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Details on pg. 6.



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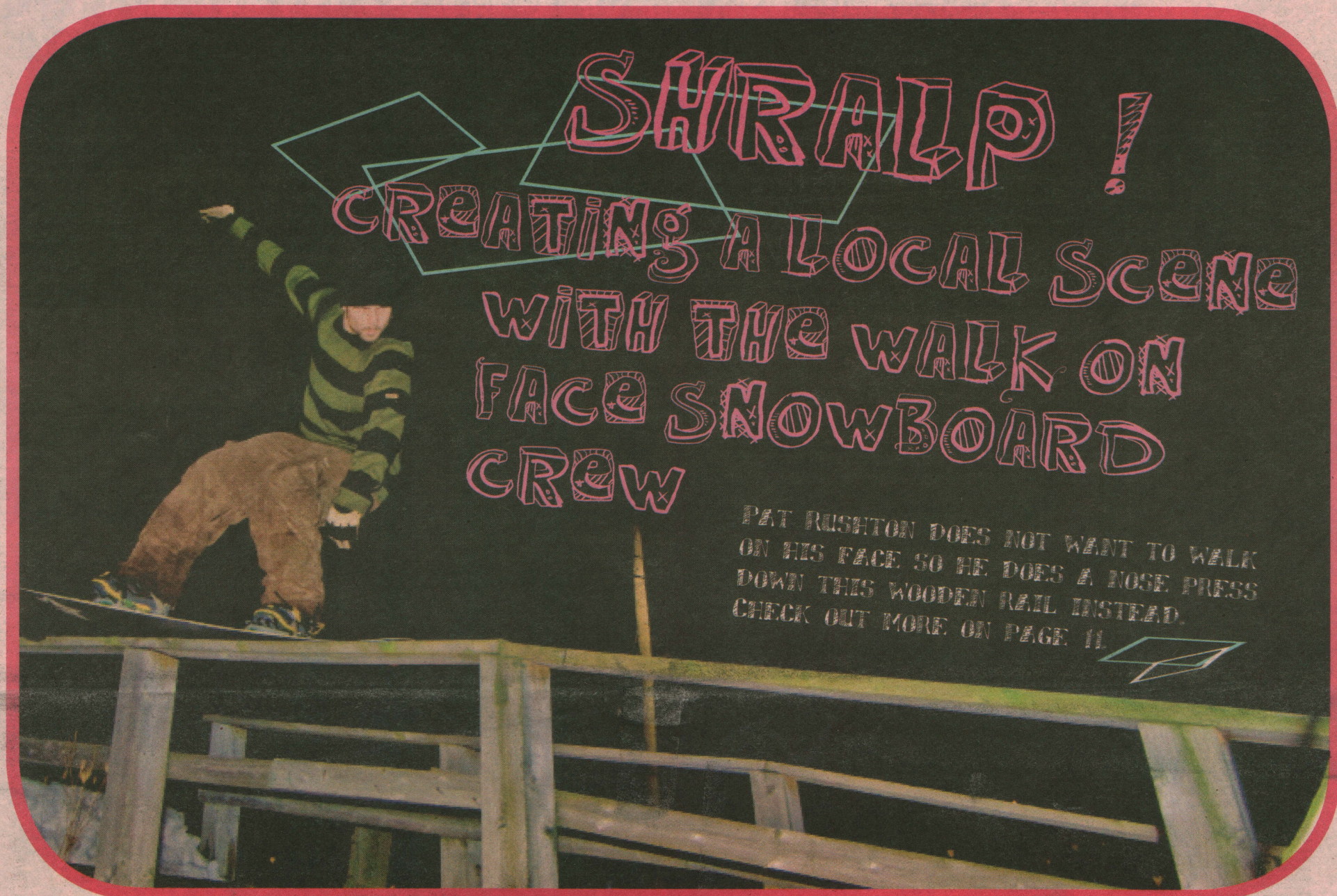
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# THE JOURNAL

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



TOM WESTOLL

"What's a five letter word for the group of friends you ride with?" asks a stumped Nick Khattar as he sits hunched over the kitchen counter working on a Burton catalogue snowboard themed crossword puzzle.

"Possel!" Simultaneously yell fellow snowboarders Shaun Messom and Sam Rodgers. The three dedicated snowboarders are part of a loose knit collective known as the Walk On Face crew that also includes Pat Rushton and Jason Cohanim who are all here together on a crisp and clear winter's night a few kilometres down the road from Wentworth.

This gaggle of riding buddies are taking the Nova Scotia and East Coast snowboarding scene by storm with their fiendish dedication to getting in some quality shred this winter. The results of the season will contribute towards a full feature length snowboarding video to be released next fall entitled "Dude, Bro, Brah". The video will feature all kinds of sick riding as performed by these local rippers.

"We just want to set the east coast bar a little higher than it's been set (before)" says Sam, describing the kind of effort the crew is putting into the production.

"Yeah, we could jib a crucifix or two" interjects Shaun.

"Oh we'll get evil on it, just setting the bar higher," jokes Sam.

"I'd really like to jib an orphanage" throws in Jason for good measure.

"That would be a serious level step there, bro." says Sam, ending that little analogy.

Regardless of obstacles like how far they are willing to go or what they are willing

to deface in order to get a good shot, the Walk On Face guys all agree that they have had to deal with a lot of adversity trying to make it not only as snowboarders, but as university students. Sam, Jason and Nick all attend university in Halifax while both Pat and Shaun work hard most of the year round so that their winters can be freed up to snowboard as much as possible.

"It takes a lot of sarcasm, a lot of missed opportunities but when it happens, it's f\*\*king awesome" says Jason about the attitude one has to take while living in Halifax and attending school, all the while trying to get out to shred as much as possible.

#### Making Sh!t Happen.

It's pretty common knowledge to the average student living in Halifax that when you don't own a car, your ability to get out of the city and to the ski hill is drastically reduced. To that end, Halifax can not be relied upon for consistent weather, let alone getting snow that will stay for more than a day or two before it is rained on and turned into grey city slush as opposed to out in the Wentworth valley where the snow is usually plentiful. This situation does not bode well for the freeride snowboarder; but the urban jibber; the guy (or gal) who scours the city scoping out handrails and other unique looking urban environments that would be conducive to shralping can be satisfied quite nicely within the city limits.

"Red Bulls, phone calls and pit stops, man," says Sam, talking about the steps necessary to planning an urban jib mission. "That sums up all that goes on before a rail. Nobody understands how much work goes into just one shot in snowboarding...

showing up and hitting a feature is easy really, but getting everyone together, organising lights and generators, vehicles, boards and drop in ramps... you know like all that stuff, it's (the coordination) incredible."

Walk On Face's video should be released in the fall of 2008, so there is still the rest of this winter to try to get good footage for the project. It's one thing, say the guys, to get shots of nice tricks but if the quality and production values aren't there, the footage will just look uninteresting. Ensuring that the filming sequences go as planned is all a part of the great trials and tribulations in attempting to make a quality documentary of the east coast scene and putting it on video. The goal is to make a video that is as professional looking as it is filled with sick riding, something that Walk On Face founder Justin Martin knows won't be easy. He started Walk on Face in 2002 as a way to build and promote a portfolio for his production work which combined his interests in snowboarding and video editing.

"Justin Martin is the brains, it's his baby" says Sam, matter-of-factly. The rest of the guys sitting around the kitchen, Shaun, Pat, Nick and Jason all agree.

When Justin was attending Saint F.X in 2002, he started spending too much time on his computer.

"I began teaching myself a few design and editing programs and the basics of composing," says Justin. "This opened new doors for me and helped me land a few computer and design based jobs. Since then, I have been continuing to learn and upgrade my equipment and software on my own."

"I am dropping a video fall 2008, with

or without sponsors.... this is what we like to do [so] as long as I have the support of the solid crew around me there will be a sick video this fall."

A sneak peek preview of Dude, Bro, Brah has been made and is being posted on the crew's website, to peep it for yourself go look for it on [www.walkonfaceproductions.com](http://www.walkonfaceproductions.com).

#### Go West Young Shred

Historically, a standard move for east coast shredders looking to break into the snowboard scene has been to head west, traditionally to either the Banff/Lake Louise area or to the snowboard industry Mecca of Canada; Whistler, British Columbia. For a few members of the Walk On Face crew, the Canadian west was a temporary home for a few years and an instrumental stage of their snowboard development. A lot of different factors pull and push people to move to the places they do and, for a snowboarder, western Canada is the place to give it the old heave-ho. Why then are these guys back on the east coast?

"Well, a lot of those people (in Whistler) were transplants from the east coast, so now, like, whether it's for school, or work or family or whatever, they're back. I'm here for school now, so..." says Sam, talking about the vast number of Maritimer's in the snowboard Mecca's and why they might come home and leave the glamour and exposure of places like Whistler behind.

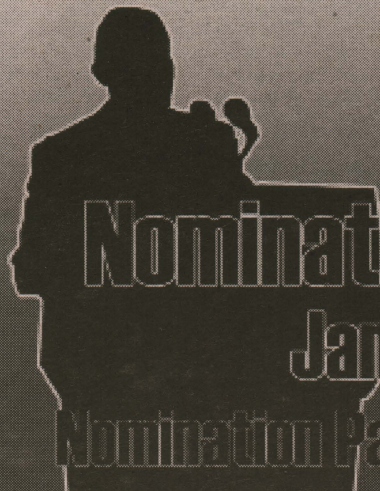
"It's about a whole crew back here opposed to out west, it's more about individual riding and individual goals and plans of what they want to achieve where here, ...

*continued on page 11...*

# smusa NEWS

WANT TO BE AN... **EXECUTIVE?**

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**Nominations Open**

January 28th, 9:00am

**Nominations Close**

February 1st, 5:00pm

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#### SUNDAY

February 3rd  
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DOORS OPEN 5:30PM**

#### MONDAY

February 4th  
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LOUNGE**

#### TUESDAY

February 5th  
**WORLD SPORT  
LOUNGE**

The Gorsebrook Lounge is open to SMU students, Alumni, and Guests

# PERSPECTIVES

## Letter From The Editor: Rock Band and What it Has Taught Me

AMANDA WENEK

I have never understood the obsession over video games; the need to be always playing them, and always getting to a higher level, and always perfecting your best score. I mean, I am a goal oriented and ambitious person, but I just never 'got' the sorts of goals that gamers seem to thrive on. Whether it is Nintendo and Sony, or computer games, I have never gotten sucked into any of it.

When I was younger, my parents sold our Super Nintendo without telling us because my brother would always be too absorbed in it to even come to

dinner when called. I have friends that obsess over constantly playing World of Warcraft online. And the newest trend that seems to be keeping people busy is the wave of music oriented video games; such as, Guitar Hero, Rock Band, and Dance Dance Revolution.

I was hooked on Mario Kart for Super Nintendo for about a month, and much later was hooked on Golden Eye for Nintendo 64 for about the same duration. I can see the excitement in a new toy you really enjoy, but I guess for me the novelty just wears off much too quickly for it to be worth the price.

The price of these systems and games is ridiculous; another reason

I've never gotten swept into the gaming world. Rock Band retails for \$169 and you get the game, a drum set, a guitar, and a microphone. Playstation 3 ranges from \$399 to \$499, and it is virtually a computer... you can access wireless internet, check your email, play your friends online, and even watch DVDs and Blu Ray. Playstation 2 can be bought for under \$200, but people shy away from this system now with fear that they soon won't be making new games for PS2. Microsoft's Xbox is just as expensive, but receives terrible reviews.

A downside to these consoles? You cannot return them. You can

only send them to the company if they are defective, and have them fixed and sent back, or a new one (still the same crappy console though) sent to you. There is no satisfaction guaranteed.

A friend recently bought PS3 and Rock Band; normally I would scoff at such an impulsive, expensive move, but after playing the game for about 5 minutes I was hooked. We have been playing every night since Sunday and we even created a band which embarked on a world tour. It is such a challenge to try and master every song on every instrument, and the game gives you four difficulty levels so that you can always make it

more challenging for yourself once it gets too easy.

I am having a lot of fun with the game, yes. But would I ever pay the money to own it? I highly doubt it. In this most recent video game experience, I still haven't come to understand the need and the obsession over these games that some people experience, but I think I've found something valuable in this video game realm. I've learned that it's the time spent with my friends while playing gig after gig that I treasure, not the excitement of unlocking a new venue or the joy of learning to play an electronic guitar.

## Letters to The Editor

### Why Drugs Should Be Legalized: Part Two A Response to Erin Storer

KIRK EMERY

Dr. Milton Friedman, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1976 for his work in economics, says, "There is no logical basis for the prohibition of marijuana. \$7.7 billion is a lot of money, but that is one of the lesser evils. Our failure to successfully enforce these laws is responsible for the deaths of thousands of people in Colombia. I haven't even included the harm to young people. It's absolutely disgraceful to think of picking up a 22-year-old for smoking pot. More disgraceful is the denial of marijuana for medical purposes."

Some people think that my views concerning individual freedom are excessive. Erin Storer, in her response to my article concerning why drugs should be legalized, says that "Our society cannot withstand such an extremely liberal mentality". Her justification for that assertion is weak: she argues that because some people overeat, they are likely to over dose on drugs as well, and that is why we shouldn't legalize drugs. While I'd like to demonstrate why the claim that drug abuse follows overeating is flat out false, I am more concerned with her assertion that people's freedom to overdose or overeat should be limited.

Storer argues that because drugs hurt people's health, drugs should therefore be illegal. That argument contains a hidden premise in support of her prohibitionist conclusion, that the government has a duty to intervene in the lives of individuals when they are doing things that the government perceives as harmful to themselves. Besides not being explicitly stated, the premise that the government should prevent individuals from acting in ways that the government views as harmful to the actor's health is quite contentious.

The venerated 18th century legal scholar William Blackstone said that "It is better that ten guilty persons escape, than one innocent suffer" concerning the court's policy of not convicting individuals of crimes unless there is evidence beyond all reasonable doubt that that individual had committed that crime. This statement is as meaningful today as ever, and it helps

tease out our intuitions concerning individual's freedom to act as they please; this should be a chief concern for all and there'd better be excellent reasons in support of limiting people's freedom to act how they want. Simply put, and in direct relation to my task, we'd best be damn sure that Storer's hidden premise, that the government should prevent people from doing what they perceive as negative things to themselves, is a good one.

I don't think that the government should be able to prevent people from pursuing their conception of the good life. For, to say that the government should be patriarchal, that 'the government knows best', is naïve: what they view as bad in an individual's actions needn't of necessity be viewed as bad. An individual knows herself better than anybody else does, and her knowledge of herself is certainly more extensive than that of any politician or bureaucrat. I say let the expert make up her own mind about what is right for herself.

We cannot afford a regression to where people force upon others their conception of the good life, for that path has led to destruction historically. We can only be tolerant of others. Devout religious people have – with conviction – proclaimed that by not worshipping their god (s), people are committing a great disservice to themselves (like how Storer argues that people using drugs are hurting themselves). In unfortunate places where the government and religion have shared an intimate relationship, the religious government has prevented people from practicing other religions because those other religions are 'harmful' to those who practice them. Take this as an example of why the government should not prevent people from acting as they please, even when the government may perceive those actions as harmful to the actor.

Although I believe that, if drugs were legalized, crime rates would drop drastically, our jails packed with Aborigines and blacks would no longer be filled to capacity, my main contention is, simply, that people should be free to live their lives as they want. Again, Storer disagrees, as she

writes that "they [prohibition laws] are a much needed crutch providing the courts the support they need to intervene in the lives of criminals and addicts that are on the path to self destruction." She is wrong, here, for many reasons.

First, when drugs are illegal, the pregnant woman who happens to be addicted to heroine cannot seek medical help in order to save her baby, because by seeking help she would be admitting that she committed a federal offence (in the USA) and would be subject to a 20 year sentence. And then, of course, the unfortunate baby would be shuffled through foster-homes until the age of maturity when it is likely to become a criminal, and the cycle will begin again. Some crutch.

