



the Journal

Saint Mary's University - Halifax - Nova Scotia

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Photo by Jeffrey Warford/THE JOURNAL

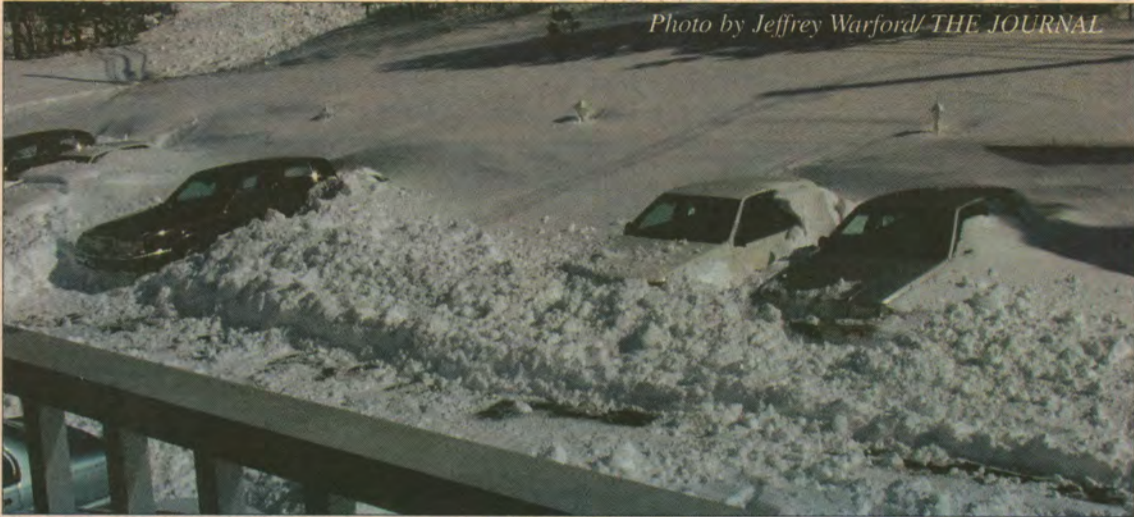


Photo by Eric Boudreau/THE JOURNAL



Parking lots full of snow and empty classrooms are the end result of a record breaking snowstorm.

Snow banks and empty classes

Many people asked the question Monday "why are we here?". The largest snowstorm in the history of Halifax had left the city in a state of emergency after nearly a meter of snow fell. Although Halifax Regional Municipality asked colleges and universities to cancel classes for Monday, Saint Mary's University remained open.

On Sunday February 22, 2004 SMUSA president Tyler MacLeod had received inquiries from several students about the school's decision to open the next morning. The inquiries led MacLeod to contact Dr. Dodds on the decision. In the brief conversation MacLeod learned that Dr. Dodds had met with the other executives of SMU and they had contacted HRM. MacLeod understood that HRM was not aware that Dalhousie and MSVU were to begin their

winter break on February 23 and HRM felt that the traffic created by SMU would not be a significant problem for road cleanup, and implied that having classes would not be a problem.

Dr. Dodds also exclaimed to MacLeod that road and sidewalk cleaning would probably continue throughout the week and we would not see a significant change if the university shut down for one day.

MacLeod expressed that the concerns he had received were of students worried that they would be penalized if they could not get to class on Monday. In response MacLeod says, "SMUSA has been given assurance that students will not be penalized as a result of the storm. If any student finds that this is not the case, please contact Tyler MacLeod, president of SMUSA, or Jon Kincade, VP Academic of SMUSA."

Of discourse and democracy

SMU to host prestigious national Poli Sci conference

by Ashlee Starratt

The latter half of the 21st century, particularly the post-Cold War era, has witnessed the rapid rise of globalization and its subsequent engulfment of the political, economic and social/cultural realms. As physical territorial boundaries become obsolete as mechanisms of containment, everyday activities and transactions are now taking place in a transnational arena within what has become known as the 'global village.'

In Canada this phenomenon has been largely embraced by the corporate sector, with governments usually working in conjunction with private interests, as was the case during the wide scale offloading of power that occurred during the Conservative era of the 1980s. Such trends of mass

privatization of Crown corporations and public social services as key fiscal policy solutions have subsequently carried over to the neo-liberal government of today.

Such emphasis on the redistribution of power has led to a loss of government accountability in the minds of its constituents, as well as imposing limitations on democracy as state sovereignty is threatened and accessibility to needed social services has become a realm of the elite. In an effort to counteract these negativities and restore lost accountability and decision-making power, government must re-evaluate their democratic system of representation, and ask themselves: just who are they representing?

On this note, the Saint Mary's University Political Science Society has been given the unique opportunity to

host the national Canadian Political Science Student Association (CPSSA) conference here at the university from March 4-7. Saint Mary's beat out other post-secondary institutions across Canada, such as the University of Alberta and Kingston's prestigious Queen's University to name a few, in the bid as host for this exclusive event.

The CPSSA consists of a student body made up of political science majors who gather at a national level each year to address relevant issues in national politics on a normative and empirical level. The theme of this year's conference will be 'The Changing Face of Canadian Democracy: Reflections of the Past, Audit of the Present and Insights into the Future'. Contributing speakers will consist of Saint Mary's

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Buried killers

by Meaghen Simms — IDS Grad Society

"Danger Mines" T-shirts are a top seller in Phnom Penh's central market, but if travelers to Cambodia need a reminder of the random destructiveness of these buried killers they need only look as far as the main gates. There a collection of amputees waits, hunched over makeshift crutches and hoping for handouts.

The rice paddies and fields of this South East Asian nation are among the most heavily mined in the world, with millions of mines — leftovers from three decades of war — thought to still be in the ground. The mines have left large amounts of former agricultural land unusable and victims with few options. "With their injuries they are no longer able to work in the fields as they once did," explains Rene Ross, the Youth Mine Ambassador for Atlantic Canada.

Cambodia is not alone. Globally, there are 82 mine-

affected countries, with an estimated 160 million anti-personnel mines buried around the world. "Nobody knows exactly how many [landmines] there are," says Ross. Half the battle is finding them, she explains, adding a top priority of mine action is locating suspected minefields and marking them off. Other aspects of mine action include demining, victim assistance and improving mine awareness.

"The purpose of mine action is to rid the world of landmines, every step at a time," Ross says. "The landmine issue relates to so many things. It relates to development, to human rights, poverty. It takes a country that's already suffering from post conflict and further chokes it," she adds.

"Even if India and Pakistan stopped laying mines tomorrow look how long its

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IN THE SKY

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THURSDAY -		-4 to -11
FRIDAY -		-2 to -11
SATURDAY -		-3 to -10
SUNDAY -		0 to -10

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U p c o m i n g E v e n t s & I n f o r m a t i o n

SRC Nominations

SRC Election Nominations Now Open

The SRC Election Nominations are open. Pick up nomination forms on the 5th floor of the Students' Centre. Available positions:

- Arts Students Representative
- Commerce Students Representative
- Engineering Students Representative
- International Students Representative
- Off-Campus Students Representative
- Part-Time Students Representative
- Mature Students Representative
- Science Students Representative
- Students with Disabilities Representative

Nominations close Friday, February 27th at 5:00p.m. SRC Representatives will be elected by the end of March, whose term shall be the duration of the next administrative year (May 1st - April 30th).



Spring Fling
Semi-Formal

Thursday, March 4th
9pm - 1am
Loyola Conference Hall
Benefit for Muscular Dystrophy

Music By
DJ Dobby
&
The Anderson Conrad Band

Tickets On Sale In Loyola
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WET/DRY EVENT

Important Notice!

Did the University's decision to open on Monday, Feb. 23rd cause undue hardship, result in financial loss, or academic penalties? If so, SMUSA wants to know. Contact Jon Kincade at vpacademic@smusa.ca



Charter Day Awards Nominations Open

These awards recognize student contribution to the Saint Mary's community and beyond.

