

The Journal is hiring for
the 2008-2009 school year.

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International Students!

Why are some of your friends not
eating from Dawn to Dusk?
(Answer: Ramadhan)

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THE JOURNAL

Est. 1935 · Vol. 73 · No. 19 · March 5th, 2008

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

- may have error in vol + number
- date is wrong on cover
should be Sept 10, 2008



HOME OPENER WITH A BANG

You thought parking was bad? Opening Ceremonies at Husky Stadium included the Canadian Forces "Sky Hawk" Parachute Demo Team and The Canadian Harvard Acrobatic Team. More sports coverage on Page 12!

Have you ever wondered? If that was a lego hair piece?

Federal Election is Called

Jeff Cusack

Stephen Harper dissolved parliament on Sunday, triggering the third federal election in four years. The date Canadians will go to the polls is October 14, two days after thanksgiving. After announcing that the Governor General had accepted his request to have parliament dissolved, Harper immediately switched to campaign mode and turned the press conference into an opportunity to sway voters.

Speaking to a crowd of journalists, Harper claimed that the Liberal party would raise taxes on "everything," and that voting for them was too risky in these troubled economic times. He also heaped praise on his own party's accomplishments, noting that they had the longest minority in Canadian history (second longest according to others) and that they had reduced taxes and introduced a childcare benefit fund for children. Despite his confident attitude, Harper played down his chances at a majority, which some pundits interpreted as a sign that the public is wary of a conservative majority government. Throughout the speech Harper continued to try and show his 'softer side' to the Canadian public, ending his speech with the line "I won't say goodbye, I'll see you for five weeks."

After the Prime Minister ended his speech the opposition leaders were each given a chance to speak. Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion attempted to paint Harper's government as a risky decision, claiming

that they had spent more money than any other government, and that the economy has not been this bad since Brian Mulroney (a Conservative) was in power. In contrast he called his own plan a "stark" choice. Dion also accused Harper of breaking his own election law and engaging in "Republican style attack ads" which he said he would fight with "Canadian style courage." When asked about his Green Shift plan, Dion claimed that he had the backing of economists and Nobel Prize winners, and that his plan has never failed when implemented

in other countries. After both speeches, CTV's Lloyd Robertson called Dion's speech "his most impressive yet", and later in the day Mike Duffy claimed he had heard many people echo the sentiment.

Bloc Quebecois leader Gilles Duceppe spent most of his time comparing Stephen Harper to George Bush. Jack Layton injected humour into his speech, opening with "Stephen Harper announced he is quitting as prime minister, so today I'm announcing that I'm applying for his job." Green Party Leader Elizabeth May also spoke, and

said "Don't watch CNN, I know McCain and Obama is exciting, but this is about our nation's future." Ms. May is the only party leader running in a Nova Scotia riding.



smusa NEWS

WELCOME BACK

ALL NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

Students' Representative Council

Nominations opened Monday Sept 8th

Positions Available :

First Year Rep Residence Rep
Graduate Rep Science Rep
Off Campus Rep
Mature/Part-Time Rep

Nominations Close Friday Sept 19th



Saint Mary's University Students' Association

STUDENT HEALTH AND DENTAL WAIVERS

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CANADIAN STUDENTS CAN OPT OUT
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INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS PLEASE
VISIT HEALTH PLAN OFFICE
FIFTH FLOOR STUDENT CENTER



MSI AND BASIC HEALTH
DEADLINE TO OPT OUT
FRIDAY OCTOBER 31ST

HAPPY HOUR

Monday To Friday 4:30 - 6pm
Wednesday and Thursday 9 - 10:30pm

2 \$ DRAFT

WEDNESDAY

September 10th

**OPEN MIC
NIGHT**

THURSDAY

September 11th

**BICARDI
Presents
BATTLE OF THE
BANDS**

FRIDAY

September 12th

**RELEASE
THE BEAST**

Presented By
JAGERMEISTER

SATURDAY

September 13th

**OPEN FOR
BOOKINGS**

SUNDAY

September 14th

**OPEN FOR
BOOKINGS**

MONDAY

September 15th

**WORLD
SPORTS
LOUNGE**

TUESDAY

September 16th

**POOR
STUDENT
DAY**

the *Gorsebrook*
since 1974
lounge

PERSPECTIVES

Letter From The Editor: Robie Street High?

JESSICA WOODMAN

Why do people make fun of SMU? Because we have a football team? Because we don't have a Medical and Law program but we have a Commerce Program? Because we have fun and go to University? Because other people are jealous?

Personally, I think it is the jealousy motive. Who wouldn't be jealous of the great group of students that go to SMU? Who wouldn't be jealous that our School has THE St. Mary's Huskies? Who wouldn't be jealous that our school is a powerhouse in sports even though we are only a small number of students compared to other campuses....Why? Because SMU has heart.

I wonder why I keep hearing this

from people in the community and so I asked a few people around campus. Dr. Dodds our esteemed President said that it started a long time ago. It may have started with the fact that there was a High School on the corner of Inglis and Robie years ago. This High School was run by the Jesuits and it fed into the SMU University that was right next door.

I hate the joke. What did the SMU student say to the Mount student? "Do you want fries with that?" As if no one ever gets good jobs after attending SMU. That is just garbage. Our University has a fantastic reputation and our Business Program is second to none in the country as far as I am concerned.

Why do we have a Commerce Pro-

gram? According to Dr. Dodds it was actually the Canadian Government that decided thirty years ago that Education would no longer be taught at SMU and Dal but would go to the Mount. SMU would get Business. Dal would get Law and Medicine. Thus, our school did not default to Business it was a rationalization by the government to benefit graduate students. It was not because SMU was any worse or better than Dal or any other University.

So, on that note let's get rid of this stuff about Robie High. Here at the Journal we plan on making this Newspaper better than ever. We plan on covering and profiling all the exciting things going on at SMU. That way our community will see with their own eyes how incredible and diverse the students of SMU are and will

be for good. Let's label ourselves for our achievements and our honor and eliminate this stupid nickname for good.

Jessica Woodman joins the Journal as the new Editor in Chief and looks forward to bringing a new look to the Journal this year!

Letters to The Editor

Robie Street High

BY KOREY MACINNIS

I would call myself an 'information junkie', so that means I know where to find it. One place to find information is in a professional atmosphere and if you want to know how to find one: it's in a place that gives off a signal of authority, or a feeling of intimidation. I used to feel that vibe when I was back in High School. I'd always feel like there'd be at least someone who had their shit together just a bit more than I did—and that didn't just include students and teachers.

