Dec. 6 - Sat., Dec. 11: 8am-11pm regular hours, 11pm-1am Study Hall
- Sunday, Dec. 12: 10am-11pm regular hours, 11pm-1am Study Hall
- Mon., Dec 13 - Fri., Dec. 15: 8am-11pm regular hours, 11pm-1am Study Hall

All circulation services will be available during the last week of classes until midnight and until 11 pm during exam time. From midnight to 1 am during the last week of classes all floors of the library will be open as a Study Hall, with no circulation services available.

## DIGITALCARE COMPUTERS



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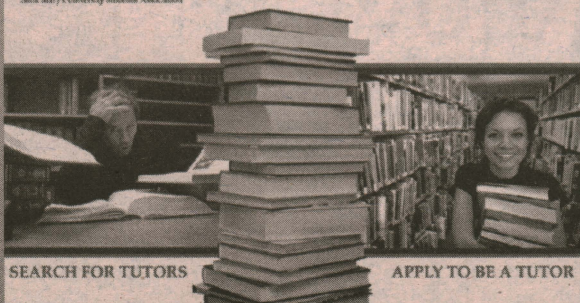
SMUSA Husky Patrol now provides pickup and drop off from SMU (Rice Residence) to Sobeys (1120 Queen St)

Every Tuesday  
10am to 4pm

\*Valid student ID Card Required

smusa  
Saint Mary's University Students' Association

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Adam Faber Editor-in-chief

# Perspective

## The Journal

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Student Life Editor

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Arts & Business Editor

Kerry J. O'Rourke  
Business Editor

James Urquhart  
Feature & Sports Editor

Angela Lindsey  
Technology Editor

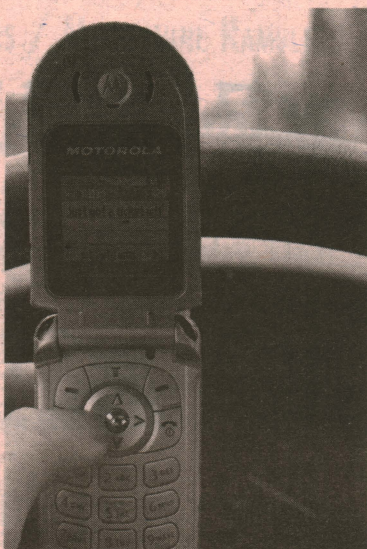
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smujournal@denote.ca

## Letter From The Editor

Texting and driving is being cracked down on politically. The idea is to increase the penalty for using your cell phone while driving. Fines would range from about \$225 to \$570. Being caught using a cellphone while driving would also cost the driver four demerit points. I don't believe increasing the punishment will significantly curb this behaviour. Drivers rarely weigh their actions against the punishments outlined in the motor vehicles act: "Don't go faster than 50 over the limit, or you'll be upgraded to dangerous driving!" isn't something that I hear when someone is speeding. The more likely phrase is "Slow down, you're going to kill us!" Increasing fines is a clumsy tool, the main benefit will be the buzz it creates around the issue. The more people talk about the dangers of driving while distracted, the more people will absorb it into their common sense. As far as government is concerned, It's much easier to increase a fine and let the media spread the story than it is to create a public awareness campaign... It's easier on the pocketbook as well.

Adam Faber  
Editor-in-Chief



## It's a Jungle Out There: Life as a Pedestrian in Halifax

Kyle L. Trimper  
A & E Editor

I have been a Nova Scotia resident for all of my life, and when I came to Halifax for university, I had to give up the privilege of operating a vehicle, a privilege that almost all Nova Scotian adults take for granted. I am now a pedestrian, confined to walking and taking the pathetically dysfunctional Halifax public transit system. I am also at the mercy of the highly incompetent motorists of Nova Scotia.

In Nova Scotia, we have a driver's handbook that outlines the rules of regulations of our provincial traffic laws. Every person who wishes to have a driver's licence in this province is required to read this book and pass an exam based on the information contained within. I think some of these people need to read the book again (myself included).

I admit that I myself have forgotten most of what was in that book; however, remember a few important concepts. For instance, I remember that a driver is required to stop for pedestrians at a crosswalk and wait until the pedestrian is finished crossing before proceeding. This does not mean grudgingly screech to a stop when the pedestrian steps in front of the car, begin rolling as he/she is passing, then plan your momentum so that you tear off the moment the pedestrian has passed your vehicle; this seems to

be the practice of most drivers in Halifax.

Drivers in Halifax, and the rest of Nova Scotia for that matter, seem to have difficulty with red lights. The red light means "STOP". That means stop. Yes, it's true that you are allowed to turn right on a red light; however, you are only allowed to turn if it there



is no oncoming traffic or pedestrians and it is safe to do so. This does not mean you can pull out in front of pedestrians who have a crossing light. Turning right on a red light is not a right, it's a privilege.

The hardest part of walking in Halifax is actually getting past Saint Mary's University. That's right: some of our students are sometimes the worst offenders, tearing out of the Tower parking lot without even looking sideways for fellow students who may be using the sidewalk, and racing down Tower Rd. at 80 km/h at 2:00 in the

“...Turning right on a red light is not a right...”

morning. Forget muggers and other maniacs, the real killers are on the road. And people have been killed in Halifax before due to this sort of

negligence, so it's not like it isn't possible.

In conclusion, I just want to warn anyone driving in Halifax that if you hit anyone while doing this sort of thing, you don't have a defence. You don't have the right of way. So be careful, and watch out for pedestrians: wherever you are going, it's better to be a few seconds late than to end up with a fine or in jail.

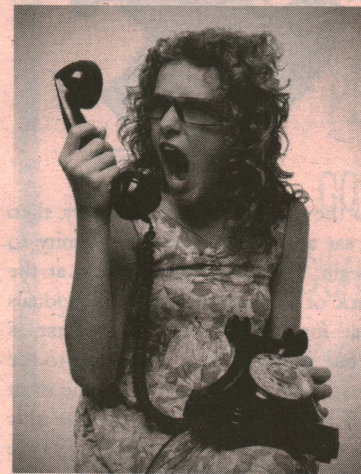
wherever you are going, it's better to be a few seconds late than to end up with a fine or in jail.

## SMU Soapbox

Call the SMU soapbox at 496-8201 (or email thesmujournal@gmail.com), and no matter how serious or inane, it will appear in print.

Thursday 18th 12:16 AM

Yeah, I got a ... I got a comment... For the soapbox, here I am, I'm reading the paper, and I see some jerk-off, some no good son of... decides he's going to put the lyrics from the fresh prince of bel air, write them down, tell them to you, he probably fuckin' read it off metro lyrics or something, it's not my problem... what's... what IS the problem this guy is addressing? The soapbox is for you to stand up, and this guy is abusing it, like, they give these morons soapboxes and you know what happens, they sing. And it ain't all fuckin' ivory. Like, this... in



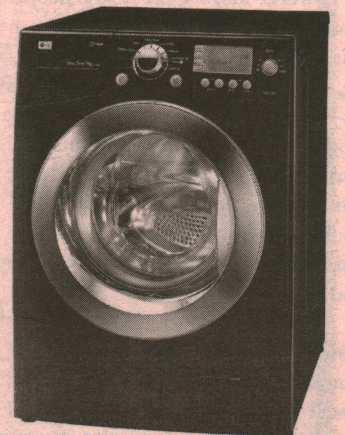
the picture you guys show you like this article? Well I'll give you guys something to like, I'll give you a piece of my mind, is what I'll give you... It's like... Fuck!

## Green Tip of the Week

Wash your clothes in cold water! The majority of the electricity used by the washing machine is just for heating the water.

SMUES

Want to get involved with SMU Environmental Society? Go to [www.smues.ca](http://www.smues.ca) or email [smues@smu.ca](mailto:smues@smu.ca) to find out about meetings and events!



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# Features



James Urquhart Feature Editor

## Gingerbread Men... There I said it

James Urquhart

Features Editor

In past articles in this section I have shown to you many examples of what happens when human beings do not take the time to stop and question what they are doing. It is my fondest and most sincere wish that you have taken these examples seriously, and they have helped you to look at the world in a more informed manner, and with a more critical lens. Once again, for your reading enjoyment, I bring you another tale from the land where intellectual awareness seems to be non-existent. It was not long ago when I was a wee young lad, and when it came time for Christmas; one of my most exciting memories was eating gingerbread men. I thought nothing of it. I would wait in anticipation as my mother would bake up a fresh batch, and then my brothers and I would frost our gingerbread men and add candy accessories. Little did I know the magnitude of what I was doing! I am a person that prides himself on being politically correct (within reason of course) in my daily day-to-day activities. In fact, I believe that being politically correct is one of the cornerstones behind respect and equality. I am however ashamed to now find out that I have been committing



blatant acts of sexism each and every Christmas for as long as I can remember. For you see, by referring to gingerbread men as males, I was unknowingly pushing forward a patriarchal agenda, one that has been ingrained in me without my even knowing it!

Does this sound ridiculous to anyone else? Well do not feel as though you are the only one; this should sound

“Perhaps people are getting upset because it is impossible to know what the actual sex of a gingerbread cookie is, and therefore they are getting confused. There is a simple solution to this, which I might add, is also a great way to teach your kids about anatomy”

ridiculous to everyone reading this article. Of course this is not a discovery that I made about myself; rather, this idea comes from an article I recently read about council bureaucrats in the United States that have recently stripped the masculine title from our little gingerbread friends, and replaced in with people for 400 primary schools. Of course if you are a tight assed conservative you are probably applauding this move, but your opinion is stupid anyway, so we will pretend that you do not exist. For the rest of us normal minded individuals, this should seem ridiculous. The reason this should seem ridiculous is two-fold. First of all, why the hell are financial resources being used so that politicians can make legislation about gingerbread men (oops, I mean people)? I know that many of you out there are going to say, “This would never happen in Canada,

this is just another example of stupid Americans”. Well let me be the bearer of bad news: our politicians have found much dumber ways to waste tax dollars. Let us put this aside for the moment and concentrate on the bigger issue: were do we draw the line when it comes to political correctness? Does the term gingerbread men, as opposed to gingerbread people, really offend anyone? Perhaps people are getting upset because it is impossible to know what the actual sex of a gingerbread cookie is, and therefore they are getting confused. There is a simple solution to this, which I might add, is also a great way to teach your kids about anatomy. I really doubt that this is the problem: I think that the real problem is that some individuals are trying to make a bigger deal out of something than is necessary. Why in the world do we need to be concerned about whether a ginger based pastry

has a male or female title affixed to it? It is indeed an example of hyper political correctness, which is utterly unnecessary.