Nomination forms are available online at www.smusa.ca or at the Information Desk. Please nominate a deserving student!

Deadline for nominations: Friday, March 5th

This Week at the Gorsebrook Lounge:

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28	MONDAY, MARCH 1	
OPEN MIC	WING NIGHT PUB NIGHT GREAT MUSIC!			MARGARITA MONDAY	

Events at the Gorsebrook Lounge are open to all SMU students, faculty, alumni and guests only

Editorial

the Journal

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The opinions expressed in The Journal are those of the authors and not necessarily of The Journal or Saint Mary's University.

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The Journal is printed on recycled paper. All unread copies of The Journal are recycled and the proceeds from recycling are donated to the Special Olympics.

Winter wonderland

I love a good snowstorm. I really do. I find nothing more peaceful than standing outside at night, looking up at the dark sky with perfect white snowflakes falling around you. The undisturbed ground after a snowfall is beautiful, a soft white blanket, covering the ugly winter ground.

Growing up in the Maritimes, I am used to snow-filled winters. As a baby, if I was pulled around in a sled in the back yard, I would easily fall asleep. My mother learned that trick quickly and often let me sleep in my baby snowsuit, in the sled with the sun shining on me.

Snowfalls have always been enjoyable to me even as I aged and saw snow through a different window. I believe that most kids feel the same about snowstorms. Playing in the snow as a child was so much fun. I can remember mom bundling me up nice and warm so I could go out and play with my friend next door. Every winter, she and I would play football with her older brother. I never really understood how it is possible to play football with three people but we had fun doing it. My friend and I would try and tackle her brother by grabbing on to his legs and dragging behind him. He always managed to break away from us and get to the other side of the yard.

Another winter favorite was jumping off my patio to the snowdrifts below. Each time I jumped I had a rush. It was only a nine- or ten-foot jump, but the adrenaline would just pump through my veins.

We also made awesome snow forts. There were boys across the street from us who were our age and every year we waited for a big snowfall so we could turn the snow banks into forts in preparation for the snowball fight of the year. Our forts had tunnels and secret compartments so we could have a stash of snowballs ready to go. The boys would tell us to go inside and play with our Barbie dolls but that just made us more determined to take them on. When the time came for the fight to begin, we would all gather, set down some ground rules (essential in any street game) and take our places in our fort. For hours the snowballs would fly and each team would try sneak attacks to break down the others fort. I cannot remember a team actually winning in any of the years we played. We were always interrupted by our mothers calling us in for supper.

In elementary, the schoolyard was the ultimate snow playground. We would slide down the hills into the woods and climb the huge snow banks left from the plows. I can still remember rushing to get my snow pants and boots on so I could squeeze every minute out of recess for fun in the snow.

When I was in junior high, suddenly, playing in the snow like I did before was not "cool." Since my friends didn't want to play in the snow as much, I would go sledding with my older sisters. We would drive into the city and fly down Citadel Hill on a rubber tube. This was a lot of fun, but also was the cause of many, many bruises.

My attitude towards snowstorms changed as I grew up. At first it was great because I could play in the snow all day instead of just the few hours after school before dark. As a teenager, snowstorms and school cancellations meant that I could just play at home or at a friend's all day long. In high school and university I looked forward to classes being canceled so I could sleep in.

Snowstorms always meant shoveling for my sisters and I. When I lived in Sackville, I thought we had such a big driveway and it would take us an average of four hours to shovel 15 or 20 centimeters of snow. At our new home the driveway is at least four times the size of the driveway in Sackville. The path from the house to the road is over 120 feet long and the parking area is large enough to fit an official volleyball court. There is a man in our neighbourhood who usually plows the driveway with his truck but last week we were on our own. The truck came, and tried to plow the driveway, only to get stuck about 20 feet in. The drifts in our driveway last Friday were shoulder height and it looked like we would have to shovel it all by hand. Fortunately, our friendly neighbours let us borrow their snow blower and my father and I picked away at the most snow we have seen in years. We worked all Friday and by dark on Saturday we had made a small path that a car could pass through. There was still the parking area to do and I was in a lot of pain. My luck had changed that evening as our snowplow man came back to try again.

I may love snowstorms, but I hope I never have to shovel that much snow again. The picture above shows my winter wonderland.

LMN



Attention:

Would the person or persons who assisted a woman who fell outside the Burke Building on Thursday, February 5, 2004 at approximately 11:30am please contact Jennifer at the Journal by either telephoning 496-8205 and leaving a message, or sending an email to journal.ae@smu.ca. It would be extremely appreciated.

Dear Editor,

I knew Monday morning was going to be rough before I went to bed on Sunday night. I had listened to the radio all day to no avail. I learned that the HRM had asked the school board and universities to remain closed on Monday, and while we were told the schools had complied, there was no further mention of Saint Mary's. Is no news good news?

I woke up at 6am, knowing that I would need extra time to hike to one of the eight buses (out of a usual 45) that would take me closer to school. As I live in the unfortunately ignored North End of Halifax, the nearest bus stop was Barrington and Duke - a half an hour walk away on a good day. With poorly shoveled sidewalks on Gottingen Street combined with an unpredictable bus schedule, I realized it would take me at least two hours to make the usual half an hour

journey to school.

I tried to get in contact with my professors. They too must have had difficult journeys to the university. Regrettably, neither left notice on their voicemail about the status of their classes. Would I make the trek to end up in a deserted room with a disgruntled Prof.? My question to the administration at Saint Mary's is: Why open (in an attempt to save another day from being added to the end of term), and waste an instruction day for all the students who could not even get to the university? As a conscientious student, I was angry that classes were held when it was virtually impossible for me to safely arrive. I would rather have attended the classes, for which I am paying a hefty sum, at the end of the semester. I think it is ridiculous that the university is catering to a calendar rather than its students.

Amanda Dillman

Dear Editor,

I just wanted the opportunity to express my views regarding SMU's decision to remain open on Monday, Feb. 23 following the massive blizzard we experienced last week. It is largely inconsiderate to both students and staff who must worry about getting to campus safely with roads that are still unplowed, and many down to one lane of traffic. It was even requested that schools, college and university campuses remain closed on Monday to aid in the cleanup. To my knowledge, the school board, and all other college and university campuses in the city have followed this request so it must be somewhat justified. Parking at SMU is difficult at the best of times and most certainly following this storm

parking will be at even more of a premium with the massive build-up of snow. I only have a five minute walk to campus and still dread trying to make it in one piece. Our cars are not even cleared of snow yet and cannot be used. It is not reasonable to expect students to make it to campus when many professors themselves may not be able to make it. How frustrating would it be for a student to finally make it to school, only to find out that class was cancelled because their professor could not make it there, or vice-versa? I know that many will share this view and some will not. However safety should always remain a top priority to the University and this action appears to demonstrate otherwise.

Sincerely,
Emily Frenette

News

The E-spot

by Cindy Cook - Employment Centre staff

The interview - you know the feeling. You have just applied for the perfect job. Your resume? Art. Your cover letter? Tears of joy. You await a call, you fantasize, you want it so bad you can taste it. The anticipation has you crazed. You are going to explode, then the phone rings and, yes! An interview. You are elated! Glowing! There's a little dance in your step for the rest of the day. But then something strange happens. You feel a pit in your gut and it hits you - you have to pull this off. You question yourself: can I do this? Can I stand out from the others?

Although initially these questions plague you, you're smart, you get advice, you research, you prepare, but let's face it - you're still nervous. The morning of, you feel like you are going to puke. You put on your best professional clothes, take out your piercing, cover up the tattoo, and you're off. Look at you - how can this possibly go wrong?

And then there's my story. A little something I like to call the "Hand Cream Mishap."

