

THE JOURNAL

MARCH 9TH, 2005

VOL. 70 #21

THE JOURNAL HAS BEEN THE SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY STUDENT PAPER SINCE 1936

PLEASE
"VOTE YES"
SAVE THE JOURNAL

TO EFFECTIVELY SUSTAIN YOUR CAMPUS NEWSPAPER, *THE JOURNAL*, DO YOU AGREE TO AN INCREASE IN *THE JOURNAL* FEE FROM \$2 PER STUDENT PER SEMESTER TO \$4 PER STUDENT PER SEMESTER?

YES

NO

PLEASE VOTE YES TO THE JOURNAL FEE WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT
YOU CAN SAY YES OR GOODBYE, BUT PLEASE SAY SOMETHING

U-PASS NEXT YEAR? IT'S UP TO YOU

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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Can you spare a toonie?

BY KATE ROSS & MARK LAYMAN

It's sad to say, but Halifax's oldest student newspaper, *The Journal*, has been having a bit of trouble keeping up with the times. For those who are unfamiliar with how our organization works, please listen (read) closely. We are independent – any student can become a member and have say in our operations. As a newspaper, we generate about two-thirds of our revenue through advertising sales, which cannot be relied upon. Ad sales are extremely competitive in Halifax as it stands now. If we raised those prices, we may never sell any, since *The Coast*, *HFX* and *The Gazette* are also in the running. Since readership is primarily made up of SMU students, *The Journal* also receives a \$2 per-student levy in the fall and winter semesters to balance the rest of the budget. (\$2 is one of the lowest student paper

levy's in Canada) *The Journal* receives this annual levy of \$4 from each student on campus through fees paid at registration. Our level of funding has remained unchanged since the first fees for *The Journal* were introduced. Although we respect the fact that university costs are rising every year, we must appeal to the student body for sufficient funding. In our current air of poverty, we ask of our students an extra few dollars to make sure the largest physical medium of student expression will be available to students for years to come.

We will be holding a referendum on Monday, March 14th and Tuesday, March 15th. You'll find our ballots will share another referendum table on those days, so you can get all your supporting done in one easy stop. The referendum question will ask the students to support a \$2 increase to the current

\$2 per-semester fee in order to help the paper solidify its near and distant future as an independent voice on campus.

Due mostly to increasing newspaper printing costs, as well as decreasing revenue from national advertisers, the product you are holding in your hands has taken a noticeable hit to the income department. These national advertisers often require minimum print quantities, although the revenue covers the printing cost of the minimum 10,000 issues. This may answer the commonly-asked question of why there are so many copies printed. We will lose large amounts of revenue if our print quantity shrinks. It is unfair to compare the current state of affairs to ten years ago when cigarette companies were buying full colour centre spreads on a weekly basis. The loss of legality to advertise for tobacco companies has hurt every student publication. Eight and twelve-page papers have become the norm rather than the exception, and the ratio of advertising to content has been forced way up. We even had to resort to printing completely black-and-white papers on a few occasions last semester, when our bank accounts could not allow the extra hundreds of dollars for colour ink.

The Journal is also having trouble keeping up with the increasing technological costs associated with digital publishing. Many of the office's old computers, while aging gracefully, have already outlived their expected working life. In fact, without the generous support of *halifaxnoise.com* (a local entertainment guide/website), no paper at all could have been produced since October. We are using our 233MHz iMac G3s (circa 1998) as typing stations which crash often and have destroyed thousands upon thousands of words worth of hard work. We had one high-quality computer of our own early in the year but its power supply stopped working and our funds will not allow for a replacement. This situation has caused major problems this year, and it is guaranteed to get worse without an increase in regular revenue.

Halifax is a city with a lot of competition. We need to maintain *The Journal's* local presence in the face of competition from other school papers like *The Gazette*, and larger print publications like *The Coast* and *HFX*. *The Journal* will always be compared to Dalhousie's paper by both advertisers and students; they are a bigger school with more cash, which has been resulting in a

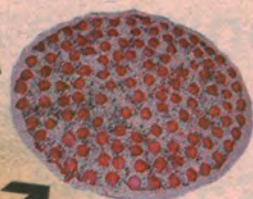
comparatively thick and more colourful paper. Please note *The Gazette* just asked for an increase to their student levy, to potentially bring their funding from students upwards of \$150,000 per year. As a smaller school what we are asking for wouldn't even bring our revenue from students' contributions to half of that. As new advertising venues open up around town our piece of the pie gets smaller and smaller. *The Journal* needs the financial stability that a levy fee increase will bring.

What you can expect from this money is continued professional design and higher quality content with less advertising on each page. With up-to-date technology, *The Journal* can continue to provide great opportunities for students to learn about journalism and digital publishing. (At least four of last year's writers applied to journalism school this year.)

We at *The Journal* are asking you to consider whether you are willing to spare two more dollars per semester to make this paper as good as it deserves to be, and to position it to keep going for years to come. An extra \$2/bux is a fair price to pay to make sure students keep their independent voice on campus. We sincerely hope you agree when it comes time to have your say.

