



Bored of the Board

BY CHRIS CLEMENTS

The launch of the new SMUSA website meant the launch of a new SMUSA message board. This new board didn't sit well with the community of posters who inhabited the old SMUSA forum. Many members of the online community would have preferred the old spam-infested forum over the newer, unfriendly message board.

Jaymee Goh (Jha'Meia on the boards) took control of the situation and helped get a new board (located at www.smusa.ca/forum) created. I recently had a chance to ask her about the forum situation.

The Journal: You designed a new forum for the SMUSA website. Why?

Jaymee Goh: Because the current one, written for us by Rampage Technology, sucked. It didn't have the features the old PHPBB board which Chris Richards (VP External of 2003/04) had prepared for us.

And I didn't design it so much as badgered SMUSA for a new one. The last phpBB forum [on the old SMUSA website] was unruly and unadvertised because no one would claim responsibility. This current set of forums, however, will have moderators and thusly is more community friendly.

And the swear filter is off. Because we trust students to be mature. (laughing) Most usually are, thankfully.

TJ: One can assume then that people will be taking responsibility for this new board. Who might these people be? Who's going to moderate the boards, and will there be a push to advertise their

existence?

JM: Technically, SMUSA Communications will be in charge of the content on the website. Basically, I told SMUSA over and over again that someone needed to be in charge, volunteered myself, and Jeff sent me the administrator account. I wasn't planning on doing anything at first, but decided no one would mind a little takeover on my part. Chris Cheney is the resident techmonkey.

I plan on pushing its existence, mostly by word-of-mouth as well as by opening up new threads of discussion. People need to feel like they can have a voice – the forums will provide this space. Although moderated, there will be a greater amount of freedom as well as accessibility for the regular student who may not have the time or inclination to seek out a SMUSA staff member.

How it takes off, though, will depend on the students themselves. The door is always open.

TJ: It's been said that once people stop talking, it can be hard to get them started again. What makes you think that the small community from the old message board will migrate to the new boards?

JM: Because the small community from the old board – REALLY likes talking. I kid you not. They are the people who want to be heard. They stayed even when Chris Richards left, and they came back even when we switched to the interim board (which sucked). They're just quieter now because the interim board is less user-friendly. Furthermore, just because they've stopped talking doesn't mean they aren't lurking. They might just not have anything to say.

"COOL" TIMES DURING CHILL OUT WEEK

BY ADAM LORDON

SMUSA Winter Chill Out was a success once again this year. SMU students had plenty to choose from this year and came out to enjoy all the different events.

Chill Out 06 started off with a bang Wednesday night with the Brain Freeze event, followed by one of the busiest Open Mic nights of the year. At Open Mic a pool tournament was held and after a long, tough competition Danny was crowned the pool champion and was awarded the coveted Jim Beam cue ball.

Thursday brought us an exciting pie eating contest that saw 15 people try to chow down on as much apple pie as they could in 5 minutes. After the entertaining 5 minutes had passed and the pies settled, there was a tie between Renaldo Lewis, an Aramark employee and crowd favorite, and Ian Drummond. Following the judgment the unrest from the other competitors hit a boiling point as the remnants of the pies began to fly across tables. Chill Out and Aramark authorities struggled to stop the commotion, which subsided after a couple of minutes.

Also on Thursday the skating party was good times featuring a CD of today's hottest tracks spun by DJ Laura Stanford and free hot chocolate. That night the pub was once again rockin Roman style as our Olympic Toga Party took place. The decorations were very fitting and more than a few students took the opportunity to feel like Caesar.

Friday the carnival took a competitive turn as 32 teams battled

it out for dodgeball supremacy. From 9:30am until 5:00pm the Tower was home to some of the hottest dodgeball action of the new millennium. Teams such as "The Pigoasters", "The Ball Busters", "The Nutcrackers", and "Team We just got out of bed from doing your mom" all looked to take home the dodgeball title and trophy. But as the day progressed the semi-finals featured Team Chuck Norris vs. Hazardous #2, and The RAs vs. Team Scume. Team Chuck Norris and Team Scume both advanced to the finals where Team Scume was victorious, winning the best of 5 match-up in 4 games. Those who attended the final game, cheered the remarkable accomplishment of Team Scume, who beat out 21 other teams and won 5 matches of dodgeball in one day.

Also Friday in a SMUSA first, our winter carnival featured a Ski Trip. Around 70 SMU students headed out to Ski Martock (once the bus finally left the parking lot) for a day of epic fun. Later that night trivia night and karaoke ensured the pub was the place to be for the third straight night. Trivia was really fun as AIESEC put on an excellent show and Team Super Delicious Gibbons prevailed in a hard fought match with Team We're Better Than You. Later during Karaoke there were several solid performances throughout the night, highlighted by Dr. Cory Pye who brought the audience to their feet on more than one occasion.

Saturday night was the Winter Wonderland Semi-Formal featuring the Melotones. Over 175 students made sure the band felt

welcome in the Student Center Lobby. Everyone was busting a move, as the night was boogied and jived away. Many people arrived in an extra good mood as they had made their way over from the International Night which is always amazing.

And now it's all said and done SMU, I hope you enjoyed Winter Chill Out 2006 and I want to send a big thank you out to all of the volunteers who helped make the week happen. If you have any feedback good or bad about the winter carnival please contact by email at adam_lordon@hotmail.com, or by phone at 496-8731.

As Queer as the Birds

AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE A QUEER POSITIVE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

BY KATHLEEN LEAMAN

Rainbow Alert! If you thought Saint Mary's was lacking in the queer department, think again.

This semester, a student driven group, the newly christened Queer Positive Community, has taken shape to fill the void of a supportive space for discussing issues of sexuality, identity and gender. The group had been named the Queer Positive Community, or QPC, in an attempt to include as many identities as possible.

"It's open to all people including gay allies" says QPC member and 3rd year student Vanessa MacKinnon. The term gay allies includes any individuals who don't necessarily view themselves as queer but wish to support individuals who do.

The group is being facilitated by Donnie Jeffery, a councillor at

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S.M.U.S.A. PAGE

Society Expo

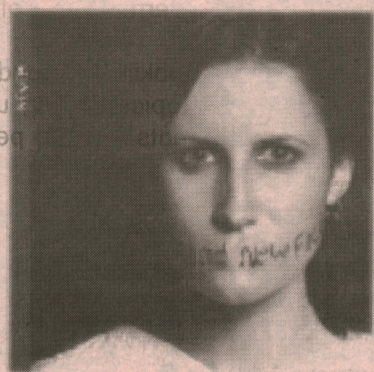
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Never

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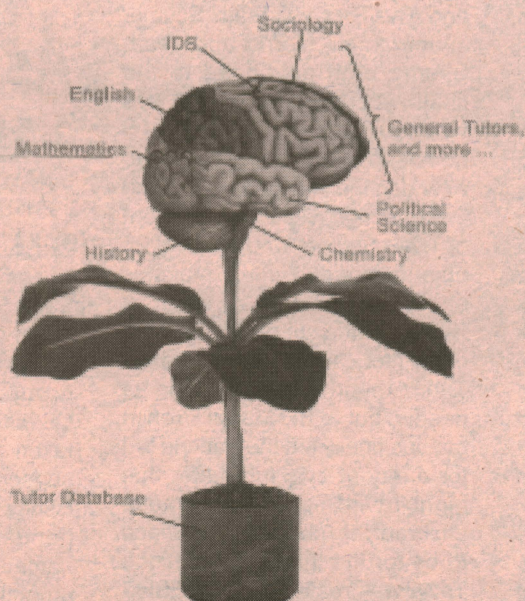
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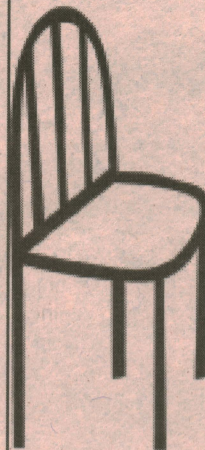
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Contact your SMUSA VP ACADEMIC

Olivier Jarda at

VPACADEMIC@SMUSA.CA



SMUSA Executive Election Nomination Period:

Monday January 30th, 2006 until
Friday February 3rd, 2006

- President
- Vice-President External
- Vice-President Internal
- Vice-President Academic
- Academic Senate (3 seats)
- Board of Governors (2 seats)

For more information, please see Pamela Feltmate
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OPINIONS

ARE LIKE ~~ASSHOLE~~ EVERYBODY HAS ONE - LET US KNOW YOURS: THEJOURNAL@GMAIL.COM

ALL SIZES AND SHAPES CAN BE BEAUTIFUL...

This eating disorder week has got me thinking about this girl I know, who I don't think has an eating disorder in the eyes of society, but I am worried for her health, more so her mental health. After she saw the documentary "Super Size Me" a few years ago, which is about the extreme side of eating fast food, she became obsessed with her eating. She does not let herself eat any fast food, checks the nutrition guide on everything she can, and feels very guilty when she eats sweets, even in excessive moderation, then contemplates purging but never has yet. She has recently lost 15lbs on an already small frame, but still thinks she can improve her body. She doesn't want to be anorexic because she thinks it looks "gross" but likes that her hip bones stick out and that you can see her ribs. She feels guilty when she eats three full meals a day, but always eats very healthy. Where does she fit in all of this? She even likes that her clothes are big on her, though she cannot afford to replace them all.

In a starved society, she knows that being thin won't guarantee her a boyfriend, more popularity, or any other real benefits, so why does she do this? Yes she must be affected by what she sees on television or in magazines, but she is surrounded by "normal sized" people, so why is she so hard on herself? She also has lost focus on school, has not much interest in seeing her friends anymore, so there is an obvious hint of unhappiness, but she isn't necessarily anorexic or bulimic.