I proceeded to put on hand cream before the interviewer came to get me. My nerves caused me to squeeze too hard on the little tube and out poured way too much. As I am rubbing it in (no Kleenex in sight), she is walking toward me, hand extended. I am frantically trying to rub away the cream but it was too late, timing was not on my side. I was mortified when I saw her wiping her hand on her clothes as we made small talk on our way to the room. I was positive she thought I was sweating profusely. For the rest of the interview my brain was immersed in the Hand Cream Mishap. I could not

focus - I just wanted to blurt out, "IT WAS ONLY HAND CREAM" I ended up leaving the interview regretting every answer I gave and dwelling on what I should have said.

That crisp day in March, nerves got the best of me, and I was inevitably defeated by hand cream. In retrospect, it should have been easy to clear my mind and fess up to hand cream overload, but in retrospect, it should be easy to do a lot of things. Life is funny that way.

Regardless, based on my experience in the Employment Centre, most of you can relate to feeling nervous. I have seen you in here waiting for your interviews, white as a ghost, fidgeting, incapable of speech. It's all natural, and I think most interviewers, as human beings, can appreciate this. The real problem exists when you are ill prepared for the dos and don'ts and after one or two wrong answers, you're just not feeling the love. On the flip side, the more prepared you are, the more ability you have to relax and feel confident when you give a great answer. The moral of this story - hand cream has no place at an interview.

Here are this weeks selected questions:

Q. What is the right answer to the classic, "What are your weaknesses" interview question? - *Screwed up on this one before*

A. Do not demonstrate a weakness that would hinder your ability to do this job. For example, revealing that you have a hard time working with others when you are applying for a team-based position will only demonstrate your lack of research and take you out of the running. A good answer is one that suggests you can do

this job very well. For example, *I tend to give 110% to a project. Sometimes I can get frustrated when it appears that others are not also giving 110%. However, (this is where you acknowledge that you can overcome this "weakness") I have come to learn that people are individuals and we all work in different ways. My way of contributing 110% may be different than someone else and I can recognize that as long as we are making progress. Mission accomplished.*

Q. How do I answer this interview question: What have you heard about our company that you don't like? - *Can't wait to hear what you have to say*

A. Don't play dumb. If this door is opened, by all means, walk right in. The interviewer may ask this because there has been some negative press on the company lately and the interviewer is looking for your understanding of current issues. Honestly disclose what you have heard/read but *stick to the facts and do not judge*. If you are pushed by the interviewer to give your opinion of the situation, say something like, *I do not know enough (on the other side of things) to pass judgment*. And you're safe. Hope this helps.

Direct questions/mishaps to ccook@smu.ca

Continued from cover

Mines going to take to clear all those and considering landmines are active for 50 to 75 year, we're going to be dealing with this issue for a while. But we are making progress," Ross stresses, citing an overall reduction in landmine casualties since the signing of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines.

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) annual Landmine Monitor report put mine and unexploded ordinance casualties between 15,000 and 20,000 in 2002, but cautioned that ongoing conflict and limited access to emergency treatment in rural areas made assessing an exact figure next to impossible. Chechnya reported a dramatic rise in landmine injuries in 2002 with 5,695 casualties, up from 2,140 in 2001. Afghanistan is estimated to suffer 150 new casualties a month and Cambodia reported 834 casualties in 2002. In all, the ICBL reports mine deaths and injuries in recent decades have numbered in the hundreds of thousands.

Ironically 75% of the victims of these weapons of war are civilians, with an estimated 30-40% of these casualties children. The targeting, Ross says, is strategic. "[In war] you want

to traumatize the community. Two warring sides don't just want to take out the other army. They want to hurt them and by hurting them you hurt their families, you hurt their communities, you hurt their kids," she explains, adding farms are often targeted as a way of starving communities.

Mines cost on average between \$3 and \$30 and come in a variety of shapes and sizes. One of the most horrific, Ross says, is the butterfly mine, which is made of plastic and is often brightly coloured, making children particularly vulnerable because of their natural curiosity. Soviet aircraft and artillery dropped these mines by the millions during their decade-long war with Afghanistan. The lightweight design of the butterfly mine further complicates the process of locating and clearing minefields because they can shift position with heavy rains or floods, she explains.

This article will continue next week with information on demining efforts and the important role Canada is playing.

The fifth annual Canadian Landmine Awareness Week (CLAW) will take place from March 1-7th, 2004. The annual "Turning Words Into Action" butterfly ribbon campaign continues this year. All money raised during this week will go to support a variety of Canadian mine action programs including public outreach.

THIS WEEK ONLY



February 25 to 28, 2004
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Continued from cover
Poli Sci

Political Science faculty members, Drs. Marc Doucet, Alexandra Dobrowolsky and Ronald Landes, the latter of whom will be speaking about Canada's contribution to the homeland security effort through its domestic and foreign policy in a speech entitled: 'Assessing Canadian Democracy: A Defensive Critique'.

With a tentative list of seventy delegates from universities across the country who are planning to attend, the publicity that this conference will generate will serve to provide Saint Mary's with heightened national recognition and stature as a critical voice in the circle of political intelligentsia.

The format of events over the three day period will consist of faculty and guest speakers, followed by smaller, seminar-style discussions on various topics addressed, culminating in a large panel discussion at the end of the third day that will provide a forum for review and reflection upon the aggregation of interests and issues raised. Potential keynote speakers are: Andrew Cohen from Carleton University representing the Council of Canadians and Duff Conacher from Democracy Watch. Also

represented will be the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

In addition to these honorarium contributors, CBC Television has targeted this conference to be a feature in its new series *Snakes and Ladders*, a show aimed at increasing political awareness in Canadian youth. The broadcasting corporation is also hoping to provide funding for the conference, and screenings of its new show were held on February 4th at 7pm at the University of King's College School of Journalism and February 6th at 12pm at the Public Library on

Spring Garden Road.

Although the conference is geared toward political science students, these issues affect all Canadians and anyone wishing to attend may contact the Political Science Society here at SMU to purchase a ticket for \$30 when they go on sale in February. Admission includes access to all presentations, brunch each day and attendance to the semi-formal ball and dinner with all students and delegates from the universities at the end of the third day. Volunteers are also needed to help with

fundraising activities and any interested students may contact Political Science Society president Kyna Boyce at kyna_husky@msn.com, or conference co-coordinator Kristin O'Toole at kristinleotoole@hotmail.com.

Any and all help is appreciated as an enormous amount of work is going into the production and orchestration of this conference by a handful of extremely dedicated members of the Political Science Society who have worked hard to put Saint Mary's on the map. They are: Kyna Boyce, Kristin

O'Toole, Emily McEvoy, Rayna Sanford, Matt Wells, Claire Robinson and Marc Julien.

As valuable members of our society it is especially important for the youth of today to engage in a meaningful and objective dialogue with their peers in an effort to problematize issues of Canadian democracy that affect them so they can begin to construct a framework of change for the future. This conference is a key outlet for providing that first step.

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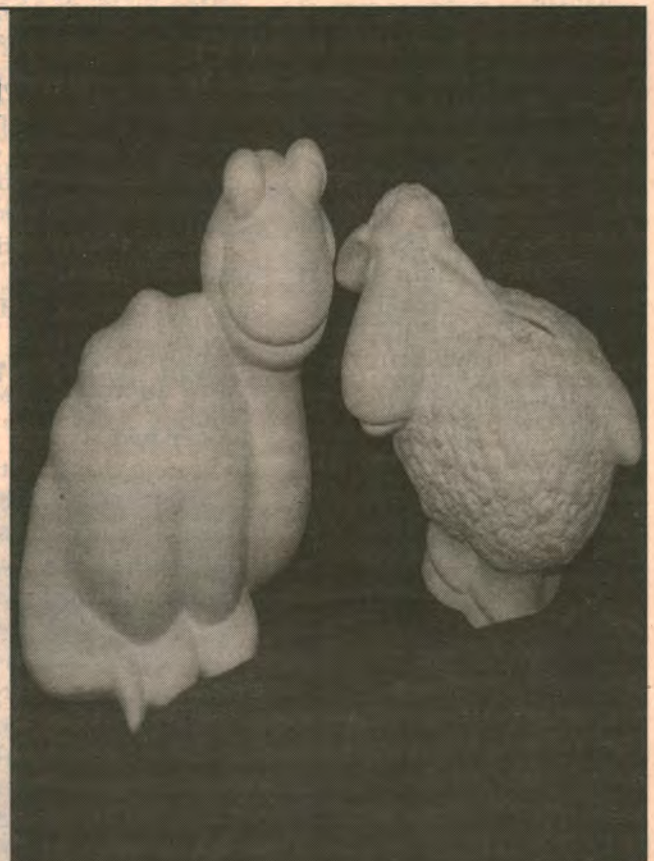
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Wednesday, March 31st - 7 to 8:30pm
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Thursday, March 11th - 2:30 to 4pm
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Business

Free Martha Stewart

by Ian Burns

If you have been following the two-year long legal battle of domestic diva Martha Stewart, you may be relieved, or saddened, to hear that prosecution has rested in this high profile lawsuit.

