

THE JOURNAL

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Student food bank

BY STUART NEATBY

Here at St. Mary's, a campus food bank has been in existence for more than 10 years. Since 1992, the food bank has maintained itself through donations from students, faculty members, and other food drives. The Patrick Power Library in particular runs a very successful food drive at least once each term.

However, its existence is known to few students. It is perhaps the result of the social stigma of food banks that the SMU food bank is rarely acknowledged. Located within the Chaplaincy Centre in the Loyola building, the food bank has a strict policy of asking few questions of students who use it.

"A person comes in the door, you show me your card. Yes, that's the face on the card. Okay, here's some food. No numbers, no names" explains St. Mary's chaplain Father Con Mulvihill, attempting to get across both the need for discretion and the lack of data concerning numbers of students who use this service.

What little data is known by the staff at the Chaplaincy centre concerns the number of visits, which should not be confused with the number of students who use the food

bank. According to Father Con's estimate, there were a total of 78 visits during the last school year (2003-2004). Although this number is down from the previous two school years, Father Con noted that a contact at the Akerley Campus of the Nova Scotia Community College mentioned that student use of food banks has increased dramatically within the past few years.

"It tends to be in September, when people are waiting to get their student loans in, the end of the first semester, and the end of the academic year. That tends to be the peak times when people use it," he noted.

Although there is no source of concrete data of student usage of food banks at either of the three main campuses in Halifax, it seems clear that increasing tuition fees have not ameliorated the situation. As noted by the Canadian Alliance of Students Association in a study released last Spring, usage of campus food banks is on the rise in universities across the country. This study, the "Campus Hunger Count 2004," found that there are 51 campus-based food banks in Canada, with most on major university and college campuses. CASA claims that

there is a distinct correlation between rising tuition fees across Canada over the past ten years, and the growth of campus food banks over that time.

Father Con noted that the use of the food bank is usually done in a very subtle manner, partly due to the fact that the chaplaincy centre is located right in a very public area, right in front of the Tim Hortons in the Loyola building. Although he noted that use of the food bank was more of a "bridge at the end of the month" rather than something students depend on on a regular basis, there are numerous foodbanks throughout the HRM which report this same type of usage.

As a student who has turned to "dumpster diving" in the past to obtain inexpensive (though perfectly good) food, it seems likely to me that there are a large number of students who have at least thought about using food banks at one time or another. It is for this reason that attaching a stigma to this is somewhat ridiculous; a large percentage of likely fall below the poverty line without even being aware of it. However, although it may be ridiculous to attach disdain to the poverty which does quietly exist within the St. Mary's community, it is perhaps just as ridiculous to accept it. As noted in the newspapers this past Monday, the federal government,

whose cuts have caused average student debt to rise to \$25,000 in Nova Scotia, has just announced that it will run a surprise \$9.1 billion surplus this year. Although finance minister Ralph Goodale has mused about the possibility of a business tax cut, little mention has been made of

putting this money back into already gutted social programs like Post-Secondary Education.

As usual, the voices of youth and students are being ignored. What are you gonna do about it?

Because we live here



This year participants in the United Way Kick Off made history...they beat the football team at a tug-of-war! We would like to thank everybody who came out to support the beginning of the 2004 SMU United Way Campaign.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the many upcoming events that will help us to reach our goal of \$26,000 for the United Way to make Halifax a better place to live, work and play.

We will rid you of pesky pennies during our Penny Drive - the week of November 1; allow you to win some money in the 50/50 draws at the Huskie Basketball games on October 30 and 31 as well as November 14; and finally raffle of some great gift baskets.

Keep your eyes open and give generously, because we live here.

SMUSA PAGE

DEGRASSI HIGH

Come behind the scenes with Snake and Joey Jeremiah, the boys from Degrassi High. On Wednesday, October 20th at 8:00p.m., come to the **McNally Theatre** to go behind the scenes with DEGRASSI! There is **NO** cover charge!

POOL TOURNAMENT

Sharpen your pool skills by participating in the Gorsebrook pool tournament on Saturday, October 23rd 3:00p.m. - 6:00p.m. Great prizes available! \$5.⁰⁰ entrance fee.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE ON CAMPUS!

SMUSA is looking for students interested in making a difference on campus. We are currently appointing students to sit on many different committees within SMUSA and SMU. For more information on the committees, come to the 5th floor of the Student Centre and talk to Simon Partington, SMUSA President. Simon can also be reached at president@smusa.ca.

SMUSA TEACHING AWARDS

In 2002/03, SMUSA created a number of awards to recognize Saint Mary's faculty, teaching assistants and staff who exemplify 'excellence in teaching' and support to students.

Nominations are submitted by students in January and February each year and a SMUSA committee meets in March to select the winners from all who have been nominated.

Over the next five weeks, check out this column for the 2002/03 winners. In the winter semester, we will recognize the winners for 2003/04.

And look for nomination forms for 2004/05 during the winter semester. Maybe your 'best professor' could be this year's teaching award winner.



WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

**Snake & Joey
Degrassi High
80's theme night
@ the Gorsebrook
Open Mic Night!!**

THURSDAY, OCT. 21

Wing Night

SATURDAY, OCT. 23

**SMU Ambassadors'
Octoberfest
Pool Tournaments**

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27

Open Mic Night

SATURDAY, OCT. 30

**Hallowe'en Night
CASH PRIZES for
best costume!**

OPEN TO SMU STUDENTS AND SMU ALUMNI AND THEIR GUESTS ONLY

LETTERS

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We're hiring an accountant - call 496-8203 for details

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The Journal

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Letter to the editor

On October 7th 2004, when I returned to classes, after a week long break, I was concerned with an article I had read in the Journal. It was titled "BEWARE." In the article, it seems to insinuate that the victim may have been drunk, and perhaps unaware of his surroundings, and walking in dark alleys. I have to also take issue with the

Journal's addition of the word "reportedly" to the SMU security report, which seems to have been used for the bulk of the article. This addition changes the whole meaning of the situation. Also, it insinuates the whole incident may not have even taken place. I have read the SMU security Bulletin, the Dal Bulletin and the HRM Police bulletin. The word reportedly never appeared in any of them. None of the above-mentioned reports said anything about the victim being drunk or naïve about their surroundings as the incident took place in a very well lit area. Why was this insinuation there?

There has also been a factual error, made by all three reports, that have been brought to the attention of the three parties. The victim did not suffer facial wounds as reported. He suffered head wounds from the beating he received after trying to escape the attackers. The head wounds consisted of six cuts over various parts of the head. Three of these cuts required a total of fourteen stitches. It can be difficult for the HRM police, and Dal security, both of whom were on scene, to determine the injuries suffered, as the victim had suffered a lot of blood loss in the time between the assault and the arrival of the authorities involved.

The robbery was actually one in a series of robberies that have taken place in the downtown/south end area. The suspects are not acting strange or in any way out of the ordinary. They come up behind you, and make you lay on the ground after stating they are going to stab you if you do not give them your money. As the victim lays on the ground, they go through any bags, backpacks or goods you have. They then go through your wallet, take your bank card, then grab you by the hair, and demand your PIN number. After getting your PIN code, as one goes to the nearest bank machine the remaining

individual sits on you in order to prevent you from leaving and canceling your card. In this case, the victim decided to try and escape, as he had given them the wrong PIN code. When he attempted to escape, the robber beat him over the head with an object causing the cuts and blood loss. Despite having his skull exposed, the victim was able to run to a house nearby.

The residents of the house called 911. The residents of the Dal Residence Risley Hall, who were alerted by his cries for help, also came to the assistance of the victim.

The victim was on his way home from work. A job which he has to have, to help pay school costs.

You may ask how I would know

so much information about this? I am the victim. I am a 25 year old 3rd year student at St Mary's University. I am in no way a first year drunk student who wanders dark alleys, as the article seems to insinuate.