I for one am willing to say to anyone who gets up in arms over something so stupid to get a life. I think that those who advocate political correctness have valid reasons for doing so. Too often have I heard people refer to individuals of the Jewish faith in a derogatory manner, making reference to someone being cheated in some way or another. In an example such as this, the use of political correctness is appropriate, given the nature of the remark. To turn around and say that this line of reasoning also follows for the sex of a gingerbread man is ludicrous. My suggestion is that people find better way to occupy themselves, and more important issues to get their knickers in a bunch over. With regards to politicians, perhaps if they were more concerned with important issues, and less concerned with the sex of ginger based pastries, then more would get done in parliament and legislature.

## Library or Zoo?

James Urquhart

Features Editor

I was in the library the other day and was asked to fill out a survey in order to help the library to improve their services and general operating procedures. I for one commend the library for taking the initiative to be proactive, rather than let problems be brought to their attention after the fact. I could not help but notice that many of the questions that I found on the survey were either directly related to noise levels in the library or the overall environment as it relates to studying. This got me to thinking, is there a problem with the environment that the library offers to students who want to be studious? I honestly spend a great deal of my time in the library, but little noises and distractions do little to distract me from my work. I do however know quite a few people who are very easily distracted by such noises that I hardly find inconveniencing, and I think that this is a problem for those individuals. The library should be a place that students feel comfortable going, and if it is the case that they are being distracted, then I would find it rather hard to believe that these individuals feel comfortable studying in the library.

With exams just around the corner, I thought that I would do my best to put myself in those students' shoes. So I picked up a book and proceeded

### MR. NOISY

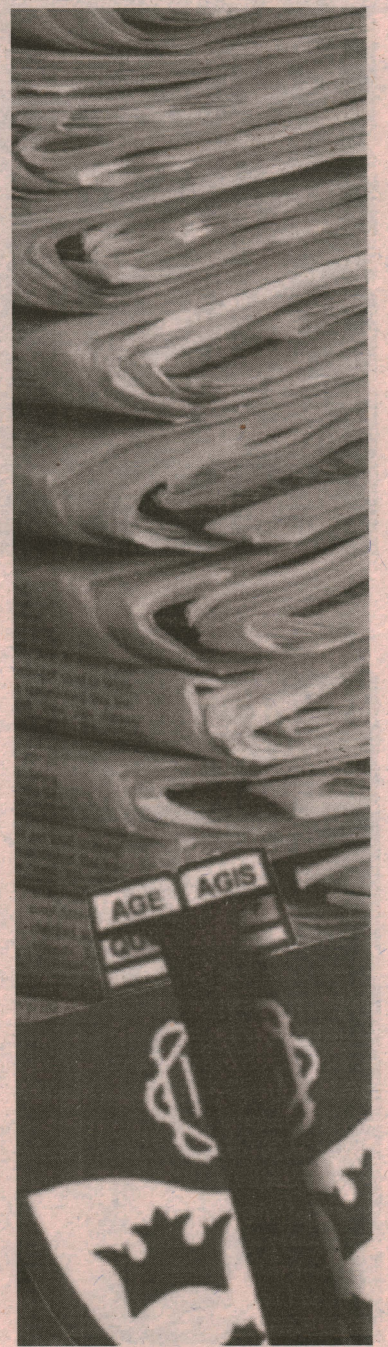
By Roger Hargreaves



to the third floor of the library, then I sat and waited for the calamity to begin. I was utterly disgusted at the lack of respect that some individuals had for their fellow students. First, as I had just settled in and turned to the first page, someone's cell phone went off to the tune of some popular tune or other. Now I am as forgiving as the next person, so I chalked it up to that person having simply forgot to put his phone on vibrate. I was soon proven wrong when it rang six more times before I had even finished the first chapter. I must say that this person's mistake could be seen as courteous compared to the moron who decided to ignore the sign that clearly reads, “No speaking on cell phones in the library”. Perhaps it is the case that this person simply cannot read, and if this is the case then I apologize. I however find this hard to believe considering that she is at University (although in the past I have often wondered if

this is a compelling argument against illiteracy). I soon learned who this she had “hooked up with” last weekend, what her plans were for this upcoming weekend, as well as who she thought was cute in her economics class, all of which, may I add, I could have done without knowing. When she was finally done planning her week, I looked around and observed the general sentiment of frustration on the faces of those students sitting around her (I took a guess that they were not interested in her exploits either). Thinking that this was just the dynamics of the third floor, I decided to relocate to the second floor to see if there was any difference. I was greeted by the sound of construction as I entered the doors of the second floor. I understand that the University is simply trying to improve the facilities that are offered to students, but to create such a racket hardly seems fair to the students who are Saint Mary's here and now. I moved towards to back and sat down, and was immediately greeted by the sound of loud rap music, which unless I am seriously mistaken, is not conducive to a positive learning environment. After this I noticed that there was a group of four students chatting away about one of their upcoming tests. I felt like going over and reminding them that the University had just built a 17 million dollar edifice for group projects and such. I had had enough; I put my book back and went home.

I now know what those students I have been speaking with were complaining about. Although I cannot infer that this is what the library is like each and everyday for those students who are bothered by these noises and distractions, I am willing to bet that my experience was not a one off. I feel as though it is up to the student body to be more respectful of one another's space, as well some responsibility does lie with the libraries staff in making sure that the library is a suitable studying environment. I for one would like to see some changes made so that the library becomes more like a quite sanctuary, and less like a zoo!





Angela Lindsey Technology Editor

# Technology

## This Week's New Games

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

Be on the lookout for these new games this week!

11/17/10 - Forza 3 Ultimate (Xbox 360 - Microsoft)

11/18/10 - Zumba Fitness: Join the Party (Xbox 360/Wii/PS3 - Majesco)

11/18/10 - Game Party: In Motion (Xbox 360 - Warner Home Video Games)

11/18/10 - Deca Sports Freedom (Xbox 360 - Hudson Soft)

11/19/10 - Pro Evolution Soccer 2011 (Wii - Konami)

11/21/10 - Raving Rabbids: Travel in Time (Wii - UbiSoft)

11/21/10 - Donkey Kong Country Returns (Wii - Nintendo of America)

11/22/10 - Sniper Elite (Wii - Navarre)

11/22/10 - Grand Theft Auto Trilogy (Mac - Rockstar Games)

11/23/10 - Splatterhouse (Xbox 360/PS3 - Namco Bandai Games America)

11/23/10 - Chevrolet Camaro (Wii - CokeM Interactive)

11/23/10 - Majin and the Forsaken Kingdom (Xbox 360/PS3 - Namco Bandai Games America)

11/23/10 - Monster Jam Path of Destruction (PS3 - Activision)

11/23/10 - Red Dead Redemption: Undead Nightmare Collection (Xbox 360/PS3 - Rockstar Games)

11/23/10 - Worms Battle Island (Wii - THQ)

11/23/10 - Michael Jackson The Experience (Wii/DS/PSP - UbiSoft)

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## Plagiarized Recipes Kills Magazine

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

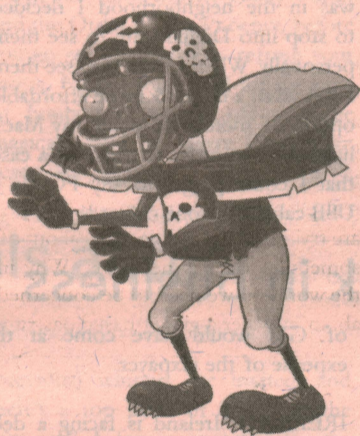
As mentioned in last week's issue of The Journal, Cooks Source magazine was caught plagiarizing a blogger, among the many articles they were publishing from other places. This caused an angry backlash on the internet, including Twitter posts, Facebook hate groups, and online petitions. Because of this, Judith Griggs (editor and founder of Cooks Source) has apologized and stated that the harassment involved with this scandal has likely ended the magazine. The Facebook page for Cooks Source has been deleted and re-created to remove the messages that were previously posted there, and the website is now acting as a redirect to Intuit.com. There is a post on the Facebook page by Griggs, titled "The Last Statement", which says: "The bad news is that this is probably the final straw for Cooks Source. We have never been a great money-maker even with all the good we do for businesses. Having a black mark won't help...and now, our black mark will become our shroud."

## Zombie Virus Attacks Chinese Cell Phones

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

According to *Shanghai Daily*, over a million cell phone users in China have been affected with a "zombie virus", disguised as an anti-virus program. Authorities have found the company who created this application, however they deny having anything to do with the virus, and rather that they are a victim of it as well. This virus has not only made the infected cell phones more vulnerable to additional "attacks" from the same hackers who created this virus, but also have been spamming the phones with money-making links and other messages, totaling around \$300,000 per day in text message charges for the affected users.

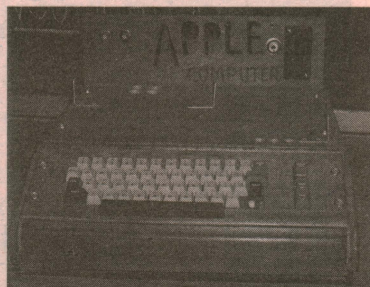


## Apple-1 Up for Auction

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

According to *Shanghai Daily*, over a million cell phone users in China have been affected with a "zombie virus", disguised as an anti-virus program. Authorities have found the company who created this application, however they deny having anything to do with the virus, and rather that they are a victim of it as well. This virus has not only made the infected cell phones more vulnerable to additional "attacks" from the same hackers who created this virus, but also have been spamming the phones with money-making links and other messages, totaling around \$300,000 per day in text message charges for the affected users.



## Robot Stars in Play

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

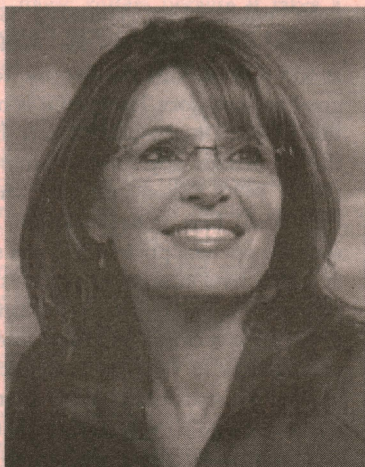
Major developments have been made in the field of robotics over the past few years, and few have been more shocking than Geminoid-F, created by Hiroshi Ishiguro in Japan. The android made its acting debut in a play on November 11th, acting as an android caretaker for a dying girl. Geminoid-F was controlled entirely by a human actress backstage, and was not expected to be passed off as a live human actress. The android was introduced earlier this year to mimic human facial expressions fed by humans into its internal computer. It is expected that, should these robots be put up for sale, they will cost around ¥10,000,000 (or around \$105,780 USD).