Martha Stewart is being tried on five counts all of which are related to Ms. Stewarts December 2001 sale of ImClone stocks. The government claims that Martha's stock broker, Peter Bacanovic, told her that ImClone founder, Sam Waskal, was urgently trying to unload all of his shares in the company. Martha claims that she and Mr. Bacanovic had a pre existing agreement to unload the shares once the stock price hit \$60.

Bacanovic claims that he and Ms. Stewart made the agreement to sell at \$60 just days before the stock was sold on Dec. 27, 2001. The following day the U.S. government declined to review ImClone's new cancer-fighting drug and the stock quickly went into a sharp decline.

Ms. Stewart is also being charged with securities fraud because of three statements she made to shareholders of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia. Ms. Stewart and her lawyers are being accused of misleading stockholders by stating that the stock in ImClone was sold because of the agreement to sell at \$60. The judge in the case has called this charge "novel" and defence lawyers are hopeful that the charge will be dismissed.

Besides the securities fraud charge, the remaining counts all relate to whether or not Martha and her stock broker tried to hide the true reasons behind her sale of 3928 shares of ImClone.

The case against Stewart has not been a typical securities fraud case. The trial, which lasted 14 days, had everything from tearful witnesses to forensic scientists.

Of the 21 witnesses called in the case, one of the most damning testimonies against Martha Stewart may have come from chief forensic

scientist at the U.S. Secret Service, Larry Stewart. Larry Stewart is considered the top ink expert in the U.S. and was a key part of the prosecutions case. Mr. Stewart, no relation to Martha Stewart, testified that notation made by Ms. Stewart's stock broker was made using a different pen and that it was an obvious attempt to hide the true reason for selling the ImClone stock.

The worksheet that was examined was a list of gains and losses on 36 different stocks owned by Martha Stewart. Beside the ImClone stock Ms. Stewart's stock broker had written "(at)60" indicating that the stock was to be sold once it reached \$60. There are many circles, checks and notations on the document all made using blue ink. The "(at)60" notation is also in blue ink, however, under ultraviolet light, the "(at)60" notation is proven to be made by a different pen than the other writing found on the document.

Larry Stewart testified that the chromatography testing had confirmed that the inks were distinctly different. Under cross-examination, Larry Stewart stated that it was impossible to tell how many pens had been used to mark the worksheet.

Testimony made on Thursday by a close friend of Ms. Stewart suggests that she knew that ImClone founder Sam Waskal was trying to unload his shares in the company before she sold her stock.

Mariana Pasternak, a friend of Ms. Stewart for more than 20 years, testified that while vacationing at a resort in Mexico, Martha disclosed that she had been aware of the actions of Sam Waskal. This is an important testimony for the prosecution because if Ms. Stewart did in fact know about Waskal, it would mean that she lied to investigators in the initial ImClone probe.

The sale of the ImClone stock netted Ms. Stewart, who was once worth more than \$1 billion, less than \$250,000. The judge had blocked Ms. Stewart's attorney from arguing in his closing statement that the sale of the ImClone stock was too small for Ms. Stewart to focus on.



Movie industry fights back

by Ian Burns

Illegally downloading MP3's is nothing new, and a CD burner capable of making music CD's is pretty much a standard feature on any new PC. But a new battle is starting and the Motion Picture Association of America is doing everything it can to win.

You've probably all seen the new ads that precede most movies and feature a stuntman or a set builder who has been personally affected by illegal copying of movies. This is just one step in a recent campaign put on by the movie industry to put an end to piracy and you can find out more by visiting www.respectcopyrights.com.

There is no doubt that

illegally copying movies is a growing problem, and often movies are available on the internet before they are released on DVD or even before they are in theatres. Earlier this week the movie industry made a small victory in their fight to stop illegal copying of movies.

A federal court has ruled that a privately held company called 321 Studios must stop making and distributing software that allows users to copy DVD's. 321 argued that the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which was passed in 1998 and designed to protect copyright holders from illegal copying, allows users to make copies of DVD's in case the original is destroyed as long as the copy

is for personal use only.

It is not clear exactly how much money the movie industry loses each year because of illegal copying, but a recent estimate puts the price tag of illegal copying at \$3 billion per year.

Another recent high profile case involved a New Jersey insurance Underwriter who was convicted of distributing a rough early copy of The Hulk on the internet. 26 year-old Kerry Gonzales faced up to 3 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. When Kerry was sentenced on September 26, 2003, the judge ruled that he was to be confined to his house for six months, remain on probation for three years and had to pay a \$2000 fine, as well as \$5000 restitution to

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Sheila Fraser talks ethics

Universal Studios. The restitution paid by Gonzales is nothing compared to the amount of money Universal claims it lost on ticket sales, but it is a symbolic victory.

The movie industry is taking many steps to put an end to piracy. Any rough cuts of movies are now encoded so they can be easily traced if the copy is leaked, the same goes for movies that are distributed to actors who are members of the academy. Ultimately this is how Kerry Gonzales was caught after his attempts to erase the digital code failed. Also, preceding a movie's release, the studio will distribute hundreds of mislabelled files on the internet to make it harder for users to locate the real files.

Right now the illegal copying of movies is still a new problem, and because of the large size of movie files, even with a high speed

connection it may take up to eight hours to download a full movie. But as technology grows and internet speeds increase, it is possible that in just a couple of years you may be able to download a movie in just a couple of hours.

Illegally copying music has made a large dent in record sales and the movie industry is worried that downloading movies may have the same effect on ticket sales. The Record Industry Association of America has recently started cracking down on illegal file swappers and has filed a total of 261 federal lawsuits against people accused of copyright infringement. It would appear that the MPAA is going to follow suit and vigorously pursue any individuals they feel have illegally uploaded or downloaded movies on the internet.

The Atlantic Centre for Ethics and Public Affairs (ACEPA) will be hosting a lecture by Sheila Fraser, Auditor General of Canada on Friday, March 5, 2004 from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM in the Sobeys Conference Theatre in the Sobeys Building at Saint Mary's University.

ACEPA is sponsored by Saint Mary's University and the Atlantic School of Theology and draws upon the scholarly expertise of faculty and students from the Social Science, Humanities, Theology, Sciences and Saint Mary's Sobeys School of Business. Officially formed in 2002, the Centre is part of a legacy of rigorous academic thinking and research. From Saint Mary's founding Jesuits to the Atlantic School of Theology's ecumenical roots, ACEPA continues a solid tradition of ethical study,

reflection and achievement.

Her talk will focus on the importance of accountable government, an ethical and effective public service, good governance, sustainable development, and the protection of Canada's legacy and heritage.

Admission for this event is free, and seating is limited. A reception will follow in the Sobeys Building Lobby.

Sheila Fraser was appointed Auditor General of Canada on May 31, 2001.

