

THE JOURNAL

Est. 1935 · Vol. 72 · No. 13 · November 22nd, 2006

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

STRIKE NOT TO INTERFERE WITH EXAMS

Students concerned as tensions rise between two parties

BY KRISTIAN BERTIN

Conciliation between Saint Mary's Faculty Union and the Administration has failed. This means that the Faculty Union will be eligible to strike within 14 days of receiving the conciliator's report, which will be released sometime soon. Though no definitive date is set for the strike as of yet, SMUFU has recently pledged to withhold from striking until the new year, "as a gesture of good will to students with regards to exams and the Christmas break". SMUFU is also encouraging the Administration to take part in the agreement to hold off on a lock-out until the new year.

This means that just as The Journal predicted in last week's issue, the strike will take place in January. In a November 16th Union press release, President Haiven and Chief Negotiator Vic Catano encouraged the faculty to "carry on as usual" and to inform their students of the negotiations breakdown between the two parties.

According to Haiven, conciliation failed because the Administration was unable to bring any offers that "represented progress on all three of the major items", which include salary increase, benefits and flexible retirement. He again points to a significant surplus which he claims could easily cover these costs and keep Saint Mary's competitive within the market. He asserts that universities within their category are settling for salary increase of between 3.5 to 4.5%, while SMU, "can't even maintain the lower end of those figures." "There has been almost no movement with regards to retirement," says Haiven.

Haiven said that it is a "shame to see such a good relationship crumble." Haiven was also quoted in the Chronicle Herald as saying, "We've never had a strike [...] But somebody in the higher reaches of Saint Mary's has taken a new approach to bargaining. It's a much more hard-nosed approach, kind of like they want to take the professors and rub our noses in the dirt which is very baffling to us." Some have speculated that the Administration's "hard-nosed approach" might be an indication of a possible planned lock-out, action on behalf of the Administration that includes work-stoppage. Haiven thinks the University would be unwise, because "if the Faculty isn't angry enough by now, this would send them over the edge."

While Haiven and the Administration both maintained in the past that their relationship was nothing but amicable, this new animosity along with a number of issues regarding the strike has some students concerned.

Zach Churchill, President of SMUSA told the Journal that he is, "extremely disappointed and disheartened that both sides have failed to consider the repercussions for the students in this matter." When asked if he was surprised by the newfound animosity, Churchill stated that he had yet to see any, and that the Administration has been nothing but co-operative with SMUSA during his career in office.

Churchill wishes to reassure students, saying that, "SMUSA will be there for students, to keep them informed of potential repercussions, and continue to meet with both sides and push to meet a resolution," and, "bring student concerns to the attention of both parties." Churchill stated that there is a SMUSA plan in place for the strike, which includes a campaign to inform and engage students during the strike. SMUSA plans to distribute t-shirts and pins which encourage both parties to not forget about the students.

Zach insists that he considers the whole business to be simply a financial issue, which will require the University to re-think its priorities. He maintains that he doesn't side with either party, claiming both sides are responsible rather than just one.

SMUSA recently released a bulletin on November 13th outlining the repercussions of a strike, their first public acknowledgement of the possibility of a strike. In their bulletin they stated, "Until the information regarding the strike was made public by The Journal, our discussions with the administration and the Union were considered to be confidential and we believed it in the best interest of the Association and our members to not breach that trust by going public with a statement, especially since they were providing us with the courtesy of updates and since the negotiations were still in the early stages."

Because of this, many students feel as if they have been left in the dark regarding the strike. Victoria Craven, 2nd year English student claimed the only news she heard about the strike was from students, The Journal, and The Chronicle Herald. "I'm concerned about the strike because I'm paying for school," she says, "but no one's really said anything about it." Other students reiterated these concerns, stating that the Union, Administration and SMUSA failed to keep students adequately informed.

There will be a forum on Wednesday, November 22 at 4 pm in Loyola 177 where SMUFU President Larry Haiven and other members of the executive and bargaining committee will answer student questions about the negotiations and possible work stoppage

CASA Persuades Harper



SMUSA President Zach Churchill (right) met with Stephen Harper earlier this month

BY OLIVIER JARDA

As part of a delegation from the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), SMUSA President Zach Churchill met with Prime Minister Stephen Harper to discuss post secondary education issues, including the future of the Millennium Scholarship and the possibility of setting up a dedicated education transfer from the federal government to the provinces. Primarily due to CASA's lobbying efforts, the Conservatives included the endorsement of a dedicated

transfer into party policy. Harper indicated that the government will be bringing this idea forward for the next budget.

The meeting was very encouraging. It's nice to see that the prime minister is actually moving forward with CASA's priorities. It speaks volumes for CASA that we are an organization held in such high esteem that we are able to meet with individuals like the prime minister.

Churchill and SMUSA VP External Emeka Chibabu were in Ottawa earlier this month for a week of student lobbying. The CASA delegation

also met with the president of the Treasury Board John Beird, NDP leader Jack Layton and Liberal MP Belinda Stronach.

SMUSA also participated in a provincial post secondary education lobby day. The Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Association (ANSSA) organized the lobbying event. SMUSA is an active member of the association. Student leaders from across Nova Scotia met with Premier Rodney MacDonald, Minister of Education Karen Casey, the leader of the opposition Darrel Dexter and members of the Liberal caucus.

BUILDING THE POVERTY MUSEUM Nobel Peace Laureate Muhammad Yunus Speaks at Saint Mary's, Accepts Honourary Degree

BY OLIVIER JARDA

The doors closed one half hour before 2006 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus was set to speak at Saint Mary's last Tuesday to a capacity crowd in the McNally Auditorium.

Many criticized the University for not having set up an overflow room with a live feed. "I was turned away at 6:32PM," said Saint Mary's student Adam Khalfalla. One family travelled from Truro and was turned away. No arrangements were made because of the difficulty of running a live feed to a big enough room, given the Theatre Auditorium's location. Those who made it inside witnessed an empowering speech.

Yunus founded the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh in 1983 with the aim of allowing the poor to escape poverty by giving them loans and teaching financial skills. After

seeing people in rural Bangladesh struggle to receive loans as low as \$30, he began helping poor people receive bank loans in the 1970s by acting as a guarantor. He is now the managing director of the Grameen Bank.

Yunus, who was visiting Halifax to take part in the Global

Microcredit Summit, told the attentive crowd that he gladly accepted Saint Mary's invitation to speak because it gave him the opportunity to interact with students. Yunus is on a global campaign to spread the word on the benefits of microcredit. He said that people who don't need microcredit usually don't bother to learn about it. "Now suddenly, you need to know: who is this guy, what

is microcredit anyway?" Winning the Nobel Peace prize has helped the cause. Instead of chasing people to inform them about microcredit, Yunus exclaimed, "Now they're chasing us."

Yunus says that this all began on a university campus. As an economics professor, Yunus jumped at the opportunity to make the switch from theory to practice. He explained the frustration of being a university professor in Bangladesh "teaching elegant theories of economics" while people were dying of starvation nearby. Yunus also taught in the US, but quit his job to go back to Bangladesh after the country declared independence, in order to

"The whole banking system was standing on its head."

(See Yunus Praises.../pg. 3)

SMUSA PAGE

SOCIETY EXECUTIVE GATHERING

WEDNESDAY NIGHT @ 7PM IN THE GORSEBROOK

MEET EACH OTHER, DISCUSS JOINT EVENTS, SHARE IDEAS

OPEN MIC

WEDNESDAY NOV 29

COVER CHARGE
FOR AIDS FUNDRAISER

Western
Night

Nov 23
9pm until close

Gorsebrook
since 1974
lounge

Gorsebrook
since 1974
lounge

OLDIES BASHMENT

Friday · Nov 24th

9pm till your afro's drop.
Gorsebrook Lounge, SMU

PASS: \$2

Prizes

Best Dressed
Best Hair
Best Couple

It's time we go retro and experience the
70's like never before.
So put on your platforms and afro's and get
ready to boogie the night away.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

Gorsebrook
since 1974
lounge



Out of Africa:

Getting the News -
Shaping our Views

AN EVENING WITH JOAN BAXTER

Thursday, November 30th, 2006, 7:00 - 8:30pm
McNally Theatre Auditorium,
Saint Mary's University

In recognition of World AIDS Day on December 1st, SMUSA is pleased to welcome Joan Baxter to Saint Mary's University. Joan is an award-winning Nova Scotian author, journalist and anthropologist. For two decades, she lived, worked and travelled extensively in Africa as a science writer for the World Agroforestry Centre and as a journalist reporting for the BBC World Service, CBC Radio, Associated Press, Toronto Star, The Chronicle Herald and a host of other media.

On January 1, 2007, Joan Baxter will become the Executive Director of the Nova Scotia-Gambia Association (NSGA), a Halifax-based NGO working with youth through health and education programs in West Africa. She has just returned to Canada from her first visit to The Gambia and Sierra Leone.

During her presentation, Joan will discuss how the media shapes our views of Africa, with a focus on health and education issues.

Presentation and discussion will be followed by a reception.

SMUSA welcomes students, faculty, and staff of Saint Mary's University,
Saint Mary's neighbours, and our Dalhousie colleagues to
An Evening with Joan Baxter.

Free tickets are available at:

Saint Mary's - Information Desk, Student Centre, Loyola Residence Desk,
Information Desk, McNally Main

Dalhousie - Student Union Office 2nd Floor
Contact: Chris Ide, 494-1276
dsuvpi@dal.ca

For more information contact Mitch Gillingwater,
VP Academic, 496-8710, vpacademic@smusa.ca

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Visit us at www.SMUSA.ca

This Week
at the Pub

Mon

Come check out your favorite show
on the big screen

Tue

Trivia Night with nightly prizes

Wed

Open Mic Night with cash prizes
for SMU students

Thu

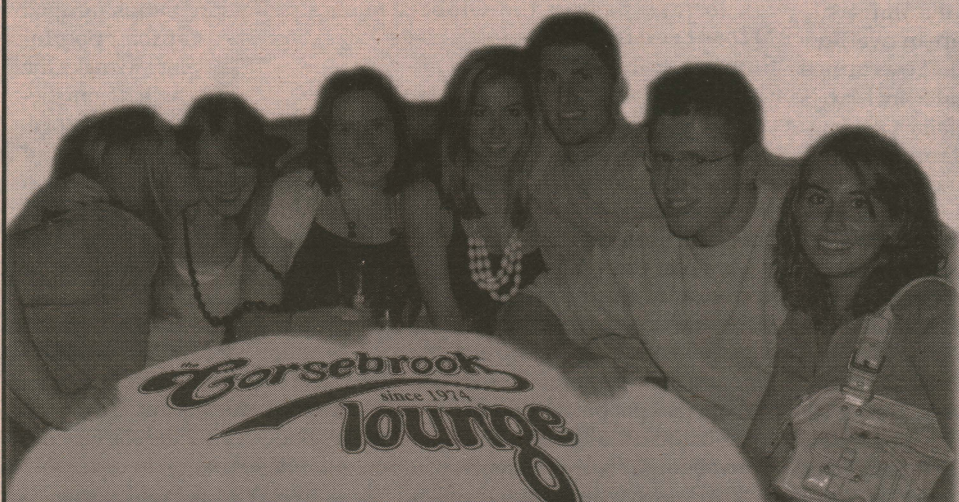
Wing Night from 6pm - 9 pm; weekly
promotions; DJ Lindelle until close

Fri

Live entertainment and special
events every week

Sat

Open for bookings, private parties,
and special events



The Gorsebrook Lounge is open to SMU students, alumni, and guests.

NEWS

SMUSA FORMS STUDENT-LED NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

KRISTIAN BERTIN

SMUSA has reported to the Journal that it is in the early stages of developing a program that will attempt to take a proactive approach to safety in light of rising violence in Halifax. The program is being spearheaded by SMUSA, but also has several offices around Halifax taking part, including Pride In Our Shared Neighbourhood, student groups and even the Halifax Regional Police.

The Neighbourhood Watch program will not only engage SMU students, but the South-end community as a whole to engage in activities that will make people feel safer. Zach Churchill asserts that he also wishes to show through the program that SMU is committed to dealing with the community in a positive manner. "The Neighbourhood Watch Program will allow students to interact with the community and give them a chance to meet their neighbours to promote safety," Churchill explained.

Alana Green, Coordinator of

SMUSAFE, SMU's safe-walk program, is also involved in the formation of the Neighbourhood Watch. As a SMU student, south-end small-business owner and member of Pride in our Shared Neighbourhood, Alana has a vested interest in the program, which she has been compiling research for.

"Our program will promote general vigilance: making sure community members are watching, and willing to report crimes," says Green. She also states that other simple steps will be taken that will promote safety, including encouraging people to better light their property with motion-detecting lights, the use of signage that indicates the presence of a Neighbourhood Watch Program, and more social events that will bring the community closer together and make them more aware of safety issues. The Neighbourhood Watch will also make use of a Police Messaging Service which will keep the community informed about important safety matters.

With programs like Safe Walk,

the U-Pass, and Husky Patrol, SMU offers several methods of transportation for students worried about rising violence in Halifax, but do students feel safe at SMU? Kyle Newell, 2nd year Commerce student asserted that he feels safe at SMU and that the University has a lot available to him. This seems to be the consensus among students, who feel that campus is generally a secure place that keeps its students safe.

Though many students live off campus in many different parts of HRM, the program will be localized around the South End. While the South end of Halifax is not as violent as other areas, Green insists that, "people are still getting attacked, robbed, and beaten in the South end, where the heart of Saint Mary's community lies." Students that live in other areas are still going to be able to get involved in the program and take part in the initiative.

SMUSA's Neighbourhood Watch Program will likely be up and running by next semester.

PRESS RELEASE

SRC Votes to Fix Typo

Halifax, N.S. - In light of recent revelations by an anonymous Journal source the Students' Representative Council (SRC) was made aware of an interesting clause in SMUSA's recently amended Constitutional Regulations that stated that the CRO, on behalf of SMUSA, was responsible for posting the "official results for the Dalhousie Student Union elections" forty eight (48) hours following the close of voting. After extensive debate, the SRC voted in favor of removing the words "Dalhousie Student Union" and replacing them with "Saint Mary's University Students' Association."

"It was obviously a very difficult decision," said Zach Churchill, SMUSA President. "But, it was eventually decided to make the change. We didn't think it would be an adequate use of the CRO's time

to post the DSU election results on our campus...although there have been some instances at Dal, where Presidents have been acclaimed that weren't actually elected by their students, that would be of interest to our members."

The process to make such amendments was very simple, as the section of the constitution in question was a part of SMUSA's regulations, not by-laws, which can be legally amended by two thirds vote of the SRC. However, the mystery behind this clause is still in question.

"We still don't know how this happened," added Mr. Churchill. "There could be a number of possibilities. This could have been a simple typo or SMUSA could have been the victim of an elaborate DSU scheme to increase their presence on our campus."

However, after the discovery of another typo in SMUSA's 17,000 word document, that was apparently not noticed by the anonymous Journal source, it was concluded that the matter was a mere oversight.

"It's too bad that the canny tipster didn't notice the second typo," concluded Churchill, "or else the Journal could have had another news worthy story."

The Saint Mary's University Students' Association is a not-for-profit organization that provides the students of Saint Mary's with services, employment and volunteer opportunities, as well as student advocacy. SMUSA was incorporated in 1966 and has continued to play a vital role in the Saint Mary's community, representing over 8500 students.