Take the school Janitor for instance, he could always explain the difference between plate glass and double pane windows. And if say, one of us had been tossed through the plate glass one after losing a game of cards-- and he could replace it, then he'd have us all beat.

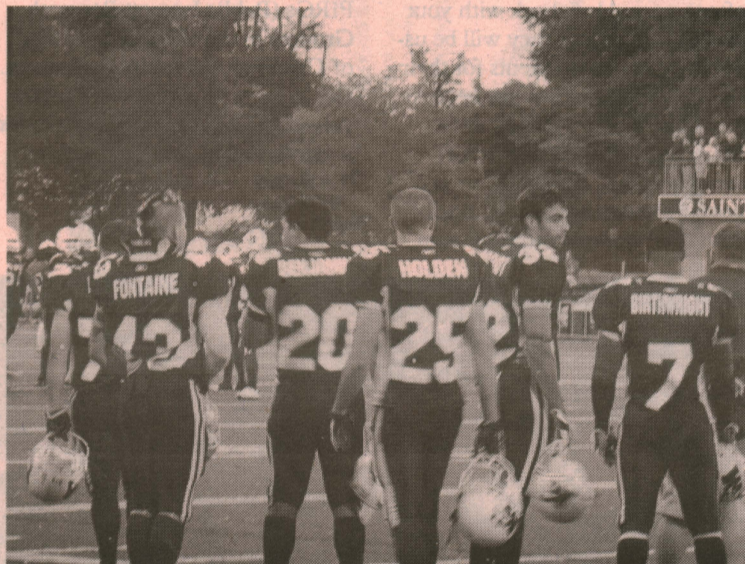
I'm not so sure if I feel that on campus though, that air of authority. Some things you will find at SMU however are indeed straight out of high school. Where there used to be the badasses clustered beneath a smoke cloud beside the entrance, you'll now find stressed out Business majors...or a marching army of cell phone users who

have the most interesting lives (I don't care what you did last night); and the ones who'll get up early than the rest of us but are always late for class because they have to look better than you. I'm all about looks as much as the next fellow, but some days the klip-it-ee klop of high heels behind me makes me think I'm being followed by a mare in heat.

After all, this is a degree granting institution. And there are some big ideas here as well, although a lot of them will not be found outside the classroom or a booth in the pub. For the new kids, remember: high school was totally about being cool but University is about being yourself—and if you enjoy your personal space too much then you're missing out, this is a chance to let a little change into your life. The awkward silences should stay where they belong: in the library. School spirit is for the cheerleaders and frat houses. You could think of this place as a think tank, a haven for knowledge that you should feel completely free to show off. I'd like to hear some opinions on what your own 'classic' University experience could or should be, send it to thesmujournal@gmail.com

We have an ad for the school that says "I want smarts between

my ears (and sand between my toes)" that is not awesome, it's not even cool. Lining up a set of A's on your transcript is up there with priorities but by NO means should be number 1. You can still have sand between your toes too...I think there's a sandbox across the street, behind the elementary school. The money one spends on tuition can be worth every penny so long as you're utilizing every resource available here. And so I dedicate this first issue of "The Journal" to all of the so called nerds out there. Remember that you are all going to be our employers some day, so you owe it to us all by showing what is to be expected of a worker. It is your turf now. Let the slackers have the football stands.



By Anonymous

---Want to join a fraternity? Sigma Chi is hosting "Rush" events this week. Go there and tell them you want to be their brother.
 Wed 10: Poker Night Sig House (6 pm).
 Fri 12: Games night at the SIG House 6pm
 Mon 15: Alumni Info Night at the SIG House 7pm
 Wed 17: Bi-annual Punch and Cheese at the SIG House 7pm

Sigma Chi Gamma Rho, 6093 South St., Halifax.
 Email: webmaster@sigmachihalifax.com
 Phone: Rush Coordinator - Casey Babb: 401-0946
www.sigmachihalifax.com

 Did you know that Stephen Colbert played Dungeons and Dragons? The role playing society is hosting a "Gamer Meet and Greet" Wednesday September 17th from 7-9 in Loyola Complex 274.

THE JOURNAL
 SUITE 517, STUDENT CENTRE
 SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
 HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
 B3H 3C3

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
 JESSICA WOODMAN
THEMJOURNAL@GMAIL.COM
 902.496.8201

NEWS EDITOR
 KIM DARES
NEWS.SMU@GMAIL.COM

SPORTS EDITOR
 ROBBIE NAUFFTS
SPORTS.SMU@GMAIL.COM

BUSINESS EDITOR
 LAURA MACINTOSH
BUSINESS.SMUJOURNAL@GMAIL.COM

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
 RESSA PETERS
ARTS.SMU@GMAIL.COM

FEATURES EDITOR
 TOM WESTOLL
FEATURES.SMU@GMAIL.COM

ART DIRECTOR
 ASHLEY LEBLANC
DESIGN.SMU@GMAIL.COM

AD-MANAGER
 ALEX DONG
DONG.ALEX@GMAIL.COM
 902.496.8203

BUSINESS MANAGER
 ADAM KHALFALLA
JOURNALMANAGER@GMAIL.COM

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
 TOM WESTOLL

WEBSITE MANAGER
 ELIE KHOURY

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The Journal is Looking for Writers!

If you love to write and would like to see your work published and read by over 5000 readers, email a copy to thesmujournal@gmail.com and we'll publish it! If you would like an outline of rules or ideas visit us on the 5th floor of the Student Center!

A city of impressions: Saint Mary's students visit Belfast

Why your textbook prices have skyrocketed

ADAM HARRIS

Everyone knows the cost of textbooks is high. The price for textbooks in Canada between 1998 and 2007 has increased at 2.8 times the CPI. The CPI is the consumer price index, the rate at which items should increase in price in the market over time.

Many publishing companies come out with frequent new editions of each textbook. In the past, there may have only been a new edition every seven or eight years. Now, we can expect a new edition every three years. If you are trying to buy a used edition for your class, make sure it is still okay to use with the professor first. There are also other components and features of the textbook which may make it obsolete to buy the used or previous edition. The phenomenon of bundling is becoming more common.

This is when publishers pack CDs or other online access codes with the textbook. These CDs or access codes may expire after a year. Also check with your professors to see if they will be using the extra components for their class. If not, you may not need to buy these costly features. Many students and instructors are asking why new editions and price increases happen for books with little changes in curriculum,

especially for example calculus and physics. This is a common problem, which the publishing industry tries to explain through a need for new end-of-chapter questions for and adapting the curriculum examples to current events and pop culture.