I think it's great that this week we are acknowledging there is a problem with eating and body image, and we should try to somehow see the people who aren't on the extreme sides of the issue, but have the potential to be, and recognize that while probably in our lifetimes there won't be much positive change, maybe someday there will be, and that all sizes and shapes can be beautiful, to ourselves.

Christina Copp

Miss Biz likes to argue...

Like a lot of people before an election (I am careful to not say most people, because... well, I am not sure that is a true statement), I tend to research each of the running parties before deciding upon my vote. Even after the election, however, I couldn't help but want to know the histories of the parties and the long-standing issues that have comprised their platform since their inauguration. I won't write about this information today (even though I am sure it would benefit many people), no, today I just want to vent a little.

This is where I will vent. First off, I will not be imposing any of my political biases here, rather, I want to make sure that you are all informed about a great injustice I (and many other Canadians) see, despite what political party you may follow. Our democratic voting process, I would say, is fair - if you are comparing it to let's say, Cuba. But I just cannot justify it when the NDP receives 17.5% of the voting population's vote, which translates into 29 seats, and the Green Party receives 5.6% of the voting population's vote, and they get nothing! Not one seat. And to make matters worse, in the last political debate, the Green Party's leader, Jim Harris, was not able to debate because of his party's "small" minority status. This is shocking. According to the Miami Herald, Canada had approximately 22.7 million registered voters for this election.

Using the percentages from above, 3,972,500 people voted NDP, while 1,271,200 people voted Green - and the NDP have 29 seats while the Green Party have none? I'm sorry, but there is something very wrong when a large number of Canadians are outweighed this drastically in Parliament. If you look at it this way, our voting system is not very democratic. No matter how many arguments and discussions I have had about this issue in the past week, it just doesn't sit well with me. I mean, is our voting process really fair when you look at the numbers? And when you think about it, the Green Party does stand for something very fundamental that we can all relate to - despite social class or belief. It stands for improving and saving our environment. And without the environment, we are all goners anyway so maybe all of this is just a pile of crap. Then again, maybe I'm just a !@#\$-disturber who likes to argue.

I'd really like to hear your take on this issue or other political issues. Jacqueline.Howatt@smu.ca.

DEDICATION TO SELF EMPLOYMENT

Having the pleasure to publish my business "Presto Services" www.HalifaxPresto.com at last week's ACE CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT, I would like to share my ideas of exploring entrepreneur opportunities as an alternate way of employment.

Looking for good jobs are hot topics among university students. Some people are searching employments continuously; some are planning on further study and hope to be able to get good jobs in future.

It is so frustrating that too many post secondary students and graduates are rushing for so few job vacancies—at least 10 people are completing for each position. And almost every employer requires "one year work experiences". The students without experiences are trying to put some "soft skills", such as "communication, interpersonal, etc." on their resume. Some people just have to spend long time trying to, but may not be able to get one job can related to their education.

Looking forward to further education is just a probability of getting good jobs in future. Higher education does not absolutely mean better employment for everybody. Even I might have better opportunity to get dreamed employment by further education, but finally one day, I still have to get through the frustration of looking for employments. And only thing can be sure: the amount of my student loan will be further accumulated.

Seeking self employment is a good way to guarantee good jobs for myself. I am the kind of person with real "soft skills" but have not been able to get an employer to notice me so far. Now I do not like to spend an average of more than one hour to writing a good looking cover letter and resume to one "potential" employer, and try to send out applications to 100 "potential" employers. Finally may not get anything

at all. Or at least I have to spend a long time—may be one year for networking before I can get a good job. I have heard enough stories of university graduates not getting good employments. Why bother with trying to work for someone else? Operating my own business is a real way for exploring good employment.

Some people may ask: What if the business does not success? Well, if I do not try it, I will never be successful. My computer services company is a very good learning experience for now. It only needs very little investment, and I only count it as an extra income if I do make money. One thing I can be sure, whatever difficult or success in my operation is a good learning experience. I can generate better ideas on future business opportunities.

How about being an entrepreneur for full time? Of course I need to do market research, careful planning, and to apply for a business loan. The main difference is I am not alone, if my loan can be approved, it means other people think I will be success too. And I can have a mentor to help me on the operation, in addition, SMU self employment centre and business development centre can also be counted on.

What do I worried about? Risk? The potential rewards from operating my own businesses are much overweighed than the risks of fail. What do good jobs bring in for us? Good income? And something else? Operating my own business seems to satisfy all I need. Besides the money I might earn in long term, I can offer special services for students at anytime I like.

- Huang Yi Feng

KEEP 'EM COMING
SEND YOUR STUFF TO:
THEJOURNAL
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As Queer as the Birds

AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE A QUEER POSITIVE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

CONT. FROM COVER

Saint Mary's Student Services. Jeffery had offered to help a group get started last semester but eventually it faded out. He was also involved in the now defunct SMU Outreach Society which met regularly to have open discussions about sex, sexuality and planned activities on campus.

"A common denominator should be respect" says Jeffery. The group plans on drafting a confidentiality agreement to keep the meetings private and create a safe space to talk about what may be controversial issues.

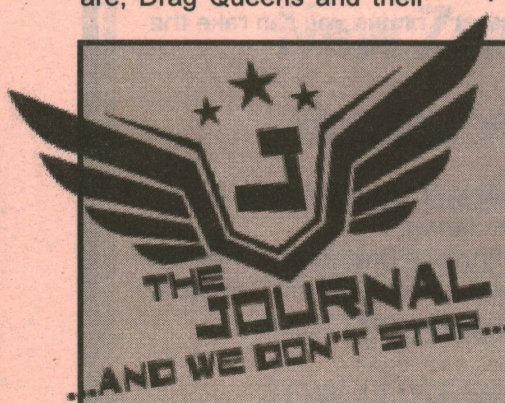
Some of the issues to be tackled in upcoming meetings are; Drag Queens and their

role in society; Queer politics/ Queer theory; Stephen Harper and gay rights; Sexuality and Gender content in Saint Mary's courses, as well as upcoming community events.

Overall as Vanessa McKinnon says, "The QPC seeks to create a socially transformative space on campus..." which is essential in this day and age.

The Queer Positive Community Meets Tuesdays at 1 pm at 411-A, Student Union Building. Contact Donnie.Jeffery@SMU.CA for further info.

Next meeting is Tuesday At 1pm in Room L188.



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the fine print:

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 or email addresses. We prefer electronic submissions. When in doubt send submissions to thejournal@gmail.com.

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.

NEWS

THE BIG FREEZE

Why do so many downtown shops seem to shut down in winter?

BY KATHLEEN LEAMAN

During winter in Halifax, everything seems to shut down. Restaurants cut their hours back, some stores shut down all together and even Spring Garden seems to close at six. Loss of revenue during the winter months is often attributed to the off season. This creates a deficit in the need for downtown shops and services and severely limits the venues and work hours for many student employees without creating a valid alternative to meet the needs of student income.

In order to examine this issue more thoroughly, I headed down to one of the most tourist driven areas in Halifax, The Historic Properties, to see how they've been hit this winter by the big freeze.

My first stop was The Harbourside Market, where I spoke to full time fourth year arts student Jennifer Comeau about her job at Timothy's world coffee. She's been working at this location for 3 years and says that she's seen a large drop in the amount our tourists she receives in winter recently, with "only a few random people from Europe" stopping by to grab a coffee. She feels local traffic has declined because the management mainly caters to tourists and doesn't really focus any attention on attracting a local customer base. "Why would the locals come here? They've seen it all and it's too expensive" says Comeau.

To gain a different perspective I spoke with one of the regulars at Timothy's, Plenio Nesladech. Originally from Italy, Nesladech says he's lived in Halifax 31 years because he's "traveled the world and it's the best city

I've ever found". But he thinks there are not enough people in a city the size of Halifax to support areas like the historic properties throughout the winter. When I asked him how the management of downtown areas could draw more people to their establishments, he joked perhaps with a "woman in a bikini."

All jokes aside, it seems that business has officially traveled out of downtown and into the ever expanding exurbia of Bayers Lake... or has it? Robin Harnish is the owner of the Burger Gourmet in the Harbourside Market. She says she sees some success on the waterfront in the winter. Even with a lack of parking, she notes there are still "7000 people going to the Farmer's Market on Saturdays." Perhaps the lack of business for some is related to the product which they are offering to consumers.

Overall, from talking to Brenda Margetts, a sales clerk at Harbourfront Fashions for 7 years, it seems the lack of business for shops downtown is just going to get worse. "People's paychecks are the same, everything else is going up higher" she says. Margetts cites fuel costs and the cost of parking downtown as the main culprits which keeps people from shopping outside the big box. Another factor is that local people are not aware of the amenities available downtown. "People think, 'that place is closed in winter isn't it?'" Margetts believes that even though the weather is cold, that shouldn't deter people from coming downtown to places like the Historic Properties, "It's a beautiful place and they should market it."

SMUSA EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS ARE APPROACHING!

Attention all SMU Students! It's that time of year again... the time to elect your SMUSA Executives. The positions open for election are:

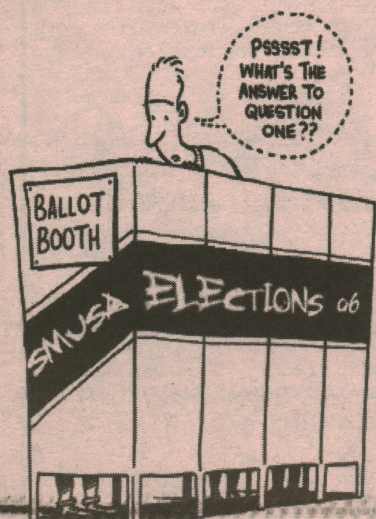
President
VP External Affairs
VP Internal Affairs
VP Academic

Nominations open on Monday, January 30th and close Friday, February 3rd. Nomination packages can be picked up starting on January 30th, from Pamela Feltmate at the SMUSA 5th floor front office.