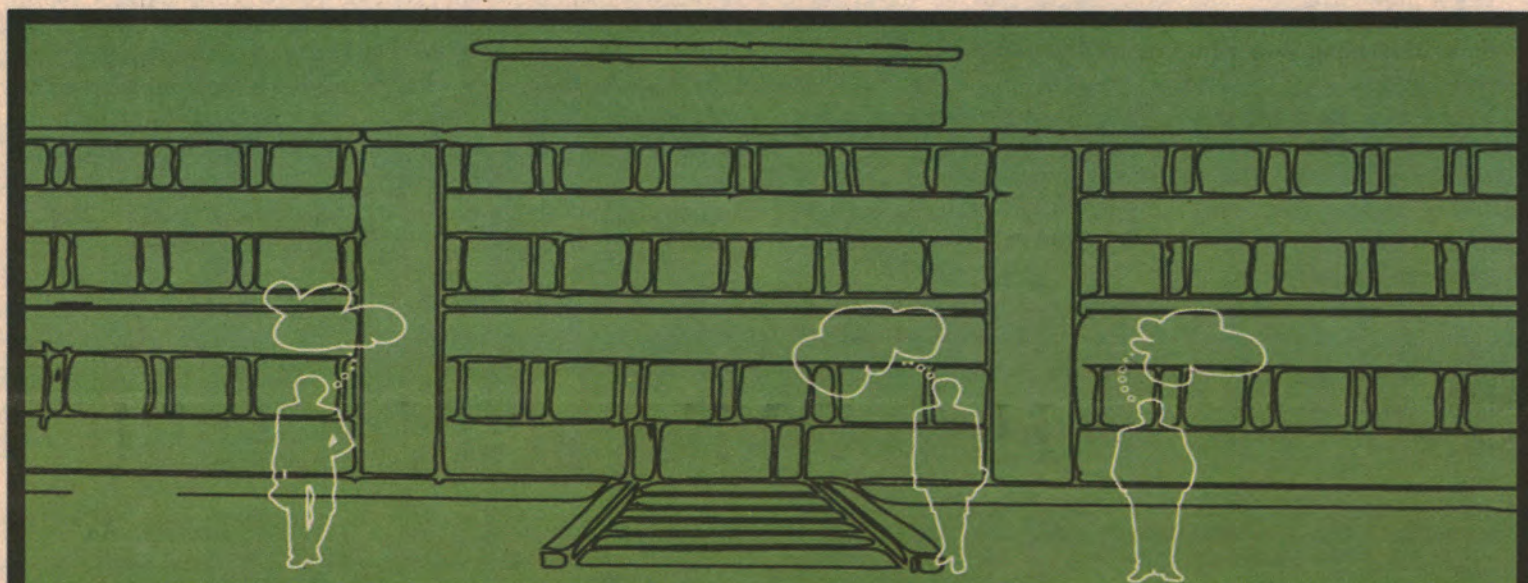
Mrs. Fraser was born on 16 September 1950, in Dundee, Quebec. She earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree from McGill University in 1972. She became a Chartered Accountant in 1974 and an FCA in 1994.

Before joining the Office, Mrs. Fraser enjoyed a fruitful and challenging career with the firm of Ernst & Young,

where she became a partner in 1981. She participated in several assignments with the Auditor General of Quebec.

Mrs. Fraser joined the Office of the Auditor General as Deputy Auditor General, Audit Operations in January 1999. She has played a key role in the Office's strategic planning, policy and program development, resource allocation, and other senior management activities. She was responsible for reviewing audit findings to ascertain the nature and extent of problems in the audited organizations and bring them to the Auditor General's attention. She was also responsible for signing, on the Auditor General's behalf, opinions on the financial statements of Crown corporations and other separate entities.

She chairs the Working Group on Environmental Auditing and the Subcommittee on Independence of Supreme Audit Institutions, two committees of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI). She currently serves as Vice Chair of the Public Sector Accounting Board and soon will assume the position of Chair.



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Arts & Entertainment

Pass on this Trip

By Colin MacKenzie

In 1999, *American Pie* introduced a new generation of teenagers to the R-rated comedy genre, which has produced some of the funniest movies ever made; *Porky's* and *National Lampoon's Animal House* are both widely regarded as classics. After the tremendous financial success of *American Pie*, studios began to rush as many R-rated comedies into production as possible. Some of these movies provided legitimate, quality entertainment (the *American Pie* sequels, *Road Trip*, *Old School*, *National Lampoon's Van Wilder*) and, like their predecessors, these films have introduced audiences to new acting talent. Many actors currently enjoying successful careers, including Kim Cattrall (*Sex and the City*) and Kevin Bacon (*Mystic River*), got their first big breaks in movies of this genre (*Porky's* and *Animal House*, respectively). However, the unfortunate consequence of this overabundance of largely similar movies is that most of

them are godawful-terrible. *Slackers*, *Grind*, and *Out Cold* quickly come to mind.

All of these movies follow the same, simple formula. The lead character must be easy to like and must go through some life-changing experience. The story must feature a lot of very attractive women (clothing optional), the lead character must have a set of loyal friends (the crazier the better), and a happy ending (involving lots of sex) is a necessity. Like the bakers at Tim Horton's, *Eurotrip* sticks to the recipe.

The film follows a group of four recent high school grads from Ohio on their trip across Europe. Scott (Scott Mechlowicz) goes to Europe in hope of chasing down his German pen pal, with whom he has fallen in love. His best friend Cooper (Jacob Pitts) accompanies him in order to "fulfill his right to have crazy European sex," and in Paris they meet up with Jenny (Michelle Trachtenburg, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*) and her twin brother Jamie (Travis Webster), who join Scott and Cooper on their journey.

Hilarity is intended to ensue (one assumes), but, sadly, doesn't.

What makes these adolescent comedies great (or crap) is the appeal of the main characters (or lack thereof) and their ability (or inability) to strike a chord with the audience. The responsibility for creating this appeal falls, to a great extent, on the shoulders of the actors. This brings us to the main fault in *Eurotrip*. The lone bright spot in the main cast is Michelle Trachtenburg, who has an effortless smile and steals every scene she's in. The rest of the main cast is terrible; I hope none of them ever act again.

The highlights of this movie are the cameos. Appearances by Matt Damon (*Good Will Hunting*) as the lead singer of a punk band, Vinnie Jones (*Snatch*) as a dedicated Manchester United fan, and Lucy Lawless (*Xena: Warrior Princess*) as sexy dominatrix are the best scenes in the movie.

Eurotrip is exactly what is you'd expect from the genre—a stupid, gross-out comedy. Nothing is sacred. Plot devices include a nude beach gone bad (with way too much sausage shown), incest, and European sexuality; none of which seem overly out of

place in the film. However, Hitler references, making fun of the Pope dying, and life in Eastern Europe are all things that shouldn't be exploited for humor. Ultimately, this movie will make you laugh but it

isn't a good movie and definitely not worth the price of admission or the walk in the snow. You would be better off and rent one of the classics noted above with some friends.

Not quite All Things

by Jill Campbell

A few years ago I went to see Leahy, a new up-and-coming band perform at the Savoy Theatre in Glace Bay. A family musical group of nine from Lakefield Ontario, their mother was a step-dancer from Cape Breton and their father a fiddler. Leahy certainly gave a stunning performance. The energy they projected was tiring just to watch, as they effortlessly switched instruments around, step-danced, and were generally astonishing. Mixing a contemporary feel with traditional Scottish music, Leahy delivers a less adrenaline-filled performance on this latest album, with a greater range of influences, and a collaborative effort with Natalie MacMaster, Donnell Leahy's new wife.

