



THE JOURNAL

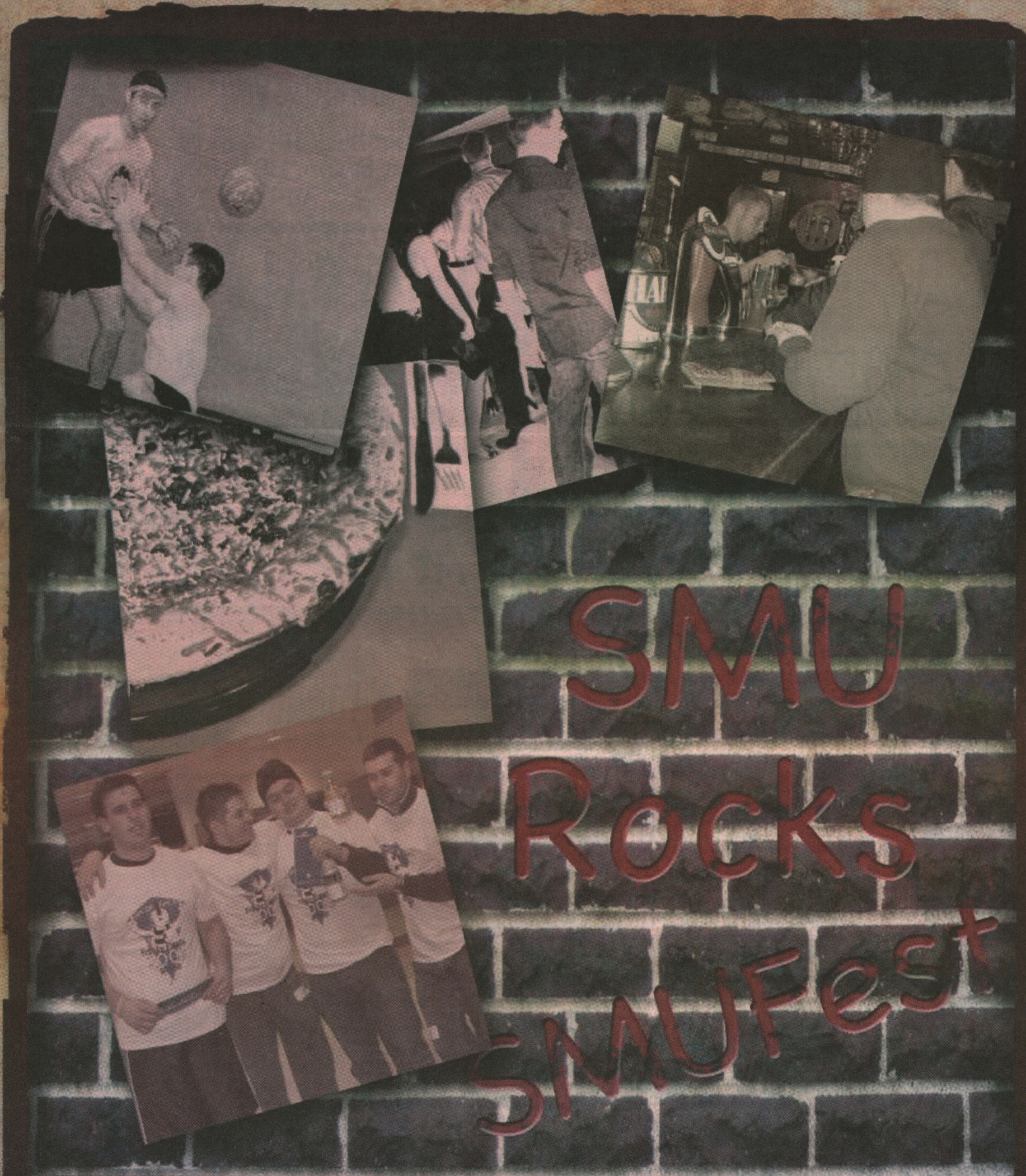
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PERSPECTIVES

TIME TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

KEELYN BERGSTROM

Writer

Standing in the midst of the so-called "Winter Ball" I felt somewhat disoriented and disconnected with the pride that we tend to attribute to ourselves as students of SMU. A better showing to the dance would have been required in order to feel the spirit that we all know and appreciate. What makes the "Winter Ball" so different from other school events? There are great showings at football games, basketball games, open mic night, wing night and other such gatherings. After all, just like those other events mentioned, the dance took a lot of time and effort to put together yet still managed to result in a very poor and depressing showing. Why is it that students did not feel the need to spend their Thursday night at such an event? Was it due to the fact that they were too afraid to put themselves on a dance floor where they felt exposed and open to rejection and criticism? Even the DJ, Shayne who played some very popular hit songs seemed to be surprised at the lack of students present. When asked how the response to the music had been so far he stated that he thought that there would be more people in attendance. Even with the lack of student presence at the event he managed to evoke an enthusiastic group of individuals who danced and had a good time.

Whilst talking to various people scattered around the dance floor I heard many state that the dance was merely a stopping point before they went downtown and had the time they had been waiting for all night; considering it a better pre-drinking spot than their residence room. I was surprised by this statement, seeing as

how downtown is seemingly always available and the dance was one of few open to the enjoyment of Saint Mary's students during the academic year. Although, in spite of the fact that we were in the student union building there is no doubt that the dancing was that of something you would see at a club or bar. People coupled with alcohol make a very interesting and stimulating crowd during events taking place within campus. There were the odd and obvious few that had chugged a few, too many drinks before stepping into the building but for the most part all of the individuals present seemed to be having a good time and chatting up their dance partners to some upbeat and motivating music.

It seems as if the fear of getting to know people that you have never met before prevailed and caused the room to be solely filled with balloons, streamers and a small group of students who chose to attend. I would love to ignite the feeling of pride required within our student body if better events are to be in our school's future. What ever happened to our proudly fuelled argument about how SMU students are more interesting than those who attend DAL? How can we really truly be proud of an identity that ceases to exist? With these thoughts in mind it is time to remember that school spirit is an important part of the SMU identity. Don't just sit back and watch these opportunities to exhibit a bit of pride in our school pass you by for it is in doing that we are likely to succeed as a thriving and ambitious student body. Next time in the name of participation get out there and do your part toward showing a bit of school spirit!

OUR MORAL OBLIGATION TO WORLD HUNGER

KAY JEFFREY

Contributor

Ethicists immerse themselves in the controversial debate of whether or not First World nations have a moral obligation to assist developing nations.

Writers, such as William Aiken, used theoretical situations in an attempt to further explore our moral obligation, as the wealthier part of world, to the lesser. In his book, *World Hunger and Morality*, he describes the "lifeboat theory". The theory suggests that the Earth's resources can be compared to a lifeboat and there are only 100 people who can survive on the boat. This select group of people signify the wealthy nations. However, there are 3000 people in the water at risk of drowning. If the people on the lifeboat were to let the people in the water on board, the lifeboat would sink and everyone would then drown. The "lifeboat theory" is essentially associated with the Earth's carrying capacity. Thus, there are many problems associated with the wealthy nations assisting the developing nations with long and short term affects. Then, one must take morality into consideration. There are parents and children in these poorer nations dying from diseases like diarrhoea that can be cured by medication found at your local drug store. There is no question that the rich countries would have to endure the consequences of aiding poorer countries, but there is question as to whether this is selfish and am-

oral, considering minor inconveniences could save millions of lives.

William Aiken associated the aid of developing nations to the Earth's limited carrying capacity. It is estimated that 90% of birth rates from now until 2025, will have occurred in these poor nations. If we were to assist these nations, it is argued that we would be putting a devastating demand on the Earth's limited natural resources. This causes long term affects on the global economy because allowing aid to developing nations is essentially letting the people in their live and reproduce at a much faster rate than they are dying off, putting a demand on the world's food supply. A boost in the demand for production, combined with the exploding global population could potentially risk the survival of future generations, despite what country they live in, rich or poor.

The short term problems in aiding poor countries lie in their governments and also in their ability to achieve self-sufficiency. By giving food to poor countries, in some cases, it is forcing the locals that sell food to compete with free food. Also, it is impossible to give directly to the people. The aid must first go to the countries' government and since many poor nation's governments are corrupt, it often does not go to the people. Instead, the aid is given to the military, or kept with the richer.

THE DYING APPRECIATION OF LANGUAGE

KEELYN BERGSTROM

Writer

While walking down the hallways of SMU I have discovered a growing trend in the way that our age group communicates with those around them. It is a habit which I am sure is becoming increasingly apparent to our professors, families, and those of whom choose to honour the use of proper presentation of our language. It seems as if the appreciation of literature and linguistics has been lost. Are we really refusing to speak in a manner that represents intelligence and intellectual capacity? When did "Huh?" become an acceptable replacement for "Pardon me, I happened to miss what you said." Grunting "What's up?" to acquaintances spotted in the hallways is now considered a passing communicative form for "Good Morning! How is your day going so far?" People have become so used to fishing for a few short words from within their not-so-long list of accessible vocabulary in order to express themselves. How can you possibly expect to convey any sense of mature emotion with such a short and lazy approach to the English language? I believe that the root of this problem is an avoidance of good literature on the part of many people within our society.

There is a genuine fear of reading that has caused a complete loss of interest in regard to books. I am not suggesting that Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* or Thackeray's *Vanity Fair* are books that would interest everyone. There are a lot of modern pieces of literature that are well worth picking up and enjoying in place of the obvious classics. In fact, these are even specified by preference and interest. You can gain access to business, science, architectural, travel or athletic books easily. All you have to do is take yourself to a book store or a library and let the immersing begin! It has even noticeably become a habit to assume that those who read for

pleasure are ridiculous individuals who have nothing better to do with their time. I beg to differ. Although it may seem to some that sitting with a book for hours on end is an antisocial ritual waiting to be shed, I do not agree. Studies have shown that those who are well read in the area of fiction tend to have better social skills and show a greater understanding of other's emotions. Many authentic intellectuals have been raised off of the awe-inspiring and intricate words of those who came before them. (Back when people did not use shortened versions of words and cold language which conveys no message worth understanding).

Instead of using your lesser judgement in archetypically defining these individuals, why don't you try to read something interesting yourselves? Maybe expand that short vocabulary of yours and sound like a more intelligent and thought provoking individual. Not only will this help with mental capacity and social awareness, it will also enhance your writing skills which will, in consequence, very likely improve your marks in university classes. I cannot imagine that professors enjoy reading the same fifty words re arranged in a thousand different ways and spread out onto ten pages. It seems to me that gaining an appreciation of literature and vocabulary is an idea that could benefit everyone. If you say that you do not have the time to enjoy foolish pages of writing that hold no importance to you whatsoever then I may have to stare at you in utter disbelief. If you consider facebook or MSN a better and more productive way to spend your spare time then I guess that is your decision. I find that reading books is a lot more therapeutic than reading the newest upcoming dramas between circles of friends (and even, viewing them through pictures!). Being spoon-fed a diet of abbreviated thoughts and flippant responses from others is not to be considered mind expanding. Cau-

It is also argued that instead of the "have not" countries acting with responsibility and working on food production and population growth regulation, they have spent all their money on corruption and military regimes. Therefore, the "have" countries should not have to suffer for the irresponsibility of a negligent neighbour.

The notion that the have countries should not suffer for the irresponsibility of the have not countries, neglects the simple truth that people, just like us, are dying every day in thousands. Eight million child deaths each year are a result of diarrhea and other respiratory illnesses. These are illnesses that can be cured by cheap medicine at your fingertips. One child dies every three seconds due to poverty and the cost to aid world hunger, is less than the cost to advertise cigarettes in one year.

In an article, *World Hunger: A Moral Response*, by Claire Andre and Manuel Velaquez, they explain that in giving to the poor, the rich nations will experience some minor inconveniences in their style of living. However, they compare this selfish mindset to "failing to save a child drowning in a pool because of the inconvenience of getting one's clothes wet". It is also argued that when the wealthy population of first world countries spend money needlessly, they are in turn responsible for the

needless deaths that are happening in poverty-stricken countries. This theory can be compared to-killing someone unintentionally, yet still being morally responsible. By not assisting these nations, one could suggest that we are indirectly committing moral murder, by casually letting people die that we could potentially save.

The argument presented by William Aiken, that aiding poor nations will boost population growth in developing countries can be countered by the evidence shown by wealthy nations that as a country accumulates more wealth, the birth rates tend to decrease. In respect to the world's natural resources, the average American uses up to thirty times the natural world resources of an Asian or African. If anyone is putting a demand on the global food supply, it would not be those of poorer nations.