The job descriptions for each position can be found at

www.smusa.ca under 'Constitution.'

The nominees will be announced on Sunday, February 5th, when campaigning begins.



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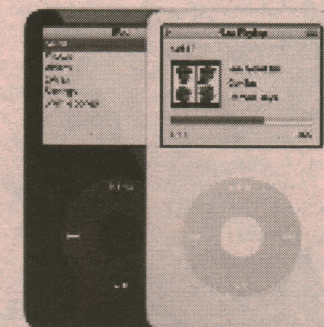
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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

International Exhibition Enlighten the Senses

BY DAVID COLLIER

Based upon Glenn Gould's 1967 sound documentary of the same title, *Idea of North*, an exhibition about sound and site is an experience for not only for the ears, but for all of the human senses. The exhibition is taking place simultaneously at three different art galleries in Halifax: Eyelevel Gallery, Dalhousie Art Gallery, and Saint Mary's University Art Gallery. The exhibition was first presented in Norway in May of 2005. It then moved to Iceland in June of last year, and finally opened here in Canada on January 12. *Idea of North* involves sixteen contemporary audio and media-based artists from the three countries, and explores the idea of sound in relationship to the northern region of our world.

The original radio documentary by Glenn Gould addresses his interests and concerns regarding isolation and solitude within the scarcely inhabited northern Canada. "Something really does happen to most people who go into the north – they become at least aware of the creative opportunity which the physical fact of the country represents, and, quite often I think, come to measure their own work and life against that rather staggering creative possibility – they become, in effect, philosophers". Gould con-

structs this documentary through five separate interviews with individuals who offer distinctly different attitudes. "We wanted an enthusiast, a cynic, a government budget-watcher, as well as someone who could represent that limitless expectation and limitless capacity for disillusionment which inevitably affects the questing spirit of those who go north seeking their future".

At Dalhousie, the piece *Hard Rain* by Norwegian artist Jana Winderen involves an element of interaction with the audience, creating a memorable and personal experience. The viewer stands in the middle of four speakers, and depending on their movements and motions, various ambient background sounds are triggered by a video monitoring system. As you slowly walk around, the sounds become either nearer or more distant, and establish an environment of mystery by combining the sounds of whispering voices, nature, and a haunting metallic hum that reminding me of tons of metal being crushed and manipulated by the weight of deep water. Some other artists' work included hand-held shapes crafted from stainless steel that contained audio devices leaking distorted sounds and music through small holes punctures in the steel, a short video of

an Icelandic lullaby playing on a cassette player, and a radio transmission by Norwegian explorer Fridtjof Nansen dealing with sound, silence, chaos, and calmness in the north.

There were two pieces at the Saint Mary's University Gallery that really impressed me by their overwhelming physical construction. They are *Sound Barrier* by Maia Urstad, and Canadian Jean-Pierre Gauthier's *Sonic Defrost*. The latter permits viewers into a small isolated room where you're immediately overcome with curiosity and fascination at the complexity of what's in front of them. What looks like a pile of useless material, styrofoam, various gadgets, two hand-drums, a rubber glove, are in fact all connected to a computer which acts as a musical composer regulating scratching sounds, and other activity that made me circle the contraption several times to pinpoint the origins of their sounds. The winding machinery is all attached by wires to sensors that either react to the gradual melting of a block of ice, or are actually the cause of its eventual demise. *Sound Barrier* takes up a whole corner of the gallery is the most physically imposing of the entire exhibition. Urstad collected and assembled 130 different CD and cassette players into a wall approximately six feet high and about twenty feet long. Only a few pieces of equipment are actually being used functionally, and intermittently play ambient radio signals and beeps. Sitting in front of *Sound Barrier* made

me think not only about the initial wonder imposed by the wall, but also about consumerism, and ideas of the intimidating aspects of sound and media.

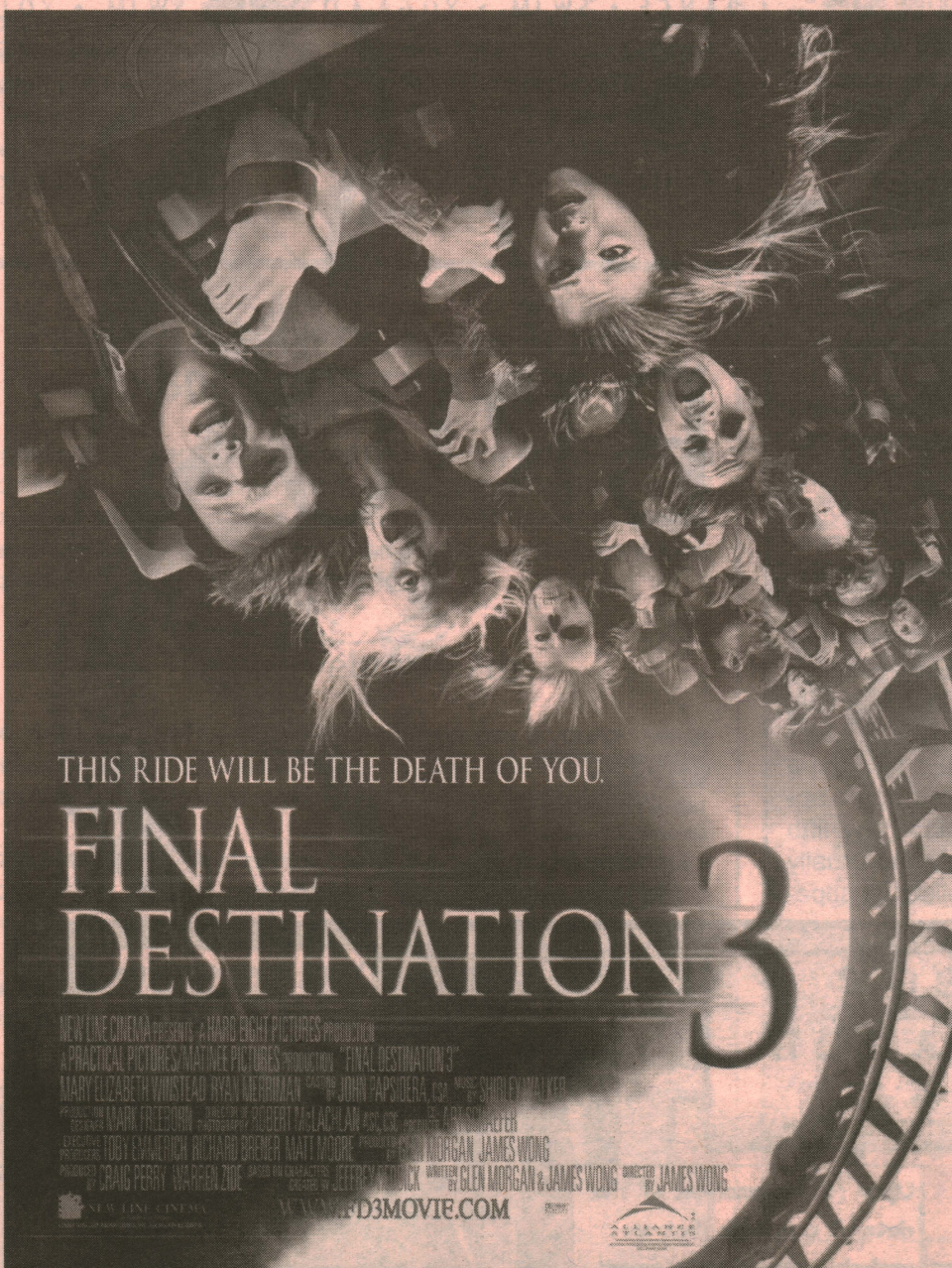
Although the Eyelevel Gallery on Gottingen Street lacked the space of the other two galleries, they still provided a worth-while visit. There was an aggressively loud video titled *Destroy My Tokyo*, compiling *Godzilla* movies, explosions, and animation, that was accompanied by a fast, rhythmic audio track that sounded like it was made with a cheap drum-machine. The most intense at Eyelevel Gallery piece was called *Pipeline* by Liv Strand, and featured a video by a camera traveling through a narrow pipeline at a violent speed, reminiscent of a trip through a neglected water-slide. This piece made me feel uncomfortable, but I was un-

able to focus elsewhere because of the speed and disorienting movement of the traveling camera, and the infrequent splicing of frames of an operating room from a hospital and the inside of the factory.

I sometimes questioned the relationship of this exhibition to Glenn Gould's original broadcast, but the work is strong in its own existence, and I sincerely suggest it for those attracted to unconventional experiences. The exhibition in Halifax features many special events including a series of unusual documentaries, artist's presentations, discussions, and other performances at other locations like the AGNS, and the Anna Leonowens Gallery. It's a little too late to get to everything, but fortunately the three main galleries will be available for visits until February 26.



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The Cut of the Edge

BY CHRIS CLEMENTS

The entertainment world is full of crap. Inundated by formulaic garbage, finding intelligent and innovative ways to while away the hours can be difficult, unless of course you have a good imagination and can entertain yourself.

This space will highlight some of the more interesting messages, organized by their medium. Things can make the

list based on their quality, their marketing strategies, their newsworthiness, anything really, so long as it sets them apart from the competition.

If you've got suggestions for a future edition of The Cut of the Edge, send them to malcore@gmail.com and give a brief description of why you think they should be on the list.