Another issue is who the textbooks are marketed to. The market is the professors, but students are the ones who have to pay. Each publisher rigorously tries to sell their books to professors via local sales reps. Often the professors are not told of the cost of the book, or continue to use a book year after year, even though there are recent and expensive new editions. The publishers make it difficult for the professors and bookstores to continue to use the old editions because of supply issues.

All of these things are making used textbooks obsolete, driving up the costs for students, who are the end user of the book. The data showing the rising costs of textbooks is supported by many PIRGs (Public Interest Research Groups) in the US and a number of Canadian university bookstores. Get to know the issues and get involved. Write your local politicians and talk to your professors about the issues.

...And Where to Get them Cheap

ADAM HARRIS
SMUSA VP ACADEMIC

Text books and other academic material required for your classes can cost a lot of money, but they don't have to. For many students, the cost can be a significant portion of the total amount spent on post-secondary education. Textbooks can average \$700-1000 per year, and the costs are continuing to rise. More and more students are finding ways to cut the costs of textbooks, but make sure you know all your options and all the facts first.

Many publishing companies offer digital textbooks, which is an online version of the hard copy book you would buy at the bookstore. These are available for most new editions. Digital textbooks are cheaper to buy, but there are some drawbacks. You can't sell these books back for some money at the end of the semester. Most digital textbooks have limited access, or the access expires after a certain length of time. You can't print the whole book, or there is a limited amount of printing. It also depends if you like reading a screen or highlighting the pages.

Thrifty shoppers who make it to the bookstore early can usually find a used version of the textbook they need for their class. The used versions are a lot cheaper than a new book. Frequent new editions of many textbooks means there won't always be

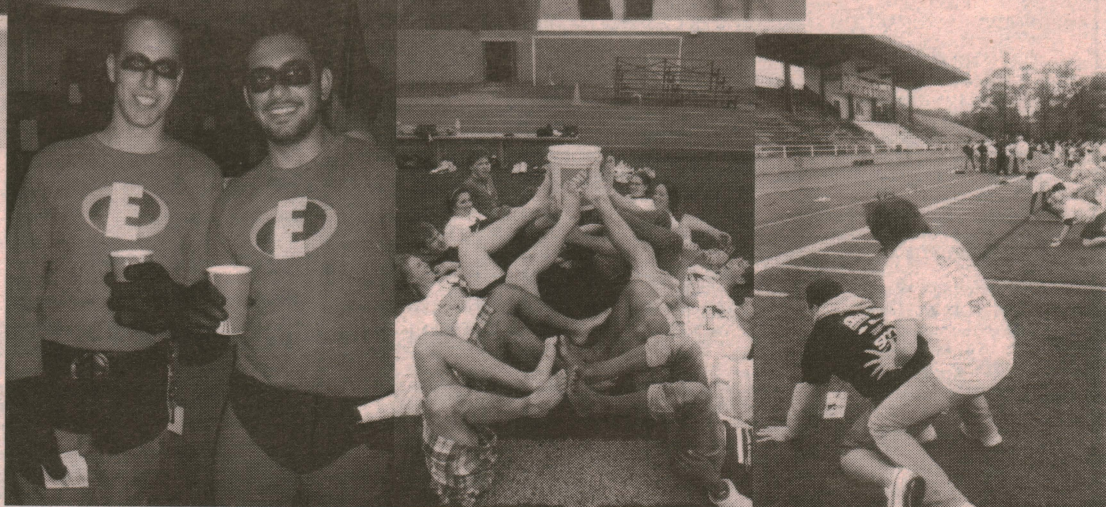
a used edition available. Check with your professor to see if an old edition would still be sufficient for class. You can check with your friends who have taken that class before, or buy and sell your used text books on the SMUSA Book Exchange (www.smusa.ca/books.asp).

There are lots of other options to keep the cost of academic materials low. Try sharing your books with friends or roommates in the same class. You could head to the library to see if the textbook is available there. A lot of students have started using the international editions of textbooks. These can be cheaper and come from another country. Be cautious though, international editions can have varying content, different page numbers, lower quality, and also copyright issues. One of the goals of the Canadian edition can be to provide the class content of the context of Canadian culture, which can be lost in international editions. If you are buying your textbooks online from other book store chains, make sure you check the ISBN number, and how long it will take to ship it to you.

Many professors don't use a textbook, and instead rely on other, possibly cheaper, methods to teach their class. Some professors will only use PowerPoint presentations or handouts and post them online after class, or require you to look up selected readings at the library or in online journals. Instead of textbooks, course-packs are commonly used. This is a pre-bound collection of articles and chapters. The cost covers photocopying and any copyright fees. Happy studying!



Adam Harris (photo by Shane Cuniham)



NEWS

Harping on Harper

BY JEFF CUSACK

Just because you play cards with your kids doesn't mean you're a good leader.

If you haven't noticed, for the last few weeks the Conservative party of Canada has put a whole slew of new advertisements on television. Political advertising can be useful for voters, as it allows us to see a little bit of what the party doing the advertising thinks is most important, and to learn about their stance on policy issues. Unfortunately, the three most prominent advertisements, called "Main Street Canadians", "lest we forget", and "Family is Everything" don't give us any real look into policies but instead try to paint Stephen Harper as a good guy who loves things.



This type of campaigning is famous in the U.S., where people frequently campaign on their personality and values rather than on how good of a leader they are and what type of policies they'll advocate. George Bush got elected because people felt like they could have a beer with him, and now half the world is battling recessions because of it. We do not need that type of campaigning here.

Most people, including myself, would like our leader to be a nice guy, but nice doesn't mean that you can do a good job. Frankly, I would vote for a good leader who is also complete ass-hole, over a nice guy who can't lead every time. We don't need to know how much you love your children or that you respect veterans Mr. Harper, most people do that. By spending money telling what great a guy you are rather than talking about policy, you rob your country's citizens of a chance to learn about the issues so that they can make an informed vote.

See the ads for yourself at: <http://youtube.com/user/cpcpcc>

Musings on: The Harper Ads.

Main Street Canadians:

I wish I knew who Main Street Canadians are and how they know so much about Harper's motivations. We're told that Harper is a "straight up guy" or that "he's in it for the right reasons." My favourite argument is "I like him" though. Harper's policy record is explained in depth here, where we learn for the first time that "he's doing a good job," and "he's on the right track." The ad focuses on Harper for a moment and he looks creepy as heck no matter what your political colours are. At the end a young person says she'll vote for him, so that we young people know that it's cool to vote conservative!!

Lest we forget. (Harper Chat 1.)

Synopsis: The first of many ads where Stephen talks to us from his chair at his cottage. Harper feels the veterans are important. Now that we know his positions on the issue we can all vote for him! (I bet the Liberals hate veterans.) At the end of the Harper Chats, we (Canada) are told that we're better off with Harper, just in case we hadn't noticed over the last few years. Family Is everything.