There is a large gap between wealthy nations and developing nations. It is our obligation, morally, to make this gap smaller. It's often forgotten that we live in a global village. It's up to us to remember that one must assist their neighbor, whether it be the person beside you or the country. Every initiative you take, word you speak, and kindness you give matters in the world.

"A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people."
-Mohandas Gandhi

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INTERVIEW WITH PROVINCIAL NDP LEADER DARREL DEXTER

JEFF CUSACK
News Editor

Let it never be said that the provincial NDP is run by socialists. Before my interview with NDP leader Darrel Dexter began, he was enthusiastically meeting with venture capitalists from Bastionhost to discuss their "Data-ville" project, which aims to make Halifax a data hub to bridge the financial centres between New York and London.

To start my interview, I asked Mr. Dexter how he envisions helping students with their financial problems, which are being made worse by the recession. He explained to me that his solution would be to invest in infrastructure, but not to focus on material infrastructure such as bridges and roads, which has been the priority of the provincial government. His priority would be to invest in human infrastructure, and use federal aid for increased funding for education, job skills training, and government work programs to improve the ability of the workforce. He pointed out that those with a post-secondary education earn 60-70% more than those with a high school education, meaning that improving access to post-secondary education is important for growing the economy. He also emphasized the importance of education to him, explaining that he got his start in politics as a student politician.

Recent statistics have shown a drop in the enrolment numbers at Halifax universities as well as decreased interest in post-secondary education. When asked about this Mr. Dexter said that he didn't think there really was decreased interest, but that Halifax universities had simply priced themselves out of the market. He believes that because of its low tuition, instead of going to a school in Nova Scotia many students go to Memorial University in Newfoundland, which has so many Nova Scotian students they have their own student association. He said that an additional downside to Nova Scotian students going to non-NS universities was that many of them never come back, leading to a loss of potential human capital.

Looking beyond the province's borders, Mr. Dexter called out-of-province students Nova Scotia's single biggest immigration opportunity, and said more should be done to keep them in the province after they finish their education. He explained that providing students with better summer jobs, increasing co-op opportunities and the number of business internships, and creating a program for internships within the provincial government could integrate newcomers into Nova Scotia and prompt native Nova Scotians to stay by providing them with good jobs and sound financial footing. Mr. Dexter explained that the government once had an internship program for students, which many current senior bureaucrats in the legislature participated in. With many provincial bureaucrats about to retire, an internship program could lead to a career path for many students as new jobs open up.

Although Mr. Dexter said that he stayed out of the affairs of federal politicians, including those of his own party, he did repeatedly emphasize his desire to see the federal govern-

ment create a national needs-based grant system for post-secondary education. This would create a situation where all students in Nova Scotia had access to education, and didn't have to leave the province after graduating in order to pay off debt.

Regarding the current provincial government's education policy, Mr. Dexter said that although the government has pledged that they will lower



Nova Scotia's tuition to parity with the national average, they have yet to do so. He also noted that the reductions that have been made only affect students from Nova Scotia, which could be disadvantageous for N.S. in its role as Canada's biggest importer of students. Mr. Dexter said that if he were premier he would reduce tuition to a competitive level and then freeze it. I asked him how this would affect the capital level of universities and their ability to invest in new projects, as several institutions have come out against tuition freezes due to fear of losing money needed for investment. He agreed that the money lost through tuition reductions had to be matched by increased government contributions to Nova Scotian universities so that they could continue to invest in education and infrastructure.

Mr. Dexter expressed frustration with the current provincial government under Conservative leader Rodney MacDonald. He felt that the Premier has been uncooperative, and has been purposefully trying to create wedge issues between the NDP and Conservatives rather than putting the needs of Nova Scotians first. He gave the provincial government's Bill 1, which would have eliminated the right of health workers to strike, as an example. He claimed that this bill was only introduced to get public opinion on the side of the government and away from the NDP, and then was quickly dropped when the opposite happened. Mr. Dexter said that his relationship with former premier John Hamm was much better. The two met regularly and looked at which issues they could collaborate on and which issues they could not. He reported that this stopped after Mr. MacDonald took power.

The NDP's frustration with the Conservatives may soon trigger an election. Mr. Dexter was clear that the current 3 year old government has been around for longer than is typical for a minority government, and that it would be "foolish" not to prepare for

a spring election. So far the NDP has secured 35 of 52 nominations for the next election and are close to securing several more. Mr. Dexter said that as a party which has always tried to be progressive, he hopes that his party will appeal to the province's youth. He said that politics in Nova Scotia needed to become about "Hope" again, and that there was no reason that Nova Scotia couldn't embrace Hope and Change the way the United States has with their recent federal election.

Since the inception of the Atlantica concept, which involves economic harmonization between the Atlantic Provinces and the North-Eastern U.S. (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York), students in Nova Scotia have been involved in protesting it. Before discussing the issue with me, Mr. Dexter explained first that an unfortunate side effect of the Atlantica controversy was that many had begun to associate it with the Atlantic Gateway project, an important project aiming to turn Halifax into a pivotal port of call for emerging markets in Asia. On Atlantica itself, he said that he thought the concept was completely unworkable. As a member of the Council of State Governments, which includes

both American States and Canadian Provinces, Mr. Dexter said he was seeing an increasing awareness that the political systems of the two countries were simply too different for harmonization to occur. Even Vermont and New Hampshire, two neighbouring states, have been unable to harmonize their economies with each other, and they are far more similar to each other than to the Canadian provinces.

Instead of focusing on the Atlantica concept, Mr. Dexter believes other cross-border issues deserve more attention. He specifically focused on the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, which requires anyone who enters the United States, including Americans, to have a passport. With only 60% of Americans having passports, this could hurt Nova Scotia's tourism industry as well as other industries that depend on cross-border traffic. Institutions such as the World Trade and Convention Centre in downtown Halifax could potentially lose opportunities to host conventions for American-based companies. Mr. Dexter was hopeful that the new Obama administration would see fit to re-evaluate the Initiative. He also said that border efficiency as a whole could be improved, and wanted to work together with American states to enact joint initiatives to improve the flow of trade. A more efficient system of trade is essential if Halifax is to act as a main port of call as part of the Atlantic Gateway project.

This interview is the first in a series of interviews with leaders who impact the lives of Halifax residents. Next week I talk to Mayor Peter Kelley.

HAPPENING @ SMU: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK EVENTS AND MORE!

Wednesday, February 4th: Dr. Nigel

JEFF CUSACK
News Editor

Fisher, President and CEO will be giving a lecture on the importance of Girls' education in the developing world. The lecture is entitled: Girls' Education: An Inoculation Against Abuse and Exploitation. An abbreviated version of the lecture takes place from 12:00-1:00pm in the International Centre on the 3rd floor of the SUB. The full lecture takes place in Burke Theatre B from 7-9:00 pm.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Help support Cancer research by causing pain to others! The Journal's Trumped team is raising money for the Canadian Cancer Society by hosting Clip, Snip & Rip! A... unique event where participants donate money in order to cut a chunk of hair (snip), shave some hair (clip,) or just tear some hair out with wax (rip!). The event goes from 7:00pm - 12:00am in the SUB cafeteria, so you can participate and then go get drunk and eat wings at the bar right next door! Or get drunk and then participate (probably not a good idea)! A great way to get rid of some of that pent-up rage from the preceding school week.

Thursday, February 5: Jacob Deng, one of the "Lost Boys of Sudan" and a Saint Mary's Student, will give a talk on how one individual can make a difference in the world. Deng is a refugee from the Sudan who spent years wandering through Ethiopia, Sudan, and Kenya with thousands of other children forced from their

homes. Conditions were so bad that an average of twenty children died each day. Today Deng runs Wadeng Wings of Hope, a charity which raises money for the education of children in Southern Sudan. The talk goes from 6:00-8:30 in McNally Main 208.

Friday February 6: Ben White, a professor of Rural Sociology at The Hague, will be giving a presentation called Rethinking 'Child Labour': rights and wrongs of children's work. The lecture explores times when paid labour done by children can be beneficial and not harmful, and times when unpaid work at home and school can be harmful. McNally Main 208, 12-1:00pm.

Friday, February 6: The IDS grad society is hosting its annual trivia night from 7-10:00pm. Entry is five dollars and there are many prizes to be won. All proceeds go to Wadeng Wings of Hope, a charity which raises money so that children in Southern Sudan can get an education.

**Friday, February 6: The IDS society and WUSC are hosting the ROCK FOR REFUGEES concert at the Gorsebrook. Headlining the concert is Saa Andrew, an inspirational musician and refugee from Sierra Leone, Saa Andrew's Dance Hall Reggae and R&B is sure to impress you. All proceeds from the night go to WUSC's student refugee program, which allows the group to fund a refugee's education and accommodations at Saint Mary's for a year. \$2 dollars if you attend trivia night, \$4 dollars if you come in after 9:30.



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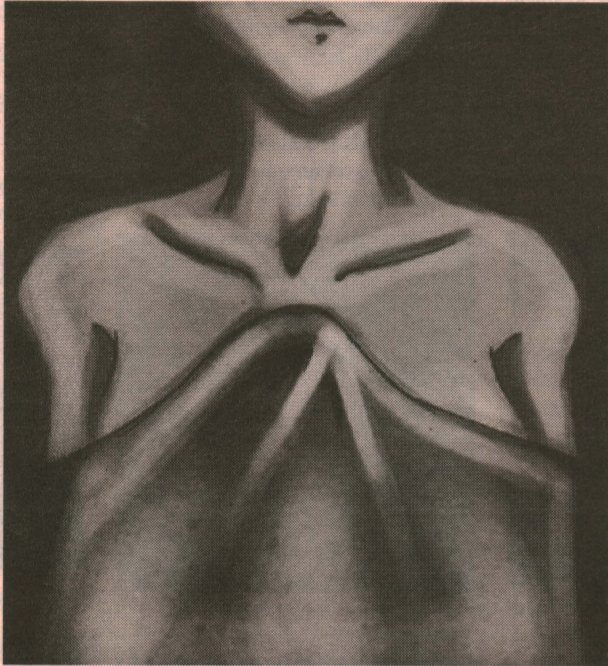
THE NAKED BODY – ART OR PORNOGRAPHY?

DAWN DAVIS
A & E Editor

The body is a beautiful thing. As long as we have been around, we have been capable of admiring each other and ourselves in our immaculate forms. Of course, as long the body has received reverence, it has also been used and abused. So what draws the line between the naked body being seen as art, or as a sexual image? The Saint Mary's women centre hosted a small debate on this issue last week, one of many that the society will host on a bi-weekly basis. What is it that classifies the naked body as art, erotica, or pornography? Is it the intent of the artist, the subject, or our own culture which draws the lines?

In this culture, the naked body is everywhere, yet it often tends to be over-scandalized at the same time. A concept that comes up often in this topic is the concept of decency. Many perceive that it is decency which decides the role of the naked body, while others argue that it is about intent. Who is it that decides what is 'decent'? Those with more conservative values may argue with more liberal folk over what changes when a nipple is revealed in an image. As for intent, whose intent is the one that matters? A photographer

may take an artistic nude shot, and the picture may be seen by a viewer as a sexual image. For the viewer, the intent may be pornographic while for another it may have artistic and alternative intent. Like everything else,



gates and overpowers women, or an industry which empowers and frees women. Is this industry turning other women into idolized sex objects, or into sexually independent human beings? Is this sexuality also deserving of artistic respect, or will it also be viewed as pornography?

In the past, sex has been encouraged and embraced while in other situations repressed strictly. Today, we have the same dramatically different perspectives in action simultaneously. While the fine art industry is very free from these classifications as art comes in many forms, it is other industries which see criticism. Film, for example, has to fight for certain ratings if they show a little too much (Zack and Miri) while no one blinks at vivid yet dark scenes (Highlander). Books juggle between 'erotica' and 'romance', and comics struggle to stay in their

target audience regardless of a potentially inappropriate plot point. Who is it that defines what is appropriate for what genre, and what is not? What is it that transforms the naked body from art to porn?

To discuss this debate and many others, feel free to pop into the Saint Mary's Women's Centre, located on the fifth floor of the Students' Centre

things are taken to mean different things by different people. So what is it that makes us so inclined to relate the naked body to something sexual?

One argument on this topic might be culturally related: is it the culture which has created us that tells us that the naked body should be understood as a sexual object? Or is it natural that we are attracted to the naked image? Pornography itself can be understood as either an industry which subju-

Photo Credit: Lining done by Dawn Davis, Colouring done by Marlon Solis

THE WAR AT ELLSMERE ~ A REVIEW

DAWN DAVIS
A & E Editor

From the artist of Jenny's Brothers, a comic strip you may have seen in the Chronicle Herald, comes a new volume from Haligonian artist and writer Faith Erin Hicks. This is a writer I was introduced to after she worked closely with my brother-in-law on the new George of the Jungle cartoon. Promptly after, he lent me her first published work, Zombies Calling, about a zombie movie aficionado who finds herself living in a zombie apocalypse. After the success of Zombies, and her popular web comic Demonology 101, The War at Ellsmere is a little closer to reality, about a young girl named Juniper who receives a scholarship to attend a private boarding school.