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SMUSA PAGE

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION



::: U-Pass Referendum :::

This is to inform you that the Students' Association must conduct a referendum for the current U-Pass Program. The reason for this referendum is because the U-Pass program fee is increasing from \$110 to \$115. Because this increase is more than inflation (core CPI), the Students' Association is required to hold a referendum to determine if the U-Pass Program continues to exist or not.

The SMUSA constitution requires a minimum of 10% of the membership to vote with a 2/3 majority approval to pass the referendum.

Vote "YES" if you want the U-Pass Program to continue at a price of \$115, mandatory for all students taking 3 or more on campus courses.

Vote "NO" if you want to cancel the U-Pass Program entirely.

ON MARCH 14TH and 15TH IT IS TIME TO CAST YOUR VOTE

For more information please visit the Information Desk in the Student Centre lobby or the SMUSA main office on the 5th floor, Student Centre.

::: CASA AGM :::

March 14th-16th St. Mary's & Dalhousie are co-hosting the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Annual General Meeting

::: Teaching Nominations :::

Teaching Award Nominations Extended to March 11th. Pick up your nomination form from the 5th floor Student Centre.

::: Reminders :::

- Mar 11: Tony Lee Extreme Hypnotism
- Mar 6-13: SRC campaigning week
- Mar 14-15: SRC and U-Pass referendum Voting
- Mar 17: St. Patrick's Day at the pub.
- Mar 26: Easter Break. No Classes.
- Mar 31: Mardi Gras at the pub.



::: Scholarship Info. :::

2005-2006 Named Undergraduate Scholarship Packages

Over 100 awards available!

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Student Services

4th Floor, Student Centre

Application Deadline: May 25th, 2005

Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation

For complete eligibility information, log onto
www.awardforexcellence.ca

or drop by the Financial Aid & Awards Office
4th Floor, Student Centre

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lounge



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Open Mic**



**Thursdays
Wing Night**

Kokanee Free Ride

March 10th

Great Prizes!



**Extreme Hypnotist
Tony Lee @ S.U.B.
on March 11th at 9:30pm
Ticket Sale @ Info Desk**

The Gorsebrook is open only to SMU students, SMU Alumni, and their guests.

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PLEASE VOTE "YES" MONDAY & TUESDAY

The Journal is the student news paper of Saint Mary's University. The paper is published each Wednesday by The Journal Publishing Society, and funded in part by the student body. All students are welcome to submit pieces of work for publication in The Journal. These submissions should be received no later than 12:00pm Monday at The Journal offices. All pieces are subject to The Journal guidelines for submission, available on request. The opinions expressed in The Journal are those of the authors and not necessarily of The Journal or Saint Mary's University.

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VOTE "YES" FOR THE JOURNAL FEE

SRC ELECTIONS

ARTS REPRESENTATIVE

EILEEN HINDS

During my years at St. Mary's I have made a point of involving myself with SMUSA because I believe it is the heart of the University. I have volunteered for SMUSA that last three years doing everything from helping to set up events to stuffing envelopes. I have been an energized frosh leader for the last two years. Most importantly I currently hold a job at the Information Desk with SMUSA. The job has given me the experience of working with students. I have heard all kinds of concerns from students, and this is why I think it makes me a strong candidate for this job.

AMANDA STONE

Currently I am in my second year at SMU and I am involved with numerous aspects of the Saint Mary's Community. I am an RA, a SMUSA Volunteer and I also work with first year students at the Centre for New Students. I have learned, with past experience in student government, how to meet the needs and concerns of students. As your representative of one of the largest faculty's at Saint Mary's I will ensure that your needs are met as well as keeping you informed about current events and issues. I will be a strong voice for Saint Mary's Arts Students.

COMMERCE REPRESENTATIVE

SEAN KAVANAUGH

I believe in making SMUSA a place where all students feel comfortable going to, to voice your ideas and opinions. As Commerce Rep. I plan on bringing awareness of the services and opportunities the SRC can provide you, the students. I will do this by:

- Making information about the various societies accessible and up to date.
- Creating a monthly Commerce Newsletter stating upcoming events and opportunities.
- Planning events to allow students the chance to meet members of the Halifax Business Community.
- Help returning students with the adjustment to the BANNER system.

I have had experience planning and fundraising for major events and campaigns with the Cobequid Educational Centre Grade 12 Leadership Class, and the AIESEC society here at Saint Mary's. I feel that this experience will enable me to be an effective and dynamic representative.

MICHAEL KEATING

I am a 3rd year Commerce student with a major in Management. During my time at Saint Mary's I've been involved with various aspects of the school including 2 years in Residence, Commerce Society and Frosh Leader. As your Commerce Rep I will address a number of key issues, which affect all university students. First, I will effectively increase communication between students, societies, and SMUSA. I would also like to see an increase in participation of all SMU sponsored events. Finally, I plan on making improvements to existing tutorial and education

services. In closing, I wish to let all students know that as your Commerce Rep I will represent the needs and interests of each and everyone of you.

RYAN LIVINGSTON

I'm motivated to help improve the commerce program at Saint Mary's and represent you in the SRC. Any issues you may have will be dealt with promptly and to the best of my ability. I also have years of experience assisting international students, and I strongly support a diverse learning environment.