VANCOUVER BATTLES 'DIRTY WATER' AFTER SEVERE FLOODING

BY JESSE SMITH

Almost half of the Greater Vancouver Area's population continues to boil their water after wind and heavy rains began pounding the city last week. The boil order was issued to some two million people in the Greater Vancouver Area.

The first water quality issues were reported on Wednesday November 15th and the boil order followed the next day after flooding caused several mudslides. These mudslides ran into two main reservoirs and made the waters "turbid" (a politically correct term for "dirty" favoured by authorities).

Cleanup has been made more difficult by large scale power outages that accompanied the flooding. Over 55, 000 homes were in

the dark after the first night of the storm, and in some lower regions flooding has kept power from being re-connected at the time of publishing.

All this has put clean water at a premium, and bottled water has been snatched off the shelves in all parts of southern BC. Supplies are even running out in Washington as desperate consumers have crossed the border in search of a basic necessity. Fights have broken out in stores and perhaps most horrifying for some Vancouverites; coffee shops are closing for lack of brewing water.

The press release from the municipality states that "The turbidity of the drinking water...has reached unprecedented levels." But while there has been a definite loss of

water clarity there is no evidence that water quality has been affected at all.

The health officer has remained silent on the issue. Some have speculated that the precautions are because of the association of water quality, disease and scandal that followed the Walkerton tragedy.

No illnesses have been reported, though "as turbidity increases, there is a potential for increased risk of gastro-intestinal illness." The quality of water in Canada's third largest city is now comparable to that of the poorest third of the world, if only for a few days.

Environment Canada has called for at least 50 more millimeters of rain for Vancouver's surrounding areas and as much a 80 millimeters for Howe Sound.

Yunus Praises Microcredit

(cont. from pg. 1)

help better the situation in his native country.

Yunus stressed the need to work with individuals, instead of focusing on the all too common broad national initiatives, such as five-year development plans. "\$27.00 is not something that economics professors are used to," said Yunus, commenting on the amount of money a group of 42 people once requested. "This is a problem I can deal with. This is my size: \$27.00." Yunus gave those people the modest sum to pay back moneylenders. "If you can make so many people so happy with such a small amount of money, why shouldn't you do it more?"

Yunus went to the bank and asked why they didn't lend to the poor. The manager told him it could not be done because the poor could not give collateral. Yunus signed up as guarantor, and told the banks that he would be responsible for those who defaulted on loans. The bank finally agreed. It was through bank loans that Yunus began to give money to people in need. "People paid back every penny. The manager was totally unimpressed," said Yunus.

Yunus warned that in university, students imitate their teachers, and that they risk becoming carbon copies of those who taught them. In Yunus' words, students run the risk of becoming mini-professors. "Our self-identity disappears. We imitate and assume another character..." Yunus said that his naiveté helped. He explained, "I knew nothing about banking. That was my biggest advantage. If I had a Ph.D. in banking, Grameen Bank would not have been born."

Since the established banks would not cater to the poor as Yunus had envisioned, he decided to create his own bank. He went to the government, who asked why they should have a bank for the poor. The banks explained that they had enough problems with rich people, who ironically had a tendency not to pay back.

It took Yunus two years to get permission from the government. The Grameen Banks became a formal bank in 1983, after having unofficially begun in 1976. "We became a bank, knowing nothing about banking," said Yunus. "All the students who followed me were the big bosses of the bank, and they still are."

Not even 1% of borrowers were women in Bangladesh. Yunus decided that in his program, 50% of the borrowers would be women.

Yunus explained that for many poor people, borrowing from moneylenders would often prove to be ruinous. Once one borrowed money from a moneylender, that person would in effect sign his/her life away. While loan sharks were dangerous, the banks refused to lend to the poor. Yunus presented the poor with a third option, the Grameen Bank. Yunus found that conventional banks were based

on the principle that the more you have, the more you can get. "We've reversed that principle," said Yunus. "If you have nothing, you get the highest attentions from us."

Yunus is not concerned with people's past. The Grameen does not check whether someone has already taken a loan and not paid it back. There are cases where criminals who had done jail time approached the bank. One man had been convicted of murder and had recently finished serving an eight-year sentence. One of Yunus' students lamented that the man was a killer, to which Yunus responded, "Take him! That's his past." According to Yunus, that person became a very effective centre chief. He became a very decent citizen.

Since inception, Grameen Bank, which boasts a staff of 21,000, has helped an estimated 17 million people. The bank has 6.6 million borrowers, and boasts a 99% repayment rate. No collateral is needed; loans are given out in an honour system. The average bank loan is \$200. Said Yunus, "It's not because we give tiny loans that we became known to the world. We've questioned the way banking is done. We've reversed the whole banking system." A student told Yunus that he managed to turn the whole banking system upside down. Yunus replied, "I have done that because the whole banking system was standing on its head."

Yunus is a firm believer that "poverty is not created by the poor people." He stated, "Poverty is not in the person," but that "it is created by the institutions that we have built, by the concepts that we have designed, by the policies that we pursue." Yunus stressed, "We are responsible. As a university, as academics, as thinkers, we are responsible," to find out where we planted the seeds of poverty, and to clean them out.

Yunus, who captivated the crowd with his empowering message spoke with unbridled optimism. He energetically promoted the construction of poverty museums. "If each city, each county, each village can build their poverty museum, the world will not have any poor people left. It can be done." He also asked, "When are you going to build the poverty museum in Halifax?" According to Yunus, "Poverty is overcome by the people, not by some magic of the government or something else."

The goal set at the Global Microcredit Summit held earlier in the week is to get 100 million families out of poverty. Yunus is confident that this can be achieved.

Saint Mary's Vice President Academic Dr. Terry Murphy, who introduced Yunus, also announced that Yunus would receive an honorary degree from Saint Mary's University.

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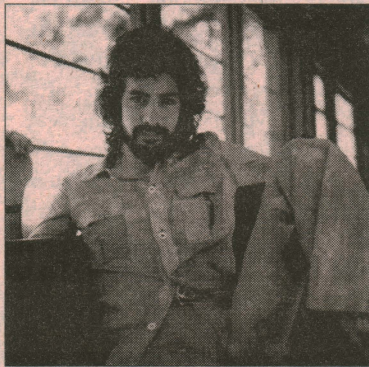
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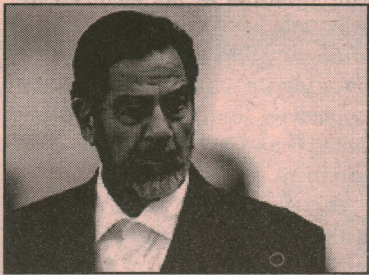
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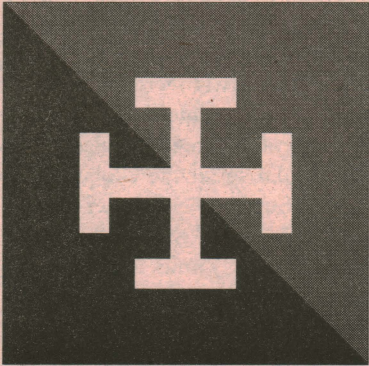
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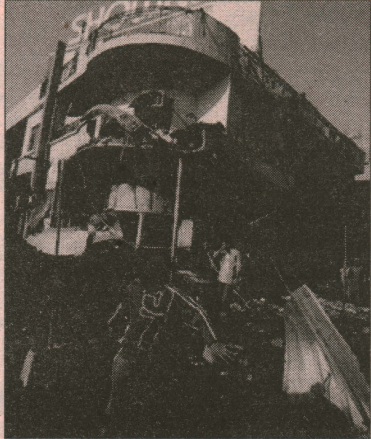
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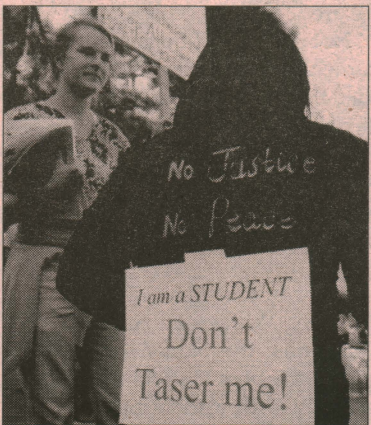
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After over 12 long years of negotiations



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From his home in Baghdad amidst bloody Iraqi massacre



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Tasered by Police 5 times for failing to produce identification on campus



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Days after rival Pakistan in show of military power

Renowned BBC Journalist to Speak at Saint Mary's for World AIDS Day

BY OLIVIER JARDA WITH MITCH GILLINGWATER

Joan Baxter, Assistant Director of the NSGA (Nova Scotia Gambia Association) and former BBC Correspondent, will be giving a presentation on AIDS awareness on Thursday November 30th at 7pm in the McNally Auditorium. Ms. Baxter will present on her work with the NSGA, which has included extensive travels to Gambia and Sierra Leone to promote AIDS awareness. SMUSA VP Academic Mitch Gillingwater is the main organizer of the SMUSA events commemorating AIDS awareness week.

Baxter is an acclaimed Nova Scotian author, journalist and anthropologist who now resides in Colchester County. She lived with her family in Africa for over 20 years where she reported for the BBC, CBC and Associated Press. Her 2001 book, *A Serious Pair of Shoes: An African Journal* won the Evelyn Richardson Award for non-fiction at the 2001 Atlantic Writing Awards.

Baxter's organization, the

NSGA also has an impressive history. The Nova Scotia Gambia Association began 21 years ago in 1985 as a development project focused on educating high school students. After a series of successful programming, the NSGA matured into a full organization that is an influential force in Gambian education. It is in no small part because of the NSGA that many Gambians actually know Nova Scotia exists. With the help of Nova Scotians, Gambians and Sierra Leonians, the NSGA has become a shining example of effective community-based international development work. Because of NSGA's narrow focus on specific areas of the Gambia and Sierra Leone, the results of its work in Africa are evident.

SMUSA VP Academic Mitch Gillingwater is ecstatic that Baxter will be speaking at Saint Mary's. He noted the importance of Baxter's message at a time when awareness, research, and prevention strategies are critically needed. "According to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), approximately 38.6 million people are living with HIV worldwide. Of these,

2.3 million are children. In 2005, over 4.1 million people became newly infected with this virus and the grim reality is that over half of all people infected become so before the age of 25 and die before they are 35".

"While the AIDS epidemic has become a global issue, so too have initiatives to create awareness and a cure for this disease. Founded in 1988, World AIDS Day was organized not just to raise money for AIDS research, but also to increase awareness and education. This day is meant to remind everyone that AIDS is still a major problem and that much needs to be done to fight this disease," said Gillingwater.

This event is open to all faculty, staff and students and the community. There will be a reception in the Theatre Auditorium after Baxter's presentation, where refreshments and more information on AIDS awareness and the NSGA will be available. Free tickets are available at the Residence Desk in Loyola; Information Desk, Student Centre; Information Desk, McNally Main and in the Dalhousie Student Union office 2nd floor SUB.

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Thinking about petroleum-related research? The Pengrowth-Nova Scotia Petroleum Innovation Grant supports researchers investigating areas of importance to Nova Scotia's growing energy sector. Up to four non-renewable \$15,000 awards are available each year for students who are beginning Master's level studies in **earth sciences, business, or engineering** at a Nova Scotia university.

Deadline for applications for the 2007-2008 academic year is **January 12, 2007**.

For more information or to find out how to apply, please visit:
www.gov.ns.ca/energy or call (902) 424-4575.


PENGROWTH


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PERSPECTIVES

PREPARING FOR FINAL EXAMS

BY ALICIA WALLACE

The final examination period has crept up on most of us. The official schedule begins in less than two weeks. The two weeks before examinations begin are extremely crucial to both professors and students. Professors must do their utmost to ensure that all material has been covered, and trying to leave at least one class for review. Students usually wait until this time to begin studying by reviewing course material. Everyone can use a little help with dealing with the exam period, and getting the most out of the available study time. Here are a few tips for you to work with:

Start now, if you haven't already.

You need to set up a study schedule with time blocks and some specific amount of material to be covered for a particular class.

This will ensure that you have the time to go over everything, and keep you on track.

You should aim to finish your initial review by the day before your last class. This way, you have time to see your professor, and ask questions to clarify any areas that may be confusing or challenging to you.

Be realistic when creating your schedule. Be sure that you are able to do what you have set out for yourself, and that the blocks of time are reasonable. Do not set 3 hour time blocks if you have a short attention span.

Ensure that you cover all sections of the syllabus.

Summarize the material in your text book, class notes, PowerPoint slides, etc.

Take note of important points as you read, on your computer, a separate notepad, or sheet of paper

Highlight in your textbook

Make notes in margins

Anticipate the material covered on the final exam

Ask the professor what areas you should focus on

Make use of study guides, coursepacks, assignments, tests, and reference material

As you review the material, be mindful of possible questions. You may want to make note of these questions, and after your review session, ensure that you are able to answer them.

Be very attentive, especially in the next few classes. Listen for clues and phrases that may give you hints on the exam. For example:

- 1) "This will be on the exam"
- 2) Questions that your professor poses to the class
- 3) Material that is emphasized and/or repeated.

Choose a proper study atmosphere. This differs from person to

person. Some people need a little background noise while others need complete silence. Determine which is right for you. You should also determine whether it is best to study alone, or with a small number of other people. Keep in mind that the people you study with should not distract you, and should be able to assist you in some way.

Remember that it is okay to take breaks. If after an hour of study time, you become bored or uninterested, take a 15 minute break to relax, get a snack, or call a friend. Simply be sure to add the 15 minutes back into your study time.

Be sure to eat regular meals, get sufficient rest, and exercise. You may even be able to read some of your notes while on a bike or treadmill at The Tower!

If you need assistance developing proper study skills or test taking skills, or need to overcome anxiety, contact Counseling Services at 420-5615 or visit <http://www.smu.ca/administration/studenterv->

[ices/coun_studyskills.html](http://www.smu.ca/coun_studyskills.html).

Since you will finish your initial review before your last class, you will have ample time to see your professor during office hours to get assistance. During the time between your last class and the exam, you should be reviewing the notes that you have made while studying, and going over material that is particularly challenging.

The day before the exam, you may choose to go over some of your notes fairly quickly. This is fine. Make a special effort not to try to cram on the day of the exam, or into the early hours of the morning before the exam. Do not talk to friends or classmates about the exam before taking it. This can cause anxiety and confusion. Trust yourself, and rely on your own knowledge.

It is a very good idea to start studying TODAY! The earlier you begin studying, the less stress you will feel when the days of your final exams draw nearer. Good luck!

NEWS TO MUSE

Peter Mackay: will he ever pay?

BY ALICIA WALLACE

On October 19, 2006 there was discussion in the House of Commons when Peter MacKay (Foreign Minister) allegedly referred to Liberal party member, and former girlfriend, Belinda Stronach, as a dog. It was during a debate over the Clean Air Act that MacKay was asked by David McGuinty, "Don't you care about your dog?" The question was meant to get his view on the effects of pollution on humans and animals. He allegedly responded by saying, "You already have her," as he pointed to Stronach's empty seat. For those who do not follow the high school romances of parliament members, background information is needed.

Peter MacKay and Belinda Stronach were once an item. They broke up in May 2005 when Stronach made the decision to cross the floor, leaving the Conservative party to join the Liberal party. MacKay confirmed, on the next day, that their relationship was over. During an interview, he was asked how he would deal with the break up. His unpredictable response was, "I think I'll go home and walk my dog... at least dogs are loyal." Obviously, by this statement, he implied that Stronach was less than a dog, and not only was disloyal to his party, but to him, personally. His comment in October 2006, we can then assume, was a follow up to this dog reference.