Second, drugs being illegal means that the police must devote a substantial amount of its resources to fighting a battle that was lost before it began (it's uncontroversial that some people will do what they want despite horrific government sanctioned punishments, which is why the 'war on drugs' cannot be won). Not only does this prevent the government from performing its primary task of preventing John from hurting Mary (pulling people from a Hobbesian state of chaos), but it works to transform our country into a police state where tolerance is a myth. Speaking of tolerance, or perhaps intolerance, Storer asks rhetorically if drug legalization would "...not promote more public acceptance of this activity", an activity which she later says is known to promote "feelings of intense euphoria..." I think that tolerating people, so long as they aren't hurting anybody, is a good thing especially when it means that decent people will not be thrown behind bars and will, instead, be contributing to the common good by working. And what does she have against "feelings of intense euphoria"?!?

Political freedom means the absence of coercion, even when she who is being coerced is the minority and the coercers are the momentary majority. Finally, I cannot over emphasize my position: people should be free to pursue their conceptions of the good life, however horrible some may perceive that life to be.

## A Response to Erin Storer on the Drug Debate

NOEL FELLOWS

When responding to a writer's point of view I think it is best to present their argument as fairly as possible. Although, when there is no argument and merely an opinion, I think it is most appropriate to show the assertions made by that writer to be false by way of your own argument. In this way, if the writer reads what you have written, they will be better prepared to construct an argument that has the form and structure required, to head off a real debate.

While trying to provide a reason for why the government does not enforce arbitrary drug laws, the writer decided to point out that some drugs are more addictive than others. Even if the addictive nature of the substance stood as a standard from which the government would decide what should and shouldn't be legal, this would still not help the writer show that the government does not enforce arbitrary drug laws. This can be seen by pointing out the current state of affairs. Marijuana is illegal and cigarettes are legal, yet cigarettes are much more addictive despite any mentally addictive qualities marijuana does have. It is obvious that the addictive nature of the drug is not a standard from which the government decides to make a drug legal or illegal, and this definitely does not help the writer show that the government is not enforcing arbitrary drug laws. In fact, when considering the addictive nature of the drug as a real standard, it makes it that much easier to show that the government is enforcing arbitrary drug laws.

The writer misconceives that if the drug addict does not have any money, they will not get their fix. The writer stated that in a society where drugs are legal, the addict can just rob a convenience store and immediately get their drug of choice, thereby surpassing that problem. The writer was trying to show that legalizing drugs would lead to an increase in crime. I am not debating that point (at least not yet); however, it needs to be pointed out that when drug addicts don't have any money, they can still get their fix. The addict can simply walk into the drug dealer's residence, most likely with an unregistered firearm (given the nature of home invasions and what really goes on in the criminal underworld), and demand the drugs. While this type of crime will most

likely be unreported, as no drug dealer in their right mind would call the police and say their drugs were stolen (as they could face drug related charges themselves), it is undoubtedly just as criminal in nature as the crimes that are reported. So, once one realizes that drug dealers get robbed too, and that crime statistics do not actually reflect overall crime, one can see that crime would not really increase as a result of having drugs sold at convenience stores. Most people would agree that it is the actual crime, and not the crime statistics, that determine the true state of our society.

The last point I would like to consider is one of my own. I do not believe that individuals should be criminally prosecuted for personal drug use, whatever the drug might be. This includes heroin, crack-cocaine, marijuana, and all forms of amphetamines. The reason is that it is counter-productive to use the court's time and resources for these purposes. Drug users will, statistically speaking, always be drug users.

This is where the legalization/decriminalization distinction comes in. Society can decriminalize personal drug possession without legalizing the drug itself. For example, it is not in society's best interests to allow people to walk around with PCP in their pockets, given the violent tendencies it may produce in people. The authorities must be able to confiscate that substance as an illegal one. But it is also not in society's best interests to criminally prosecute individuals under the criminal code when we do catch them with PCP in their pockets. Those with criminal records can't get jobs, and may end up on social assistance. In the end, it is the tax payer who is suffering for the current drug laws.

One may object by saying "what about the crimes committed by the drug users while they are under the influence? Doesn't that pose a problem?" He or she would go on to say how drugs can cause people to act in ways that they would not otherwise act if they were sober; that drugs amplify certain behavioral tendencies and that an innocent person could be harmed in the process.

In replying to this objection I have only one thing to say. Prosecute people for the assaults, robberies, thefts, and rapes they commit while on the drugs, but leave the drug use up to the user.

## A Response to Emery's Article About Why Drugs Should be Legal

JAMES C. O'BRIEN

My main criticism of Narcotic Prohibition is not with its effectiveness in curbing the 'drug problem', I fail to see how there is a 'drug problem' in society which hasn't been compounded with the criminalization of the victim and the trade (versus the 'drug problem' defined as the 'inner Hell' of the addict) but the ethical validity of which it was created and enforced. Emery's article points out that crime would go down if all drugs are legalized, though if you legalized murder, you wouldn't have to lock up as many murderers. The difference between these two types of crime is that one involves hurting others while one involves 'hurting' themselves. This is not including the black market produced by creating a 'contraband', which creates a real threat to the community, as well as the user/customer.

Emery, ever the libertine capitalist, looks at drug legalization with the bend of dollars and cents, the potential revenue of a saleable, tradeable and taxable item versus the cost of haphazardly enforcing a law which a significant amount of people break. However, as a cynic, I must point out the capitalist bend toward drug criminalization. Here you have a crime which costs billions to enforce with no end in

sight- as long as kids drink their chemistry sets and any freak with a bathroom, access to a hardware store and a bit of ingenuity can produce crystal meth, twisted ninies will jibber and drool "Just Say No" hysteria over the airwaves and in the senate.

There's gold in them thar veins, lungs, tongues, pockets, nostrils and suppositories and not just dealers are getting fat off the War on Drugs but every stone faced cop, aspiring fascist Lodge Member and bloated shifty eyed police chief this foul race has produced can get their kicks and boost up their arrest statistics by going after low-level smugglers, dealers and shivering possessed possessing- and then turn it around, showing these high statistics as proof that more funding is needed. Let's face it, the Narcotic Addict makes a great victim, he's already wacked out and in no position to resist arrest, he's too poor to know his rights and he's reviled by the Straight Community. Not to mention the unequivocal Existential Condemnation of his 'kind' being outlawed.

Seriously though, the legalization of drugs will destroy the two economies parasitic of its criminalization, the Pushers and the Narcs. Which is not so black and white, Cowboys and Indians, bad guys and good guys, though it plays a

lot on authority: Moral Authority. On the one hand, you have the mark up of contraband, plus you get your drinks watered down aka catnipped, bleach in your coka-cola and laces in your boot, not to mention cop kick backs for looking the other way. But on the other hand you have all the disposable income from all the tax-payer paid bonuses and jobs, as Frank Zappa said, "War means work for all" and the War on Drugs is no Exception: Increased budgets for border patrol, narcotics squads, drug education as well as the revenue for the building and maintenance of overcrowded jails, someone needs to hire the guards, while contractors are always willing to take prison labour on the cheap, undercutting Unions and without the federal hassles of illegal immigrants.

But on a grander scheme, the CIA has also made a profit from the illegal drug trade, pushing junk from Thailand to South America to fund illegal wars and insurgent forces:

"Now Richard Secord and Oliver North Hated Sandinistas whatever they were worth They peddled for the Conrtas to ease their pain They couldn't sell Congress so Contras sold Cocaine"-Allen Ginsberg, The CIA Dope Calypso.

This has been part of Ameri-

ca's foreign policy before General Smedley Butler was hired to act as an ambassador of sorts for stateside interest: "I spent 33 years and four months in active military service and during that period I spent most of my time as a high class muscle man for Big Business, for Wall Street and the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism. I helped make Mexico and especially Tampico safe for American oil interests in 1914. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenues in. I helped in the raping of half a dozen Central American republics for the benefit of Wall Street. I helped purify Nicaragua for the International Banking House of Brown Brothers in 1902-1912. I brought light to the Dominican Republic for the American sugar interests in 1916. I helped make Honduras right for the American fruit companies in 1903. In China in 1927 I helped see to it that Standard Oil went on its way unmolested. Looking back on it, I might have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate his racket in three districts. I operated on three continents" but I digress...

The legalization of drugs is problematic because of so many fingers in the pie. These include

organized crime, law enforcement, bureaucracies and the CIA. The latter being symptomatic of the gaping, growing maw of the Military Industrial Complex, war for war's sake. Keep this stuff illegal, boost profits, which are given to insurgent/puppet governments who use these funds to feed factories of devastation and who in turn give deals on their national resources. Then when things go sour, the West gets to feed those same factories to overthrow those same governments.

On a smaller more direct scale, many people's livelihoods are dependent on the hopelessness of the War on Drugs. Legalize the stuff and you put a lot of obese power freaks out of work. I can see it now, cop unions threaten to strike, wardens calling you in the night, ex-cons with pictures of your kids and that's assuming you don't irritate the international smuggling ring which included such names as Oliver North, ex-prez Bush and Noriega.

In short, the War on Drugs, in all its hypocrisy and horror, is a symptom of the festering malignancy of a bloated monopolistic capitalist economy, which in its present form poses more of a public danger than the free use of PCP by a slight minority.

## Who Says that University is Easy? Break Ups and Break Throughs- Part Two

JESSICA WOODMAN

What if you break up with your boyfriend or your girlfriend and you are right in the middle of a semester? Last week The Journal printed what you shouldn't do in the case of a break up, now I will tell you what you should do.

Do remember that this will pass. Do stay away from drugs and alcohol which will make you even more depressed. Do call people who love you and talk to people who will make you remember yourself before the relationship. (Most adults have survived 20 years previous without that person which shows that it is possible to be single again, although it sucks).

Do remember that someone will love you again. Despite how you feel right now...you will find a new person eventually and have fun again. Ask your mother and father and they will probably tell you that you don't generally marry the first or even second or even third person that you date seriously. Dating is a selection process and it is about finding the person that will be right for you and who will love you no matter what.

Do get help if you feel that you can't cope with the pain. Emotional heartbreak is no laughing matter and so if you feel overwhelmed....

start taking the steps to get help.

Do something good for yourself....Buy yourself something new. (Hopefully a shirt and not a new car). Get some groceries and cook a meal for you and a friend.

Do something that might bring up your spirits. Do exercise. Walk, walk, walk. Exercise increases serotonin. Go to the gym. Walk around Point Pleasant Park. Serotonin increases the happy feeling again and is part of good stress management.

Do try to eat. Eat something so that you can sleep. Being overtired and spinning your wheels all night long is a recipe for either impulsive actions that you may regret or for depression.

Do find something to do. If your ex has filled up your life from morning to night and now they are not there...find something to fill the void. Join a fitness club where you might meet a friend. Go swimming. Take up Tai Chi which is soothing and teaches meditation. Go to the library and find a new book. Do something you don't normally do to fill your days.

Do find something to laugh about (other than burning your ex's possessions or flattening their tires). If someone has hurt you, cheated on you, or dumped you, then you might consider getting them back,

but remember, revenge brings you down to their level. Be the better person.

Do get out of the house. Go to the movies and watch a comedy. Find something that will cheer you up.

"Just when you think you can't take it anymore...life changes. That is the good and the bad of it." This is true. My mother, who is very wise, gave me this piece of advice. Nothing is going to stay horrible forever. Nothing will ever be that terrible for your entire life. Time passes and moves on and if you just wait it out, you will see.

Personally, when I first break up with someone I blame myself. Later, when time passes and I can think a little clearer I realize that I will be OK. (I usually figure out that I was better off without them and that being single can be a lot of fun). It just takes a little time. We've all been there and we've all had to balance life, school, and even heart break so don't think you are alone.

Once I dated a guy who decided to dump me the day before a huge exam. I could barely write the test or concentrate, I missed the last page and got a terrible mark. I wanted to throttle him because of his terrible timing. Now, I am so glad that we broke up and we hadn't had children together or been married. Now, I feel happy he broke up with me. He turned out to be a complete loser and his present girlfriend is as miserable as I was when I dated him.

Remember: What goes around comes around. The universe will give people what they deserve. In the meantime, be good to yourself.

## Reader Responses

To the editor:

Kim Dares asks whether petitions are effective tools for change ("Do Facebook Petitions Make a Difference," January 23rd). Dares neglects to ask the prior question whether we should use petitions even if they are effective.

Petitions are instruments of force, not of persuasion. The next time you are tempted to begin or to sign a petition, think instead to write a letter or to pick up the

phone. In your letter or on the phone explain your concern and develop an argument in defence of your position.

What I am urging is for you to put discussion before politics, at least until you're sure the bonehead at the other end responds only to politics.

Mark Mercer  
Department of Philosophy

To the editor,

In Nikki Finke's famous blog, Deadline Hollywood Daily, she admonishes fellow journalist Patrick Goldstein: "Facts are more important than opinion, stop shilling." This is advice which should be followed at all levels of journalism, regardless of whether one is writing for a university paper or the LA Times (Goldstein.)

Professor Mercer's piece "Religion is Like Celine..." does not follow Finke's advice.

The main problem here isn't Mercer's lack of support for his arguments, its the academic snobbery. In his third paragraph Mercer writes: "It's not simply that arguments in favour of God's existence are inconclusive—it's that they don't even get off the ground. (Any introduction to philosophy text will explain why.) To be religious is to hold beliefs in violation of one's best standards of credibility."

The implication here is that anybody with an introductory level knowledge of philosophy will completely discredit any theistic philosophy. This either ignores the fact that there are theistic philosophers currently holding positions

at universities, (Robert Adams – Oxford, Keith DeRose – Yale, Alvin Plantinga – Notre Dame, to name some of the more prominent ones,) or denigrates them as inferior philosophers without even an introductory level understanding of philosophy. If the latter, this attitude also holds inferior the academics in certain non-Western societies where the belief in a higher power is very high and likely to be held by the majority of the philosophers in those societies, if the former, it just ignores them.

I love listening to philosophical debates, but if one takes the position that they are not only right, but better than the other side, the discussion quickly become valueless.

Dr. Mercer would be well advised to take a page from Keith Parson's introduction to the skeptic's journal Philo, and adopt a more respectful (to the other side) and evidence based approach to his arguments, rather than the simple sophistry we saw here.

I look forward to reading your articles in the future Dr. Mercer.

-Jeff Cusack



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BRITTANY HILTON  
President of PAWS

China's fur trade consists mostly of dogs, cats, raccoons and fox. Chances are if you reach into the back of your fur trimmed garment; MADE IN CHINA will likely be the source. China supplies more than half of the fur you see on trims and finished garments in North America, so who's skin are you wearing?

Investigators went into the animal trade industry in China to find what was even horrific for their immune eyes to document. Cats and dogs languishing in tiny cages, their peers being bludgeoned, hung bleeding to death, or stomped on until paralyzed, then hung upside down and skinned alive. Cats have their paws stapled down to prevent them from scratching, thousands and thousands of dogs and cats locked in wired cages, starving and stripped of all life's necessities,

all awaiting their terrible fate. Why aren't they euthanized humanely and then skinned for their fur? (This still would be unethical) The answer is simple, time, money and lack of compassion. Animals that are mass produced and bred for human profit, don't receive the same consideration... but they are all sentient beings, regardless of human thought, whom prefer comfort instead of discomfort, human approval and affection. Unfortunately, the main objective is to paralyze the animal (be it a dog, cat, raccoon or fox) so the skin can be removed as quickly, without any fuss from the animal, and brain damage usually does the trick. Whether the animal dies, is not a concern after the job is completed... as their carcasses are thrown to the side where they are left shuddering, bleeding to death.

It's standard for up to 8,000 animals to be loaded onto each transport truck, to be thrown ten feet down at their destination,

shattering the legs of the frightened animals inside. Collars still seen on these dogs and cats that once upon a time belonged to a family, but the practice of stolen pets sold in the fur trade are more than common in China.