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

SEBASTIAN CAREY

Look into the eyes of an international student and see the following questions:
 - Where do I get information on immigration and visas?
 - Why are my differential fees rising so fast?
 - How does the credit transfer process work?

Look into my eyes and see SOLUTIONS. Through my knowledge of the issues facing you and my experiences both as a student and in union negotiations I can find the way to represent all your concerns to the SRC and Saint Mary's administration.

Feel free to contact me at sebas.carey@gmail.com for information on my plans for the upcoming year as International Representative, or to share your ideas and concerns for a better Saint Mary's environment.

Whether it is negotiating with credit transfers, providing information on various SMU resources or lobbying to increase international awareness, the drive, passion and intelligence of Sebastian Carey will be put to work for you. Change begins with us.

CRISTINA LOPEZ

My name is Cristina Lopez and I am a 2nd year Commerce student studying Global Business Management and Marketing. I have been passionate about a number of things. However, my biggest passion is get to know more about different cultures and languages, and I feel that having such a big interest in cultures makes me a good candidate for this position. I am willing to represent the interests of my fellows' international students, since I myself have experience some problems in the university as an international student.

As International Student Rep. I would:

- Promote and facilitate the understanding and the principles of multiculturalism between international students and the University community
- Assist International students to the best of my abilities
- Encourage and enhance the participation of international students in campus life by organising events

OFF-CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE

COLLEEN BARRINGTON

I'm a 1st year Arts student that has been involved with SMU since my first day. I have experience that would directly lend itself to Off Campus Rep. I am currently First Year Rep. I have also volunteered for CASA campaigns, the U-Pass Referendum information table, the improving of SMUSA policies, and have been involved in the local music scene for two years.

The Off Campus Rep sits on the Entertainment Committee. I have been involved in the entertainment industry. My experience qualifies me for the position but I also plan on helping students deal with their parking issues and their concerns with the U-Pass.

Feel free to stop me in the halls or email me at Colleen.Barrington@smu.ca because I would love to chat with you about why I would make a terrific Off Campus Rep.

RHYS MACDONALD

Experience:

- President, Queen Elizabeth High Student Council 2003/2004
 - Student Rep on QEH School Advisory Council 2003/2004
 - Student Rep on QEH/St. Pat's School Steering Team 2003/2004
 - Student Rep on SMU Food Committee 2004/2005
- Objectives:
 • To make the voices of off-campus students heard on the SRC
 • To strengthen off-campus students' awareness of SMUSA
 • To ensure the issues of off-campus students are a priority (i.e. U-Pass, parking, storm days)
 • To promote the participation of off-campus student's participation in SMUSA activities

JOHN VO

I am a third year commerce student here at Saint Mary's University, and I feel that would be the best person for this position because I am creative, motivated and experienced.

While at Saint Mary's University I have always been active in student life, and being a part of the Student Representative Council will be an excellent way for me to continue to have an active role at SMU. My experience as the Co-President of my high school student council, the Residence Representative during my first year of university, a Student Ambassador for over two years, and a current Residence Assistant, shows that I have sufficient experience for this position. As the Off Campus Representative some of the things I would like to accomplish are: increase communication between the university and off campus students; augment the number of social and educational events throughout the year; and improve the methods of transportation for students.

PART-TIME REPRESENTATIVE

PATRICIA TONER

Hello Everyone, I currently hold the SRC position of Senior Undergraduate Representative and believe my council experience will be an asset in best representing Saint Mary's students. I will make sure part-time students are kept well informed and I will be a strong advocate on their behalf. Part-time students are an important part of the Saint Mary's student community and I will make sure this continues.

SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVE

DANIELLE HISCOCK

I am a 3rd year Psychology student at SMU. I lived in residence for 2 years, the second of which I was an RA. For all three years I've taken part in the TESL Center's

Conversation Partner program. This year I became a Frosh Leader and I am currently a member of the D.R.A.F.T Team and the Psychology Society. I work for (and with) SMUSA as the Volunteer Coordinator so I have a great understanding of how the Association operates. A role as Science Rep would allow me to add my contributions at a higher level and put me as a direct link between science students and the university. In order to see results I will listen to what individuals and societies have to say and demand that our needs be addressed.

DARRELL DEAN

I am a second year science student, undertaking an honours degree in Chemistry. I am a student researcher for Dr. Robert Singer, a lab assistant, and an executive member of the Chemistry Society. I was an integral part of the Musquodoboit Rural High School Student Council Executive and a 2004 frosh leader. My goal is simple, to improve communication by networking the science societies in order to increase communication. This will facilitate better events and fundraising possibilities. Also, to make sure that the concerns, needs, plans, and ideas of the societies and the students, are known by the SRC, and facilitated with as much help as possible. I will do my best to be there for society executives to ensure that they have access the information they need to run their society effectively and efficiently within SMUSA.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES REPRESENTATIVE


JENNIFER MACNEIL

Living with blindness my whole life I understand the challenges that people with disabilities have in voicing their concerns to a population that has difficulty understanding what we face. However, I would like to attempt to bridge that communication gap in both directions. I am a passionate person dedicated to all that I do and I know that if you vote for me I will work to improve understanding between student with and without disabilities.