MUSIC

Arctic Monkeys

The band's debut album, *Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not*, was released in the UK on Tuesday, the 23rd of January. By the end of the week the album had set the record as the fastest selling debut album in British history and got ranked as fifth on NME magazine's list of the ten best British albums of all time.

The recording industry, for the most part, seems to believe that the internet is destroying the industry, but the *Arctic Monkeys* have built themselves a large and loyal following by using the internet. Many of the tracks from their debut album have been available for free on the internet for months, and it's not as if the public didn't know about the tracks being available - the band did a series of sold out shows across the UK based solely on the popularity of their freely available tracks.

During the above-mentioned tour of the UK, the band had not signed to any labels and decided that it wasn't necessary to sign since they were doing so well on their own. They banned industry scouts from the gigs. The *Arctic Monkeys* did eventually sign though, with Domino Records. Domino is run by Laurence Bell from his flat and Mr. Bell only signs bands that he personally enjoys.

TELEVISION

LOST

Airing Wednesday nights on ABC, this show is addictive. It's about a group of people who survived a plane crash on a crazy island inhabited by unseen monsters, technologically advanced

yet very primitive "Others" who are rarely seen and many other mysterious things that make life on the island much more challenging than just a typical survival situation.

The show is great because it is a perfect mix of character and plot driven stories. Every week ends with a cliff-hanger, but in most cases the particular story that perpetrated the cliff-hanger isn't returned to the next week, the writers make you wait another few weeks for answers while throwing more questions at you in the meantime.

The constant barrage of questions without answers has spawned a large and dedicated internet community who are trying to figure out what exactly is going on with the show. The writers realize the power of the internet and keep this community involved in a few ways.

There are websites dedicated to things and people in the show: for example Oceanic Air (<http://www.oceanic-air.com/>) is the fictional airline whose plane crashed on the island. Digging around on the website will provide information about the show which would be otherwise unavailable.

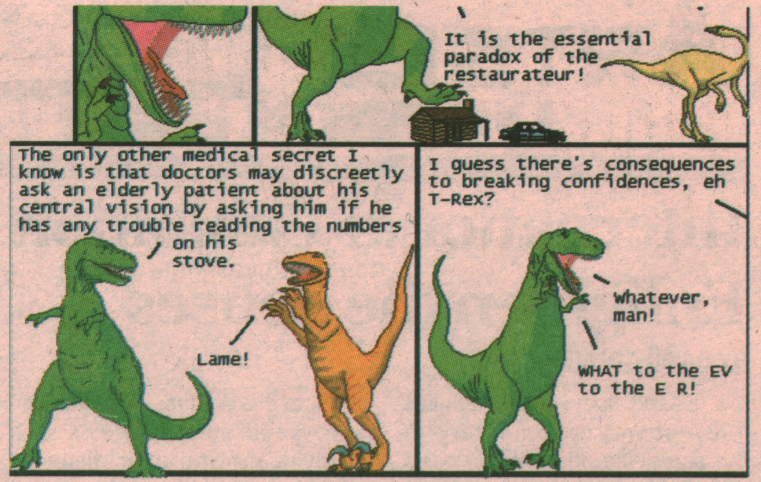
Another thing the writers do to keep the fans engaged is scour the different theories about the show and address them in the show, sometimes using specific terms created by the denizens of the fan-sites. This gives the show an air of interactivity and gets the fans even more involved as they start thinking they have some impact on the course of the show.

INTERNET

Dinosaur Comics

Updated most weekdays at www.qwantz.com, this web comic features the same six panels every day. Only the text changes. There are three main characters, all named for the type of dinosaur they are.

T-Rex is the protagonist and appears in all six panels. Dromiceiomimus is a diminutive female who appears in the third panel and is generally friendly with T-Rex, although there is sometimes sexual tension, such as when T-Rex mistakenly asks her for a "high five". Utahraptor appears in the fourth and fifth panels every day and usually acts as an intellectual supe-



rior to T-Rex. Utahraptor and T-Rex have previously had a homosexual affair which is occasionally referred to.

Dinosaur Comics is notable for the fact that the artwork

never changes and also for the subjects it deals with. A good number of the strips deal with philosophical or scientific issues which are uncommon topics for most comics.

CANADIAN RAGGAE STAR

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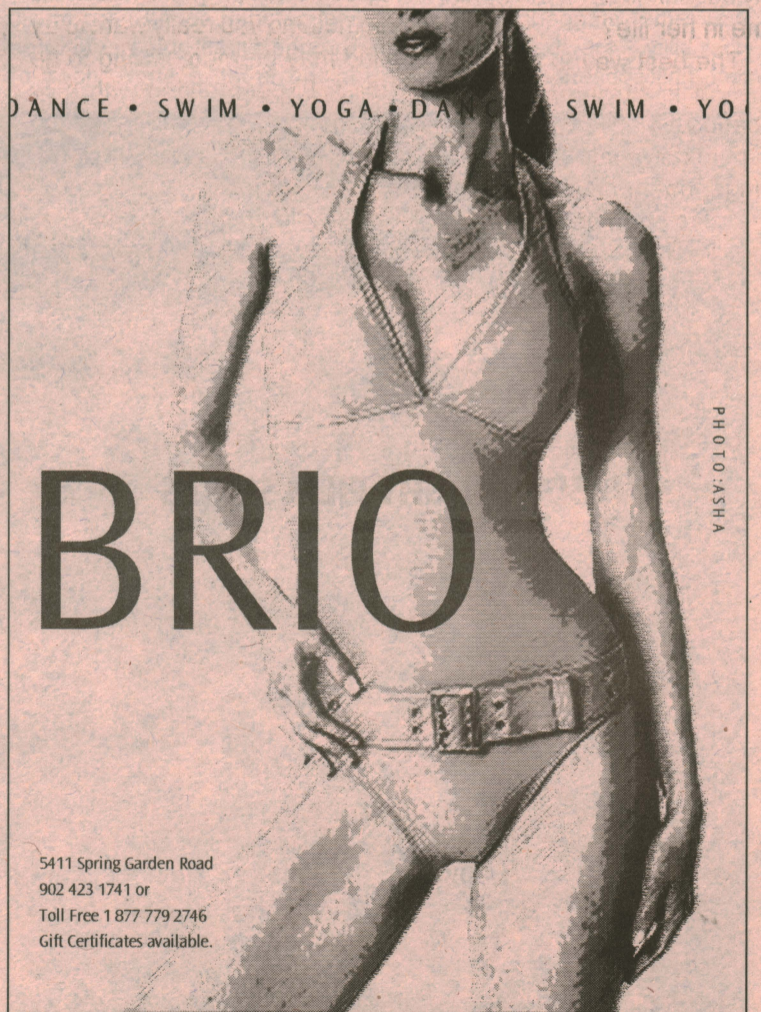
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Auditions: March 4th 2006 @ the Shauna Roberts dance center, 372 Ste-Catherine west, suite 328, Montreal, Quebec



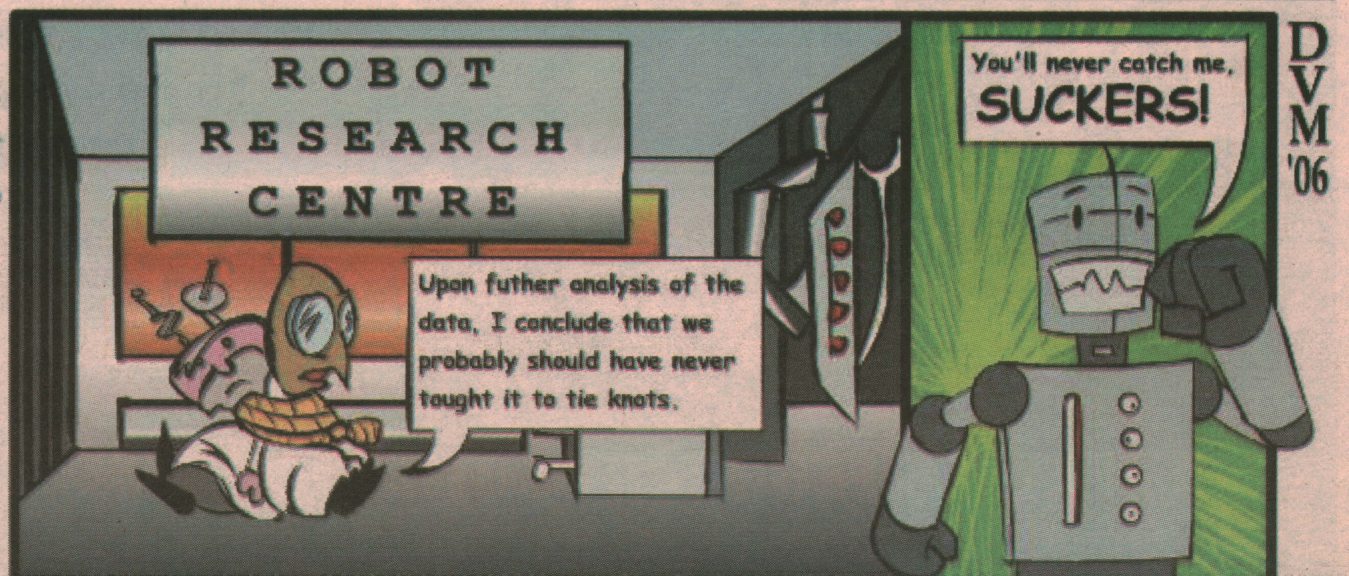
VAGINA

MONOLOGUES

The SMU Women's Centre will be performing their 2006 version of the Vagina Monologues. The show will take place at McNally Theatre Auditorium on Friday February 10, and Saturday February 11th at 7pm. Advanced Tickets can be purchased on the SMU campus through the Women's Centre or at the door on show nights.