"I play a lot of card games with my kids, we go to movies," "my son wants to spend less time with dad and more time with his friends, but occasionally he plays on the guitar and I play a bit on the piano." "Being a father is the best experience of my life." Apparently the fact that this man loves his children is reason to vote for him. You just never know with Stephen Dion... And does Jack Layton even have kids?

True north strong and free:

Harper finds the north exciting. He notes that we have sovereignty and security issues there though, as well as "some environmental and social issues as well;" "some environmental issues" being an arctic that's full of melting ice caps and drowning polar bears, and "some social issues" being an Inuit population with an obscenely high poverty and suicide rate.

Canada has to stand for something.

Harper says "we're trying to do something different," he then explains, that his government is trying to contribute to humanitarian and economic development, to not "go along and get along" like previous governments, but to "Stand for something," though he doesn't specify what that something is. This stance contrasts with that of the previous Liberal government, which was of course against economic development and so famously "got along and get along'd" with the U.S. by rejecting the missile defence shield and the war in Iraq. The Conservatives who totally wanted to show the U.S. who was boss by doing both those things.

Immigrants.

Harper sees Canadian immigrants as important. He's going to do the things necessary to make sure they can contribute to society. This one actually contains a bit of policy, that the Conservatives cut the right of landing fee. I don't really have anything to say here.

Still not a leader.

This is ad features Michael Ignatieff dominating Stephane Dion in a leadership debate in 2006. It does a good job attacking Dion and by the end of

SMUperheroes to the Rescue '08

BY: SS Randy Blue

Another year, another orientation week survived. Now that all the freshmen have had their fix of Twister, Longest Line, Huckle Buckle, and Mr Potato Head (aka, the mumps spreader) it's time to settle in to the regular routine of studying and going to class. However, before we close the book on another O-Week some recognition is in order. First of all we need to thank our volunteers for putting in countless hours keeping the week and all the events running smoothly. Also we need to thank our sponsors for giving us the means to put on such an amazing week. As well we need to thank the frosh class for being such an amazing group of people to work with and especially thanks to certain frosh that went over and above the requirements for the week and decided to sport some very interesting costumes to Turfburn. Finally we need to thank our very own SMUperwoman Myra El-Bayoumi for coordinating such an amazing week that will give the frosh a fun

filled first impression of their new second home.

Despite the less than perfect weather we received during both frosh leader camp, Turfburn and most of O-Week, the SMU spirit was in abundance. Between purple spandex, tight pink underwear and frosted tips for Turfburn, blue body paint and red incredible outfits for the dance and a sea of maroon and white faces for the football game SMU students showed off just how much school spirit they have. Unlike a certain other Halifax university located nearby, our frosh enjoy a much more hands on orientation week, and not just a tour around Spring Garden Road.

So, to all the frosh that had a blast this week during orientation, we hope you had an amazing week. A lot of time and effort went into making your transition from home a wonderful one. Also, if you had a blast this week you should become a frosh leader next year. You get to play all the same games, make hilarious skits, and you play the dirty version of all the activities you played during Turfburn.



Hey, they were loud and proud and reved up the crowd!

Note to our readers,

Computer and programing issues have led to several sections of "The Journal" looking odd this week. We'll have it sorted out for the next issue. For now, blame these guys above.



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Amherst Centre Mall
142 South Albion Street
669-3386

DARTMOUTH

121 Hisley Ave.
460-3386

MK Mac Mall

466-3386

Penhorn Mall

463-3386

GREENWOOD

Greenwood Mall
936 Central Ave.
760-3399

HALIFAX

201 Chain Lake Dr.
455-3386
5699 Spring Garden Rd.
492-3386

NEW MINAS

County Fair Mall
9256 Commercial St.
661-3386

SACKVILLE

405 Sackville Dr.
665-3386

SYDNEY

404 Grand Lake Rd.
564-9400

TRURO

Truro Mall
693-2288

YARMOUTH

Yarmouth Mall
742-3386



HALIFAX

Rogers Video
16 Denith Rd.
477-0848

ANTIGONISH

Motion Communications
19A James St. Plaza
636-5888

BEDFORD

Cellular Communications
752 Bedford Hwy.
457-1144

BRIDGEWATER

World of Wireless
593 King St.
543-6363

DARTMOUTH

Rogers Video, Cole Harbour
4 Forest Hills Parkway
495-5696

Rogers Video, Woodlawn
114 Woodlawn Rd.
493-0994

LIVERPOOL

Memory Lane
1 Gorham St.
354-5486

NEW GLASGOW

Motion Communications
60 Archimedes St.
752-5888

PICTOU

Motion Communications
239 West River Rd.
485-5088

SACKVILLE

Rogers Video
857 Sackville Drive
252-3351

WINDSOR

Sam's Cellular Service
40 Water St.
798-2025

PORT HAWKESBURY

Motion Communications
634 Reeves St.
625-5777



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455-1776

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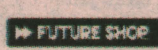
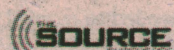
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood comes to Halifax - The 28th Annual Atlantic Film Festival

By Dawn Davis and Ressa Peters

It is once again September, and as school begins and the streets fill with students, the fourth major film festival in Canada is back for its 28th run through Halifax. The Atlantic Film Festival is one of Halifax's many annual events which spotlight our own incredible local talent alongside anticipated blockbusters. Halifax is the center of independent culture in the upcoming week.

This year, the festival brags a stunning 254 films over the next nine days of varied length, origin, and medium. There are short films, full-length features, and some full-length features accompanied by short films. While the majority of them were made here in Halifax, their production locations spread from across Canada to Japan, Brazil, and Europe. The repertoire includes documentaries (Gonzo: The Life and Work of Hunter S. Thompson), animations (Don Hartzfeldt's *I am so proud of you*, from the maker of classics like *Rejected*), comedies (*Summerhood*, another Haligonian contribution about a ten-year-old finding love in summer camp), and more, all of which are off the beaten track. It will also air Halifax's favourite comedy group Picnicface's new three-minute video, *Beard no Beard*.

The *That's So Gay* feature returns again this year with movies like *Bi The Way*, a documentary about the people who don't fit into neat little boxes of "straight" or "gay". It kicks off with *Were The World Mine* a story about a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in an all-boys prep school. The festival does not exclude the horror/

Film Noir territory with the *Late Shift*, including films such as *Midnight Meat Train*, based on a story by horror legend Clive Barker, where a photographer mistakenly captures a shot of a murder. Haligonian Jason Eisner follows up classic *Hobo*



This is the poster to be displayed in Canada only after being banned for suggestive content in the U.S.

with a *Shotgun* with short-film/faux trailer *Treevenge*, which speaks for itself. Finally we have a live-action French-language film of *Asterix at the Olympic Games* bringing the series to the big screen for the first time. As you can see, there's something for everybody, and plenty for those looking for something different.