At the moment, Canada's import policy does not contain any specific labeling requirements, other than "textile" written in its description. Considering that China is supposedly soon to be leading in the world, as far as economic development, it is in Canada's best interest to remain on their good side, however as Canadians are we willing to ignore the who, what and how of our fur, all in the name of vanity?

The identical animals, that are considered 'man's best friend' in our homes,



A dog, brutally beat and skinned, for the Chinese animal trade industry

deserve the same rights and consideration across the world, so why is it that instead they are being sold in our stores and hung in our closets?

Skeptical? Real footage can be seen online at <http://www.staticcanada.org>. Consider the power of your money and what you wish to support with it, by taking two minutes to watch this short video.

## National Eating Disorders Awareness Week

THE EATING DISORDER'S ACTION GROUP (HALIFAX).

With the onset of eating disorders occurring between the ages of 14 - 25, according to the National Eating Disorder Information Centre, many of us are likely to know of someone who has an eating disorder. These people may include our friends, sisters, brothers, and colleagues. Eating disorders affect a wide variety of people, from all shapes and sizes, yet recovery is possible. Since it may be difficult to know what to do if you know of

someone struggling with an eating disorder, there are organizations that host a variety of resources and information. In particular, this week is the National Eating Disorders Awareness Week. This week presents a great opportunity to make ourselves more aware of eating disorders, disordered eating, and the ways in which recovery is possible. More specifically, the Eating Disorders Action Group ([www.edag.ca](http://www.edag.ca)) offers great resources and a wide variety of information regarding body image and eating disorders. EDAG is a local

community-based organization that is committed to promoting a healthy body image and supporting those who experience disordered eating. Furthermore, the National Eating Disorder Information Centre ([www.nedic.ca](http://www.nedic.ca)) also has an abundance of helpful information regarding eating disorders and surrounding issues. So, in the spirit of this week, take the opportunity to better inform yourself, celebrate natural sizes, and be good to yourself!

## Montreal Conference Unites University Students and Business Leaders From Across the Country to Promote Global Internships

ADAM HARRIS & TALICIA CORREA

This past New Year's, while other students were partying with their friends and CEO's flocked to the tropics to escape the snow, a select group of young leaders gathered in Montreal for AIESEC Canada's National Congress 2008. Over 350 students from 27 universities across the country attended the five day conference at the Sheraton Laval, 20 minutes from downtown Montreal, between December 30th and January 3rd. Beyond being an ideal networking opportunity, the conference was geared toward training new AIESEC members and featured tracks in leadership

development, accounting, sales training, human resources management, international awareness, and more. This training equips them to run a Global Internship Program in conjunction with 102 other countries and more than 1100 universities around the world.

AIESEC started celebrating its 50th anniversary in Canada at this conference. AIESEC's Global Internship Program gives over 4000 recent graduates a year the opportunity to work abroad, feeding the incessant demand for skilled, internationally aware business people in an increasingly globalized world. AIESEC Canada, despite operating on a volunteer basis on all but the national level, facilitates more

than 250 internships a year.

John Kelly, president of AIESEC Canada, adds: "Not only did this Congress 2008 bring students together, but it also brings business leaders from other provinces, with the ultimate goal to educate and contribute towards the development of responsible leadership in Canadian youth." Corporate partners Bombardier, the Co-operators, Freedom 55, CIDA, and others attended the AIESEC Symposium, a half-day seminar on January 3rd. This both provided the participating businesses with insight into the unique perspectives of generation Y while allowing AIESEC members to explore the various business topics presented.

## AIESEC Is Recruiting

AIESEC Halifax is currently recruiting Saint Mary's University students who are interested in pursuing a global internship opportunity.

AIESEC is a student run organization, which focuses on matching students or Exchange Participants with jobs in over 103 countries around the world.

AIESEC Halifax will be having info sessions on February 5th and 7th about the different internships we offer and the requirements needed to be accepted into the program. AIESEC offers Management Traineeship, Technical Traineeship, Education Traineeship and Development Traineeship.

On February 5th there will be an AIESEC booth in the Loyola

Colonnade where students can come and get a brief introduction of what AIESEC is and the different internship programs available. Students will be given the time and location of the info session for that night and the night of February 7th. Also, on February 4th at 11:00am the Loyola Private Dining Room, Ms. Jessica Decoste who was an AIESEC intern in India will be giving a speech on "How TO Work and Study Abroad."

The AIESEC motto states that "AIESEC is the international platform for young people to discover and develop their potential." "Still interested in taking a global journey? It all begins with a single opportunity."

## Looking for Summer Classes in Biology or Sociology?

ALEX DONG

The Sociology and Biology Departments at Saint Mary's has come together to create a 6-credit hour field course in China.

SOCI 4440 (Selected Studies in Sociological Analysis: Measuring Sustainability in Human Communities), crosslisted with BIOL 4449 (Directed Studies: Community Ecology) will take place in the Qinling Mountains in central China and at Shaanxi Normal University in the historical city of Xi'an.

The 6-credit hour course has no prerequisites, and runs from July 15 to Aug 1. It will examine methods by which the disciplines of biology and sociology describe structure within the communities of living things. Methods used to describe structure include species distribution, abundance models, membership and diversity measures, cluster analysis (for non-human communities), asset

mapping, community capital measurements, and social network analysis (for human communities). The course will take place in a small village in the Qinling Mountains of central China, where students will conduct short term projects. A central theme will be to describe the nature of overlap between community views of the two disciplines, including descriptive language and conceptual models of stability, resilience, and redundancy, with the goal of understanding sustainability of small rural communities within the framework of the broader biological community.

Estimated costs for the course is \$3100 (including airfare, accommodations, travel documentation, and subsistence) plus tuition. For more information, contact Dr. Zhongmin Dong in room S108 in the Science building, or by phone (420-5720), or email ([zhongmin.dong@smu.ca](mailto:zhongmin.dong@smu.ca)).

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The Partnership for Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) will be holding a general meeting on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in Loyola 274. All are welcome to attend.

# NEWS

## Would You Like to Shave Your Head For a Great Cause?



<http://www.makeawishna.ca/>

JESSICA WOODMAN

Jack Walker, from Vancouver Island is visiting Halifax this week to drum up support for his Coast to Coast shave at the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. Mr. Walker is raising money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. On February 14, Mr. Walker will kick off the events at Halifax Shopping Center where he will shave a third of his head at 10am. Then he will fly to Edmonton to shave another third of his head and later that day he will shave his head bald in Nanaimo.

"My employers have no problem that my head is shaved...in fact they completely support me," said Mr. Walker. In order to draw awareness to the event, Mr. Walker has colored his hair bright pink. Mr. Walker has shaved his head three years in a row for this cause,

but this is the first time that he has shaved it from coast to coast.

The St. Valentine's Day Massacre originated in Edmonton Alberta. In 2002, a little girl named Kali suffered her third hair loss due to aggressive rounds of chemotherapy. Her father and his co-workers shaved their heads in support of her situation

on St. Valentine's Day. This began the tradition. In 2007, 465 people shaved their heads in Edmonton and raised an incredible \$400 000!

Make-A-Wish helps a variety of children with life threatening diseases to make their wishes come true. A little boy named Ben was born with an underdeveloped left ventricle and had a heart transplant at the tender age of 2 months. "It felt like he died 100 times," said his mother. At nine, Ben remains fragile and has a suppressed immune system. It is uncertain whether he will require another heart transplant in the future. This year, Ben and his family went on a week long Wish trip to Disney World.

Ensuring that no eligible Canadian child is ever denied their wish come true is a serious challenge for Make-A-Wish. Not doing so

would mean failure in their mission to create hope and happiness for children with life-threatening illnesses. Without the generosity of the many donors and corporate sponsors, Make-A-Wish would not be as strong as they are today.

In 2008, the St. Valentine's Day Hair Massacre will again be a cross-Canada event with various Make-A-Wish chapters across the country. Would you like to get shaved for Make-A-Wish? Send in your picture to Make-A-Wish and they will help you get online sponsors.

The bartenders at the Gorsebrook will be shaving their heads. Saint Mary's is proud to see the altruistic spirit of the Gorsebrook and of our university. Let's hope that all the Saint Mary's students will come down and pledge some money for this cause. If you wish to join up with Make-A-Wish, then head up to SMUSA and ask for a pledge sheet.

Do you want to shave your head? Do it—February 14. Do you have hair that is longer than 7 inches long? You could donate your hair to make wigs for cancer patients. At the very least, make a trip to the Gorsebrook and give the bartenders a pledge and show your support for the children.

## Internet vs Scientology

CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR

"Hello, leaders of Scientology. We are Anonymous." - Message to Scientology

On Jan. 21, 2008, the Internet community known as Anonymous (Anon) declared war on the corporate entity known as the Church of Scientology (CoS). The declaration was made through a Youtube video entitled "Message to Scientology" and is detailed on the Project Chanology wiki found at: [http://www.partyvan.info/index.php/Project\\_Chanology](http://www.partyvan.info/index.php/Project_Chanology).

The declaration of war is a direct result of what Anon considers censorship and misuse of copyright law by the CoS. The Trigger event occurred when a leaked video-interview with Hollywood star and Scientologist Tom Cruise began to be removed from video sharing sites at the demand of the CoS. Members of these same sites are, however, posting copies of this video far faster than they can be removed, so don't worry if you haven't had a chance to view it yet. In consideration of the vast

amount of information available on the criminal activities of the CoS, I will only go so far as to direct you to the Wikipedia entry for L. Ron Hubbard, Scientology's founder, and to Xenu.net, a site dedicated to exposing the CoS as a dangerous fraud. Note that Xenu.net does not purport to present a neutral analysis of the CoS.

Anon is the far more mysterious side in this battle. Henry William Ulrich, a poster to RPG.net under the pseudonym Squid, perfectly characterized the initial reaction in the broader Internet community when he wrote; "This is a bit like a rabid wolverine picking a fight with the Spanish Inquisition. You don't really like the wolverine, or particularly want it to win... On the other hand, you really want the Inquisition to lose." Anon gained its bad reputation in several cases of extreme harassment to private individuals purely for the sake of the perpetrators' amusement. These actions are in stark contrast to the high-minded rhetoric found on the Project Chanology wiki, which goes to the lengths of

making the distinction between the largely innocent believers of Scientology and the "overseers" of the CoS that are their true enemy. The best answer to this paradox lies, I think, in Anon's own comments from the RealTechNews.com article "Web War on Scientology Hits Wrong Target": "Anonymous is a self organizing group with no explicit power structure, it's an emergent property of the chans" (4chan, etc.) "and is based upon the actions of a vast number of people. You do not 'join' Anonymous. If you support the ideals of Anonymous, you are an Anon." Anon is not one group of people. It is an ever-changing faceless mob, composed of the ultimate freedom of each Anon to do as their nature dictates, and beholden to no unifying ideal save for this freedom which the medium of the Internet creates. Truly "the medium is the message."

"Knowledge is free. Anonymous is not your enemy. We do not forgive, we do not forget, we are you. We are everyone. We are legion. You have already joined us" - Anonymous

## New Curriculum in Store for New Biology Students

ALEX DONG

Throughout the past several months, the Biology Department has been hard at work making new curriculum changes for the next academic year. Starting September 2008, science students can do their major in the biology department's new Pre-Health Sciences Track, featuring new courses including "Biology of Human Health", "Human Organ Systems", "Medical Mycology", "Introduction to Pharmacology and Toxicology, and many more. In total, there will 15 new courses, some beginning this coming September and some next.

The new calendar description, soon to be printed, states that the Pre-Health Science Track is for stu-

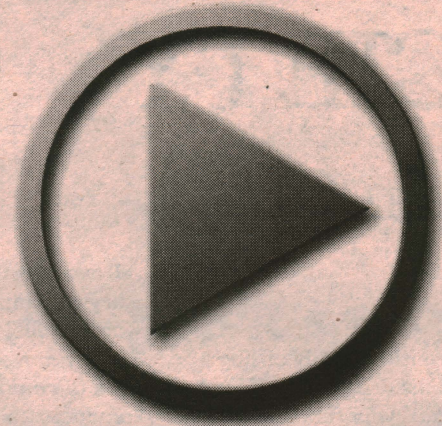
dents interested in pursuing careers in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Optometry, Veterinary Medicine, Chiropractic, Genetic Counselling, Hospital Administration, Medical Technology and Diagnostics, Nursing, Paramedical Services, Physiotherapy, and Podiatry. It provides all of the foundation courses usually required for admission to these programs. The track also accommodates interests in specialty topics such as Anatomy, Cell and Molecular Biology, Generics, Histology, Microbiology, and Physiology.

In addition to these new courses, major requirements for new students have also expanded to include the requirement to take General Chemistry, Organic

Chemistry, and an additional English course at the 2300 level.

When asked what inspired these changes, Dr. Dong from the Biology Department replied that after a recent department review and student survey, the department re-examined the need of the students and the strength of the department, and therefore revised the current curriculum. The new Pre-Health Science, and Ecology and Evolution tracks help facilitate students in picking their choices, and focusing on their strengths and goals.

These requirement changes are only applicable to new students, and students declaring their major after September 2008.



## NEWSFEED



**RECYCLE OLD COMPUTERS AND BUSTED TV'S**  
Starting February 1st depots will be set up across the province to collect unwanted or broken electronics for recycling. The program will be paid for by small fees on the purchase of new electronics.

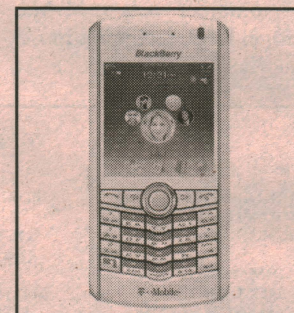


**SATELLITE MAY CRASH INTO EARTH**  
US Government officials released information regarding a US Satellite which has lost power, saying that it may crash into earth within the next month. This would not be the first time a Satellite has hit earth.



**CANADA AND PERU STRIKE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

Canada and Peru have reached a trade agreement that will play a role in securing a wide market for Canadian goods. This agreement ensures Canada will not be dependent solely on the US for trade.

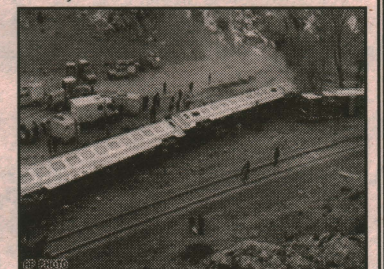


**BLACKBERRY GETS A MAKEOVER**

In an attempt to compete with more mainstream models like the iPhone, BlackBerry is giving it's signature email phone a hip makeover. The new phones will be music & movie capable.

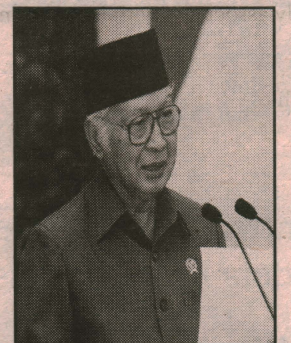
**TRAIN DERAILMENT KILLS 9 IN TURKEY**

Turkish officials are investigating the fifth serious train accident in four years. When two of the trains cars rolled over 9 passengers were killed, another 50 injured.



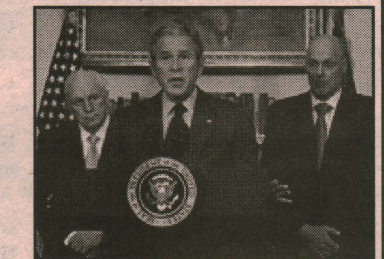
**FORMER INDONESIAN PRESIDENT DIES**

Former President Suharto died at 86 of multiple organ failure. His time as head of state was shrouded with economic controversy and human rights crimes. Public opinion on Suharto's legacy is divided.