All proceeds will be donated to Bryony House. For more info please visit <http://smuwomenscentre.blogspot.com>.

WROG N ROBOT



DVM '06

THE G*SPOT

JOURNAL.GSPOT@GMAIL.COM

Q: My girlfriend and I have been together for two years and for most of that time, we've been sexually active. However, she has never been comfortable with any kind of foreplay, like kissing or just making out. She'd rather just have me "jump in there" and do my thing. I'm just wondering, do you think foreplay will help strengthen our relationship? Does her phobia of foreplay mean that something is wrong with our relationship? Basically, how important is foreplay, anyway?

Stephanie Foster:

Foreplay is critical for a pleasant sex life.

It sounds like she is not sure what to do during foreplay. This could make her insecure, so she reverts to what she knows how to do.

Assuming you have talked about this, what has she said on her hatred of foreplay? Does she get pleasure from affection at other, non-sexual times? Has she ever had any foreplay in other relationships? Does she feel that pre-marital sex is immoral? How does she feel about her body? Is it possible that someone sexually assaulted her at an earlier time in her life?

The best way to bring her around is through communication. Let her know you want to delve into some other things, not because anything is amiss, but because you want to check out something more stimulating.

Yes, it would reinforce your bond to investigate other avenues of bodily affection, but if something major happened to her in the past that causes her to flinch away from foreplay, go easy on her. Try to edge her into it. Being over-ambitious will only scare the poor thing away.

Rick Wolfe:

First things first, I really don't think her fear of foreplay is a sign of any kind of relationship problem, especially since you've been together for a while. Don't worry about that. As for foreplay as whole, to some people, it just isn't that important. Myself? I love it. But some people just aren't into it and it seems like your girlfriend is one of those people. I've dated people who are the same way. As long as you are both expressing yourselves in a way you feel comfortable with, that's what counts.

Now, if you want to try some foreplay the easiest thing is to talk to her about it. Talking tends to do wonders (especially the dirty kind). The key is to actually have something specific in mind, not just 'you know, stuff'. If you have a specific idea, she'll know it's something you really want to try and may be more willing to go for it. Experimenting with new things can do wonders; keeps the sex fresh, you can become more comfortable with each other and finding new ways to pleasure each other are always great. So, talk to her and let us know how it goes.

Paper Cuts

A Million Little Pieces.

BY CHRISTINA COPP

I read a book over the winter break that I liked so much I thought I'd share it with anyone who likes to read as much as I do. I was hesitant to read it because it was an Oprah Book Club choice, and I thought the story would be cheesy. But I was surprised to find that it was actually very good. The book in question is James Frey's A Million Little Pieces.

Lately there has been controversy surrounding the book and it centres on the fact that Frey may not have been honest as one might expect an author to be in an auto-biography. Last week on her show Oprah even spoke out against him. I admit I was a little disappointed to hear this because if you just read it as an experience and not as a memoir you'll find that it is a fascinating story!

The story is about Frey's own experience and recovery as a drug and alcohol addict at the tender age of twenty-three. The book details the two months Frey spent in a detox centre

recovering from a raging illness that began in childhood.

Frey's writing style is very simplistic and repetitive. But where it is used, the repetition works. He uses it at the beginning and endings of simple phrases, language and situations to reinforce the dramatic theme of the story. There is a weird lack of punctuation. Random capitalization and strange paragraph breaks permeate the story, but somehow it all works.

I would definitely recommend A Million Little Pieces for anyone looking for a story with more heart, something that will stay with them long after they have finished this novel. It's raw, vulnerable and shockingly honest, and in this case I believe it to be highly effective in presenting readers the experience of one man's brutal recovery from years of addiction.

If you get a chance to read something other than textbooks, go for it (it's available in soft-cover now so it's cheaper) you won't be disappointed!

Societies Expo and Free &*%\$...Stuff

BY: JEFF LOHNES

Ladies and Gentlemen, this Thursday, February 2nd in the Loyola Conference Hall will be the 2006 Society Expo. There will be around 30 societies present to show you what they have been up to and tell you how to get involved. They represent everything from different cultures and activities to faculties and sports. Come and get information on sno2surf events and ski trips or get details on productions by our Drama society. There will also be PRIZES, including a flat of Kraft Dinner, gift certificates to your favorite restaurants and more. Just drop by a society table, get a ballot and drop it in the box and win!!! If you have any questions about the Expo or about societies in general, please contact me, Jeff Lohnes, your VP Internal at 496-8709 or vpinternal@smusa.ca.

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SMU FILM SOCIETY PRESENTS THE TUESDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES

Beginning February 7th the SMU Film Society will be screening two films every Tuesday night at the McNally Theatre. The first movie will start at 7pm and the second movie will begin at 9pm. Every month will have a different theme. February's theme is love. Admission is free so tell all of your friends.

Tuesday February 7th

The Graduate (1967)- Dustin Hoffman stars as a young college graduate who is seduced by a friend of his parents but quickly finds himself falling in love with her daughter. Starts at 7pm.

+ Annie Hall (1977)- A romantic comedy from writer/director/actor Woody Allen about a neurotic New York comedian who falls in love with the ditzzy title character. 9pm

For more information about the film series or the film society e-mail us: film.society@smu.ca

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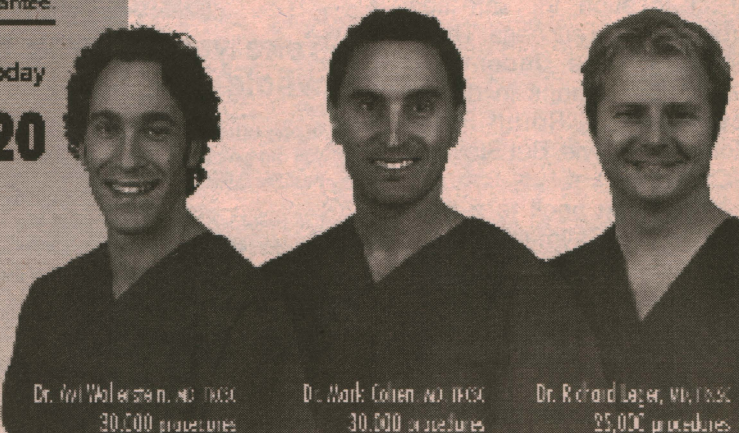
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*Medical history, 17, 1915. Age-related to contact lens wear.



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BUSINESS

STEVENS SELLS NOVA SCOTIA WITH UNCOMMON DESIGN

BY ANDREW BREEN

To establish and run a small business is difficult. To do it five times in two years seems almost impossible. But that is exactly what Gordon Stevens and his wife Trina have done. The Saint Mary's graduates have opened three Uncommon Grounds cafes, Rum Runners Cakes, and Stevens General Store in the span of just two years.

All three businesses sell Nova Scotian products in unique environments to tourists and locals alike. And with a new store opening soon, the Stevens are changing the face of the Halifax waterfront.

I got the chance to sit down with Gordon over a coffee at his Uncommon Grounds location on South Park Street. It is no wonder Uncommon Grounds won "Best Café 2005" in the Coast. The interior is comfy yet cutting-edge, with leather couches and free wi-fi.

I started by asking him about his Saint Mary's experience. "I was at SMU from 1989 to 1993. I had a lot of fun living in Loyola residence for three years. I did an accounting and finance major, I thought it was the right thing to do at the time."

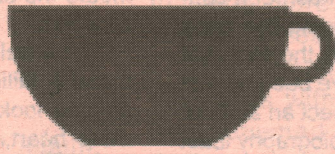
After graduating from SMU, Stevens got his Chartered Accountant designation. He worked his way up the corporate ladder, but his real passion was in coffee. Stevens had a life-long love of coffee and the desire to open a café was brewing in the back of his mind. He knew that if he didn't take a chance, regrets would haunt him for the rest of his life. So Stevens left the corporate world to start Uncommon Grounds with his wife.

With the idea of a superior product (coffee roasted in Nova Scotia) in a unique environment, they opened their first location on South Park Street. I asked him about the design of the café. "The guys at Breakhouse (Halifax-based design firm) took stuff from the back of my head, and stuff I had never thought, and brought them together."

Whether it is the look, the tasty coffee and food, or the location, the café has proved to be a success. There are now three Uncommon Grounds locations in downtown Halifax, South Park, Hollis and Argyle. But Stevens wasn't done yet.

Thinking back to a time spent in the Cayman Islands, the husband and wife team saw an opportunity to capitalize on Halifax's growing cruise ship business. "In the Cayman Islands, we saw an enormous amount of people come through on cruise ships. When they got off the boats, they would immediately look for places to shop. In Halifax, the cruise ship industry was, and still is, in its infancy. When

UNCOMMON GROUNDS



A COFFEE HOUSE

we looked at the retail presented on the waterfront here compared to the Caymans, there was really nothing."

The Stevens wanted to create a product that was synonymous with Nova Scotia. "When we thought about rum cakes in relation to the history of rum running in the province, we thought that we had something we could build a whole legend around." So the Rum Runners Rum Cake Factory was created. They make high-quality cakes using Cape Breton's Glenora Distilleries rum. The cakes are created in their Bishops Landing location in plain sight of the customer.

"We made a major effort in the packaging, design, and location of the store where you can really connect with the sea. You can see the product being made, then walk over to the telescope and see where the rum running actually occurred."

This approach of creating a unique experience for the customer is what the Stevens are all about. "Stop thinking about selling a product, and start selling an experience. With Uncommon Grounds, we thought about what the chairs feel like, what is the music like? With the other stores, is it something people haven't seen before? In the product that they take away, is there a story they can tell Aunt Martha when they hand her the box?"