CAN YOU SPARE A TOONIE? VOTE "YES" FOR THE JOURNAL FEE INCREASE.

KEEP AN INDEPENDENT VOICE ON CAMPUS WITHOUT SUPPORT IT WILL SURELY DISSAPPEAR SOON.

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NEWS

Weighing the issue of the U-Pass OR WILL YOU-PASS THE U-PASS?

BY ASHLEE STARRATT

Students all over campus must well know by now of the pending referendum on March 14th and 15th of next week which will ultimately seal the fate of what many consider one of the best initiatives put forth by the University in years, and of what numerous others consider merely a milking scheme to further rid students of their hard-earned dollars. Yes, we are talking about the U-Pass, and with all the fuss being kicked up on campus surrounding the issue, the Journal decided to investigate the highly contentious topic in an effort to present the student body with an objective guide to both sides of the debate.

To begin with an explanation of the U-Pass itself, the current pass is offered at a fee of \$110 and which allows students to present the card along with a valid student ID, in order to ride the bus or ferry free of charge. Come September 2005, pass-holders will experience a \$5 increase in cost, bringing the fee up to \$115 per student. A referendum on the issue is required because the increase is greater than the standard CPI inflation rate for student programs, and a minimum of 10% of the student body is needed to vote.

This also means that of that

10% there must be a 2/3rds majority in favor of the pass in order for the outcome to be considered successful and in which case the program would continue. Currently the U-Pass is mandatory for students who are enrolled in a minimum of three on-campus courses and the same would apply to all full-time students in the wake of the \$5 increase with one exception: off-campus or online courses would now be included under the mandatory stipulation.

When asked about student sentiment regarding the U-Pass, SMUSA General Manager Rob Finn was optimistic, indicating that the program was generally "well-received" by the majority of students, stating that "of the 7000-7500 students in the program more than 80% acquired the pass within the first three weeks [of the school year], which is a good indication of use." According to Finn, Metro Transit reports also indicate high levels of U-Pass usage amongst students, as did the student survey conducted by SMUSA in February of 2003.

However, he does empathize with students who may feel the cost is a bit steep, but states that since it IS a social program inclusion is mandatory if a student "fits the criteria" of being full-time, and that the majority of the student

body does indeed benefit from the initiative. Concerning the issue of the referendum Finn states that "it is due diligence on the Council's part to inquire of student's needs". SMUSA Marketing Director Hurst Gannon echoed Finn's response when posed the same question, stating that the U-Pass is "a worthwhile program and the majority of student's feel it is beneficial. The negative perception is that it is students subsidizing other students, but since it's the best option we have for affordable transportation, I do have to support the program."

The Journal polled a group of students to find out what they thought about the situation and discovered that there was a large amount of support along with some limited grumbling amongst the campus population. According to 1st year Commerce student Rhys MacDonald: "I use [the U-Pass] at least twice a day, and yes even though I have to pay \$5 more it is worth it because it is still cheaper than to buy a Metro-Transit pass for a month. It is also environmentally friendly [to use mass transit]. I think a lot of students would be upset to lose it, because a lot of them use it who don't live in rez or have cars. It would cost so much more and tuition is already

high enough!"

3rd year Science student Brandy Pooley had a somewhat different, yet open-minded approach to the issue of the U-Pass stating that she 'never' uses it because: "I have my own car and I don't live near any bus routes". When asked how students would react if the program were to end, she responded: "I think a lot of people would be upset. I know a lot of people who take the bus, but I think you should have the option to buy the U-Pass or not".

Jessica Bitsack also polled students from different faculties, asking them three different questions: Are you aware of the U-Pass referendum? Do you want service to continue?, and, Will you be using your pass frequently? Here is the breakdown in numbers:

Three 3rd-5th year Biology students responded yes to all three questions.

One 1st year Engineering student answered yes to all three questions

One 4th year Computer Science student answered yes to all three questions.

One 2nd year Commerce student answered yes to all three questions.

One 5th year Commerce student answered yes that they didn't care about the referendum, that the U-Pass was a good service but didn't affect him or her.

One 1st year Arts student answered yes to all three questions, emphasizing that students

in rez really depend upon the program.

One 3rd year Chemistry student answered yes to the first two questions but stated that they weren't sure if they would continue using the U-Pass or not.

Despite the many diverse opinions surrounding this hot button issue the truth prevails, and that truth will be evident Wednesday morning after the referendum when the fate of the U-Pass will reflect the unvarnished sentiments of the Saint Mary's student body as a whole. So regardless of which position you support -- keep your fingers crossed!