The media and the general public heard about the occurrence as the Conservatives demanded an apology for Belinda Stronach, the House, and women everywhere. His comments were seen as a personal attack on Stronach and bordered on sexism. In response to the media attention and public inquiries, MacKay remained tight-lipped. He refused to comment until the official transcript of the House of Commons was checked, and it was confirmed that his comment was not there. He then publicly denied making such a comment, even when several people who were present insisted that he re-

ferred to Stronach as a dog. On the audio tape, MacKay can be heard saying, "You... have her." Still, there were no apologies; MacKay simply encouraged all inquirers to check the public records, assuring them that there is nothing there to implicate him.

This kind of behavior, coming from a representative of the country, should not be tolerated, and definitely should not be encouraged. It is astonishing that he has not been forced to publicly apologize, especially since he is now seen as a sexist man. This incident is not the first of its kind for Peter MacKay. During a debate on a radio program, MacKay told Alexa McDonough, a New Democrat, "...stick to your knitting," and later had to apologize for his comment. This seems to be becoming a terrible habit of MacKay's - displaying a great disrespect for women. Does MacKay deserve to represent Canada to the rest of the world as the Foreign Affairs Minister? What action should the government have taken? He should be an example for all Canadian citizens and residents, encouraging people to take responsibility for their actions while promoting honesty, integrity, and truth. It is surprising and disappointing that MacKay was not forced to apologize for a comment that he made which was witnessed and recorded.

In addition to embarrassing himself, and proving himself to be sexist and/or immature, MacKay has proven that he lacks logic. Think back, and consider all things. MacKay, in 2005, said that dogs are loyal. In 2006, he made a comment, likening Stronach to a dog. We've all heard the logic that if A is B and B is C, then A is C. Following this logic, we gather that, in the mind of Peter MacKay, if it functions as it should, Belinda Stronach is loyal. Until he is ready to be a man, stand behind what he says and believes, and able to make sense of his verbal diarrhea, MacKay may find that it is easier to let sleeping dogs lie.

Binge Drinking: What the neighbours are saying

BY LEONARD PREYRA

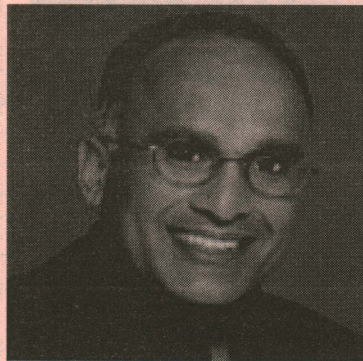
Every year thousands of students flock to the Halifax peninsula, attracted by the high caliber of its five universities and the quality and convenience of living in the "South End" of Halifax. Some choose to live in university residences and others commute or rent rooms and apartments in the surrounding neighbourhood. For the most part, this cohabitational relationship between "town and gown" residents is mutually rewarding. Students get a first-class education in a stimulating and relatively safe environment, and the community benefits from the skills, money and vitality students bring to the neighbourhood.

Unfortunately, as with any living arrangement, there are also significant challenges. In response to recurring complaints from students and long-term residents about "housing" issues, I recently organized a town hall meeting. I later participated in a series of community policing meetings organized by HRM Police Chief Beazley. In the hope of facilitating a dialogue between certain students and their neighbours, I thought it might be helpful if I used this space to summarize some of the opinions expressed and the solutions proposed at these meetings.

A vast majority of neighbourhood complaints revolve around "noise" - noise from late night parties, noise from revelers going to and returning from the downtown bars, and noise from loud cars and motorbikes. A second set of issues revolves around "security" concerns. Residents feel that alcohol-induced random vandalism and violence are endangering the health and well being of both students and the community at large. They understand that living in university neighbourhoods will bring a certain level of "after hours" activity; however, on some streets, Cobourg Road, South Street, Tower Road and Inglis Street, for example, late

night disruptions and destruction have become unbearable.

"Binge drinking" seems to lie at the heart of the problem. Most of the proposed solutions revolve around controlling the amount of alcohol consumed. Many people feel that the downtown bars have an obligation to cut off patrons who have imbibed in excess and that bars should close earlier. There are also those who argue that public drunkenness cannot be controlled, and that measures aimed at reducing and limiting the harm done



spring term, has also proven to be an excellent exercise in community building.

The recent murder of U.S. Marine Damon Crooks has served to draw attention to the problem of public drunkenness, those who prey on drunks, and the alcohol-fuelled violence and vandalism that accompany the drunks on their way to and from the bars.

In the coming weeks I will be meeting with the Mayor, selected bar owners, and other affected individuals and groups to find effective measures to address these pressing issues. I will also be organizing meetings with the university community to explore ways and means of controlling binge drinking on and off campus, the danger it poses to the health and safety of the drinkers and the community, and harm it does to the reputation of the universities and the vast majority of students who do not condone or engage in this self-indulgent and self-destructive activity.

to drunkards and the community would be more effective. For these people, one solution lies in arranging for safe and reliable late-night public transportation to and from the bars. A significant number of people believe that a stronger HRM and campus police presence and better surveillance and law enforcement in the problem areas would serve as more effective deterrents, especially to violence and vandalism.

The universities and neighbourhood groups have also tried to address these problems by creating a shared sense of community. The University Neighbourhood Watch Association, for example, has had welcome to the neighbourhood BBQs for students in the fall. Saint Mary's students have successfully launched a Pride In Our Shared Neighbourhood initiative and a Random Acts of Kindness campaign. The annual Dump and Run, a giant neighbourhood flea market organized by Dalhousie and Saint Mary's students at the end of the

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OPINION WHAT THE HELL CAN I DO?

BY TYLER KEY

I think it's safe to say that as university students most of us try to stay relatively informed as to what's happening in the world around us. Indeed with the advent of internet based news information from around the globe is readily at our fingertips. Lately however, it seems more than ever there is less and less good news. Most recently global warming has become an increasingly pressing matter. Recent studies have shown that mother earth appears to be in quite dire circumstances. Elsewhere we hear of genocide and poverty in Africa, and of North Korea testing nuclear devices in the Pacific.

Indeed it seems the world is facing a myriad of problems. If you are like me perhaps you have asked yourself this question; what the hell can I do about it? I am only one person, how can I possibly help solve these problems? Dwelling on this question can feel a bit overwhelming, especially when it seems there are problems in our own country we feel powerless to resolve, let alone those found throughout the globe. Where am I going with this? Well, I had intended to write a factual article about global warming and its recent published information. After beginning however, I found that rather than give out more bad news I would try to of-

fer a positive alternative. These are some suggestions that may help answer the question of what the hell you can do.

Volunteer, whether its something abroad, a community program or a local Big Brothers Big Sisters program often all that is required is a few hours a week. Sponsor a child, you've seen the commercials your entire life and for about 30 dollars a month (half of the average cost of a night downtown) someone very much in need could get basic necessities to survive. Vote, and don't underestimate the power your voice carries. Pay attention to your energy consumption, and try not to be wasteful. Use lights when you need them and turn off electronic devices (televisions or computers) if you're not using them. Sounds simple in theory but most people don't even take there energy use into account. Finally, keep paying attention to what is happening around the world. Make sure to be critical of the information you come across, and don't take what you see for granted.

These are just suggestions and maybe you have found a way to do something positive in your own way. If so, Kudos. If anything hopefully this article made you think about the question 'What the hell can I do?'

A&E

MOVIE REVIEW

CASINO ROYALE

BY JUSTIN PILON

It's been a long time coming and I can both happily and confidently say this: Bond is back. The series has been running for over forty years now and with its twenty-first (official) iteration the dapper super spy has never looked better.

The years have imposed their own changes on the films as their audiences' needs transformed over time. Sean Connery, the rough (though nimble) and infinitely amiable Scotsman, had to make way for Roger Moore as World War II ended and those crazy hippies wanted a more tongue in cheek and light-hearted international spy. The mid-eighties brought about a turn for the darker and more aggressive Timothy Dalton, who portrayed the character closer to Ian Fleming's original vision, a sudden departure that left many fans alienated and others rejoicing. The nineties brought about the rise of the

summer blockbuster and the Bond films had no choice but to keep pace. Pierce Brosnan introduced the series to a new generation with the oft celebrated Goldeneye in 1995 but since then has been in a downward spiral of inane gadgets, uninspired characters and the worst fate of all: irrelevancy.

Flash to present day where gritty and realistic action movies are the order of the day and Daniel Craig finds himself essentially separated from his predecessors. Roles in Road to Perdition, Munich and Layer Cake have prepared the blonde-haired blue eyed Englishman to haul the series out of its shallow and cliché-ridden grave.

Casino Royale was the first novel written by Ian Fleming featuring a tough and debonair MI6 agent named James Bond, and the movie that shares its name is also careful to share as much as possible with the source material. Similar to the book the film absolutely relishes in its own sense of reality while director Martin Campbell has the courage to push the Bond title just as he did with Goldeneye, arguably to greater effect here. The ever present opening credits almost cross the line of "iPod commercial syndrome" but are ultimately too well scripted and immersive to be lowered to such a level. Chris Cornell (yes, THAT Chris Cornell) captures the grandeur and rugged class of the film while harkening back to Thunderball and Live & Let Die.

The preceding introduction is brutal, gritty and relentless to a fault, we're immediately made aware that 007 isn't afraid to get his hands dirty. Convention isn't entirely thrown to the wind though,

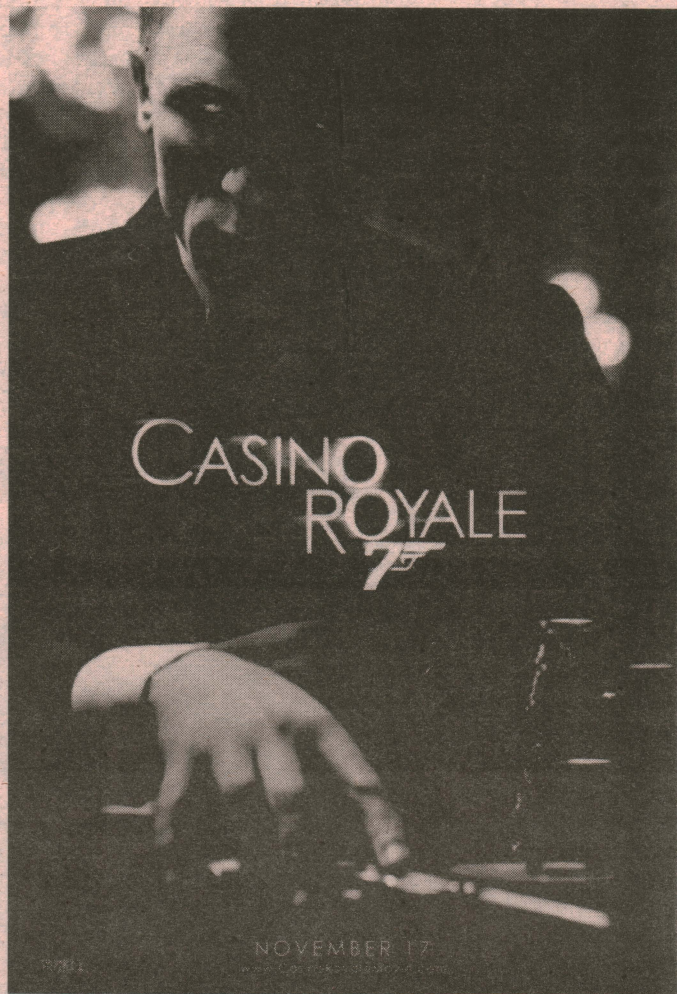
(whose fine figure you may recall from Bernardo Bertolucci's sexually explosive *The Dreamers*), Lynd is a believable and entertaining compliment to Bond's level-headed conversation style. The journey to the Casino and the accompanying banter between the two is a moment when the dialogue, provided by Neal Purvis and Robert Wade, lends itself to an uncommon clarity and wit-tiness. Lets not forget that these are the same guys that wrote the screenplays for the trite last two Bond films (and *shudder* Johnny English), and let us also thank the incorrigible Paul Haggis for lending a hand where it is needed.

Another benefactor of this collaboration is the character of "M", gloriously reprised by the incomparable Judi Dench, whose remarks and musings on the short fallings of the recently

integrated 00 agent provide some of the best humor the series has ever seen. Her impeccable delivery of "Christ, I miss the cold war". is nothing short of poetry and the chemistry between Craig and his superior surpasses that of Brosnan on every level.

The rest of the story unfolds, albeit a little slowly towards the end, but there are so many twists and turns I would be doing a disservice to mention any details. All that needs knowing is that the middle and latter halves could be from different movies they're so drastically unique. The story rarely falters (unless you REALLY hate Texas Hold 'Em) and keeps the pace up nicely for the 2+ hours until the final words are uttered and, as was the case when I saw it, the audience erupts into applause and cheers.

An origin story at heart, *Casino Royale* presents a young 007 that has a long way to go to the cool, collected and often infallible Bond that we've been seeing for years. Mixing equal parts Dalton darkness and Connery class this new Bond is poised to punch irrelevancy in the brain and drag the series back into the legitimately good action movie fold. Martin Campbell has crafted one hell of a back to the basics vision of the seminal spy and cementing Craig as THE Bond won't be difficult if Bond 22, set to be released in 2008, is able to keep up even half the pace of *Casino Royale*.



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TV GEEK

RESCUE ME

BY RESSA PETERS

Yes, it's co-created, co-written and starring Denis Leary, so it's very often wickedly, irreverently funny. Centering on a group of macho New York firefighters, their discussions can often be reminiscent of college boys or the "true meaning of like a virgin" conversation in *Reservoir Dogs*. But it's also very dark and depressing. The firefighters themselves deal with death and tragedy everyday, like the detectives on *Law & Order*, but they also get a great big helping of it in their personal lives. Leary's character is haunted, literally, by ghosts of those in his life that have fallen; his cousin, a firefighter who died on 9/11; Jesus, those he couldn't save on the job; and his son who was run down by a drunk driver. The humor and the tragedy can come at unexpected times, sometimes in the same scene, like the time a distraught firefighter retreats into the bottle, dropping his liquor by a railway, he climbs down and begins contemplating touching the third rail to electrocute himself and then gets into an argument with a similarly minded homeless man about who decides to die more.

Leary stars as New York firefighter Tommy Gavin, an angry, recovering alcoholic going through a bitter separation with estranged wife Janet (Andrea Roth), the mother of his two surviving children. He's also had a relationship with Sheila (Callie Thorne), the widow of his cousin, which he's ended

but she still carries a clingy, needy flame for him. The rest of the Gavin clan is just as maladjusted. Dad Michael (Charles Durning) is a crabby old man who constantly berates his children. Tommy's brother Johnny (Dean Cain), whom you may remember as Ryan O'Reilly on *Oz* is a cop, who may be betraying Tommy in the worst way you could to your brother. Their sister Maggie (Tatum O'Neal) is



just as foul-mouthed, hard living and angry as her brothers.

The other guys at the firehouse, too, have a lot of complication in their lives. Chief Jerry Reilly (Jack McGee) struggles to care and provide for his wife Jeannie (Peggy Scott), who suffers from Alzheimer's. Ken "Lou" Shea (John Scurti) is reeling after being scammed by a hooker for his life savings. Franco Rivera (Daniel Sunjata) is the reluctant single father to young Keela (Cailin Stolar), while still trying to maintain the firefighter and single-guy life. Sean Garrity (Steven Pasquale) might start walking through the

landmine field that is dating Maggie, enduring the wrath of Tommy and Maggie's non-monogamous lifestyle. And Mike "Probie" Sileti (Mike Lombardi), the newest guy in the firehouse is just generally confused and this season it takes a whole new level.