**BUSH LOOKING TO PROP UP USA ECONOMY**

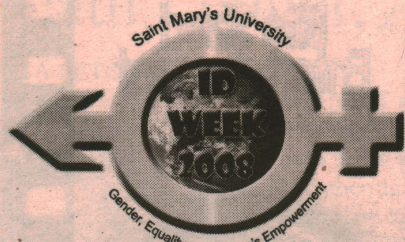
President Bush has called for approximately \$145 Billion (in US dollars) for tax relief and to help aid the floundering economy and fend off recession. The rebates will probably range from \$500-1000.



**HELICOPTER CRASHES INTO L.A. FREEWAY**

A pilot was killed when a small aircraft crashed into a Los Angeles freeway. Debris were scattered several hundred metres. No one else was killed or injured in the crash.





KIM DARES

January 27<sup>th</sup> marked the start of another week of great events and activities centered around Gender, Equality and Women's Empowerment. International Development week runs until February 8<sup>th</sup> this year. This means twelve jam-packed days of presentations, exhibitions and even a Trivia night at the Gorsebrook.

You don't have to be an International Development student, or involved with WUSC to attend these events. They are open to everyone, and offer the chance to learn about international development issues worldwide and Saint Mary's involvement on the world stage. There will also be many opportunities to get involved, and perhaps even find that perfect summer job or internship, make valuable contacts and learn about

## International Development Week Kicks Off

other opportunities both on and off campus.

The central event is International Night, which has been described by everyone who knows anything about it as "the biggest night of the year." Saturday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, it's time to shine those dancing shoes and prepare for a night of great food, a show and a DJ Dance. SMUSA Executive Chris MacDougall will be the MC for the event. It's a wonderful opportunity to dress up, and have a fun, affordable night out with friends, and who knows you might even learn a little.

Tickets are \$20 in advance for SMU Students, this includes a buffet dinner, the show and the dance, certainly not a bad price. The event is open to members of the general public as well with tickets at \$25. It is in your best interest to buy your tickets early as it is sure to sell out.

Other notable events include a presentation by former SMU student Mirwais Nahzat, who is currently working with WUSC in Afghanistan. Mirwais will be making three presentations at SMU about

his experiences in the war torn country, Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2:00 in Sobey 265, Thursday evening 7:00 in Sobey 165 and again Friday February 8<sup>th</sup>, 12-1:30 in McNally Main 208.

There will be a presentation from another former SMU student on work she did with disabled children in Uganda. Shawna O'Hearn graduated from Saint Mary's with a Masters in International Development. Her presentation will discuss the role of health care in remote areas, and also look at cultural implications of this work. This presentation will be Monday February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in Loyola 274.

In addition to presentations there are also many workshops available that students can attend to get a better idea of what opportunities are open to them at Saint Mary's, and on a broader scale. There will be a brown bag lunch presentation, where SAGA students will share a little bit about their culture and their countries with students (Monday Feb 4<sup>th</sup>/Wednesday Feb.

6<sup>th</sup>:12:15-1:30, International Centre 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of SC). There will also be a panel discussion open to students about How to Work and Study Abroad (Monday Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 11-12 Private Dining Room, Loyola). This workshop will help students considering studying abroad or internship opportunities through Saint Mary's the chance to learn more about the application process, and also to hear a few first hand accounts from recently returned students.

There will also be displays in the Loyola Colonnade for students to check out, and fun events like Trivia Night at the Gorsebrook (Friday Feb.8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm) and then a concert by Sierra Leone War Survivor, Saa Andrew Gbongbor.

There is something for everyone and every schedule during International Development week, the full list of events can be found at the International Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Student Centre room 300, and online <http://internationalcentre.smu.ca>.

## The Most Significant Change: Experiencing Development First Hand

ALEXIS KRAIG

Over two decades, Vietnam has made remarkable progress in reducing poverty – from 58% in 1993 to 24% in 2004 – one of the sharpest declines in any developing country. Despite Vietnam's rapid development process, poverty persists in rural areas and is increasingly associated with ethnic minorities. Over 90% of the country's poor households are in rural areas with the majority concentrated in remote mountainous areas. CARE International in Vietnam is working towards addressing the poverty inequality that persists through the Civil Action for Socio-economic Inclusion in Natural Resource Management (CASI) program. The CASI program aims to make sustainable improvements in the livelihood security of disadvantaged and natural resource-dependent people in rural areas who lack access to resources and influence over decisions that affect their lives.

I have spent the past five months working for CARE International in Vietnam as a Project Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for the CASI program. My eight month internship is made possible by the International Youth Internship Program of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Youth Employment Strategy (YES) and is implemented by Saint Mary's University. I studied International Development Studies and Political Science at SMU and this placement with CARE International has not only given me the opportunity to apply the knowledge I learned at SMU but has completely changed my outlook on development and the direction of my professional role in this field.

During my time in Vietnam I have been supporting the CASI program with the monitoring and evaluation of program components. One of my main roles has been organizing the collection and selection of Most Significant Change (MSC) stories for the CASI program. The MSC method is a participatory monitoring and learning tool designed to benefit all stakeholders in the development project. The MSC method gives a picture of the impact of develop-



Former SMU Student works with women in Vietnam

ment work and allows all levels of an organization to learn from each other.

MSC is a very simple tool; beneficiaries of programs are invited to share what they perceive to be a significant change in a designated time period. Beneficiaries are asked two simple questions: Thinking back through the last year, describe the most important or significant change that has happened for better or for worse? and Why is this the most significant change for you? These stories are then collected and shared with various levels of the organization. This helps to facilitate dialogue among all stakeholders about what the project is achieving and what improvements may be needed.

For the past four months I have been in charge of organizing the collection and selection of MSC stories. This entailed making fieldtrips to all the CASI components located in the poor rural provinces of Hoa Binh, Son La, Bac Kan and An Giang. During these fieldtrips the MSC team, consisting of two Vietnamese colleagues and myself, conducted MSC interviews with beneficiaries of the CASI program. Talking and listening to beneficiaries of the CASI program simply amazed me. For them very small change had a huge impact on their livelihoods. For example, a young farmer reported that learning a new farming technique and applying it to his fields will ensure a promising future for his children. A woman was excited to share her experience in participating the Livelihoods and Rights Club (LARC). She told me that

attending LARC club activities has made her more confident in daily activities. She said "for forty years I have used a plough and now I can use a pen."

In total we collected 90 stories from different CASI beneficiaries. All the stories reported different changes; however there was striking similarity between the stories – the smallest changes or activities have made significant impacts on people's lives. Even the smallest activity, such as teaching people to grow peanuts has created change that beneficiaries are able to see in their daily lives.

The MSC in my life this year was being able to listen and see what changes have positively impacted poor rural communities in Vietnam. Being students of development we often focus on the negative. We are taught to critically analyze everything, which is important for creating better change – I have come to realize firsthand how important this analytical process is in creating better projects. However; this process sometimes makes us forget that many projects can have a positive impact. These changes are small and often go unnoticed by many. The problems facing today's world are often daunting, but I find great comfort in knowing that simple things like teaching a group of people how to make a monthly budget, or how to build a chicken coop benefits the whole community. The MSC in people's lives can be something so small but can make their world a bit better.

## Ha Noi through the Eyes of a Haligonian

NAA ODE WILSON

In a quest to increase transparency and accountability in the provision of Official Development Assistance (ODA), developing countries around the world are increasingly utilising aid information management tools that track ODA flows to their economies. In over twenty developing countries, including Pakistan, Maldives, Uzbekistan, Lebanon, Indonesia and Viet Nam, the Development Assistance Database (DAD) is the system of choice. While some countries use the tool to monitor funds for a specific undertaking such as tsunami recovery financial assistance, others like Viet Nam use the system to track all ODA from major donors. In the spring of 2007 I was selected to participate in Saint Mary's University's International Youth Internship Program, which is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The program gives Canadian university and college graduates, like me, the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in international development by working overseas with a partner organization. It was to work with Viet Nam's Development Assistance Database, owned by the Government and supported by the United Nations Development Programme, that I journeyed from Halifax to Ha Noi, Viet Nam to begin what to date has been my most exhilarating work experience.

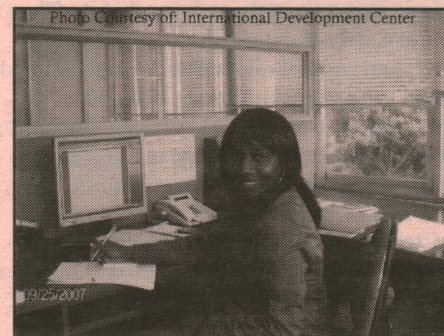
I arrived in Viet Nam, never having visited any Asian country prior to this trip. I knew war time Viet Nam from my history classes, documentaries and discussions that I engaged in. To bring myself up to date, I began to read about and researched a nation that had for so long intrigued and impressed me. Despite my new insights, I made every effort to have as few preconceived notions as possible and it is just as well, as in retrospect, my concepts would have been far from the reality on the ground.

Arriving late at night at Noi Bai International Airport at the beginning of August, the approximately forty-five minute drive into Ha Noi promptly announced to me that I was certainly out of Halifax. There were motorbikes careening in every direction and, since it was extremely dark, it was their screeching

piercing the night air, rather than their sight that I took in. When I arrived at my hotel, which was in the old quarter of Ha Noi, I was taken aback by how hectic the area was, even at so late an hour. Over the next few days, however, my initial feeling of being overwhelmed began to seep away and give way to a budding love of a city bustling with life. Everywhere, people were friendly and very willing to lend a helping hand as I found my way around; I would be invited to sit down and have tea at many junctures.

While I settled into the city, my work with DAD Viet Nam began to pick up. Over the next few months, I would evaluate the database and provide recommendations on ways to improve it, conduct research on aid management tools in other developing countries and suggest ways of incorporating their best practices into our system. I also formed part of the team that produced the Ministry of Planning and Investment's publication on Official Development Assistance to Viet Nam in 2006 and 2007, and attended a conference on the Consultative Group Meeting of the Donor Community and the Government of Viet Nam, among other things. Through these and many other undertakings, I experienced first hand how the United Nations operates, and witnessed some of the politics of dealing with Government institutions. I learned as much from my own experiences, as I did from those of my colleagues.

When I leave Hanoi, I will be taking with me the memories of an intensely active city, punctuated with serene lakes and parks; a culture embracing the new in the wake of globalisation; young and old, eager to learn; a beautiful people, very frank and most welcoming; and an economy intent on making official development assistance work, but on its own terms.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## The Silence After Finnegans Wake Part 2: Fragment on The Living Dictionary, Fluidic Subjectivity, the Collective Unconscious and Biological Memory

JAMES C. O'BRIEN

What James Joyce was revealing about language in *Finnegans Wake* is that language is not fixed, it churns and writhes on the page, an evocation of the living Word. Think of *Wake* as a type of dictionary (because it is a Book of Words), only you don't read it like you would a dictionary (where you would look for literal, fixed meanings) but more like a microscope, where you're scrutinizing a living organism.

When you 'read' *Wake*, at any intersection point, you read the development of language and the formation of words, though Joyce never explains these 'developments', he shows them to you via application- let the words speak for themselves... Form is content, this is literally a Book of Words, in the sense that there is no possible mastery (reading) of the text, no definite or literal understanding of those words other than the bare experience of those words. Consequently, readings of *Wake* become subjective and require a reader-text interaction on par with the I Ching. In fact, the non-linear circular nature of *Wake*'s composition encourages readers to open to a random page and see what the words will 'tell' them today.

Don't underestimate what can be read from *Wake*, philosopher Robert Anton Wilson found the formula for the hydrogen bomb within these words. Again, this is a reinvention of 'reading'- stare into the Abyss, the Abyss stares right back and into when you read *Wake* you're exposed to its subjectivity and engaged in a communication of yourself, your thoughts and how the text appears to you, through you. Joyce did not write the hydrogen bomb into *Wake*, *Wake*/Wilson found it within the 'reading' of the text (as opposed to finding it in the text itself).

This fluid, subjective text is a combination of so many permutations of so many words from so many languages and permutations of languages that it encompasses all languages and has the potential to say anything, therefore says everything. Which leads us to the main problem *Wake* poses

for the speaker and the writer, what is there left to say when someone has said everything? How can a novelist progress from *Wake*? and if there is no progression, are our efforts, the very medium of language rendered obsolete? [...]

*Wake* is a 'holy' book, one that distinguishes itself from other 'holy' texts, not just by its fluid subjectivity but by being a literal transcription of its subject, Words; the textual embodiment of Language for all it is and will be. *Wake* is a synthesis of the words from many different languages- therefore a synthesis of the cultures who spoke them. *Wake* is the collective voice of whoever 'reads' it, the mass unconscious of the race. This is a Jungian notion, that the core of our unconscious is linked with the race, past and present and we all share the memories from the roots of all Culture. This sense that all cultures are linked was furthered by Joseph Campbell and his Archetype-paradigm (Archetypes being the connection points linking all mythologies as one).

Though they were both proponents of the Archetype, Campbell's Archetype suggest a disassembly of culturally distinct mythos/history through the Story while Jung's Archetype acts as sign posts for the collective unconscious, common ground for the billions of babbling mouths swimming in the black waters under each of our subconscious, *Finnegans'* tendrils squirming around in it, sentences of pure Language wrapped around your legs like seaweed.

The synthesis of Language mirrors the stripping of History implicit in the Archetype. However, with regard to the collective unconscious, Language acts as a barrier to the core of human experience, the biological memory evinced and explored in the field of evolutionary psychology. By biological memory I am referring to word-less recollections of the prehistoric race. These biological memories manifest themselves within the irrationally physical and are often labelled as 'instinct'. Think of biological memory to be the racial equivalent of infantile (or even womb) memories. And as conditions for an infant affect the adult, so should conditions for the ape effect

the homo sap.

Introspective regression is an effective way to understand the present, yet with our present physical/psychological state, we are handicapped to empathize with the animal whose word-less memories we fail to feel in the tingling tendrils which are so sensitive to the awful understanding of Oedipus, yet dead to explain the joyful cleavage of cellular mitosis. There really is no telling how far back our biological memories could go, some adults have womb memories, others' earliest memories start at 4. Though what is curious is that such early memories come in flashes, there is definitely a physical-experience with these early memories, similar to the physicality of the instinct, whether it be craving or alarming reflex...

By writing *Wake*, Joyce managed to solidify language and though the book/Language has limitless potential, we now see Language's boundaries. Since *Wake* theoretically contains the semblance of all languages and statements, it theoretically contains all languages and statements- In short, there is nothing left to say, to the despair of writers who feel it their duty to progress the medium, the *Wake* said it first/last. However, with regard to the mass unconscious, if there is a mass of babbling voices in the blackness and a fury of biological memory beneath that, there was a time of Silence. Furthermore, if there 'are' Archetypes, we are not connected by language nor

*Note: when the author presented his strange manuscript to this publication, he was confronted with space problems that would force him to present his thoughts within the framework of 900 word episodes. This proved an insurmountable difficulty for him. His solution was to slash the essay arbitrarily into a series of fragments, creating a strange effect of incompleteness and abruptness and though the author finds this aesthetically pleasing and urges you to enjoy this series as fragments, we urge you to read the essay in its entirety at [www.smujournal.ca](http://www.smujournal.ca) for better comprehension of his criticism.*

## 2008 Preview part 4: SMU Art Gallery

RESSA PETERS

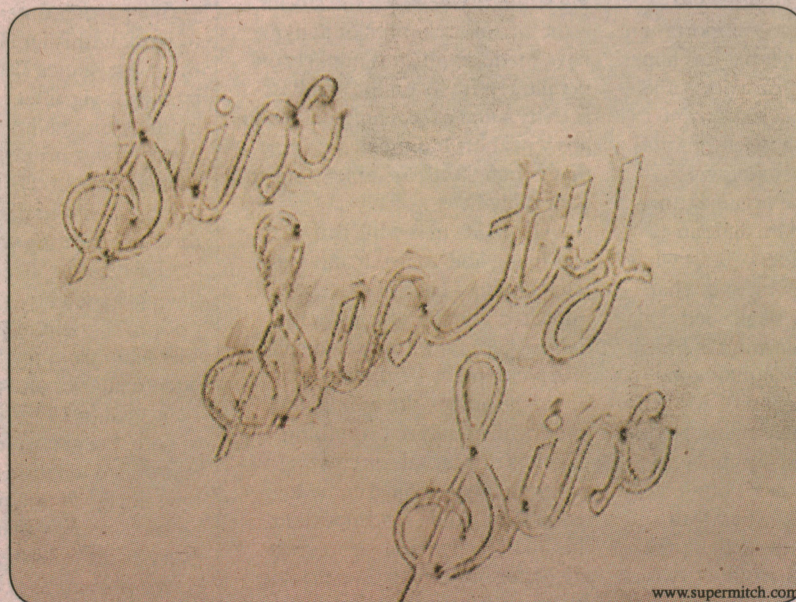
**Kate Wilson:** *Microbial Baroque* (now until March 2nd)

Kate Wilson's designs dominate the room, literally. She plans them on a computer, then projects them and paints them directly on the gallery walls with acrylic paints. The contrast of stark white walls with harsh black images with strong brushstrokes is powerful. She describes them as "dark yet stylish, serious yet wry: hybrids, looming signposts, rickety constructions and flashing beacons." They are organic but not nature scenes. Their curves and bristles seem like something you might find in a swamp or under a microscope.