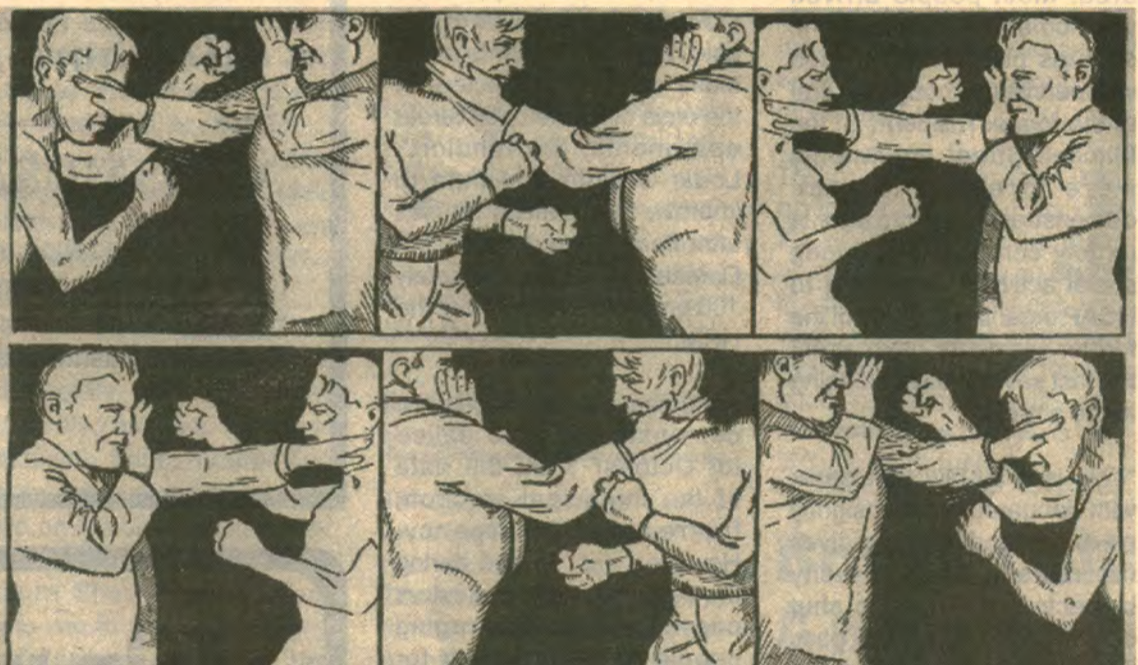
If there is any doubt as to the authenticity of my "reported" attack, I invite you to view my now buzzed head, the healing gashes on my head and even the blood soaked clothes if you wish. Just to make sure it really did happen.

Bryan Watson
3rd Year SMU Student

email your letters to the editor to thejournal@gmail.com

Every day I have to pass through a ring of fire on my way to class. This is what I call the circles of smokers that seem to materialize in front of every public building at strategic times during the day. Our Building codes, in conjunction with HRM bylaws, require that smokers remain established distances from our entrances and exits. What this produces is an invisible perimeter that the smokers surround. So, even though the smokers are away from the doors, it's still impossible to get in or out without getting a lungful of second-hand smoke. Perhaps SMU should tighten its regulations and clear up the Loyola, Burke and library entrances.

- Kinesis



how to defend yourself

Here are some rules to follow if you're attacked. Stick to them, and you'll have the advantage over your attacker. Naturally, you want to avoid confrontation if at all possible. Try to engage your assailant in conversation to gain time, calm yourself down and work out an effective strategy to defuse the situation. But, if you can't avoid a fight:

1. Breathe slowly and deeply to keep your nerves calm.
2. Always look your attacker directly in the eye.
3. Put your hands near your face to defend your head. Keep one foot slightly staggered in front of you, the opposite of your dominant hand.
4. Never hesitate when you move. Attack vulnerable body parts: eyes, ears, nose, neck, throat, testicles and knees.
5. Don't let yourself be cornered or backed against a wall or into a doorway.
6. If you're sure to lose, run!

"if you are sure to lose, run!"

Cranky pants corner

I've returned from my hiatus with some serious Cranky pants on.

10. When stinky dishes are left in the sink, two feet from the dishwasher.
9. When people say bullshit things like, "Think about how strong love can be."
8. Boyfriends who don't call you for a month and then act like everything is fine when you see them at school. (Editors note: Grow some balls jerk.)
7. Incessant rain on the weekend. This is how we know that if there is a God, he hates us.
6. Friends who fall asleep in the car when you're carting their bums around town.
5. How every girl on campus has a tribal tattoo on their lower back - real original ladies.
4. Boys who grow belligerent balls after consuming large quantities of alcohol. The bar closed, fighting won't re-open it.
3. Mother in laws.
2. The girl who was trying to walk and read front of me today in the hall. If you can't do two things at once, don't practice while I'm behind you. Some of us have places to go.
1. Failed democracy at SMU.

Put on your Cranky pants and let me know how you feel. littlemisscrankypants@hotmail

NEWS

Anti-Poverty Group Protests Evictions

BY STUART NEATBY

About 40-50 people gathered on Saturday afternoon for an emergency demonstration against the eviction of 14 residents of a housing unit on Mitchell Street. The evictions from Mitchell Street were carried out by HRM city officials under the terms of by-law M100, which deals with substandard and dangerous housing. Members of the Halifax Coalition Against Poverty (HCAP), an organization of homeless people, working poor, and social activists, converged on Victoria Park amid rain and downright miserable weather, and proceeded to march through the downtown area. Most people arrived with homemade noisemakers, such as plastic bottles filled with pennies. Although several of the former residents of the Mitchell Street apartments were present at the demonstration, the crowd was largely composed of young social activists. According to HCAP organizers, many of the former residents have spent the last several days sleeping in the streets.

"This is a by-law that deals with dangerous and unsightly premises, and basically gives fire marshals and the city inspectors the right to shut down buildings that don't pass living code," said Anna Hunter, an HCAP organizer, speaking at the Spring Garden Public Library at a rally following the demonstration. "I don't think anyone here today would deny that living in rat-infested...or dangerous living arrangements is a healthy thing. But, it's a safer option than the street."

The housing units between 967 and 975 Mitchell Street are located about three blocks from the Saint Mary's campus. The 14 residents were given 4-days notice prior to being evicted on Tuesday evening at midnight. Little attempt was made to find shelter for these residents by either the HRM or the Province of Nova Scotia. Although the Chronicle Herald ran a small article on Saturday claiming that Councillor Sue Uteck had attempted to provide the Mitchell Street residents with shelter at the local Salvation Army and YWCA, this was untrue. Many of the residents have been restricted from accessing these shelters in the past due to mental illness and addiction problems.

According to Mary Schlech of the ARC outreach program, the city of Halifax has no facility which offers shelter to those facing addiction.

"The only housing that the city has...is the drunk tank, the police station. That's it. There's no wet shelter," she said.

Bylaw M100 was originally enacted in January of 2003. Although ostensibly aimed at landlords in order to force them to providing minimum housing standards, the bill currently has no provisions which allow tenants evicted from substandard housing with alternative shelter. The landlord is not required to pro-rate any of the days of pre-paid rent which tenants might lose after being evicted. In the case of the Mitchell Street apartments, the landlord, Louis Carette, did little to improve the rooming houses after being served notice. Mr. Carette controls approximately 100 properties throughout the HRM.

According to organizers, the demonstration was called for October 16th, the date of the municipal election, for reasons of urgency. However, prior to and during the demonstration, protestors passed out leaflets urging people to avoid voting for Dawn Sloane, the incumbent (and current) candidate for city council district 12. The leaflet claimed that Sloane "strongly advocated" by-law M100.

A small group of supporters of Dawn Sloane arrived at the demonstration and urged protestors to avoid partaking in the demonstrations due to the content of the flyer. Dawn Sloane claimed that the flyer was inaccurate in an article in the Chronicle Herald the following day.

Although most city councillors, including District 13 Councillor Sue Uteck, voted for the by-law when it was passed, Dawn Sloane's election website stated that she was a "moving force" behind the bill.

"I think that the agenda of city council is very much the agenda of big developers in this city. I think more and more, we're seeing affordable housing and low-income housing being eroded away, making more room for high-end places, and big expensive developers to come in and pander to middle-class and

upper-class tenants," said HCAP organizer Cole Webber. City council has placed eviction notices on 7 other units throughout Halifax, which together house 50 people, through bylaw M100. HCAP organizers claimed that these notices are likely to result in these 50 people being forced onto the streets within three weeks.

HCAP plans to continue pressuring city council to amend by-law 100 with a clause protecting all low-income or no-income residents evicted from substandard housing.

Members of HCAP will be selling baked goods in the Loyola lobby as a fundraiser for their anti-poverty efforts on Thursday. For more information, contact 444-5060.



Saint Mary's
University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

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(Go to International Learning and click on Funding & Awards)
- For additional information, contact
Miyuki Arai, International Activities, Tel: 496-8725 E-mail: mobility.international@smu.ca

Join us...

For a Community Consultation on the Seawall

The Halifax Port Authority invites the public to participate in a consultation regarding the redevelopment of the seawall along Piers 20-23. The session takes place on Monday, October 25th, 2004 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Pier 22, 1055 Marginal Road.

Over the next ten years, the Port of Halifax has an opportunity to redevelop this property in concert with the community and Port stakeholders. Over 70 people attended our first community consultation in June and that feedback has led to the development of a set of guiding principles and a concept plan. During the October session we will be asking for feedback and for your ideas/thoughts on preliminary concepts.

The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and include a short presentation, followed by group discussions.