Donnell Leahy was always the crowd pleaser of the group, and this album is no different. His famous slides and pitch-perfect legato sound represent the epitome of the Ontario style of fiddle playing. The instrumental tracks of "Chasing Rain" and "Little Ditty" represent this traditional style well. The truly charming "Clog Melody" has an interesting mixture of a gypsy-inspired melody moving into a traditional Cape Breton style tune, and Donnell's folk-virtuosity on this track is at its height. The "Gzowski

Melody" is plaintive and sweet in the old style of Scottish slow airs. However, the "Pointe au Pic Melody", an homage to their Quebec influences, is laden with the same mistake of other contemporary Celtic bands. Please pay attention, all contemporary Celtic bands: electric basses were never meant to be played with fiddle music. It always sounds contrived and hokey, as the bass can only move through a very limited range of the scale. Also, Leahy has not learned the virtue of using a real piano in its recording process, and the digital piano does not have the same acoustic ring.

The songs on the album are generally disappointing in their Pop-Country attempts, although this is also in line with other contemporary Celtic bands. "High Places" has an Enya/Loreena MacKinnon inspired, however does not deliver on the same level. "I Want You to Know" is quite frankly boring. During "Runaway" I kept thinking "Yes, I wish I could run away from this terrible song." However, "Coyote Way", also containing Quebecois influences mixed with a country-sound is upbeat and a great dancing song, folkish and fun.

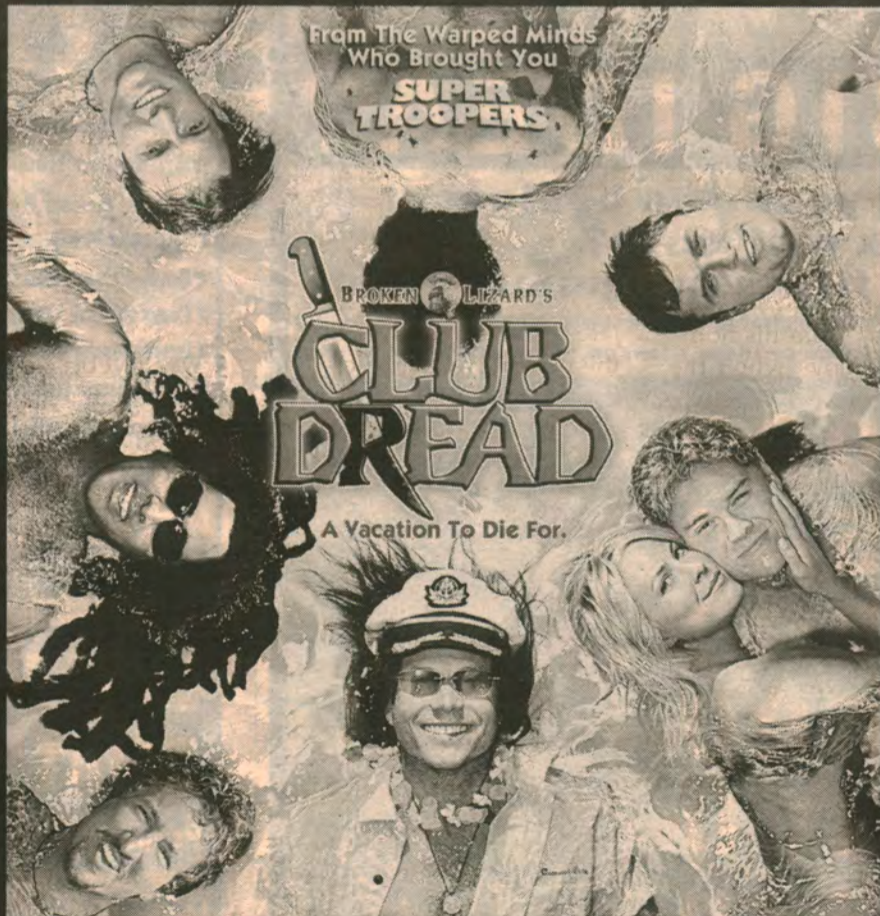
Overall, *In All Things* is an interesting album for its diverse mixture of influences, and Donnell delivers great instrumentation. However, the songs detract from what could have been a much better solely instrumental album.

All students invited to semi-formal event

Ladies this is your year of privilege. Following the Victorian custom, the Leap Year is the year in which women can properly propose to eligible men.

After looking around the stock at SMU, however, you might be more interested in asking a guy for a date instead of a whole lifetime together. And now you have the perfect opportunity, because on March 4, SMUSA is hosting an all-students Semi-Formal in the Loyola Conference Room. DJ Dobby will be laying out the tracks while the infamous band members of Anderson Conrad are taking a break. The Spring Fling Semi-Formal is a chance for SMUdents to get out and dance the night away, as well as contribute to the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada, as ticket sales and raffle earnings will go towards making a donation for the charitable group.

Advance tickets can be purchased for \$5.00 at special tables in Loyola, while door tickets will be \$7.00. If you are interested in helping out with the event please email Kathleen Lingley at kathleenlingley@yahoo.ca, or SMUSA's Volunteer Coordinator Tammy Bonand at volunteer@smusa.ca.



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Nickelback to invade Halifax

by Richard Woodbury

The pride of Hanna, Alberta is coming to town. They just also happen to be one of the biggest, most explosive bands in the world. Nickelback will be hitting the stage at the Halifax Metro Centre on Saturday, February 28. Currently touring in support of their newest album, *The Long Road*, the Canadian rockers will be showcasing their brand of high-octane, intense rock n' roll.

Nickelback has become a household name across the world on account of their sophomore album, *Silver Side Up*, which was released in September 2001. This album spawned hits like "Never Again" and "Too Bad", as well as their breakthrough anthem "How You Remind Me". The band received huge airplay and this led to their being named the #1 most played rock artist of 2002 across all radio formats.

The Long Road represented a shift in style for the band. Whereas *Silver Side Up* was concerned with lyricist/singer Chad Kroeger's personal demons, *The Long Road* deals



with more universal themes. The album has already proved to be a success with hit songs like "Someday" and "Figured You Out".

February 28 will mark Nickelback's second trip to Halifax, having previously played here during last June's Concert on the Hill. Joining Nickelback will be local rockers The Trews whose debut album, *The House of Ill Fame*, has gotten strong air and video play. The band has been touring relentlessly and has developed a reputation as a band that must be seen live. Rounding out the bill is Three Days Grace, whose self-titled debut album has gone platinum in Canada, largely on the strength of their singles "I Hate Everything About You" and "Just Like You".

Tickets are \$43.50 for an evening of rock full of fantastically fierce fun.

Marvel comic artist a local

by Jeremy Campbell

In all my years of being a comic book fan and just plain loving the whole aspect of comic book art I never thought I would be able to get as close as I did on Saturday. I went down to Strange Adventures on Sackville Street to pick up my weekly supply of heroes in fictional worlds when to my surprise the place was packed. Strange Adventures is usually pretty busy, and there are a lot of people milling about collecting this and that and chatting about new stuff and old, but this week was different. There was a gentleman sitting by the door

and he was the center of a lot of the commotion. I went over and asked my favorite staff member Dave who this guy was. "His name is Steve McNiven, and he's the new artist on Marvel Knights (4)". He's working as one of Marvel's new upcoming artists and lives right here in the HRM. This was astounding to me since the closest I'd ever get to comic book fame was sitting next to Eric Miller while he draws. I had the chance to talk to Mr. McNiven and it turns out he's a nice down to earth guy who loves to draw. He told me about

Aeolian singers "Celebrating Women"

The Aeolian Singers will once again celebrate International Women's Day with other Nova Scotian female artists at Pier 21 on Sunday, March 7 and Monday, March 8. Both cabaret-style seating performances begin at 8:00 p.m. Joining the fifty-voice women's choir in "Celebrating Women 2004" are cellist Denise Ro, Halifax's modern dance company Mocean Dance, storyteller Claire Miller and the recently re-united Rose Vaughan Trio. Local choreographer Leica Hardy has created new work for Mocean Dance, who will perform on their own and collaboratively with the Rose Vaughan Trio and the choir, in what is the first choral-dance collaboration for the Aeolians. Host for the celebrations is actor Alison Woolridge, taking a break from her Toronto performances of *Mamma Mia*. The Aeolians will be accompanied by their pianists Louise Grinstead and Lynn

Pelton.