The Festival will also be showing a few big-name international projects. For example, Kevin Smith's new project *Zack and Miri Make a Porno* starring Seth Rogen has one show on Saturday. This movie covers friends who are strapped for cash and decide to strike it rich by making an adult film. The movie has been swamped with controversy as it was almost given an NC-17 rating and has a poster that has been banned in the U.S. The film adaptation of Chuck Palahniuk's book *Choke* only has one showing on Friday. The second movie from *Fight Club's* author is about a man who makes a living letting people save him from choking in restaurants and spends his free time picking up girls from a nymphomaniac recovery group. The speculative Joe Saramago film, *Blindness*, starring Julianne Moore is also premiering at the festival, showing in several locations Thursday 11th. This one is a Canada/Brazil collaborative project where an epidemic of blindness breaks out all over the world. The people of Halifax are being offered seats to early viewings of these sure-to-be-blockbusters. Students, welcome back to the city!

For a complete schedule and information on all of the great movies running from September 11-20, and to buy tickets, visit www.atlanticfilm.com

Bite Sized Entertainment



NEW CDS OUT:
Terminal Romance by Cole Harbours own Matt Mays and El Torpedo! Don't miss the new hit "Building a Boat"!



NEW MOVIES OUT:
It's not new, but if you haven't seen *Dark Knight*, you are missing a classic!

"The Cranky Professor"

Nothing Wrong with Abortion

MARK MERCER

Thoughtful and caring people today must find their way through many hard ethical problems, problems where there's something to say on both sides and for which no solution can adequately meet every concern. Abortion is not one of these problems.

Abortion involves knowingly—if not, indeed, wilfully—killing a human being. The fact that abortion involves knowingly killing a human being is not, though, any reason to oppose abortion.

To see this, consider the reasons we all have to refrain from killing any person currently reading this newspaper. A reader of this newspaper is a sentient being, aware of herself and her surround-

ings, capable of enjoying her life. That's one good reason. But an even better reason is that she has a settled and firm preference to continue living. To kill her would be to act decisively against her desire to live.

On the other hand, a human fetus, though just as human as you or me, is not capable of enjoying her life, as she is not aware of it. Even more, she has no preference to continue living, as she has no preferences or desires at all. She neither has the neural structures required for self-consciousness, and, thus, for having preferences, nor has she had the range of experiences needed to prefer one specific thing to another.

"That's all perfectly fine," one might object, "except that in

the fullness of time, the fetus will come to be conscious and self-consciousness, and to have a rich web of preferences and desires." True enough, but right now the fetus is not conscious or self-conscious and lacks preferences. Right now, the fetus's mental life is not even that of a canary. To hold that the fact that the fetus will develop into a person just like you or me is a reason not to kill it is simply to favour having another person like you or me around. But to favour having another person around is to oppose contraception. For, after all, contraception prevents human fetuses from coming into existence and, thereby, makes for fewer people. (One could, though, I guess, oppose all birth control, even abstinence, as denying existence to

people who otherwise would exist.) "Nonetheless," another might object, "the fact is that each human fetus is human, and that is a reason not to kill a human fetus." It's hard to see, though, how the humanity of the fetus matters to anything. The reason one has not to treat a particular human being some way will inevitably have to do with some feature of that being, not with its humanity, which, after all, is just its membership in a particular species. (One could, again, care that members of some species are not killed just in virtue of their membership in that species, but I don't think many of us do.) Now we ought not to use abortion as a means of birth control in preference to condoms and foam or the pill. That's not, though, as

we have seen, because we have any reason to protect a fetus from being killed when a woman wants to end her pregnancy. We ought not to prefer abortion to condoms and foam because abortion is a surgical procedure that involves risk, time, energy, and money. Better, then, not to have become pregnant in the first place than to have an abortion. But if one is pregnant and one doesn't want to be, that abortion involves knowingly killing a human being is no reason not to have an abortion. From an ethical point of view, abortion is entirely a matter of indifference.

THIS WEEK IN HALIFAX

Wednesday 10th
Lagwagon, MxPx, TAT and Only Crime at The Marquee Club. \$26
Severed Reign, Fistfight, Spew and Uncooperative Death at Reflections Cabaret. \$4, starting at 10pm
Thursday 11th
Cursed Arrows, Kestrels and Sleepless Nights at Gus' Pub & Grill. \$5,

starting at 10pm
SMU-friendlies Brent Randall and his Pinecones, The Gideons, Pamela Underwater and The Hostas at The Bus Stop Theatre. \$5-10, starting at 8pm
Friday 12th
Indie Pop Night with dj Bones at Gus' Pub & Grill. \$5, starting at 10pm.

DJ Olympics Finals for all Club categories at The New Palace. \$10
Saturday 13th
The Museum Pieces, Windom Earle and Mark Black at The Seahorse. \$8, starting at 10pm
The Strange Boys at The Foggy Goggle.
Sunday 14th
Lazy James Cody &

Friends with Blues Matinee at Gus' Pub. Runs 4-8 pm
The Keltic Cowboys at The Seahorse. \$5, starting at 8pm.
Monday 15th
Kathleen Edwards and Jim Bryson at The Seahorse
Chris Isaak at the Metro Centre. \$66.50

Tuesday 16th
Adam Baldwin, Rob Crowell and friends at Tribeca.
DRUM! at the Bella Rose Arts Center. \$19-\$44, 7:30pm. Runs through to Oct 12.

BUSINESS

AIIESEC Canada: Nurturing Young Leaders for 50 Years

Originally published in Maroon and White Magazine, Spring 2008, Volume 65, Issue 2



Chrystal Bell

AIIESEC Halifax is something of a hidden gem on the Saint Mary's campus. Yet for those who have participated in its programs, it has been the gateway to life-enhancing experiences both professionally and personally.

AIIESEC was established after World War II to help foster cultural understanding between countries. Today, it is the world's largest student-run organization. It works in partnership with business and higher education to send students on internships around the globe and to give internationally aware young leaders valuable leadership and cultural experiences. Its programs are designed with the aim of giving its participants hands-on experience of running a small business long before they graduate from university.

