



THE JOURNAL

Est. 1935 · Vol. 73 · No. 17 · February 13th, 2008

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

AIDS IS A GOVERNMENT CONSPIRACY



**YOU KNOW THIS ISN'T TRUE
MAKE SURE THE REST OF THE WORLD DOES TOO.**

**2nd ANNUAL AWARE PROJECT FASHION SHOW
A BENIFIT FOR THE NOVA SCOTIA GAMBIA ASSOCIATION**

March 7, 2008 - 6pm - The Westin Nova Scotia

LAURA MACINTOSH

The AWARE (Activists Worldwide AIDS/HIV Reproductive Education) Project back for another year and is getting set to host a variety of events in support of the Nova Scotia Gambia Association, which installs peer health education programs in Gambia and Sierra Leone. On March 1st, AWARE will be hosting a Red Party at the Gorsebrook to raise funds and awareness for their cause, with more Red Parties throughout the province in collaboration with neighbouring universities. March 7th will mark their 2nd annual Spring Fashion Show at the Westin Hotel in Halifax. Proceeds from all AWARE events are being donated to the Nova Scotia Gambia Association; whose projects in the Sierra Leone and Gambia regions have been marked with great success.

The AWARE Project started out of New York in 2005, and has worked its way to Canada through International Development major, Kaitlyn Sawyer. Sawyer got involved while working with best friend Mariah Ernst at Bard University in New York, and is now one of the "go to" people for the Canadian chapter. As Project Coordinator for the organization and co-executive for the Fashion Show and Red Parties, Sawyer is heavily passionate about promoting education and helping to combat the AIDS/HIV epidemic. Working with the executive staff of Mac Shaker, promoter for Embassy Nightclub, Josh Szeto, freelance photographer and fashion designer, and 3rd year SMU marketing major Nada Bakraky, Sawyer is positive the events will be smash hits. Kaitlyn Sawyer said the goal of the AWARE Project is to "install education programs in developing countries with the long-term goal of lowering new HIV/AIDS contractions."

The photo campaign used by AWARE to promote their goals also educates local communities on the importance of educated decision-making and the use of protection. This year's photographic advertising has an edgy, controversial theme, combating some of the most widely-held misconceptions about HIV/AIDS including, "AIDS is a government conspiracy," "I can't get AIDS because my boyfriend loves me" and, "AIDS only targets one race". University groups such as SMUSA (as depicted in photograph), the Gorsebrook bar staff and the SMU Model United Nations joined forces with AWARE to promote the cause and pose for these and other misconceptions. If you remember last years black and white images, you are in for a surprise; this year's campaign uses vibrant colours

mixed with edge, creativity, and photographic genius to create a shocking ad campaign. Along with Halifax's own photographer Josh Webb of JWebb Photography, the AWARE project has certainly succeeded in walking the line between controversial and censored.

When asked about the use of education as a tool, Sawyer said "education is the most cost efficient way of combating any kind of epidemic. If we can do that in a way that is attractive to the student body, as well as the people within the community, then we'll do it." As the target audience for most of the AWARE campaign projects is students, it's no wonder SMUSA is on board with the initiative. VP Internal Chris MacDougall said of SMUSA's involvement; "It's a student initiative and it's something that will hopefully effect change; and for our students to be aware of this campaign is one thing that we see a direct benefit in." MacDougall also explained that getting students on board both educationally and fundamentally was important to the student's association. "Having these misconceptions provided on campus in a light that's very attractive to the student eye; it's something that's different, engaging and interesting. Without having something that's interesting, that people would really care about, people aren't going to want to get involved with it."

The upcoming Red Parties will be used as a way to get students actively involved with the AWARE campaign. They will promote local talent from Nova Scotia's growing music scene and provide a night of entertainment with a hint of learning. When asked why Red Parties; where all attendees wear red in support of HIV/AIDS education; were a good promotional tool, Sawyer said it was important to raise awareness of the Nova Scotia Gambia Association within the local community. "It's been around so long, so many people in the Halifax community don't know about the success and progress that the association is having," Sawyer said of the choice of partnership. MacDougall added of the Red Parties, "It's a great way to get students involved because you're not just providing them with an environment that they're going to be able to go out there and enjoy, but you're providing them with that indirect education which is necessary."

Last year's Fashion Show provided that enjoyable yet educational environment for all who attended. With such success it was not surprising that the AWARE project make an annual event out of the event, but what inspired the use of a fashion show in the first place? Kaitlyn Sawyer explained "I think there was a general interest. We recognized that there was a demand for a premiere fashion show in

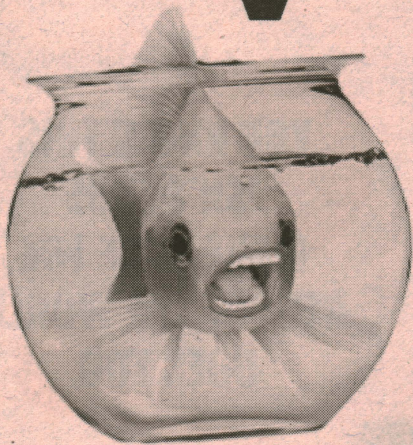
the city, something that was professional and also showcased a lot of talent that in the city. The event will showcase local, grassroots designers from all over Canada, giving the Halifax's fashion-conscious community a chance to preview upcoming trends." Utilizing that demand has allowed the AWARE team to explore their event management and promotion skills to something outside of the nightclub scene, all while raising money for a phenomenal cause. The show uses models from AWARE partner City Models Talent/Modeling Agency as well as students from the university. The Fashion Show will start with a silent auction by the SMU Model United Nations.

HIV/AIDS awareness is certainly a worthwhile cause to get involved with, however in a university with growing apathy problems, getting students engaged can be difficult. Chris MacDougall and AWARE have a plan to grab SMU student's attention; "There are so many issues going on out there right now, and a lot of them get past by the side because people don't see how it directly influences them. Having a situation where we can reach out in a way that will be interesting to them, I think that's what's really going to push them to get involved." When asked how he became involved, MacDougall said it was a combination of things, including participating in last years show, being educated on the effects, and being around people that were so passionate about the cause. "I saw the benefit because I saw that there was an outreach on campus, and students really did pay attention. To have something that students are paying attention to and listening to is a big deal, because these days it's very hard to get student's to listen to anything, let alone a cause that you really care about." Kaitlyn Sawyer added her reasons, stating, "I couldn't have imagined to see [the project] grow the way the project itself did, and I think as someone who has a general interest in organizing events, the parties, and working with such talented people, it's what maintains your enthusiasm and confidence to keep working for such a great association."

If you are interested in donating or supporting the Nova Scotia Gambia Association and the AWARE Project or would like more information, please contact Kaitlyn Sawyer at (902) 405-9753 or by e-mail at kaitlyncsawyer@yahoo.com.

smusa NEWS

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VOTING DAYS

Executive Election Voting Days

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Saint Mary's University Students' Association

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Deadline for Nominations ...Student & Teaching Awards

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residence desk in loyola
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THURSDAY
February 14th
BIG HEARTS FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY
February 15th
RETIREMENT PARTY FOR BJ FRENETTE

SATURDAY
February 16th
CLOSED

SUNDAY
February 17th
CLOSED

MONDAY
February 18th
CLOSED

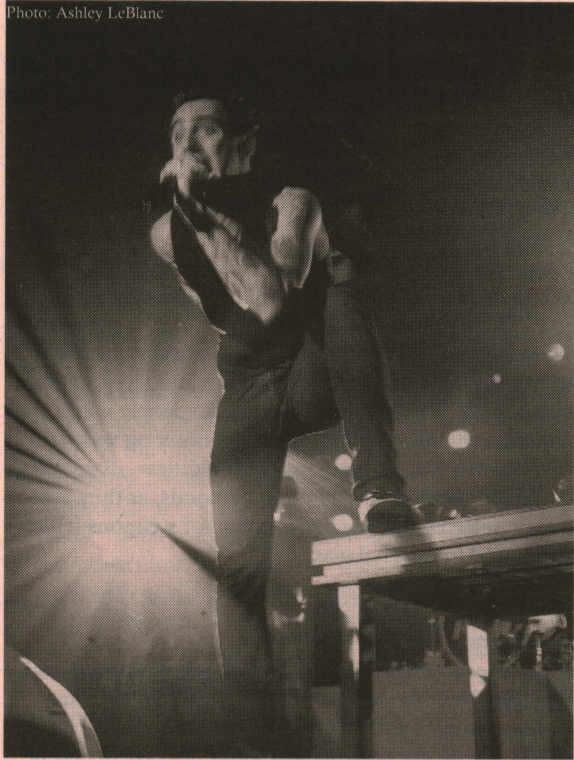
TUESDAY
February 19th
CLOSED

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

PERSPECTIVES

Letter From The Editor: When did it stop being about the music?