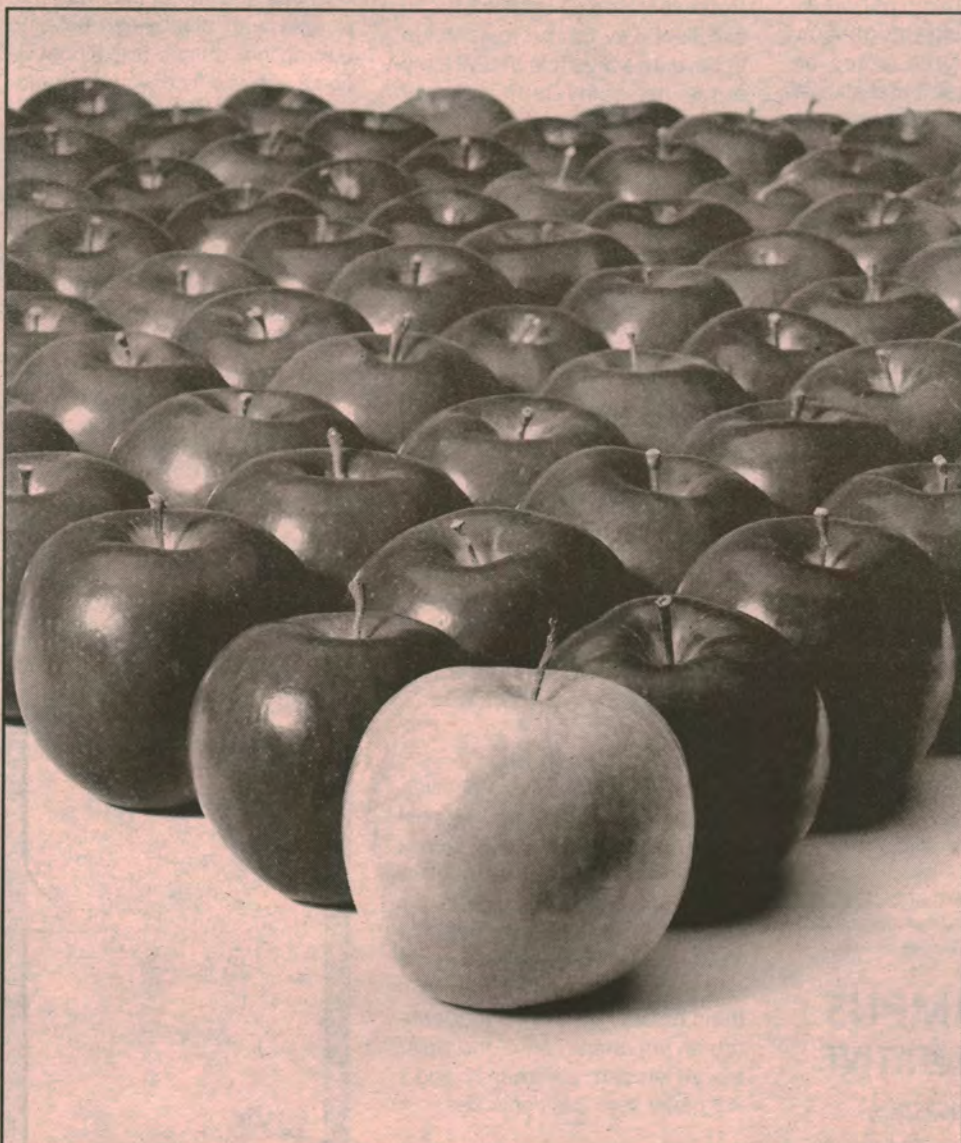
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FEATURES

THIS WEEK

@ SMU

APPRECIATION FROM THE WOMEN'S CENTRE

The Vagina Monologues was a huge success with \$2287.75 raised for Bryony House, the local shelter for abused women and their children. Thanks everyone for all the support!

PALESTINE SOLIDARITY SOCIETY: A YOUTH MOVEMENT.

1st General Meeting including an exclusive slide presentation by photo-journalist Jon Elmer called 'A Snapshot of Modern Palestine', will be held Wednesday, March 9th at 7pm in Sobeys 165. We also have a dream.

IS GOD MEAN?

A Different Look at the Old Testament will be held Thursday, March 10th at 7:30pm in Sobeys 265. Sponsored by the SMU Navigator's Society.

RADICAL TALENT SHOW

Ready for a night of talents and tricks from SMU students? Come check it out, it should be a night of adventure and fun! All money raised goes to the Tsunami Relief Fund and will be held Thursday, March 10th at 7pm in the McNally Theatre Auditorium, donations are free. Do you have a talent or cool trick that you'd like to show us? Sign up on the sheet from your RA or email: tweety saint@hotmail.com.

SMU DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY PRESENTS:

An illustrated free public lecture by forensic anthropologist Moira MacLaughlin entitled: 'Stories Bones Can Tell: The World of Forensic Anthropology. Thursday, March 10th at 4pm in the Science Building room S310, everyone is welcome!

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

SMU Idol will be held Friday, March 11th from 7-9pm in Burke Theatre A. Cost is \$2 for non-rez members. Applications are available at the Student Centre Info Desk and the deadline is March 10th, by 5pm. There are cash prizes for the top three winners.

LEBANESE INDEPENDENCE DAY RALLY

Sunday, March 13th. Meeting at Victoria Park (across from the Public Gardens) and marching to Grand Parade. Wear national colors: red, white and green and bring all of your Lebanese and Canadian flags. There are to be no symbols, pictures, chants, or signs showing support or opposition to any political party, this is a national unity march to show support for the Lebanese people regardless of political or religious belief, for the one cause of a free and sovereign Lebanon! This is a peaceful rally, Lebanon needs you.