To register for this session please contact:

Veronica Hoskins
Tel: (902) 426-3465
Fax: (902) 426-6473
Email: vhoskins@portofhalifax.com



Noam Chomsky @ St. FX

Well I'll say a few words about Iraq. But then I'll turn to more background issues, continuing issues that fly beyond what's going on now. Actually, we get lots of reports from Iraq, but they're very narrow in their character. Almost entirely, they come from inside the 'green zone,' the carefully protected zone inside Baghdad where the US forces are located, where the chosen government is, and where most journalists stay. And what doesn't come from there is usually controlled by the occupying army in some fashion or another. That's not because journalists are lazy or lack courage, it's just that it's far too dangerous to go outside of the protected area.

There's a lot of instructive material that comes from captured westerners who've been released. That includes recently a Canadian war correspondent who was released after several weeks in captivity in a Turkmen area. One veteran British correspondent, Patrick Cockburn, who's worked in the area for decades, written many books and many articles about it, writes recently that "the occupation is one of the most extraordinary failures in history." And it is indeed an extremely surprising failure. The fact of the matter is that the Nazis had far less difficulty in occupying Europe, and they were in the middle of a major war.

But in Iraq, they have achieved pretty much what they've achieved in the international arena very quickly, namely turning the United States into the most feared and often hated country in the world, which is not a small achievement. Polls in Iraq, [from] early this Spring, that's before the terrible fighting in April and before the Abu Ghraib exposures, polls then showed that the population regarded the American forces there, by about 10 to 1, as an occupying force. And the support for the occupying army was then in single digits. It's [been] reduced considerably since then. Rumsfeld, Cheney, and the rest of them have even succeeded in turning the young cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who was previously a marginal figure, into the second most popular political figure in Iraq, right after the Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani. And it's all much worse now. After the offensives that are now just getting under way, one hesitates to think what the situation will be like.

The effect on the world has been much the same. A recent international poll showed that in Muslim countries, large majorities view the United States as a direct military threat. That's high numbers, like over 70% in countries like

Indonesia, Turkey, Pakistan, and Nigeria. In Europe, considerable majorities in most of the countries regard the United States as a threat to world peace [such as] Holland, Britain, France, and others. In some countries, the dislike and the distrust of the United States has doubled or tripled just in the last year. In Latin America, which happens to have the most experience with the United States and its power, among the Latin American elite, who are the most pro-US element in their countries, about 90% are strongly opposed to Bush and his policies. It is 98% in Brazil, and almost as high in Mexico.

Well, part of the reason for all of this is, of course the invasion of Iraq, which was carried out against overwhelming international opposition. It's worth remembering that this is the first time in the entire history of Europe that there has been a massive overwhelming protest against an aggressive colonial war before it was even launched. Nothing like that has ever happened before. In the case of the Vietnam War, for example, which was not that long ago, it was six or seven years after the war was launched before protests reached a detectable stage. That's the norm. Here it was before. That's part of the reason.

But a large part of the reason is the thinking that lies behind it. Recall that the invasion of Iraq was virtually announced in September of 2002 at the same time as Bush's National Security strategy, a "new imperial grand strategy," as it was called right away in a critical article in the main establishment journal, *Foreign Affairs*, which described it as a threat to the world and to the United States. It has since been subjected to a quite unprecedented critique from within the establishment. I'm not talking about the critics. The critique is very broad, but it's also extremely narrow in content. Typically if you read *Foreign Affairs* and the other sort of mainstream foreign policy journals, there's a tremendous amount of criticism, but on very narrow grounds. It's not that the substance is wrong, it's the style and the implementation that are a danger.

The critique was captured pretty well by Madeleine Albright, Clinton's Secretary of State, same journal, *Foreign Affairs*. She was also quite critical of the National Security Strategy and the implementation of it. But again, she pointed out that every President has had a similar strategy, but the President keeps it in his back pocket to be used if necessary. They don't smash people in the face with it,

and you don't implement it in brazen defiance even of your allies, let alone others.

Albright didn't mention it, but she was fully aware, of course, that Clinton had a similar doctrine, her doctrine. The Clinton Doctrine was quoted in saying that the US is entitled to resort to unilateral use of military power to defend vital interests, including uninhibited access to key markets, energy supplies, and strategic resources. And it's entitled to do that without even the pretext that Bush and Blair concocted...

Well, there's plenty of... evidence that terror is not considered a serious threat, as compared to the more serious issues, compared with other priorities. All of this ought to be front-page headlines, in my opinion, every day... Last December, congress almost anonymously passed what they call the Syria Accountability Act, which threatens Syria with all sorts of penalties and so forth, unless it follows US orders. In fact those threats were implemented in policies that Bush implemented a couple of months later. Well, Syria is a major asset in the so-called War on Terror. It has been providing intelligence, getting information, helping to detect and identify Islamic radicals. But that has to be put off. It's not important. Technically, Syria is on the official list of states that sponsor terrorism, but it hasn't been accused by the CIA or anyone of sponsoring terrorism for about 15 years. And how seriously that's taken, you can tell very easily. Clinton made an offer to Syria that he would remove it from the list of states sponsoring terrorism if Syria agreed to US plans as to how to settle to the Israel/Arab conflict. Well, Syria wanted its territory back so they didn't accept it. So they stayed on the list of states that sponsor terror. That tells you something about the priorities, that discipline and obedience are far more significant than reducing terrorist threats.

If Syria had been removed from the list that would have been the first time anyone had been removed from the list since 1982. In 1982 the Reagan administration removed a country from list of states sponsoring terrorism, namely Iraq. They did that so that they could supply their friend Saddam Hussein with needed aid, including substantial dual-use technology which could be used to develop missiles, nuclear weapons, biological agents, and so on... In fact they were kind enough to tell us why they were doing it. The George Bush administration explained to congress that we had to keep supplying our friend Saddam out of our responsibility to support US exporters, and because it increases stability in the region. Stability means following our orders... And that went right up to the invasion of Kuwait. In fact it actually

continued afterwards when the US and Britain supported [Saddam's] crushing of the Shi'ite rebellion.

Well, turning to terror, there's a very broad consensus among intelligence agencies, including the government intelligence and independent experts, on how to deal with this problem of terrorism, how to reduce it. Incidentally I should mention that I'm using the term of 'terror' here in its most technical sense, the sense in which it's universally used in Western discourse, meaning the terror that they carry out against us, not the terror that we carry out against them. That's not terror. I'll keep to that conventional usage. And there is a consensus on how to react to it if you want to increase it, or if you want to deal with it somehow. Actually, the Iraq invasion is a perfect example of what to do if you want to escalate the degree of terror.

As to reducing terror or the threat of terror, there's also a broad consensus on that. It's a two-pronged affair. The terrorists themselves are carrying out criminal acts, there's no doubt. And they should be dealt with like people are dealt with when they carry out criminal acts, and that's with police work. Police investigations, police apprehensions, international if required, and fair trials. That's the way you deal with criminal acts if you care about them... or we can reduce the terrorist threat by the obvious means, by paying attention to the grievances of this mass of people who they are trying to mobilize. If you look, those grievances are often quite legitimate and ought to be dealt with totally independently of any connection to terror. If you happen to be interested in reducing terror, that's the way you reduce the threat. Again, there is overwhelming consensus on this from intelligence agencies, independent experts and by the recent 9-11 commission. If you read this report carefully, they point out, kind of quietly, that bin Laden's calls reach an audience because of anger over US policies ranging from Iraq to Palestine to America's support for their repressive regimes. That's correct.

The transformation of the American military, that is a major threat, in this case a threat to survival. We can see it happening in front of our eyes. Early this year, the Russians had their first major military exercise in about 20 years. They displayed newly developed offensive weapons, nuclear-typed missiles, and more sophisticated weaponry aimed at the United States and they pointed out exactly why. They said that this was in response to an increase in US aggressiveness and militarism, which they regarded correctly as a threat.

They [the Russians] are also reacting to the militarization of space. The one component of

the National Security Strategy, which is much more dangerous than those that have been discussed, has not been much discussed. Right after the National Security Strategy was announced in September 2002, the air force space command came out with its plans for the coming years, and they proposed a plan of implementing the National Security Strategy by moving from, in their words, from "control of space for military purposes to ownership of space for military purposes." That's consistent with the National Security Strategy. No potential threat ever can be tolerated. It has to be destroyed right away.

Foreign intelligence agencies can read these studies just as well as you can or I can, right on the internet. It doesn't take any great genius to find them. And they react. The Russians are reacting, and the Chinese are now reacting. China is the one country with nuclear weapons that has not yet developed an offensive nuclear capacity. They've just announced that they're upgrading their missile force, making them more advanced and lethal.

One of the threats that concern them greatly is what's called Missile Defence. Defence sounds polite. But on both sides, strategic analysts agree that missile defence is a first-strike weapon. In fact, US analysts describe it in the same words. They say it's a "sword," not a shield. It provides space for aggressive military reaction on the assumption that they will not face retaliation. That's exactly how it's understood and they respond to it in exactly the same way as every analyst predicts. These things are going on right now. The first stages of the so-called missile defence system are supposed to be in place right about now.