Photo: Ashley LeBlanc



Lead singer of Hedley, Jacob Hoggard, takes on the Cunard Centre

AMANDA WENEK

Placing a person in the category of 'sex symbol' is no unfamiliar phenomenon. Marilyn Monroe, Madonna, Justin Timberlake, and Brad Pitt (the list could go on) have all been subject to the label, and it's really no surprise to see it increasingly overwhelm the entertainment industry as time goes by.

Friday night BC based band Hedley played at the Cunard Centre. Hedley shot to fame after lead singer Jacob Hoggard made it into the top three on Canadian Idol four seasons ago. His over the top theatrics, charismatic personality, rough-around-the-edges good looks, and his crooner's voice sent him soaring through the competition.

My initial reaction when I entered the Cunard Centre was to the strange demographic; it was interesting to see the crowd ranging from parents with their children, 14 year old girls, couples of all ages, middle aged women with their girlfriends, and even a few prepubescent boys.

Prior to their set's start, the audience let loose a chant of "We want Hedley" and people were getting restless as mothers were running around screaming that there shouldn't be liquor served at this concert, trying to pull their children from the throngs of the front row, and a fight even broke out among a few young female teenagers. All of this just for a good looking boy.

There were screams throughout the entire set, "We love you Jacob!", and girls wearing homemade tank tops with the words "We will get naked for Hedley" written on them. Girls of all ages were trying their hardest to win over security and get backstage access or at least a spot up in front of the barricades. Even 30 and 40 year old women were saying whatever they could to try and get a closer look at Jacob.

Experiences such as these make me wonder what the people come here for. Is it to enjoy quality music and an entertaining show, or to swoon over a half naked, handsome, and risqué 20something year old? Jacob is known for his antics;

live shows involve him stripping down to his underwear, bearing his butt, going shirtless, or skin tight body suits, just to name a few of his performance tactics.

Hedley is first and foremost an entertainment band. They are talented musicians and writers (Jacob often joins the band on guitar or piano), they have heart and dedication, and they definitely know how to get a crowd excited. But then there is this whole other dimension to Hedley; the fans. The fans seem to forget that the music should be the point; music is why Hedley is here.

Every single person in the room was singing along to every word of every song, so it's clear to me that there is a passion for the art. So why does it have to be overshadowed by the lust over a celebrity? Crushing on a celebrity is fun, but I, personally, would think that to obsess over how you will get that chance to meet, talk to, or even brush up against that celebrity would make the musical experience that much less enjoyable because you will only be heartbroken when it never happens.

Letters to The Editor

SMU Students Working for Peace

LAURA MACINTOSH

The SMU Conflict Resolution Society is a group of twelve ambitious students with an incredible story to tell. The society's mandate is to raise awareness of positive ways to deal with conflict, from simple harms associated with school bullying to the complex and devastating effects of social and economic conflict.

Since September, the students have worked hard to train in conflict resolution skills and practice their mandate, including running sessions at Oxford School, and in a week they will be traveling to

Northern Ireland to spread their goals and make valuable connections between our two Countries with the Northern Ireland Conflict Resolution Project. In a joint effort between the university and Peaceful Schools International the Conflict Resolution Society will be traveling to schools in the most affected areas around Belfast, not only to teach students, but to learn from them; and try to understand the differences between the two cultures. The goal is to understand the coping methods used by children in the region, as well as to promote different types of peaceful conflict management skills. Dr.

Hetty van Gorp, President of Peaceful Schools International (PSI) and one of Time Magazine's "Heroes of the Year" said the project is "insightful and visionary" and shows that Saint Mary's and its students are "forward thinking in [their] approach to learning about the nature of conflict and its resolution in real-life situations."

The project began after the 2001 protest at Holy Cross Primary School in Ardoyne, Belfast, which lasted more than 6 grueling months. This protest did in fact include a bombing which injured police personnel and received international attention. Peaceful Schools International and SMU have since offered their support to schools in the same area and have been received with "open arms". Saint Mary's is the first university to meet the requirements for membership with PSI, which is one reason the university is determined to make a substantial difference.

I'm sure you've passed by a bake sale table or were at the Gorsebrook during some of their fundraising efforts, or perhaps you even sauntered down to the Old Triangle Jan 16th during the Irish Social, hosted by the society. These fundraising efforts are only a small portion of what the group has been doing to raise money for their upcoming trip. Local and International charities alike have jumped on board to assist the effort, from the Charitable Irish Society of Halifax to the UK Barnardos Children Charity; many groups have offered their support to the ambitious group.

Not only are the students going to some of the most affected schools in the Ballymurphy area




Students meet with teachers from St Aiden's PS and Dr. Hetty van Gorp

of West Belfast, they are doing so at a time of intense stress in the community. A conflict between two families that has left one man dead, many injured and several homes bombed out over the last 2 years will be taken to trial during this year's PSI and SMU trip. In a recent trip to visit the Conflict Resolution Society and PSI, teachers from St Aiden's Primary School in West Belfast have said that almost every student in the local schools has been affected by the conflict, and they very much welcome support from this project.

In 2006, SMU students were commended for their work in a meeting here in Halifax with Martin McGuinness MP, former Minister of Education and current Deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland, and this year the students are proud to be welcomed to meet privately once again with Mr. McGuinness at Stormont on February 19th. The PSI and SMU joint initiative has also received praise from General John De Chastelain, a world renowned Canadian working to decommission both Loyalist and Republican paramilitaries in Northern Ireland. General de Chastelain has already

aided in the decommissioning of arms in the possession of the IRA, and is currently working with Loyalist paramilitaries to achieve the same outcome. Not only is de Chastelain encouraged by the work of the Conflict Resolution Project, he sits on the International advisory board for PSI.

The project has visited fifteen schools in Northern Ireland over the past three years and has an open invitation to return from all. With past groups battling 1000, this year's students are up to the task, and will be visiting with children from 9-14 years of age from four schools. From learning about the impact 30 years of conflict has had on citizens, to helping promote their peaceful agenda, PSI with the help of the SMU Conflict Resolution Society will certainly have a jam packed schedule. Although the Peace Process has encouraged much peace in Northern Ireland, it is still in its fragile beginnings, and groups such as ours will attempt to provide a stable and encouraging environment, at least for those students and teachers they visit.



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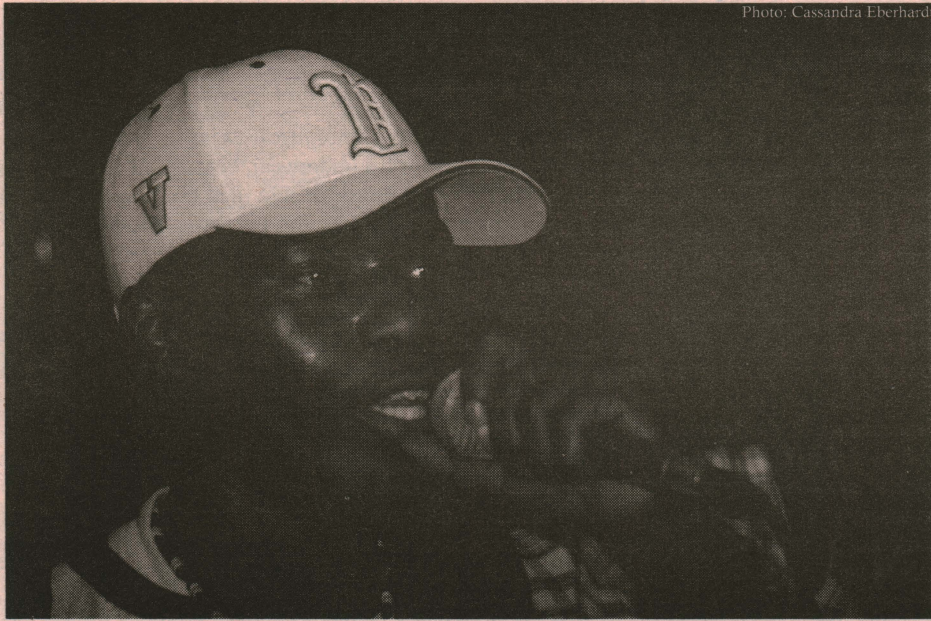
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“We need to learn to forgive” - Experiences of a Sierra Leone War Survivor