Because it airs on Showcase "television without borders" and FX in the states, you can guess it's one of those "viewer discretion is advised" shows, and you'd be right. There is blood and violence, and not just in the firehouse, the main characters give and receive some heavy beat-downs and serious injuries. Centering around a bunch of macho single-guy firefighters, you can guess how much sex and raw language there is (like I said, *Reservoir Dogs* comes to mind). And being written by Leary, you can guess it gets into controversial territory. I don't like to throw the term "controversial" around a lot (I haven't yet used it in any of my reviews) but this has some controversial storylines and scenes. I don't want to give too much away, I want you to see for yourself, but in season three you are forced to think about your definitions of "rape", "misogyny" and "gay".

If you think you can handle it, check out season one and two on DVD and season three will begin again on Showcase Tuesday, November 28th at 11pm.

Questions, comments, or suggestions? Email togeekressa@gmail.com

BOOK REVIEW

MEMOIRS OF A FRACTURED MIND
A Review of *Carnivals of Life and Death*

BY KRISTIAN BERTIN

If I would recount any number of the tales from *James Shelby Downard's Carnivals of Life and Death* to a stranger, they would most likely assume I was a paranoid schizophrenic. They would also likely feel like one simply by hearing the story itself. Reading the memoirs of conspiracy theorist James Shelby Downard did exactly that. It made me feel crazy. Not just because his whole life was one "Masonic Hoodwink" after another since the age of five, but because I believed him.

I believed him when he explained how he dynamited, shot and electrocuted Satan worshippers in the Deep South. I believed him when he said he saw a man on Jekyll's Island give fellatio to Alexander Graham Bell. I believed him when he described his crucifixion by the KKK at the age of seven. I believed him when he wrote about his days as a nomad, eating cow dung and hanging out with wolves. I believed him when he outlined multiple shoot-outs with Cuban Secret Police, leaving dozens dead at his hands. And I believed him when he detailed how he was abducted, brainwashed and had wires inserted into his brain by the FBI.

And you would too. Despite the bizarre nature of his claims, Downard writes his biography in a straightforward down-to-earth fashion that makes the fantastic seem almost commonplace.

Adam Parfrey (who also wrote a telling foreword to the story) writes footnotes that clarify and legitimize Downard's claims, that are incredibly insightful and give credence to his seemingly absurd theories. As a stepping stone into the smoke-and-mirrors world of occultic secret societies and control systems, *The Carnivals of Life and Death* aids doesn't miss a beat, explaining pagan and Satan ritual as it pertains to Freemasons and the Klu Klux Klan in the southern states of America.

Downard became a counter-culture icon through Feral House's *Apocalypse Culture*, where his article *King Kill/33 Degrees: Masonic Symbolism in the Assassination of John F. Kennedy* shed new light on JFK's assassination, identifying the occultic symbology around the event, claiming it was nothing more than a ritual sacrifice committed by America's all-powerful elite. His other essays, *America, The Possessed Corpse, The Call to Chaos, and Sorcery, Sex, Assassination* have all become conspiracy canon through Feral House Publishing, outlining an alternative way of understanding history that is terrifying, bizarre and paranoid, but ultimately gripping.

The Carnivals of Life and Death adds a whole new understanding to Downard's earlier works. It outlines his life from the age of five to his thirties in a breakneck trip from the schoolyard to the Whitehouse, to elitist sex-rings where he witnessed the world's most powerful men engage in terribly depraved acts. It changes the way reader's

contextualize Downard; no longer is he simply a researcher of secret societies, he is a victim of their lifelong torment. This book is more than just the story of one man's reflections on life, it is the author's own attempts at organizing and restructuring his own fractured mind. The book paints a portrait of a man targeted from birth by southern secret societies, used in numerous rituals and rites, who simply will not allow himself to be a pawn. The son of a powerful former elitist, Downard was a constant target, being shown fantastic things and taking part in the strangest tales you'll ever hear.

Downard's memoirs are silly, unbelievable and almost inconceivable to the average reader. Reading *Carnivals* confuses, angers and downright insults the reader with its tall tales of Freemasonry and the occult, which are almost too insane to believe. But like any good storyteller, Downard compels the reader to want to believe him, to believe in the story and to keep reading. The ultimate reason for his Masonic persecution since youth is never truly given, since his memoirs end before any conclusions can be drawn, so that at story's end, *Carnivals* leaves the reader with a fantastic and ridiculous mystery that requires careful consideration to piece together and truly understand. Is Downard the dashing romantic hero he portrays himself to be, or is he simply a deranged man, trying to come to terms with a lifetime of horror? As the story comes to a close, I can't be sure.

TREND OF THE WEEK

Ballet Flats

Dance around campus one last time sexy flats before the winter eather makes you a slave to boots.



CD REVIEW

THE TRAGICALLY HIP WORLD CONTAINER

BY TREVOR MURPHY

Let's face it. Anything that Bob Rock lays his hands on is bound to turn to gold (with the exception of that last Simple Plan record - gross). This is the guy who has worked on the best Bon Jovi records (*Slippery When Wet*, *New Jersey*), who has taken *Our Lady Peace* from a grunge-era depression band to a full-blown refined pop act, and who single-handedly was responsible for the sell-out of *Metallica* (he has produced everything in their discography since the *Black Album*).

OK, maybe that doesn't make him cool in your books, but to me the man is right up there with Phil Spector as one of the greatest producers of all time. So when this new *Tragically Hip* record fell into my lap, it took all I could not to squeal with delight. However, if you're a die-hard Hip fan, you probably hate my guts.

World Container is more "Music @ Work" than "Road Apples." Full of hooks, catchy guitar licks smothered with reverb and shoved all the way to the back of the mix, and an immaculate pop sensibility this album might not cut it for those who prefer "New Orleans is Sinking" over "It's A Good Life If You Don't Weaken."

Don't get me wrong, the good ol' Hip have not been completely removed on this record. Frontman Gord Downie still peppers the expected dose of Canadiana in the lyrics, like on the song "Fly" - "there's mistaken point Newfoundland yeah, there's moonbeam Ontari-o." Track two "The Lonely End of The Rink" is all about hockey - though the music is probably more suited to be an *Our Lady Peace* track than anything else.

Downie, who has lately been prone to certain cocaine-addiction criticisms (and it shows on "The Kids Don't Get It" with excessive "yeahs!" and "woos!") still shines

lyrically on this album. "Family Band" has perhaps some of the best rock n' roll lyrics ever: "We'll load out through the snow, through small groups of people smoking, hey, get that kick drum loaded, into the back seat folded down, we'll go virtually unnoticed, what's gripping the city ain't hitting the town."

There are a variety of themes that permeate this record, one of which seems to be the hard-luck experience of indie bands ("Family Band" and "World Container.") Another is love, and another - odder still - seems to be this focus on a repetition of certain lyrics throughout the album. The song "Pretend" is basically composed of an amalgamation of lyrics from most of the other songs on the record. I don't know, maybe I'm missing some serious point or falling victim to a strange inside joke, but I just don't get it.

There are some very distinct Hip moments, so die-hards will not be wholeheartedly upset. "The Drop Off" is such a quintessential Hip track it could be "The Hundredth Meridian's" cousin. And even "In View" - the first single - and the lead off track "Yer Not The Ocean" are in a sense more old-school than the rest of the album, though they are a little more poppier than the average Hip fan might enjoy.

As a huge fanatic of pop music, it's hard for me not to be a little biased in my assessment of this album. As a pop record, this is one of the best records of the year, though you might not think so if you've been listening to the Hip for the past fifteen-plus years. But, then again, what do I really know? *ReLoad* is my favourite *Metallica* album. God Bless Bob Rock.

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THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME:

My Road Trip to the Goo Goo Dolls

by Allyson Marsh

It is fair to say that the music of the Goo Goo Dolls summed up my teenage years. I have been a fan of the band for over a decade. During the period of about 14 to 17 it would even be fair to say I was mildly obsessed with the band and their music. I had every album, t-shirts, subscribed to numerous email lists and frequented many fan sites. Even now I'm full of useless Goo knowledge and will jump on anyone that says they loved their first album, "you know.. The one with name" and tell them their first album was actually released in 1987(CHECK O?N TH?IS) when they were a metal punk band. Most people don't know that the CD that came out in 1994 was actually their fifth CD and that the band has a long interesting history. But I digress from that only to say that I really loved the Goo Goo Dolls.

Now at twenty two my musical taste has changed significantly. While I still love so many bands I did before I now find myself listening to indie rock and never listening to the radio for the new pop hits. I can't even say I've heard the Goo Goo Dolls new CD, but when I found out they were to embark on their first cross country Canadian tour I knew I had to go see them. You see all through my teenage years I either lived somewhere too isolated to go to a concert or I was too young to take the trip to go see them when I was a few hours drive away. This was my chance. They were even coming to Halifax which blew my mind. Unfortunately though, none of my friends would dish out sixty bucks to see a band they could care less about. In fact I would have probably had to pay these friends sixty dollars to come with me and sit through the concert. I could have gone alone but I had a better plan. I decided to travel to Ottawa and see the Goo Goo Dolls with my sister, a fellow fan. Realistically she almost had to be a fan with the way I forced her to listen to them for years on end.

When I got to Ottawa it didn't really seem like anything special was going to happen. I felt like I was merely there to see my sister and spend some time in our nation's capital. That changed pretty quickly when, while walking through downtown, I saw a row of tour bus's and semis filled with equipment. I was in close proximity to where the members could very well have been hiding. The fifteen year old in my burst through and I stood there for about five minutes taking pictures and waiting to see if anyone would come out so I could capture them on film as well. Anyone that knows me knows this is so out of character that I even surprised myself, but I couldn't help it, I was a teen again.

Within hours I was in Ottawa's National Arts Centre waiting for the show to start. The venue was not exactly where I'd ever imagined seeing this type of band. The NAC is a theatre with seating and balconies, I always imagined the Goos playing in some sort of stadium but I wasn't going to complain.

The opening act was a man from Hamilton, Ontario, Tommy Sedwick. While he played a fine set I just kept praying every song would be his last. I know that more than once I turned to my sister to say "I am sure he is really good but could he please stop playing." But the reality of it still hadn't fully hit me. I was starting to feel like it was just any other show. To make matters

worse after Sedwick was over it took a good forty minutes plus to get the stage ready for the Goo Goo Dolls.

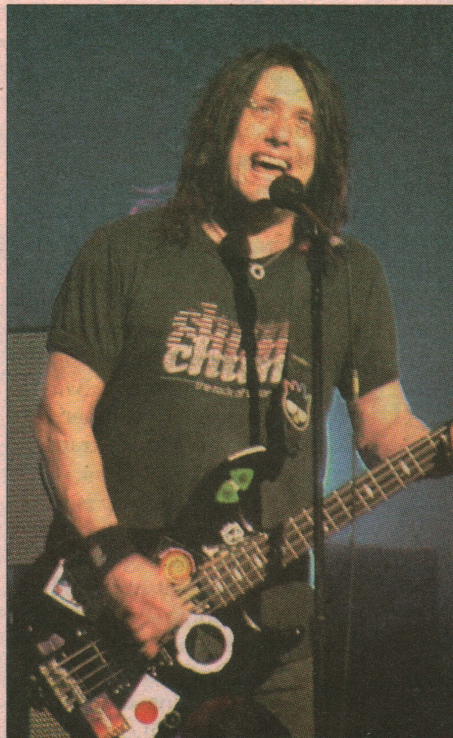
But then, it happened.

They burst on stage and broke into their newest single. Not that far in front of me where the three men, Johnny Reznik, Robbie Tak, and Mike (CHECK ON THIS), who had created the soundtrack to my younger life. The stage was a spectacle. Joining them was two other players on guitar and keys, there was a huge backdrop of the CD cover, three large video screens that played something different for every song, and about twenty small screens on the stage that did the same. On top of this there was an intense light show happening. It was amazing.

I had to worry about the performance itself. I know of more than one person who has build their favorite band up so much in their head only to see them live and be both disappointed and disillusioned. I didn't want this to happen but I was well aware it could. The live performance CD from their Independence Day show in Buffalo from 2004 (CHECK ThiS) had Reznik hollering out "yeah", "hey", and "come on" so many times through every single song that I cannot listen to it at all. Fortunately none of this happened. Every song was delivered well, without the extra additions to provoke the audience, with the exceptions of encouraging everyone to sing along. Singing alone didn't need much encouragement though, in the radio hits "Name" and "Iris" it seemed like everyone was shouting the words. With the song "Iris" Reznik actually didn't sing much at all. The crowd was more than happy to sing loud enough to drown him out, and the applause that followed was the loudest I have ever heard anywhere, ever. While this could have easily been the highlight of the show, for me having black balloons released onto the audience during the tune "Black Balloon" was so beautiful that it stood out most to me.

It seemed that everything about this show was perfectly choreographed. From the black balloons, to the videos of driving around Buffalo, New York (the band's hometown) during a song about one of the city's street, to the way Reznik and Tack (CHECK ON THIS) moved on stage together while performing, even to when Reznik forgot the words to the song "Sympathy", though he swore it wasn't an act.

The show was everything I could have dreamed of. I could be selfish and ask for certain things: that they played more songs which Tack CHECK ON THIS sang lead on, that they played older material, that they played longer, but that would be greedy. I am genuinely happy I got to witness even five minutes of this whole event. The band has been together for over two decades and while right now they are going strong, who knows if they will ever put out another album. I got to make sure that no matter what happens to the band's future, I got to witness them at least once, and thankfully it was worth every penny. Needless to say the next day my sister and I put on some old Goo Goo Dolls records to reminisce and listen to the songs we wish we could have heard live. And I'm not going to lie, I have definitely considered shelling out for another ticket, seeing the band play in Halifax, and getting to experience all of this one more time.



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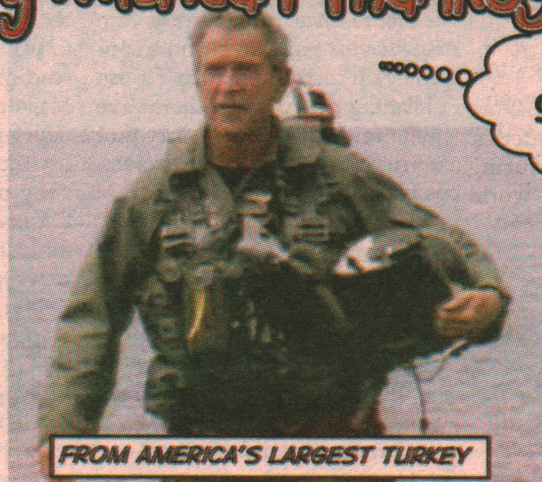
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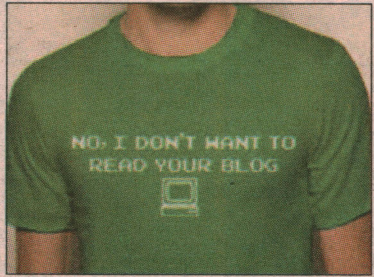
BY JACKIE HOWATT

I saw a t-shirt the other day that announced in big bold letters, "No I Don't Want To Read Your Blog." I was a little concerned that this person was so opposed to reading blog that they actually felt the need to spend money on a shirt that stated it. I must admit that it did take some of the wind out of my sails as I just began a blog in early September. Even though blogs, MySpaces, and Facebooks are now uncontrollably rampant, they can and do serve a functional purpose - especially if it coincides with a business of some kind.