I'll just get back to Iraq for a moment. As you know, all the pretexts for the war have collapsed so nobody talks much about them anymore, except Fox news and Wall Street Journal editorials. As they collapsed, new pretexts were put in place. And the most recent one, which is now considered the standard, is what the liberal press calls Bush's messianic vision to bring democracy to Iraq and the Middle East. That was announced with great fanfare about a year ago. And the reaction is very instructive. It tells us a lot about ourselves. The reaction was virtually 100% acceptance that this was the goal. What's the evidence for it? You'll find that the sole evidence for it is that our leader declared it. That became the reason.

Actually there's one sector of opinion that disagrees, namely Iraqis. At the same time that Washington released this messianic vision, the Washington Post did happen to release a poll of people

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Wendy Lill and Mary Vingoe kick off public library week

Public Library Week opened Monday with a presentation of Page to Stage, hosted by playwright Wendy Lill and director Mary Vingoe. Beginning at 7 pm at the Alderney Gate Public Library, Lill and Vingoe will discuss the evolution from the written script to the staged production of the play, The Fighting Days.

The Fighting Days is set during the First World War and focuses on the life and work of Francis Beynon, a journalist and political activist who became involved with Nellie McClung and the Votes-for-Women movement. The play raises insightful questions about racism and pacifism while exploring the polarities between public and private lives.

The event will recognize both Public Library Week as well as October's Women's History Month. Wendy Lill has written for magazines, radio, television and stage. Her plays have been produced extensively on Canadian and international stages. Lill has four plays nominated for the Governor General's Award.

Mary Vingoe is the Artistic Director of the new Magnetic North Theatre Festival, an annual national festival of English-language theatre in Canada and is the co-founder and past Artistic Director of the

Degrassi comes to SMU

BY ASHLEE STARRATT

Chances are, if you were a child of the 80's, you grew up watching the definitive Canadian drama, Degrassi. The series was, and continues to be, a ground-breaking force in popular culture as it addressed key social issues affecting teens that were still considered taboo in the mainstream media, such as gay and lesbian awareness, teenage pregnancy and the outbreak of AIDS. At the same time, the memorable characters and the unique sense of humor with which these issues were presented made the show an instant classic.

Tonight, Wednesday, October 20th, two of these familiar faces, Pat Mastroianni, who played Joey Jeremiah and Stefan Brogren, who played Archie 'Snake' Simpson, will be giving a presentation in the McNally Theatre Auditorium, on what it was like behind the scenes growing up on Canada's most popular teen show. Admission is free and afterward there will be an '80s theme night at the Gorsebrook.

All are welcome, and hopefully there will be an awesome turnout!!!

Vandals at Rice

Vandalism struck Rice Residence last Saturday night, when damage to a wall in the fourth floor hallway spread a slew of gyrock chips across the floor. Vandalism may also have been the cause of the temporary incapacitation of the Rice elevators, but this theory has not been substantiated and cannot be confirmed until the 25th. The elevators were back in full working order on Monday. Anyone with information is asked to contact the security office.

But how can residents help prevent residence vandalism? Clay Fowler, the Director of Residences, says that the majority of vandalism is likely "perpetrated by non-residents." This often makes it difficult to find the vandal or vandals involved. Mr. Fowler recommends that students should "question strangers on their floor... [and] educate their guests about the rules and what is and is not acceptable behavior." Students should also refrain from opening the door for people that do

not have residence passes. Security officers patrol from 9 PM to 1 AM from Sunday to Wednesday, from 8 PM to 4 AM on Thursdays and from 9 PM to 3 AM on Fridays and Saturdays. Keep in mind that security officers cannot be everywhere at once; if there is a problem, just call the security office. It's their job to defuse residence situations.

This Week @ Saint Mary's

SPEAKER: JOSE KUSUGAL, PRESIDENT OF THE INUIT TAPIIRIT KANATAMI

"The Inuit of Canada: Charting the Future in the New Millenium."
Wednesday, October 20th at 4 PM in Sobey rm. 255.
Presented by the Saint Mary's Department of Anthropology
Speaker: Robert G. Evans, Health Researchr with the Canadian Institute for Advance Research

"CAN WE AFFORD MEDICARE?"

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(excluding November 12th) in Loyola 176. There is a registration fee of \$20 for the course. Contact arobb@smu.ca for details

RESIDENCE SOCIETY NOTICE

BY LAURA MACINTOSH

Ok SMUdents, here it is; the answer to what's on your minds! What shall you do this Halloween season? Come out to the resident's society MONSTER BASH '04! Saturday, October 30th in the Student Center caf, 9pm-1am. All SMU students are welcome, as are anyone over 19. Tickets will be on sale the week of the dance, Tues and Thurs in the Loyola colonnade, and Wed in the Student Center; \$2 for society members, \$4 for non. You will be able to buy tickets at the door as well. It is a costume party, so come out as strange as you can get! If you don't have a costume, don't worry about it, though it is strongly recommended. We'll have DJ Superboy rocking the night away, as well as backlights, glow in the dark stuff, and... wait for it, CASH PRIZES! There's limited space, so get your tickets in advance!

Join Facilities Management for Casual Day

Facilities Management is constructing a structure entirely out of canned food and is looking for your help.

Wear your jeans on Wednesday, October 20th, and donate a toonie to a great cause. All money will go toward the purchasing of canned food for the structure. At the end of the 'Canstruction' competition, all food products will be donated to the Metro Food Bank Society. Check out the website for additional information on the 'Canstruction' competition: www.canstructionnovascotia.ca

Screening: The Weather Underground

A screening of the hit documentary about the Weathermen, a clandestine left-wing guerrilla organization composed of students outraged by the Vietnam War and racism in America. The organization waged a low-level war against the U.S. government through much of the 1970s, bombing the Capitol building, breaking Timothy Leary out of prison, and evading one of the largest FBI manhunts in history.

Screening Thursday, October 27th at 7:30 PM in Burke Theatre B. Admission is by donation. A presentation of the SMU video activist collective.

Teaching Evaluations: What are they good for?

BY KATHLEEN LINGLEY

Since I am a perpetual geek I actually spent a few hours of my summer vacation discussing teacher evaluations with my cousin Nicole who is a chemistry prof at the University of Calgary. We were having a candid discussion about teacher evaluations and she confided in me that some students really do not have a clue about how to fill out these evaluations or their value. She related an interesting anecdote to me about a student who had been taught by her husband in the public school system the year before and who instead of letting Nicole (or Dr. Sandbloom as her students know her) know what they learned from her teaching style they instead informed her that, "Mr. Sandbloom rocks as a teacher, I really like his jokes." Well folks as funny as Nicole's husband may be this evaluation really did little to help Nicole adjust her teaching style to suit the needs of her students, and that is a really big part of what teaching evaluations are!

Teaching evaluations are used by your professors in a variety of ways. One way that they are used is to determine what

worked for a class and what didn't. Many professors spend a lot of time selecting readings and topics for their classes and they really appreciate student feedback on the materials that they use. They also appreciate learning about how students perceive their teaching style and many want to adapt their strategies to create better learning experiences for their students.

Teaching evaluations are also used in tenure and promotion for professors. Professors will collect the data and written comments from their yearly evaluations and include this information in their teaching dossier. As you can see from these two examples students can have a huge impact on a professor's career, both in terms of learning and teaching strategies and career advancement.

Currently SMU uses an archaic teaching evaluation form that really does not get to the core of classroom experiences. However, one does not have to bow their head in shame, as SMU is undergoing a lengthy process in an attempt to adopt a new evaluation

instrument. The Student Evaluation of Educational Quality instrument (SEEQ) has been recommended by a Senate subcommittee to replace the outdated system that is now in place at SMU, and has been for the last thirty-five years.

On Friday Dr. Mary Benbow from the University of Manitoba made a thoughtful presentation to a SMU audience and discussed how SEEQ allows students to provide feedback to their professors on the organization of the class, the examinations and assignments, the enthusiasm of the professor, and so on. Senate will deal with the matter of the SEEQ instrument in the coming months, and hopefully by next semester when you take a pencil to teaching evaluations your feedback will be more direct and representative of your classroom experiences. My advice to you is not to discuss your high school teacher's humor, or lack thereof, and discuss your classroom grievances and positive experiences. Your professors rely on your feedback, so make your voice heard.

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FEATURES

Far from home: the dangers of mixing drugs with travel

BY SARAH REGAN

I was at the passport office the other day when a pamphlet caught my eye. Seeing how I was at this government agency in order to gain permission to leave the country, the receptionist gave me a questioning eye when I started to leaf through a pamphlet entitled "Why Drugs and Travel Don't Mix." I replied to her uneasy stare by saying, "I have a friend...". She leaned in and whispered, "We all do..." I thought about this afterwards and what she said was true.