Saa Andrew performs songs from his album at the Gorsebrook Pub as a part of International Development Week

CASSANDRA EBERHARDT

Imagine hearing the sound of gunshots, the sound of rebels invading your community, witnessing horrific acts of violence, and feeling too scared to run away for fear of someone hearing your footsteps. When rebels raided the Kono District of Sierra Leone, an area known for its abundance of diamonds, Saa Andrew Gbongbor fled for his life. After being forced to leave his grandfather behind and becoming separated from his mother and father, he found himself seeking security at a refugee camp in Guinea only to be turned away because they had reached capacity. In a twist of fate a UN boat took Saa Andrew to the Gambia where he was

reunited with his father after a UN worker recognized his last name as one she had seen earlier on in the registration process. It was in the refugee camp that Saa Andrew started making music in an attempt to speak out against the war and to express his struggle for freedom. It wasn't long before he was approached by a DJ who encouraged him to get into the 'scene' and he soon began promoting his music through singing jingles and doing television spots. A short while later he released his first album – *Butuneh Banda* (The Fighting is Over). *Butuneh Banda* is an album written entirely by Saa Andrew and expresses his thoughts on the war; the ongoing suffering and his freedom. Although

Saa Andrew was offered an opportunity to return to Sierra Leone, which he almost accepted, he chose instead to follow his father after being told that the UN had secured them an opportunity to move to Fredericton, NB. In a whirlwind of events Saa Andrew found himself on his way to Fredericton, NB which he anticipated would be a completely different world than the one he grew up in. It is evident, while listening to Saa Andrew tell his remarkable story, that he is telling an account of events that are not only very personal, but that carry a very important message. A message which he hopes will foster an understanding of a country which many of us have seen on the

news or in Hollywood productions such as 'Blood Diamond' (which he explains is a very accurate depiction of what is happening within the country).

Another reality for Saa Andrew is that he has not seen his mother since he was separated from her nine long years ago. He explains that he believes that she doesn't even know he can sing let alone make music. He longs for the day when he becomes a Canadian citizen and can work on bringing his mother to Canada where he will be reunited with her again.

Despite all that he tells you he has gone through in his very short life, Saa Andrew has a belief in humanity and a positive outlook unlike anyone you will ever meet in your life. When asked what words of wisdom he would give to the world and to those still in Sierra Leone he said "We need to learn to forgive, if not no one will be alive, everyone will die".

Sierra Leone is currently ranked the world's poorest country in the 2008 United Nations Human Development Report. It is home to millions of innocent people who are caught in the middle of a violent and continuing war over one of the world's most precious commodities – diamonds. The trade of "conflict" or "blood" diamonds, as they are commonly referred to, is helping to pay for weapons which are being used in the civil war.

Additional note:

Saa Andrew spoke, Friday February 8th as part of International Development Week, sharing his incredible story with the Saint Mary's community as part of Beer Talk for Smart People. Those who stayed were treated later on that evening to a performance of songs off his album – *Butuneh Banda* – and were given a sneak peak of new songs which have not yet been released. Saa Andrew, 23, is currently a student at St. Thomas University pursuing a joint degree in World History and Human Rights. If you would like more information on Saa Andrew's story or would like to help please email smu_ids@yahoo.ca

Questioning the Questioning

(A response to Afton Conneely from the February 6th issue)

ETIENNE LERICHE

This is a response to last week's article entitled 'Questioning the Conflict Resolution Society'. I don't know if the author of that article has any experience in conflict resolution, but judging by the tone of the article she is an expert at conflict escalation (see: how to). I was also at the open-mic night mentioned in last week's article. I had a chance to hear about some of the good work the Conflict Resolution Society has been doing right here in our community (which I'm guessing the author of the other article did not), such as visiting local schools to promote a message of non-violence, tolerance and peaceful communication. I am thoroughly confident that this group of dynamic, highly motivated individuals will continue this great work in Northern Ireland.

I cannot understand how one could state that the conflict in Northern Ireland is 'OVER, DONE, GONE'; such a black and white opinion on something as complex as conflict is not only incredibly naïve, but also dangerous. Degree of conflict, as I'm sure the Conflict Resolution Society (or any of the 8 year old kids they have talked to) can tell you, exists on a continuum and not on a finite scale. We can find an example looking at our peaceful country's own ongoing conflict over Quebec's will for sovereignty. This conflict has at times escalated; in 1970, the FLQ, a revolutionary movement which was implicated in over 200 bombings, caused the government to invoke the War Measure Act and deployed the national army into Quebec. The conflict has at times relaxed; today, Quebec sovereignty

is still being discussed yet the political climate over the issue has changed, that is not to say that the conflict is, and will ever be 'OVER, DONE, GONE', until the issue is fully resolved. As for Ireland, the formation of a joint government and power-sharing is a step in the right direction, but it does not put a conflict with century old roots to rest overnight (pun not intended). I'm sure it's good for the country politically, as a whole, but it does little to appease anger within, and among families and individuals who have been affected by this conflict (emotions are not on a light switch). Sweeping conflict under the carpet will only lead to the propagation of tense undercurrents and the resurfacing of unresolved issues. From personal experience traveling in Ireland (Northern Ireland as well as the Republic of Ireland) I have seen heavily gated neighborhoods, armored police vehicles, and violent depictions on murals. One doesn't have to do too much reading between the lines to note that tension still exists. There may not have been any major bombing in Ireland since 1998 but that doesn't mean that Loyalists and Republicans are sitting around a campfire holding hands and singing Coumbaya, nor does it mean that conflict no longer exists. In fact, a February 4, 2008 article in the Belfast Telegraph warns of IRA threats of a new offensive (how's that for a fresh headline!). It needs to be clear to all that conflict does not (necessarily) equal bombs and chaos, nor does it imply that a country dealing with conflict is somehow dysfunctional, shameful or unwilling to make efforts towards peace.

I think that any person or organization willing to donate time and resources to help educate youth about peaceful conflict resolution, locally or anywhere else, should be commended and not maliciously attacked the way they have been. Perhaps the choice of wording used at the fundraiser was not as accurate as some would have liked, but I am sure that all intentions were good. I think that implying that the students are only going on the trip to go 'boozing in another country' is insulting to the participants as well as to the organizers who have poured their hearts into this cause. I am, however, confident that any efforts to quash good intentions will have no effect on the positive impact the members of the Conflict Resolution Society will have during this trip and following it, both as a society and as individuals.

“Art is Supposed to Make You Think”

(A response to Mark Mercer from the January 30th issue)

ERIN STORER

The fantastic thing about art is that everyone is entitled his or her opinion, so here is mine.

To argue contrary to the slogan that "art is supposed to make you think" would be nonsensical. Although it is often used as an explanation for those ill equipped and unwilling to pursue the many glories of art, when spoken from the mouth of an appreciator of art it becomes quite true. To say that, "we're each of us free, audience and artist, to do with or in art whatever we like" may be accurate. It does not however, make it any less true, that an artist creates a work with no intention of conveying a message (even if that intention is to convey the desires of the audience).

Alternatively, those that arrange themselves in a manner, which allows them to experience art, do not do so in hopes that they will be in no way inspired. By recognizing that work and thought

is required to achieve an understanding of art is contradictory to the statement that thinking, "is a means to an end" for to appreciate art is to contemplate its limitless capacity for inspiration. A poet must not only know how to write, but achieve a detailed understanding of every chosen topic to write about. The same is true of the audience if the desired effect is to be reached, which we have already established is the "end." To immediately comprehend the "end" is worthless to a spectator truly devoted to art. It is that exasperated, blissful turmoil associated with the path to understanding that provides a great sense of accomplishment when clarity is finally perceived. It is the epitome of the adage, "life is about the journey."

For me, what I truly treasure about art is all that it has motivated me to learn along the way, which I felt should be accurately restated, the meaning to the end.

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THANKS TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS

THE JOURNAL IS THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY. THE PAPER IS PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY BY THE JOURNAL PUBLISHING SOCIETY, AND FUNDED IN PART BY THE STUDENT BODY.