Juniper comes from a second-class family who finds herself fighting for survival in a first-class institution. The prestigious Ellsmere is a building surrounded by forests, and within it Juniper finds a quirky and intimate friend in her roommate Cassie, as well as a viciously competitive nemesis in her peer, Emily. On top of everything, there lurks a great secret in the forests, involving the founders of the school, and something that has captured Cassie's heart.

The War at Ellsmere is an interesting story to find marketed toward

University students, (you might have noticed posters all over SMU campus close to the holiday season) it's



a sweet and sentimental tale, and yet at the same time highly aware of the merciless cruelty of youth. There are topics of talent, mysticism, death, friendship and rivalry, all within 156 wonderfully illustrated pages. Hicks' art style is simple but practised, and grows on you throughout the novel.

The writing is great, with one sorely missed element: length. Although Hicks' work reads with her characters feeling like familiar friends, they are not given a sufficient amount of time to develop themselves. Rather than feeling fulfilled and satisfied by the novel, I am appeased – but I wasn't ready to say goodbye just yet. It feels like they were taken from me in the middle of our getting to know each other better. Maybe Ellsmere would have been at its prime at a rounded 200 pages.

If you're looking for a nice short, visual read, then The War at Ellsmere would probably suit you. With the same heart as Bryan Lee O'Malley's Lost At Sea (a personal favourite), Ellsmere will be capable of capturing the heart of many young girls trying to find their way around the last stretch

until freedom. It may also be a great relief to those of us waiting for our own light at the end of the tunnel. I spent much of The War at Ellsmere thinking about how much I needed this book when I was seventeen.

WE ARE AN EMPIRE, MY DEAR; INTERVIEW WITH IN-FLIGHT SAFETY.

NICOLE YEADON
Contributor

What is In-Flight Safety you may ask? This image may come to mind: a flight attendant demonstrating safety procedures and emergency exits; the question we're dealing with here is who? Halifax's In-Flight Safety, is a band in operation since the early 2000s. Their members have included: Brad Goodsell (bass), John Mullane (voice, guitars), Glen Nicholson (drums), and Daniel Ledwell (piano, guitars, and keyboards).

The members of In-Flight Safety met as students at Mount Allison University, in Sackville, New Brunswick. Glen Nicholson, drummer for IFS, explained that the members kind of found each other based on common interests, friendship, and then a band. What had started out as something to do on the weeknights after nine, turned into something bigger than they had ever imagined. As it turns out their name does indeed derive from flying. John Mullane, vocals for IFS had written a song titled: In-Flight Safety, which Nicholson expressed, was not a crowd pleaser among the band. The song articulated Mullane's fear of flying; eventually the name just stuck.

In-Flight Safety's newest album, "We Are an Empire, My Dear", was released on January 27th, 2009 with twelve brand new tracks. This album shows a more edgy and serious side of the group, with tracks such as: "torches," "model homes," and "actors." The new album leans more toward issues and feelings surrounding society and civilization in general. The band has faced many learning curves along the path of making music, and they have become more educated about the industry, Canada and their experiences through working with other musicians and touring as a whole. Nicholson said that there is no right or wrong in this industry, and that this album has given them a lot of freedom and a clear and realistic look on their level of success. "We Are an Empire, My Dear" definitely brings something new to the local music scene, especially if you're looking for that "new music fix" or you just happen to be long-time fan, such as myself.

The Marquee is one of the band's favourite stages to play on, and the location will be hosting their CD release party on February 6th at 10. IFS have good expectations for the show,

THE JOURNAL wants You
Interested in writing for The Journal? Join our meetings on Thursday at 4pm or Monday at 10am in The Journal office on the 5th floor of the student Union Building.

CAMP TOWANDA

SUMMER CAMP JOBS IN THE US

CAMP TOWANDA, a coed residential summer camp in Pennsylvania has openings for counselors, coaches and instructors 6/20-8/15. Applicants 19+ earn excellent salary, room, board, travel allowance and J-1 visa reimbursement. Information meeting at SMU Monday evening February 9th at 7:00 PM in SOBEY Room 160. Interviewing Wednesday February 11th from 10-3 at Student Employment Center Room 411A. Visit www.camp towanda.com Staff Experience for application. Other questions??? Or to sign up for an interview....email staff@camp towanda.com or call 800 923-2267.

Image source: slgcomic.com

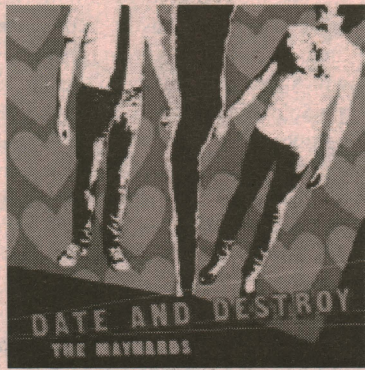
DAWN DAVIS
Arts & Entertainment

REVIEW... IN A HAIKU



SugarBird by Paul Reddick
4/5

Acoustics and voice
An album of sounds we love,
And often forget.



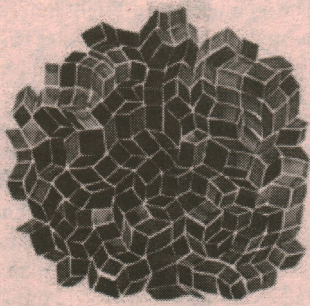
Date and Destroy by The Maynards
3/5

Catchy garage rock
I want to sway and bang some.
Lots of the same thing.



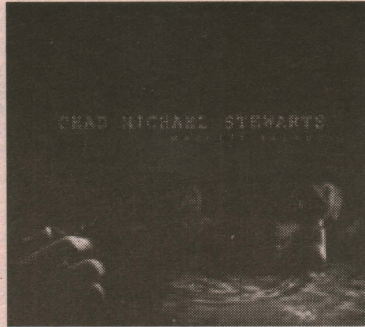
Fantasy Black Channel by Late of the Pier
4/5

This is what I like,
Melody in all the sounds
New age, plus retro.



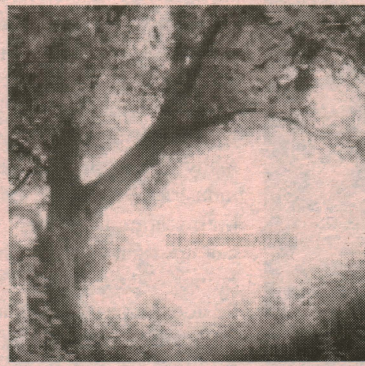
Automatic/Musquito Bite EP by Stacy Lloyd Brown
3/5

Acoustic and synth.
You think you know this album,
then the next song starts.



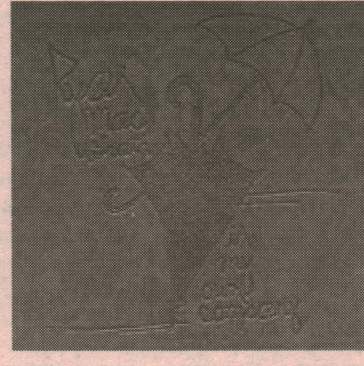
Machete Avenue by Chad Michael Stewarts
2/5

There are some nice ones,
But everything sounds the same.
Masses will love it.



The Memories Attack 2 by The Memories Attack
2/5

How to describe this?
Hypnotic rock sounds and words,
In a boring way.



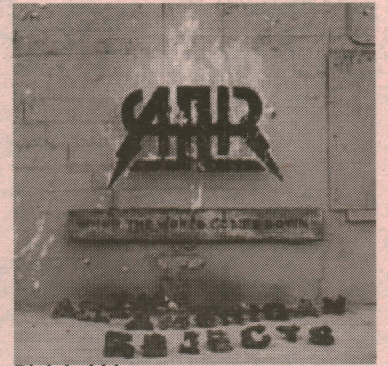
In My Own Company by Ryan MacGrath
5/5

The new East-Coast sound,
So familiar, yet unique.
I think I'm in love



Ray Guns Are Not Just The Future by The Bird and the Bee
5/5

Fantastic vocals
Jazz-dancing through streets music.



Pink bubblegum sweet.

When The World Comes Down by All-American Rejects
4/5

A bit too catchy.
They have a late-nineties' sound.
Cute, and nostalgic.



Dimensions d'Istanbul by Eric St-Laurent
3/5

Truly beautiful
Worldly instrumental work.

BEWARE: YOUR GRAPHIC NOVEL MAY BE A COMIC BOOK!

DAWN DAVIS & JENNIFER YOUNG

The comic book sure has been granted a piece of credibility lately with films like *The Dark Knight* and roles such as Robert Downey Jr.'s portrayal of Tony Stark in *Ironman* finding popularity in mainstream culture — a position superhero comics have often flirted with tentatively though any honest attempts at courtship have been abortive at best. More often than not, mainstream culture has had a greater impact on the super-hero genre than vice-versa, as seen in the mid-nineties when the success of prime-time drama *Lois & Clark* finally united Superman and his long term love interest, Lois Lane thusly inspiring DC comics to finally take the plunge and marry off their flagship character.

This new veneer of sophistication that has been artificially grafted onto the most popular comic genre has casual readers of sequential art clamouring to define the difference and se-

paration between artistic comics and the things nerds read. From this dark pit of social phobia comes the term: "graphic novel".

Now, I'm not going to tell you that there is no such thing as a graphic novel, but I would like you to know that the term is frequently and enthusiastically misused. It has become (or perhaps it always has been) a term people use to excuse their reading material. "Umm, this is not a comic book. I don't read comic books — this is a graphic novel." I'll give you a quick example here (and, currently, a high profile one): Alan Moore's *Watchmen* is not a graphic novel. It is a comic book, inarguably. Moore will tell you so, himself.

So, you may ask, where is the line drawn? Most people would have you think it is a tonal separation: comics are kids stuff. It's lowest common denominator brainless entertainment that feeds the reptilian hump of the unevolved psyche. Graphic novels are mature, thoughtful and complex,

dedicated to exploring "real human issues". If you haven't guessed it, this is all wrong. If there's any simple answer, it's a matter of serialization. While — like *Watchmen* — many finished comics do work as a single, novel-like narrative, which the story was originally told in a separate issue format is an important attribute at work. *Watchmen* famously features an issue with mirrored panels, a careful bit of artistry which is impressive read as a chapter of a larger work, but totally staggering as a single issue experience. Comics are patchwork stories made up of smaller stories within a flexible tapestry.

While graphic novels are created as large, singular bodies of work, such as *Maus*, and are clearly legitimate meaningful works of visual storytelling, stop to think the next time you read a "graphic novel" about how that story wove itself together. Maybe there's a lot more work to its planning than you had originally guessed.

COMICS FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T WANT TO BE SEEN READING COMICS

DAWN DAVIS
A & E Editor

Listed here are comics (not graphic novels) that you — the not comic fan — might just love. Comic fans, you've heard of these before. Extensively.

Strangers in Paradise: a simple story about a complicated love triangle that turns into an international crime drama, but never loses its heart.

Spider-Man Loves Mary Jane: a char-

ming series about Mary Jane Watson in high school.

Runaways: a tragicomedy about super powered kids on the run from their super villain parents.

Preacher: holy man on a mission to find God and make him take responsibility for his creations. Crude, rude, hyper violent, but oddly touching.

Transmetropolitan: Spider Jerusalem is the Hunter S. Thompson of the

near future. A story about politics and gonzo journalism.

Fables: fairy tale characters forced into the real world and then taken to their logical conclusion.

Y: The Last Man: exactly what it sounds like, except not sexist. Brilliant suspense.

Bone: an all-ages fantasy odyssey about family legacy, morality, meeting your destiny and all that stuff.

100 WORDS

Story One

Walking down the hallway, I smelt something familiar. "This smells like K." A couple of meters later, there was a different scent. "This smells like Y." Then it hit me like a car going 100km/hr, I forgot what you smell like. I remember the day after we "broke up"; I had a few drinks, couldn't sleep and ended up at your place, huddled up in your bed, hiding under the sheets, crying. With every breath I took I was breathing you in, hoping to take in as much as I could, for I knew it'd be the last time.