A friend of mine has done what many other university students set out to do teaching English overseas. The problem is, like many other young people, he was arrested for possession of marijuana and has spent the past month in a foreign prison where he has no direct contact with his family. His future is unknown, sentence unsure, and his legal expenses are increasing each day.

Over 3000 Canadians are languishing in jails all over the world and the majority of these cases are drug related offences. As university students, we all know someone who has gone overseas to teach English. Unfortunately, in popular teaching destinations such as Asia, young English teachers are at greater risk of being charged with drug offences. Travel can be a very rewarding experience and teaching English overseas can be beneficial in giving recent graduates a unique opportunity to pay back student debt while experiencing an exotic culture, but students need to be aware

that an offence that would be considered minor here could be devastatingly criminal in foreign territory.

While being immersed in a new culture, it is easy to lower one's inhibitions. Recent university graduates often find it difficult to abandon former party habits when in a new country, and when feeling far from home, students find comfort in the dorm-style housing units that are common accommodations for English teachers. This community housing is made up of young people, usually fresh out of university, and can be a comfort for those feeling culture shock, but can also be a breeding ground for drug use.

It is easy to surrender to the temptation of a lifestyle where drugs are used openly, but possessing a minor amount of drugs in countries overseas could cost you a punishment that is equivalent to the Canadian sentence for trafficking cocaine. If caught with narcotics in countries such as Korea, Japan, or China, you may be held in prison for up to a year.

As for my friend and many other Canadians, they are paying their price for ignorance. If you are considering teaching English overseas, before you go, make yourself aware of the judicial system of the country in which you are travelling. Leave Canadian laws in Canada and keep these tips in mind while travelling. They could prevent you from a situation that could jeopardize your future and your freedom.

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continued from page 5

back pages, in which they were asked why they thought the US invaded Iraq. And there were some who agreed with approximately 100% of western intellectual opinion, namely 1%. 1% said the goal was to bring democracy. Most of the rest said the opposite, to take their resources, to use Iraq to organize the region in their interests and so on. Actually their reaction was a little more sophisticated. If you look at the whole poll, 1% said the goal was to bring democracy. 60% said US wants democracy in Iraq. But they explained that that's not a contradiction. The US wants democracy, but will not allow Iraqis to make their own choices.

The Iraqis agree with about 100% of western opinion that there is a cultural problem in achieving [democracy]. But they see the problem as being here, not there.

Well, if the Iraqis are right, and the primary problem is here, not there, then that's actually a hopeful sign, because here we can actually do something about it. We happen to be free and very privileged, which means there are plenty of opportunities. It will require a re-analysis and indeed a sharp change in global policies that are very deeply rooted in the institutions along their historical record. If that's the direct conception, in my opinion it basically is, it is a hopeful sign, but it means that we have choices and those are fateful choices, not just for the fate of Iraqis, but far beyond.

And at this stage in human civilization the choices reach as far as literal survival.

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SPORTS

Football Huskies unimpressive

BY BILL HUGHES

11 carries.

The RCMP has called Sackville, New Brunswick and the news is anything but flattering. Fact remains that the Mounties have called, and have asked the Mount Allison stop using their name, it's making them look bad.

The Mount Allison Mounties arrived in Halifax to visit the Saint Mary's Huskies at Huskies Stadium this past Homecoming weekend, and the result was all too familiar. By game's end, the Mounties had reached a new record for futility, having dropped their 20th straight game against an AUFC opponent.

The only shock in this contest was the way in which they went about it. It wasn't to the tune of 47-3 as was the result of their first meeting of the season, two weeks ago, but rather a respectable 19-3 defeat.

The simple reason for the close game, Saint Mary's didn't execute. Maybe the poor weather was foreshadowing for the SMU performance as they looked to be in the fog all evening long.

The poor weather helped to keep the Homecoming attendance to only 2,083, a number far below the totals that have seen at least double that number come out for Friday Night Football at Huskies Stadium this season.

This game against Mount A was supposed to serve as a tune up for SMU's final two regular season appearances, and also their most difficult tests of the season. With next week's match up with the Quebec Conference's rival Laval Rouge et Or, followed by a potential first place game against Acadia, the Huskies looked to fine tune the aspects of their game that lacked precision, but were unable to do so.

After recording two straight fabulous performances from the pocket, QB Steve Panella turned out a less than stellar effort, finishing with numbers that read 15 for 25 for only 190 yards by the game's conclusion.

The Mounties, as always, seemed ripe for the picking after having suffered at 68-0 loss only one week ago at the hands of the aforementioned Acadia Axemen. The Mount A attack was led by runningback Ian Ebbett, who finished just shy of a 100-yard performance after totaling 98 yards on only

The Mount A effort was not lost on the Huskies, but in the end, moral victories don't get you any closer to the playoffs or championship, and ugly wins do. The win demonstrated SMU's dominance over the AUFC due to it marking the Huskies 25th consecutive victory on home soil at Huskies Stadium against conference opponents.

The game looked very promising from the Huskies sideline from the outset when 5th year pivot Panella drove the Huskies 109 yards on the opening drive, capped off after five minutes by a 17-yard strike to all-star wideout Atnas Maeko. Maeko was SMU's most productive receiver having finished the game with 4 catches for 64 yards.

The Huskies were then silenced for the remainder of the quarter before, Al Giancalone, who took to the field for the first time in two weeks following injury, struck on a 25 yard to cap a major and put the Huskies up 14-0 early.

Looking to take the running game into his own hands, Panella took it upon himself to tear off a 37 yard scamper just before the end of the half to put SMU kicker Rodrigo Davalos in position to successfully convert on a lengthy 37 yards fieldgoal in the difficult conditions.

The game's scoring was capped off by a 35-yard field goal, off the foot of Pat Blagrove to break the shutout, and SMU earned a team safety late in the fourth quarter to salt away the less than flattering victory.

In other AUFC action, the Acadia Axemen clinched a playoff berth by downing the St. FX X-Men convincingly 44-23 on Saturday in Wolfville. The win could potentially set up a one-game winner takes all between the Axemen and the Huskies on the final weekend of the season following next weekend's final chapter of the interlocking schedule.

Next week's game is on the road versus Laval, but can be seen on Eastlink television at 1 PM (EST).

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Lady Huskies in fast pursuit

BY NEIL

The Saint Mary's Lady Huskies had an amazing week, taking all six points available, and outscoring the competition 7-0.

The Huskies started the week in second place in the AUS East with 10 points, trailing only Dalhousie. Their first opponent was the Axewomen of Acadia University. The ladies got off to a great start early, and struck in the second minute, when fifth year striker Michelle Chouinard beat Acadia keeper Taylor Wilson to the left side of the net. SMU continued to pressure Acadia, and in the 25th minute, Tanya Jazic one-timed Erin Howell's lay-off into the bottom left corner from 25 yards out. Lindsay Flinn and Ally Reed terrorized the Acadia flanks all game, with Captain Crystal Walton dominating the middle of the pitch. The Huskies went into halftime with a comfortable 2-0 lead.

The second half proved to be more of the same with Tanya Jazic also asserted herself in midfield. Laura Walker had great game, keeping a close eye on Acadia leading scorer Joanne Coxon. Freshman Laura Shea made a great solo run in the 68th minute, but blazed well over the bar. Acadia then stepped up their pressure, forcing frosh keeper Tammy Salkus to make stops on Coxon and Melanie Numsen. But in the 82nd minute, the Huskies got the insurance when Lindsay Flinn got a well-deserved goal, slotting home Walton's corner. That seemed to deflate the Axewomen, and the Huskies booked a 3-0 victory.

PLAYER OF THE GAME: In a team effort, the play of defenders Lianne McKoe and Laura Walker stood out, smothering Acadia's strikers.

Game two of the weekend on Sunday afternoon in blustery conditions at Huskies Stadium, brought a visit from the Mount Allison Mounties, who were third in the AUS West. The first half was very tentative; with both teams feeling each other out. The Huskies were lead by their midfield combination of Crystal Walton and Tanya Jazic. Walton made strong tackles and Jazic probed the Mount A. defense with pinpoint passing. The Huskies went into the locker room after 45 minutes with a nervous 1-0

lead.

The second half was a completely different story. The Huskies dominated the entire pitch, and it paid off when Lindsay Flinn was brought down in the box. Crystal Walton put home the ensuing penalty. Walton then added to her count by running on Tanya Jazic's ball to one-time it home. Flinn then continued her fine form by knocking in from a goalmouth scramble. The Huskies went on to win 3-0 to increase their season point total to 19, moving 1 point behind Dalhousie, who were due to visit UNB.

PLAYER OF THE GAME: Tanya Jazic was a force in midfield, showing leadership and always making the right pass.

Next week, the Huskies play host to UNB on October 24th, before concluding their home schedule with a huge match against first place Dalhousie, a game that will go a long way in deciding the AUS East champion.