Blogs act as a reciprocal communicating tool for both the visitor and the blogging company. They offer an interactive and personal experience for potential customers that ultimately encourage them to become involved, give feedback, and monitor developments within the business. They benefit the blogging business in many ways as well, as there is a continuous free flow of communication with the customer, which means instead of paying a high priced consulting company to figure out what the customer wants, a blog allows the business to hear it directly from the customer.

In my personal experience with blogging, there is no better way to obtain interest and feedback for a new and developing business than starting a blog that tracks the progress of that business. True, there won't be many visitors at first, which is why starting a blog should be more for personal reasons and then for the business, or else it will

not survive for very long. There has been widespread speculation regarding the usage of blogging in the corporate world, however, which has somewhat desensitized readers. Major corporations, such as Wal-Mart, have been accused of fronting grass root blogs in order to impose or change a particular im-



Photos courtesy of http://www.culturetheliving.com

age or stream of thought regarding their operation. In this sense, a blog can be a very useful tool, but a very damaging one as well.

Many use blogs or other alike web communication services to unleash personal reflections in a diary-like format. It is important to note that if you do decide to use a blog as a marketing tool for your growing business, it must be treated in a very professional way. Professional means that the topics discussed should center around

the issues and happenings of the business - unless a specific type of business calls for a more edgy demeanor, of course.

Nothing makes the customer or client feel more involved in a business than allowing them to track the progression of a business. Blogging regularly about the ups and downs of the business is a sure way to reach the customer on a personal level, which can in turn translate into brand loyalty.

Bloggging as a start-up is somewhat feeding into the insurgence of the health food and organic trends of the day as well. Even though the two may seem unrelated, there is a logical connection between these two phenomenons. It all has to do with the growing concern and involvement that the consumer is now willing to go to in order to understand what they are consuming. Just as a consumer wants to understand what is exactly in their food and where it came from, they appreciate knowing who the businesses they deal with are and what they stand for.

Despite what a t-shirt may say, blogging isn't all bad. It gives businesses the opportunity to get to know their customers' wants, needs, and even more importantly - their ideas and input. Blogging serves as a valuable medium to make that personal connection between entrepreneurs and the outside world, and should be seriously considered when beginning a new venture. On a more personal level, blogging can also be a motivator to actually forge ahead with the business.

FASTFORWARD: WINNING THE WIRE WAR

BY ALEKS STARK

I hate wires. Snaking, ugly, inflexible, tangled things that they are. They're too long or too short. They have this amazing desire to become as intertwined as possible. The hold you back. They tie you down. I shudder at the thought of the Gordian-esque jungle that is the rear of my computer.

So you can imagine my love of this wireless generation emerging around us. Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, IR, IEEE 802.11, RFID. While greek to some, they all mean one thing to me: Freedom.

The wireless revolution is gaining everywhere. Remote controls for TVs and stereos. Internet hotspots at all the stores. Wireless keyboards and mice. And my personal favorite: bluetooth headsets for your mobile phones. Wireless squared baby!

But it turns out those evil wires have a sneaky little cousin that still likes to cause problems within our near wireless utopia. They go by the name of 'electrolytic cells', but you may know them as. Batteries, I admit, are very useful during life. They make our wireless world possible. But in the end one of two things happens. They either die (and death is never good), or they are rechargeables. Rechargeables are the secret agents of the aforementioned Wires. They seem fine and dandy and portable, but as soon as they get the least fatigued they return to their wired brethren for more power.

Is there any hope for freedom from the wired world? MIT says "Yes."

Early this month, researchers from MIT have announced they have a working theoretical model of the device that can transmit electrical energy through the air to a device up to 4 meters away. The energy is transmitted using a process called electromagnetic resonance.

When interviewed by BBC News, Professor Soljacic, one of the researchers, explained it like this:

"When you have two resonant objects of the same frequency they tend to couple very strongly. Resonance can be seen in musical instruments for example. When you play a tune on one, then another instrument with the same acoustic resonance will pick up that tune, it will visibly vibrate."

But this time they aren't using sound waves, but electromagnetic waves similar to radio waves.

"If you bring another resonant object with the same frequency close enough ... then it turns out that the energy can tunnel from one object to another," said Professor Soljacic.

Interestingly enough, this isn't the first time that wireless energy transfer has been investigated. Over a century ago a genius by the name of Nikolai Tesla did extensive research in the field. Tesla is one of the major founders of alternating current, and created some of the most technologically advance devices of the 20th century. Of

course, one of them was rumored to be a 'Death Ray' that could kill 10,000 people from over 250 miles away. And he also had that tendency to kill stray animals to prove the lethality of his weapons. The extreme OCD he suffered didn't really help the situation either. He was eventually considered a mad scientist and asked to stop shooting electricity through everything he could get his hands on.

The current day researchers claim that their field doesn't affect objects that aren't of the same frequency, so regular object and people should not be affected by the field. Though, personally I wouldn't feel right putting any of my favorite body parts near it.

So what does this mean for real people?

Imagine never having any power cords. Your house would just be a big power 'hot-spot' similar to how SMU attempts to have Wi-Fi hotspots on campus. You'd never have to search for a plug again. No having to rewire the house just to use your 5.1 surround sound. No forgetting to charge your phone or MP3 player at night. There is even the possibility of having the hot-spot could charge things like pacemaker batteries or other devices that shouldn't really be messed with after being installed.

It's good to see the research done by a century old mad scientist weapon designer finally being put to use for important things like charging my iPod. Ain't progress grand?

FINALLY, A HOLIDAY THAT HELPS YOU SAVE MONEY....AND THE WORLD!!!

BY CHELSEA ADAMS*

Created in 1993 by the founders of Adbusters, Buy Nothing Day is now an international event celebrated in over 55 countries on the last Saturday in November (in Canada and the USA it is on the Friday after the American Thanksgiving). These dates are the biggest days of the year for retailers as the holiday shopping frenzy begins.

Buy Nothing Day challenges consumers to refrain from making purchases for 24 hours and expose their minds to the environmental and ethical consequences of consumerism. The developed countries, which are home to 20% of the world's population, are consuming over 80% of the world's natural resources. As consumers, we should question the everyday products we buy, as well as the companies who produce them, and reflect on how our purchasing power effects the environment and developing countries.

Consumers should be aware that the raw materials and production methods used to make many of our goods have serious harmful side affects including: toxic waste; destruction of wildlife; wasted energy and pollution contributed by

transporting goods. Also, having few laws and systems to support and protect workers, many large companies hire and exploit laborers in developing countries because it is cheap.

You can help change all of this by being aware of how and where your products are made and who makes them. This does not mean being aware and buying nothing for just one day, it means committing to a lifestyle of questioning yourself about where your products come from, consuming less and recycling more.

The day is celebrated by anything from traditional street parties, to cutting up credit cards, to protesting in the stores - but most of all by doing nothing. Help shrink your ecological footprint and support a sustainable future by not participating in our culture's marketing-mind games. Remember that the most important things in life are free!

*Chelsea Adams is SMUES Treasurer. For more information on Buy Nothing Day, contact the St. Mary's University Environmental Society (SMUES) at smues@smu.ca or visit: <http://www.buynothingday.co.uk/home.html>

IPOD GETS CRACKED

BY ADAM COSTELLO

The hacker known for cracking the copy-protection technology in DVDs claims to have unlocked the playback restrictions of Apple Computer Inc.'s (AAPL) iPod and iTunes music products and plans to license his code to others. Jon Lech Johansen, 22, also known as "DVD Jon," should eventually be pitted against Apple's lawyers. If successful in the suit, it could prove to forever free users from some restrictions Apple and its rivals place on digital music.

Currently, songs purchased from Apple's online iTunes Store can't be played on portable devices made by other companies.

Music bought from other online music stores also won't work on iPods, because they correspondingly use a form of copy-protection that Apple doesn't support. Johansen said he has developed a way to get around those restrictions, the Norway native plans to capitalize on his efforts and be financially set for life.

Apple spokeswoman Kristin Huguet said the company did not want to comment.

A few others, including RealNetworks Inc.'s (RNWK) Re-

alPlayer Music Store, have also made attempts to evade Apple's copy-protection technology, called FairPlay, but haven't ever made much progress.

Fred von Lohmann, a staff attorney at the privacy-advocacy group, Electronic Frontier Foundation, said Johansen is treading carefully this time, consulting with lawyers and at this moment not even near clear of a legal fight

over copy-protection laws.

Johansen became a hacker legend when he was just 15, when he posted software called DeCSS to unlock the Content Scrambling System, or CSS, the film industry used on DVD movies to avert illegal copying. The accomplishment made Johansen a folk hero among hackers.

After the film industry complained, Norwegian authorities charged him with data break-in, but Johansen was acquitted. He has since become a strong advocate of the open-source philosophy of making software code freely available for inspection and sharing.



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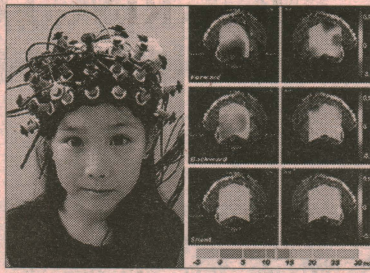
iveyhb.com

TECH AT A GLANCE

BY ALEKS STARK



Universal Music Group is suing Myspace for allowing copyright infringement of songs on the Myspace webpages.



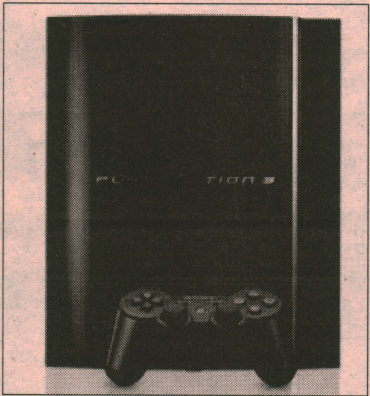
Hitachi announced that they should have a commercial mind-machine interface system by 2011. The device would allow signals to be sent from the human brain to computers to complete tasks.



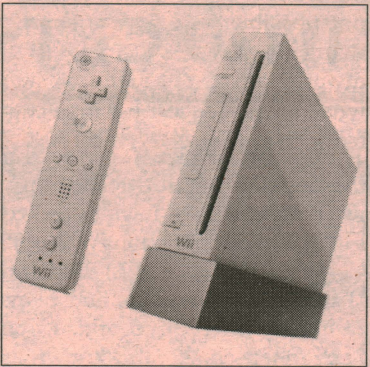
Nikon announced their newest dSLR, the D40. It's less than half the price of normal dSLRs at \$600. The new camera is expected to shake up the market.



The US Federal court has ruled that an Australian company owns the copyright to WLAN (802.11 a/g) wireless technology. This means companies using the technology need to pay the Aussies money. Three devices that use 802.11: the Microsoft Xbox 360, the Nintendo Wii and the Sony PlayStation 3. Ka-Ching.

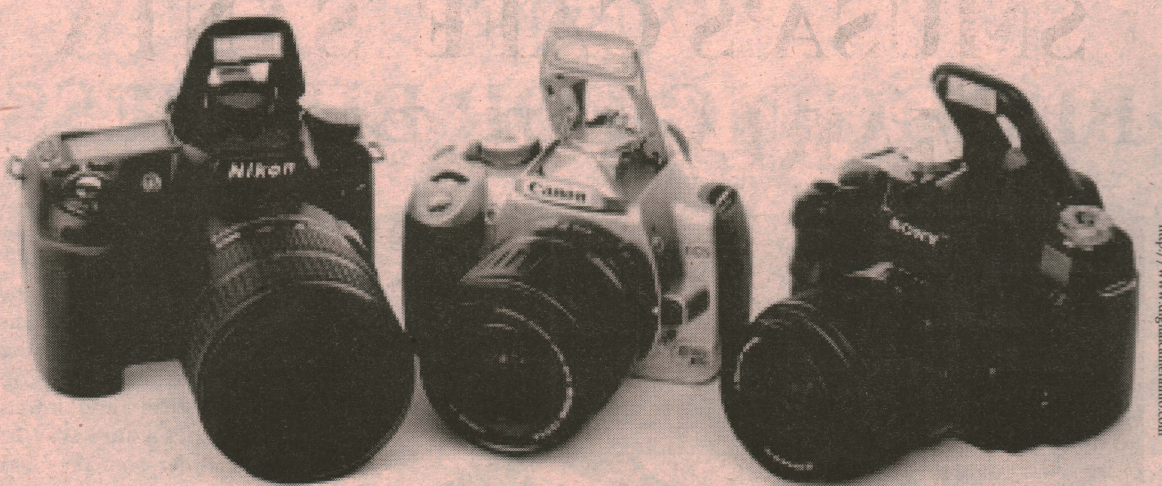


Tech analyst group iSupply's research shows that Sony is selling their PS3's at a \$250 loss. The input price was calculated by adding up the costs of the components inside a PS3.



The Nintendo Wii was released on Friday. Unlike the PS3 release, no-one was shot.

Photo credits top to bottom, left to right: <http://www.myspace.com>, <http://www.digitalcamerareview.com>, <http://ps3-er.com>, <http://blog.wired.com>, <http://images.amazon.com>, <http://regmedia.co.uk>

TECHTALK:
A PICTURE'S WORTH

BY ALEKS STARK

Historically, the advanced realm of SLR cameras (cameras with interchangeable lens) and digital SLR cameras was mainly marketed towards professional and prosumer buyers. The expensive and highly complicated camera systems were beyond the reach of the average amateur photographer.

But lately, with the rapid technological advances available, the market for these high-end cameras has expanded to encompass a much wider range of consumer. It's now not that uncommon to see tourists, parents at birthday parties, and other everyday people using the same camera systems formerly reserved to use by professional sports, wildlife and portrait photographers.

The two major competitors in the market right now are Canon and Nikon. Both have excellent reputations in the photography world. Their camera bodies, lens, and all their major features are pretty much identical at the professional level. But it's towards the prosumer and amateur levels that the competition has seen major movement in the last years.

Canon made the first move in August 2003 with the release of the first of its highly successful Digital Rebel line of cameras. The Canon EOS 300D (known as the

Digital Rebel in North America) had a major impact on the market. Here was a camera with many of the same features as Canon's popular EOS 10D. It had a powerful optical sensor, excellent resolution, good in-camera processing. But the real kicker was it was designed to make use of the full line of Canon's current SLR lens which numbered around 50 different types.

Canon had one important attribute that made the 300D stand out from the rest of the market. It cost about \$400 less than any other camera!

Needless to say this was a big risk on Canon's part. Professional consumers would still be willing to pay for higher end models because an image quality of 2-3% better was worth 3 times the price. And they couldn't count on people looking for simple point-and-shoot cameras; this camera was far too expensive at \$900 retail. The niche market they sought was those who had progressed beyond the features available in the point-and-shoot, but not ready to make a career out of photography.

The market materialized and Canon was left to dominate it for a short while until Nikon stepped up to challenge. Despite coming a little late to the party, Nikon has managed to match or exceed Canon's camera for the last three years. They now each hold major share of

the market.

The Canon series went on to produce the Digital Rebel XT, and the newest XTi. Nikon produced their D50, D70, and their latest flagship the D80.