## Palin E-mail Hacker Sentenced

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

In September 2008, vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin's e-mail account was "hacked" when 22-year-old David Kernell guessed her security question, which was her birthdate. Kernell was convicted in early 2010 of misdemeanor computer intrusion and felony obstruction of justice, not-guilty of wire-fraud, and the jury hung on the charge for identity theft after four days of deliberation. Because of these convictions, Kernell faced up to 20 years in custody and a \$250,000 fine, while federal sentencing guidelines recommended between 15 and 21 months in prison. The final sentence for Kernell is one year and one day in custody, with three years of probation. The judge (Federal Judge Thomas W. Phillips) recommended that his sentence be served in a halfway house in Tennessee, but the federal Bureau of Prisons will determine the actual location of his sentence. This situation offers an important lesson to anyone who uses e-mail accounts: ensure that all password and security questions are secure and difficult to guess for anyone other than yourself.



## Camera Developed to Detect Blood Stains

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

Blood stains at crime scenes are currently detected by spraying a chemical called luminol, which reacts with iron in the blood to cause the blood spatters to glow bright blue, and allows the stains to be seen in the dark. However, this method has its drawbacks: luminol is toxic, can dilute blood samples (causing DNA to be unidentifiable or difficult to recover), may smear the blood pattern (which is used by forensic experts to identify cause of death) and sometimes reacts with substances such as rust, bleach, coffee and fizzy drinks, causing a false positive.



This method may be a thing of the past, though, with a prototype camera developed by Stephen Morgan, Michael Myrick, and their colleagues at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. This camera is able to distinguish between blood and other foreign substances at the scene of the crime, while detecting blood stains that have been diluted to one part per 100. The camera is designed to beam pulses of infrared light onto a surface and detect the reflection of this light. A transparent 8-micrometer-thick layer of albumin acts as a filter for the camera, filtering out wavelengths that are not found in blood proteins. Morgan states that by modifying the filter chemicals, any type of stain could potentially be detected on a surface. "With the appropriate filter, it should be possible to detect [sweat and lipids] in fingerprints that are not visible to the naked eye," he says. "In the same way you could also detect drugs on a surface, or trace explosives."



## The Beatles - Now on iTunes

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

"Tomorrow is just another day. That you'll never forget." This was the teaser on the Apple.com homepage on November 15th. This page stated that there would be an announcement the following day, but no other details. Many theories were being thrown around the internet about what the announcement could be, among which were a streaming subscription service and AppleTV apps, but only one suspicion was correct: The Beatles. The entire Beatles catalogue is now available for download within iTunes, including a box-set for \$149 USD. Fans of the group have been awaiting these downloads on iTunes for years and are no doubt thrilled to see this content finally available for their enjoyment. "I am particularly glad to no longer be asked when the Beatles are coming to iTunes," said Ringo Starr. "At last, if you want it-you can get it now-The Beatles from Liverpool to now! Peace and Love, Ringo." As an additional bonus with this announcement, you can see the "Live at the Washington Coliseum, 1964" video stream for free for the rest of the year.

The Beatles. Now on iTunes.



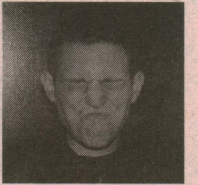
## Gay Couple Weds via Skype

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

Gay marriage is illegal in Texas, which posed a problem for gay couple Mark Reed and Dante Walkup, who wished to be married in Dallas, Texas, in front of their families and friends after a ten-year relationship. A bit of creative thinking and forward technology allowed them to realize their dream - a wedding at home that was legally authorized. The couple applied for a Certificate of Marriage in Washington D.C., where gay marriage is legal, and found an officiant in Washington D.C., Shiela Reid-Alexander, to preside over the ceremony. Because of the laws behind performing a marriage ceremony, Reid-Alexander and several witnesses were connected with the couple, along with their families and friends from within Washington D.C. via online video chat messaging service Skype.

# Business



Kerry J. O'Rourke Business Editor

## Mac V. Windows

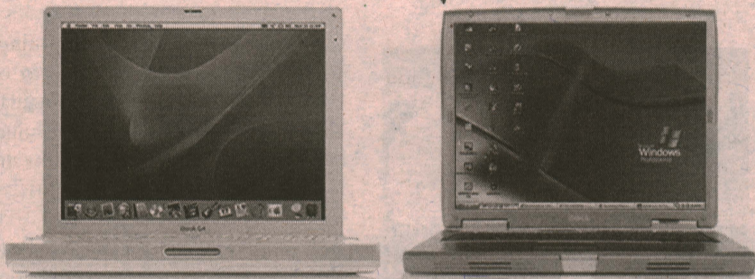
**Kerry J. O'Rourke**  
Business Editor

In the connected world we live in today not having a computer may be functional for some. However, not having access to one is cruel. I can't say my life has gotten that bad. Ok, I lied it's worse. Recently & sadly my MAC died. In the meantime I've had the ultimate pleasure of using a Microsoft operated PC.

Let's just use market data to prove my point!

As it currently stands Mac holds a very respectable 20.7% of the personal computer market. What's even more interesting is that they've been taking market share away from any Windows based PC for 16 quarters in a row. That's nearly four years.

Now to be fair let's look at



As a little background information I bought a MAC to forever rid myself of Microsoft's products. So now that my MAC is on the sidelines I'm quickly being reminded why I will never go back to PCs.

There's nothing better than a dose of reality to put this in context. Here's a classic example of why PCs are as good as a tooth ache in my view. For a recent assignment in my geography class, my Prof. made us go onto National Geographic's website for some information to complete a project. I'll admit I have a near hatred for PCs but given my Mac's problems I thought surely a PC shouldn't have a problem merely using Internet Explorer. Unfortunately this proved to be too difficult a task.

National Geographic has been around since 1888. I've read their material and can assure you by surviving over 100 years their content isn't that complex. Evidently their content is too complex for a Window's based PC. Apparently their pages caused Internet explorer to crash the 7 Times I kept praying to the heavens it would just load so I could complete my assignment.

Well lets be fair to Microsoft. Maybe it had a virus? Another beautiful feature brought to any paying PC user! From my experience using a PC feels like I'm in school. It asks me to "Send Error Report" so often that I feel like I'm getting a second degree I've sent so many reports. I actually got an error report that the error report I agreed to send, couldn't be sent.

Well as much as I could write a doctrine of distaste I shall refrain.

Microsoft's not so savvy business skills. Steve Ballmer (Microsoft's CEO) aggressively went after Yahoo and wanted to pay a staggering sum of \$38billion (USD) cash. The current market capitalization of Yahoo is (USD) \$21.60 Billion. If we look internally at Microsoft, new versions of Windows appear to be rolled out at a snail's pace. Apple has introduced 7 new versions of their operating system over the last nine years. Mac OSX Lion, Apple's next operating system, is scheduled to be released roughly next June. Finally, iPhone & Android based phones have been around for several years now. Why is Microsoft only now starting to roll out a Windows based phone? Technology is pretty simple folks. The early bird has a tendency to get the worm.

It's time for Microsoft to stop trying to play catch-up & start being inventive. I don't begrudge any technology company making a great product & making a huge profit. However Microsoft fails to deliver miserably. If you are to argue their too big to fail I think history would disagree. Just look at Kodak as a technology giant that had a virtual monopoly over a product. If Microsoft follows their path I would presume that over time discerning customers will seek better products. On that note our generation has shown with their dollars and cents Macs are more desirable to some. Just look around campus for the evidence. Macs are popping up everywhere. I'm thrilled I made the switch & I hope someday, if you haven't already you will too!

## Need Computer Help?: Digital Care is There

**Kerry J. O'Rourke**  
Business Editor

This is a sad Mac story. This past summer I decided I was tired of using any windows based product. As such I took the plunge & went to Future Shop in order to purchase my first Mac. I purchased it roughly at the end of August. Unfortunately my Mac no longer exists. Well technically I still have the unit but it won't turn on. It has water damage.

I thought to myself, that as it was exposed to water, it was probably toast. However as anyone else should do, I needed to be sure that its life was over by taking it to a repair shop. I suppose I reached out to someone else to read my Mac its last rites. So, I took it to Digital Care.

Digital Care if you aren't aware is a fantastic local repair shop that offers their services to any SMU student (20% discount!). You merely have to take your PC as I did, to the Info desk, fill out a form, and poof they come pick it up! Well the process has a little bit more to it. Essentially you provide

your PC and then they pick it up from the Info Desk. They take it back to their shop in order to access what's wrong with it; their shop is between Pete's Frootique & Cora's on Dresden Row. Following their assessment you'll get a call by these fine folks telling you exactly what's wrong with it & how much it will cost to fix it. No gimmicks.

By example I was told that just as I had predicted my Mac was toast. I appreciated being told exactly what was wrong with my Mac without any filler! By example I was told on the phone that the data on my hard drive could be recovered through a simple process. In order to capture the data off my hard drive I was quoted at a rate of 35 Cents per gigabyte.

I bank on Spring Garden Rd. & as I was in the neighborhood I decided to stop into Digital Care to see them personally. When I went into see them I was given a better & more affordable option of merely removing my Mac's hard drive in order to put it in a case that I could plug into any PC via a USB cable. The one caveat is that I

need a program in order to convert Mac files into a form that a PC can read. That's a technical issue related to Apple Inc.

All of this information was brought to me by Digital Care as I've described. As a piece of background information I trust what I was told as their technicians are Apple Inc. as well as Windows certified professionals. They are a certified and reputable repair shop.

The lesson that should be learned from my experience is that, well Macs don't like water. I also know from previous experience neither do Windows based PCs. So the morale of the story is to be more careful than I was & treat your PC (I hope you switch to a Mac) with care! Well the reality is that no matter which computer you operate with they are all susceptible to problems. Thus if you run into PC troubles and want to deal with great honest repair shop I'd strongly recommend from experience, Digital Care!