Last year's concert at Pier 21 was sold out, and overwhelming support from sponsors and concert-goers allowed the choir to make a donation of \$10,600 to the organization Canadian Women 4 Women Afghanistan, in support of a women's resource centre in that country. This year, with tickets selling very rapidly for the March 7 concert, the Aeolian Singers decided to add the March 8th show. They will again be raising funds for Afghanistan, and hope to sell out two nights, and also raise funds for a planned trip by the choir to Newfoundland in 2005.

Artistic Director Jackie Chambers feels that this year's line-up is again a diverse program featuring a mix of emerging and established artists. "We're so pleased the Rose Vaughan Trio is back together and we're having great joy rehearsing with them," Chambers says, "collaborating with all these

artists is a wonderful way to celebrate International Women's Day for us, and we're very excited about our first dance-choral project with the women of Mocean Dance." The choir will also perform Alisdair MacLean's "Songs and Sayings," a piece they commissioned in 1990, this time featuring local women and girls saying the "Maritimisms" in the work, which also features 16-year old Halifax cellist Denise Ro.

Sponsors of this year's concerts include the Craig Foundation, the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union, CBC, the Nova Scotia Government Employees Union, the Nova Scotia Community College, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Turbine Clothing Company and numerous individuals. Tickets are \$20 and are available from choir members and at the Halifax YWCA on Barrington Street. They will be on sale at the door if available. For more information, please call 422-5403.

"Spirited artist" at AGNS

Described as a "thought-provoking collection in oil", Christopher Webb will be presenting selections from his *Sermons* collection at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (AGNS) from February 19 until March 4, along with several other Maritime artists. All works will be available for purchase.

Webb's exhibit is a provocative look at religion and morality, derived from the sermons of Lennett J.

Anderson, Jr., who is the Senior Pastor at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Upper Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia. The five pieces to be presented all come from the scripture *1 Samuel 16*, which is the story of an unlikely king, David. Webb, a former SMUSA President, says of his works, "I've really pushed myself in a new direction with these five pieces. They mark somewhat of a departure for me, and I'm really pleased with the outcome." The five pieces on display at this show will serve to be a sampling of what gallery-goers can expect at his solo show scheduled for late summer of this year. Of this exhibit Webb predicts that it will "turn a lot of heads in the art community." The multi-talented twenty-eight year old also keeps extremely busy by giving illuminating and encouraging keynote

speeches to organizations in Nova Scotia, as well as across Canada and the United States, employing the theme of how to use "creativity and passion to do *Anything You Want* with your life."

Webb was commissioned in 1998 by the Halifax Regional Municipality, and again by the Premier and MLAs to create the Christmas Card for 1999. He has also been commissioned by Saint Mary's University, Casino Nova Scotia, Jamieson Sterns, and a number of private clients from throughout North America.

For more information, please check out his website at www.cwebb.ca. For information regarding tickets for the show, please contact the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's Art Sales and Rental Gallery at 424-3087.

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Wind It Up Fridays
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And the winner should be

by Colin MacKenzie

On Sunday February 29th the 76th annual Academy Awards will be handed out in Los Angeles. Every year Hollywood's finest gather at the Kodak Theater to award the best performances and achievements in motion pictures. The majority of viewers focus in on the 6 major categories. These are the nominees, who I think should win and, who I feel will win.

Best Picture

1. Lord of the Rings: Return of the King
2. Lost in Translation
3. Master and Commander: The Far Side Of The World
4. Mystic River
5. Seabiscuit

Lord of the Rings is the most successful trilogy in movie history, grossing just fewer than 3 billion dollars worldwide in theatres alone. The first two movies were both nominated for best picture and it is only the second trilogy in history to have all 3 parts nominated for best picture. However, Mystic River is the best picture of the year. It's powerful story of 3 young friends torn apart by tragedy and brought back together as adults by greater tragedy.

Winner: Lord of the Rings: Return of the King

Should win: Mystic River

Best Director

1. Fernando Meirelles-

City of God

2. Peter Jackson- Return of the King
3. Peter Weir- Master and Commander: The Far Side Of The World
4. Sofia Coppola- Lost in Translation
5. Clint Eastwood- Mystic River

Again this is between Lord of the Rings and Mystic River. Peter Jackson has shown the world the depths of his imagination. His direction in The Lord of the Rings trilogy is unparalleled in film history. Jackson has built the film industry in New Zealand almost single handedly and made a cast of supporting actors into stars. Clint Eastwood's mix of Shakespeare and outstanding performances leaves the audience breathless without the use of special effects by appealing to our most basic emotions. This is the best movie he has ever directed. His shots and character development are seamless. The viewer feels like he is part of this world and feels for every character in it.

Winner: Peter Jackson- Lord of the Rings: Return of the King

Should win: Clint Eastwood-Mystic River

Best Actor

1. Johnny Depp-Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl
2. Ben Kingsley-House

of Sand and Fog

3. Jude Law-Cold Mountain
4. Bill Murray-Lost in Translation
5. Sean Penn-Mystic River

Sean Penn has been delivering top notch performances for over a decade. Penn is known for his intensity and focus. These characteristics have been put on display as never before, going from tears to extreme anger in the blink of an eye. My favorite performance of the year is Johnny Depp as Captain Jack Sparrow. Depp creates this character (using Keith Richards and Pepe LePew) and makes it his own. He carried this movie from starting to finish. I don't think there is anyone else in the world that could do what Johnny did in this film.

Winner: Sean Penn

Should win: Johnny Depp

Best Actress

1. Keisha Castle-Hughes-Whale Rider
2. Diane Keaton-Something's Gotta Give
3. Samantha Morton-In America
4. Charlize Theron-Monster
5. Naomi Watts-21 Grams

Charlize Theron in Monster, no doubts. I'd be willing to bet a years worth of booze. Her performance is one of the best in the history of movies. Roger Ebert said it

best "If Charlize Theron doesn't win best actress, there is no point to have the award".

Winner: Charlize Theron

Should win: Charlize Theron

Best Supporting Actor

1. Alec Baldwin-The Cooler
2. Benicio Del Toro-21 Grams
3. Djimon Hounsou-In America
4. Tim Robbins-Mystic River
5. Ken Watanabe-The Last Samurai

Tim Robbins is one of the most respected actors in the world. He never plays the same character twice and his performance in Mystic River is the best of his career. Ken Watanabe stole The Last Samurai from Tom Cruise (which isn't easy); after the movie it was Watanabe's performance as a Samurai master that left audiences buzzing.

Winner: Tim Robbins

Should win: Tim Robbins

Best Supporting Actress

1. Sherry Aghdashloo-House of Sand and Fog
2. Patricia Clarkson-Pieces of April
3. Marcia Gay Harden-Mystic River
4. Holly Hunter-Thirteen
5. Renee Zellweger-Cold Mountain

Renee Zellweger has been nominated for Oscar the last two years and this looks to be her year to take one home. She was the highlight of Cold Mountain a movie that never lived up to it's hype. This may not be the best performance of her career but it is the best performance of a supporting actress, especially if you look back on her last performances and how different they are (Bridget Jones Diary and Chicago).

Winner: Renee Zellweger

Should Win: Renee Zellweger

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Fun with vaginas

by Colin MacKenzie

The Vagina Monologues was written by Eve Ensler and first published in 1998. Since then it has been translated into over twenty-five languages, and has enjoyed sold-out runs off-Broadway and on London's West Side. The Vagina Monologues was also made into an HBO special in 2002, and subsequently released to DVD. On February 12, 13, and, 14th The Vagina Monologues was performed at Saint Mary's by SMU students as a fundraiser for the Bryony House.