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NEWS

The SMUSA Executive Elections Debate, Your Questions Answered

LAURA MACINTOSH

With 24 non-SMUSA related students attending the Executive Debate, apathy was a running theme throughout the night. Rumored expectations that voter turnout will be the lowest in SMUSA history gained more validity at last week's event.

The questionable panel left doubt in some attendee's minds as to the validity of the SMUSA system; a panel consisting of outgoing execs Mitch Gillingwater and Courtney Schaller as well as guest panelist Sue Uteck. With no students at large on the panel, questions were floating around before the debate even started. As one student put it, "how can you have hard-hitting questions asked [of incumbent executives] when those asking the questions are your co-workers and buddies?" Thankfully, between Uteck and some insightful student questions from the floor, everyone had their fair share of difficult questions.

The debate started as a discussion featuring the three unopposed candidates; Chris MacDougall as the presidential candidate, incumbent VP External Matt Risser, and VP Academic hopeful Adam Harris. Guest mediator Leonard Preyra reminded attendees that those running unopposed need a 67% confidence vote to be elected.



Chris MacDougall, candidate for President - running unopposed.

The opening statement by MacDougall summed up his blatant and honest approach to the evening. After saying he hoped the reason the three candidates on stage were running unopposed was because "students have complete faith in us", he quickly admitted "I think you'd agree in saying that's a little far fetched." Going right for the SMUSA jugular, MacDougall reprimanded the organization within SMUSA, saying it's "not as relevant to students as it has been in the past," and that it's a lot more than students realize, but that SMUSA failed to make students realize this year. He spoke to student engagement issues and a reorganization which would allow VP's to have more interaction with university students.

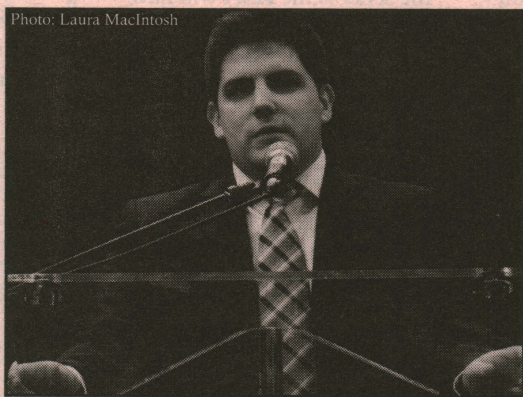
Matt Risser opened stating his three key platform promises from

last year, which he has worked towards accomplishing; establishing a municipal lobby group, advocate for low income based grants, and for a \$4 billion transfer from the government on post-secondary education. The first promise he achieved, with the inception of the HSA (Halifax Student Alliance), the second "all parties in the Nova Scotia now believe at least in spirit in that initiative", and the third Risser advocated to opposition party leader Stephan Dion in a meeting earlier this year. Next year Risser wants to continue to build on his current achievements, work with community organizations to "help shape their message around post-secondary education", and to "get our national lobby group to adopt international students as a high-priority group."

Adam Harris' opening statement included his leadership qualities and SMUSA resume so to speak, including his work as science representative on the SRC and his position in the HSA. His goals include creating an online tool for students to access academic issues and resources, creating a more efficient and accessible academic advising unit, reducing the cost of course materials such as textbooks, and "making the campus more environmentally sustainable". Harris also talked about updating current academic tools including the book exchange and professor review.

The candidates were asked two questions by the panel, with Uteck hitting Risser with some fresh, unprepared questions touching on community relations and accessibility of post-secondary education. As to the accessibility question Risser replied "it's a paradigm shift," and "the student movement can't do it alone".

Schaller asked Harris to pick one student initiative, explaining its importance and a reason for it to be brought to the senate. Harris chose a new initiative, being the "timely return of graded materials" before withdrawal dates. According to Harris, "I think



Matt Risser, candidate for VP External - running unopposed.

working with the senate and various committees, we can work with professors to ensure that students receive graded material back before the withdrawal date."

Gillingwater asked MacDougall what role he saw SMUSA playing within the university and what role he saw the SMUSA president playing, to which MacDougall replied, "the role of SMUSA a representative one, we need to represent the needs of students. As president and figurehead, the president has to ensure that they're properly representing those needs."

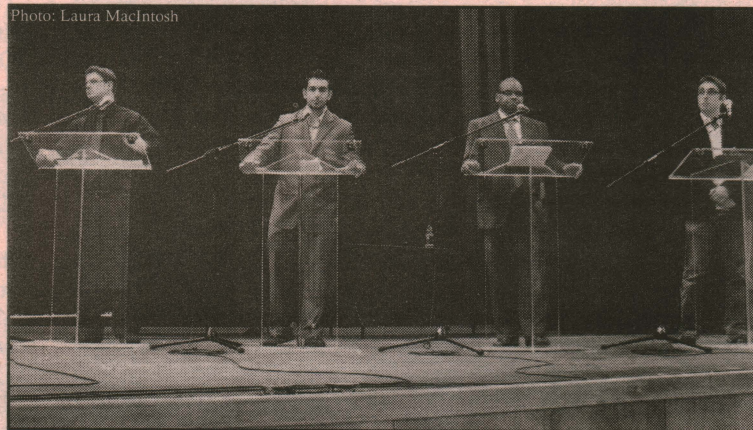
Questions from the floor focused on both Canadian and International student engagement issues and what Matt and Chris thought they could improve on



Adam Harris, candidate for VP Academic - running unopposed.

their second time around. One student congratulated Adam on his successful campaign, but asked what the incumbents had done to actually engage students. Both admitted their campaigns weren't as extravagant as their inaugural campaign and were later getting started, but stated it was more worthwhile for students for the two to be working in their current VP capacities. Matt followed by saying his focus was on first year class talks because "if we don't get them in first year, we don't get them for the other three years." Following a student apathy question from the floor, Chris quoted a VP from Western University, saying "student apathy does not exist; we're simply not providing students with what they want." He followed with his take on the engagement problems at SMU saying, "I think that's the problem at Saint Mary's; we're not providing the services, and initiatives that students want to get involved with."

The VP Internal Debate started off with an opening statement by Dave Murray. Murray spoke to his involvement with SMUSA from societies to working at the Gorsebrook and told a story about his first experience at SMU as a frosh leader. According to Murray, it is his



Candidates for VP Internal at the debate Dave Murray, Fadi Al-Qassar, Munya Mwayi, and Josh Lewis

experience working with and for students that allows him to already have an idea of what students want, and he is willing to make

sure he represents students accurately. He spoke to ensuring society web-pages are up to date and creating a web forum for society information.

Fadi Al Qassar was up next and spoke to his abilities to provide better representation for International Students, pushing for better health benefits, and more

job opportunities. Al Qassar said one of his goals was to create a calendar in The Journal to post society meetings and events as a way to "get students more involved and inform them of what's going on on campus."

Munya Mwayi spoke to his experience on the organizational side, saying his time spent as a captain with campus security has allowed him to know the ins and outs of what can and can't be done on campus. He spoke to goals of increasing awareness of existing SMUSA services and working with Aramark to provide more hours of service.

Josh Lewis spoke to communication issues between SMUSA and the students, saying "I think I can bring some new experiences to the table that otherwise SMUSA would not have. I know what works in the internal environment and I can see that there is a large lack of physical interaction on campus." Lewis spoke to his desire to be "not your typical candidate" and to "push buttons" to get the job done.

Uteck opened up the panel questions asking how candidates would govern and unite societies, asking "what do you see is the greatest need you think societies have and what would you do to accommodate that need?"

Lewis opened the responses looking at the interaction aspect saying it's all about "having a physical representation, a physical interaction with students" to get

students involved. When asked if that answered her question, Uteck made the witty response "I guess we'll know on election day."

Mwayi spoke to societies not having proper information on what they can and can't do on campus, saying that through his experience with security he knows so much about what can and can't be done, it would certainly be a benefit to society leaders. "Things like dealing with conference services or security can be very tough, and if you don't understand how to get things passed... [societies] won't get anything done."

Al Qassar spoke to internal communication and how to get more students out to society functions. "A lot of societies did not know they could advertise in The Journal for free," is one example Fadi gave to how internal communications could be improved and mentioned his plan to create a society calendar in The Journal.

Murray started with three strong words, "motivation, resources, and communication." Working with the Gorsebrook, Murray has knowledge of what events students are drawn to, "what events worked, and which didn't." Murray spoke to Lewis' point of inter-personal contact, saying word of mouth is one of the best forms of communication. He also spoke to utilizing frosh leaders throughout the year to increase awareness of events.