RIP - My Mac



## The (past) week in business

**Kerry J. O'Rourke**  
Business Editor

**BRIC'S:** The BRIC nations are known as Brazil, Russia, India & China. However, under recent criticism by Goldman Sach's it has been suggested that Indonesia should replace Russia (The R in BRIC). This decision is primarily as a result of Russia's inability to develop into a mature economy. Russia is a resourced based economy, which is fine. We as Canadian's as well as the Australian's as another example, have benefited from being a resource based economy. Regardless, Morgan Stanley was recently quoted as saying "Russia is to be ousted from the BRIC nations altogether in favor of Indonesia or, at the least, for Indonesia will join the other four"

Time will define precisely what is to unfold. However remaining vigilant over this issue should prove to be interesting.

**AUTOMOTIVE:** GM has officially gone public. Last Thursday, GM debuted their stock to the market at \$33 a share. GM has become feel good success story. However it is not that simple. One shouldn't forget that the US federal government pumped (USD) \$49.5 Billion into GM when they could have gone bankrupt. As such the opening price of \$33 was set at such a level in order to protect the taxpayer. The stocks early performance at \$34.26 as it closed on Friday shows that much of its value has been priced in. Had the stock risen quickly after it was introduced it might indicate that it was underpriced. Any under pricing

of GM would have come at the expense of the taxpayer.

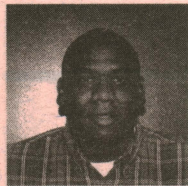
**IRELAND:** Ireland is facing a debt crisis. This is Europe's second debt crisis in six months. As such many are concerned over the Eurozone's ability to functionally operate. By example Greece, Ireland, Portugal & Spain have been given the acronym of PIGS by some. Essentially their debt as well as their inability to manage it may compromise the Eurozone's single currency.

**Holiday Office Parties:** Well I can't put it better than this "With fewer companies hosting bashes this year, the hallowed tradition of getting bombed with co-workers is under assault" (businessweek.com). The Queen of England even recently announced she was cancelling her biannual Christmas Party. Evidently when the Queen calls off the party it's probably a sign that things are bad. As such Amrop Battalia Winstonan international an executive search firm recently stated that only 79% of companies will hold an office party this holiday season. This number represents the lowest figure that Amrop Battalia Winstonan has seen over their three decades of collecting data.



**Have something to say? Call the SMU's Soapbox! 496-8201**

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Keimeko Scotland News Editor

# News

## Getting Touchy Feely at U.S. Airports

Keimeko Scotland  
News Editor

If you're planning a trip to the U.S. or just transiting and you haven't been there in a long time, you better be ready to get very touchy-feely and up-close and personal with airport security personnel.

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration has implemented new security checkpoint measures, which some travelers have described as "groping" and "virtual strip searches". The new measures have sparked a public outcry over their invasiveness.

According to the Transportation Security Administration, the increased use of "pat-downs" and full-body scanning is needed to stop non-metallic threats including weapons and explosives from getting aboard planes. And it appears that most Americans agree. In a recent CBS News poll, 4 out of 5 Americans supported the use of full-body scans.

"Being scanned sure beats having the plane explode in mid-air", wrote a CNN.com reader who is among the thousands of observers who have weighed in on the issue. "If something were to happen then everyone will be outraged that the TSA 'allowed' a terrorist act".

Nevertheless there is a growing group of objectors including civil rights and privacy advocates, scientists and pilots, who claim that these measures are too invasive, ineffective and possibly unsafe.

There has even been a call to declare the frenzied travel day before the U.S. Thanksgiving a "National Opt-Out

Day", urging travelers selected for full-body scanning to refuse.

Travelers have the right to opt out of full-body scanning, according to the Transportation Security Administration, but the alternative has, in turn, created its own public furor.

The dreaded "thorough pat-down" alternative has travelers distrustful about how up close and personal their trip through airport security will become.

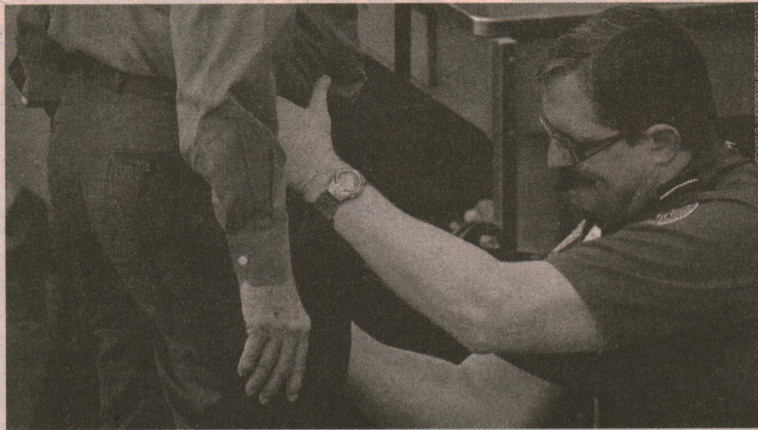
How thorough is thorough? A member of the U.S. Airline Pilots Association described his experience as "sexual molestation", according to union president Mike Cleary.

Yet other frequent flyers remain unaffected. "I've been patted down rather thoroughly before, and it was not a traumatic experience. Felt more like when I go to the doctor for a physical", wrote a CNN commenter.

About 24 million travelers are expected to fly over the holidays, according to the Air Transport Association of America. There are 400 body-scanning machines installed in 69 airports all across the U.S., and metal detectors are still widely used.

Pat-downs are used primarily on passengers who set off either the body-scanning machine or the metal detectors and are guaranteed for travelers who opt out of body scanning. Many travelers will bypass both of the controversial new measures.

"It's important to remember that TSA screens nearly 2 million passengers daily and that very few passengers are required to receive a pat-down",



**"Being scanned sure beats having the plane explode in mid-air"**

according to a post on the TSA blog.

Lawsuits against the Department of Homeland Security have already begun to appear around the issue.

A public interest research group has filed a lawsuit seeking the suspension of the body scanning program, arguing that the measures violate the Fourth Amendment and the Privacy Act, among other laws.

A group of University of California, San Francisco medical and science professors have also called for suspension of the body scanner program saying more independent study is needed to address what they claim could be potential health risks posed by small doses of radiation used in one of the technologies used in about half of the machines.

TSA administrator John Pistole has defended the security procedures to U.S. lawmakers and a TSA blog post attempted to ease passenger concerns.

"These things ... have been examined six ways to Sunday", U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said at a news conference this week. "The [Food and Drug Administration], Johns Hopkins University, the U.S. Science and Standards Association have all measured the radiation involved...It's almost immeasurable it is so small", Napolitano said.

Passengers who refuse complete screening won't be allowed past security and could face civil penalties, according to a TSA statement.

Courts have given wide leeway for airport screening under the Fourth Amendment, which guards against unreasonable searches and seizures, according to Adam Winkler, a UCLA law professor who specializes in American constitutional law.

"The courts generally say that there's not much of an expectation of privacy when you're getting on an airplane. That people get searched, that there's a serious risk, starting with

hijacking and now terrorism, such that the expectation of privacy is pretty minimal", Winkler said.

Airport screening methods usually fall under the legal heading of "administrative searches", which are generally used to ensure public safety. The courts will have to consider whether there's an expectation of privacy and how reasonable the search is, weighing security concerns with invasiveness, Winkler said.

Winkler added that "It's one thing to put your bag through an X-ray machine and have to go through a metal detector. It's another thing to have to basically submit to an almost-naked picture of yourself".

And this is perhaps the most important question for persons travelling to or transiting through the U.S. this holiday season; how much of my personal privacy am I willing to sacrifice for the hope of in-flight safety?

Do you think it's ok to subject yourself to touchy-feely examination of your private parts so that you can travel with an eased mind? Or how about a full body scan that shows a virtually naked image of you?

And if we allow these intrusions into our personal freedoms then where or when do we stop? Will full-on strip searches become the norm in a few years?

*With files from CNN and CBC News*



## Canadians Dead in Explosion at Mexican Resort

Keimeko Scotland  
News Editor

Investigators are still trying to determine what caused the November 14 explosion at the 676-room Grand Riviera Princess resort in Playa del Carmen. The explosion killed seven, among who were five Canadian citizens, and injured at least 17 people.

Authorities have ordered a partial closure of the resort as a precaution according to reports in the Milenio and El Universal newspapers in Mexico. Mexican authorities reportedly said the closure was over the possibility of more gas leaks.

According to reports from both papers about 450 people have been moved to other parts of the Grand Riviera Princess resort in Playa del Carmen.

In what is being viewed as a reactionary response to claims that Mexican authorities have not handled the investigation properly, a homicide inquiry into the hotel explosion has recently been launched. A prosecutor said the governor of the state of Quintana Roo has told him he can pursue criminal charges against the hotel owners if the explosion was caused by faulty construction.

*With files from CBC and CNN News*



## New Zealand Mine Explosion

Keimeko Scotland  
News Editor

Emergency workers and mine officials are trying to determine whether it's safe for rescue crews to enter a New Zealand coal mine after an explosion left 20 miners missing.

Local officials believe the blast at the Pike River mine, located on the western coast of New Zealand's South Island, happened around 3:45 p.m. local time on November 19.

Initial reports suggested as many as 30 miners were missing, but the company that operates the mine, Pike River Coal, later revised the number to 27. Rescue teams and emergency workers rushed by helicopter and by road to the mine, in a remote area near the town of Atarau.

John Dow, chair of Pike River Coal,

told Radio New Zealand that the specialist mine rescue team can't enter the mine until they're sure it's safe. It could be days before it was safe enough for specialist teams to enter the mine, said Tony Kokshoorn, mayor of nearby Greymouth.

Police said there could still be pockets of explosive methane gas in the mine, and air quality tests were underway in the ventilation shaft. The power outage was complicating efforts to pump fresh air into the mine and make it safe for rescuers to enter.

"They're itching to get in there and start looking for other people, and a bit frustrated at having to stand and wait", said police spokeswoman Barbara Dunn. "There is concern that ventilation inside the mine shaft may be compromised by the power outage".

Five dazed and slightly injured miners stumbled to the surface hours after the blast shot up the 110-metre ventilation shaft. Pike River Coal chief executive Peter Whittall told reporters that emergency staff was interviewing the men to try to understand what happened.