Story Two

Unforgettable experience. Wealth of new friendships. Respect from peers. Comprehensive training. Amazing skill development augmenting your degree. Improve your employability upon graduation. This can be your Saint Mary's experience. How? Residence Assistant. RA. Leadership. Communication skills. Problem solving. Adaptability. Resource person. Helping others make their transition to University. Support person. Event organizer. Programmer. Crisis intervener. Administrative and volunteer opportunities. Satisfaction of a job well done. Learn how you can make a real difference at the RA Open House. Wednesday, February 4th at eight o'clock in Sobey's 255. Hear first hand experiences. See presentations. Watch a sweet video. See you there?

Think you can write a story in 100 words? No more, no less. Submit your story to arts.smu@gmail.com this week and enter to win free preview movie passes, thanks to www.sizzlingpopcorn.com

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IS THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY SUFFERING IN THE ECONOMIC DECLINE?

DAWN DAVIS
A & E Editor

With the recent dramatic shifts of power among the government, and multi-million dollar bailouts and deficits coming from governments, the entertainment industry appears to be releasing content at a consistent rate. Is the faltering worldwide economy causing the entertainment industry no repercussions whatsoever, or is it stumbling behind a cool and collected façade? Some say that the entertainment industry is 'recession-proof', but perhaps our favourite hobbies aren't as untouchable as we believe.

The film and video industry is one which survives through all odds. Even through tough times, we all scrounge for pennies in the couch to get away from our stress in the theatres chewing on over-priced popcorn. This was the case during the depression, and we will continue to embrace the things that let us forget about our problems in tough times. Video rental companies actually experience periods of growth in times of economic tension. Other areas of this industry might not be seeing so much success. Cuba Gooding Jr. and Samuel L. Jackson walked away from the Ironman sequel due to stunningly

poor offers for their acting abilities. Recently, Mickey Rourke was offered \$250,000 for a part as the film's main villain. Considering Rourke's Golden Globe and the first Ironman's \$582 million at the box office, this is an insult. What else is Marvel spending their money on? Are they being cautious about these strenuous economic times?

While the video game industry in Canada is quite small, mostly consisting of departments used for outsourcing, the larger offices in the United States have been downsizing one after another. After an explosion in growth since the past economic decline, they have been cutting their losses for the current one, leaving the companies promising the same output without the manpower. Whether or not they have reacted pre-emptively or if they have seen the economy's role on their sales remains to be seen. What is clear is that the game industry is taking a hit, at least in the USA. Canadian companies are small and may manage to slip under the radar, as long as companies from more than the States take advantage of our skills. The demand for video games, however, is unlikely to wane. Hopefully, the industry can keep up with

the need, in spite of its losses.

On an optimistic note, the book industry perseveres against all odds. While American publishers are becoming cautious and have cut many jobs, the Canadian economy remains the stronger of the two. Several publishers have cut a handful of jobs from their ranks, but their productions continue. After the issues surrounding the Canadian vs. American dollar of 2007 and the difficult sales of that year, 2008 was a refreshing change as the reduced prices intended to take the heat were still in place. Therefore, the book industry is still fighting strong, and many of those worried about losing their jobs turn to schooling and textbooks in order to beef up on their knowledge.

Undeniable evidence tells us that this 'recession-proof' aspect of our society isn't free of its own trouble, and yet it is still riding strong as our escape from this harsh reality. Even those who have lost their jobs will continue to indulge in their choice entertainment, because that's what we live for in our free time. Although the industry might undergo some severe punishment, it will always hang on for better or worse.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: CONQUEST

NICK MADORE
Writer

Upon the realization that, thus far, I've only written about games that I've enjoyed, I thought I'd switch things up a little. Admittedly, I haven't been much of a Lord of the Rings fan ever since I did that 12- (or so) hour marathon of all three special editions over the holiday break. That much LotR in such a short time period is not a great idea, even for a geek such as myself. I am, however, a fan of 2004's Star Wars: Battlefront, also by developer Pandemic Studios.

This game plays pretty much just like Battlefront. So why was Battlefront so good and Conquest not so good? Pandemic didn't really mess with the formula, but the franchise just isn't as popular as Star Wars. While the battle scenes certainly did seem more epic in scale in the Lord of the Rings films relative to the Star Wars films, this title just doesn't seem to pull it off, leading to some disappointment.

For those unfamiliar with the Star Wars: Battlefront games or The Lord of the Rings: Conquest, it's basically a class-based action adventure button masher, not dissimilar from Dynasty Warriors, but more objective-based. Objectives include capturing a certain point, breaking down barriers, and killing x number of y. This is my first gripe with the game: it's far too repetitive. Mix up the order and number of each objective, and that's pretty much any given level. There's just no motivation to finish it; it

feels like if you've played one level, you've played them all. The difficulty seems to be all over the place: sometimes it's not bad, but other times it's just downright frustrating. Too often I was caught in a juggle that completely drained my health from 100%, even on the easiest setting. Other times you'll be given some arbitrary task, and while you have about 30 guys fighting with you, they'd prefer to stand around and gang up on one or two enemies, leaving you to rush into the middle of the enemy's army all by yourself.

If you do end up making it through the first campaign, titled "The War of the Ring" chronicling the events of the Fellowship, you'll unlock a second campaign, titled "The Rise of Sauron": a hypothetical scenario wherein Sauron manages to grab the One Ring from Frodo just before he tosses it into the fires of Mount Doom. You get to play as the bad guys, taking over Middle Earth. To complete both campaigns takes around 5 or 6 hours. Almost as a treat for making it that far, the last level of this campaign allows you to slay as many hobbits as you want while seizing the Shire. They just keep spawning! Both campaigns are narrated by different narrators. The evil campaign's narrator isn't that bad, but the other one is just intolerable. For some reason he's SHOUTING AT YOU THE WHOLE TIME, and about every 10 seconds or so he'll repeat what he just said (your objective), just in case you forgot. At first it's kind of funny, but it gets old really fast. It's a shame that I had to

mute the game at times; the rest of the game's audio was pretty solid. The score is standard LotR fare, and the sound effects were pretty good.

The classes to play with are quite unbalanced. At the beginning of the level you can choose one of four classes to play with: warrior, mage, archer, and scout. Why anyone would pick anything other than the mage is beyond me. The mage can heal himself and others, has decent ranged attacks, and great area-of-effect attacks. The warrior and archers aren't bad, but playing the scout is quite an ordeal. They're supposed to be able to enter a stealth mode in order to sneak around behind enemies to deal a devastating backstab, but they always end up seeing you, or you miss the backstab even though you're standing right behind them. Hit detection is, ironically, hit and miss. This is but one example of the various bugs and glitches throughout your conquest.

What bumps this game up from a "bleh" to a "meh" is the multiplayer. Short, simple, and relatively fun, two teams face off against each other to either capture certain points in a King-of-the-Hill type game or just kill each other in a Deathmatch type game. Each round takes about 10 minutes. If you loved Star Wars: Battlefront's multiplayer then you'll like this, but will still want to stick with Battlefront.

The Lord of the Rings: Conquest is available on PC, Xbox 360 and PlayStation 3.

BITE SIZE ENTERTAINMENT

YouTube

Broadcast Yourself™

Watch YouTube Videos in 1080p

In a competitive move after Microsoft's Xbox affiliation to NetFlix, Sony has affiliated with YouTube. Now you can watch YouTube in a special upgraded version on your PlayStation3 in your living room. This is a nice plus for Canadians, since the NetFlix service is not available here. Now we can quickly switch from gaming to YouTube for ZeroPunctuation, everyone's favourite animated review.



Scott Pilgrim vs. The World Casting Explosion!

This adorable comic series written by former Halifax resident Bryan Lee O'Malley is, if you haven't heard, becoming a big-budget Hollywood movie. Michael Cera is set to play Scott Pilgrim, with Mary Elizabeth Winstead as Ramona Flowers. Recently, O'Malley has revealed on his LiveJournal that Keiran Culkin will be playing Scott Pilgrim's gay room mate, Wallace. Scott Pilgrim vs The Universe, the final volume in the series celebrates its official release date on February 5th, but may take time to reach your average bookstore.



Asimov Returns to the Silver Screen

WB has achieved the rights to turn Isaac Asimov's 'Foundation' into a movie. The science fiction classic was originally a trilogy, and though no official statement has been released on the likelihood of a series, it appears obvious to reporters. Some sources say two to three movies will be made. The script will be written by Jeff Vintar, who wrote Asimov's previous film adaptation, I, Robot.



A Lively Week for the Xbox 360

After a sleepy January for video game releases all over America, the Xbox 360 finally gets the first big title of the year with **Fear 2: Project Origin**. The sequel to the early next gen first person action horror, **Fear 2** has a new developer this time around.

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PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2009/2010

Matt Andersen

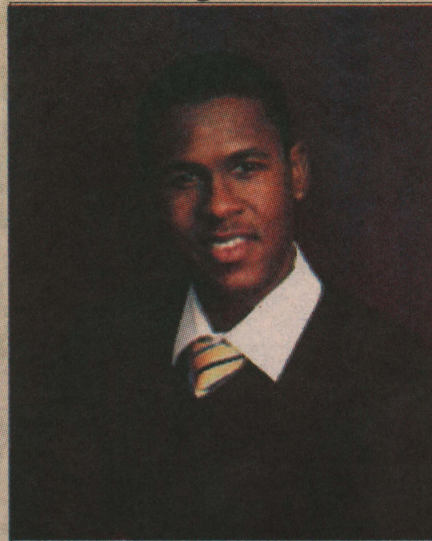


Hello
My name is Matt Anderson, Next year SMUSA will become a new organization with a new governance structure. With the president being given much more power it is important that the president strongly demonstrates accountability next year. If elected SMUSA President I promise to set the standard of responsibility within the organization

by holding myself accountable to both the members and the employees of SMUSA. I will achieve this by keeping the students of Saint Mary's updated on the progress and goals of SMUSA through weekly reports on the SMUSA website and allow students to give their opinions on the direction set in the organization through an online blog. I also promise to host one student town hall every semester. I will maintain constant communications between the executive branch of SMUSA and staff managers to identify any critical problems within each department.

By doing so, the services you use will be strengthened and will be used more effectively. My previous experience with SMUSA includes currently serving as your Commerce Representative on the Student Representative Council, being a former Canadian Alliance of Students' Association Ambassador to Saint Mary's, and an Alliance of Nova Scotia Students' Association delegate.

G. Omar Lodge



Good day, Olá, Oi, Bonjour, Hallo, Ciao,

My name is G. Omar Lodge and I am a Presidential candidate in this year's election. I am a 3rd year Global Business Management major and currently sit as your International Rep on the Student Representative

Council (SRC). My slogan for my campaign is "Vision, Visibility, & Accountability." I chose this slogan because it touches on some of the key issues concerning SMUSA but also speaks to my abilities as your potential President. Some other issues that I would like to address are communication which ties in with Visibility and "internationalization." My experience not only with the SRC but in other presidential or leadership positions make me an attractive candidate being able to hit the ground running if elected as president.

I look forward to talking with many of you over the next couple of weeks to get your thoughts and ideas about the organization and together we can determine a plan to tackle some of the issues brought forward.
Kind regards,
G. Omar Lodge

Victoria Snow



As a member of the student body here at SMU I attend class, I volunteer, and I work on campus. My ties with St Mary's University are strong and are the basis of my life at the moment. SMU campus has provided my life with diversity and meaning and a clear sense of who I am and who I will be. It is for these reasons that

I'm interested in becoming the next President of SMUSA.

The duties and obligations of the President of SMUSA have changed and a system has been put in place to aid the implementation of new and the revision of old initiatives. Motivation and organization have gotten me thus far and I believe these qualities, along with a strong work ethic and an understanding of the inner workings of SMUSA will help me effectively guide and govern the Saint Mary's University Student Association and ultimately the student body.

If elected, some of the changes that I am interested in seeing through are related to 1. society funding, 2. communication between SMUSA and student body and 3. student services. For my full agenda, please see my facebook page "Victoria Snow for SMUSA President."

Voting is Power
Sincerely,

Talal Wadi



My fellow Santamarians, My name is Talal Wadi and I am currently a third year Commerce student double majoring in Finance and H.R Management. Through my university years, I experienced a wonderful and enjoyable journey, surrounded by a great society from friends, students and faculty, and I feel it's time for me

to contribute back, no matter what effort it takes. So I chose a path where I can contribute back to the whole community, trying to solve common issues by many students, as a president of SMUSA, and I feel that I have what it takes to fulfill the objective that benefits our student body. I'm here to try and provide the change needed, not only to make Saint Mary's a better school, but also for the student to enjoy your experience as a student, and be able to provide the students with the services needed, in order for them achieve a successful school career, and admire the journey the way I do. With the support with the faculty and students, change can happen. I believe with putting enough effort to any matter, the impossible is nothing, as a wise man said once "If you're willing to keep walking down the path, you can achieve a progress".