THE JOURNAL has been the independant voice at Saint Mary's University since 1936 "SAY YES" TO *THE JOURNAL* fee increase to keep it alive.

Without your support it won't last much longer. Thank you in advance.



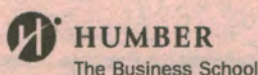
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Young New Democrats Youth Convention

BY NAT SMITH

The Young New Democrats of Nova Scotia and the Saint Mary's Young New Democrats would like to inform you of our upcoming Youth Convention. As Chair of the committee organizing this event, and as President of the SMU Young New Democrats, I would like to let you all in on what's been going on.

On March 12th and 13th Young New Democrats from across the province, as well as from New Brunswick and Newfoundland, will be meeting at the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Center on Gottingen Street. The Convention theme this year is 'Past, Present and Future.' As the youth of our party and as the future leaders of our country we believe that it is very important to learn about our Past – to understand where we came from and how we've developed into what we are today. We will also be examining our Present state as we discuss how to get under-represented groups involved and active

within politics and we will be establishing our Future when a new youth executive is elected on March 13th.

We are honoured to be able to host Darrell Dexter the Leader of the Nova Scotia NDP and Leader of the Official Opposition in Nova Scotia as well as all of our various NDP Members of the Legislature. Get a chance to meet and talk with all of these people throughout the weekend. We are also honoured to be able to have the Federal Leader of the NDP speak at our event – Jack Layton will be visiting with the convention on Saturday and if it's anything like last year he will make sure that we have a fun time.

The convention is open to all people – both members of the party and observers – for a \$20 dollar registration fee, which will give you access to all of the events taking place, all of our guests and the ability to participate in debate. If you are interested in attending please get a hold of me at the number and email address

below and I will provide anyone with a registration form and information about the convention.

This is gearing up to be the largest youth convention in the country – a feat we achieved with our extremely successful convention last year and something we would love to achieve and beat again this year – so if you are interested in learning more about the party, looking for information about any topic of interest or just looking for something fun to do on March 12th and 13th please feel free to attend the 2005 Convention of the Nova Scotia Young New Democrats.

For more information please contact Nathaniel Smith at 483-5292 or at nat smith@hfx.andra.com. You can also contact Marni Offman at 423-9217 or by email at marni@ns.ndp.ca.

Also look out for our Information Table in the Loyola Colonnade on March 8th from 10-5.

Within a month of graduation, my whole class was employed.

MELISSA CORBETT
Architectural Intern/Parks Canada

Adding our Architectural Engineering Technician diploma to her bachelor's degree helped build the future Melissa wanted. Going to NSCC helped her and many others find success. In fact, 88 per cent of NSCC graduates are employed, most in jobs relating to their field of study.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

A Surprising Turn of Events

BY BRYAN WINTERS

To much disappointment I found out on Thursday, the 3rd, that there would only be five bands from SMU gunning for the chance to move onto the next qualifying round of the Canadian Campus Explosion. Recognizing that the groups were given pretty short notice, I wasn't all that surprised by the lack of bands, but I was completely blown away by the surplus of talent. After buckling in for the show, the first band took the stage.

By the third song in *The Dark Green Grass* set, the two other judges and I thought there was a good chance that we already had our winner. They listed themselves as 'Folk Rock,' and managed to balance the style without leaning too far one way or the other for very long. With multiple vocalists, constant instrument changes, and a variety of songs and different sounds, this band was great. A simple tempo change here or a change of pace mid-song would have been the deciding difference for me. Although the songs were extremely catchy they lagged on a bit longer than was necessary at times. Possibly the most impressive thing about this band (besides the collaboration of so many instruments) was that they managed to have a lively stage presence with a dead audience, a great quality for any performer(s) to have.

Then the night's most impressive act stepped up to bat. When I spotted the cliché leather and studs, I'd figured that we were in for an elitist crew of punkers who were more pissed off opportunists than musicians. My apologies for judging somebody on their appearance (which I would never usually do) but I've just had enough of the Halifax punk scene. Punk rock was my musical genesis and I was expecting a more active, interesting scene than the Pavilion walls lined with glammed-out snobs trying to prove they're punker than thou. I couldn't have been more wrong about *The Insubordination* though, who were exactly the kind of punkers there aren't enough of in this city. Their brand of melodic anthem-styled punk rock was just what the audience needed

to get started. It was like watching *Anti-Flag* done right with just enough *Dropkick Murphys* thrown in to get a bar jumping along with them. I think the most impressive thing of all was just how quickly a mainstream audience got into the sound. Keep an eye on this band.