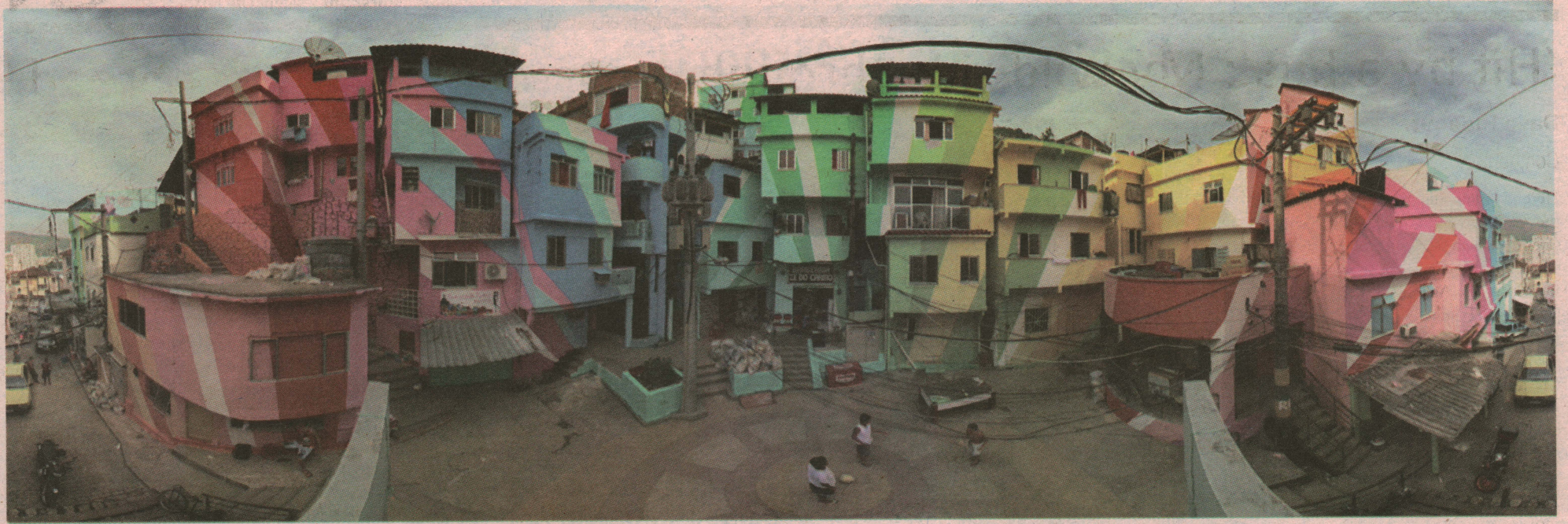
"We've had our afternoon shift underground and we've had communications with a couple of the employees and we've had two men return to the surface", Whittall said. "They're being interviewed and we're trying to determine ... the full nature of the incident".

*Reproduced from CBC News*



News

# Brazilian Slums turned into Living Art



**Keimeko Scotland**

News Editor

Rio de Janeiro's favelas are more commonly known for being sprawling shanty towns where poverty, drug trafficking, overcrowding and squalid living conditions converge to paint a depressing picture of life in Brazil.

With the help of two Dutch artists and a pioneering paint firm, some of Rio de Janeiro's favelas are being transformed into kaleidoscope of colour.

The project is the brainchild of Dutch artists Dre Urhahn and Jeroen Koolhaas, who visited Rio's favelas for the first time in 2005 to shoot hip hop videos. They rented rooms in one of the city's most dangerous slums, Vila Cruzeiro, and worked with local youths.

"We suddenly had this clear vision



that it would actually be great to transform their living environment together with them into something artistic that would install pride in their life", Urhahn told CNN. They created the Favela Painting project.

Urhahn says he "wanted to do something that would give them an opportunity to become painters and that would call attention to the outside world to their situation".

Koolhaas and Urhahn first painted "Boy Flying a Kite," an enormous mural depicting a young boy flying a kite which covers the sides of three buildings.

Residents of the favela then painted a cement hillside with fish leaping in a river, which caught the eye of the local media.

"If you are able to get a positive message out about this place in the newspaper, then your project is a

success. And we did. So that was very inspiring",Urhahn said.

While crime hasn't abated, the project put Vila Cruzeiro on the map for something other than drug trafficking.

Next, Urhahn and Koolhaas put Santa Marta on the drawing board. Excited about the idea of a facelift for their community, the residents of Santa Marta have changed their community into a living, breathing canvas.

Brazilian paint company Coral, a subsidiary of Holland's AkzoNobel, offered to help with raw materials and training for locals.

Tigrao, or Big Tiger, was a drug dealer before he got involved with the project.

"It gave me a different outlook on life, showing me that an honest job can be a good thing", he said.

They created a massive artwork covering 34 buildings that has attracted foreign and local tourists and boosted the self-esteem of residents.

"Colour brings status", said Carlos Piazza, AkzoNobel's communication director for Latin America. "What divides the city, the formal city, from the informal city? Painting, that's it". If donations come in, an entire favela could be next as a monument created by the people who live in it for the entire city.



## Writing for The Journal will give you a leg up



# Vatican OKs Condom Use....sometimes

**Keimeko Scotland**

News Editor

Using condoms may sometimes be justified to stop the spread of AIDS, Pope Benedict says in a new book, in surprise comments that relax one of the Vatican's most controversial positions.

In excerpts published in the Vatican newspaper on Saturday, the pope cites the example of the use of condoms by prostitutes as "a first step toward moralization", even though condoms are "not really the way to deal with the evil of HIV infection".

While some Roman Catholic leaders have spoken about the limited use of condoms to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS as the lesser of two evils, this is the first time the pope has mentioned the possibility in public.

The Vatican newspaper unexpectedly published significant excerpts from the book on Saturday night, days before extracts were initially due to be

made public. The book, called "Light of the World", is to be published on November 23.

Benedict made clear the comments were not intended to weaken the Church's fundamental opposition to artificial birth control, a source of grievance to many practicing Catholics.

## “sheer fixation on the condom implies a banalization of sexuality”

The majority of Church leaders have been saying for decades that condoms are not even part of the solution to fighting AIDS, even though no formal position on this existed in a Vatican document.

The late cardinal John O'Connor of New York famously branded the use of condoms to stop the spread of AIDS as "The Big Lie".

Last year, the pope caused an

international uproar when he told journalists accompanying him to Africa that condoms should not be used because they could worsen the spread of AIDS.

The Vatican's opposition to artificial birth control has been highly contested, even by many Catholics, since it was formalized in the late Pope

Paul's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (On Human Life) in 1968.

Benedict says that "the basic lines of *Humanae Vitae* are still correct", indicating that his comments about condoms are not intended to apply to birth control, only to AIDS prevention.

He says that the "sheer fixation on the condom implies a banalization of sexuality" where sexuality is no longer

an expression of love "but only a sort of drug that people administer to themselves".

The 219-page book is made up of Benedict's responses to questions by German Catholic journalist Peter Seewald over a month of meetings at the papal summer residence.

After the pope first mentions that the use of condoms could be justified in certain limited cases, such as by prostitutes, Seewald asks: "Are you saying, then, that the Catholic Church is actually not opposed in principle to the use of condoms?"

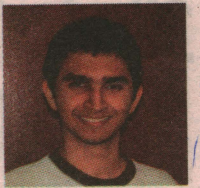
The pope answers: "She of course does not regard it as a real or moral solution, but, in this or that case, there can be nonetheless, in the intention of reducing the risk of infection, a first step in a movement toward a different way, a more humane way, of living sexuality."

Reproduced from Reuters News



# Student Life

Suvir Pursnani Student Life Editor



## 'Hit by a bus': My wild ride through cross-cultural work abroad

**Dave Rideout**

Contributor

Here I am in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as one of 20 youth interns dispatched around the world - part of the (Canadian International Development Agency) CIDA-funded, Coady International Institute's Youth In Partnership Program. Before leaving Halifax, catching the bus was a rather inane activity: Stand at a stop, wait until the scheduled time, board the bus, take a seat and ride in silence until you've reached your destination.

This morning, as usual, I wake to a chorus of roosters crowing, dogs barking, and the bustle of work-day traffic just outside my new home. Climbing out of bed, I leave my fan on to stave off the heat as I get ready - it's already reached 30 degrees by 7 a.m. After I pack my bag and take a cold shower, I grab some fried breadfruit, wave bye to my host family, and stroll to the end of the driveway to hail a bus.

In Kingstown, transit is a completely different story from that in Canada. The service is provided by private operators, and figuring out their system, and its nuances, is about as exciting and challenging as finding yourself living and working in an entirely new cultural setting.



The hood of each bus is emblazoned with its own distinct name like Snoop, Code Red, Young Bloodz or Toppa, and each has its own distinct personality. Some drive with the traffic, but others speed, and dangerously overtake cars on blind corners. Some vans are plain, while others are painted bright yellow, and sport racing tires. Each vehicle has its own custom sound system that blasts a different genre of music. As a regular rider, I find myself feeling energized by the beats of Reggae, Hip Hop or Jamaican Dance Hall, en route to the office.

The people I know here in Saint Vincent have personalities even more

“...maybe this experience abroad isn't only about offering what I know.”

distinct than the busses. Walking up to the office door, the smell of food I've never tried, overtakes me. My boss here at the Caribbean Farmers Network, loves to cook - insisting we sample all the West Indian cuisine, from Dasheen to Callaloo Soup. As I taste-test, my boss loudly and jubilantly greets the other staff as they arrive - all by the friendly nicknames he's given them; never by their real names. The animated conversations in Dialect that ensue leave me smiling, but almost always baffled.

Sitting down at my desk, he leaves me with a list of tasks and minimal instruction; trusting my past experience and the trial-by-fire Caribbean work style will encourage adaptability and independent thinking.

In this network of nearly 500,000 members, it is my job as a communications researcher, to work with small farms from across 13 countries. I try to figure out how they can work together to build capacity, mitigate crop risk, recruit youth, and work with stakeholders to gain better access to national, regional and international markets. Agriculture has

been the backbone of the Caribbean economy, including that of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, but hasn't been garnering the attention that it needs to remain sustainable and profitable.

As a young communications and development intern, six months just doesn't seem long enough to stimulate beneficial and lasting change, especially as a North American, whose sense of urgency to finish work quickly, often clashes with the relaxed Caribbean pace of life. With language obstacles, new food, and completely new surroundings, there have been moments when I've felt overwhelmed. I've often wondered if I can effectively learn the new cultural system well enough to communicate about such important issues, like the future of the agriculture sector.

Reflecting on my first couple of months here, I'm starting to think that maybe this experience abroad isn't only about offering what I know, but more about honing my ability to observe others, learn new perspectives and adapt to new environments outside of my Canadian context.

Speeding along the roads of this beautiful island with green mountains to my right, crystal blue sea to my left and Vincentian Soca music in my ears, I bus to work each morning knowing that development, and communications specifically, are very fluid fields of work. They require that we understand those involved, as both individuals and as members of a community who, together, have an ultimate stake in what lies ahead.