During a question from the floor, one student asked about the "clique image" SMUSA has a reputation for, and what the VP Internal candidates would do to combat that image. Josh said it was "all about electing people from different backgrounds," not just keeping a set of friends in power. Munya flat out replied "I'll be honest, a lot of the time I haven't liked what SMUSA stood for, and I also felt it was very cliqueish," talking about the balance between a cohesive professional work group and being a student representative. Fadi suggested "going down to the campus more and talking to students," as a way of combating that small group mentality; while Dave said of being approachable, "you'll be lucky if I don't approach you first".

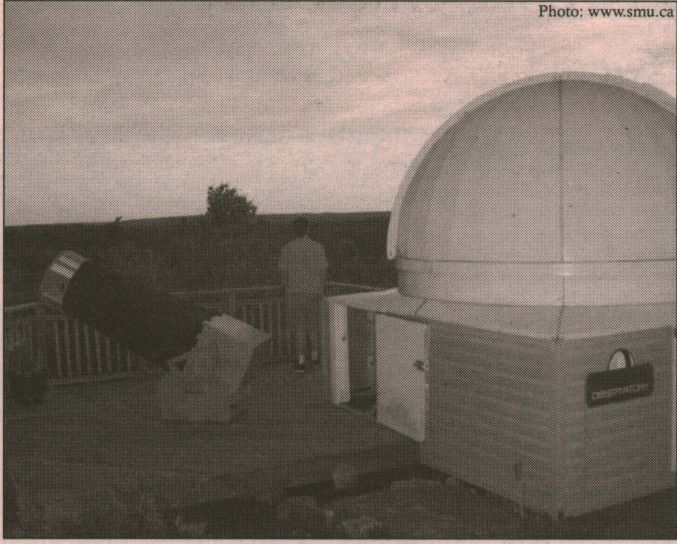
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A Star Brighter Than The Sun: SMU Astronomers' Surprising Discovery



The Abbey-Ridge Observatory in Stillwater, NS, where SMU Astronomers discovered the Cepheus Star which shines brighter than the sun

KIM DARES

A group of astronomers from Saint Mary's University have made an exciting discovery. They have discovered a star that shines 100,000 times brighter than the Sun and has a surface temperature of 45,000 degrees Celsius. The star had been present in the constellation of Cepheus for over half a century without being detected by astronomers.

The discovery will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Journal of the American Association of Variable Star Observers. This issue will also recognize other variable stars investigated by the SMU team.

The star was discovered in a small community outside of Tantallon, NS at the Abbey-Ridge Observatory. Saint Mary's Astronomer David Lane designed, constructed, and operates the

Observatory. Mr. Lane was also a member of the team that made the discovery.

The team led by Dr. David Turner, astronomy professor and director of the Burke-Gaffney Observatory at SMU, discovered as well that the Cepheus star is orbited by another star every five days which is vastly different from the 365 days it takes the Earth to orbit the sun.

Dr. Turner had spoke about the discovery saying, "Such hot stars are rare in our Galactic neighbourhood, but more importantly, the present discovery allows astronomers to investigate the star's influence on the stellar nursery where it was found, which may help us understand the broader environmental contexts in which our own Sun was born." He also said, "It is surprising that the star was not noticed earlier, since its true nature was simply overlooked in previous surveys."

The team, comprised of Joel Tanner, Dr. David Guenther, Mike Casey, Daniel Majaess, and Kathleen Moncrieff, has determined that the star is very young by cosmological time scales. They are estimating the

age at just a few million years, compared with our Sun which is estimated to be at least 4.5 billion years old.

The star will die out in the relatively near future (another few million years) in a cataclysmic supernova explosion. "There is, however, no need for a pre-apocalyptic gala since the explosion will take place at a very distant 30 quadrillion (3×10^{16}) kilometers away, so humanity will be spared." This reassurance came from researcher Daniel Majaess.

The Cepheus star has been compared to another well celebrated star, the Theta 1 Orionis C, which illuminated the Orion Nebula. If you are interested the Orion Nebula can be observed by the unaided eye as a fuzzy-like object in the sword of the hunter depicted as the constellation of Orion.

David Lane invites everyone to head up to the Observatory on campus to check it out. "The Orion Nebula is a spectacular object to see through the University's campus telescope at the Burke-Gaffney Observatory, which is available for public use bimonthly during the winter."

Finally, Student Representation on The Municipal Level

KIM DARES

Student leaders at four major institutions in Halifax have joined together to make a difference and to ensure that students in the area are properly represented. Together SMUSA, Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), Mount Saint Vincent University's Student Union (MSVUSU), and Nova Scotia Community College Student Association (NSCCSA) created the Halifax Student Alliance in November, 2007.

Student representation on the municipal level has been a concern of Student Unions in the area for many years. During the 2006-2007 Academic year, then SMUSA President Zach Churchill worked with the other Student Unions to try and make it a reality, but was unable to as a few schools were not ready to join. In the fall of 2007 all four major local Universities and Colleges managed to find an agreement and common goal that worked for everyone involved. DSU President Mike Tipping said "they wouldn't have even been able to imagine the success the HSA has had this year."

It is a project all Student Union Presidents and Councilors seem really excited about as it is only the second Municipal Lobby group in the country; the first in Edmonton, Alberta was founded in August, 2007. There have been a lot of issues sur-

rounding or involving students in the Halifax Regional Municipality lately that would have excluded student opinion entirely if not for the HSA.

The main goals of the Halifax Student Alliance are to lobby for student safety, transportation, and housing rights. Tipping also said the HSA hopes to draft a tenancy policy soon to ensure students renting apartments or houses in the area are aware of their rights. It will also attempt to make sure students are aware of their rights as employees.

One of the major reasons there was such a push for the HSA to get started was Mayor Peter Kelly's roundtable discussion on violence in the HRM. Following several violent incidents in Halifax over the past year and the planned start-up of citizens watch group The Guardian Angels the Mayor launched an investigative survey into violence and crime in the HRM. Sadly, this survey excluded the 30,000 students living in the area. As a result, the HSA launched its own crime survey which received approximately 1,300 responses, about the same as Mayor Kelly's did. The HSA then presented the findings of the survey to Mayor Kelly and the City Councillors on the last day of the roundtable discussions.

Recently the HSA made headlines for its immediate response to yet another accident in-



SMUSA President Mitch Gillingwater, Mayor Peter Kelly and NSCC Waterfront President Laurence Gallant

volving a pedestrian crossing the Bedford highway by MSVU in late January. The HSA is lobbying for a set of half lights at the intersection that would change colour when pedestrians pushed the walk button making the intersection much safer. Within a day of the HSA speaking out, Mayor Kelly changed his stance and committed to looking for a solution as soon as possible.

Even before it was officially founded the member Universities of the HSA worked together to lobby against the Metro Transit Strike in September 2007. The HSA is currently working with Halifax Police Chief Frank Beazley to help create and maintain open communication and improve safety for students in the HRM.

This is the first time the NSCC Waterfront Student Association has been affiliated with a student lobbying group. In the 2008-2009 NSCC budget money will be set aside to support the HSA.

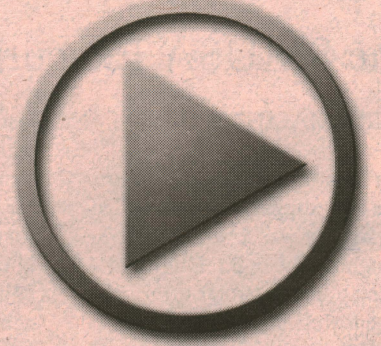
During the SMUSA Executive voting days there will be a referendum on the ballot asking students to approve a \$2.00

levy in support of the HSA. Dalhousie and Mount Saint Vincent will also have a similar referendum questions on their ballots when it comes time for their elections.

If the levy fails at any of the schools the HSA will have to "re-evaluate the feasibility of the current proposed budget" according to SMUSA President Mitch Gillingwater. One school will not be left responsible for funding the entire project as it is intended to be fair and equitable to all schools involved. Gillingwater said the student funding is "important and will help the organization grow."

The Halifax Student Alliance is the third student lobby group SMUSA is a member of. The other groups SMUSA is actively involved with are the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations and Alliance of Nova Scotia Students Associations. These groups do a lot on the Provincial and Federal level but until the introduction of the Halifax Student Alliance there was no student representation on the Municipal level.