Rounding out the evening we had *The Fiends*, a pop-punk group with a sound similar to early *Gob*, for those of you who knew them prior to "I Hear You Calling." The band took a few songs to warm up and get into it, but once they did they were solid. The biggest draw-back was that with their title I had a feeling they'd be a *Misfits* cover band, and although they weren't, they did do two *Fits* covers. Never cover the same band twice. *Adam & Me* were listed as 'Comedy Rock,'

but they weren't funny. They were just boring, annoying, and didn't know when to get off the stage. Of four songs, two were "I Ran," by *A Flock of Seagulls*. I didn't think such a shitty song could be played worse, but for the umpteenth time that night, I was wrong. *Pants* brought some entertainment back to the stage by finishing off the night with a very radio-rock set, sounding like a puréed Q104 Free Ride. The guys seem to be talented and all, but I just wasn't interested in such a familiar, everyday sound. Note to *Pants*: It's a bad thing when you make a joke about sounding like another band and the audience doesn't realize it's a joke. Maybe next time.

For the winner of this competition we wanted a band that had an original, dynamic sound that would grab hold of its audience and leave them shaking in their

seats. *The Insubordination* will do just that when they compete against the other regional finalists at Acadia.

P.S: For anybody interested in loud, aggressive punk rock, be

sure to check out the *Rise Against* show at the Forum Multi-Purpose Room on Monday, March 14th. They will be accompanied by *Alexisonfire* and *The Fullblast*, and the cover is \$17 in advance or \$20 at the door. See you there.



At the battle of the bands *The Insubordination* were "#1"

Something A Little Different

Stephen Franke & Noises From The Toolshed bring their furiously played fusion of groove, jazz and dirty dog to the Attic, Friday, March 11th.

The performance is part of an eastern tour with a first stop in Toronto to showcase at Canadian Music Week.

Songs For A Platinum Blonde Diner Waitress, their delicious debut, has already garnered an Outstanding Instrumental Release nomination at the Western Canadian Music Awards. With hard bop/jazz and New Orleans funk, a dash of Zydeco, and aye carumba Cuban rhythms, Stephen Franke has created a monster collection of gypsy groove/jazz tunes. The band has

shared the stage with the likes of Little Feat and DJ Jazzy Jeff and on this tour open for one of their heroes - John Scofield.

There will also be a CD release this coming Friday night by the Blue Engine String Quartet featuring Cliff LeJeune on vocals and Paul Simons on the keys. The CD, *If It Be Your Will...* Songs of Leonard Cohen, is a grand collection of classical attempts at some of Cohen's most noted works, including a beautiful rendition of (my personal favourite) "Everybody Knows." This is an extremely entertaining CD that guarantees an enjoyable performance live. They will be playing at the Soho on Argyle at 8:30PM, and I'll hopefully be in attendance to go into further review of the album and the performance itself.

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SPORTS

Lady Huskies upset Dal, brought back down to earth by UCCB

BY BILL HUGHES

Saint Mary's Huskies women's basketball team entered last weekend's AUS Playoffs with few expectations, as they finished the regular season with a less than impressive 7-13 record. This combined with the fact that they would be forced to face a Dalhousie club that doubled SMU's win output in the regular season and it appeared as if the Huskies were in over their head. In addition to a few other crucial details and this matchup appeared to be, at least on paper, a complete mismatch. The Tigers won all four regular season match-ups against their rival's while reeling off 11 of their final 14 regular games. The story was quite the opposite for a Huskies squad that suffered through a 3-8 stretch run.

What the Fredericton crowd witnessed was a stunning performance from SMU's Jamie Walker who led a second half resurgence for the Huskies on the strength of 14 of her 24 points.

The game was going mostly according to plan for the Tigers from the opening tip as they shot out to a nine point lead and led 31-27 going into the locker room at the half. Unfortunately for the Tigers, the second half provided for a much different result. The Huskies came out as a rejuvenated team and looked as if they would refuse to let their rival's complete a season sweep in the most important contest of '05. The comeback was initiated by both Jamie Walker

and Heather Rudderham, who scored 15 of the Huskies first 17 points of the second half. Rudderham's third three pointer of the second half helped the Huskies regain an early 40-37 lead.

Walker's efforts were not only recognized on the offensive end of the floor. The Huskies offensive stand out was also extremely effective in holding Tigers all-star Ryan McKay, who averaged 16.6 points per game in the regular (2nd in the AUS) to only 8 points with a stand out defensive performance.

Also chipping in offensively for the Huskies were the usual suspects, Laura MacPherson and Alise Brown, who finished with 17 and 11 points respectively.

Only moments after the Huskies had regained the lead, they went on a 14-3 run to go up 51-40. The Tigers responded with a 9-0 run of their own and brought themselves to within two points, before Walker dropped two tough back-to-back layups in the paint to push the margin back to six points, as the Huskies led 57-51, with only three minutes remaining.

The game then turned to crucial shots from the free throw line that would determine the end result. Walker hit four consecutive attempts from the charity stripe to maintain SMU's advantage but then missed her next two attempts, those that could have been certain to eliminate any Tigers hope.

Kelly Donald took over the comeback attempt for the Tigers and

continued to have a solid game that saw her score 12 of her 15 points in the second half, including five in the final 15 seconds of regulation to pull the Tigers to within one point. Despite a valiant attempt to single handily resurrect her squad's playoff hopes, Donald missed her most crucial shot of the season when a potential game tying free three clanked off the rim and was rebounded by Saint Mary's. Any hope of a dramatic Dal comeback was crushed by Alise Brown who knocked down a pair of free throws at the other end of the court to salt away the SMU upset victory.