Much like the Oscar-winning documentary *Bowling for Columbine*, *The Vagina Monologues* mixes humour with startling facts. The play is a collection of individual monologues on various topics of female sexuality from women of varying ages, races, and religions all over the world—ranging from one woman's first orgasm, to another's realization that her husband is having an affair, to a lesbian's first sexual experience.

The main difficulty in performing any play as

widely known as *The Vagina Monologues* is that the very popularity that generates larger-than-average ticket sales makes it all the more important that those presenting the play do the script justice. Fortunately for me and the rest of the audience, the cast and crew did an admirable job giving life to the play. The serious moments were dead serious, leaving the auditorium pin-drop quiet, and during the funny moments (which were very funny) there wasn't a face without a smile. In particular, "Crooked Braid", performed by Sam Madore, left the audience breathless, and "The Women Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy", performed by Randi Livingstone, drew many a tear. Everyone involved in the play did an exceptional job and should be commended for their efforts.

I don't know that *The Vagina Monologues* will be any performed again in Metro any time soon, which is a shame; I'd encourage everyone, male or female, to take in the show at their earliest opportunity.

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Sports

Good as gold

by Bill Hughes

Although absent from the top five national rankings all season, the Lady Huskies Volleyball team has made a statement since late November by reeling off nine straight victories en route to a regular season championship. The championship run culminated in a victory over both of their top two rivals, in defeating the Acadia Axewomen and the Dalhousie Tigers in the final weeks of regular season play. The win boosted the Huskies record to 14-2 and into a first place tie with Acadia, but gave SMU the championship based on the Huskies having won more games against the Axewomen in head to head play.

And do not look now, but a pair of victories over those same two clubs in the AUS playoffs in Charlottetown this past weekend will force other conference champions to take note, otherwise they too may fall victim to these virtually unknowns and unrecognized Huskies.

After enjoying the luxury of an opening round bye won by finishing with one of the top two regular season records, their first win of the weekend came against the host UPEI Panthers. The Panthers were a team that had finished the regular season at 7-9, and therefore were hardly expected to be in a semifinal match up against the

powerful Huskies. But a quarterfinal home win did just that and they gained confidence heading into the game against SMU. The Panthers played well above their standards and pushed SMU to five sets before bowing out 15-12 in the fifth and final game. The other scores in the seesaw Huskies win were 16-25, 25-15, 20-25, 25-18.

The win moved the Huskies into Sunday's final against the Acadia Axewomen, who advanced on the strength of a 3-1 victory over UCCB in the other semi-final. The final was yet another SMU victory spearheaded by MVP Danielle Shortall as they won in quick fashion by defeating the Axewomen 3-1 by scores of 25-17, 25-21, 13-25 and 30-28. The win gives the Huskies the AUS banner and right to represent the conference at nationals.

The Huskies will now be riding high on the strength of a eleven game win streak as they make preparations during a ten day break, before making the lengthy trip to the prairies for the CIS Championships hosted by the University of Saskatchewan scheduled for March 4th-6th.



The schedule is yet to be determined as the other conferences do not crown a champion until this coming weekend. The CIS championship takes on a bracket playoff system, where there is no room for error, as one loss means elimination.

Judgement Day looms

by Bill Hughes

The first step is to admit that you have a problem. The NHL has a problem, but it's having a difficult time taking that first step. The talk about the NHL among media and fans alike is rarely about the surprise scoring output of Robert Lang or Alex Tanguay, rarely about the highlight reel goals courtesy of Ilya Kovalchuk or the overachieving season of the San Jose Sharks. Instead of exploring the intrigue of those stories, the league continues to be marred by the negative press that reflects the state of the game.

If you asked a fan to come up with the story line that best represents the first three-quarters of the season you would inevitably run into answers such as, "No movement in CBA Talks, 2005 season in jeopardy", "Mixed feelings on potential rule changes", "Overpaid players putting small market teams in the red", "Attendance Lagging", "Offence down, again" or "Players split on visor debate". The issue remains that those are the stories that best represents the 2003-2004 season to date, and therein lies the problem.

The NHL is nearing a turning point where they will have to make a decision to

Hockey corner

by Bill Hughes

A very promising season for a Huskies Hockey club that was once defying the odds by continuing to be successful despite the loss of key veterans and injuries all came to a crashing half. This began in the final couple of weeks and was a trend that continued into the opening round of the playoffs.

The Huskies entered the quarterfinal round as the highest seed in action, as both first and second place St. FX and UNB were idle due to first round byes. The third seed ranking for the Huskies was mostly due in part to their success up until the dreary month of February hit and they entered their match up with the surging St. Thomas Tommies on a five game losing streak at the most important juncture of the year.

Their tailspin continued in

the opening game of the series as the Tommies drew first blood in the brief best of three series with a 4-2 home victory.

Game two of the series was rescheduled due to the storm as it changed venues and returned to the home confines of the Halifax Forum for the



remaining two games. Having lost six straight games was now in the past for a Huskies club that would need a victory to stave off elimination as they fought for their lives.

Needing a win to stay alive on Saturday was exactly the remedy for their ills as the Huskies scored a 4-1 victory and briefly restored faith that they may be able to right the ship.

Sunday's third and deciding game of the best of three did not go as the Huskies had planned. The season came to an abrupt end as the Tommies reversed Saturday's result continued to frustrate the home team and escaped with a 4-1 win to advance to the semifinals with a 2-1 series victory.

This brought to an end the 2003-2004 edition of the Huskies hockey club, and Coach Trevor Stienburg will now have an extended period of time to attempt to build on their early success in hopes of a late season surge next year.

The hockey hopes of SMU will now depend solely on the success of the Women's team who opens the Semifinal portion of their season this coming Saturday afternoon at 4pm in Fredericton. The Huskies have a bye through the quarterfinals due to their second place regular season finish and will take on the highest remaining seed after Friday's quarterfinal match ups. The quarterfinals see the Dalhousie Tigers (3) take on the Moncton Angels (6) and the host UNB Varsity Reds (4) face off against the St. Thomas Tommies (5). The St. FX X-Women have the luxury of taking on the lowest remaining seed, as they were the regular season conference champions. Following the semifinals is Sunday's final at 1pm. The winner of Sunday's final advances to the national championships scheduled for March 11th-14th at McGill University.

HUSKIES



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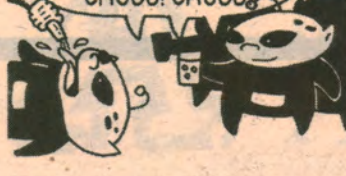


Inside, advanced astronauts prepare to launch an attack.



by: Eric Miller

CHUGGI! CHUGGI! CHUGGI! CHUGGI! CHUGGI!



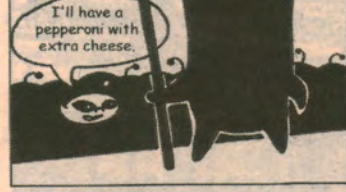
Quiet down you fools. We are on the verge of a new galactic order. Earth will be delivered to us soon.



What did he say?



I'll have a pepperoni with extra cheese.



Idiot! Release the secret weapon before I jam this sceptre up your ass.



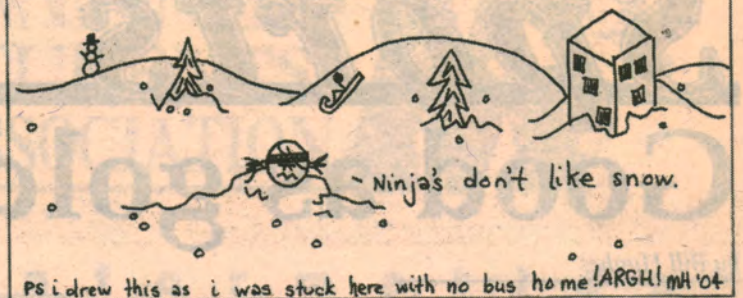
Are you drunk?



Dammit! Who in the hell turned up the gravity in here? It feels like Jupiter.



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