**Brandon Vickard:** *Bionic Forest* (now until March 2nd)

Stepping into the side gallery of the SMU gallery you will find seven trees that should remind you of Tom Thompson's paintings of Northern Ontario. The trees are made of metal and if you stay long enough you'll begin to see some of them move slightly. They move slowly and not constantly, they stop and then another one starts. Vickard wanted them to "sway and rustle as if propelled by an invisible wind." He likes to use inorganic materials to emulate the organic world and engage the viewer in dialogue.

**Mitch Robertson:** *5,6,7, Economies of Good and Evil.* (March 8th- April 13th)  
Robertson's work aims to "both cel-



Mitch Robertson's 5,6,7 Economies of Good and Evil

brate and condemn the intertwined paths of tourism, globalization and consumerism." He uses a variety of media including photography, drawing, video, sculpture and the internet. His latest exhibition 5,6,7, titled after the great Pixies song "Monkey gone to heaven" focuses on man, the Devil and God.

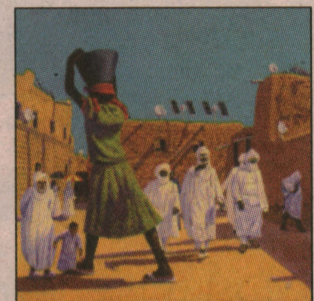
**Janice Kerbel, Adriana Kuiper, Liz Magor, Samuel Roy-Boi:** *BURROW* (April 26- June 8th) *Burrow* focuses on the basic human desire for safety and comfort, for a place to call home. Home can also mean cutting

yourself off from the rest of the world and isolation. These four artists meditate on this irony. Janice Kerbel gives us a floorplan that seems like it was created by an unstable or paranoid mind. Adriana Kuiper designs bomb-shelter like domiciles drawing comparisons between the Cold War and post-9/11 thinking. Liz Magor challenges the idealized notion of the woods and wilderness as a refreshing escape with sculptures such as a sleeping bag in a tree trunk. Samuel Roy-Boi takes a look at urban living and how it affects the minds of those who live there.

### Bite Sized Entertainment



**New Movies out this week:**  
*The Eye*, *Hannah Montana Best of Both Worlds*, *Strange Wilderness*



**New CDs out this week:**  
*The Bedlam in Goliath* by The Mars Volta, *Between the Beautifuls* by Hawksley Workman, *I Stand* by Idina Menzel, *Symphony* by Sarah Brightman, and *Fortress by Protest the Hero*



#### Ellen Page watch!

Our own favourite adorable Halifax native actress has been nominated for a Best Actress Academy Award for her performance in *Juno*. The Awards will be given out February 24th. She's already a winner in our hearts.



**TV Geek's pick of the week:**  
*Lost*, Thursday at 10pm on ABC and CTV

The fourth season premiere is called "the beginning of the end" and the castaways now have contact with Naomi's boat but who is coming for them? Can Desmond get back to tell them Naomi wasn't working for Penny? Also, we've been promised a "heroic Hurley moment."



#### YouTube of the Week

*Lost* in 8 minutes 15 seconds. Wanna start watching *Lost* but feel in over your head? Or need a refresher? Check out this clip with all the need to know info from the series so far.



# Heath Ledger, Acclaimed Actor Dies at 28

RESSA PETERS

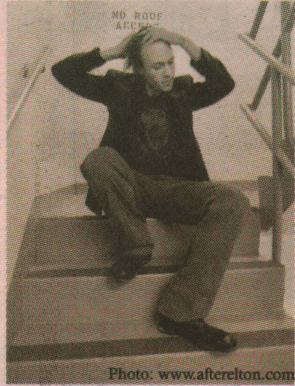


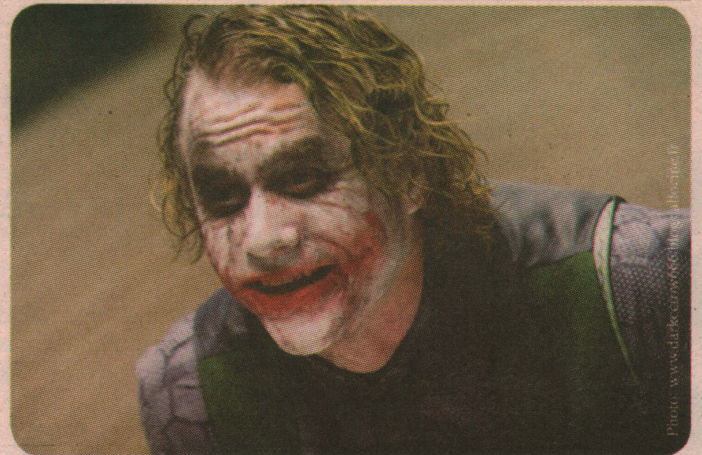
Photo: www.afterelton.com

Heathcliff Andrew Ledger, who was named for a tragic hero in the classic romance "Wuthering Heights", met a tragic fate himself on Tuesday, January 22nd.

The 28 year old actor, whose career was soaring with his recent (and upcoming) roles, was found dead in his New York apartment when his massage therapist entered the room for an appointment. The autopsy report shows that

should start moving on to something else."

In 2005 Ledger starred in what will probably be known as his signature role, Ennis Del Mar in the hugely successful, moving and controversial film *Brokeback Mountain*. Ledger and co-star Jake Gyllenhaal, were universally praised for their fearless roles as two young men who are surprised and frightened to find themselves deeply in love. He made Ennis's confusion, repressed feelings and anger palpable and real to the audience. Both Ledger and Gyllenhaal received heaps of praise and were nominated for Oscars. While many were refreshed and thankful for a portrayal of deep love between two men on screen, the film had many detractors. Following his death, the Westboro Baptist Church (the people who run *GodHatesFags.com* and picketed hate crime



victim Matthew Shepard's funeral) plan to "peacefully" protest Ledger's funeral, attributing his death to his role in the film. It was during the filming of *Brokeback* that Heath began dating his costar Michelle Williams. They were together until late last year. The two had a daughter, Matilda Rose, in 2005.

Ledger had six different kinds of prescription medications for sleeping and anxiety in his system (including Ambien). There have been no illegal drugs found in his possession. The autopsy on January 23rd produced inconclusive results, with the medical examiner stating that it may take about 10 more days to provide answers. His death is tentatively being called an accident, with no strong indications of suicide or foul play.

The Australian gained fame in North America in the late '90's on the short-lived but memorable television series *Roar* as a young Celtic warrior at the time of the Roman Empire in Great Britain. His first North American movie role was in the teen Shakespeare adaptation *10 Things I Hate About You* where he won instant attention. High profile roles in such successful movies as *The Patriot*, *A Knight's Tale* and *The Brothers Grimm* followed with Ledger's performances almost always acclaimed even when the films were not. He strived to play characters that were different from each other and from himself and was never completely satisfied with his own performances; "The day I say 'it's good' is the day I



Photo: www.blogs.guardian.co.uk

Ledger was riding a wave of fame and acclaim at the time of his death. His latest film, *I'm Not There*, had him portraying an incarnation of Bob Dylan. The film was hailed by many critics as one of the best of 2007. Director Todd Haynes compared Ledger to legendary actor James Dean in

having "a real intuition, a maturity beyond their years". His comments were eerily prescient as James Dean died at 25 in a car accident at the height of his fame.

Ledger was in production of the next Terry Gilliam (*Brazil*, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*) film, *The Imaginarium of Dr. Parnassus*, when he died. It has been reported to have been "postponed indefinitely" on Ledger's death.

Ledger's last completed film was the highly-anticipated *Batman Begins* sequel, *The Dark Knight*, in which he played The Joker. In order to prepare for the intensity of the character Ledger lived in a hotel room for a month alone, spent hours screaming to develop what he envisioned to be the correct voice and kept a diary of things the Joker might find funny. He drew inspiration not only from the Joker in comic form (mainly from "The Killing Joke" and "Arkham Asylum") but also Sid Vicious and *A Clockwork Orange's* Alex DeLarge. *Batman: The Animated Series* producer and writer Paul Dini commented "This Joker doesn't split sides ... he splits skulls." The role drained him physically and mentally, he made some off-hand comments about not being able to sleep and taking Ambien to little effect that now seem like warning signs.

Ledger's death is a tragedy all around. The World has lost an incredible talent, a family lost their son and a daughter lost her father. Heath Ledger will be remembered like James Dean as a burgeoning talent that was lost too soon and for his performances that opened and challenged hearts and minds.

## Heath Ledger: Memorable Roles

JOURNAL STAFF

If you are looking for a way to console yourself following the news of Heath Ledger's untimely death, why not grab a box of tissues and settle in for a Heath Marathon. The man was a great actor, and what better way to pay tribute to that than by renting every Heath Ledger DVD at Video Difference.

**10 Things I Hate About You (1999)**  
Heath plays Patrick Verona, a mysterious 'bad boy' trying to win over Julia Stiles's character Kat. It is everything you would expect of a cheesy '90's teen movie. There's a huge house party, prom night, and a little romance, what more could you ask for? Oh yeah, Heath also serenades her. That's a highlight

**The Patriot (2000)**  
In this film about the American Revolution, Heath plays Gabriel Martin, Mel Gibson's headstrong son, who is intent on joining the American fight for independence against his father's wishes. Be warned, this movie is a little graphic at times, but if you don't mind a little blood and guts it is a pretty epic movie.

**A Knight's Tale (2001)**  
Heath stars as Sir William Thatcher in this film about a peasant squire who creates a new identity for himself as a knight. Teamed up with a group of misfits, Thatcher shows the medieval crowd just what a squire can do. After taking the identity of his dead employer

(for only knights of noble birth can joust), Thatcher goes on a series of hilarity filled escapades featuring a nude Paul Bettany on his way to the jousting championship.

**The Four Feathers (2002)**  
Heath plays a cowardly British Officer, Harry Faversham who

In *Lords of Dogtown*, Heath played Skip; cranky anti-hero surf and skateboard shop owner in Venice, California (also known as Dogtown). The movie chronicles the real-life story of the emergence of skateboarding; the life of the Z-Boys. The Z-boys are three surfer

a huge role in the film, he is pretty much the only talent holding the film together.

**The Brothers Grimm (2005)**  
Terry Gilliam is known for making absurd fairy tales like *The Life of Brian*, *Fear and Loathing in*

a torturer and an enchanted wolf. He seems to take the movie more seriously than anyone else (even the audience). The film itself is fairly enjoyable for the first time around, but not so much on the second try.

**Brokeback Mountain (2005)**

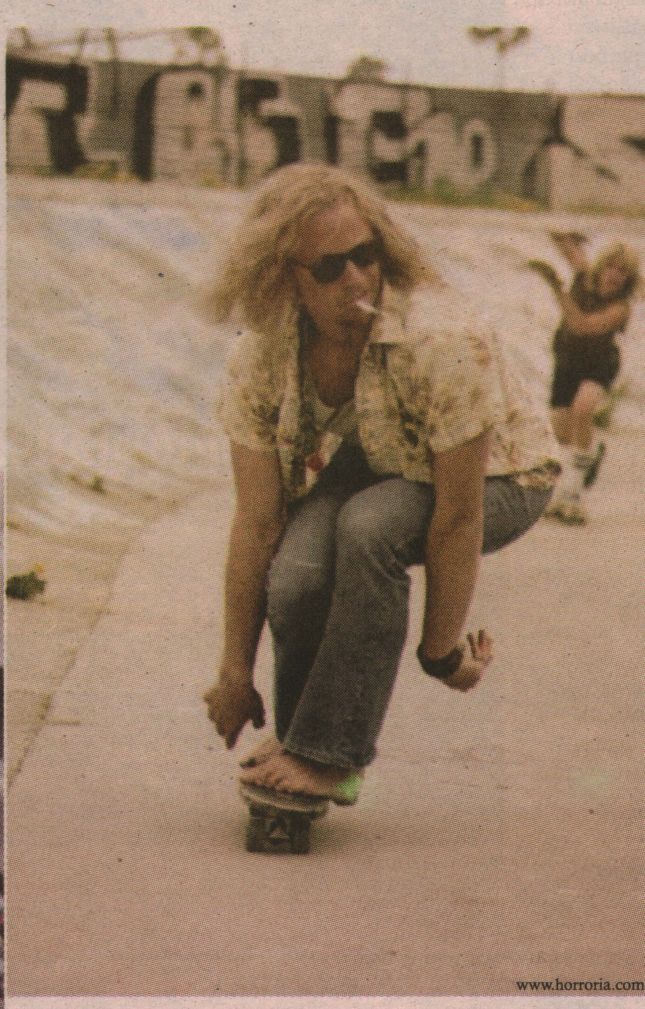
*Brokeback Mountain* will probably go down in film history as Heath's most memorable performance (with the possible competition of the Joker in the upcoming *Dark Knight*, but that remains to be seen). Many famous actors turned down the leading roles that went to Heath and Jake Gyllenhaal, due to the film's scenes of same sex intimacy. Heath was not afraid of taking the role but afraid that he could not do such a complex character justice, but does he ever. Writer Annie Proulx said that Heath



www.hollywoodjesus.com



www.theCIA.au/review



www.horroria.com

resigns his officer commission to stay in England with his fiancé. It is then that he is given four white feathers to symbolize his cowardly act. He eventually decides to redeem himself through combat in Sudan, and learns many lessons along the way.

**Lords of Dogtown (2005)**

friends who decide to take their surf moves to the asphalt under the influence of Skip, owner of the Zephyr skate and surf shop. As the sport of extreme riding spreads into a business, friendships are threatened, only to be held together by store owner gone manager, Skip. Although Heath doesn't have

Las Vegas and *The Adventures of Baron Von Munchausen*. The *Brothers Grimm* tries to measure up but proves to be less magical and more muddled. Still, Heath tries very hard to make a good, semi-serious performance as the skeptical-minded Jake Grimm even when he's almost killed by a witch,

was "exactly" as she had imagined Ennis Del Mar. He inhabits the role completely, making emotions like anger, attraction and confusion known to the audience even when they are not known to Ennis himself.

Book Review:

Fall on Your Knees by Ann-Marie MacDonald

DAWN DAVIS

With today's youth, few are unable to escape questions about their sexuality. A sign of the times, I suppose. Being a teenager is just never easy. While exploring Halifax's own Venus Envy in my youth, the beautiful woman on the cover of *Fall on Your Knees* peered up at me, labeled with a sign that said "Lesbian Love Stories", or something to that effect. Curious, I told myself that I would pick it up one day.