At the time of its inception, AIIESEC stood for "L'Association Internationale des Etudiants en Sciences Economiques et Com-

merciales." However, as fourth-year Science student and local alumni coordinator Adam Harris explains, the organization is now known solely as AIIESEC. "The original name was appropriate when the organization was formed, but we are now inclusive of all Faculties – not just economic sciences and commerce. We continue to use the acronym AIIESEC because of the well-established brand and history that it has."

This year, AIIESEC Canada is celebrating its 50th anniversary with a National Congress in Montreal, which will bring together more than 300 alumni to talk about the organization's past and future, and to launch a new strategic plan. As part of its anniversary celebrations, AIIESEC Canada is profiling 50 alumni, including Karyn (Mathieu) Power, an alumna of Saint Mary's University. Karyn studied for a BComm at Saint Mary's in the late 1980s. With her interests in business and working abroad, AIIESEC was a perfect fit. Starting as a member,

Karyn then worked on the special projects committee and served as vice-president of marketing between 1987 and 1989. To be a part of AIIESEC, she explains, was to be involved in "running a not-for-profit organization on campus. We had to sell the concept of AIIESEC to businesses in Halifax, manage the money coming in, run special projects, and attend conferences. For me, it was a chance to take the theoretical knowledge I was learning in class and apply it."

Karyn's work has seen her travel widely, both in Canada and abroad, and over the years fellow AIIESEC participants have continued to crop up in unexpected places. Karyn has also continued to lend her support to the AIIESEC Halifax group in particular, explaining to local businesses why they should hire students from abroad. "I say to them that if they are looking to do business with another country, what better way to give their company a cultural awareness of their target market than to hire a student from that country."

Looking to the future, local alumni coordinator Adam Harris maintains that the cultural understanding and business skills that AIIESEC promotes continue to be relevant for both the students and the companies for which they work. And for Saint Mary's alumni, hiring an AIIESEC intern from another country is the perfect way to "give back" to an organization that means so much to so many.

AIIESEC Halifax alumni can reconnect with the organization by contacting 902.491.8673 or by emailing halifax.ca@aiiesec.net.



Back to Business

Laura Mac

Welcome to another year of business news smudents! As editor of the section, I would like to welcome all returning and new readers to what promises to be a year of informative and influential business reporting. I am committed to bringing readers news that is relevant to them, more than what they can find in an issue of other local papers. From SMU news to global issues affecting you, this year is sure to be exciting for me, and hopefully you, the readers.

Do you know about all the services offered through the university and the students association? I encourage you all to know what services your tuition fees entitle you to and through my section I will help shed light on many of these. This week features Career Services, just one of a vast amount of useful tools offered to you all.

This section is a useful media type for all business related societies, from AIIESEC to Marketing and beyond. I encourage all societies to advertise their events and meeting minutes in this section; let the university population know what you are about! I am a proud member of several campus societies, not the least of which was the ACE society, current SMUSA Society of the Year. Our business societies on campus have a strong foothold both on campus as well as in the national spotlight, and it is important to let others know of the great work being done by you; our students.

Another issue I hope to tackle in this section is sustainability. With sustainability and global change in the forefront of world affairs, many local and national businesses are changing their practices to aid in environmental conservation. This section will highlight some of those businesses which are putting the environment before profit. Even SMUSA has recently adopted a new sustainability plan; look for more news on that coming soon!

Most importantly this year, I will be focusing on you; the students. There is so much talent on campus, from entrepreneurs and small business owners to sustainable thinkers and philanthropists. I want to highlight you; those who are helping to shape our university identity. I am pleased and privileged to bring back the Campus Spotlight features, which focus on those students who are making a difference, in their lives and others. Those who use their knowledge and skills acquired here to accomplish a dream, such as creating a business from scratch or helping shape the student associations sustainability policy deserve to be known and celebrated. That is what Campus Spotlight intends to do.

Would you like to report on business? Do you want the university to know what you're doing to reach your goals? Would you like to share your views with the university community? If you've answered yes to any of these questions email business.smujournal@gmail.com today!



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CAREER SERVICES

One University. One World. Yours.

Career Counselling • Assessments • Career Development Centre

Donnie Jeffrey

Career Services consists of a team of professional Counsellors, administrative staff, trained student staff and student volunteers who work to provide students of Saint Mary's a comprehensive package of services related to career exploration and development.

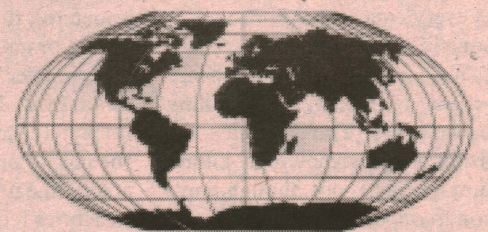
Career Services provides access to services and resources that will assist students in making decisions throughout their academic career. Career Services will work with students individually or via the Career Development Centre to discuss identified areas of concern. Career exploration and development is complex and requires all aspects of a person's history, personality, interests, values, lifestyle, needs, fears and abilities to be explored.

Career Services can also help in answering popular questions such as "What can I do with a degree in...?" or "What is the next best step for me?" Various career assessment instruments are used to help students better understand themselves and determine their future, with respect to academic and career related goals. All full and

part time students of Saint Mary's University can access Career Services. In addition, Alumni can access individual career counselling for up to four sessions after graduation and the Career Development Centre for up to one year after graduation.

Career Services is located on the 4th floor of the Student Centre and we are open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Monday – Friday). The Career Development Centre is located on the 3rd floor of the Student Centre and we are open from 10:100 am to 4:30 pm (Monday – Friday). To schedule an appointment please contact us at 420-5615 or via e-mail at career.services@smu.ca

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Canada Welcomes You! International Students

Crystine (Cuiping) Zhang

International students from near and afar are welcomed by a pleasing message that they are allowed to apply for permanent resident status within Canada when they have one-year Canadian work experience.

The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Diane Finley announced on August 12 the details of a new immigration approach, namely, the Canadian Experience Class. Unlike other existing programs, this policy considers the immigration applicant's Canadian work experience as a key factor in the immigration selection process. For international students with a two-year academic background and one-year work experience in Canada, they can apply to become permanent residents and then citizens.

This is an exhilarating message for Canada's foreign students who want to immigrate to Canada! As Johnny A., a Lebanese student with a master degree

from Dalhousie University, said, "It is good news for international students and especially for those who are seeking to stay in Canada. It's a great program, making the immigration easier..."

Johnny A. is right. Canada has been making it easier for international students to stay. Just four months ago, Canada relaxed its rules and made it easier for international students to stay in the country to work for up to THREE years after graduation. This Post-Graduation Work Permit Program means eligible foreign graduates may work anywhere in the country and no longer must have a job offer to get a work permit.