With Rum Runners established as a tourist favorite, Stevens saw a chance to market a broad suite of products made in Nova Scotia while keeping a family tradition alive. Gordon Stevens' family had run the Stevens General Store in Louisburg from 1914-1999. Gordon wanted to keep the store name alive while creating a place to immerse tourists in Nova Scotian food products. The result was the Stevens General Store, also in upscale Bishops Landing.

Even with five businesses in the running, Gordon has no plan of slowing down. May 1st will mark the opening of his newest creation, Sugah. Sugah will feature handmade confections and ice cream, all made in front of the customer. Sugah will have a funky 1970's theme that is sure to be unique. Gordon thinks it will be their best store yet.

"Sugah will be next to Rum Runners in Bishops Landing. It will tie all the stores into one attraction. The candy will be mixed into the ice cream, as will coffee grinds from Uncommon Grounds. You'll see Rum Runners, see a rum cake being made, and then walk into Sugah, where you'll see candy being made. Walk another ten feet and you'll see ice cream being mixed up with the candy we just made. Then around the corner we'll be highlighting all these other products made in Nova Scotia."

THE ROCKERFELLER

1. Why are companies willing to pay so much for Superbowl commercials? What are the demographics of the audience?

At \$83,000 per second, (or \$2.5 Million for a 30 second spot) Super Bowl commercials are some of the most expensive forms of advertising on the planet. What the companies are paying for is not just those few seconds but also the hype that comes along with it. Apple's "1984" Commercial may have aired almost 22 years ago but people still talk about it. Ten years ago Budweiser's frogs went "Bud" "Weis" "Err" and people also remember them. Many people watch the game solely for the commercials and it makes these time slots one of the very few but extremely effective timeslots during the year. From a more pessimistic standpoint, it can be argued that the Super Bowl commercials are not worth the millions spent. For example, during the dotcom boom of the late 90's, many dotcoms purchased advertising spots and very few of these companies managed to attract the customer base they were hoping for. This audience changes from year to year but roughly 40-60% of all Americans tune in for the game with Canadian households typically following similar trends, not counting the viewers across the rest of the world accounting for many millions of eyeballs more. Primarily the audience is often males who are over 15 years old, although during commercials the audience does tend to even out with many women tuning in - bringing commercial airtime to an equal amount of demographics. The Superbowl audience gives companies a chance to create another "1984", which brings with it decades of free advertising and in itself is worth well more than the thousands of dollars spent during the actual game.

2. Do you think voting anything besides Liberal or Conservative is a "wasted" vote? What kind of power does the Green Party (and other marginal political groups) have if they don't have a seat in Parliament?

Although the Liberals and the Conservatives are the only parties to have governed Canada, the power of smaller parties depends only on how well these two larger parties have done. For example, before our last election the NDP held the balance of power in parliament and managed to have a "NDP Budget" of \$4.5 Billion, which is not chump change. But at the same time when the NDP had its most seats in the 1980's the Conservatives had a majority negating the majority of the affect they could have if they had 43 seats in today's parliament. From a business perspective we can consider that each party is selling themselves to us, and by voting we are giving them a share of the market. In many markets the Green's 4.5% market share, or the NDP's 17.5% would be a well-respected share. For example, Apple or BMW have had a market share of 2% in the PCs and Automobiles Industries respectively, but we still consider both influential when it comes to long term market trends. The same can go with all three of Canada's "minor" parties; the NDP brought us Universal Health Care, the Bloc has given the provinces more power and the Greens have arguably pushed part of their agenda on the environment to the fore front. Therefore to call a vote "wasted" does not make sense, unless you didn't vote at all. You may argue, however, that not getting your party's MP elected removes some of the bang you are getting for your vote, but remember that although "marginal" political groups such as the Bloc, the NDP, or the Greens forced both of the major parties to rethink their policies, which some may argue is just as important as having a member in parliament. As I said before, Apple may produce a product that only attracts 1 out of every 50 consumers, but at the same time Apple has popularized optical media, USB, mice, GUIs and many other common computer elements. Small players in any market, business or otherwise, can make a difference. The degree of which can be questionable, but that choice in the end is left up to the consumer - whether they think they wasted their money on an iPod knock-off, or voted for a minor party.

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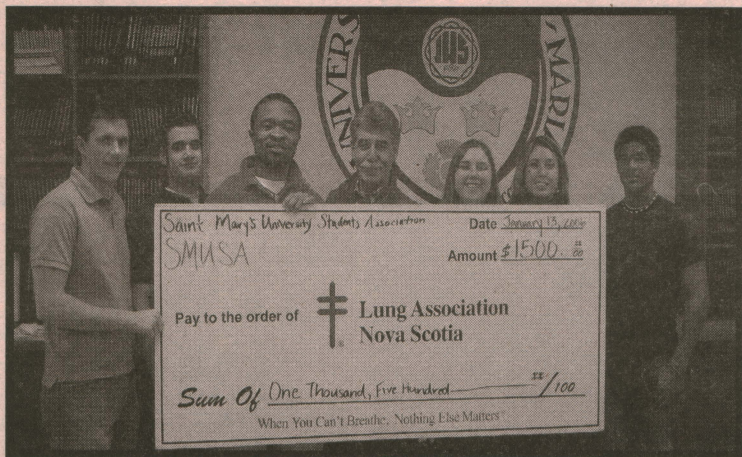
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ELECTIONS ELECTIONS EVERYWHERE...

I would like to announce that the Sobey School of Business Commerce Society will be holding an election for its 2006/2007 executive on Monday, February 6th, 2006.

Nominations for the positions of President, Vice President Internal, and Vice President External will be open on Tuesday, January 31st, 2006 until Friday, February 3rd, 2006. All nominations must be accompanied by a small photograph (preferably digital) and a one paragraph "write-up" about the candidate; these will be used to promote the nominees to the Commerce Society members.

Also, we will be holding a general meeting on Monday, February 6th, 2006 at 6:00 pm where we will first hold a vote to ratify the newly written Society Constitution, and second, introduce the incumbent executive, pursuant to their meeting the requirements for executive as set out in the constitution. To offer all members an equal opportunity to review the constitution, I've attached a copy of it to this email; should you have any questions or concerns, please let us know, in writing, before the General Meeting so we can bring these issues to the attention of the general membership.

Please note:
By-Law 9.

The members of the Executive, members and chairmen of committees, and the Delegate to SMUSA must be members in good academic standing (QPA >= 2.0), be registered as full-time Saint Mary's University students enrolled in no more than five classes per semester. Executive may consist of all eligible persons with the exception of SMUSA executive and Saint Mary's University Faculty.

In the constitution, there are official job descriptions for each elected position; however, I've also attached an unofficial description of the duties and responsibilities held by each member of the executive. Again, if there are any questions about this, please let us know.

The last, but quite important, thing is: In order to ratify the constitution, we require a minimum of 15% of our membership to vote, so please do what you can to make it to the meeting. We don't have a confirmed room for the meeting yet, but we'll pass that information along in the weekly newsletter.

Thank you,

M. Hurst Gannon
President - Sobey School of Business Commerce Society

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- Both groups will benefit from additional initiatives such as our popular travel grants, which allow them to participate in conferences and present their research findings.




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PENGROWTH


NOVA SCOTIA
Energy

THE SOCIETY PAGE

IN DEFENCE OF CHANGE:

Stephen Harper represents a step forward

On January 23, our nation took a big step away from the "friendly dictatorship" of the Liberal party towards a functioning democracy. With the return of the Conservative party, and the resurrection of the federal NDP, choice, and open debate can return to our public affairs. Anyone can agree that such a step represents a positive opportunity for Canada.

However, there are those in society who are fearful of the Conservative party and what Prime Minister Harper has planned for our nation. While it is true he has sweeping plans to reform the way the federal government does business, his views are far from extreme. His opponents have tarred him with the brush of American Republicanism, and far-right ideals, yet both are far from the truth. The accusation that Harper would take away a woman's right to choose is as ludicrous and offensive as the statement that he would militarize our streets. Such allegations are desperate and ignorant attempts to halt the debate on what sort of Prime Minister Harper would be.

During the campaign, the Conservative party outlined five objectives, they are:

- Clean up government by passing the Federal Accountability Act;
- Provide real tax relief to working families by cutting the GST;
- Make our streets and communities safer by cracking down on crime;

- Help parents with the cost of raising their children; and
- Work with the provinces to establish a Patient Wait Times Guarantee.

These are Conservative values. They are not empty platitudes or election time gimmicks, they represent real change.

His attacks on Harper and his intentions will not stop, regardless of what sort of Prime Minister he turns out to be. But before passing judgment, consider the source of these attacks and if they can be trusted to relay an impartial view of our policies, or if they represent a secondary agenda. Judge us by our words and our actions, not by the slander of our opponents.

Andrew Currie
President, SMU Progressive Conservatives
SMUPCS@gmail.com

SMU NAVIGATORS

Beating Temptation

Date: Friday, Feb. 10

We'll examine what the spiritual life is like when the focus is on beating temptation. We'll compare this to a completely different way of living that is more exciting and accomplishes much greater things.

Check us out on-line!
www.navigators.ca/smu

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM THE ACCOUNTING SOCIETY

FRIDAY, FEB. 3 IN SB260: **A Resume Writing and Interview Skills workshop.**

This workshop will be presented by the Co-op office and they will teach us how to prepare resumes and cover letters properly, as well as how to fill out a CACEE form. This information will become very valuable for those who will be applying for jobs this summer and after graduation.

Most accounting firms ask for the CACEE form when applying so it is a good idea to learn how to fill this out. There will also be a representative from KPMG to provide some interview and recruiting tips, as well as some 4th year students who have gone through the recruiting process. CMA Maritimes will be sponsoring the event and providing refreshments for everyone. This event is open to all majors as well as all years, there will be a lot of useful informa-

tion provided.