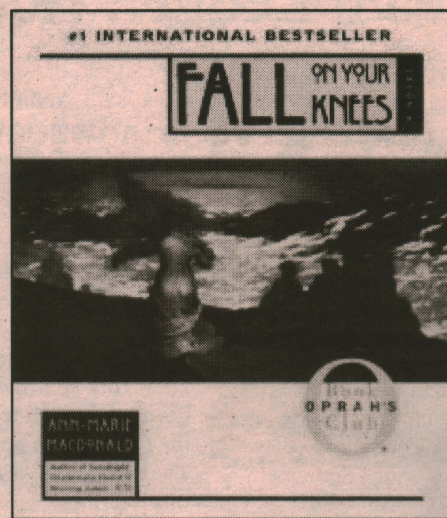
Now that I've read it, I can tell you it is not about lesbians. There is a lesbian love story, that much is for sure, but it is one that weaves in and out of the narrative along with the other stories chronicled in the life story of the Piper family. For Ann-Marie MacDonald, no length is too far. She explores the lives of not only lesbians and cross-dressers, but inter-racial romance, deep secrets, horrible truths, birth, death, murder, World War I and jazz in New York. Ann-Marie MacDonald has brought Cape Breton to the world with the dark, deep voice of much Canadian Fiction. *Fall On Your Knees* has even earned a place as a member of Oprah's Book Club. If you haven't read this book yet, you owe it to yourself as a Canadian to see what all the fuss is about.

The book starts with little Irish/Scottish James, raised in a place in Cape Breton known as Egypt and taught by his mother how to be a proper man. She taught him music and literature to keep him out of the mines. By the time he was sixteen his parents were dead, and he rode a pit pony to Sydney to make money tuning pianos. While tuning a piano at eighteen, he met and fell in love with Lebanese thirteen-year-old, Materia. In days, the two were married. As it turns out, these quickly summarized points draw out and make up who James becomes in adulthood. The novel itself goes on through the life of the family, the stories of James and Materia, and their daughters. Kathleen is the treasured daughter of James, with a voice that one little island could not contain. Mercedes is the devout, maternal catholic who holds down the house. Frances quickly eats up the limelight of the novel, a vicious tomboy and hellion. And finally there is Lily, the one who guides us serenely down the final stretch toward family redemption.

Although the plight

of James Piper waddles between one of sympathy and disgust for the reader, *Fall On Your Knees* is like life. There are dark, deep regrets and facts that we cannot escape. There are hideous accidents that we can't look away from. But of course, our world has beautiful moments, too, which *Fall On Your Knees* treasures in turn. It is a story that could be true, because it feels so true.

And this realness is something that can often intimidate readers. It is something that is frequently explored by Canadian authors. If you're willing to make a severe emotional investment in a book, *Fall On Your Knees* will make an interesting read.



*This could be your rush hour.  
Ça pourrait être votre heure de pointe.*

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**THIS WEEK IN HALIFAX**

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>Get Up! Halifax's Mid-Week Marquee Club Dance Party with DJs Gordski and Nigel Lutes. At the Marquee, 10pm, \$4, Free for students and bar staff.</p> <p>Peter Katz, Mary Grace Koile, Jenn Grant, Sean Kemp, Jon Brooks, Rose Cousins, Dan Ledwell and I see rowboats. At The Italian Cultural Center, 7pm.</p>	<p>Pamela Underwater, Mathew de Zoete, Erin Costelo, and Great Lake Swimmers. At The Italian Cultural Center, 7pm,</p>	<p>Rebekah Higgs, The First Aid Kit, The Rhythm Method and the First Visit. At The Seahorse Tavern, 10pm, \$6</p> <p>The Barmitzvah Brothers with the Just Barelys, Rich Aucoin, and the Wranglers At Gus Pub, 10pm</p>	<p>Groundhog Day Rocktacular with Myles Deck &amp; His Fuzz, Cuban Assassins, The Damsels and Easy Tiger. At Gus's pub, 10pm, \$5</p> <p>Kev Corbett, Mary Grace Koile, Heather Kelday, Laura Merriman, Dusty Keeler, Steven Bowers, The Hupman Brothers, Thom Swift, and Oh Dinah At the Italian Cultural Center, 7pm</p>	<p>Stand and Deliver Standup Comedy, Ginger's Tavern</p>

# FEATURES

## The Walk on Face Snowboard Crew, cont'd

...its about making a whole group ride well, it's not just yourself" suggests Shaun, who also lived and rode in Whistler before returning home to his roots.

"Walk On Face is about having a group of people that you know are gonna be out there and that are your buddies and you get to hang out, hit jumps and do other interesting stuff that you don't usually get to do with other people that aren't as motivated to do it, you know? It's kind of just a collection of like minded people," explains Sam, about how important it can be to have a tight and reliable crew of friends to ride with and keep you motivated. "Out west" he continues, "they have the terrain, they have the snow, and they have the time to shred... we're normal people that like to really f\*\*kin' snowboard and we try to do it as much as we can."

"And try to make it as fun as we can with what we have" add both Shaun and Pat at the same time.

As long as the crew continues to ride hard and push each other they have the dedication to keep on going. An East Coast scene that is probably as strong as it has ever been thanks to an influx of cash prize contests and more solid riding has Justin and the rest of the crew excited.

"The snowboard scene around here was so under the radar," Justin emphasises, "but with a few crews emerging and getting public recognition, [like] Nasty-Nice, Fist Fulla Fives etcetera, the scene is exploding, as seen with the epic contests going down around here. [There was] Boardertech's Hot Shots Rail Jam, Nifty's Urban Butter Showcase; events like these are exposing our scene to the mainstream public."

### Gorsebrook Rails and Midnight Jib Jams

Indeed, Walk on Face is not the

first crew nor will they be the last, but for now they simply are. Preceding Walk On Face and perhaps leaving off where they have picked up was Nasty/Nice, of which Nick and Jason were both a part of with former SMU students and according to Nick, a couple of Cape Breton transplants, John Chew and Stewart Varley.

"Gorsebrook, holla! Those ghetto little grass hill rail jams that were just notorious" as put by Sam, are fondly remembered as local events that promoted a strong sense of community. Everyone

snowboarding on the east coast, so yeah, there's the camaraderie of it all, these are my boys of battle."

With that, laughter breaks out in the kitchen and some of the days most memorable moments from the hill come back up and the midnight fish-box jib jam is discussed. When all the cameras are put away after a day of filming in the Wentworth Park, the silly fun gets started and an old, big ass plastic fish box is pushed and pulled to a specific spot in the back out near the ox barn. With three shovels between the group and the

scene being lit up by the headlights of Shaun's jeep, some start moving piles of snow towards the spot where a jump will go while others prepare the launch spot which is situated on the top of a little hill between a small thicket of trees. A session that lasts a couple hours ensues with a plethora of trickery being thrown at the old fish box. As the time grew later and the progression of tricks got a little sillier, the competitive spirit grew a little stronger with the stakes being that the first to miss a set trick would have to be the one to trudge all the way back to the house and get a round of beer for everybody.

For the boys of Walk On Face, snowboarding is all about the fun times had with all the buds and not about trying to 'make it'. Things wouldn't be the same if it were and so for the rest of this winter snowboarding season or until the start of the spring urban rail season, you can expect to find Sam, Shaun, Justin, Nick, Pat and Jason, along with the rest of the crew which numbers in at 10 or 12 core people out at the hill maintaining the park and shredding Wentworth a new one.



Photo: Rene Deschenes

Sam Rodgers

points out how communal and tight knight the snowboarding community is around here and that anything that happens is the result of various forces coming together.

They all know what it feels like to have all the cards stacked against them but the camaraderie makes it all worthwhile. Sam sums it all up by saying, "I think the struggle is part of the scene, everybody's in the same boat. We all live on the east coast, lots of us have been out west and we know what we're missing, you know, but everybody knows how hard you have to work to do things for

## LET'S GET BAKED WITH MAT AND DAVE

It's the big 100, folks! That's right, Let's Get Baked, which is Halifax's favourite vegan radio baking program has been on the air with 100 different recipes, guests and music filled shows. Today's recipe is a celebratory cup cake delight that we whipped up to share over some memories of the past 100 shows and with guests like Nardwar the human serviette, Mike O'Neil and Grant Lawrence to talk to, we can only imagine what the next 100 will be like!

### Jubilee Cup Cakes

#### Ingredients:

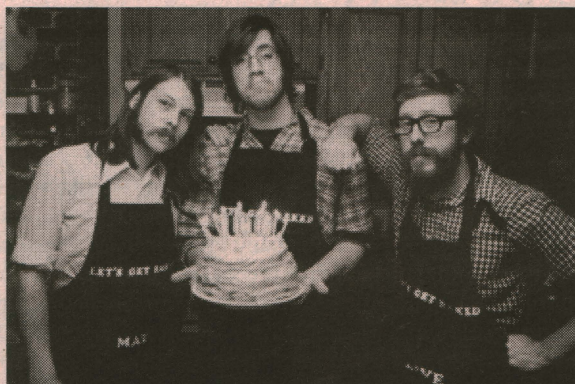
2 cups of flour  
1 cup of cocoa  
1 tbsp baking powder  
1/2 cup of maple syrup  
1 cup of raw sugar  
1/2 cup of oil  
1 1/2 cups of almond milk

#### Icing ingredients:

1 cup of powdered sugar  
1 cup of cashews  
3/4 cup of silken tofu  
1/2 tsp mint flavoring  
1 tbsp corn starch

#### Directions:

Mix dry ingredients together in a large bowl. In another bowl cream the sugar, oil, and maple syrup. Combine the two bowls and stir in the almond milk until it is a nice batter. Be sure not to over mix. Pour them into a greased muffin tin and bake at 250 for 25 minutes. In the meantime blend all of the ingredients for the icing in your food processor. Take the cupcakes out let them cool and ice them up. You could even sprinkle a little coconut on the top.



Let's Get Baked is 100! And Mat, Tom and Dave have a huge cake to prove it.

Check Out SMUtube!  
www.smutube.ca

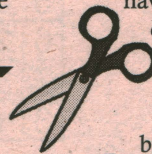
## Art Is Supposed To Make You Think

MARK MERCER  
*The Cranky Professor*

No it isn't. Closer to the mark might be that art is supposed to make you feel. But that isn't right, either. Art isn't supposed to do anything. The idea that art is supposed to do anything is confused. We're each of us free, audience and artist, to do with or in art whatever we like.

Now, art can sometimes be challenging or demanding. That is, a work of art might be strange to us, its genre or construction unfamiliar, its point or meaning obscure. We might have to work hard to find its rhythms and its coherence. We might have to look at it or listen to it in ways new to us, or a work of art might require us to hold in mind images or ideas that are distressing or disturbing—a man being raped, for instance, or racist oppression. A piece of art might be difficult to interpret or to grasp, or it might be unpleasant to consider. Having met the challenge or the demands of the work, though, we might find ourselves moved by it. The hard work could well be worth it.

That is to say, coming to understand a work of art can require a lot of thinking (though that understanding, if it is the same as one's appreciation of the work, is not simply a thought). The thinking, though, is a means to an end, understanding the work. The work of art is not itself valuable in virtue of our having had to think in order to get it. In any case, people who say that art is supposed to make you think probably aren't merely reminding us that sometimes we



have to think hard in order to appreciate a piece of art.

Sometimes a bit of thinking, an argument, is an element within the work itself. Novels and films often contain arguments; even some poems do. Since understanding a piece of art involves understanding the elements of the work and their relations, understanding a piece of art that contains arguments will require whatever thinking is necessary to understand those arguments. But what we prize in those works of art that make us think in this way is not that they

make us think or even, necessarily, the content of the arguments they contain. (The argument contained in or expressed by a work of art might be fallacious.) We prize them for the experiences they provide. We value art for moving us emotionally.


I suspect that what's really behind the slogan "art is supposed to make you think" is the doctrine that in part what makes a work of art good or worthwhile is its making us aware of some social problem. It makes us aware of racism, say, or poverty or war or inequity. Being made aware, we are stimulated to think about the problem, to recognize its ubiquity in contemporary society and the harsh effects it has on people. We recognize that some people's enjoyment is bought at the price of other people's unmerited suffering. In this lies the emotional experience provoked by the work, an experience involving sympathy for or empathy with others. Perhaps we are, thereby, stimulated to do something about the social problem to which the piece refers. "Art is supposed to make you think": one thing to value in a piece of art is its ability to make a person really care.

Some pieces of art do indeed raise people's consciousness, as do some newspaper articles, sociology courses, conversations with friends, and much else besides. Yet quite a lot of art does nothing at all to raise anyone's consciousness, and is no less wonderful for that. Those who speak the slogan "art is supposed to make you think" have a very pinched view of art and its value. Art can be appreciated and enjoyed whether it serves to raise people's consciousnesses and to make them really care or not. A sad fact about Saint Mary's is that we do very little here with regard to educating taste. We do little by way of enabling our students to appreciate and enjoy art. That might be why "art is supposed to make you think" passes for many on our campus as wisdom. Certainly our English department helps students to develop their aesthetic sensibilities and their taste, as does our Classics and Modern Languages department, with its courses in ancient and contemporary cultures. And we are fortunate to have an art gallery. But all that is still too little. Students at Saint Mary's can graduate with a bachelor's degree though their sense of art is no deeper or more refined than it was before they began their studies. That's a pity. Art, whether it makes you think or not, is too wonderful to neglect. No one is properly educated who does not feel at home among works of the imagination.

# THE JOURNAL PRESENTS T&A ASKS...

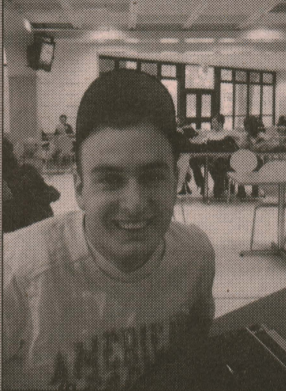
Q & A with Tom & Amanda

“What would you like to see happen with the food services (Aramark) at SMU?”




**RUVIMBO MVUDUDU**  
1ST YEAR PSYCH

“I guess their efficiency could improve. They are pretty slow; you wait in line for like 10 minutes it's depressing when you are hungry.”



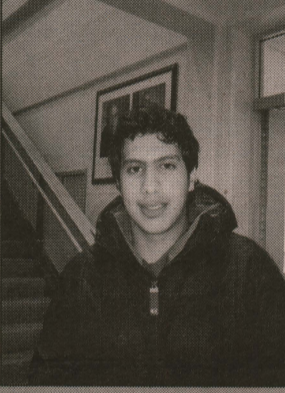
**KEVIN AMENT**  
1ST YEAR SCIENCE

“I don't eat here a lot, but they could definitely have a healthier selection. I'd like to see some locally grown organic foo. That would be good for the surrounding areas too.”




**JANA HENDERSON**  
1ST YEAR ARTS

“I don't eat here a lot, but when I do the choices are pretty limited. Also, the pricing is a little much, considering we are students.”




**MOHANAD ALJUMAIHAH**  
1ST YEAR COMMERCE

“I'd like to see other kinds of food instead of seeing the same thing everyday; a greater variety would be better.”



**MELISSA HAWBOLDT**  
4TH YEAR PSYCH

“There should be more selection and more fresh food. They should also provide options for people with food allergies.”



**JON RYAN**  
1ST YEAR ARTS

“Normally I just have a peanut butter sandwich because it's too expensive. Being a student and living on your own, it's hard to afford it.”