If you want to learn more visit the HSA website at www.halifaxstudentalliance.ca



NEWSFEED



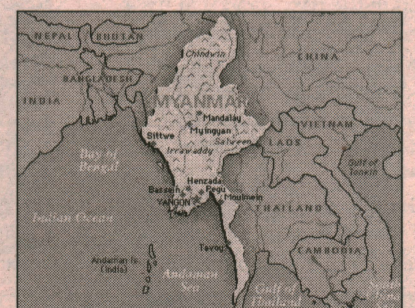
BRITISH ATHLETES SILENCED
British athletes competing in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China are being forced to sign a contract promising not to make any political comments, particularly on human rights in China.



EBAY SELLERS GO ON STRIKE
Sellers on the popular buy and sell site eBay are planning on boycott of the site from February 18-25 as a result of changes of rules and regulations of the site.



FIRE IN DOWNTOWN LONDON
A huge fire destroyed much of the Camden Market a popular section of London's downtown core. No one was injured but many of the shops and homes in the area were badly damaged.



MYANMAR TO HOLD ELECTIONS
Democratic multi-party elections will be held in Myanmar by the Junta, the country's military government, for the first time in 20 years. The elections are set for 2010.

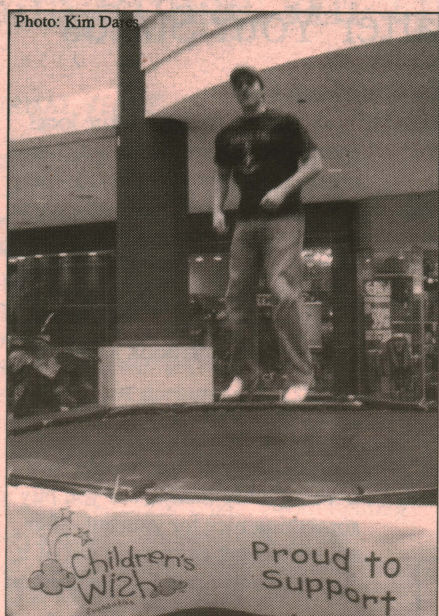
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Making Wishes Come True: Two Charities, Two Events, One Goal



SMU and Dal Fraternity jump for 36 hours

KIM DARES

Over the weekend, two very different events were held to raise funds and awareness for the Make-A-Wish and the Children's Wish Foundation in Atlantic Canada. One happened on campus at the Gorsebrook when bartenders dyed their hair pink at the Frosh Leader Reunion night. The second lasted 36 hours at the Halifax Shopping Centre where members of the Sigma Chi Fraternity jumped on a trampoline to raise funds for the charity.

Eight SMU bartenders coloured their hair pink in preparation for the Make-A-Wish St. Valentine Hair Massacre happening February 14th when they will shave their heads to raise money for the Make-A-Wish foundation. Gorsebrook Manager Lorne Caborn said "Make-a-Wish is truly an amazing and inspiring foundation that touches the lives of so many courageous children. This event is an opportunity for the staff to share in this rewarding experience together..... one they will remember as making a difference in a child's life. When they leave university, this is one event they will never forget."

The boys of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, composed of both SMU and Dalhousie students, also donated their weekend and their trampoline skills to a good cause. They took over the Central Court of the Halifax Shopping Centre for 36 hours of jumping to raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation.

The annual event has raised money for the IWK Children's Hospital, but the Hospital no


longer accepts donations raised in dangerous manners, such as jumping on trampolines, and as a result did not want to be associated with the event.

Both charities aim to provide children with life-threatening illnesses the chance to have their greatest wish come true. For some it is to go to Disney World, others want to meet their favourite musician, or attend a sporting event. The goal is to fulfill

the wishes of deserving children and to give them something to look forward to even on the darkest of days. The Make-A-Wish foundation is the largest wish granting organization in the world and has granted the wishes of 162,000 children. The Children's Wish Foundation operates on a national level and has granted wishes to 12,000 Canadian Children over the past two decades.



Gorsebrook bartenders went pink to show their support for the Make-A-Wish Foundation

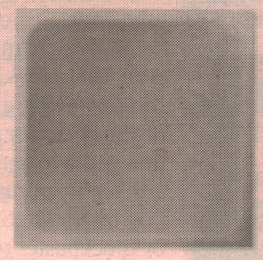


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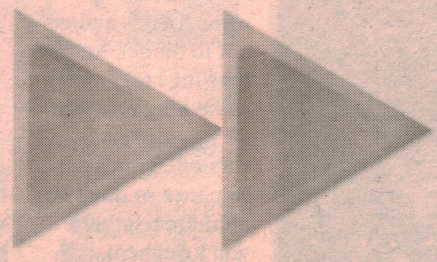
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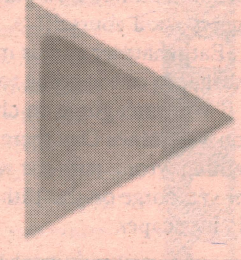
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BUSINESS

Mac My Words

The Journal's Guide to a Cost-Efficient Valentine's Day... No Matter Your Status

LAURA MACINTOSH
Featuring Journal Staff

Since Valentine's Day is an over commercialized day of love, I figured I'd let The Journal staff help me in the "Top 5" lists for Valentine's Day; where to dine, what to buy, and how to spend your day.

I'll leave you with these cost-efficient tips as I fly away to a country where you won't find heart shaped candies and paper bags filled with "choo-choo-choose me" valentines. Have a great break readers!

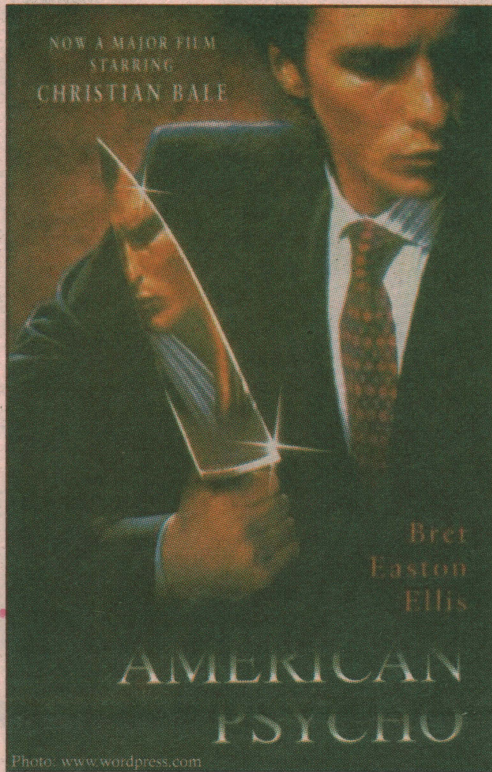


Photo: www.wordpress.com
Journal recommendation for those of you flying solo on Valentine's Day

Top Five Ways for a Cheap Valentine's Day

Running low on the extra cash flow? Money Tree recovering from tuition payments? Here are some low-cost tips for celebrating this year.

5. Hit the stores early on the 15th and stock up on the discount chocolates and candy. A heart shaped box of Smarties might not be worth \$4.50, but how can you say no to \$1.50?

4. Hugs and Kisses, they're free and you can give them to anyone. This goes for any day of the year, although if you try and do this on a regular basis you may be viewed as inappropriate.

3. Make Homemade Valentine's Day Cards: Pull out the glue, scissors, markers, and construction paper and get to work. You can always look up some cheesy jokes online to add a little humour to your masterpieces or one word: Photoshop.

2. Get a new recipe, or make you favorite dish. Even if you can't make it from scratch, get a box mix and they'll never be able to tell.

1. Grab your favorite romantic (or anti-romantic) comedy, pop up some popcorn, and snuggle in for

a cozy night at home. The most it will cost you is the movie rental, and if it's an old school favorite chances are the rental fee won't be too high (or put that library card to use).

Top Five Ways to Love Yourself this Valentines Day

Single? Valentine's Day doesn't have to be a bummer.

5. Check out the SMU Production of the Vagina Monologues. Thursday and Friday in MacNally Main Auditorium, the show starts at 8:00pm. Tickets cost \$7 in advance or \$10 at the door.

4. Watch an Anti-Valentines Day flick, something out of the horror or action genre to get that adrenaline pumping. Pop by Movie Cube or Blockbuster to rent a classic and grab some popcorn. The Journal recommends American Psycho. Don't forget to return those video tapes.