Soccer Huskies hold fort

BY NEIL

The number 2 ranked Huskies were looking to shake off the rust after a 15-day break. They have 20 points, good for first in the AUS East, one point ahead of Memorial University. They looked to maintain their winning ways against the visiting Mount Allison Mounties.

Mount A. got off to a good start, with Ian Kelly volleying high early on. But then SMU turned the tide of the game toward the visiting goal, with keeper Steve Paiano touching AUS scoring leader Ryan Devereaux's shot onto the post. The front combination of Devereaux and Richard Eastell went strong at the Mounties defense. The Huskies then wasted a free kick opportunity just before the interval, giving away possession, and going into the half tied at zero.

The second half was another game, with SMU turning on the quality. The inclusion of senior striker Matt Brannon seemed to spark the team, with his ability to hold up the ball. Paiano stopped Brannon from close range in the 63rd minute. But in the 69th minute, another substitute, 4th year defender Javier Gorgova nodded from a corner to make it 1-0. Ryan Devereaux then hit the post with a header and a volley in

a tense 2 minute span for the Mounties. Devereaux was getting gifted opportunities, but could not add to his scoring lead. Not until the final minutes did the Mounties make a comeback, to keep things nervous. Forward Christian Kyle headed wide off a free kick in the 44th minute. After Devereaux missed another chance, Badou N'Dure made a dazzling solo run, only to be stopped by senior keeper Jamil Ibrhim injury time. After what seemed like forever, the referee finally blew his whistle on a hard-fought 1-0 victory.

PLAYER OF THE GAME: Yet another sub, midfielder Rory Kerr, was instrumental in the great start and after halftime turned the game around. He was tenacious in the tackle, made many good crosses, and was very good in the air.

The men maintain their lead on top of the AUS East with 23 points, and see their homestand come to an end in the next couple of weeks with visits from UNB and crosstown rival Dalhousie. Their form is good, the defense is solid, and the midfield, as always, is one of the best around.

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boyfriend
is a
lumberjack**

Predictability[©]

BY BILL HUGHES

I think Snoop said it best. Another day, another dollar...

Atlanta (5-1) at Kansas City (1-4)

Atlanta is back on track after a comeback win at home against the Chargers. They outscored San Diego 14-3 in the fourth quarter to capture the victory. Kansas City continues to baffle everyone, with yet another loss this past Sunday at Jacksonville. The jury is still out on the Falcons, but one thing has been confirmed, Kansas City's preseason hype was unjustified, they are overrated and not only that, but they'll tack on yet another loss to fall to 1-5.

Atlanta 24 Kansas City 14

Buffalo (1-4) at Baltimore (3-2)

Buffalo won the futility battle last week by downing the Dolphins. Baltimore was idle with the bye. This week, they'll have to adjust to life without all-world running back Jamal Lewis, although there's no better time than to learn against a Buffalo team that is their worst in years. Everytime Drew Bledsoe drops back and throws a mind numbing interception; I can't help but smile and want to give Bob Kraft a hug for giving Tom Brady his shot. Plus, I like Ray Lewis a lot, no wait, I'll admit it, and I love him...

Baltimore 20 Buffalo 10

Chicago (1-4) at Tampa Bay (1-4)*

Wow, the NFL schedule makers shouldn't make it out of 2005 with their jobs. Chicago fell 13-10 to Washington, which should relegate them to NFL Europe for next season. Tampa Bay is coming off a short week, while Bucs fans almost wish that they would just go away, because they see similar symptoms on this year's club to that of a decade of disgrace. Has John Gruden lost is magic Super Bowl touch? He'll survive the scrutiny this week...

Tampa Bay 17 Chicago 13

Detroit (3-2) at N.Y. Giants (4-1)

Detroit was actually a favorite last week at home to Green Bay. Green Bay quickly put the Lions in their place to the tune of a 38-10 dismantling of their "defense." The N.Y. Giants have been the surprise of the season thus far, opening 4-1 and looking great in doing so. Kurt Warner has been virtually flawless, new head coach Tom Coughlin has eased off the disciplinarian routine and has all of his players on the same page. The Giants will remain atop their division, and continue to forge their place among the playoff contenders with a convincing performance.

N.Y. Giants 23 Detroit 13

Jacksonville (4-2) at Indianapolis (4-1)

Could quite possibly be the game of the week? Depending. It all depends on whether or not the Jags decide to play up to their potential, and even above and beyond. They have the talent, now they need to prove that they can perform against a top club. The Colts have been unstoppable since week two, and coming off a bye, Manning should be prepared. Will he have studied too much video? Or will he be able to find every hole in the Jags D blind folded. I'll go with the latter.

Indianapolis 35 Jacksonville 20

Philadelphia (5-0) at Cleveland (3-3)

Philadelphia has looked stellar in pushing their record to 5-0. Cleveland is coming off a win over the Bungles. The Eagles have yet to show any signs of weakness. The Browns have been able to get away with many by facing teams in the bottom third of the food chain. Philly will have absolutely no problems against the Browns; in fact they'll enjoy dishing out this beating.

Philadelphia 27 Cleveland 9

San Diego (3-3) at Carolina (1-4)

Ok, I'll admit I having been skeptical the past few weeks about this emerging Chargers side. But, they have played well and nearly eaked out a win on the road against a strong Falcons team. That's what an upcoming young QB and an all-world running back with do for you offense. The Panthers are an odd beast. They made it to the Super Bowl last season, and have since opened with a 1-4 record. Carolina is plummeting, while San Diego is on the up swing...

San Diego 20 Carolina 17

St. Louis (3-2)* at Miami (0-6)

St. Louis is going to win this football game. It's that simple. The Rams have been up and down this season. The Dolphins have yet to hit their "up" having accomplished their worst start in franchise history, out of the gate at 0-6. Where will Miami find a win? Try and look for a game on the schedule that says they can this season, justify it, and you'll win a prize. Where's Ricky? This question that reverberates through Pro Player stadium after every single offensive snap. The answer, nobody knows...

St. Louis 30 Miami 6

Tennessee (2-4) at Minnesota (4-1)

Tennessee looked unstoppable this past Monday night against a depleted Green Bay secondary. Their young QB Chris Brown is legit, and he has enough talent around

him for the Titans to put up big numbers. Minnesota won a shoot out with New Orleans 38-31. The Vikings got a big performance from rookie RB Mewelde Moore, who finished with 109 yards on only 15 touches. They will need another big performance from Moore and QB Dante Culpepper if they are without the services of injured WR Randy Moss. They'll need Moss back A.S.A.P, but they'll survive this week at home...

Minnesota 34 Tennessee 27

N.Y. Jets (5-0) at New England (5-0)

Without a doubt the game of the week, if not the most anticipated game of the early season. The Jets struggled to pull out a narrow victory at home to San Francisco. The Patriots continued their incredible run having won their 20th straight game at home to the Seahawks. The two undefeated clubs will square off at Gillette Stadium for a 5 PM start, that will pit two of the AFC's best RBs head-to-head in Cory Dillon and Curtis Martin, along with two of the NFL's best young QBs in Tom Brady and Chad Pennington. The Jets will likely have the best opportunity of the young season to knock off a Pats team that is still rather injured in their core of receivers, and end their winning streak. Will they? Have you watched the Pats play? Did you see nail in the coffin catch by Johnson. It's poise that the inexperienced Pennington had yet to acquired. Brady will show him how it's done...

New England 24 N.Y. Jets 20

Dallas (2-3) at Green Bay (2-4)

Dallas has been a big disappointment coming of a playoff appearance and some great pick-ups in the offseason. Bill Parcells cannot seem to pull it all together. Green Bay on the other hand looked like they were down and out before coming back to destroy the Lions in putting up 38 points on Sunday. This is anybody's guess, but if last week was any indication, you don't bet against Brett Favre. He's a Hall of Fame quarterback for good reason...

Green Bay 24 Dallas 17

New Orleans (2-4) at Oakland (2-4)

New Orleans fought hard before falling to the Vikings on Sunday. Oakland looked putrid at home to Denver and by game's end, the scoreboard read 31-3. Jerry Rice wants out of the Bay area, and a noble exit would have two years ago, as in retirement. The debacle continues in a place where the Black Hole is no longer significant of Oakland's home turf, but rather an indication of their voided abilities.

New Orleans 27 Oakland 13

Seattle (3-2) at Arizona (1-4) Seattle is coming off two straight losses and yet another long trip cross-country. Arizona

is coming off a bye, and more importantly a week where they did not upset their ticket holders. Seattle is in dire need of an outing against a club like the Cardinals, which makes for more of a practice then an actual game. Seattle needs to find their identity before all it's too late. This is a classic rebound game, and the Seahawks will take full advantage in the desert...