Just as every bus I wave down brings a new and exciting ride, everyone working abroad, including myself, has a unique and challenging journey. I can't wait to see what lies around the next corner.

Write for the Journal!

thesmujournal@gmail.com

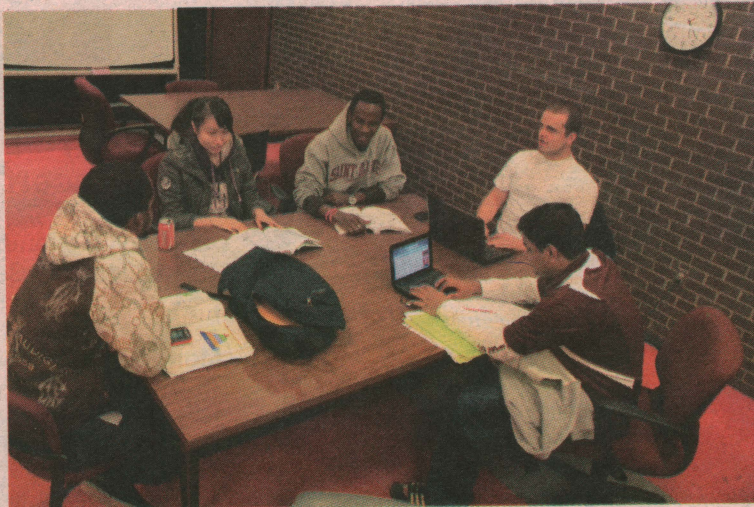
## Study Group...Study Party

**Suvir Pursnani**

Student Life Editor

So it's around that time of the year where we all 'should' start studying away for the dreadful finals. Let's face the facts, our final exams start next week! This is the time to crack down and give that one final push to make up for the crappy midterm last month. And if you did well in your midterm, don't take that as an excuse to slack off, strive for the A to boost up your GPA.

In this light, instead of studying your own this semester, why don't you throw some friends together for a study session...a study party. This is why it's good to know a few people in your class. Having a study group is a great idea. They'll help you catch up on whatever you missed. Or you could understand something better through their help. If you pool all your knowledge together, there's no way you would've missed a thing to study. Sure, some of you might say "but I study better by myself." I do too, but there's no harm in spending a few hours with the people in your class. Most of us have two and a half hours of lecture every week for each course. If you can honestly say that you were present for all that time and absorbed all the information out of each lecture, then



to hell with the study group. If you can't, then it would be a good idea to get together and pool your information.

There are plenty of places around SMU to host a study party. The atrium is a nice place, but lately it's been mad packed. You can try walking around to the back of the library to the group study area. If you can't find a spot there, head on over to the Art's Commons up on the second floor of McNally Main. If that's crowded and there's nowhere else on campus to go, go invade somewhere off-campus. Dal's library is pretty neat, and as

much as we don't like them, you should take advantage of it. Or go raid one of your friend's house/apartment off campus. Throw a study party this week, study up, and have some fun.

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## Are we Safe?

**Suvir Pursnani**

Student Life Editor

Not to point any fingers or scare anyone off here, but I thought that this would be a good question to ask. In the light of so many things that have happened in the past and even more recently, I thought it fair to raise the concern.

How can anyone forget the massacre that occurred at Virginia Tech. Authorities reported that the security around the building was minimal and it was easy for anyone to have gained access. The building's doors at Virginia Tech were opened through the use of magnetic key cards, identical to the ones we use here at SMU. Examples of other, more recent, cases are those of Harvard and Ohio. Just last week there was an armed robbery on the historical Harvard yard. This wasn't the first time something like that happened on the prestigious school's grounds. Ohio State was affected on a larger scale. Most of the campus had to be evacuated due to a bomb threat that was called in anonymously. A prank? An attempt to get out of an exam? Or was there real potential danger? Who knows?

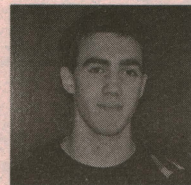
A few times I myself, yes me and all my manliness and fearlessness, felt

that I was in danger on campus. I lived on campus last year and there were a few times that I felt threatened. The cause wasn't from my floormates or my housemates or even any one on campus. It's the people that were let in. It's so easy for anyone to walk into campus, camp for maybe 15 minutes outside the residence they want to get in and wait for someone to go in or out, an just slip right in. I bumped into an ex-con (10 days fresh out of prison) armed with a broken beer bottle who explained me this last year. He wasn't too happy when my friends and I eyeballed him as we kept our mouths shut and walked along our way. I'm not saying that security didn't do their job. I know it sounds that I'm implying this, but who can I blame for letting something like this happen. Incidents do happen around SMU, but most of them get hushed up with haste. I'm not blaming anyone, all I can say is watch your back and be careful who you let into your dorm.

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Kyle L. Trimper Arts & Entertainment Editor

# Arts & Entertainment

## Harry Potter and The Deathly Hollows

Suvir Pursnani  
Student Life Editor

“Bloody Brilliant” was my initial reaction as I stepped out of the advance screening of the latest Harry Potter movie (one of the great perks that comes with being a writer for the SMU Journal). Being a huge fan of the series and having read each book dozens of times over, I really, honestly to god, wasn’t disappointed with the book-to-movie adaptation. The movie lived up to all my expectations. Then again, I didn’t hold high expectations; it is, in fact, based on a book all about magic. The book itself is about 800 words long. Integrating every detail of the book would be impossible, and I realized this before I went into the theatre. I recommend that everyone else who has read the book, to come to this realization as well.

The magical realism that was so cleverly captured in the book was projected on the silver screen with just as much

brilliance. The action scenes were great, incorporating all the awesomeness that comes with being a movie all about magic. I personally enjoyed the acting of Lord Voldemort...my apologies, I mean...“He Who Must Not Be Named.” There was mild comic relief here and there to break the tension that comes with saving the world from ultimate evil. Overall, the acting and the screenplay was very well done. I’m glad they didn’t stray away too much from the book. Some of the editing and scene transitions bothered me a little bit, especially right before Harry decides to have a dream. Nevertheless, this was still a pretty spectacular movie. A must see for everyone in my opinion, regardless if you’ve read the books or not. It would be wise to watch the sixth movie, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, before you go see this movie to refresh your mind. Escape this world for a couple of hours and venture off into the magical world of Harry Potter, I’m sure you’ll enjoy it.

## Open Mic Finals at the Gorsebrook

Adam Faber  
Editor in Chief

As far as talent is concerned, John has experienced the highs and the lows at the Gorsebrook. From a fantastic guitar solo to drunken caterwauling, it has all happened on his stage. “Most of them know what they’re doing, generally,” he says “they’re all there to have fun.” John is the sound guy at SMU’s Gorsebrook Lounge, and on Wednesdays during open mic night brave students battle for the prestige of being best of the night. “Even if you don’t win, you get a beer for playing.” John explains “But the best act of the night gets a hundred dollars.” It’s a popular event, with the lineup to get in sometimes winding through the sitting area of the information desk.

John tells me that Friday Dec 3rd is the grand finale. “All of the

(previous) winners are invited, and there’s a top prize of \$500 for the best act.” A fun competition for the student performers, as well as a sort of guarantee that the people playing that night are all decent. On a normal night the lineup can be considerable, it is not hard to imagine that the ‘best of’ performance will be considerably more popular. “I’ll be there,” says a student at the bar, “I have to have something to do to relax after studying for exams!”

**“All of the (previous) winners are invited, and there’s a top prize of \$500 for the best act”**



## John Lennon - Some Time in York City (1972)

Kyle L. Trimper  
A & E Editor

Earlier this year, in celebration of what would be his 70th birthday, Capitol re-released the entire catalogue of John Lennon, along with new boxed sets and compilations created to capitalize on the new interest involving the late Beatle.

Lennon had a few successes in his solo career: the despairing John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band, the imploring Imagine, the optimistic Double Fantasy. However, for all his successes, Lennon had as many failures: the repulsive Two Virgins, for instance. I have been listening to one of these failures as I go through the music library on my computer, the abrasive Some Time in New York City.

Hot on the heels of the #1 hit Imagine, Some Time in New York City was a commercial and critical disaster. The album charted the lowest of any commercial Lennon album and received lackluster reviews. Why? Just listen to it. Granted, it’s not as bad as Lennon’s first three albums of avant-garde madness, but the entire product is flawed.

The first mistake is letting Yoko Ono write and provide lead vocals on nearly half of the album. Ono is not a particularly good songwriter, and definitely not a great singer. Admittedly, from time to time, Ono is capable of penning a fairly catchy song and keeping somewhat in tune; however, Ono often excesses in her own ideas without checking herself and making sure the music comes first. Strangely enough, on this album Lennon is guilty of the same pop music crime.

The album is decidedly political and consists mainly of angry protest-style songs. The problem, however, is that these kinds of songs have to have either brilliant lyrics and/or a catchy tune to appeal to the general public. The songs on Some Time in New York City, however, have neither. The lyrics contain an undisciplined, unchanneled anger that results in sloppy lyrics, and the music suffers because it takes a backseat to the subject matter of the song.

The opening track, “Woman Is the Nigger of the World” was chosen as the lead single for the album, but not surprisingly, it fared poorly because of its lyrics. I feel, however, that the song has been treated unfairly; it’s the catchiest track on the album, and its lyrics fit perfectly with the song’s theme of the subjugation of women.

Ono also tried her hand at this theme with “Sisters, O Sisters”, but whereas



“...The lyrics contain an undisciplined anger that results in sloppy lyrics; the music suffers because it takes a backseat to the subject matter of the song...”

Lennon could get away with a feminist song, Ono could not. Ono’s song irritates the listener, and undoes whatever progress Lennon may have made in the previous track.

Lennon’s main handicap seems to be that he is very good at finding problems, but doesn’t really have any good solutions. He’s angry, but he doesn’t really have a lot to say. This is what sets his songs apart from the protest songs of Bob Dylan, Bruce Cockburn and Jackson Browne.

The last problem with the album is the excessive “Live Jam” disc, which contains the worst renditions of Lennon’s worst songs. Even my version, which emits most of the performance keeps an extended version of the intentionally painful “Cold Turkey”, the unlistenable “Don’t Worry, Kyoko”, and Lennon’s amateurish performance of “Well (Baby, Please Don’t Go)”.