The shift removes some of the major flaws in the previous regulations, which often received complaints from both employers and foreign students. The main complaint, according to a study released last October, was that the previous regulations were rather confusing: while the potential future employers had limited ac-

cess to proper information, foreign students had only 90 days to land a job, a time period impossible for job-hunting... A friend of mine who switched from Toronto to New York to pursue his master once wrote to me, saying "The (Canadian) government gives a very generous welfare to a refugee (this is why Canada appeals to sleeper cells), but it hurts international students by making them feel as pariahs...I liked this country, and that was why I chose to study here; but I was too frustrated afterwards..."

And now, the complaints should be gone and superseded by acclaim!

Both changes are conveying a clearest sign that the Canadian government is recognizing the need to increase its pool of educated, talented and skilled professionals!

Muslims throughout the SMU Community begin the Fasting month

Marlon Solis

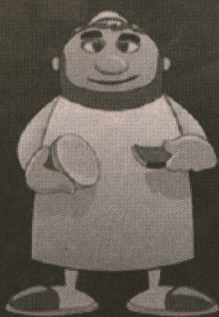
Muslims in our religiously diverse SMU Community begins the auspicious observance known as Ramadhan which takes place in the ninth month of the Islamic Calendar. To some none Muslims Ramadhan may seem rigorous by the fact that devotees must refrain from indulging in the simple pleasures of which we take advantage. In fact it is quite similar to the Catholic observance of Lent. Observants must practice self retrain, seek forgiveness for sins and perform good deeds. Humility, patience and spirituality are considered the main aspects in this holy month.

Fasting, otherwise known as Sawm, is one of the most major practices of this month. Everyday during the month Millions of Muslim around the world get up before dawn to eat the Suhoor meal and pray the Fajr prayer. After that Devotee's are restricted to drink or eat anything until sundown. The strict regime of fasting reinforces its devotees to exercise self control and will power. The great advantage with this is that many are able to control natural urges and resist temptations for things deemed unneeded and unhealthy such as drugs.

One of the more significant reasons for fasting can be seen in the meaning of the word Ramadhan which descended from the Arabic word implying a time of scorn where food and water is short. In this sense Ramadhan teaches believers the importance of humility and charity to realize the suffering of the impoverished and less fortunate. A bold statement made to bring out the issue of the increasing poverty we see throughout world especially in third world countries where millions suffer from food shortages under corrupt governments, economic instability

Ramadan Question of the Week #1

Win:
\$5 Tim Horton's
Gift Certificate



*For contest rules see SMS facebook group

Ramadan is important for Muslims because it is believed to be the month in which the first verses of the Holy Qur'an (the divine scripture) were revealed by Allah (God)....

Who were these verses revealed to?

Send your answer to:

Saintamarian Muslim Society
facebook admins or
SmuMuslimSociety@gmail.com
by Friday September 12

and war.

The Origins of this month's consecration comes from the belief that it is the month in which the first verse of the Holy Qur'an (divine Scripture) was revealed by Allah to the Prophet Muhammad (570-632C.E), when he ventured from Makkah where he worked and lived as a Caravan Trader to find solitude. This withdrawal was caused by his desire to escape the overwhelming polytheism that ran throughout pre-Islamic society in Arabia. One night contemplating in a cave he heard the Angel Gabriel's voice three times, commanding him to "Read!" As such Muhammad found himself reciting the following first indicating the first lines of the Qu'ran.

At that moment the Angel of the Lord pronounced that Muhammad was chosen to call the people to monotheism and righteousness. This event figuratively inspires the belief that the Gates of heaven would be open while the gates of hell would be closed. The Burning of all sins through the understanding of suffering and attaining humility is the

underlying doctrine that brings the Muslim community, as well as others of other faiths that find striking commonality, together.

The Qu'ran itself is considered by Muslims to be God's own speech manifested through Muhammad, the last of the Prophets after Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus. And thus over period of twenty-three years all 114 Chapters of the Qu'ran were revealed to Muhammad through Gabriel.

Eid ul-Fitr marks the end of the fasting month where Muslims break the fast and join in the festivities. On the day of Eid Ul-fitr. Muslims attend congregational prayers in the morning while looking their best. After the prayers and special sermons Muslims rise to greet each other and beckon each other with the words, "Eid Mubarak" which means Holy Blessings. Later Muslim families gather together along with friends to each other's homes and have meals together. Rewarding each other with blessing and gifts that inspire a sense of community and spread the ideologies of harmony in which Islam was built on.

Muslim Students Asso

FASTATHON 2

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SUB BUILDING

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**INFORMATION
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SYSTEMS & SUPPORT**

Computer Lab and Network Changes over this Summer:

- More than doubled the Internet bandwidth off campus.
- Changes to printing in the computer labs:
 - All new laser printers.
 - Double sided printing is the default.
 - Free printing removed but laser printing cost reduced 20%; and up to 60% if you use double sided printing.
- Expanded wireless coverage on campus.
- Software Changes in the computer labs:
 - Many applications are updated.
 - Microsoft Office 2007.
- Coming soon:
 - SMUPort upgrade including a much improved calendar.

Photos courtesy of Tom Westoll

SMUDOKU

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HOT OR NOT

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gorsebrook Wing Nights • Full Tim Horton's • Applying to Graduate on time • Ramadhan • SMUSA Book Exchange • Paper Planes • Skydivers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frosh 15 • Half Service • Being here for a Victory lap • Not Eating All Day • \$140.00 New Editions • Caught at the Border with no Visa • Scraping by with a 2 point lead. |
|---|--|

G SPOT

Straight to the point

SS RANDY BLUE

"Hey G-Spot, I'm gay and single. I seem to keep getting crushes on straight guys from my school. Do all gay guys fantasize about straight guys being gay or is it just me?"

Do all guys fantasize sexually about people they can't have? Definitely! Straight men are like the Holy Grail for a gay man. There are thousands of gay porno's that feature nothing but straight men, and even more specifically, the cream of the straight man crop, the jock. Then again, what could be more attractive than a group of physically well built men all getting sweaty together and then getting clean in a communal shower?

Gay guys aren't the only ones that fantasize about people they can't have. Ask most straight

men what they fantasize about and you'll find out they have a similar fetish towards lesbian women. Does it mean that a self-respecting lesbian woman is going to sleep with some guy who gets his kicks from thinking about two pairs of breasts mingling together? Not necessarily. But it also means the chances that you're going to end up romping in the locker room with your favourite straight man are slim.

There is some hope, however. There is a growing number of the population that now consider themselves to be bisexual. This could be your big break in landing your straight man crush. Although they may be getting their fix of the vagina one night, there's a chance that you two can mingle the next night and the allure of him being straight is still pretty strong.