The 65-62 win was a great confidence boost for a SMU club that lacked in that department all season. They would have to pick up their game a few extra notches to be able compete with the nation's number seven ranked and 18-2 regular season AUS champion UCCB Capers.

On this afternoon the Capers demonstrated why they came into the AUS tournament as favourites and as the team best equipped to do some damage on the nation stage.

The end result was not pretty for the Huskies as they were dominated all afternoon long enroute to a disappointing 21-point, 80-59 blowout loss.

Both clubs got a twenty-plus-point performance from their respective stars as Laura MacPherson contributed 22 points to the Huskies cause, while Kelli McHugh registered a game high 25 points to lead her Capers into Sunday's

AUS final.

The difference in this contest was depth as the Capers finished with three players in double digits and conversely MacPherson was the only Huskies to eclipse the ten point plateau.

Following an emotionally draining upset victory over the Tigers less than 24 hours before, the Huskies looked rather sluggish, and scoring sensations from the previous game, both Jamie Walker and Heather Rudderham, who scored a combined 33 points one night ago, could only muster 14 against the high octane Capers game.

The other real difference between these two clubs on the afternoon was evident in the field goal column. The Huskies shot a respectable 40.3% from the field, while the Capers continued their torrid shooting pace in recording a 52.9% clip.

The other two Capers to finish in double digits were Heather Ross and Maureen Murrin, who finished with 17 and 12 points respectively.

Laura MacPherson was the player of the game for the Huskies as she added 11 rebounds and a 66.7% field goal percentage to her 22 point performance.

The loss capped a weekend highlighted by the thrilling upset win over Dal and a predictable loss at the hands of the regular season champion Capers. With the exception of the victory over the Tigers, the season was mostly an unsuccessful one for a SMU squad that will look to retort this off season in hopes of turning in better results in 2005-2006.

Huskies standout Laura MacPherson was honoured this past weekend for her strong season. She was recognized by conference coaches when she was named to the AUS first all-star team. MacPherson, a fourth year Husky, led SMU in scoring with 14.1 points per game (5th in the AUS), in rebounding with 8.8 rebounds per game (2nd) and in field goal percentage at 54.5% (4th). MacPherson led the conference in double-doubles with eight.

Men win regular season finale, prep for playoffs

BY BILL HUGHES

The Saint Mary's Huskies capped off a successful regular season with an impressive 94-85 home court victory over the Acadia Axemen.

The win pushed the Huskies record to 11-9 as they secured the third seed for this coming weekend's conference championship tournament at Halifax Metro Centre.

By halftime the win appeared to have already escaped the Huskies grasp. SMU looked sluggish as they struggled to find motivation in what was a meaningless contest for a Huskies squad that had already assured themselves the third seed.

Coach Quakenbush could have easily used their putrid

first half performance as an excuse to rest his star players but the Huskies came out and had their best second half of the season. SMU refused to let the Axemen walk off their floor with a road victory and put on a show to the tune of an incredible 65 point second half performance including an astounding 69% shooting performance from the field.

SMU's Nelson Carvery led the comeback and recorded a Huskies season high 33 points in the process. Four other Huskies led their balanced attack as Jerome Goodman finished with 14 points, Jon Thibault with 13 points, Damian Gay with 12 and Geoff Williams followed suit with 10 points. Mark Ross distributed

the ball well to the Huskies lethal shooters and finished with seven assists.

The balance scoring attack was a great sign for the Huskies, who have everyone shooting the ball well going into the playoffs.

Clint Bateman had 25 and added nine rebounds, Jared Budd dropped 20 points and Nick Landrigan scored 13 in the losing effort for the Axemen.

The Huskies move on to Thursday's quarterfinal matchup against a yet to be determined opponent. Game time is 8pm. If the Huskies prevail in the quarterfinal, they will move on to a semi-final match up against the second seeded UCCB Capers on Friday at 8pm. Saturday's final is set to tip off at 7pm.

The CIS Final 10 is set to take place from March 17-20 at the Halifax Metro Centre.

NEWS & NOTES

BY BILL HUGHES

THREE HUSKIES OFF TO CFL COMBINE

Three members of the Saint Mary's Huskies football team will have the opportunity to showcase their skills on March 19th and 20th at the CFL's annual pre draft evaluation camp in Ottawa. Running back Les Mullings, the 2003 AUFC MVP, defensive lineman Tim Macdonald and defensive back/linebacker Sebastian Clovis will all be present among the 40-45 players from the NCAA and CIS. The two day combine serves as an opportunity for players to showcase their skills and for team officials to evaluate the prospects. The players will be put through drills and timed tests that will rank them by speed, strength and agility, giving CFL draft teams the opportunity to directly compare the athletes and help the teams in their preparation for the CFL draft in late April.

MACSWEYN A FIRST TEAM AUHC ALL-STAR

As small consolation for their second round exit from the AUHC playoffs, Huskies co-captain Kurt MacSweyn was selected to the conference's first all-star team. MacSweyn, in his final season as a Husky, led the team in scoring with 26 points and finished second in AUHC plus/minus with a plus 14.

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This contest thing is getting exciting. We received a few emails regarding the guide-