Seattle 34 Arizona 3

Denver (5-1) at Cincinnati (1-4)

Denver finally flexed their muscles last week at Oakland. Cincinnati needs to do a few cycles, hit the gym and come back next year. Should be a joke...

Denver 31 Cincinnati 10

Season record: Not great...

Predictability of a sidekick

BY NEIL

Philadelphia at Cleveland
The Eagles keep on rolling.
Philly 30-10

Jacksonville at Indianapolis
Indy has to do something about that defense.
Indy 35-21

Atlanta at Kansas City
Michael Vick is getting back to his old self.
Atlanta 30-20

St. Louis at Miami
Will Miami win at all this year?
St.Louis 27-10

Tennessee at Minnesota
Everything changes if Randy Moss is not hurt.
Tennessee 17-14

Detroit at New York Giants
New York is looking strong this year.
New York 20-10

Chicago at Tampa Bay
Chicago is horrible.
Tampa Bay 14-3

San Diego at Carolina
Despite last week's slip-up against Atlanta, I still think the Bolts could do something.
San Diego 24-21

Buffalo at Baltimore
Baltimore comes fresh off the bye week.
Baltimore 21-10

New York Jets at New England
My apologies to Bill for last week. But I don't think they will go undefeated this year. Still, in a great game.....
New England 20-17

Seattle at Arizona
The Seahawks should have won last week.
Seattle 34-17

New Orleans at Oakland
The Raider Nation booed last week, and Jerry Rice wants out.
New Orleans 20-10

Dallas at Green Bay
Lambeau Field isn't home sweet home anymore. But Bill Parcells doesn't seem to be Bill Parcells anymore either.
Green Bay 24-20

Denver at Cincinnati
The Broncos have the league's best defense.
Denver 29-13

Arsehole of the week:

BY BILL HUGHES



Huskies Football Booze "Hound" Simon Jones
Reason: Learn to handle your drink, and keep your composure. When you dethrone Gary Bettman and Bob Goodenow, during the NHL lockout, then you know you've accomplished something.

Quote of the week:
by Bill Hughes

"I'd have sex with a girl that I didn't even like if it were to cure cancer"

- Our very own Billy Hughes

Great Canadian Debate

BY ADAM COSTELLO

What is it you fear the most? Some may reply to this question talking of things such as spiders, heights or even clowns. Unfortunately most of us have to face these fears at some point in our lives and like many of you, I already have. The worst part is that I'm about to face it again.

The first time I faced this fear was around this time 10 years ago in 1994. It was Saturday night and when I turned on CBC at around 8 o'clock, what was on? A David Suzuki special!

Now if you're reading this and aren't a huge fan of our great Canadian sport, you may still be in the clouds as to what I'm going on about. If you are a Hockey fan however, you understand just how immense of a let down is was not hearing that famous theme song that begins every episode of "Hockey Night in Canada."

Okay so maybe I've exaggerated a little, it may not have been my gravest darkest fear but when I was a kid I absolutely breathed hockey. My first words were "Mapu weafs," I learned to skate when I was three and I'd wake up at 6 o'clock every morning to watch the hockey highlights on Sportsdesk at least twice before going to school. I would read every hockey magazine out there and if I'd read them all, then I'd read the back of my hockey cards!

Point being, that when I was told there wasn't going to be any hockey that Saturday night I didn't understand. I asked my dad "why wouldn't the players just wanna play dad?" he simply responded "it's a money issue." I then replied

"Don't they just like playing for the fun of it though?" He didn't know what to tell me.

Of course I didn't understand the economic or legal situation of the game back then, however looking back on it I wasn't to far too off with my nine-year-old questioning. Let's take a look back at the 1993-94 NHL season that took place before the first lockout and crunch some numbers. The average player salary for that season was \$560,000 USD. The average cost of a ticket to attend an NHL game was about \$30 dollars. \$21 dollars from every ticket sold went directly to player's salaries leaving owners with a profit of \$9 dollars for every ticket to be spent on various operating costs such as arena bills, front office salaries and marketing among many others. However even with teams making on average 9 dollars per ticket sold, the average amount of money teams still lost that season was approximately \$1,540,000.

With owners losing that money out of their own pockets and the CBA (collective bargaining

agreement) at the end of its previous 10-year tenure, the lockout of '94 ensued. They went 4 months without hockey and although not much was accomplished during the lockout, the owners caved. Why you ask? Well back then the number of teams that made money outnumbered the small market teams that didn't and with the lockout reaching a length where as no season would be salvageable, the majority of owners opted not to lose all the playoff income they'd be missing out on and just extended the CBA another 10 years with few beneficial changes.

The season was shortened to 48 games; the big market teams still made their playoff profit and as for the small market teams? Some died out and got bought by big market owners. Winnipeg, Quebec and Hartford turned into Phoenix, Colorado and Carolina. Other small market teams just kept losing money, forcing their owners to keep writing more checks. But hockey was safe for another 10 years! This however unfortunately brings us to the present.

What those big market teams that just wanted to make their playoff revenue didn't realize, or maybe just chose to ignore, is that player salaries were escalating at a uniform rate with the other three popular American sports. Problem being is that hockey wasn't an American sport. Hockey simply just didn't have same popularity as other popular American sports. Apparently Americans would rather watch Mr. Alex Rodriguez make \$17,284 dollars an inning, just to stand around catching the ball a few times, swinging a bat every couple of innings and maybe, just maybe, hitting a "dinger" every once in awhile.

Of course hockey, or any other sport for that matter, did not escalate to the point of paying one player a salary of \$25,200,000 a year. Hockey did however in the course of the 10 years between '94 and '04 increase player salaries vastly beyond that which the percentile of league revenue had increased. By 2003 the average NHL player salary had grown from \$560,000 in '94 to a whopping \$1,790,000 by '04. The average ticket price however had only grown to a little over \$48 dollars from the 1994 average of 30 dollars. So rather than making a profit of \$9 dollars per ticket sold as such was the case in 1994, teams now on average are incurring a deficit of \$26 dollars!

Now you don't have to be an accountant to see the problem here. Hockey already lacks popularity enough in the United States; if ticket prices went up as much as to even nearly cover player salaries there would simply be nobody

left in the stands.

This adds up to form another problem. Small market teams can't spend money on big name players to form a team that can actually win, so fans don't bother showing up to watch their team lose year after year (except for in Canada), making it even harder to make money and in turn even harder to sign any big name players. To summarise, it can be simplified in to the simple equation: No money equals no good players, which equals usually not winning, which equals, minor fan interest and in turn no money.

The teams with money however, spend it on those big name and highly skilled players and usually win. In turn these teams make even more money by making it to the playoffs and because fans like feeling good about their team winning, they are more likely to buy those more expensive tickets, not to mention the ridiculously expensive merchandise and concessions.

This is the turning point however because with only a 173% increase in league revenue and a 261% increase in player costs over the last 10 years, even the 11 teams out of 30 that actually made money in 2002-2003 must acknowledge there is not only a financial problem within the NHL right now, but a competitive one as well. This plain and simple fact is bad news for any team because it's bad news for the league and therefore bad news for the game in its entirety.

86% of people on a CTV Sportsnet poll agreed with the statement "Small market teams need to be competitive for the National Hockey League to be successful." So when there are 18 teams all losing more than \$5 million dollars a year and only 6 making over \$5 million a year, it's fairly clear as to why so many teams are just unable to compete.

So now that you know what caused the current labour dispute, it all boils down to the present. Who is right? Are the owners right for locking out the players after the realization that for their league to become competitive again between all teams, a new system needs to be implemented? Are they wrong for wanting to institute a salary cap so they do not continuously lose millions of dollars every year? I mean what's the point of owning a team if every year you're going to potentially lose up to \$40 million dollars out of your own and other shareholders pockets?

Or are the players wrong for not wanting a salary cap put into place? A salary cup would limit the amount of money they could make for the sole reason of ensuring their employers don't continue to lose money every year, in turn saving the game they've already been made millionaires playing?

For me it's incredibly easy to figure out which side is in the

right here. Although the owners virtually created the problem in signing those big name players to ridiculous contracts, the current CBA gave them not much alternative for there individual team if continuing to win was to remain a realistic option. With other teams offering the star players of their team more money than they normally would have anticipated signing him for themselves, the owners of those teams had an obligation to the fans to keep the fan favourite star player in their city. The owners then would have to match the offer made by the other team or lose fan approval due to the losing of a player that fans adore. Thus feeling obligated to sign the player and having to match the inflated contract offer made by the other team to do so. The problem was that the owners felt forced to do this just because another team wanted to boost its fan approval by signing the big name player to the ridiculous contract proposal itself.

Sergei Fedorov and Paul Kariya signing each respectively with the current teams they played for in the late 90s are perfect examples of the above cause of salary inflation. These situations set new salary standards for which other star players then expected to receive.