Photos courtesy of Amanda Wenek

## SMUDOKU

	6						3	
4								2
	1		7		5		9	
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			3	1	4			
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6								7
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### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

HOT	OR	NOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Running for SMUSA executive</li> <li>Passing out</li> <li>Dairy products</li> <li>The Sorrys</li> <li>International Night</li> <li>Being prego</li> <li>New England</li> <li>Hogan Knows Best</li> <li>Salt</li> <li>Nicknames</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speculation about who's running</li> <li>Sleeping pills</li> <li>Expiry dates</li> <li>Apologizing</li> <li>International airport customs</li> <li>Giving your baby to your mom</li> <li>New York</li> <li>The Bussey Bunch</li> <li>Slush</li> <li>Pet names</li> </ul>

## G SPOT ♀ Keep Up The Good Work

SS RANDY BLUE

“Randy, I've been noticing lately that while making love to my partner, I'm not staying hard for long enough. The sex is really good but I wish it could last a little longer. I don't think I have ED and I don't really want to take Viagra. Is there anything else I can do to try to keep it up and prolong the passion?” -Lost In My Passion

Hey LIMP; well, if you keep feeling like you're coming home early or finishing the race before getting to the finish line, there are a few things you can try in order to keep the race going long past the finish line. There are also a lot of

things you should *not* do, or at least be hesitant in doing just to try to get a few more precious seconds of passion.

First off, I'll let you in on a few tricks that may prolong your passion but really do not do much to keep you going. There is a lot of marketing out there that is telling you that numbing gels and ribbed condoms will keep you going and put your partner in erotic heaven. These tricks really do not add much duration to your lovemaking and really, they won't last longer than Lindsay Lohan or Britney Spears on their latest trips to rehab. All that a numbing gel will do is create a bit of a tingly feeling on your penis and frankly...if your

penis needs numbing then this isn't the column for you.

Also, as for ribbed condoms and “her pleasure”, there are more than enough speed-bumps on life's highway; we don't need Durex to add in any more. The claim that ribbed condoms actually prolong a sexual experience is debatable; most women I know personally attest that ribbed condoms add nothing to the experience.

If you really want to keep it going a little longer, I would suggest that you invest in a nice cockring. You can get a decent cockring for around 20\$ and there are higher end models that retail for almost 60\$. You can get a cockring that is made of either

metal, plastic, latex, silicone or leather, depending on what you like the feel of and what fits better on your penis. There are also a few that can vibrate, which, if you like a little extra bit of excitement, could be right for you. The premise of the cockring is that it restricts blood flow around the base of your penis and traps a lot of the blood in the shaft and head. This means that you can stay harder for longer periods of time, and when it comes time to finish, your release will be much more passionate and pleasurable as it has been built up over a longer period of time. It may take some time to get used to wearing a cockring but trust me, it'll be worth it in the long run.

A bit of advice: remember to put the cockring on *before* you start to get frisky; once you get hard it can become a lot harder, no pun intended, to get the cockring on.

If you find that you still can't keep it up, or just have problems getting it up in the first place then you may have to suck it up and go see a doctor. Although Viagra might not be what you want in your life, it's better than hanging around doing nothing.

Until next week, keep it safe, keep it wrapped and if you have any questions then send them in to [SMU.Gspot@gmail.com](mailto:SMU.Gspot@gmail.com)

# BUSINESS

## Engaging and Entertaining: The Brad LeBlanc Story

LAURA MACINTOSH

At first glance Brad LeBlanc seemed like a typical frosh this past September. As Orientation Coordinator, I've had plenty of interaction with many of SMU's new faces, but didn't imagine that a few short months later I would be writing a feature article on one of them.

Brad LeBlanc is no typical freshman student at the Sobey School of Business. He is involved in multiple societies on campus; including ACE, the Accounting, Marketing and Commerce societies; plus he owns his own business. Not only is he making waves as one of the most involved SMU students, Brad is also making noise in the Atlantic Business Community. Accolades are nothing new to this 18-year old entrepreneur, but recently Brad was pleasantly surprised to be the youngest named to the Leaders of Tomorrow list by the Atlantic Business Magazine. "It is a great honour and a big surprise to be named a Leader of Tomorrow by Atlantic Business Magazine," LeBlanc said of the announcement.

According to the magazine, this "serial entrepreneur" will be set to make his first million by his 30th birthday. With clients such as Fairmont Hotels, Heritage Management and Sobey's it wouldn't be surprising to see that prediction come true. Unlike most students who enter the work force to pay off student debt, or to save enough for that cool entertainment system; Brad has been working the business world since the tender age of 10; as President and CEO of his own company. Engaging Entertainment is the brain child of Brad

(who was then a child); a company designed to give its customers quality service and great satisfaction.

After working at a fast food restaurant, Brad realized the world of food service just wasn't designed for him. At 10 years old, he left that job and decided to combine the most prominent passions in his life, entertainment and money. I'm not sure what I was doing at age 10, but I'm pretty sure my idea of entertainment was a Planet Pop cd and my passions were cats and annoying my older brother. I guess some people are just destined to become entrepreneurs, while the rest of us still find enjoyment in annoying siblings.

It all started with a karaoke machine and a lot of rejections. After plenty of determination and hard work, Engaging Entertainment became a supplier of entertainment services across Atlantic Canada. With a dedicated staff and over 600 events under his belt, Brad's company is thriving; and growing. Now offering entertainment services and solutions including DJ services, karaoke, consulting, as well as event and project management; Engaging Entertainment is certainly a business worth a 10-year olds time. Mr. LeBlanc had this to say on Engaging Entertainment, "We are dedicated to exceeding expectations and promoting professionalism in the entertainment industry".

Brad is also the Vice President of the ACE (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) SMU society, an unusual position for a freshman student. As if running a business and being on several societies isn't enough to balance with academic studies, Brad took on the Project Manager role for ACE's annual

"What's The Big Idea?" competition. The competition, which highlights the creative business flare of SMU students, is designed to bring out the entrepreneur in everyone, with a chance to win some serious cash. Between best concept, most innovative technology and best 'business pitch' among other categories, thousands of dollars will be dished out to SMU students through this year's competition.

Balancing all this would be tough for anyone, especially when you're trying to double major in managing and marketing. Although university is a more in-depth educational institute than high school, and can be a whole lot tougher on time management and the mental work-out; Brad says it's easier to balance his business now that he has more freedom over his schedule. "The biggest benefit of university of course is the flexibility to choose your own schedule. I do my best to leave the early part of the day open for business and spend the latter in classes and on academic work."

But how does one work the delicate line between business and academics? "It is always a challenge balancing (academics and business). Being an entrepreneur is not a 9-5 job; it takes constant dedication and hard work. When you choose to be an entrepreneur you have to be a very effective time manager," Brad suggests. When asked for advice on how to run a successful business, Brad had this to say, "It's all about being the best at what you do and making your customers ecstatic."

There are plenty of student entrepreneurs enrolled at Saint Mary's University, both current



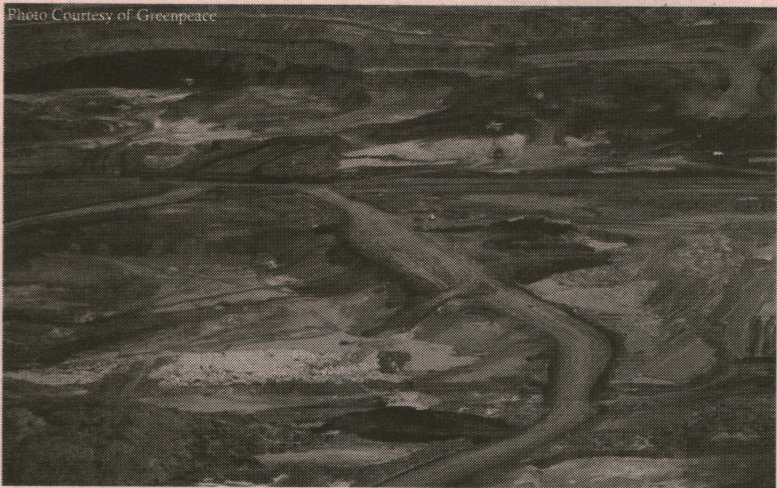
Brad LeBlanc

and aspiring SBO's (student business owners). Although there are places on campus designed to help ease the transition from having an idea to operating a business (such as the SMUBDC and the Self-Employment Centre), I figured the best advice might come from someone who's done it himself. This is Brad's best piece of advice for aspiring entrepreneurs; "There are many things to keep in mind when you go into business for yourself.

One important thing to remember is that persistence is so important. 100 people will tell you no but that means nothing compared to the yes on that 101st try. It's easy to get discouraged but if you rise to all of the challenges you face you will be successful. It is also important to create opportunity not wait for it. Think outside the box and get all of the attention you can."

## A Shift in the Sands of Energy

Photo Courtesy of Greenpeace



LAURA MACINTOSH

April 9th, 2003; just another day to most people, but to Alberta's former Energy Minister Murray Smith and others of the then government it's a day just as memorable as Paul Henderson's miracle goal or the Boston Red Socks taking the Series. What's the big moment of April 9th? It was a letter from then U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abra-

ham which stated two simple words; no more. It was about time someone recognized the immense potential of Alberta's stickiest resource, and no, I'm not talking maple syrup. Oil sands, an energy resource that is larger than any except that of the Middle East, right here in our back yard. Oil sands that could provide years of energy and economic growth were just waiting to be tapped. Alberta's Fort McMurray was finally getting recognition for the mass of gasoline, diesel and heating fuel that lay at the feet of citizens, entangled in mud and sand.

Mr. Smith knew the promise that letter

held; an endorsement from the world superpower and the most energy hungry nation on the planet. With the imminent war on terror and rising crude oil prices, U.S. media stumbled to be the first to air promise of a new energy source, one close to home that didn't involve 'tainted' economics. Alberta became an 'overnight' sensation as soon as word came down from the U.S. government that when they spoke of oil, they would be including the oil sands of the north. Of course Canadians have been boasting of Alberta's potential for decades. Mr. Smith cleverly puts it this way, "it only took 40 years to become an overnight success," of the provinces energy resource.

If all proposed projects get the green light; Alberta's oil production is set to quadruple by 2020, pumping out more than four million barrels a day. Almost every major player in the oil game this side of the Prime Meridian has a stake in Alberta's action, with nearly \$90 billion in investments. The Alberta Oil Project promises to become the single biggest industrial project on earth, and as Prime Minister Stephen Harper puts it, will make Canada an "energy superpower," especially when combined with the natural

gas exports of the east.

If you think oil prices are high now, experts suggest that without the crude pumped out of Alberta, prices would skyrocket to an unimaginable \$130 a barrel, as opposed to the \$90-100 oil trades at presently.

But what effect will all this have? The wear and tear of an economic boom is already beginning to show in Canada. You can't walk into an employment office or a job fair without seeing advertisements to go to Alberta and make big bucks. While this is great to attract workers to the province, the area around Fort McMurray is becoming known for being a stopover for its inhabitants; individuals go to work, not stay to live. The influx of workers has also led to a drastic increase in housing costs, forcing many Albertans to move out of the major areas. Add to that the soaring Canadian dollar; which is flying so high thanks to the oil game; is leaving in its wake a devastated manufacturing and forest industry.

Oh, and don't forget the environmental concerns. Drudging up oil on the earth's surface isn't that great for the whole greenhouse effect and that hole up in the ozone.

THE JOURNAL IS LOOKING FOR WRITERS AND PROOFREADERS!!

If you have the desire to report on groundbreaking SMU and community news, or help out with proofreading, then come to the 5th floor of the SUB on Mondays, or email submissions to [thesmujournal@gmail.com](mailto:thesmujournal@gmail.com)

## Canada: The Land of the Free... Trade That is



Canadian and Peruvian ministers at World Economic Forum

LAURA MACINTOSH

Great news EBay buyers! If you can find a seller who'll ship from Chile, Peru, Iceland, Switzerland, Norway or even Liechtenstein; you'll no longer have to pay those terribly outlandish tariff charges (at least on most items). Deals were signed at the World Economic Forum over the weekend which allow free trade to Peru, and which

fears of the US economy's potential breakdown.

While numbers from last year are still being tabulated; the 2006 figure for two-way trade between Peru and Canada amounted to \$2.4 billion. The biggest benefits for average Canadians concerning this trade agreement will come from the Peruvian exports of wheat and barley, boneless meat cuts and paper products. Machin-

finished negotiating the trade agreements with the other countries.

International Trade Minister David Emerson and the Harper government are looking to expand the market access for Canadian goods and services following

ery and equipment for some sectors, especially mining and energy, will be greatly affected as well.

The Mining Association of Canada has issued a very positive response to the new agreement, with association president Gordon Peeling stating the following; "A free trade agreement between Canada and Peru will be very positive for both our countries." Canada invested about \$2.9 billion in Peru's mining sector in 2006 alone, according to the Harper government. According to Mr. Peeling, the deal will not only strengthen economic ties but "further position Peru as a positive destination for investment by Canadian mining companies in resource development."

The deal, which will see Peru eliminate 94% of tariffs on Canadian exports immediately; stands to be very favourable from the economic standpoint. At the Forum, Emerson had this to say; "Peru has emerged as one of the most dynamic economies in the

Americas, supported by an aggressive commerce agenda and clear stance in favour of trade liberalization."

The agreement that wrapped up between Canada and the countries of the European Free Trade Association – Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland; is the first such agreement Canada has formed with European counterparts. According to Emerson the agreement, "will open up opportunities by bringing down trade barriers and by providing Canadian business a foothold in the heart of Europe." EFTA is our countries 8th largest merchandise export target, stacking huge numbers from 2006. The two-way merchandise trade from 2006 is valued at \$10.7 billion, with investments topping \$22 billion between the two countries.

Tariffs will be eliminated on non-agricultural sectors including aluminium, cosmetics, prefabricated buildings, coldwater shrimp and apparel products; as well as

lowered on some agricultural products such as durum wheat, frozen French fries, beer and crude canola oil. Industrial goods, fish and other marine products will also have taxes cut or eliminated. With deals already signed with the United States and Mexico, Chile, Israel and Costa Rica, Canada is becoming a free trade market dream.

But consumer beware; even though prices may come down on some of your favourite foods (that you didn't even know were made with Peruvian products), the investment opportunities for Canadian businesses may lead to job losses thanks to the over market trading. If parts and labour are cheaper elsewhere now that tariff charges don't apply, many Canadian businesses will export their workloads, as has recently been done with the country's automotive industry.

## ACE Presents: Trumped!

ANDREW PARLEE

Are you competitive? Do you like money? Have you ever watched "The apprentice?" If you answered yes to any of the above then the following competition is for you.

The 2008 "Trumped" competition is back with a vengeance. A.C.E SMU (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) has teamed up with local marketing firm EQ Media ([www.eqmedia.ca](http://www.eqmedia.ca)) to bring this competition to the next level. To spice things up this year we invited our arch rivals from down the block to compete. Teams of 4-5 students from SMU will compete in three exhilarating tasks against

teams from DAL. The last team standing will take home the cake. ACE SMU is proud to announce that this year's competition has already accumulated \$4000 in sponsorship funds to be used as prizes for the competing teams. However, the registration deadline is Jan 31st so don't hesitate or you will miss out on this amazing competition. Register online @ [www.eqmedia.ca/trumped](http://www.eqmedia.ca/trumped)

For those of you who don't know, ACE SMU's Trumped Competition is a spin off from the hit TV series The Apprentice. The 2008 Trumped Competition will provide real world experience to students which will look excellent

on their resume while also building their networks. This competition creates an atmosphere for entrepreneurial-minded university students looking to obtain real world experience while encouraging team work, creativity, and leadership to help prepare for the challenges of a global marketplace.

Participating teams will be assigned detailed tasks and will be judged on their performance. Each round teams will be eliminated until ONE team is left standing.

Do you have what it takes to be that team? Register @ [www.eqmedia.ca/trumped](http://www.eqmedia.ca/trumped) before Jan 31st.