If you can survive the onslaught of the bulk of Some Time in New York City, my edition treats the listener to a couple of Christmas songs off of the single release of “Happy X-mas (War is Over)”, which forms some

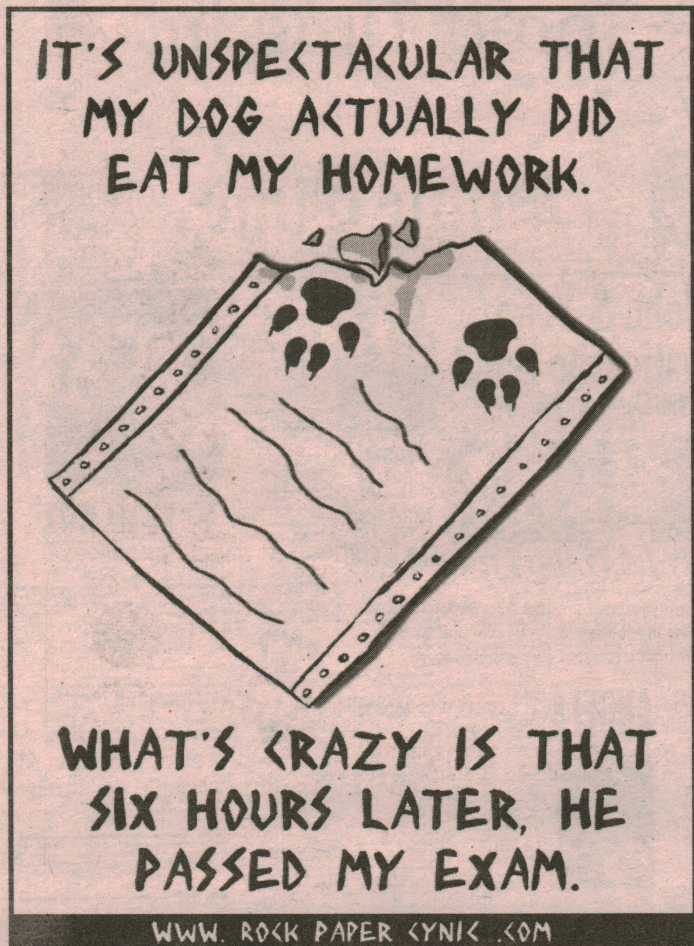
sort of vindication for the failure of the album itself. No one can argue that “Happy X-mas” isn’t one of the greatest Christmas songs ever written, even though Lennon is guilty of a bit of plagiarism; some of you over fifty may recognize this as a song about a race horse (one that never drank water; he only drank wine). The real surprise is Ono’s “Listen, The Snow Is Falling”, which is actually well-sung and debatably prettier than “Happy X-Mas”, thus proving that despite evidence to the contrary, Yoko Ono is not completely talentless.

So if you’re ever in your local music store and you find those attractive new re-issues catching your eye...don’t get this one. There’s better Lennon out there.

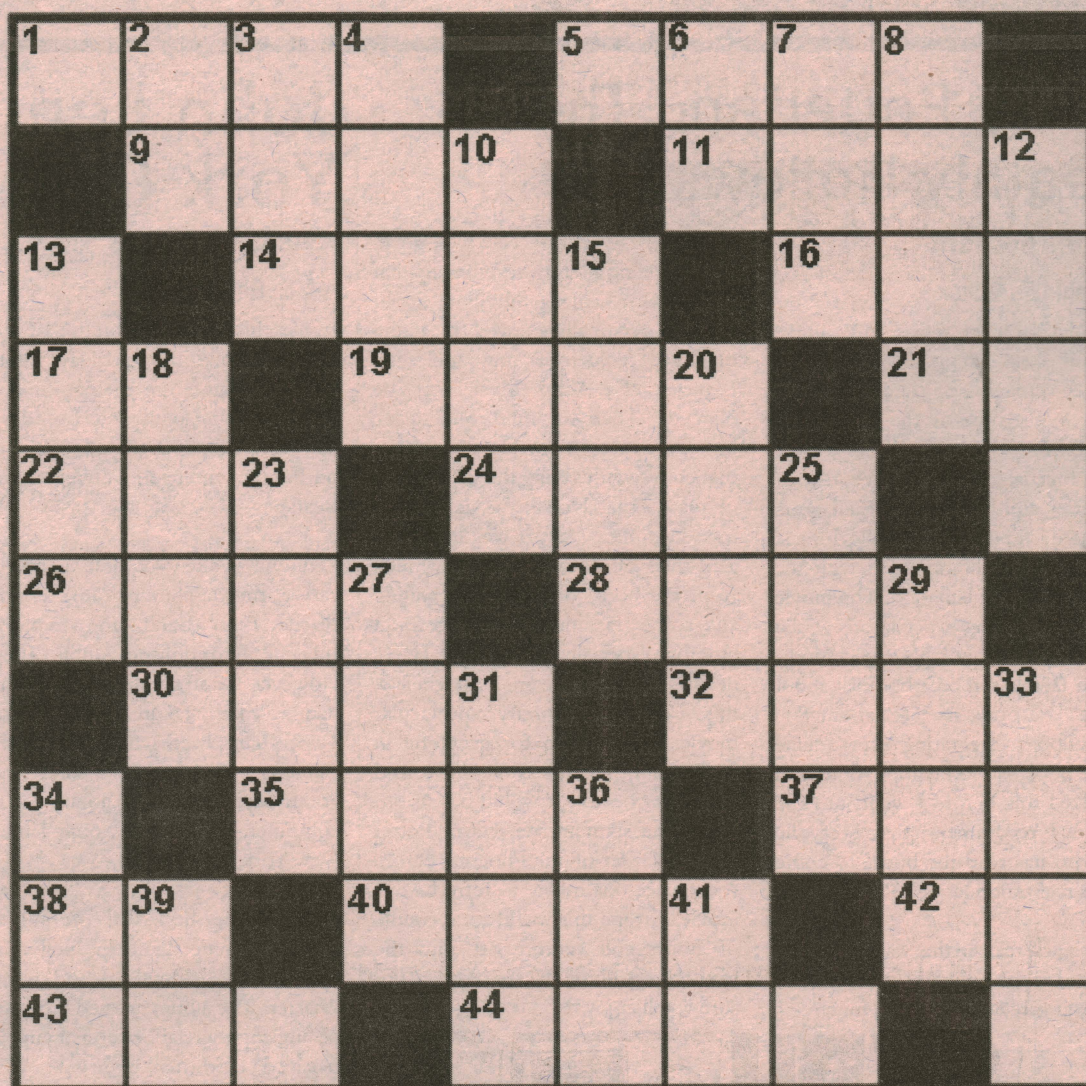


Arts & Entertainment

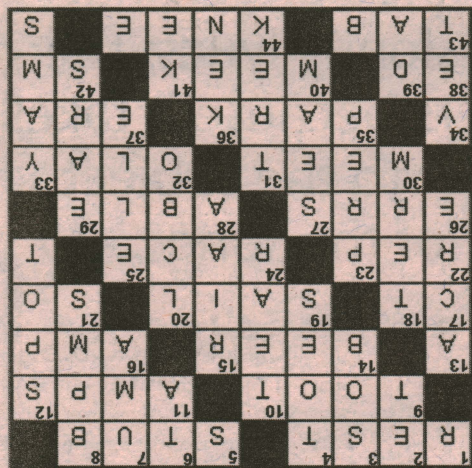
ROCK, PAPER, CYNIC BY PETER CHYKOWSKI



Crossword



Answers



Across

- 1. Repose
- 5. Accidental toe kick
- 9. Honk
- 11. Electricity measurements
- 14. Waterloo dark, for one
- 16. Guitar speaker
- 17. Hospital scan
- 19. Boat propulsion
- 21. Subject changer
- 22. Figurant (abbrev.)
- 24. Speed competition

Down

- 26. Messes up
- 28. Capable
- 30. "Rencontre"
- 32. Age defying oil
- 35. Nature zone in a city
- 37. Historical time period
- 38. Lazy slob of Shaun of the Dead
- 40. Blessed inheritors of the earth
- 42. Sexual giving and receiving of pain
- 43. Bar bill
- 44. Leg joint

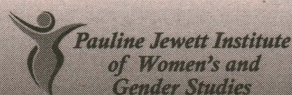
Down

- 2. Alien who rides in bicycle basket
- 3. Cry noise
- 4. Foot digits
- 6. 'Don't touch' for a baby
- 7. Actress Thurman
- 8. Tempo measurement
- 10. 3 down by-product
- 12. "Out, damned \_\_\_!"
- 13. Property measurement
- 15. American CD moguls' club
- 18. Half a school year
- 20. Ontario's booze emporium

Down

- 20. Ontario's booze emporium
- 23. Well dressed social clique
- 25. Her, in France
- 27. Where cloth meets
- 29. Aural receptors
- 31. Trip
- 33. Sweet potatoes, to the States
- 34. Animal doctor
- 36. Ryu's rival
- 39. Trio's biggest hit
- 41. Nairobi's country (abbrev.)

A new MA in WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES



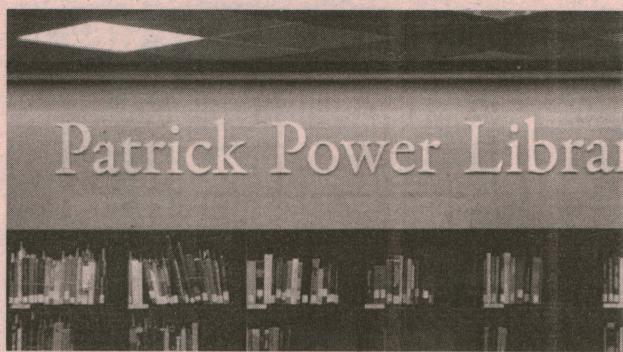
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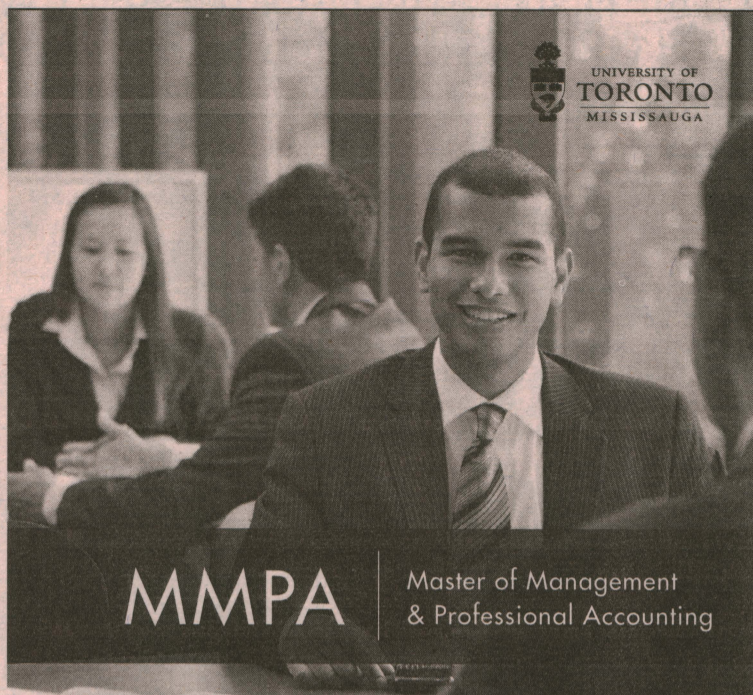


Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs



## Library Extends Hours

Patrick Power Library has extended its hours until the end of exams. From November 22 to December 17th the doors will be open until 1:00 am. The Circulation Desk (book borrowing, print credits, etc.) will close at midnight Nov. 20-Dec.1, and at 11:00pm December 2-17. "It's to help the students both now and during the exam period," says Ron Houlihan, Promotional Services at the Patrick Power Library. For more information visit [www.smu.ca/library](http://www.smu.ca/library).