3. Round up some friends and go out to dinner, hit the bowling lanes, or do something else you all enjoy. Friendship often outlasts romance so don't be afraid to tell them you love them.

2. Do something you love; catch a sports game, or buy yourself a manicure. It's a day celebrating love and the first

love should be to yourself. Instead of spending money on a partner you get to spoil yourself!

1. Eat whatever and as much as you want. No-one is going to guilt you. If you can't gorge on chocolate on Valentine's Day there is something wrong with the world. Better yet, gorge on the 15th when candy is cheaper.



Photo: www.liverpool.com

Treat yourself or your loved one to a day of pampering.

Top Five Presents for the Ladies

If you're looking for a last minute present for your darling girl, here are a few tips.

5. Homemade presents; create a photo frame and stick in that perfect picture of the two of you, or maybe a coupon book entitling her to hugs, a foot rub, a candlelit dinner, or for the more risqué- anything your naughty mind can come up with.

4. Something that's just perfect for them. A cheap little trinket that means an inside joke that only the two of you understand is a lot more heartfelt than the usual box of chocolates or the necklace on the Charm commercials. It's better for a student budget too.



Photo: www.flowerbud.com

Roses shouldn't only be saved for occasions when you know you've screwed up

3. Flowers. It may be a staple, but girl's still enjoy getting them when you're not trying to apologize for something stupid you did. If you have done something stupid lately avoid this option, as it just looks like you're trying too hard. If you want to be especially romantic, have them delivered after you leave, make her sweat it out!

2. Cook her something. Even if you don't live together, arrange with her roommate to come in early one morning and make her favorite breakfast in bed. Serve it up to her and finish it off by taking care of the dishes. Especially in the harried mid-term season, what girl doesn't want to be pampered?

1. If you have the budget, the

and book her into a hair salon for a quick wash and style, then whisk her away to a great dinner date.

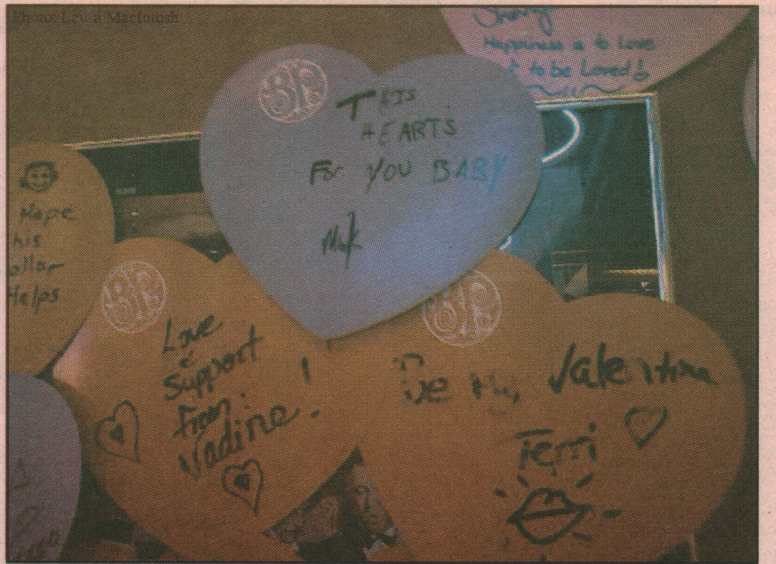
TIP ALERT! No stuffed animals holding stuffed hearts. No one likes those and no one looks at them after February 15th. They just gather dust or take up space on the bed.

Top Five Presents for the Man in your life

Last minute ladies listen up!

5. Back rub. Simple, but he'll enjoy it. Wrap up some massage oils for that added warm and fuzzy feeling.

4. Leave him love messages... everywhere! By his pillow, or near the shower, in his car or backpack,



Boston Pizza sets the mood with heart shaped, and affordable, pizzas

just to let him know you love him. They're romantic and most guys will get a little flustered inside (in a good way of course). Perhaps the letters could give details or hints towards the rest of your plans, try combining letters with another selection from the list.

3. Cook him some grub; a way to a man's heart is through his stomach after all, so why not make your guy his favorite meal. Steak and potatoes or pasta, just don't forget dessert! Make him a special heart shaped cake (or use heart sprinkles if you're not that creative); it will go with the theme and if it's cake, he won't care what

it looks like.

2. Tickets to his favorite local sports team; better yet if you can organize a night of sports for him, head to a Mooseheads home game then catch a late night boxing match or NHL game. Don't worry girls, you don't have to do this on Valentine's Day, let him know its coming and to book a day off work.

1. Sexy lingerie. If you're buying for him silk boxers are essential, but your man would love nothing more than to see you buy something nice for yourself, after all, he will get enjoyment out of it.

Top 5 Restaurants for the Student Budget

5. Milano's is a great place to take your partner for a quiet and intimate evening. The Italian-style restaurant offers great selection at decent pricing; plus you can bring your own favorite bottle of wine.

4. Boston Pizza; ok this may not sound romantic, but their current Heart and Stroke fundraiser has hearts and love notes all over the walls of the restaurant, which really sets the mood. What's even better is that they are serving heart-shaped pizzas for the occasion.

3. Il Mercato is always a fantastic place to dine; great dinner and some of the best dessert in the city! The specialty Italian pizzas are great for sharing and are something out of the ordinary, and the restaurants wine list is fantastic.

2. The Bitter End; sure it may not sound like the place to take your mate, but the food is fantastic, the atmosphere romantic and the drink selection phenomenal. The price isn't too steep either.

1. Seven; if you really want to impress and have a little extra cash on hand, Seven is a phenomenal choice for fine dining. The atmosphere is exquisite and intimate, the menu offers great selection and the customer service is second-to-none. Seven will surely provide a night out to remember.

THE JOURNAL IS LOOKING FOR WRITERS AND PROOFREADERS!!

If you have the desire to report on groundbreaking SMU and community news, or help out with proofreading, then come to the 5th floor of the Student Centre on Mondays, or email submissions to thesmujournal@gmail.com

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Film Rouge: All-Time Favourite Romantic Movie Picks

JOURNAL STAFF

RESSA'S TOP PICKS: For those of you that are in the mood for something fun and funny check out the classic **The Princess Bride**. The man you may remember as Columbo (Peter Falk) reads his grandson a fairy tale, but this is no ordinary love story. It features the beautiful Buttercup (Robin Wright) and her true love Westley (Cary Elwes), the dashing pirate, running through the fire swamp and other obstacles to escape the evil Prince that wants to marry and murder Buttercup. Along the way they meet Andre the gentle Giant, sword-fighting Mandy Patinkin, shrieking eels, torture, (mostly) death, and rodents of unusual size. Rarely is a fairy tale truly fun for adults but this one is.

It remains one of the most quotable, cutest, and funniest movies even twenty years after it was released. It should never be re-made; it could only get worse, not better. Any bibliophiles might also want to check out the book by William Goldman.

If you're looking for a movie a little out of the ordinary, something full of action but also some love check out Oliver Stone's **Natural Born Killers**. No, I'm serious. It is full of blood, gallons of it. But in the middle it's a love story. Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis both give the performances of their careers as young lovers Mickey and Mallory Knox, who love each other as much as they want to destroy the rest of the world. Even if you can't relate to killing together you can relate to dialogue like "Everything I see, I see you. Even ugliness looks beautiful because of you." Isn't it nice to think that there's someone out there for you that fate will bring you to? If you like action and your partner likes

romance make a compromise and rent it. You might both enjoy it or they might think you're the sickest person ever and suggest you get professional help. You have been warned.

ROBBIE'S PICK: As a guy you would think that I would have very bad taste in

"Romantic", and you're right. The only romantic movie I have actually enjoyed was **Beauty and the Beast** when I was six years old. Why do I like it? There are two morals



to the story depending on how you look at it. For the Romantics, you should love someone no matter what they look like on the outside. For the cynics, if you kidnap your crush's relative and hold them hostage, your crush will come running to you. When actually your crush is just using you to get what they want. Either way, it prepares kids for real life

TOM'S PICK: 1984's **Splash** is a romantic comedy featuring Tom Hanks as a New Yorker and a crimped-haired Daryl Hannah as a dead sexy mermaid whose wish to be human came true, so she becomes romantically involved with Tom Hanks in the big apple.