The Canon XTi and the Nikon D80 were release days apart this passed August. The main difference include the Nikon having a few more features, and the Canon being \$100 less than the \$999 Nikon.

Nikon made an interesting move just last week with the announcement of their latest camera. The Nikon D40 is trying to pull the same move on the prosumer market that the original Digital Rebel pulled on the professional market. They're attempting to completely undercut the current market by slashing the cost to get an SLR in the hands of new consumers.

The D40 is a fully functioning digital SLR that has been stripped of some of the more superfluous features of its older sibling, the D80. But the reason the industry is abuzz is because it's being sold at \$600. That's \$300 less than the rest of the current generation cameras.

The question now is whether the lower price is enough to attract new consumers to the market, or they will simply save the money for a better equipped D80 or XTi. We'll find out in the next month when the D40 is released.

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Your ability to make quick decisions, establish priorities and concentrate on detailed information, even under stress, will stand you well in providing services to the clients of our associated companies. Keeping current with products, fund changes, fraud warnings, and other policy and procedure changes, you will draw on internal resources to address client needs in a timely manner. This will include monitoring quality of service delivery, performing research, and placing outbound calls to obtain information or provide solutions. You are proficient with keyboarding and Windows, possess basic mathematical skills, and can work accurately with amounts of over \$1-million. A post-secondary education would be an asset.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

If you are self-motivated, an excellent communicator and able to multi-task accurately in a tech-savvy environment, use your talents to provide services to the clients of our associated companies. Responding to incoming calls, you will evaluate client needs, conduct research and process adjustments, as well as educate clients on our products and services, and industry trends. You will work closely with other business units and representatives to build, reinforce and maintain existing business and relationships. A post-secondary education is required.

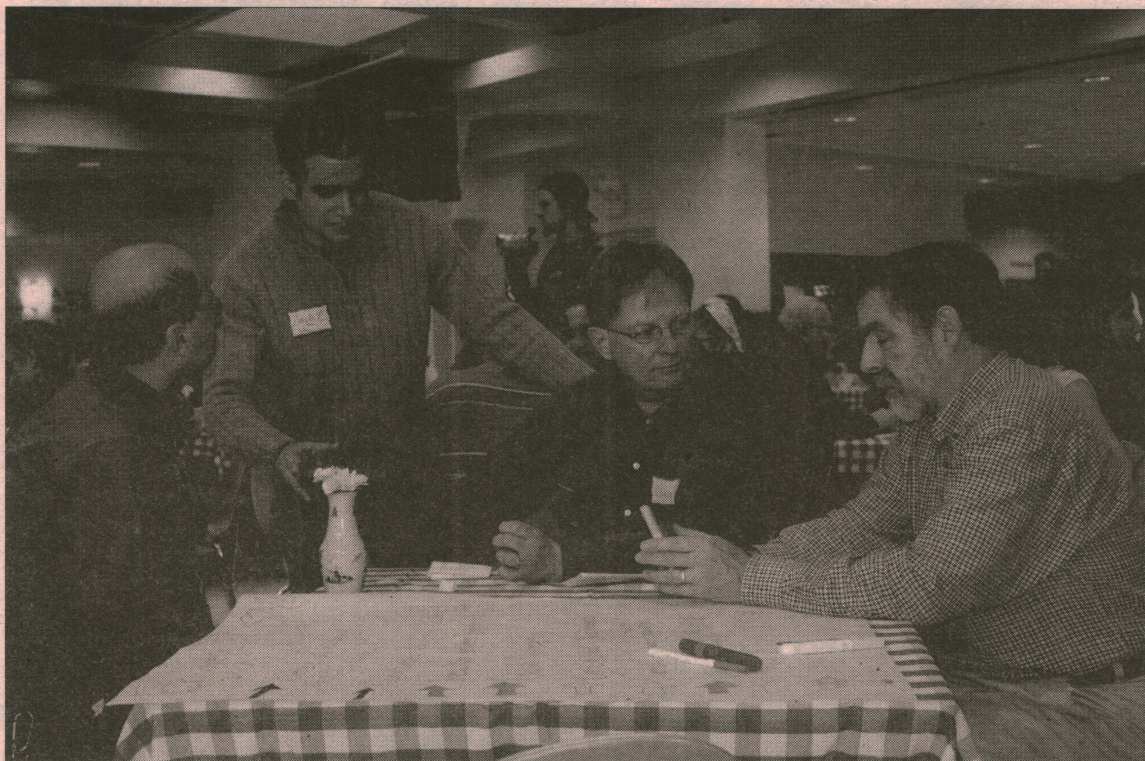
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FEATURES

SMUSA'S CAFÉ SANTA MARIA A SUCCESS



Photos by Joel Miller

BY OLIVIER JARDA

The inaugural Café Santa Maria was held last Wednesday at Saint Mary's, a forum for students, faculty and staff to discuss ways to improve life at Saint Mary's. The café was an initiative of the Saint Mary's University Students' Association. In the wake of falling enrollments resulting in falling student fees and tighter budget constraints, SMUSA President Zach Churchill has recognized that future councils and executives will have to make difficult decisions. "We have to know what to prioritize," said Churchill.

The café was the first of its kind. Students, faculty and staff took over more than half of the Student Centre cafeteria to discuss in groups problems on campus and ways to solve them. Participation was high, due in part to complimentary lunch for participants. A diverse mix of Saint Mary's community attended. Participants included University Librarian Madeleine Lefebvre, SMU Faculty Union President Larry Haiven, and Sarah Morris, Assistant Director of Student Services. The event was a huge success. "We were hoping for 200 people, but we had well over 200 attend," said Churchill. "There was a lot of good dialogue and a lot of good ideas."



Questions were presented to participants such as "What have you most enjoyed about Saint Mary's," "What does the ideal SMU look like," and "What can SMUSA do to achieve that ideal?" Comments and suggestions were recorded in order to help SMUSA know what changes it should lobby for within and outside of the university, and to know how it can improve its services. Comments and suggestions participants made included the following: there should be more quiet study space on campus, the library should have longer hours of operation, it should be made easier for students working off campus to get involved, etc. The café also served as an informa-

tion session. SMUSA executives sat down and talked to some students that did not know what the students' association actually did.

Said Churchill, "We were trying to tap into the community's experience. This will help us move forward as we face potential enrollment drops and budgetary constraints. What comes out of this will hopefully help SMUSA prioritize and develop a strategic vision for the future."

SMUSA plans to publish a report and make it available online. In the meantime, the association intends to begin implementing some of the ideas that came out of the café.

PREPARING FOR AN ATTACK Part 2 of a 3 Part Interview

Alana Green, Coordinator of SMUSAFE interviews Joan Helson, owner of Sisu Women's Self Defence. Joan has over 10 years of martial arts experience training under certified Masters and Grand Masters in several martial arts including a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and certification in Defensive Tactics and Spontaneous Knife Defense. This is Part two of a three part series.

fronted by the situation." In either case, whether she fights back or does not, she should be encouraged to seek counseling to help her deal with the effects of post traumatic stress and issues surrounding her victimization.

AG: How can women better prepare themselves for violent confrontations?

JH: Be practical, not paranoid. Take some time to think about "What would I do?" in the case of a threatening situation. Be aware of your surroundings, listen to your intuition, and make a plan for what you will do if you are in a bad situation and you cannot run away. I feel every woman owes it to herself to take a realistic self defence course that covers mental and physical aspects of self defence. A good self defence course should offer a variety of tools for detecting, avoiding, diffusing and escaping a violent situation, and just like a CPR course; it should be simple enough to stay with you for years, serving you in a time of emergency. Consider a course that includes defensive tools like low kicks, strikes to vulnerable targets, responses to grabs and chokes and basic ground survival. There is no standard for self defence courses, and like the martial arts, there is no regulation or "better business bureau". Anyone can claim anything, including a black belt, so ask questions and look around to find a realistic course that suits you. For more help in choosing a self defence course, visit <http://www.karatevid.com/article-SD-guidelines.html>.

AG: What should women do when attacked or threatened?

JH: I do not have a magic pill or super ninja move to recommend for a woman who is threatened verbally or physically. You must make the decision for yourself how best to respond to the situation, because you are the one in the thick of it. I always recommend options that include using your voice, your environment and, when needed, physical self defence tools to create and maintain distance between yourself and your attacker. The best advice I can give you is to explore your options in an effective, honest and realistic self defence workshop that covers mental aspects of self defence, as well as responses to kicks, strikes, grabs, and ground survival.

If avoiding, diffusing or escaping from a dangerous situation is not possible, you basically have two choices - fight back or don't. In my programs, I never tell a woman what tools she MUST use in self defence. According to the US-Based National Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCASA) Guidelines for Choosing a Self Defense Course, "Good self-defense programs do not 'tell' an individual what she 'should' or 'should not' do. A program should offer options, techniques, and a way of analyzing situations. A program may point out what usually works best in most situations, but each situation is unique and the final decision rests with the person actually con-

SMUSAFE offers safe walks within a south-end boundary Monday through Thursday 7-11 pm. Call 496-8706 for a safe walk or visit www.smusa.ca for more information. SMUSAFE is looking for volunteers! Email smusafe@smu.ca.

PRESS RELEASE

HOW LIFE IN THE MILITARY MOVED ME TO PEACE

Nancy Taber served in the Canadian military for thirteen years and will reflect on that experience in a talk titled, *How Life in the Military Moved Me to Peace*, that will take place on Wednesday, November 22 from 7 - 9 pm, in Room 303 of the Student Union Building at Dalhousie University. This talk is the first in a series on Women's Perspectives of War.

Ms. Taber, now a PhD candidate at the University of South Australia and Assistant Professor in the Master of Education (Studies in Lifelong Learning) program at Mount Saint Vincent University, is researching the connections between militarism and mothering in Canadian society.

In this talk, Nancy will focus on how complex gender processes affect the lives of women who serve in the military in western countries. She will discuss her experiences, exploring how learning about feminism and becoming a mother changed her relationship with the military, eventually moving her to peace.

"I often feel divided as I critique the military and talk about peace. I have many family members and friends who I have served with and who are still serving with the military. As someone with so many personal connections to the military, I cannot help but feel as if I am somehow betraying these family, friends, and former colleagues by speaking about peace," Taber says as she prepares for this talk. "This struggle is at the core of my talk. How is it possible that I am hesitant to speak about peace? By working for peace and advocating against war, aren't we showing support for our soldiers, so they don't have to die while fighting against others? Why is peace so contentious?"

Local singing group, *Clearing By Noon*, will perform. This talk is free of charge. Donations to the Voice of Women will be welcome.

"The NS Chapter of the National Voice of Women for Peace has worked for forty-five years to promote in local, national and international contexts, peace, social justice, human rights and development. For more information contact: Elinor Eggar Reynolds at 492-0283 or by email at jonelr@ns.sympatico.ca

HOT OR NOT

HOT

- ▲ Emmitt Smith: the running back
- ▲ Secret Santas
- ▲ Writing a Book
- ▲ Wearing Panties
- ▲ Nintendo's Wii
- ▲ CAT Scan Technology
- ▲ Botox
- ▲ "Happy Feet"
- ▲ Big Time Concerts in Halifax
- ▲ Always Smiling Radiantly

NOT

- ▼ Emmitt Smith: the "Stars" dancer
- ▼ Scroogelike Friends
- ▼ Reading a Book
- ▼ Lindsay Lohan
- ▼ Hardcore Gamers
- ▼ Tomkat Wedding Hysteria
- ▼ Bow Ties
- ▼ Cold Feet
- ▼ Big Time Crime in Halifax
- ▼ Dark Cloudy Days

OJ ON THE STREET

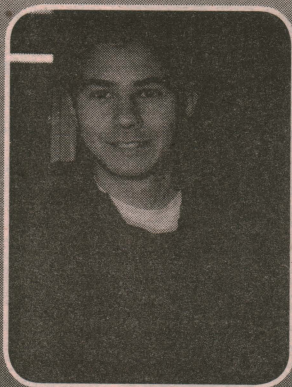
Q&A WITH OLIVIER & JOEL

Q: DO YOU THINK YOU'VE BEEN PROPERLY INFORMED BY ALL PARTIES ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A STRIKE?



RYAN SABEAN
2ND YEAR ARTS

"I haven't heard anything about it. I actually had to work security for one of the faculty meetings and I heard about it that way."



BEN CONNOLLY
4TH YEAR BIOLOGY

"I don't feel properly informed. Teachers are tight-mouthed about it, not really answering any questions we have about the strike and what's going on with exams."



JANICE MASON
3RD YEAR BIOLOGY & CHEMISTRY

"I don't feel properly informed. If you want to know something you have to go around looking. I don't understand what exactly is going on."



Wafa SAOUD
4TH YEAR SCIENCE

"I feel like it's more my responsibility to ask. Maybe if I asked I would be properly informed, but it's not like anyone is taking the initiative to come up to me and tell me what's going on."



SARAH TOM
2ND YEAR COMMERCE

"No not at all. I have never heard from anything else other than students or newspapers about the strike."



TOM FINLAYSON
3RD YEAR IDS

"Other than The Journal, I haven't really heard about it. We talked about it in class for a moment the other day. But other than what I've read, I have no idea about it."

Photos by Joel Miller

SMUDOKU

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8			5	1			3	6
			9	5	8			
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	2						9	

THE



SPOT

Seeing as I have no time or money to go check out the scene, or pick up I was thinking of buying a toy for my self, what do you recommend, should I get a Dildo or vibrator?

If it's a Dildo, what kind should I get? I've seen ones that look bendy and ones that don't even bend. Also what size should I get?

BY SS RANDY BLUE

For you or even for a partner, I would recommend getting a play toy. Nothing will spice up your pleasure and love life like a new toy in the bedroom. Whether you get a dildo or a vibrator you will still be able to have lots of fun.

If you can't choose what kind of toy you want I would suggest heading down to your nearest sex store to see what they have. Go with a price in mind as some models can become very pricey. Talk to the staff and ask if they can recommend a particular model. If you see one that you like, ask to take it out and play with it in your hand. Turn the model to its highest power and hold the tip of it below your nose between your nostrils. If you can't handle the tingle then that model is not for you and you should pick another. Also, don't inhale during the test...you never know who was the last person to handle it and they may have had smelly hands. Once you find one you like pick up a bottle of lube for later (it makes things a lot easier).

Dildo or Vibrator? That depends on how far you are willing to play and what you want to stimulate. For the beginner I would suggest a simple vibrator. They're pretty cheap, and when run it up and down your penis and around your balls you'll realize it was a very wise investment. For the female readers, gently rub the vibrator around the clitoral hood to get your moneys worth. If you want to venture a little further into the lust game then go for a dildo. For the guys, use the lube you bought and liberally apply it to both your anus and dildo for easy gliding. You won't need a very long dildo because the area you are stimulating, the promiscuous prostate, is only about one and a half to two inches inside the rectum. For the girls, try to get a dildo that curves upward so that it will stimulate your g-spot as you are thrusting.

No matter what kind of toy you choose be sure that it is the toy for you. Have fun and see how many fun new games you can play in the bedroom. Don't forget to stock up on batteries for those lonely winter nights.