If you plan to attend please stop by the office and sign the sheet so we have an idea of numbers. This event is free of charge.

FRIDAY FEB. 10 IN SB260: **An information session will be held where representatives from CGA Nova Scotia, CMA Maritimes and ICANS will be present.** Each designation will be speaking and answering questions about their programs. The schedule is: CGA 1-2pm, CMA 2-3pm, ICANS 3-4pm, ICANS will be providing refreshments during their presentation. This event is free of charge.

Please come by the office and sign the sheet if you plan to attend!

For more information on any of these events or to sign up, stop by the Accounting Society office in the Commerce Lounge any time!

SNO* TO SURF SOCIETY

I would like to thank everyone who came out on Friday for our first ski trip of the season. I knew we were in for a fun filled day on the slopes when the bus broke down in the SMU parking lot but spirits stayed high and it wasn't long before a working bus arrived and we were on our way to Martock. We had a great mix of first timers, intermediates and seasoned pros. I saw nothing but smiling faces and red cheeks all afternoon despite one and a half trails of ice. Again, I would like to thank all 72 people for coming out and I hope to see you all again on our next trip later in the semester. We have not yet set a date for our next ski trip but we are aiming for early March. For those die-hards who can not wait, check out Dalhousie's Munroe Day, this Friday, the 3rd of February the

Dalhousie Student Union is hosting their annual ski trip to Ski Wentworth. Last year the trip sold out with 500 people at \$20 a head (includes drive, rentals and lift ticket). This trip is open to anyone, a huge hit every year so be sure to head up to the Dalhousie Student Union building and get your ticket today! Also, be sure to check out the Sno2Surf Society at the Society Expo on Thursday, we will be hard to miss! If you have any questions about the society, would like to be included in our mailing list, or you just want to tell us how much you miss the sweet sweet snow then send us a line at sno2surfsociety@gmail.com.
c o m
Cheers,
Chris Mac.

THE SOBEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS Commerce Society Update

Career Expo

The Career Expo will be taking place on Wednesday March 1, 2006. For anyone interested in helping out with the Career Expo please drop by the office.

Business Dinner

We will be hosting our annual Business Dinner on Wednesday March 22, 2006. More details to follow. For anyone interested in helping out please drop by the office.

Sobey School of Business Clothing

As you may already be aware the Sobey School of Business Clothing has finally arrived. We are currently selling Men's and Women's Golf Shirts at \$25.00 each for members and \$30 each for non-members. The shirts can be purchased at the commerce society office L288. Supplies are limited so get your shirt today!

HR Society

Are you an HR major or interested in becoming an HR major? If so don't miss out on "What can and HR Grad Expect" presented by the HR society. The forum will be taking place on January 30th, 2006 from 5:30pm-7:00pm in SB255 with refreshments to follow. The keynote speakers for this forum are Mark Surette and Erica Leal. This event is applicable to all people interested in HR. For more information please contact Joanna Reid at reid_joanna@yahoo.ca.

SEND YOUR SOCIETY UPDATES, EVENTS, NEWS & STUFF TO THEJOURNAL@GMAIL.COM

SMU IS ABOUT TO GET A WHOLE LOT FASTER

Think your fast? Its time to prove it on the track! Anying interested in starting a Racing Society that will race out of the Kartbahn indoor go-carting track in "bear's lake" should get in contact with Jamie Kidd (kidd@thebeef.net). The society will also do other racing related events. Just Remember, Rubbin's Racing!

Women, Write On!

A WEEKLY UPDATE FROM THE WOMEN'S CENTRE BY JENNIFER CRAWFORD JENNIFER.CRAWFORD@SMU.CA

Friday, February 3rd
FEMINIST FRIDAY

Bring your lunch to the Osmond Board Room (right next to the Women's Centre) for a noonhour of hanging out in an environment of feminist understanding! We have the room booked from 12-2pm, but come for however long you're able, even if it's just to say 'hello'! Staff, faculty, students and community members are welcome.

Fri/Sat, Feb.10 & 11
THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Our annual fundraiser for Bryony House will take place on these days, at the Theatre Auditorium in McNally. Help us reach our fundraising goal of \$2000!! Tickets (and chocolate vagina lollipops) on sale the week of in the Loyola Colonnade (on February 7th and 8th) and at the door. Showtime is 7pm. Tickets are \$5 for students/seniors/unwaged and \$10 for all else.

GO SOUTH!

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SPORTS

THE BASKETBALL DIARIES

The Saint Mary's Huskies Basketball team met the CIS third-ranked St. Francis Xavier X-Men this past week in AUBC men's basketball action at Oland Stadium. With over 900 fans in attendance, St. Mary's took on an X-Men team that had lost three of their last five since moving into top spot in the national rankings earlier this month. The Huskies would come out and make that stat look even worse after the attainment of a 59-53 upset win over the top seeded team

in the conference. Jerome Goodman had 19 points and 14 rebounds for the Huskies, while Aaron Duncan added 14 points. Although this would seemingly be a huge win for the Huskies, taking out the top team and all, St. FX just hasn't had the drive seen in their previous run to the top. Also last week, SMU's underachieving team had yet another chance to affect the top of the standings, while not actually being there themselves.

Taking on second place Cape Breton, St. Mary's came out rather sluggish in this one. With Cape Breton's five starters combining for 67

of the teams 71 points, the high flying Capers sent Saint Mary's home with a 71-63 loss. The Capers have now won five straight and eight of nine, after starting the season with a 1-2 record. Cape Breton destroyed the Huskies from the outside all game, sinking six of seven three-point attempts and with the four-point win, the No. 6 ranked team in the country (9-3) moves into a first-place tie with the now No. 5 in the country X-men (10-3). Jerome Goodman had 27 points in the Huskies losing effort and SMU now holds a 7-6 record on the season. Also on the score sheet, Nelson Carvery had 12 points upon returning to action just last week, after missing four games with a hip injury. Rookie point guard Mark McLaughlin added 11.

On the womens side, playing in Antigonish last week, the Huskies built a 37-13 by half time and had no need to look back, finishing the game with a 58-48 win over the X-women. Laura MacPherson led all scorers with 22 points, while Kelsey Daley, Alise Brown and Shelle Carvery added 10 each for SMU, who then travelled to Sydney holding a 7-4 record on the season.

In Sydney, Cecilia Romero had 17 points and eight rebounds, and Debbie Ruiz added 10 points as Cape Breton (11-1) demolished the SMU women 60-48. The sixth-ranked Capers now hold a four-point lead on Dalhousie for first place in the conference and improved to 7-0 at home. Laura MacPherson and Kelsey Daley had 11 points apiece in the Husky loss, finding themselves down by 10 at the half. The Capers are the team to beat this year and do not seem to be letting up as the season progresses. Their only loss on the season came early in the year to their closest competitor, Dalhousie.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Ashley Wicks WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

14 kills .
3 aces .
19 digs .
4 blocks.
She was Player of the Match Sunday v UNB

Playing steadily as a rookie, one of the best physical athletes in the league, amazing speed and jumping ability, tons of confidence considering limited experience, lots of power and smart offensive skills.

AND IN V-BALL ACTION...

In volleyball action, A game that was seemingly a mismatch on paper, turned out to be just that, as only three consecutive victories were needed to decide a winner. The last-place Cape Breton Capers managed to keep the games close, but in the AUS this year, the first-place Saint Mary's Huskies won't give you very much. SMU went on to sweep Cape Breton 26-24, 25-23, 25-19, in the Saturday afternoon play at The Tower this past week. Kristen McCulloch paced the Huskies with 13 kills and Tara Matheson added 11 kills. Ashley Wicks had 11 digs. Saint Mary's improved to 10-6 with the win.

The next night, the Husk-

ies took on UNB, while the eventual player of the match, Ashley Wicks, devastated the Reds with nine kills and eight digs. Host Saint Mary's went on to defeat the Varsity Reds in straight sets with scores of 25-20, 25-22, 25-18. Wicks, a sophomore out of Truro, was a standout high school track and field athlete with the Cobequid Cougars. The left-side hitter trails only teammate Christena MacRae in digs this season for the Huskies. MacRae notched a game-high 13 digs for the now first-place Huskies, who improve to 11-6 and move ahead of the Dalhousie Tigers for top spot in the conference.

Inconsistency Shrouds Husky Hockey Hopes


The St Mary's Husky women's hockey team suffered a massive confidence blow this past week in hockey action, losing to a team they simply can't lose to if they hope at winning a championship this season. Taking on a St. Thomas Tommies team with a below .500 record, Hannah Muir scored for the Tommies with 9:31 left in the third period with the score tied at 1. That untimely goal proved to be the game winner for the Tommies in a 2-1 Husky loss last Sunday afternoon in Fredericton. Fourth-year Tommie netminder Emily Hobbs was outstanding for her hometown school, making 42 saves and heightening her teams record to 7-7 on the year, while the CIS 8th ranked Huskies, fall to 11-3.

After two scoreless periods, St. Thomas opened the scoring 2:09 into the third when rookie forward Caroline Hammerheim of Bromma, Sweden scored an unassisted marker. SMU leading scorer Courtney Schriver had the Huskies' lone goal in the disappointing loss. The loss comes just a week after 2 important interconference victories and just a day after a 9-0 ass whooping of UPEI on Saturday, a game in which the Huskies got scoring from 8 different players. How will this inconsistency hold up going into the championship? Not well. Along with the flashes of complete dominance, we have also seen play that almost looks arrogant. Not just from the Women's side, but on the men's side as well. Underestimation of an opponent will never prosper in the world of hockey, far far to many things can go wrong.