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SMUSA ELECTIONS

What? Presidential Debate

When? Feb 4th, 6pm

Where? McNally Main Theater Auditorium

What? Presidential and Board Voting

When? 9am Feb 11 to 5pm Feb 12

Where? Online www.smusa.ca

What? Results Party

When? Feb 12, 6:30pm

Where? Gorsebrook Lounge

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! VOTE AT WWW.SMUSA.CA

Students of Saint Mary's,

I am sure that many of you are wondering why there is another constitutional referendum so soon after the last major changes which were approved by the student body in the fall. This referendum is based on further review of the New SMUSA Constitution. Our legal council has determined it is necessary to replace 'general meetings' with 'annual elections' and 'resolution' with 'plebiscite'.

These changes do not alter the intent of the document nor do they change the intent of the specific articles which they affect. These changes are cosmetic in nature and are being proposed to avoid improper interpretation in the future.

The Saint Mary's University Students' Association, Students' Representative Council felt it was appropriate to address these changes immediately so to avoid any issues down the road. As a result the Students' Representative Council has approved that this matter be addressed through referendum by the student body. The referendum question being asked is as follows: "Do you support the proposed amendments to the new Constitution, based on recommendations from a legal review conducted on the document, which would replace 'general meetings' with 'annual elections', and 'resolution' with 'plebiscite'?"

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at your convenience and I will be happy to discuss and hopefully answer any concerns or questions that you may have.

On February 11th and 12th please get out and vote.

Best Regards,
Chris MacDougall,
SMUSA President



Daniel Ehman

Being a student is a hard job, these days even with a part-time job, and a full-time summer job, it doesn't seem like enough to afford to get a degree without massive amounts of debt. Tuition, text book prices, and living expenses continue to soar but gone are the nights when you could recoup your losses with dollar drinks. In today's economy is also left to wonder what sort of world will be waiting for them after graduation. I believe that I can help with these problems. As a member of the SMUSA board of directors I would make it my top priority to exhaust every possible option to save you money. Beyond that my goal is to make sure each student leaves Saint Mary's with more than just a degree. The student experience goes beyond the class room; there are countless ways for every student to get involved in campus life, be it through athletics, societies, or other social activities one of my other priorities is facilitating and encouraging these activities. I believe in an open and accountable SMUSA that works for the students. **Vote Daniel Ehman and let me work for you.**



Alwyn Gomez
Dear Student

My name is Alwyn Gomez, I am a second year engineering and chemistry student here at St. Mary's and I am currently the engineering rep. on the SMUSA Student Representative Council. I first came to St. Mary's with the intention of doing a two year diploma in engineering and then moving on to complete my bachelor of engineering. However, I realized that I really enjoyed the quality of teaching and the atmosphere created by the students and faculty of St. Mary's and after my first year I decided that I would stay and pursue a degree in Chemistry as well. I have enjoyed my past two years here at St. Mary's but I see that there is still a lot of potential for this university and the student association. This is why it would be an honour and my pleasure to represent you and the rest of the student body on the SMUSA Board of Directors.



Sam Higgins
Fellow Students,

My name is Samantha Higgins and I am running for the Saint Mary's University Student Association Board of Directors for the 2009 - 2010 academic year. As a third year student at Saint Mary's, I have been involved in several different aspects of the university community. I have been working to help students on campus for the past two years, both as a Residence Assistant and Vice President Internal for the Sobey School of Business Commerce Society. The skills and experience I have gained through these positions make me confident that I would be able to truly represent the diverse needs of our student body. I have heard many of the concerns of students and would like to work to make sure your student association addresses them. Please contact me at sam.c.higgins@gmail.com to let me know the issues that you feel are important and would like me, if elected, to address. If elected, I will work hard for all students, and do my best to make sure all of us have the best university experience we can.



Robin Houlihan

Hello Saint Mary's! I'm Robin Houlihan and I'm running for a position on SMUSA's Board of Directors. To start with the fundamentals, I'm in my second year of a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies. I work at the library, where you'll often see me selling print credits and checking out books. I spend virtually all of my time at school, and have for a long time. Since my dad works here, I've been attending Huskies games and roaming the halls since childhood. My history with Saint Mary's has bred in me an acute fondness for this institution and I would love this opportunity to become more involved.

I think I'm a good candidate for this position because I enjoy student government and would gladly give up time that would otherwise be spent eating PopTarts and listening to Andrew Bird in my bedroom, to accomplish more fulfilling and productive tasks. I would also be one of the few candidates who could serve on the Board for two consecutive years, allowing me to amass experience so as to better serve the student body.



Kerry O'Rourke

Do you want to build a better SMU? A SMU with more engaged students, enhanced facilities and a responsible student government? My name is Kerry O'Rourke and so do I. That's why I am running for the Board of Directors. With your help, if elected, together we can and will build a better SMU! We can do this together with the introduction of the new SMUSA model on its way for next year. This new model brings many wonderful changes. I have several ideas I believe should be brought to light for your benefit through this new platform. Under the new government I would work tirelessly on your behalf to ensure accountability and renewed efficiency. Secondly I would seek to establish a communications chair within SMUSA in order to enhance contact with the student body at large. SMU students I believe would benefit greatly from enhanced student facilities. Therefore I would like to see the establishment of a huskies lounge in the SUB for students. Finally I'd like to enhance the residence experience by helping to establish more events for the residence community. If I am elected together we will build a better SMU!



Jason Tucker

Jason is a first year student here at St. Mary's. Since moving to the city, he has been enjoying meeting new people, and just enjoying the city life. He plans on studying Criminology and Psychology. Within the school he is involved in the Criminology Society, the Debate Society, and the Karate Club. In his spare time he volunteers with the SPCA and helps out with our local youth within the Cadets program. He also spends time helping out with International students, showing them how we have fun in Canada and helping them work on their English. When his friends are asked to describe him, they always point out how he's persistent, and never gives up. Some might say he just doesn't let things go, but if you asked him he'd say he just doesn't back down and he is always the guy who will take a stance. He has a way of making his opinions heard, and never lets anyone or anything get in his way. He's a laid back guy who loves to meet new people, and hear from others about their ideas and issues. If you see him in the hall, feel free to stop him and just say, "Hi."



Bradley Flinn

Roaring crowds, unique events, familiar faces and societies for all interests are items traceable to SMUSA that make our university great. My name is Bradley Flinn and I am running for a seat on the board of directors for SMUSA. If elected I will promote an accountable executive with a unified, involved membership. I want to make students aware of how they can get involved with existing activities or create a new society based on their interests. Additionally I will implement methods for students to have input on the direction of SMUSA, including ways for you to give feedback on the organization as a whole and all of the services under its name.

I have attained extensive experience in leadership roles through work with the New Brunswick Government in tourism, and as a Residence Assistant for Saint Mary's University. This school is a big part of my life and I want all current and future students to share this passion with me, and to help make Saint Mary's the school they want it to be. So on February 11th and 12th, vote for unification, accountability and passion by choosing Bradley Flinn for Board of Directors.



B.J. Hall

My name is B.J. Hall and I am running for a seat on the Board of Directors.

Why?: I want to be involved. I want that sense of accomplishment; knowing that I've done as much as I could while at Saint Mary's. It's also that feeling of self-fulfillment that comes with something that you're proud of doing. I believe that this position will give me those feelings and motivate me to do even more for this University.

I built many of my strengths through extra-curricular in high school, and continued to reinforce them at SMU. I graduated with honours and was the recipient of the QEII Medal. I did countless activities, from serving as President of Students Council to sports, band, and Big Brother/Big Sisters. At SMU, I am a current RA, and an active member on the Commerce Society. Also, to note, last year I was a Freshman Representative Nominee and won Best Freshman in Vanier.

Leadership is a gift that I have been practicing for the better part of my life. I give up my time so that others can benefit from it. By electing me as one of the Board of Directors, I will work along side with other directors and executives of SMUSA to ensure quality services to the students. Lastly, I'll use my experience in all fields of extra-curricular to represent the students with confidence and ensure their concerns are met. On the Election days, I strongly encourage you to elect me.



Justin Hirtle

Have you ever wondered what your student government actually does? Most students, including myself, assume that SMUSA does what they do and do it well. This is no longer good enough in a world where people are being held accountable more and more for their actions. As a member of the Board of Directors I will strongly promote and support making our student government more transparent and, therefore, accountable for what they do (or don't do). This will ensure that whoever is elected as your president will follow through with their campaign promises. Having a way for the students to raise their comments and concerns about what the executive team is pursuing will also be required. This will influence the decisions that SMUSA makes in a way that reflects the views of you, the students.

It is a necessity that we have a Board that has both practical knowledge and diverse experiences. I'm a fourth year Marketing student and my recent Co-op position with SMU Student Recruitment has given me a new perspective of the University which I will use to strengthen our student government. Of course, I've also helped boost school spirit with the Pit Crew at SMU!



Jeff Mitchell

My name is Jeff Mitchell and I am in my second year of an Honours Criminology degree. By voting for me, you are electing a student that will establish the link between the student association and the students it serves. I see students as customers of the university; without us, SMU cannot exist. As an elected member of the Board of Directors you can be assured that I will put students first.

Many people don't know or care about SMUSA and the influence that it can have; I am here to change that.

Why should I get your vote? I am a student who genuinely wants this position not for my resume, but rather for the opportunity to represent SMU students. For this reason you can be confident that I will work hard on your behalf. Allow me to represent you, a student, a customer of the university. Tell me what can be done to make your experience here at SMU everything you hoped it would be when you first set foot on campus. Don't compromise your expectations of university life.



Sunny Sun

Hello everyone, my name is Sunny Sun. I am a third year commerce student at Saint Mary's University. This year I have decided to run for the Board of Directors because I am qualified, and have the experience to create a better environment for all students at Saint Mary's. I was the first Saint Mary's co-op student to work as the account development officer for United Way of Halifax Region, and I am involved in many SMU related and community organizations. I have a significant understanding of students and their needs. I believe as students, we are part of a community and that we must work together to build an energetic and vibrant campus. I am hoping you will all give me the chance to be on the Board of Directors to serve you, and hear all of your voices. Here comes the Sun!



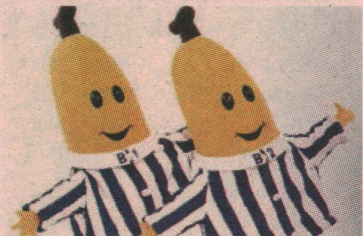
Charles Touma

My choice to run for board of directors comes from the desire to represent a diverse and extremely talented student body. As a third year commerce student, I began university with many questions and uncertainties on the path I chose to build my career. As students our voices are not always heard. Hearing your voices and opinions will be my duty, and acting upon them is my promise. Coming from all corners of the world, we may have different cultures and beliefs, but we all come with the common goal of setting the stage for a more prosperous life. As a board of director, I will do all that I can and all that is in my power to create a better university experience and assist you in any of your needs in your road to success.

FEATURES

JUST HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR ME TO EAT VEGETABLES AND FRUIT?

HEATHER BAILLIE
ARAMARK dietetic intern

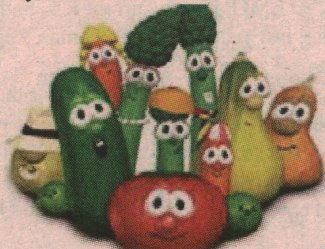


Young adults, especially university students are known for having suboptimal eating habits. Tied up in schoolwork and social activities, healthy eating becomes less than priority. Student's diets can be high in fat and sodium, low in vegetables and fruit and also lack variety. Busy schedules can lead to skipping meals and missing out on important nutrients to fuel the body and mind. Healthy eating may not be at the top of their list because they may not think they have to worry about their health, just yet. However, young adult life is an important time to establish good eating patterns that will lead into years beyond university.

Preventing disease makes more sense than waiting until health deteriorates. Everyone should think about their eating habits. Increasing your vegetable and fruit intake could be the first step towards a healthier you! There is no debate when it comes to vegetables and fruit as being part of a healthy lifestyle. Vegetables and fruit are known to contain important antioxidant capabilities and phytochemicals that protect the body from disease. Each vegetable and fruit contains its own unique set of antioxidants and phytochemicals which is why variety is also extremely important.