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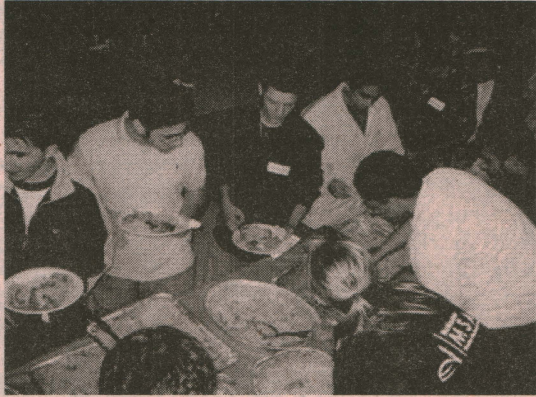
info@islandlake.com

SOCIETY

RAMADAN FAST-A-THON A SUCCESS

BY RAMMI HASSAN

On Thursday, October 19th, 2006, the Santamarian Muslim Society (SMS) partnered up with the Dalhousie Muslim Students Association (Dal-MSA) to launch the first ever Fast-a-thon, and it was held at Saint Mary's. Non-Muslims were invited to fast for the day (from dawn to sunset) from food, drink, smoking and, if possible, from sexual relations, and then to break their fast with their fellow Muslims in the evening. At the end of the meal, Saint Mary's own Dr. Jamal Badawi gave a short lecture on the relevance of fasting



event was to raise money for less fortunate Nova Scotians ("Go Hungry for a Change", essentially).

We had a turnout of about 150 people, if not 200, and over \$350 was raised for Feed Nova Scotia! As SMS builds ground here at home, we hope that more Santamarians engage in activities held or sponsored by the society, as we (SMS) are currently working towards a proactive approach of inter-faith dialogue and

and Ramadan as per Islam. A Feed Nova Scotia representative also gave a short speech. Attendees were asked to make a monetary donation towards Feed Nova Scotia before leaving, as the goal of the

communications. Many thanks to everyone who participated and helped out, and we hope that next year's Fast-a-thon will be bigger and better!

BULLETIN BOARD

SMU FILM SOCIETY TO HOST 2ND ANNUAL STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

The Saint Mary's University Film Society is busy organizing the second edition of the Halifax Student Film Festival. We are currently looking for submissions from students. If you are interested in submitting a film, you have until November 15th to do so. Entries are already pouring in from all of the post-secondary institutions in the HRM. For more information on how to enter, and for a copy of the rules and regulations, please email us.

Date: Thursday, November 23rd

Place: McNally Theatre Aud.

Time: 7:00PM

studentfilmfest@eastlink.ca

SMU DRAMA SOCIETY TO PERFORM SHAKESPEARE'S TWELFTH NIGHT

The SMU Drama Society will be performing Shakespeare's Twelfth Night as its major production of this school year. Glenn Walton, film producer and professor from the SMU English department, is directing. The last session of auditions will be this Friday, November 24th, from 4:00PM-8:00PM. Auditions at other times can also be arranged. Backstage help is greatly appreciated, as are music-related skills. For more information, please visit the SMUDS website at www.smuds.ca

Audition Date: November 24th
Audition Time: 4:00PM-8:00PM

SMUSA DENTAL PLAN SURVEY

The Saint Mary's University Students' Association is conducting a survey to identify if students are interested in adopting a dental plan. Currently the Students' Association offers a health plan for a student that is mandatory for all full time students and all international students. The current health plan has benefits including prescription drugs, physiotherapy and massage therapy but does not include dental coverage. SMUSA has established two dental plans for students to consider. One is a Basic Plan that would cost \$78 per year and the other is a Plus Plan that would cost \$88 per year. The benefits available in both these plans are identified within the survey. As is the case for the student health plan, the dental plan would be mandatory for all full time students and all international students and there would be an opt-out available for students who have alternative or comparable dental coverage. The survey is available online at <http://www.studentwise.ca/survey.aspx> or you can complete the survey at the Health Plan Office on the 5th floor Student Centre. Students who complete the survey will be entered in a draw to win an iPod Nano. The survey will be conducted until the end of January and if the results are favourable, SMUSA will conduct a referendum in February and ask students to vote on the adoption of a dental plan.

SMS is currently collaborating with the Centre for Islamic Development (CID) in order to aid in the construction of a website (aimed directly at Haligonians) as part of the proactive and educational stance currently being adopted by the majority of the HRM Muslim community in hopes of opening doors to future inter-faith communications. All kinds of questions are welcome, and there is no such thing as a "stupid" question; please feel free to ask what is truly on your mind. Thank you.

WUSC SOCIETY 50/50 DRAW FOR REFUGEE STUDENT

Wusc is holding a 50/50 draw every Friday until the end of term. Tickets can be purchased at the Info Desk or in Loyola by the bank machine on Thursdays from 11-1PM. The money raised will go towards the Refugee Student program which aims to bring a student here to Saint Mary's to study free from fear of persecution. Please support this cause. Everyone should have the right to a safe education and a new chance at life.

Date: Until the end of term

Place: Info Desk and Loyola (by the bank machine)

Time: 11:00AM-1:00PM

9TH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

We are looking for people (individuals or groups) who would like to perform during the night (maximum of 6 participants per group). If you are interested, please contact Omozele Okosun at Omozele@gmail.com and/or Sasha Sears at searsasha@gmail.com. Our ninth annual International Night is soon approaching. This dazzling night of exquisite international cuisine, international entertainment, and a DJ dance is going to be held on Saturday, January 27, 2007 at 6:30pm, in the Loyola Conference Hall (L290).

This year tickets are \$15 for SMU students, \$20 for non-SMU students and \$25 at the door. Tickets will be available in January.

Great door prizes will be drawn throughout the night!!!

More information and the complete program will be available in January at our website: <http://international-night.smu.ca/int-night.html>. Sponsored by the International Centre, IDS Undergraduate Society and SMUSA

SCROOGED

Experience the classic Bill Murray holiday film on the big screen! *** All proceeds will support Feed Nova Scotia ***

We will also be collecting donations of non-perishable food items at the door - please give generously to families in need this holiday season!

Date: December 10, 2005 at 1 pm

Place: Oxford Theatre

Price: Tickets only \$5.00 each!
cometothemovies@yahoo.ca

GRAD CLASS PUB NIGHT

Bacardi and the Grad Class present the last Pub Night of 2006 on Thursday, November 30. Bacardi is drawing for the prize of \$3000 towards your Saint Mary's tuition at midnight! It's a Stop Light Party so wear your appropriate colour: green invites attention, yellow means proceed with caution, and red says "Stop! I'm taken!"

SANTAMARIAN MUSLIM SOCIETY SURVEY

The Santamarian Muslim Society (SMS) is currently conducting a survey. If you could ask one question about Islam or Muslims, and have it answered for you as accurately as possible, what one question would you ask? Email: islam.halifax@hotmail.com

HUSKIES AT HOME

BASKETBALL @ THE TOWER
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24 VS UPEI WOMEN 6PM & MEN 8PM

MEN'S HOCKEY @ THE HALIFAX FORUM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25 VS DAL 7PM

VOLLEYBALL @ THE TOWER
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25 VS UNB 7PM

WOMEN'S HOCKEY @ ALUMNI ARENA
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25 VS MTA 2PM

?

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POSSIBLE SMU FACULTY/LIBRARIAN STRIKE?

Want to know why SMU professors and librarians may be forced to strike?

Go to the Saint Mary's University Faculty Union website.

WWW.SMUFU.ORG

Student I.D. DAYS

Get 50¢ off a 6" or \$1.00 off a footlong sandwich.

November 27 - December 9

When you show your Student ID

Not Valid With any Other Offer

5560 Ferwick St.,
3045 Spring Garden@Robie,
and 5850-5980 University Ave. (IWK)

SPORTS

EDITORIAL

OJ SIMPSON: MAKING MONEY OFF MURDER

BY ADAM COSTELLO

Orenthal James Simpson, promoter of human life, is releasing a book in which he confesses - hypothetically that is. The former football great, who was acquitted in criminal court 11 years ago of killing his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman, reportedly has been paid a whopping \$3.5 million to write about the double murder that shocked and riveted the nation in 1994. But Simpson is not actually confessing to the murder, rather, he's writing a "hypothetical" book that will carry the title: "If I Did It."

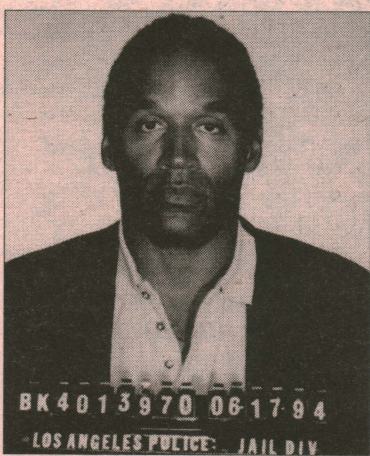
O.J. Simpson created an uproar last week with plans for a TV interview with Fox, expected to air Nov. 27th and 29th, in which Simpson talks about his books descriptions on how he would have committed the 1994 slayings of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman, "if he were the one responsible." The book goes on sale Nov. 30th.

The early part of the book apparently tells the story of how Simpson fell in love with Nicole and then how the marriage collapsed. He later goes on to describe, in gruesome detail, a walk through of how the killing of his ex-wife and Goldman would have been done; stipulating his described murder scenes are only "hypothetical". It has been reported that the descriptions are "so detailed and so chillingly realistic" that readers are left with little doubt as to what really happened. The book will be sold for \$16.47 American and is being published by ReganBooks, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers. Fox, which like HarperCollins, is owned by News Corp., is airing the two-part TV interview of Simpson as an obvious means at promoting the book.

Regardless of what information the book hypothetically reveals, Simpson can never be retried for the murders because of double jeopardy laws. Simpson was acquitted in 1995 of murder after a trial that became an instant cultural flashpoint surrounding racial sensitivity. The former football star was later found liable for the deaths in a wrongful-death civil suit filed by the Goldman family in 1997, which ordered Simpson to pay 33.5 million. He still hasn't paid it.

He and the families of the victims have wrangled over the money in court for years, but it has been decided that his National Football League pension and Florida home cannot be legally seized. The families could go after the proceeds from the book's sales to pay off the judgment, but one legal analyst said there are ways to get around that too, such as having proceeds not go directly to Simpson. So now the former star stands to benefit financially from a

murder that was decided upon by our legal system he could not have actually committed, the same system that found him liable enough to surrender 33.5 million to the families for wrongful-death; money O.J. still has absolutely no intention on surrendering. What ever happened to



his post-trial vow to hunt down the real killers? Instead he's decided to hypothetically speak of himself as one of them, making loads of money that will not end up anywhere near the victim's families.

Simpson was born on July 9th, 1947 in San Francisco, California. He was nicknamed Juice during his career as one of the greatest NFL running backs of all time. Simpson won the Heisman Trophy in 1968 while playing for the University of Southern California and was later drafted by the Buffalo Bills, who got the first pick in the 1969 draft after finishing 1-12-1 in 1968. Early in his NFL career, Simpson struggled on poor Buffalo teams, averaging only around 600 yards per season until his first 1,000 yard season in 1972. The next year, Simpson rushed for a then-record 2,003 yards, becoming the first player ever to pass the 2,000-yard mark.

After his retirement from football, Simpson went on to a successful film career with parts in films such as the television mini-series "Roots", and the motion pictures "The Cassandra Crossing", "Capricorn One", "The Klansman", "The Towering Inferno", "Back to the Beach", and "The Naked Gun" trilogy. Simpson was also considered for the lead role in Terminator, before it was decided audiences might not accept him as a villain because he was perceived as too "nice". The gunna of California is clearly more menacing than a man who would later slaughter his own wife. Besides his acting career, Simpson has also had stints as a commentator for Monday Night Football and The NFL on NBC. He also hosted an episode of Saturday Night Live, but in light of the trials, he was the only former host not invited to attend the

program's 25th anniversary celebration special in 1999.

After such a promising career and with so many opportunities for the future, O.J. Simpson was suddenly plastered throughout the media and was immediately believed to be a murderer by the entire country, despite somehow getting the case against him thrown out. Afterwards he was accused of illegally accessing signals from DirecTV, throwing a golf club "intentionally" into the woods and hitting a man walking along an internal path, and even kidnapping his own daughter after the two were simply spending the weekend together. In 1996, shortly after the trials, Simpson visited Britain and gave a talk at the Oxford Union, where he was met by protesting women's rights groups. The protests concerned not the murder of Nicole Brown, but the well-documented domestic abuse she suffered at Simpson's hands. In 2001, he was tried for burglary and battery in a Florida road rage case that received some publicity, but he was again found not guilty.

It seems the life of Mr. Simpson has become more and more an oddity leading up to this soon to be published book describing the murder. There were plans for him to have a reality TV show in 2002 where he would simply be followed around by a TV camera and be filmed telling people of his identity, catching the resulting reaction of terror in the bystander's face. Instead, in 2003, Simpson filmed a pay-per-view comedy special titled Juiced. The show set up a hidden camera, and included a controversial sketch of Simpson attempting to sell the infamous White Ford Bronco at a used car lot, telling the salesman, "It was good for me. It helped me get away."

It's hard to imagine how Simpson, a human being, could have the audacity to market himself in such ways to make money, still not giving up a cent of the 33.5 million dollar judgment. What's even more wretched is that Simpson is attempting to profit not off his football fame, but off a murder that was only immensely publicized because of his football fame. How can a man who has claimed these murders to be such a travesty in the past, a man who somehow was not found guilty, despite mountains of evidence against him - write a book where he describes grabbing a knife from a man who accompanied him to Nicole's home, then describes the brutal proceedings that ended in him finding himself covered in blood and looking down at the bodies of Nicole and Ron. How does our legal system allow for this? How did Simpson walk free in the first place? He was literally caught after a high speed chase in which he ran from the cops

for hours, passport and gun in hand, with a carload of money; just a casual afternoon at the office? And moreover, why has he still not been forced to pay the 33.5 million dollars when he clearly possesses plenty of money to do so with? Has the entire world gone insane? The simple answer to this question is: yes. And it always has been.

Simpson is a horrible man, and there should not be one person on this planet that believes he did not murder his wife. The reality is, however, that this type of thing has been going on for centuries in our society. High status citizens like O.J. have been getting away with this kind of stuff for as long as democracy has existed, and the only reason O.J. has received this much attention is because of his race. For once, a black man has gotten away with a travesty, and this is something society seems extremely uncomfortable with, enough to give him the attention needed to unknowingly make the man a millionaire. He's exploited the legal system and now he's exploiting us all - and society is to blame, not just O.J. - color, status, background, lawyers; none of this should ever mat-

ter when you have clearly murdered two people in cold blood.

A prisoner at the California State Penitentiary, Cletis Tallywhacker, is penning a short novela about how he would have hypothetically raped O.J. Simpson if he had been his hypothetical cellmate. While Simpson's Novel is titled "If I Did It", Tallywhacker's book is called "If I Could Get Me Some Hall Of Fame Running Back Booty". According to prison officials, Tallywhacker has long been obsessed with Simpson, and killed several other prisoners in rage when O.J. was acquitted and his hopes for intimacy with him dashed. "There's no harm in our prisoners playing out their fantasies in writing," said Prison Warden Hal Souder. "And I'm thrilled that Mr. Tallywhacker has accurately depicted our guards ignoring Mr. Simpson's pleas for help. Hypothetically, of course."

The Journal learned late on publication day that after a firestorm of criticism, News Corp. announced Monday that it has cancelled O.J. Simpson's book and television special "If I Did It".