As for you gay ladies out there, if you find

yourselves in the same situation where you sometimes fantasize about straight men then you're more valuable than O negative blood. You are one of the most popular fantasies amongst horny straight men. It also happens to be that lesbians will often get crushes on straight girls.

Back to the situation at hand though, there isn't much you can do about your crushes. You can try to get to know the straight guy you're crushing on. Buy him some coffee from time to time and maybe even take him to dinner. He may never change teams, but if his game is ever rained out then he knows he can play pickup with your team, he'll probably want to play at bat, but who knows...he may even want to play catcher.

Until next week everyone, keep it safe and keep it wrapped. If you have a question, then send it in to smu.gspot@gmail.com

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SPORTS

Too Awesome for a Sub Title!

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

My name is Robbie Nauffts and I am returning to the Journal as the Sports Editor for a second year. If you are new to SMU, you will quickly realize how important sports are here and the high calibre of the athletes playing on the teams. For you returning students, you know this already with Saint Mary's having its sports teams featured in the local papers after winning streaks and star Players being recognized.

Last year started off strong with the SMU football team dominating the field and only one loss on the road. Their performance landed them at the Vanier Cup against the Manitoba Bisons but short key Quarter Back Erik Glavic who had torn an ACL in the regular season. Head Coach Steve Sumarah stood at last year's athletic banquet and corrected his prediction from the previous season.

"Last year, I made the prediction that we would go to the Vanier Cup. This year, I am predicting that we are going to the Vanier Cup again, and Winning!" Applause filled the Tower Gymnasium as the football players already starting putting their heads in the next season. It wasn't just football that stuck in the local papers last year though.

The Men's Basketball team grabbed third place in the regular season after 20 games. Third place seemed like an insult after the effort put in by the team and they made a statement in the AUS finals when they beat out the Acadia Axemen for the Championship. Mark McLaughlin was named Tournament MVP and Mark Ross was able to finish his last year with SMU holding the AUS B-Ball trophy. With the buzz still high that week the Men's Hockey Team battled hard against UNB for the AUS Hockey championship.

The men's hockey team had been another powerhouse team with names making the paper, one standout being Brandon



Verge who stood on his head in the final two games to keep up a strong defence for the pack. But I can't mention only Verge, he kept the pucks out of the net and at the other end we had Marc Rancourt, the Hotham brothers and Dan Rudisuela introducing the puck to opposing netting. One player, in his Rookie year performed so well that he is attending the Detroit Red Wings selection camp. That player is Cody Thornton. It's hard to pick only a few guys to mention from the Hockey Team because of the fantastic season played but everyone wearing the SMU jersey. Cam Fergus drove home two goals against UNB in the final game to keep it a tied game. You may have recognized him giving game analysis on East Link for the Halifax Mooseheads/Cape Breton Eagles series. The men's team finished second in the Regular Season and second in the AUS.

You may now be asking, what about the Women's Teams? Well, the women's Hockey Team played a great season finishing sec-

ond place behind St FX but having the name as a tough team to beat, and the team that was going to break the St FX shut-out season. Again, players made the papers as Kori Cheverie played a key role on the team, putting pucks in net and making great plays. A nail biting Championship game became a heartbreaker as St FX scored goals in a quick bunch and set the Huskies back on their heels. SMU answered with fast goals but another St FX set of goals broke the teams fight. Don't let that outcome fool you though, five players from the women's hockey team were named for the Provincial All-Star team. Those players; Kori Cheverie, Zoe Launcelott, Amy Dawson, Sharon Kelly and net minder Jill MacIsac. How is that for a turn out?

Women's basketball was faced with low attendance most of the season with a new team and hard losses. If you read the newspaper and judged the games by the score, you were sadly mistaken. The team held their own under big offenses and ended the season

on a huge win by beating number one team Memorial 73-68 in their best performance all year. They could have easily had low scoring games, but pushed hard to stay in the game every match. This year introduces a new Head Coach that will bring a change to the teams' tactics and shake things up for the new season. Those rookies from last year are now a returning team that has a great understanding of how they work together.

Volleyball was another big sport at SMU with the team finishing third in the season and second in the AUS Championship after a 3-2 loss. However I was honoured to present the "Unsung Hero Award" to hard working player Kristen McCullough at the athletic banquet at the end of last season.

What you should see now as new students to SMU, or even returning students is how great our sports program is here. Football was at the front of last years sports section and that was a shame to the other teams we have

at SMU. The hockey is fast paced and you could be seeing future NHL stars in action, the women's hockey is cleaner and quick as well with players that may be playing on National Teams and traveling to China to play the world. I am a little biased as a Hockey fanatic but the basketball was great last year with huge performances by both teams. There are more sports here at SMU than some other Universities so it is not hard to find a sport you like and want to support. The key word however, is support.

Last season SMU was ranked towards the bottom of the AUS with attendance as some games only seen 10-20 fans in the crowd. At the last Dalhousie Hockey game last year, DAL had a packed area for a team that was not going to make the play-offs even with a win. SMU had roughly six students attend the game. If you are stressed out at school, or are looking for something extra-curricular to do, grab some friends and check out a game or two.

(photos by Jackie Ellies)

Huskies at Home This Week

Women's Rugby UPEI at SMU

Saturday, September 13th
6:00pm

Come out and support the Pack at Husky Stadium!

You can find scores and more at smuhuskies.ca

ASSHOLE OF THE WEEK

This week's asshole is the one and only Stephen Harper for making sure that the next five weeks of television are destroyed by political propaganda. As if Television was not already bad enough.

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

Assholes can be found anywhere!



Chris looks worried...that two point spread is not looking good



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*Offer only available to new activations before September 30, 2008, on a 2 or 3 year service agreement for clients with a valid student ID card. Clients must activate in-store or through TELUS Client Care to be eligible for this offer. Online activation is not available. Taxes, long distance, additional airtime, roaming, pay-per-use charges, monthly system access fee (\$6.95) and monthly enhanced 911 emergency service charges (\$0.75/month plus applicable provincial fees) are extra. Rates are subject to change without notice. Visit telusmobility.com to confirm our latest offers. †Details of the Student Plan are available at telusmobility.com/student. ‡Unlimited Web browsing applies to PCS phones only and applies to usage within the phone's Web browser. Tethered usage is not included. Downloads and application fees are charged separately where applicable. Web browsing is only available on digital phones in TELUS digital service areas. **Offer available to new activations only on a 3 year service agreement. ††Offer available until September 30, 2008. Applies to new activations with Bundle 15, 20 or 25 for a minimum of 3 months on a 3 year service agreement. © 2008 TELUS.