Hypertension can result from a

long term intake of too much sodium in the diet. It is estimated that more than 9 out of 10 Canadians will develop hypertension if they do not follow a healthy lifestyle. It is occurring in younger and younger age groups. Hypertension can place you at risk for stroke and puts strain on the heart. Sodium can be found abundant in convenience foods like microwave dinners, processed foods and meats like hot-dogs and deli meats, soups, condiments, salad dressings and snack foods like potato chips. It's almost everywhere! Students can lower their sodium intakes by choosing more natural, wholesome foods that have minimum processing. Vegetables and fruit are beneficial for blood pressure for a number of reasons. They contain vitamins and minerals



that help regulate blood pressure; such as potassium, magnesium and calcium. Studies have shown that a low potassium intake puts you at risk for high blood pressure. It can be extremely difficult to get the potassium your body needs (4300mg/day!) without eating vegetables and fruit! Potassium is most abundant in bananas, cantaloupe, oranges, tomato juice, grapefruit and potatoes. Folate is a b-vitamin and also difficult to get enough without eating certain foods, such as dark green leafy vegetables, asparagus, vegetable drinks and oran-

ges. Folate plays a role in DNA reactions; therefore a deficiency could be dangerous.

Consuming a high intake of vegetables and fruit may also reduce your risk for certain cancers. It is one of the most modifiable factors, secondary to being overweight. Antioxidants help prevent and repair cell damage that could lead to cancer. The research is even stronger for preventing cardiovascular disease. The mechanism may be from the fibre content in fruit and veggies that help trap and remove cholesterol and from antioxidants that help prevent the build up of plaque in the artery walls. The fibre in fruit and vegetables allows a more steady release of sugar into the bloodstream and also helps control weight by helping you feel full. This may prevent the development of type 2 diabetes. Research shows that bone density increases with increasing intakes of veggies and fruit. It's not just milk products that are good for your bones! The magnesium, vitamin K, vitamin C and potassium abundant in fruit and veggies play important roles in bone health, too.

While there are many steps towards health, there is no doubt about it that if you want optimal health, you've got to eat your veggies! Vegetables should make up half of your plate! Canada's Food Guide recommends males 19-50 years old get 8-10 servings a day, and females, 7-8 servings of vegetables and fruit. The National Cancer Institute and the National Research Council recommend 5-9 servings a day. However, the most benefit is seen with the highest intakes. This may take some planning, but is as simple as making sure you have at least a serving with each meal and snack. A poor intake of vegetables and fruit is considered a risk factor for developing cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, alzheimer's and other age-related illnesses.

Vegetables and fruit can be found at almost any eatery on campus, from the SUB to the Dockside. Options include fruit salads, tossed, Greek or chicken salads and the wide selection at the salad bar in the Dockside. There is fresh whole fruit available or an option of 100% fruit juice or V8 juice.

Interested in learning more? Contact ARAMARK's on-campus dietitian at dietitian@smu.ca.

Photo Credits: http://farm3.static.flickr.com/2403/1572167865_b90e289ae1.jpg
<http://the8thperson.files.wordpress.com/2008/07/vegetables1.jpg>

WANT TO GIVE MAD PROPS TO YOUR PROFS??

ADAM HARRIS
SMUSA VP Academic

Nominations for the SMUSA Teaching Excellence Awards are out! The SMUSA Teaching Excellence Awards are presented to those professors, teaching assistants, and/or other University members who have gone above and beyond their call of duty. Nominees have demonstrated concern and commitment for the quality of student life either within or outside of the classroom setting and have positively affected the learning environment for students. These awards are presented to show gratitude from the students for all the hard work that the nominees have done and to show appreciation of their efforts towards im-

KARLA CISNEROS
Contributor

ELEVENTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL NIGHT



minutes of this year's international night. The team was formed by: Alana Robb - International Student services Manager, Ysaac Rodriguez Arias - International Student Advisor, Hamad Al-Rowilay - President of the International Student Society, Chanda Chilanda - SAGA Coordinator, Fadi Al-Qassar - VP International SMUSA, Nich Reyes - SAGA coordinator, Karla Cisneros Rosado - VP International Student Society, and Shan shan Luo - International Office Coordinator.

International Night is one of the biggest events of the year at Saint Mary's University and arguably one of the best international events in the Maritimes. This year's International Night had a Caribbean touch in its decoration and a wide variety of performances ranging from African dances, to Japanese music to Indian traditional and contemporary dances. There were 13 performances in total in which the following countries and cultures were included: Japan, Congo, Syria, Palestine, China, Philippines, India, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Bangladesh, Saint Lucia, and Zambia, among others.

The International Night executive team worked extremely hard from the end of the past year up until the last

We would like to thank all the SAGA volunteers for their time and dedication to the event, as well as the performers for making International Night 2009 the best night of the year!

We would also like to thank our sponsors and everyone who attended as this event is one of the many the SAGA team and the international centre coordinate to fundraise money for an NGO. This year the NGO we are helping is an orphanage called ATECO in Zambia, Africa that helps abandoned children (currently 183) to acquire an education, gain access to health services and most importantly, to have a place to call home.

Photo Credits: Karla Cisneros



proving the quality of life and educational experiences at Saint Mary's University. There are four awards given out annually: Arts, Science, Commerce and one for a TA. Any student can nominate their instructor or TA. The awards really mean a lot because they come from the students. A committee will examine all the nominations and decide who best deserves the award.

Nomination Deadline: Friday, March 2th at 5:00pm!!!

Forms may be picked up and submitted at the Student Centre Information Desk, the Loyola Residence Desk, the 5th Floor Student Centre, or at various drop off boxes around campus.

Forms can also be downloaded at www.smusa.ca and may be emailed to Adam Harris, Vice-President Academic at vpacademic@smusa.ca, or you can print one off and drop it off!

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THE CRANKY PROFESSOR EVOLUTION IN THE CLASSROOM

MARK MERCER
Columnist

Why not teach Intelligent Design in elementary or high school biology classes? Because it's false, because it's not science, because it's religion—these are some of the more popular answers to our question. None is especially good.

What we want from biology class is that pupils gain a sound understanding of evolution by natural and sexual selection. We want them to understand how selective pressures cause traits to spread or fail to spread throughout a population of organisms and how these pressures can give rise to new species. That is, we want that they acquire the ability to encounter the natural world in the ways a contemporary biologist does.

What we ought not to want is that pupils believe that in fact species do evolve by means of natural and sexual selection. We ought to be completely indifferent as to whether they accept the theory as true. All we want, that is, is that they understand the theory and can apply it correctly to biological phenomena.

To insist—even to ask—that pupils in a biology class believe what they are taught is to coerce them into a world view. We should, instead, want to give them the tools required to choose or to construct a world view for themselves.

Think of a class in world religions. It is no part of such a class that pupils come to believe the core doctrines of the religions they study, or that they come to hold any religious beliefs at all. The class does what it should when pupils come to understand the various religions they study, and to understand the various psychological, sociological, or anthropological theories of them their teacher presents. To ask them to believe anything is to try to indoctrinate them into, or out of, religion. Likewise, to ask pupils in a biology class to believe anything they are taught is to indoctrinate them into science.

Worse than that, it is to instil in them deference to authority—or, at least, it's to put them at risk of becoming deferential to authority. It's to encourage them to find acceptance among others by conforming to the beliefs and strictures of the group. It's to seek to render them closed-minded and dogmatic.

Of course, studying biology might have as a consequence that one comes to believe that species evolve by means of natural and sexual selection. That consequence, though,

is neither to be welcomed nor to be resisted by the teacher or the school. If the school is doing what it should be doing—assisting children to become adults who can think for themselves and contribute meaningfully to community life—, then instruction in that school aims to have the children understand ideas within a subject. It doesn't aim to have children accept or believe anything.

If a teacher in a biology class thinks that by considering Intelligent Design her charges will acquire a deep and firm understanding of Darwinian evolution, then by all means she should teach them Intelligent Design. Her justification lies in her results. If her pupils understand evolution by natural and sexual selection as well as they should, she has taught them well, and maybe teachers who have done less well should follow her lead.

“—But Intelligent Design is false.” Sure, but that's neither here nor there. The question for the teacher is whether introducing it would be useful to her in securing her proper goals.

“—But it's not science.” Why should we care that it's not? Questions of classification are pointless at best. Take two lists, one of all the things you know, the other of all the things you know slotted into categories. The second list is no better than the first, and might well be worse.

“—But it's religion, not science.” Is the point of this objection our fear that our children will become religious? And yet, being neither dogmatic nor deferential ourselves, we should be as happy to risk that through exposure to religious ideas our children acquire religious beliefs as we are happy to risk that we ourselves do. What we don't want is that they come to be religious through psychological or social pressure.

Canada, happily, has so far and for the most part avoided the evolution wars that have plagued the United States. “Happily,” because both sides in those wars have been trying to turn education into indoctrination. The factors that account for our having avoided the wars are many and various. But to ensure that the evolution wars will continue to claim no Canadian schoolchildren as casualties, we should explicitly reject the idea that education is indoctrination, even if indoctrination into true beliefs. We should reject indoctrination as a central part of our commitment to broadening our children's understandings of things.

SMUMAZING RACE

KEELYN BERGSTROM
Contributor

The SMUmazing Race which took place on January 31st provided students with a fantastic opportunity to enjoy a Saturday afternoon travelling hectically through Halifax and Dartmouth. What was their motivation? A \$1000 travel gift certificate from Breakaway Tours. Having been one of the best (if not the best) events that I have attended during my short period of time at SMU I feel the need to inform those students who have never thought to participate in this activity, of the fun and benefits waiting to be had.

Starting the day at 12pm the racers were led to various places throughout the city where interesting activities were waiting to be completed. One of my favourite of these was the task that took place at the Salvation Army on Green Street. The competitors were told that they would be required to donate a piece of clothing from their own bodies before advancement could become available to them. This activity was especially entertaining as many of the male team members

chose to shred their jackets and sweaters in order to get to the t-shirts that they were planning on donating. Keep in mind that it was below freezing outside and that the public had absolutely no idea what was going on. (As a result of this lack of knowledge they provided some very interesting looks towards the volunteers and racers alike) I also quite enjoyed the challenge of finding two articles of clothing from the Value Village on Canal Street and then having to find five random

individuals to pose whilst wearing both articles for a set of five pictures. These two contests were very entertaining to watch as a volunteer and a lot of fun for the participants as well.

The event was extremely well planned out and organized thoroughly by Myra El-Bayoumi. Tasks were planned out perfectly in terms of location and time allowances that needed to be made in order for the event to be successful. A handful of volunteers were present as well as a total of five teams racing for the prize. Despite the fact that the competition would have

flourished with more teams enlisted, the lack of student presence was not something that could be blamed on the actions of SMUSA, organizers or volunteers. Saint Mary's students need to gain a greater appreciation for events such as the SMUmazing Race and other equally enjoyable opportunities granted to them.

I've heard many a student complain that SMU does not have enough events and socializing opportunities however, not once have I ever seen these students participate in the activities being offered to them. Stop complaining and come out to meet some new people, and gain a sense of pride in our university and its adjoined associations. After all, these events are planned specifically with you in mind and they take a lot of time and effort to successfully take place. Don't ruin opportunities for others with your laziness and lack of school spirit. I hope to see more active participants present at the next SMUSA event—Which in case you didn't realize is the Valentine's Day Bingo on February 3rd in the Students Center Cafete-

AN UPDATE ON EVERYTHING GRADUATION

ROBERT HARRIS
Grad Class President

Hey everyone, now that we're all getting back into the grind of the semester, it's time to get some more details about graduation. There are a lot of important grad dates and events going on this month so be sure to stay informed and join our Facebook group (SMU Grad Class 2009) for the latest info.

There are a few things going on around campus this week that you should get out to. If you want to order a grad ring be sure to get out to the bookstore on the 4th and 5th. There is a ring rep available on these days to show you all the rings and to facilitate taking orders. To order a ring all you need is a \$50 plus tax deposit. If you can't make it this week then you can go to the bookstore on any Tuesday between 330pm-430pm, but be forewarned orders take between 6-10 weeks to arrive so order early to have yours in time for graduation!

Also happening this week About iMage Photography will be on campus in the Loyola PDR (Private Dining Room in Loyola Residence) on

the 4th and 5th taking graduation pictures. About iMage is SMUSA's preferred photographer and your picture will automatically be included in the yearbook. To book an appointment with About iMage just call 429-1977 and they can set up a time this week or another time at their studio on Inglis St. If you are not having your graduation photo taken by About iMage then you must submit a hard copy of your photo to the main SMUSA office on the 5th floor of the Student Centre with all your grad info.

Next month the Grad Class Society will be having two major fundraising events in the Gorsebrook. Anyone who is of legal age is welcome to join. They will be hosting the St. Practice Day party on Thursday March 12th and they will be having a coat check at the annual St. Patrick's Day event on Tuesday March 17th. They will also be selling green glow sticks and lollipops at both events so be sure to come out to these two great events and help support your Grad Class.