On the Men's side, a pair of games were hosted at the Forum this past week, with UNB and UPEI coming to town on Friday and Saturday. Friday's game against UNB was huge for the Huskies as they tried to gain some ground on the league leading Varsity Reds. Sticking with the year long trend of losing any game actually encompassed with importance, the Huskies came out undisciplined and over eager defensively. With Rob Hennigar of UNB scoring his first goal in the opening frame and adding another in the second, all UNB needed to do was shut the Huskies down the rest of the game. The Huskies couldn't muster anything offensively, even off of

26 overall minutes of penalty's committed by UNB. Instead of capitalizing on the power play, the Huskies would just seemingly commit a penalty of their own, lacking any zip or motivation to put any points on the board. It wasn't just St. Mary's lack of effort that caused their offensive ineptitude. With 26 shots on the board, SMU just couldn't find any mesh behind UNB goaltender Reg Bourcier, who played stone tall the entire game.

The next night the Huskies welcomed the UPEI Panthers to town and knew they had something to prove. After getting bounced the night previous, SMU came out flying, using their ineffective power play from the night before to score 3 straight man advantage markers behind UPEI goalie Paul Drew. All in the first period of play, Ryan Lauzon netted two of them while Brad Self got the other, going into the second frame with a 3-0 lead. The second period offered a bit of a scare for the Huskies, who seemed destined to avenge the loss they suffered the night before. Adam Chapman scored at even strength and Jeff Macdermid managed to get one short handed early in the period, to get UPEI to within one upon heading into the third period of play, the score 3-2. The third period however, was owned by SMU. Rick Bowness and Marc Rancourt finished off the Husky scoring for a 5-2 victory on the night, with Cory Roberts making 24 saves (10 in the third). The Huskies finished the game with 42 shots (11 alone by Lauzon) and dominated the entirety of the game with the exception of early in the second, when they seemed a little tiresome. Lauzon, along with his two goals, added two assists as well. Scott Hotham added 3 helpers while Rancourt added two assists to compliment his 3rd period goal. With only two more weeks of regular season play left, the Huskies sit 3 points back of both St. FX and UNB more the coveted top seed in the conference. Their schedule for this week includes a weekend trip to UNB and UPEI, in rematches on the road of the previous weekends Husky home stand. The Huskies need this game against UNB to end in a win if any hope in stealing top spot in the conference is to stay alive.



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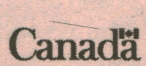
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SuperBowl Prediction: Who has more to prove?

BY ADAM COSTELLO

Who does have more to prove? Is it the Pittsburgh Steelers? Favourites to win the big game upon seasons start, but underdogs upon the start of the playoffs. Barely snatching up the final AFC playoff spot, the Steelers were not given much of a chance on the road against the Superbowl favourite Colts or a Denver team that knocked off the 2 time defending Superbowl champs, the very champs that knocked the Steelers off the year previous. But this lack of chance given to them seemed to spark this Steeler team, providing them with the biggest motivation I believe a team can receive. Having something to prove.

The Seattle Seahawks entered the season with much the same motivation it seems. For years this Seahawk team was trounced upon by media for their lack of consistency and poor play on the road. Their playoff appearances had all been embarrassing at best for years and now was as great a time as any, to prove they had what it takes to at least win a playoff game. Starting the season strong didn't do much to thwart opinions within the media. Their drive, heart and consistency still being questioned every week on NFL countdown. This season however, they didn't trail off. They didn't start blowing ridiculous leads to St. Louis or playing horrible on the road. Hasselbeck played tight all year, while Shaun Alexander broke the NFL record for touchdowns in a season. Not only did their offence stay strong and consistent throughout the year, their defence played absolutely sick through almost every game. This was a different Seattle Seahawks team. This year they had something to prove.

Which of these teams truly has more to prove? Pittsburgh had a tough schedule in which Big Ben was injured for a large chunk of. Seattle faced some tough teams, but didn't face as much competition one could assume predict they would have faced being in the AFC. Seattle's division was somewhat of a joke this season, as was most the rest of the NFC. While Pittsburgh wants to avenge it's AFC championship loss the New England last year, Seattle just wants to prove the team that lost last year to St. Louis in the first round, was an entirely different team altogether.

What about the individuals on each team? Shaun Alexander may have proved he can be a league MVP, but can he prove himself and his team worthy of a ring? Quarterbacks Matt Hasselbeck and Ben Roethlisberger both have everything to prove, both young guys that have only just established any sort of dominance during their short NFL careers. Steelers long

BY ADAM COSTELLO

The Canadian Football League will be testing the market in Halifax for a second straight year, once again stealing the game right from under Moncton and Quebec City. The right to host the exhibition contest was sought after by those to cities as well, not only this year, but last year too. Why are these other cities vying for an exhibition game? Well, because the CFL needs a new team, and Halifax, Moncton and Quebec City appear to be the front runners. Who is the real front runner? Well It seems as though the game between the Ottawa Renegades and Montreal Alouettes, scheduled to be played on June 3, 2006 at Huskies Stadium, is a quite the indicator of which city will

time running back Jerome Bettis has the most to prove out of anybody playing in Superbowl 40, making his first and last appearance in a Superbowl, that he has said will be the final professional football game of his illustrious career.

While the Steelers have already proved they are up to the task of proving anything necessary, after winning 3 strait road playoff games against the likes of Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Denver, the Seahawks may not be as prepared for the big game. With Seattle only having to go through Washington and Carolina to reach the big game, some wonder just how tested they've been so far this year, especially when heading into the Superbowl against a team that has been through so much already.

Whatever the outcome may be this weekend, someone will be able to stand up, and say they earned that shit. Upon the start of these playoffs, the Steelers were trying to prove that despite their 6th seeded position, they were just as good if not better than last year, and they have proved it justly. The Seahawks, upon the start of the playoffs, were trying to prove that this year would not end in embarrassment, and by all means it hasn't, and justly won't. Even if Superbowl 40 ends in a blow out, both these teams should be more than proud to have made it here. Essentially both have proved far more than anyone could have expected at the start of the year. Which one will prove that they are ultimately worthy of a Superbowl victory? Time will tell I suppose, but to make one final prediction after a year where I at least predicted more accurately that Shultze, I'm going to have to go with... Pittsburgh. Not because I think Seattle will choke, but because Bettis needs this game. His teammates and the crowd in Detroit all know it he needs this game. And I think he gets it.

Stadium Stall May Soon be Over

get it, although many other aspects must be considered when trying to make that inference.

The true factor in deciding which city will get the much needed expansion team, is whether or not they can get a stadium built. Halifax also is looking the most promising on that front as well, for they are currently vying for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, and if they are successful in their bid, they'll need to build a stadium. Another reason Halifax finds themselves atop the expansion race is that they already have a decent enough facility in Husky stadium, to adequately host these exhibition games in a successful manner. Moncton and Quebec city currently have no such facility, allowing Halifax to showcase for the second year, why their citizens should support their efforts in bringing a team to the province.

Last year's game, a 16-16 tie between the Toronto Argonauts and Hamilton Tiger Cats, drew 11,148 fans to the stadium, using temporary bleachers to bump up the

crowd.

Given the success of that game and the projected success in this years game, the foundation appears to be laid. All that is seemingly left in Halifax's path leading to a hopeful franchise, is the success of their bid to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games, and Halifax is already considered a city to be on the rise. With huge success hosting big events like the World junior hockey championships, World women's hockey championships and last year's CFL game, Halifax seems to be just a good a choice if not better for the 2014 games, than any other city being considered.

The reason expansion is such a priority for the CFL is the fact there are currently only 9 teams. With 5 teams comprising the West division and only 4 rounding out the East, A much needed balanced divisional playoff system would do wonders for the league, not to mention bring an Atlantic Canadian fan base into the CFL picture as well. It must also be said that even if Halifax somehow

secures money to build this essential new stadium, it must be established that a team is still not guaranteed, even if a new stadium is built.

"It's no secret expansion is a priority, and that we would like to balance the divisions," said CFL commissioner Tom Wright. "But it would have to be a good fit for the board of governors. We want a viable addition that will add to the pie, not just another hand to take from the existing pie. Even with a stadium, that may not be the case, But without a facility, those issues are too preliminary to judge."

Regardless of whether or not Halifax eventually does manage to bring a CFL team to town, the second instalment of touchdown Atlantic can be seen at Husky Stadium on June 3rd, 4pm. Montreal and Ottawa should provide another excellent display of CFL play, although this one, unlike the last, will hopefully decide upon a victor. Although much still depends on Halifax gaining support for a stadium, it is still imperative to the success of this motion, that Halifax fans continue to show their support for the CFL. Coming out for this game in full numbers is strongly recommended if you support a new football team, making a new comfortable home. In Halifax.



Last Thursday's Toga Party at the Gorsebrook was a big hit... coming up this Thursday is the Superbowl Launch Party and on Sunday Feb.5th Budweiser will be presenting the Superbowl, Live on the big screen at the pub.



HUSKIES AT HOME

BASKETBALL

FRIDAY FEB 3 VS ACADIA WOMEN 6PM & MEN 8PM THE TOWER

VOLLEYBALL

(W) SUNDAY FEB 5 VS MUN 1PM AT THE TOWER

HOCKEY

(W) SUNDAY FEB 5 VS DAL 2PM AT ALUMNI ARENA

THE HUSKIES AND CANJET WANT TO SEND YOU TO TORONTO. ATTEND THE MEN'S HOCKEY GAMES ON JAN 27TH OR JAN 28TH AND IF YOUR NAME IS CALLED YOU WILL BE GIVEN ONE SHOOT ON THE NET TO WIN A TRIP FOR TWO TO TORONTO WITH \$200 SPENDING MONEY. PROMOTION FOR SMU STUDENTS ONLY.

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