This isn't to say the players were wrong for accepting those contracts, I mean who wouldn't accept an \$11 million dollar a year contract if it were on the table ready for your signature? What the NHLPA (National Hockey League Players Association) are in the wrong for however, is that given that the current economic state the league is directly correlated to these ever expanding contracts, they still think they should continue to receive them.

To solve this problem the owners collectively want to implement a salary cap system that would prevent individual team owners from feeling the need to out do each other in the striving to attain star players for their respective teams. How do they always try to out do each other? The only way they know to successfully obtain these star players is by mean of offering them more money. Under the cap system teams would be given a set limit of money to be spent on player salaries, limiting the amount of star players a team could sign to huge contracts, thus forcing players to sign for smaller sums.

77% of people taken from another internet poll agreed a hard salary cap was necessary for the league to stay financially stable and unfortunately unless the league reaches an agreement that will allow financial stability again, such as the implementation of a salary cap, there simply just won't be any hockey. That plain and simple fact is what's truly killing the game.

I've been a fanatical hockey

fan all my life and am already turning to an American popularized sport in Football. Imagine how fast an American fan would turn which doesn't even appreciate hockey the way I was brought up to.

For some reason beyond my immediate intellect, the NHLPA doesn't realize this. Baseball still hasn't recovered the popularity it possessed before it's long strung out lockout and that's another classic American sport. Just imagine a year and a half lockout of a sport the American culture doesn't even hold as a catalyst of cultural identity such as us Canadians hold Hockey as and as Americans hold Baseball or Basketball in somewhat the same way. We Canadians and the over 65 percent of Canadian NHL hockey players are the real losers eh?

24 of the 30 NHL teams are situated in America, thus making up a huge percentage of prospective lost interest and market shrinkage if a new CBA is not reached soon. Not to mention Canadian teams are the ones losing most of the money due to unfair tax and exchange rates. Even with strong fan bases most Canadian teams are still in serious financial trouble.

All this being said you're probably wondering why the NHLPA won't just accept the proposed salary cap and start to strive for increased interest in our great Canadian game? Is it greed on the part of the players? Maybe a little, but in my opinion is lack of understanding and lack of remembering why they chose to play hockey in the first place.

If I asked any hockey player if he'd rather hold anything else as a career, such as a garbage man or a doctor and be paid the exact same amount of money as he made playing hockey for say throwing garbage onto a truck or completing brain surgery, how do you think he'd respond? I'd hazard a guess that over 95% of them would say they'd rather play hockey than anything else in the world. Why? I'd ask, and he'd reply, "Because I love playing" or "Because I was born to play" some might even reply "Because raising the cup over my head in front of 20,000 screaming fans is an excruciatingly essential life accomplishment in order to fulfill all of my childhoods wildest hopes and dreams." How then do you think he'd react to the question of why he can't sacrifice his 3rd Ferrari or 2nd mansion solely for the purpose of continuing to pursue those dreams and ensuring the survival of the sport that his life is based upon? I mean the new CBA proposal would only lower the league's average player salary from \$1.8 million to a still whopping \$1.3 million!

Hopefully to this questioning, if the player had any love for the game left beating in his

continued on back cover

News & notes

BY BILL HUGHES

America's favorite pastime

The MLB playoffs continued this past week as the league championships are now in full tilt. By press time, the New York Yankees had a 3 games to 1 lead over their rival Boston Red Sox on the American league side. On the national league ledger, the championship series between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Houston Astros is all tied at 2 games apiece. Both series are best of seven, and in the event that both go the distance, the series will be concluded by Thursday evening. The World Series is slated to begin this Saturday at 7:30 PM, and the American League champion will host the opening game.

Els-cellent performance

South African, and the world's number two-ranked golfer, Ernie Els captured his record setting sixth World Match Play Championship while celebrating his 35th birthday on Sunday. Els won the head to head match play format event by defeating Britain's Lee Westwood in the 36-hole final. The win not only captures Els the \$1.8 million dollar winner's check, but will also assist him in his quest to become the world's number one player after his competition, Vijay Singh fell victim to a first round defeat in the 64 player event. Els and Singh both have one event remaining this season.

Fought the law, and the law won

Saint Mary's football DE Simon Jones was reportedly arrested following the Huskies 19-3 victory over the Mount Allison Mounties on Friday evening.

Jones was arrested after having showed up intoxicated at the Huskies locker room in The Tower to protest his being scratched from the lineup. An altercation ensued that forced Huskies officials to promptly call the extra duty Halifax Regional Police office hired to watch over the game and Jones was arrested and subsequently charged with public intoxication. The team has indicated that Jones has been suspended indefinitely following his inappropriate behavior due to having been in violation of the team's strict alcohol policy. The length of Jones' suspension has yet to be determined, but it is unlikely that he will return to the club this season. The university has reportedly declined to comment on whether further action will be taken.

True Patriot Love

I think the New England Patriots victory this past weekend can only be described by a rap quote that I recall from yesteryear. "Ain't nothin' new, ain't nothin' change." The Pats captured the 20th consecutive victory on Sunday as they downed the Seattle Seahawks 30-20 at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Massachusetts. The Patriots will look to improve on their streak, as the take to the field against one of only two other undefeated teams when they face the New York Jets.

Better, but...

The Saint Mary's women rugby team fell once again this week to the Acadia Axewomen. Despite their best effort of the season, resulting in their closest game to date, the Huskies lost 32-10. The Huskies remain winless on the season through five games. Their next game is set to take place on October 24th, as

the Huskies take to the field against the St. FX X-Women for a 2 PM start at home here in Halifax.

Off to a great start

The Saint Mary's women's hockey club got an exhibition victory after registering a convincing 3-1 victory over their archrivals, the Dalhousie Tigers on October 6th. Their next game and season opener is slated for Saturday in a rematch with those same Tigers. Game time is 1 PM at Dal's Memorial Area.

Huskies fall

The Saint Mary's men's hockey club stumbled out of the gate on Sunday evening as they dropped their season opener 5-3 to the Dalhousie Tigers on home ice at the Halifax Forum. The Huskies will try and put their first notch in the win column as they travel to New Brunswick for a pair of games this upcoming weekend. On Friday, the Huskies will suit up against St. Thomas University and on Saturday they will face the University of Moncton.

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heart rather than the fixation on money residing in his brain, I think he'd grow up for at least a minute. No, maybe "grow down" would be a more fitting expression for this situation. For at least a minute he'd grow down to when he was eight years old and he'd practice an hour a day for every year he'd been alive on that frozen community pond or at those 7 AM practises. Maybe he'd actually remember back to ten years old when he'd pretend to be Gordie Howe, Wayne Gretzky or Mario Lemieux scoring the overtime goal of game seven to win his team the coveted Stanley Cup. Or maybe he wouldn't. Maybe it is just about the money for them these days, that's the way the rest of the world is, why not sports too? When I remember back to the days when love for the game was all one needed and my parents would shell out \$700 dollars a season just so I could indulge in the national sport, it still reminds me of why I love the game.

I didn't make my dad drive me to practice at six rather than seven every morning because I thought if I practiced hard enough I'd one day make millions of dollars in the NHL. I went so early just so I could be the first one on the ice, just so I could pretend to be Gretzky winning the Stanley Cup without people getting in the way. Imagination, a few pucks, a net and a clean sheet of ice was all that was needed to simply just enjoy playing the game at that age. Conceivably that's all any player in the NHL ever needed as well, before he became a millionaire that is. My point is that if any Canadian player, no matter how rich he is, was made to remember all those things such as I just did, I truly have faith he would realize how selfish the

NHLPA is being. Causing so much turmoil in the game they all used to play for no other reason than to simply enjoy their national sport.

It all comes down to Canada being the real loser here. The United States, they have their Football, Baseball and Basketball. Europe, they have their actual Football and probably Cricket or something. Us though, Hockey is our sport. We may not have as much of a culture and as much class as Europe. We may not be as culturally inept to think about anyone or anything besides ourselves as America. But by God on Saturday nights we get a 2-4 and we watch Hockey. And during the playoffs we get several 2-4's and watch hockey. We watch Don Cherry make an ass out of himself week after week and we love it. We go to bars and when our favourite team loses to Philadelphia in overtime of game 6 we throw a table across the room and get banned for life (or maybe that's just me).

To sum things up, I just want my game back. I know we're probably going to be without it for a good year and a half before the players realize their selfishness, but I guess that's the way the world goes these days. When hockey does start back up again who knows, maybe new rule changes will help defray the damages of a lengthy lockout. Maybe Americans will someday realize watching a good scrap or a top shelf goal in the dying minutes of overtime is a little more exciting than watching someone hit a "dinger." No matter what happens however, never again do I ever want to switch on the CBC if it's not summer time and see David Suzuki. So guys, if you could please...Just shut up and play eh?

HUSKIES AT HOME

HUSKIES VARSITY ACTION
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

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1 & 3 P.M.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY VS STFX
2 P.M.

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