## The Facebook Dilemma: Making Business Personal

JACQUELINE ANTWORTH

We are the IT generation. Information Technology has stormed through society, reshaping our culture, values, and even our vocabulary. It has allowed us, as a society, to advance in terms of invention and healthcare; it has improved our way of life and increased our ability to communicate with people around the world. With this IT revolution comes Facebook. Facebook is an online communication tool which allows you to add "Friends" to your list of contacts. Each Friend has a profile that describes their interests, displays personal photos, and shows messages other Friends have wrote on their wall; you can message these Friends or invite them to join groups or attend events. The key benefit of Facebook is that you can "creep" on crushes, old acquaintances, and enemies, getting a sneak peek into their lives. This, in turn, satisfies our inherent curiosity of others, our societal attraction to gossip and inside information, and our need to procrastinate. However, before joining Facebook, many are warned of its highly addictive nature – I have seen people become consumed by Facebook, obsessively searching through their Friends list to creep on complete strangers and basically just waste time. In this way, Facebook destroys lives and these individuals found that the only way to cope with their Facebook OCD was

to delete it from their lives. But a life without Facebook is empty and meaningless; it's like trying to remember how you existed before MSN, cell phones, and hair straighteners. These people finally rejoined Facebook, this time with a more controlled outlook and a smaller Friends list.

One of the more recent issues concerning Facebook is that prospective employers have been Googling job applicants and finding their Facebook profiles online. These profiles, in some instances, depict photos of the applicant drinking/drunken, racy or offensive quotes, and provocative wall banter with other Facebook Friends – all characteristics that the applicant did not demonstrate during their interview, probably because these activities and conversations are inappropriate for the workplace. Employers don't like what they see on these profiles and refrain from hiring the individual. In some cases, employees are fired from their jobs because of their candid profiles.

It can be agreed that the IT revolution has, for the most part, improved society and our way of life. It has also given us access to more information than ever before, but there is the quality issue – not all information that you read on the Internet is relevant or accurate. Google, the most popular search engine, provides us with links to several websites simply by typing key words into

a search bar. Many people have taken up the habit of Googling their own names or names of acquaintances to see what pops up. We like to think that the information we discover by Googling people puts us a step ahead of our prospective business contacts, enemies, and first dates, but is this strategy actually helpful?

For an employer to Google a potential employee and make judgments about that individual based on their Facebook profile is legal but is it ethical? Currently, there are no laws against Googling individuals in order to make hiring decisions and really, the whole concept seems rather absurd; how can you restrict someone's web surfing? But, it is illegal to

make hiring decisions based on a potential employee's religious or political views, their ethnicity or sexual orientation, or even their hobbies, which, coincidentally, is exactly what a Facebook profile highlights.

Furthermore, being fired (or not hired) because you have photos of drunk-you on the Internet is an unfounded decision. Being reprimanded because your profile depicts offensive Jack Handy jokes or the fact that you belong to the "That's What She Said" group is unfair. As long as the individual in question is professional in the workplace, their personal lives should not affect their future with an organization.

Facebook was not meant to be

used by upper-level management as a hiring deterrent. In fact, that very use goes against everything Facebook stands for: Facebook is meant to be an online tool that allows people to creep or spy on acquaintances and strangers without their ever knowing you were judging them; it was created to prolong procrastination, not make important HR decisions; it was founded on the basis that we all do stupid things and posting the photographic proof online merely brings us closer together, rather than segregating professionals from real people.



### SUMMER CAMP JOB IN THE US

CAMP TOWANDA, a coed residential summer camp in Pennsylvania has openings for counselors, coaches and instructors 8/21-8/16. Applicants 19+ earn excellent salary, room, board, travel allowance and J-1 visa reimbursement. Information meeting at SMU Thursday, February 7th at 7:00 PM in LOYOLA Room 176.

Interviewing Friday February 8th from 10-3 at Summer Employment Fair at DAL

Visit [www.camptowanda.com](http://www.camptowanda.com) Staff Experience for application. Other questions??? email [staff@camptowanda.com](mailto:staff@camptowanda.com) or call 800 923-2267.

## SPORTS

## Huskies Sink X-Men Second Time for Play-Off Berth



Jason MacDonald

## ROBBIE NAUFFTS

After a tough 6-5 win over St. FX Wednesday night SMU returned to home ice for another sixty minute battle. Penalties ravaged both teams as an over eager referee would try to keep tabs on the high-intensity game.

During their first power-play of the game, the X-Men rushed the SMU net and rattle a shot off of the post. Sending the puck back to the defensemen, the X cycled the puck for a quick second before Will Colbert would rifle a shot on goal only to be gloved down by Cory Chipman. Fired-up with the big save the Huskies rushed to the opposing end and tested Ryan Aschaber with two quick shots. During the power-play advantage Scott Hotham received a pass from Cody Thornton and find the back of the net to open up the scoring for the Pack. SMU found themselves on the penalty kill again as they iced the puck and beat out the two minutes sending the puck down the ice.

The game became more intense as Chipman would rob St. FX's Jeremy Akeson by extending the pads. While Chipman cleared the puck seconds later Ryan Desrosiers skated behind the net to trip him and received an interference penalty. Scott Hotham opened up the SMU power-play with a slap-shot from the blue line that rebound twice before Marc Rancourt stuffed the puck into the net. Up by two goals, SMU rushed in again with Kyle Doucet firing a centered pass on goal. Andrew Hotham broke clear for a shot on goal that would go wide with Ryan Rorabeck racing in on a breakaway that would go wide seconds later. Kyle Doucet was pulled down at center ice with no penalty being called and returned the favor on the X. The ref spotted him and send him to the sin-bin for two. Just as his penalty ended, Sean Flinn took a run at a SMU player against the boards. Not liking the check, Dan Rudisuela hammered Flinn onto the ice in front of the St. FX bench. Both players would be penalized. The game started to get ugly afterwards as hit after hit was delivered on the ice from both teams.

The second period started off with both teams trying to stay clear of the penalty box and a cleaner game. Facing off to the right of the X goal, SMU won the face-off and

passed the puck back to Rancourt for a huge slap-shot that whistled over the crossbar. Not letting the pressure off, Doucet passed along the ice to Rudisuela for a one-timer on net. The X tried to rush up the right side of the rink as Ryan Bowness intercepted a pass and broke clear for a break-away shot that was stopped with a butterfly save. Feeling the pressure, the X-Men recieved another interference call, putting SMU back on the power-play. Cam Fergus skated past several blue jerseys before flicking a shot on goal. Scott Hotham fired a rebound on net before Aschaber finally covered the loose puck.

During one of the most confusing plays of the game, SMU put the puck past the goalie with the red light going off. But the puck bounced out of the net and the X-Men cleared the puck out of their zone. Seconds later SMU fired the puck in a second time. Booming from the crowd, along with some other comments flew at the referee before he credited the first goal to Marc Rancourt, assisted by Thornton and Fergus. With SMU up by three SMU's Munden started the physical play back up with a hard body check on St. FX's Jim Kehoe and putting him on the ice. Colin Power tried to put a tumbling puck in the X goal that reached the red-line before a blue arm barely covered the puck. Bowness tested the X goalie again with a hard slap-shot from the side of the net.

The X-men started trying to push the Huskies out of their zone after a power-play that gave them the momentum to fire a wrist shot past Chipman. Chipman would redeem himself as he stopped four hard shots on net before St. FX scored only seven seconds into a power-play.

The third started off with Munden centering a pass to Doucet that was stopped on its way to the mesh. SMU's Rudisuela received a four minute major penalty for spearing a blue jersey. The X-Men held the Huskies in their own end during the first part of the power-play. Munden then intercept a pass and raced in on the break-away taking a hard shot that stayed low on the ice. Aschaber stuck out a pad to deflect the puck into the corner. Power worked hard to keep the X-men from setting up a shot on goal as the penalty ran out with only three shots on goal for the visiting team.

As the Pack put the fifth man

back on the ice Chipman stopped a rebound down low and was slashed by Robbie Lawrence of the X-Men. The puck was cleared and play moved forward but SMU's Morrison had something to say about the slash before shoving his glove into Lawrence's face several times. Just as Lawrence returned a shove the Referee would turn to catch it and put his hand up to signal the delayed call. Frustrated, Ryan McKay cross-checked a SMU player from behind that put him into the boards. McKay was lucky with just the cross-checking call, which could have easily been a five minute major and a suspension.

Andrew Hotham fired

a quick shot that would travel over the glass for the first shot on net during the two man advantage. Scott Hotham caught St. FX's Sean Flinn with a body check along the blue line and sent him sprawling to the ice. SMU's Munden hammered Will Colbert with a body check and another quick shoulder seconds later. Doucet fired

up the crowd by throwing the biggest and hardest check of the game as he slammed Desrosiers against the glass in the X-Men zone. However St. FX caught SMU short and had a three man rush on net that Chipman stop-dead with a pad save. The hits continued as Gregory Hoffe stepped into a blue-clad player and sent him into the boards. Barbour passed the puck to Carberry and he found McBride waiting in front for SMU's forth goal. Still hungry for another goal, SMU crashed the net and a very agitated X goalie threw a blocker in a SMU face.

SMU found the net again in the third as Doucet would receive a pass from behind the net by Munden for the two goal lead. SMU scored short handed as Doucet picked up a pass and rifled it past the net-minder. With five seconds left in the game, a scuffle broke out in front of the SMU goal as both

teams traded shoves and punches before the linesmen could break up the feuding players. With a 6-2 finish SMU has clenched a play-off berth and is now starting to look forward to the play-offs.

When asked if the big win was a sign of things to come in the play-off run, Marc Rancourt replied "Hopefully we can keep our run going right now and obviously everyone is chasing UNB and they keep winning so its hard to catch up to them. But second place is huge right now and we're keeping our eye on it."

SMU will play Friday and Saturday night on home ice against STU and PEI at the Alumni Arena.



Jason MacDonald

They could solve nature's biggest mystery if they only had a clue.

**STRANGE WILDERNESS**

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**IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FEBRUARY 1**

## St FX Defeats SMU Women 6-0

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

Don't let the score fool you into thinking the women's team didn't play a great game. SMU opened and ended strong but was plagued by questionable penalties all game.

After the puck dropped, SMU charged into the X zone with two quick shots on goal before the puck was cleared. The X-Women took the first penalty after tripping a Huskies' player right onto the feet of the ref. Kori Cheverie put pressure on the X right away as she and Courtney Schriver rushed the net with a fast one-timer. SMU was then caught on a bad line change as St. FX intercepted a long pass and fired a slap-shot on Jill MacIssac. MacIssac put the glove out and shut down the scoring chance. Melissa Young skated past two X-Women as she replied with a wrist shot on the net.



St FX uses brute force to take the Huskies down

St. FX quickly laid claim to the center-lane of the ice and kept forcing SMU to use the outside with white jerseys there to shut down rushes several times before Cheverie broke clear for another shot on net. Crystal Stewart kicked

out a pad and sent the rebound into the corner. Kyla Thurston received the first SMU penalty as she cross-checked a player down on the blue line. St. FX played a lazy power-play with only one shot on goal as Christina Davis attempted a slap-shot from the blue line.

Jocelyn Campbell back checked in time to strip an X forward from the puck and MacIssac covered the loose puck. With several St. FX players digging after the whistle, the SMU defense physically moved them out of the crease as a shoving match started. Within the minute, Anna Barrett of the X took a run at a SMU player and smashed her into the boards for a two minute penalty. Cheverie rushed in with the puck with a last minute pass across to Thurston whose shot hit the X goalie in the chest. Cheverie put another shot on goal from the key as the power-play wound down

and St. FX cleared the puck. During a St. FX two-man rush Sharon Kelly made a smart move and kept the second player tied up, stopping the play. A bad turn-over kept MacIssac on guard as she used her blocker to send a puck into the

corner.

A dangerous check ended the next play as the whistle blew and Cheverie was cross-checked onto the ice after putting a shot on net. SMU had two more chances on net as the period ended. No score.

The second period started abruptly for SMU as St. FX scored only 15 seconds in. SMU found it difficult to clear the puck as overwhelming pressure kept them pinned down. Another harsh cross-check



Husky player takes on defenceman and goalie

put Courtney Schriver on the ice and put Ferguson in the box, giving SMU their first power-play of the period. This is the point where hockey wasn't being played by St. FX, instead body-check after body-check was being put on SMU players with no penalties. Finally, after a hit that the ref couldn't miss, Lindsay Brown

was sent to the box for interference, giving SMU another chance on the power-play. The chance ended fast as it started as Sharon Kelly received a two-minutes for body-checking and it was 4-on-4 for a few seconds before SMU was

called yet again. But great puck handling and team play by SMU denied St. FX any serious shots on goal as the period wound down.

Zoe Launcelott was caught with her head down as she was body-checked into the boards with no call. The referee stood idly by as the X-Women delivered three more body-checks. The intensity rose quickly as a shoving match started in front of the SMU goal. St. FX took a roughing call as Campbell started cross-checking McCusker. McCusker turned to face her and received a punch in the helmet as Marilyn Hay reached around the linesman. SMU went on the power-play to end the period.

SMU started to take over the center lane of the ice as they rushed the St. FX zone and put two hard shots on net. Cheverie was part of setting up three shots on net as the X-Women started trying to physically move the put out of their end. Several trips and hooks went un-noticed again as St. FX beat SMU back out of the offensive zone. The most frustrating moment of the game was watching Jocelyn Campbell racing back with the play to intercept a pass made before being obviously

pulled down with a trip in front of the referee. As the crowd booed the Referee, Jessica Shanahan grabbed the loose puck and flicked it past MacIssac. A visibly upset SMU defense allowed two more rushes past that ended with goals both times. MacIssac looked shaken as SMU set up for the face-off. Two minutes later, Campbell collided by accident with an X-Women during a line change and the referee called an interference penalty. St. FX set up another odd-rush as Shannah passed across to Fenerty and used a wrist shot to go upstairs on MacIssac.

St. FX's Campbell body-checked a SMU player into the boards and after a few seconds the referee raised his arm for a penalty. Mullooney tried to break the X shut-out as she fired over three shots on net seconds apart during the power-play. St. FX put one more puck past MacIssac with a few seconds left in the period. Anna Barrett body-checked another SMU player into the boards and gave SMU a final power-play that wouldn't break the shut-out.

Photos Courtesy of Jason "J-Mac" MacDonald

### Huskies at Home This Week

#### Men's Hockey

Friday February 1st

PEI vs SMU @ 7pm at Alumni Arena

Saturday February 2nd

STU vs SMU @ 7pm at Alumni Arena

#### Volleyball

Wednesday February 2nd

CBU vs SMU @ 2pm at The Tower

Friday February 6th

St FX vs SMU @ 6pm at The Tower

For more Season games and information visit [www.smuhuskies.ca](http://www.smuhuskies.ca)

## SPORTS MINUTE

BROUGHT TO YOU  
BY ROBBIE NAUFFTS

### SMU faces St. FX for Basketball Play-Off Spot

It's been a rough season for the young women's team as they headed to Antigonish to take on the X-Women at their home court. This was the third time the teams have faced off with a win apiece. SMU started to come back with 4:45 left with

Brown making her 21st point and starting a high energy ending with SMU closing to 10 pts at 3:05. During the last minute St. FX would open up the lead and end the game with the score 75-69.

### SMU vs. St. FX Take Two

The men's basketball team faced St. FX Saturday night and battled the whole game before the hard-to-swallow

76-75 loss. McLaughlin would sink 22 points during the game. SMU is still sitting in third place in the standings.

### Super Bowl Weekend!

If you missed it, you missed a great game of hockey with amazing goals on both sides. Marc Savard would win it with

20 seconds left with the Eastern Conference beating the West Conference 8-7.

### NHL All-Star Game

If your friends are anything like my friends, all you have heard is "Giants and Patriots" for the last two weeks. The second biggest football game of the year,

(after the Vanier Cup of course) reigns Sunday. So start making up good excuse to not be at work Sunday (and Monday).



## ASSHOLE OF THE WEEK

The Referee at the Women's hockey game on Saturday.

"The Referee at the Women's game Saturday had his head up his ass the whole game. Where did you learn to Ref at? You don't get assists for giving us bullshit penalties so the other team can score." -Pissed off Fan

That's right folks, its back! So nominate your "Asshole of the Week" and email them to [sports.smu@gmail.ca](mailto:sports.smu@gmail.ca). (I think I was sitting next to this girl.)