Now for the big news everyone has been waiting for, Maroon & White Ball. The Maroon & White Ball is the

annual ball put on by the Grad Class Society for the graduating class. It is a formal dinner and dance and this year will be on April 4th at the beautiful Lord Nelson Hotel. Tickets will go on sale Tuesday February 24th (the Tuesday after break) at the SMUSA Infodesk on the 1st floor of the Student Centre. Tickets will be 40\$ per person and include a 3 course Chicken Dinner (Vegetarian meal available upon request). Tickets are limited and have sold out very quickly in past years so be sure to get yours early. As well, the dinner tables are large tables of 10 so those people who buy their tickets early have the choice of sitting at tables with who they wish. Special room rates will also be available for a reduced rate at the hotel and more information will be sent out to those in the grad class Facebook group of how to get the discount rate.

If you have any questions regarding graduation events, the ball, convocation or any other graduation concern then be sure to join the grad class group on Facebook and send a message to the grad class society.

“WE WERE ON A BREAK!”

Being on a break is very different than being broken up. Breaks are temporary. Break ups should not be. I'm not saying that people shouldn't get back together with exes and I am obviously not one to judge as I have had my share of repeat business but often break ups are for a reason and if you don't sort out that reason then you're doomed to repeat the same crappy relationship mistakes over and over again. I find real breaks are often ini-

tiated by one partner because of some isolated reason that the person has to sort out on his/her own. I say “real breaks” because it is sometimes seen as favourable (cowardly in my opinion) to let the person down easy and let the break up masquerade as a break.

So herein lays our dilemma. If you're actually on a break then it is my opinion that it is not okay for him to go hooking up with people in the interim. A break means time apart,

not time with other people. However, if reconciliation wasn't in both of your minds when you began this break then you're actually broken up

“Hey GingerSnatch,

My boyfriend and I are taking a break right now. I am worried he may be sleeping with other women. Should I rush to get back with him so I know he'll be faithful? And do I even have a right to be upset?”

right reasons. Don't get back together with him prematurely just to make sure he doesn't go and hook up with some strange. This won't solve your relationship woes. In fact, it may be a one way ticket to a real break up. Work on the reasons why you needed time apart first and then get back to your relationship. The rest of this can be dealt with later on. Don't waste your precious time with hypotheticals.

If history, and by history I mean prime time television, has taught us anything then it can be possible for you two to work things out no matter what goes down on your break. Even Ross and Rachel ended up back together after Ross slept with Copy Girl. Of course that took several seasons and a baby. So even if he has or will become sexually involved with someone over the course of your break, you don't have to let it be the end of your relationship. If being together is what you both want then work on it and I'm sure you can both make it happen.

means that he isn't entirely obligated to be faithful to you or you to him. I'm not saying that I endorse these potential actions but if you're broken up then he can make the choice to go find someone new. The way I say this makes it seem as though it's a black-and-white situation but in reality there is so much grey area. You've got to use both your head and your heart to make this decision on your own.

You also asked if getting back together with him to ensure his faithfulness was a viable idea. Make sure that if or when you decide to get back together that you're doing it for the

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SMUSA campaign week Picnicface Natural gas retrofit Time for Wine	Obama is cooler than you Pokerface Having bad gas Time for a hangover

SCIENCE & BUSINESS

INTER-COLLEGIATE BUSINESS CASE COMPETITION

DANIELLE DAIGLE
Contributor

Fellow Commerce Undergraduate Students,

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of an exciting annual competition available to all full time Commerce undergraduates. Every year, Queen's School of Business offers a challenging and enriching competition called the Inter-Collegiate Business Case competition (ICBC). Participating universities register teams for up to seven events: Accounting, Business Policy, Ethics, Finance, Labour Arbitration, Marketing, and Management Information Systems. Twenty-eight universities from around the world entered teams

last fall. Saint Mary's enters teams in all seven events. The competition is made up of two rounds: the Preliminary Round consisting of a written business case analysis, followed by the Final Round, where the top six competitors from each event in the Preliminary Round are invited to Kingston, Ontario to present a business case analysis to a panel of business representatives. Furthermore, the top six qualifying schools from the Preliminary Round are invited to send a team of two students to participate in the Debating event, also held at Queen's University. The Preliminary Round occurs every October, while the Final Round takes place the followingk, January.

My involvement with ICBC began last winter. I enrolled in the prepara-

tory course offered by accounting faculty professor Dr. Barry Gorman. The course involves the study of numerous cases from each event, with students taking turns presenting an analysis. Students are also responsible for preparing a final written project, which simulates the Preliminary Round. Although this course is not mandatory to be eligible to participate, it provides an opportunity to develop your case analysis, presentation and writing skills. It will also help you decide if ICBC is something you want to do, all the while earning a university credit.

This year, Saint Mary's qualified three teams for the Final Round held at Queens: Joel Muise and Kyle Westhaver in Finance, Warren Stevens and Noel Aucoin in Accounting, and Kent

Haverstock, Aaron MacDonald and I, Danielle Daigle, in Business Policy. The Business Policy team placed 2nd at this final round weekend.

The merit and caliber of this event will surely open doors for its participants' future careers, whether through networking, personal development or the competition's recognition in the business community. I strongly encourage Saint Mary's undergraduate students to take advantage of such an opportunity, as it is rewarding, challenging and worthwhile.

For more information about ICBC or the preparatory case course, please contact Dr. Barry Gorman at barry.gorman@smu.ca or myself at Danielle.daigle@smu.ca.

NETBOOKS ARE PRETTY HOT RIGHT NOW

ADRIAN C.C. ANDRE'
Contributor

The netbook was introduced to the tech market in 2007 by Asus, when they released a model called the EeePC. Netbooks are a miniaturized version of the traditional notebook computer form factor. The main idea behind netbooks is to have a portable computer that is lightweight, inexpensive and environmentally friendly. Netbooks get their name from the fact that they are devices that excel in web-based computing.

Cutting down the size and price of notebooks to create netbooks comes with a cost, and that cost is proces-

sing power. Netbooks are normally shipped with 512mb of memory and have about 4 GB of storage space - most netbooks do not use hard drives but instead use solid state drives. With these kind of processing specs netbooks will work great for emailing, web browsing and maybe even taking notes in class, but don't expect to be able to do anything like playing games or a lot of graphic processing.

In a sense, software is a bit behind when it comes to netbooks, as there is no software designed with netbooks in mind. As a result this also has an impact on how well netbooks can perform. Right now most netbooks are shipped with the 8 year old Operating System Windows XP, which require less system resources compared to

its younger sibling Vista. Some have installed Vista on netbooks but their reports are that the machine performs very slowly afterwards. Some companies have even tried selling them with Linux installed on them but they run about the same as with Windows XP. Another downside of shipping them with Linux is that the normal end user is not familiar with the Linux user interface and as a result might end up getting turned off from the system. Luckily in a few months Windows 7 will be released, which is an operating system designed with netbooks in mind. Currently many users who have a netbook remove the operating system that is installed and install the Windows 7 beta onto their netbooks.

One other issue that still needs to be addressed with netbooks is the battery life. As a result of trying to make them light the size of the battery has to be smaller which in turns mean less power can be stored in the battery. Also since they are smaller, they have a smaller keyboard, people with larger fingers might find it difficult to type quickly on the reduced keyboard.

In conclusion, I believe netbooks are a great idea and would be really handy to have if you move around a lot and need to be able to do work from the Internet. However, they cannot replace your notebook or desktop, and you will still need to have one to do more advanced tasks such as assignments or playing games.

BLUEPRINT OF AN ENTREPRENEUR

FERGUS DEARDEN
Contributor

I am on the hunt where no man should go
Looking for opportunities in the blinding snow
The man who seeks out fortune will have his day
Risk now rather than be broke in another way.
It is like being a part of a pack, but you're really all alone;
Like the wolf who gets beaten down while in the zone.
To give up would be worse than death;
But to take the hits to pursue the dream, that is surely the test.
Friends have gone;
However, some have stayed strong.
Members of the pack have left;
I choose to fight these conditions to the death
Respect I have lost;
From the people I hurt because of the cost.
Absence of love in my life and no one that cares;
Without it, ideas will just come and never be within my affairs
The wolf wanders aimlessly throughout the land
Expecting opportunity to come in louder than a marching band
Guidance he needs to help him create a home
No one to laugh with him, cry with him, or sing him to sleep while he is wandering alone.
The wolf without a pack really has no fear
Venturing into the unknown he will never steer clear.
Listening to his heart, and fighting with his head.
In the world of the unknown, he will never truly be dead.
The entrepreneur then comes to a halt
He then realizes all of his faults
Without love, he is dead in the water
An inner fear that will soon falter
His ideas have not yet manifested
It is because his faith has just been tested
Wealth will come his way
In the belief that true love is coming one day.
Now he has truly no reason for fear
Because the wealth he dreams of will always be clear.



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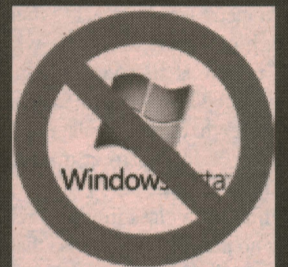


COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION, CANADA
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Google has gone a long way toward solving the biggest drawback of web-based e-mail — what do you do when there is no internet connection? Google aims to solve that problem with a new offering that will enable Gmail users access from their browsers even when they aren't online.



ITSS recently asked for feedback from the Students, Staff and Faculty of Saint Mary's on your thoughts on moving to the Microsoft Vista Operating system campus wide. The overwhelming response indicated that our campus users do not want to see Vista on campus. The majority of users have asked us stay on Windows XP and wait for Windows 7.0.



Another Super Bowl, another banned PETA ad. NBC banned the latest ad, dubbed 'Veggie Love', because it was too racy. PETA sure knows how to get attention without spending the purported \$3 million per 30 seconds.



Activision Blizzard CEO Bobby Kotick spilled the news that the DJ Hero game currently being developed by FreeStyleGames will be released sometime this year. He described it as a "turntable that you actually can play competitively and spin discs and mix songs."

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www.smujournal.ca

NICK SIMARD
Science & Business

YOU NEED A LOGO: EXTREME PERSONAL BRANDING

I've read No Logo by Naomi Klein, and I understand the arguments she makes; the fact remains, however that she does something similar to Adbusters Magazine: she sells rebellion. The cover to her book was definitely designed to have the greatest appeal, and not merely made simple to avoid branding and logo design. She makes valid points, and I'm not entirely serious when I say you should have your own logo. It is, however, becoming increasingly necessary to differentiate ourselves from other job seekers. With massive job cuts coming from all sectors, now is NOT the time to blend in with everyone else. My graduation is fast approaching and I realize that there already exist many equally-qualified applicants out there and the multitude of grad classes only adds to that heap. Therefore, what is required borders on the ridiculous – become your own brand. You've already become a product in many ways, so why not take some of that back in order to DEFINE yourself. Are you simply an aggregate of your likes/dislikes, where you shop and what you watch on television? I doubt it, so re-brand yourself. But be careful when you do so because it doesn't always work. For example, I think Bell did a great job of doing it but I miss the old Pepsi logo. While very few people can lay claim to an Oprah or Obama-like brand power (maybe I should change my name to Olivia), this should not discourage us from beginning the journey into personal branding.

WHERE DO YOU START?

The process of finding rewarding and worthwhile careers has rarely been as complex and difficult as it is today. Gone are the days where you sift through job ads from companies who advertise their available positions. It's time to take a more proactive approach and seek out your own career path, and personal branding is going to help you sell yourself. Presenting an appealing image certainly helps to convince prospective employers, clients or investors that you're serious. If nothing else, it demonstrates that you're a hard worker who is willing to devote time and effort to your own self-development. So how do you achieve this? Let me help you to foresee, with my four C's:

COHERENT

During the course of my university career, and through recent jobs, I think I have acquired the ability to make sense. You may laugh, but I remember when I first started university, coming from a small town thinking I knew it all, only to be shocked at how poorly I was able to construct sentences. If you are relying on your written words to impress employers, then you had better make sure that what you're saying is coherent. First, you want to make sure you get your point across. Second, you don't want your reader to run away screaming after only a few of your sentences. Finally, if the job requires communications skills, then you'll be doing yourself a huge favour by being clear in your sales approach. Ever see an ad or a brand and wonder what exactly they stood for? You don't want anyone to be left with that impression after encountering YOUR brand, so clarify yourself right from the beginning.

CREATIVE

Depending on your chosen field, this may not be as important. It can't hurt, however, to present a creative and entertaining personal brand to potential employers. This is your chance to show off graphic design, writing abilities, cleverness, and plain old gumption (shrew or spirited initiative and resourcefulness). Make your brand something that an employer wants to buy. What makes YOU want certain brands over others? It certainly isn't limited to the quality of the product, is it? Sometimes, certain brands just call out to us. We want to be around them, have them in our lives and be seen with them. You want to become that brand to someone. A creative example from right here in Canada is Bell's fairly recent (last summer) re-branding effort, which employed a new logo and elements of that logo in various ads. They're called "bell-ements" and aside from having a creative name they become a catchy piece of the overall branding. Do something cool and eye-catching to market yourself!