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St. Mary's University
Thursday, November 30th, 12 pm - 2 pm
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Loyola Building (Enter from 5865 Goresbrook Ave)

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Richard Ivey School of Business
The University of Western Ontario

JOURNAL SPORTS ROLLBACK

ST. MARY'S BASKETBALL - NO UPS, TWO DOWNS EACH

After beginning the season 2-0, the St. Mary's Men's Basketball team traveled to Memorial university for back-to-back road games last Friday and Saturday night. In game one, SMU tried to get its long distance game going with ten 3 point attempts in the first half, unfortunately only sinking one of them. By the end of the first half, Memorial led 31-22 and never looked back. Aaron Duncan led SMU with 23 points before fouling out, on route to a 71-65 final, which saw SMU out-rebounded and charged with 24 fouls throughout the game. The next night, Aaron Duncan improved on his previous total, netting 30 points in another losing effort. Duncan's effort simply was not enough to keep up with the Sea-hawks in the second half, as a two point deficit at the half quickly turned into a 75-61 loss by the end of the game. Once again the story of the game was SMU's inability to bring down rebounds and stay disciplined on the court, losing out on the ups battle by almost double and committing a crippling 25 fouls. The women also found themselves at the mercy of two road games against a formidable Sea-hawks team, and managed an even worse result in their two games than the men did. The first saw the Huskies get downed 75-46 in the first game and 66-47 in the second. The second game at least saw Jennifer Bray break out as an effective finisher, netting 16 points in a lacklustre effort all too similar to the mens' - as they were horribly defeated in the rebound battle and committed far too many fouls in both games.

ST. MARY'S HOCKEY SPLITS ON WEEKEND

The Men's Hockey team hit the road last weekend for two games vs. UPEI and STU. Their first match-up saw them leave PEI last Friday night with a 3-1 win, riding two goals by Marc Rancourt and a second period game winner by Ryan Rorabeck to victory. Dan Rudisuela had two assists while Cory Roberts only had to turn away 16 shots. The next night proved to be a much different story, as St. Thomas peppered SMU back-up Brandon Verge for 31 shots, five of which went in on route to a 5-3 loss. Marc Szott, Rancourt and Kyle Doucet scored for the Huskies on 40 shot attempts, compared to only 31 by the Tommies. The women played two interconference games last weekend, losing to McGill 4-2 on Saturday before taking out Concordia 4-0 the following afternoon.

ST. MARY'S VOLLEYBALL RISES TO CHALLENGE

The SMU volleyball team played a pair of games on the road last weekend against Memorial, losing the first game after a hard fought five set thriller that ended in a 3-2 victory for Memorial. The next night the Husky women came out with a vengeance for the rematch, and backed by a 19.5 point effort from Janese Boudreau, SMU dominated on route to a 3-1 victory.

SASKATCHEWAN AND LAVAL TO MEET IN VANIER CUP

The Saskatchewan Huskies and the Laval Rouge et Or will meet this Saturday in Saskatoon to battle for the Vanier Cup. Laval reached the final after pouncing the Acadia Axemen by a score of 57-10. Laval Sophomore quarterback Benoit Groulx threw four touchdown passes including three to third-year wideout Laurent Lavigne-Masse. In the other semifinal the University of Saskatchewan Huskies rallied to down the #3 University of Ottawa Gee-Gees 35-28. Saskatchewan quarterback Tyler

O'Gorman ran for 162-yards and three touchdowns, including two in the final quarter.

COLLEGE COACHING LEGEND DIES

Bo Schembechler, who became one of college football's great coaches in two decades at the University of Michigan, died last Friday after taping a TV show on the eve of the Wolverines' No. 1 vs. No. 2 showdown with perennial rival Ohio State. He was 77.

Schembechler had a heart attack on the eve of his first Rose Bowl in 1970 and another one in 1987. He had two quadruple heart-bypass operations, and doctors implanted a pacemaker to regulate his heart-beat after he became ill during a taping at WXYZ on Oct. 20. Dubbed the "Game of the Century," the #1 Ohio State Buckeyes defeated the #2 Michigan Wolverines 42-39. Led by Heisman frontrunner Troy Smith, who threw for four touchdowns, the Buckeyes are well on their way to playing for the national title. Despite the loss, Michigan remains ranked #2. Rest in Peace Bo.

BECKHAM TO BEND IT IN LOS ANGELES?

Real Madrid and David Beckham may soon be parting ways. Speculation is mounting that Beckham's three and a half year stay with Madrid will end during the January transfer window. The 31-year-old midfielder, whose contract ends in June, is stalling on Madrid's offer of a new deal due to his lack of first-team opportunities. Beckham has only started three games this season, and will be free to negotiate with other clubs if he hasn't renewed by January. Speculation is rife that he could return to the English Premier League or move to a Major League Soccer club in the United States. The Los Angeles Galaxy are among the clubs reportedly interested. MLS recently changed its rules on salary caps, which would allow the former England captain to sign a lucrative deal. Beckham has a soccer academy in Los Angeles. Beckham hasn't won a major trophy with Madrid since his arrival from Manchester United in 2003.

FLUTIE RUNS WITH IT

Doug Flutie has been named the CFL's No. 1 player of its modern era. Flutie was a definitive choice for the honour, receiving 35 of 60 first place votes. He's a six-time CFL Most Outstanding Player, three-time Grey Cup champion, three-time Grey Cup MVP, and the record-holder for most TD passes in a single season. The six-time All-Canadian set the CFL on fire during his eight-year career from 1990-1997 with the B.C. Lions, Calgary Stampeders and Toronto Argonauts. In all, he collected 3,384 voting points in weighted balloting - 402 more than runner-up George Reed, the Saskatchewan Roughriders' nine-time All-Canadian running back (2,982 points).

JAYS INK THOMAS FOR DH POSITION

The Toronto Blue Jays finalized an \$18-million, two-year deal with veteran slugger Frank Thomas on Friday. The contract includes a \$10 million option for the 2009 season.

The Blue Jays reached a tentative deal with the six-foot-five, 275-pound 38-year-old last week and he only needs 13 home runs to become the first player to reach the 500-home-run plateau in a Blue Jays uniform. Thomas spent the 2006 season with the Oakland Athletics batting .270 with 39 homers 114 RBIs. He takes over Toronto's vacant DH spot.

In 17 big-league seasons, Thomas

has hit .305 with 458 doubles, 487 home runs and 1,579 RBIs.

FIRST JAY TO WALK AWAY

Free-agent outfielder Frank Catalanotto has agreed to a three-year, US\$13 million deal to return to the Texas Rangers after playing the last four seasons for the Toronto Blue Jays.

The deal includes a team option for a fourth year. Catalanotto initially was acquired by the Rangers in a November 1999 trade that sent two-time AL MVP Juan Gonzalez to Detroit. Catalanotto spent three seasons in Texas, but wasn't tendered a contract after being limited to 68 games because of injury in 2002. In 3,076 at-bats over 10 major league seasons, Catalanotto is a .297 career hitter with a .362 on-base percentage. He hit .300 with seven home runs, 56 RBIs and 56 runs scored in 128 games for the Blue Jays this season.

CFL JUST TOO EXCITING

The CFL season concluded last weekend with a riveting, spectacular, immaculate display of athleticism, on the highest platform the sport of football has to offer. Okay, so maybe some of that is embellished. Okay, so maybe almost none of it is true. It was the year of the Lions in the CFL, and it will be remembered for more than their 25-14 Grey Cup victory over the Montreal Alouettes. It will be remembered as that game everybody wanted to watch, but couldn't, because Indianapolis was playing the Cowboys.

B.C. won its fifth Grey Cup and its first since beating Montreal in the 2000 championship game. During the massive on-field celebration after the game, the base of the trophy was separated from the 94-year-old Cup, which will likely land the Lions with a hefty repair bill. The irony is that the cup itself is probably the best thing the CFL has going for it right now - of course it breaks.

I really did try and secure a consensus within the room on maybe changing the channel to our nations championship football game. I mean it needs all the support it can get, regardless of whether or not the quality is on par with an undefeated Colts team heading into Dallas. I asked: "Hey guys! Why aren't we watching the Grey Cup?" a question that was responded to by silence until an un-sarcastic: "Why the fuck would we be?", then a group burst of laughter. No dice. Danny even told me that when the Peel Pub staff put the Grey Cup game on the big screen, the entire room erupted with booing and thrown garbage. How bout' them Cowboys?

I suppose it was probably for the better, considering it was hardly a thriller for the full house of 44,786 that shivered in -3 C cold to see a game that unfolded as predicted - a clear B.C. win with Dickenson in control. The excitement must have been world changing, as two Alouettes set Grey Cup records in the losing effort! Anthony Calvillo threw for 234 yards to pass Doug Flutie (1,421), for most career Grey Cup passing yards with 1,468, while his favourite target, Ben Cahoon, caught 11 passes to move into first place with 31 career Grey Cup catches. And the kicker battle? One for the ages.

The Lions are now 5-4 in Grey Cup games while the Alouettes are 5-10 and are becoming the CFL's

version of the old Buffalo Bills. Next year's Grey Cup is to be played indoors at the Rogers Centre in Toronto - maybe they can even give away enough tickets to fill the stadium. The CFL is currently listening to bids on how much money companies are willing to pay to rename the Grey Cup with their name attached. This could be huge for the league, especially because rumour has it that Timmy's is the front runner. The Tim Hortons Cup? I like it! Or do I just like coffee? I don't even know man, I don't even know.

RUMOR RECAP

- A rumoured deal involving Phoenix and San Jose has Sharks goaltender Evgeni Nabokov going to the Coyotes for defenseman Ed Jovanovski. Since the Coyotes actually possess some depth on defence, it seems most rational to improve the situation in goal at similar cost to Jovanovski's price tag. The Sharks need that franchise defenseman if they are to make a run at the cup.
- With all the turmoil going on in the Philadelphia Flyers organization, there have been rumours that they are attempting a big shake up with hopes of looking toward the future. One name GMs are calling about that would get the Flyers a huge is former Hart trophy winner Peter Forsberg, and the Colorado Avalanche are purportedly interested in obtaining his serv-

ices for a second go around.

Vancouver Canucks center Brendan Morrison has been the subject of persistent trade rumours that had him going to Phoenix for Mike Comrie, until Comrie broke his foot, halting any talks.

It has been reported that the Anaheim Ducks have decided that if one of their goalies is on the way out, it will more likely be J.S Giguere who gets shown the door.

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Red Sox bid \$51 million for Japanese Pitcher

BY DANNY CAREW

The Boston Red Sox have won the rights to Japanese pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka after bidding \$51 million dollars. The Seibu Lions allowed all Major League teams to bid for his services and the team that bids the highest wins the rights to negotiate a contract with the pitcher. The Mets finished second with a bid between \$39 and \$40 million, according to a baseball official. The Yankees bid between \$32 and \$33 million, another official said. Matsuzaka compiled a career record of 108-60 with an impressive 2.95 era throughout his Japanese career. He starred for Japan in the World Baseball Classic and is considered to be the best free agent available this offseason. The Red Sox outbid every other Major League team just to have the privilege to talk to the man, plus Matsuzaka will command at least another \$50 million dollars for a contract to bring the grand total to over \$100 million for the Japanese hurler. It's important to note that the Red Sox have thirty days to reach a contract with Matsuzaka, and if they are unable to do so the Red Sox don't have to pay the money owed for the bid. But why would the Red Sox pay so much?

First of all, Matsuzaka will fit in fine with the Red Sox starting rotation. The Red Sox starting rotation will consist of Matsuzaka, Jonathan Papelbon, Josh Beckett, Curt Schilling, and Tim Wakefield. Schilling has indicated that this will most likely be his final season, so with Matsuzaka the Sox have a pitcher who can be slated in as the teams' ace, after Schilling is gone. The Red Sox acquired Josh Beckett last season from the Florida Marlins. The Former World Series M.V.P. struggled in his inaugural season in Boston. Beckett had a record of 16-11, along with a disgusting 5.01 era, and he gave up the most home runs in the majors. Papelbon will be converted from closer to starter, and Wakefield will fit in nicely as the 5th starter. On paper, with the addition of Matsuzaka, the Red Sox will have one of the best, if not the best, starting rotations in baseball.

The Red Sox and the Yankees not only have the best rivalry in baseball, they also share the greatest hatred towards each other like no other two teams in professional sports. Anyone who watches baseball knows that the Yankees have tortured the Red Sox, not just on the field but also off the field. Take, for example, last year when the Yankees offered Red Sox outfielder Johnny Damon more money (\$52 million, four-year contract) than the Red Sox (\$40 million), which led to Johnny skipping Beantown to go to the Bronx. Red Sox Nation was left shaking their heads wondering why the Sox brass couldn't step up and pay Damon. That was the most recent Yankee move made to spite the Sox, but in terms of a move that is similar to the Matsuzaka bid you have to go back to when the Red Sox were outbid by the Yankees for a pitcher. It was just four years ago that the Sox were outbid by the Yankees in the infamous, furniture-busting Jose Contreras sweepstakes at the Hotel Campo Real in Nicaragua. After finding out that the Yankees outbid the Sox, GM Theo Epstein threw a tantrum in his hotel room by throwing furniture in disgust for being outbid by the Yankees. Red Sox CEO Larry Lucchino said, "The Evil Empire (Yankees) extends its tentacles even into Latin America." The comment triggered new levels of hostility in the ancient rivalry. However, this time around the Sox outbid the Yankees. It's interesting to mention that baseball experts assumed the Yankees were going to get Matsuzaka, which is probably why the Red Sox made sure to overpay for Matsuzaka.

A lot of money is coming in from ticket sales, local TV rights, national TV rights, the rental of luxury suites, all the Internet stuff and the team stores. The Red Sox can afford the ridiculous bid. The Red Sox always sell out games, and with an added fan

base in Japan, the Red Sox are trying to extend Red Sox Nation to the far-east. One MLB executive said, "Matsuzaka is a 'special player' who will be worth the \$100 million in added revenues."

"I was very surprised when I heard the figure," the 26-year-old Matsuzaka said. "It shows that they really appreciate my ability. I know there will be a lot of pressure, but that's something I'm used to and something I enjoy." If Matsuzaka signs with the Red Sox he'll be placed directly into the "pressure-cooker" that Boston is infamous for. The fans are passionate yet pessimistic, the writers are critical, and above all, losing isn't acceptable, especially against the Yankees. Whether or not Matsuzaka will become a star remains to be seen as most Japanese pitchers don't have the greatest track record in the Major Leagues. Of the six Japanese-born pitchers who have made at least ten starts in the big leagues, Hideo Nomo remains the only undisputed success story. One of the six, former Sox prospect Tomo Ohka, who threw a perfect game for Pawtucket

and is now a free agent, is the only one still in the big leagues. Four returned to Japan, including Hideki Irabu, who enraged Larry Lucchino in San Diego when he insisted he would only pitch for the Yankees after the Padres had purchased his rights, forcing a trade to the Bombers, then was unforgettably dubbed "a fat . . . toad" by Yankees owner George Steinbrenner when he failed to cover first base in a spring training game. It will be interesting to see how many years and how much money Matsuzaka will cost in addition to the bid. It is rumored that the Sox would like to sign him to a five year deal, but Matsuzaka is represented by agent Scott Boras who insists Matsuzaka will be seeking a three year contract.

The Red Sox are just as bad as the Yankees when it comes to spending money on players. The Yankees payroll is the biggest in the majors at \$190 million and the Sox are second at \$120 million. The bid for Matsuzaka, alone, is more than the payroll of five Major League teams. It costs a lot to win.

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