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- 1 DANCE MOVIE / BASK / SELF RELEASED
- 2 TANYA DAVIS / CLOCKS AND HEARTS KEEP GOING / WORDY MUSIC
- 3 JENOCIDE / KNEE DEEP / SELF RELEASED
- 4 KID CUDI / MAN ON THE MOON II / UNIVERSAL
- 5 CHILLY GONZALES / IVORY TOWER / ARTS & CRAFTS
- 6 RON HYNES / STEALING GENIUS / BOREALIS
- 7 THE SUPERFANTASTICS / PLACES TO ROAM / SELF REL
- 8 CANTEEN KNOCKOUT / BROKEN DOWN TOWN / WEEWERK
- 9 FREDERICK SQUIRE / MARCH 12 / BLUE FOG
- 10 MOONSHINE RAMBLERS / MOONSHINE RAMBLERS / SELF REL

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## Arts&Entertainment

### 'LECTRIFYING LATIN DANCE PARTY WITH NOVA SCOTIA YOUTH ORCHESTRA AND LOS PRIMOS

**Bernhard Gueller**

Contributor

If last year's salsa dance party with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra (NSYO) and Halifax's Latin-music ensemble, Los Primos, dazzled you, this year's will electrify you! It's happening again, with even more sizzling salsa provided by Cindy Davis and Danny Godfrey of Halifax Salseros Salsa Dance Company. The 'Lectrifying Latin Dance Party, sponsored by MacKay Real Estate, will take place at 7:00 pm on Sunday, December 5, at the World Trade and Convention Centre on Argyle Street, Halifax.

"With the Latin music still ringing in our ears, we knew Halifax would turn out again for such an exciting fundraiser," says the orchestra's managing director Yvonne DeRoller. "Dinuk Wijeratne, our dynamic music director, is as good with salsa as he is with Pops, world music and the classical repertoire and we all know how good he is at that! The Halifax Salseros, who took the party by storm last year, have created a brand

new choreography to be performed by a handpicked group of talented young dancers."

Set to the Tito Puente classic Babarabatiri, this specially commissioned orchestral arrangement is by NSYO alumnus Chris Church, and generously made possible by Long & McQuade."

What's more, dance-party goers have the chance to bid in a live auction for two tickets to anywhere WestJet flies, including Hawaii and Mexico and the Caribbean. Another bonus is that C100's divine Peter Harrison, a former Halifax Media Idols winner, will be the master of ceremonies.

Wijeratne says "the 70-piece orchestra and the Primos will have you up on your feet in no time, dancing to spicy rhythms in hits from Gloria Estefan's Mi Tierra to seasonal greats such as Let it Snow.

"Musical highlights also include an NSYO showcase performance of a work recently commissioned by the orchestra," he adds.



Founded in 1977, the NSYO offers students exceptional educational and performance opportunities. Considered to be one of the finest youth ensembles in Canada, the orchestra's young players are coached by SNS musicians, the East Coast's finest orchestral musicians. Since 2005, the NSYO has been finely honed by Wijeratne.

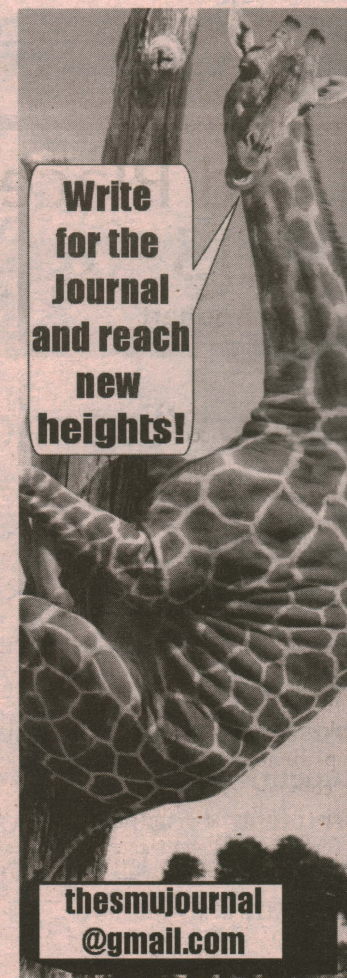
The Los Primos Project, under the direction of Jeff Goodspeed, has

been dedicated to cultural exchanges with – and the supply of instruments to – music schools in Cuba since 1997. The following year, a group of young Cubans came to Nova Scotia to participate in Goodspeed's summer jazz camp, starting a relationship that continues to inspire Nova Scotians with the proficiency the musicians display at a very early stage of their musical education.

"There's no doubt, says," says DeRoller, "these two wonderful organizations are building for the future, training new musicians year after year. Without them, Nova Scotia would not be nearly as culturally rich."

There'll also be a silent auction with the chance to win 50 000 Aeroplan miles. What's more, Halifax Salseros Salsa Dance Company has donated lessons for the silent auction. And there'll be more bartenders!

Tickets: \$20 each or \$200 for a table of 10. For tickets and more information call: (902) 423-5984; email nsyo@ns.sympatico.ca or go online www.novascotiayouthorchestra.com



### Fear Factor – The Gorsebrook

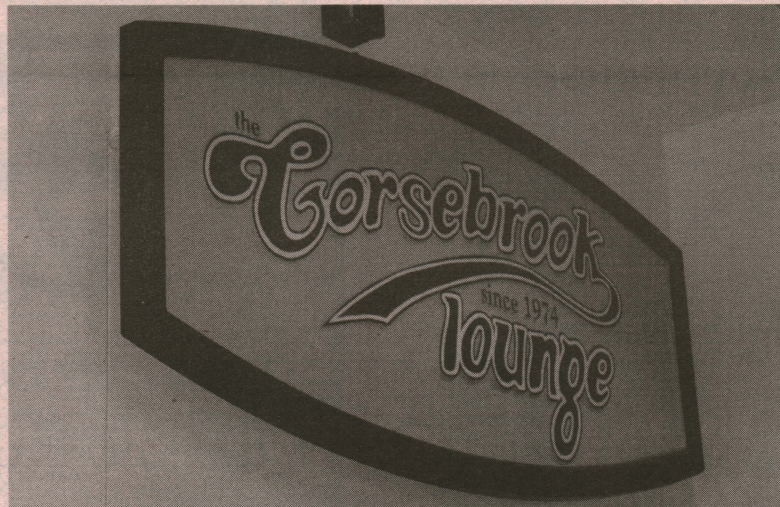
**Suzette Belliveau**

Contributor

Squid, blood, chicken legs and lap dances were all part of SIFE's Fear Factor game held at the Gorsebrook Pub on Thursday, November 18th 2010 at 10:00pm. All had a gruesome time! Especially the contestants!

The game began with seven contestants; the first challenge was for each participant to give a lap dance to their choice of a male or female volunteer from the audience. Enormous amount of laughter filled the Gorsebrook as contestants strutted his or her stuff for their volunteer. Booties were shaking and shirts were coming off, as the six male participants and the one female participant competed for the grand prize of one hundred dollars. Two male participants were eliminated after the first round.

The second challenge involved all five remaining participants to drink a blended mixture of beer, coffee beans, an onion, hot peppers and a habanera pepper while eating the contents found in one of the five mystery plates. Each contestant had five minutes to consume the food. The first contestant to participate chose a plate that had garlic gloves, which he had to fully consume, followed by eating ten crickets, then drinking the blended mixture. As he attempted to do this within five minutes, he unfortunately did not make it, vomiting in front of the Gorsebrook audience. The next contestant chose a plate with boiled squid, attempting to chew through its toughness and consume the blended mixture within five minutes. He did not vomit, but was unsuccessful at consuming the whole squid. The third participant to try his luck at



the blended mixture and the mystery plate ended up choosing two pigs feet. Within five minutes, and in the nick of time, he finished his meal and his drink, exclaiming that he was hungry and had not eaten supper yet. The fourth contestant, the only female participant, chose the mystery plate that served two lamb testicles. During the five minutes she quickly consumed the food, and while struggling with the drink, she managed to finish before the five minutes were up. The final contestant was awarded with the last of the mystery plates, which was beef blood, however, consuming both the blood and the blended mixture within the five-minute time frame. Two contestants were eliminated in this round, and the remaining three would participate in the final round.

The third challenge was bobbing for chicken legs. A large bin was filled with water and with oatmeal as chicken legs were thrown inside the mix, sinking to the bottom of the bin. Each contestant would have one minute to recover as many chicken legs as possible. This would make the task

quite difficult. The first contestant to try his luck at winning the price of one hundred dollars was able to recover four chicken legs. The second contestant was able to recover six chicken legs, leading the game. The third contestant, the only female participant, had difficulties and did not recover any of the chicken legs. Each of the participants was covered in water and oatmeal, and as people exclaimed, "at least they didn't smell like that disgusting blended drink anymore!"

Kyle Hewey was the lucky recipient of one hundred dollars, winning SIFE's Fear Factor game. Congrats Kyle, you deserve it!

SIFE, Students in Free Enterprise is a non-for profit society that is designed to better our community through environmental sustainability, entrepreneurship and financial literacy. Fear Factor was planned to help with the funding for some of the projects that SIFE is running, and to spread awareness of their society.

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