COMPREHENSIVE

While a website with a static image of your resume may do the trick for some, it's hard to argue against having a multi-faceted approach in the case of personal branding. There is such a thing as a design that is too cluttered, however, so be sure to consult with friends or professionals who can offer valid opinions. Again, I realize that technology scares some of you, but it's better to tackle it while you're still in school than upon graduation when the pressure of finding a career outweighs all other concerns. Just as a physical portfolio stands out among a sea of resumes, so does an online portfolio when an employer has MB's of resumes on-hand. It needn't even be flashy, as your experience is ultimately a large part of your marketability. Being able to succinctly demonstrate your various jobs, courses, volunteer experience, technical skills and credentials on an attractive website brings an employer into YOUR world. We interact differently with our information than 5 years ago, so it's time for you to adapt.

CONSISTENT

Not everybody possesses the necessary skills to create a website, business cards, portfolio, social media connections and/or professional network. I understand that for many this poses great obstacles, but be aware that it is becoming the rule rather than the exception. For better or worse, technology is beginning to define and shape our ability to garner the right kind of attention. The key, then, is to be consistent in whatever it is that you do. What I mean is that regardless of your abilities, it's crucial to be aware of how each of your various pieces of personal branding work together. If you have business cards with maroon/gold and the image of a pendulum then your website should not be blue and orange with a lion on it. Just as corporations employ consultants to create corporate identity packages that demonstrate a consistent image, so should YOU be careful in the crafting of your personal identity.

RESOURCES

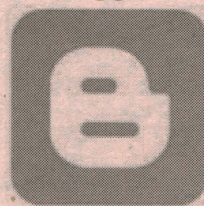


The site says:
Over 30 million professionals use LinkedIn to exchange information, ideas and opportunities.

- * Stay informed about your contacts and industry
- * Find the people & knowledge you need to achieve your goals
- * Control your professional identity online

Nick says: I haven't tried LinkedIn (yet) so I can't speak from personal experience, but I have had friends tell me it's worth joining. Facebook is the furthest thing from a professional networking site, and LinkedIn seems to be the hottest alternative right now. It's worth checking out, I'd say.

Blogger



The site says:
Create a blog. It's free.

- * Your blog. Share your thoughts, photos, and more with your friends and the world.
- * Easy to use. It's easy to post text, photos, and videos from the web or your mobile phone
- * Flexible. Unlimited flexibility to personalize your blog with themes, gadgets, and more.

Nick says: Although there have been many improvements to Blogger in the past couple of years, I still think it is lacking a little. It's great for your first blog, as it is simple to set up and maintain. There are many themes out there, and also a plethora of sites with tips on customizing your blog.

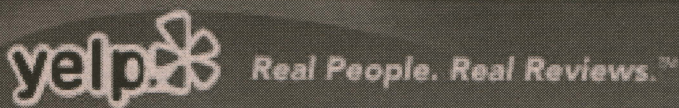
Wordpress



The site says:
WordPress is a state-of-the-art publishing platform with a focus on aesthetics, web standards, and usability. WordPress is both free and priceless at the same time. More simply, WordPress is what you use when you want to work with your blogging software, not fight it.

Nick says: Wordpress is a little more robust than Blogger and has a ton of useful plugins, but it can require more html, css and javascript knowledge than Blogger. It's worth having a look at, though, if you want to have more control over your site. Look into web hosting and getting your own domain, rather than using the Wordpress-hosted option.

SITES TO SEE - EDITOR'S CHOICE



Over 10.6 million people access the Yelp web site each month in the U.S. It doesn't seem to be quite as popular in Canada, but I love the idea of visiting a single site in order to get a variety of reviews. According to a source of mine, Yelp has had the power to make or break restaurants in San Francisco, where the site was created. If nothing else, it would be awesome if Halifax started using the site more, seeing as how I live here and all.



Trazzler is the kind of site you'll just have to see for yourself, but allow me to copy and paste some info from the site to get you started: "Today, travel sites give you chores: price grids, check boxes, lengthy and frequently poor writing to suffer through. Trazzler places you emotionally into specific moments and locales all over the planet and helps you explore the limitless travel opportunities our world has to offer." That doesn't make it any clearer, does it? Looks like you'll have to go there, then.



MeeMix is a fun and easy music service which allows users to create and share personalized Internet radio stations and video channels for free. Enhancing the user experience is our own uniquely developed taste prediction technology, which enables us to bring you a combination of your favorite music with an added element of discovery – introducing you to new tracks and artists that match your own individual taste in music in accordance with your current mood.

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SPORTS

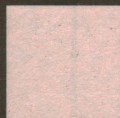


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MEN AND WOMEN PLAY HARD, CAN'T SOLVE ACADIA

JASON MACDONALD
Sports Editor

The Huskies hosted the Acadia University Axe-men and Axe-women Wednesday night before a crowd of more than 500 fans at the Tower. In the 4th meeting of the season between the teams the

Huskies are 3 and 1 on the men's side and 1 and 3 on the women's.

The women took to the court first and came out with an early 16-14 lead at the end of the first quarter. However as hard as the Huskies played the Axe-women were playing stiffer defence and keeping SMU out of scoring range.

Scoring for both teams was held off for most of the second quarter but when it came it was hard and fast, Acadia posted 21 points in less than 5 minutes. In the second half of the game the Huskies drove hard and had good chances but were unable to square up, in the last four minutes of the fourth quarter the ladies made a big effort to come back.

Huskies At Home
Men's Hockey
at Alumni Arena

Wed, Feb 4
StFX @ SMU
7 p.m

Women's Volleyball
at The Tower

Sat, Feb 7
CBU @ SMU
4 p.m.

You can find scores and more at smuhuskies.ca

Assholes of the Week!

To the guy who works at Extreme Pita and gives blatantly larger portions to the football players and then asks them to remember him and give him tickets to the games next season!

To the asshole yelling homophobic slurs across the pub Friday afternoon. Try thinking before you yell something offensive.

This goes to guy that picks up the finance assignments. Here's a small summary of the situation and his assholeness:

He COMPLETELY refused to take my assignment saying that it will be marked zero. I tried to explain my situation to him and he said: "You had all week to hand this in and I can't control the bus." At 12:01 you're already late and I can just put a sheet of paper at 12 and if your assignment falls after that sheet it won't be marked. The time is specified in the course outline and now you know the consequences of being late".

So the only thing I would like to ask him would be to do us a favor and please get a life and stop being such an ASSHOLE to students. Thanks!

Asshole of the week submissions can be sent to sports.smu@gmail.com and can do not have to be sports related. Assholes can be found anywhere.

Assholes can be found anywhere!

Haley Fox hit 2 of 3 free throws to bring the Huskies within one point of the Axe-women, with the winning basket in her sights Amanda Smith was subject to a questionable call, leaving the Huskies 60-61 against the Acadia team.

The men's game was full of good play on both sides but the Huskies defence was ineffective against a rushing Acadia offence, the Huskies trailed at the end of each quarter with a Final score of 80-87 against a team they had beaten on 3 separate occasions this season alone. Fortunately for the men this loss does not affect their standing in the AUS, remaining in third place overall.



DODGE THIS, A DODGE BALL CHRONICLE

HUSKIES HAND VARSITY REDS FIRST LOSS SINCE 16 JANUARY

JASON MACDONALD
Sports Editor

The stage is set, the teams are warmed up, the Vitamin Water is tepid, the balls are pumped and polished. The 2009 Winter Carnival Dodgeball Tournament kicks off with 4 teams crowding in to hear the official reading of the rules, a best 2

teams split the first two games and were forced into sudden death over-time play. Overall a close game the Disasters were leading with 3 players remaining compared to the Jaegerbombs 1, however the last Bomber standing played hard, made catches and some sick tosses to put the Disasters out of competition.

As the saying goes, to the winner go the spoils and Winter Carnival

JASON MACDONALD
Sports Editor

The number 2 Huskies faced off against their cross league rivals the number 1 UNB Varsity Reds Friday Night at the Halifax Forum. The Huskies have come out on top of every match up since last years devastating semi-final, over-time, penalty shot loss. Friday's game was no exception.

Hard play was the Huskies game plan and it paid off for them, Colin Power opened the scoring early with a soft wrist shot from the left hand face off circle that beat UNB goalie Derek Yeomans low. Less than two minutes later Kyle Doucet went top shelf on a feed from Chris Morehouse, putting the Huskies ahead by two for the next six minutes. UNB took advantage of a second rebound chance, pounding in their first goal of the game. The Reds continued to

apply pressure but it was well handled by the Huskies who led at the end of the first period despite being out shot 18-5.

In the second period it looked like the Reds had figured out the Saint Mary's defence, both Tremblay and Cuddihy scored goals by driving to the net and were not cleared out by the SMU defence. After the two quick goals by UNB the Huskies started to enforce their presence in front of their own net. Wallingford and Harty both took roughing penalties for a few face washes after the play. The Huskies top defensive scorer, Scott Hotham tied the game at 13:46, skating in 1-on-1 against the Reds defender and putting a wrist shot on the net that beat Yeomans, just to reinforce the saying "when in doubt shoot it". With just 37 seconds left to play in the second period UNB pulled ahead once more,

Verge was able to make the first save but couldn't control the rebound, MacIntosh threw it over his shoulder for the Reds 4th goal of the game.

The opening minutes of the 3rd period were rough for the Huskies, Verge went down awkwardly getting back to his feet slowly, Noye took a puck to the face, needing some attention on the bench and Morehouse caught an edge before spiralling into the boards, looking shaky when he got back up. Cam Fergus notched his second point of the game with a 4-on-4 goal that slid just under Yeomans, tying the game to raucous cheers from the crowd. Just minutes later Captain Marc Rancourt posted the game winner, roofing the puck into the empty net while on his knees, easily one of the prettiest goals of the season. UNB drove back hard but the Huskies stayed sharp and held on for their 8th win in



The Jaegerbombs Photo Credit: Jason MacDonald

out of 3 round robin tournament was decided on as the format, each team facing the others once, the team with the best overall record being named the 2009 champions.

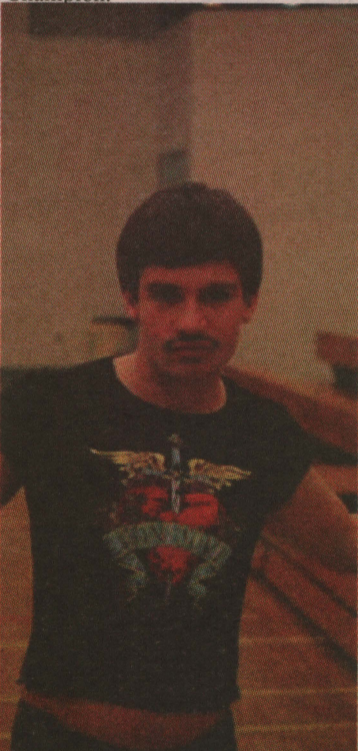
Starting off slowly, the first game saw the teams feeling out the game and each other, lobbing some softies and making the easy catches. The players also experienced their fair share of missed throws due to balls that were too large and difficult to grip. The first game came to be a marathon, each team with one player, too scared to make an attempt at getting the other player out, rolling the balls back and forth, eventually on a lucky chance the Rice 7 Disasters came through with the win.

After the first 3 games there were 2 teams tied for first place, the Rice 7 Disasters and the Jaegerbombs faced off in a battle of the giants to decide who would be the Dodgeball Champions of SMU.

The championship game was one of the best dodgeball matches this reporter has ever seen, throws, catches, dodges and dippy-doodles on par with the pros, and trash talk at a university level this truly was a match for the record books. Player of the game was easily Doug Rogers of the Rice 7 Disasters in costume as Freddie Mercury. The championship game was an all out war, the

dodgeball is no exception, the winners walked away with t-shirts, a trophy and all the burnt waffle Vitamin Water they could drink.

Hopefully the champs will return for next years competition where we are likely to see some new contenders for the title of Dodgeball Champion.



Doug Rogers Photo Credit: Jason MacDonald



Rancourt Goes Top Shelf on Yeomans Photo Credit: Jason MacDonald

STUDENTS LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE!!!!!!

Men's Hockey at Alumni Arena Wednesday, February 4th, 7 p.m.



vs St. Francis Xavier



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The study has been funded by the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation - Atlantic Chapter and has been reviewed by the Dalhousie University Research Ethics Committee # 2008-182.



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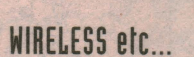
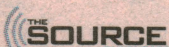


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