It's not that this movie is my favourite romance picture ever, but I think mermaids are quite awesome, and Tom Hanks in the 80s was on fire. As a general rule for someone who thrives on cheesy and horrible movies, the 1980s was the best decade in terms of the amount of cheese made, and **Splash** meets all of the requirements, which is perhaps why it holds such a dear spot in my heart. That, and it also has John Candy and Eugene Levy in it, two of the greatest

actors ever.

KIM'S PICK: Are you missing your McDreamy fix with **Grey's Anatomy** still off the air?? Well fear not, you can catch Patrick Dempsey in **Sweet Home Alabama**, along with everyone's favorite sweetheart Reese Witherspoon.

Reese Witherspoon stars as Melanie Carmichael, a high-end New York designer who left behind her small town past to make it in the big city. When her fancy big city boyfriend (Dempsey) proposes to her she is forced to return home to Alabama for a divorce. She and her high school boyfriend Jake (played by Josh Lucas) married young and quickly realized that they wanted different things.

All is not as easy as it seems as "you can take the girl out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the girl." The trip home raises a lot of questions for Melanie and before long she is in a bit of a love triangle. Like any romantic comedy the ending does not disappoint and will surely bring a smile to your face.

DAWN'S PICK: Not your conventional romance, **The Other Sister** is a film about the sibling you don't hear about. Carla is a mentally handicapped girl raised by a wealthy family, and she lives, loves, and loses just like the rest of us.

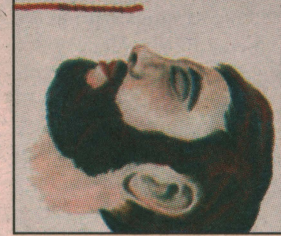
LAURA'S PICK: **Love Actually** follows the lives of numerous people throughout Britain, all of them connected in some way. We see Hugh Grant as the Prime Minister



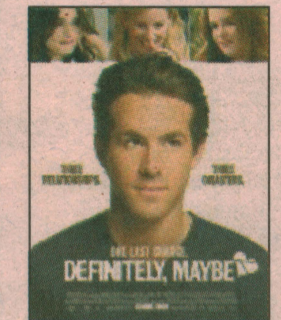
of Britain taking on Billy Bob Thornton as the President of the USA, Laura Linney in love with her coworker, yet tied to her brother, Emma Thomson struggling with a philandering husband, and Liam Neeson dealing with the death of his wife while his young step son falls in love with his American classmate. There's a serious love story to be told in this movie, despite the fact that things don't work out quite as planned. Yes UK, we do credit you with David Beckham's left leg... and his right one at that.

Bite Sized Entertainment

CITY AND COLOUR



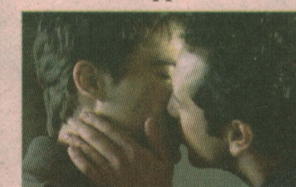
NEW CDS OUT: Thriller -25th anniversary edition by Michael Jackson, Simple Plan by Simple Plan, Misfortunes by This is Hell, Shallow Believer by The Used, Bring me your love by City and Colour, and Black Star Diva by Foxy Brown.



NEW MOVIES OUT: February 14th - The Spiderwick Chronicles, Jumper, Step Up 2: The Streets and Definitely, Maybe. February 22nd- Charlie Bartlett, Vantage Point and Be Kind Rewind.



HANGIN' TOUGH AGAIN If you've been trembling at the news of the Spice Girls reunion, brace yourself: The New Kids on the Block are getting back together. Details are not finalized yet, but go to www.nkotb.com and you can sign up for updates as they happen.



TV GEEK'S PICK OF THE WEEK Brothers and Sisters, Sunday at 7pm on Global and 11pm on ABC

The Strike may be on the way out but tv is still drying up. This is the last episode filmed before the strike started. Online rumours suggest that someone leaves the show and one relationship ends permanently. Plus, Sarah, Kevin and Scotty go to a gay bar and Uncle Saul finally has a date, with Keith Mars himself, Enrico Colantoni!



YOUTUBE OF THE WEEK "Thriller" (Original Upload) If you thought after watching Oz that nothing good ever happens in the prison gym, think again. In honour of the 25th anniversary of Thriller and what is one of the best music videos of all time, take a look at the Philippines's Cebu Detention and Rehabilitation Center inmates' version of the zombie dance which is part of their mandatory exercise program.

Photos: www.wikipedia.com, www.idolator.com, www.afterelton.com, www.biogedre.com

CD Review

It is Time for A Love Revolution by Lenny Kravitz

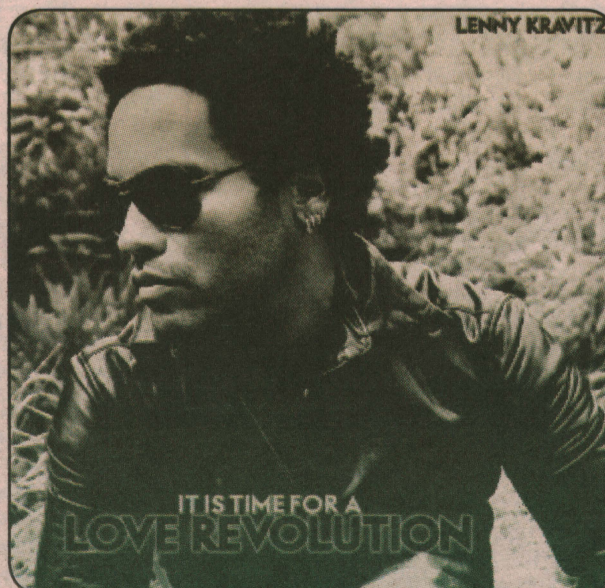
CAT SANDERS

It can't be a coincidence that I've heard about "It Is Time For a Love Revolution" all week. There are some songs you cannot get out of your head, and Lenny Kravitz's "Love Revolution" is an album full of them. This certainly isn't the world's introduction to Lenny Kravitz, but it is a great place to start.

On the surface this is an album of funky beats, smooth vocals, and sweet guitar solos. It's driving music, not studying music. Trust me, I tried. By song five ("If You Want It") I was enamored with Kravitz telling me to "...break free from your evil ways". This is ironic seeing as how he must have made a deal with the devil to be this sexy. Following up with a love song I can actually approve of ("I'll Be Waiting") sealed my newfound affections for Mr. Kravitz. A little note for the men in the audience: A dozen roses and song ten ("Dancin' Til Dawn") will finish Valentine's Day and start Spring Break on a high, very high, note. If one can stop grooving long enough to listen to some of the more serious songs on

the album, you'll find a different side of Kravitz. When he declares "We do just what we want and don't care if it isn't legal. We're on a horse that is high, we think we're so damn regal", ("Back In Vietnam") one can sense his sarcasm, annoyance, and defiance against the American Government. With a bass line that reminds me of The Stone's "Satisfaction" I kind of felt bad for grooving to a song about the Iraq war. The biggest tearjerker on this album would have to be "A Long and Sad Goodbye" which was written about Kravitz's father with whom he had a tense relationship for many years. In typical Lenny Kravitz fashion the guitar solos make ones neck hair stand on edge.

No one can ignore this man's talent; not



only does he sing and play guitar, but he also recorded several of the instruments himself. This album gives the vibe of a labor of love. I know I can be counted into his legions of fans after this. Please excuse me now. I need a little time by myself with Lenny.

The Perfect Alterna-Love Mix Tape, For Anyone in Love... Or Out of Love

RESSA PETERS & DAWN DAVIS

"To Bring You My Love" by PJ Harvey - She can belt out some truly awesome love songs with her rich, deep voice and Ms. Harvey also puts out some powerful guitar licks to go with them. Sure, Celine Dion can sing a song about devotion and what she'd do to be with you, but would she growl "I've lain with the devil/ cursed God above/ forsaken heaven/ to bring you my love."? This one means I'd do anything for you. Also listen to "Send His Love to Me", and "This Mess We're in".

"Somebody" by Depeche Mode - This song is a tale of a real, not ideal, partner. "She'll hear me out, but won't easily be perverted/ to my way of thinking/ In fact she'll often disagree/ But in the end of it she'll understand me." These lyrics are a breath of fresh air, a mature sentiment saying 'I love you just the way you are'. Also listen to "Stripped", "Precious", or "Enjoy the Silence".

"There is a Light that Never Goes Out" by The Smiths - Morrissey, you really know how to make some depressing songs; even the loves songs are dark. "There is A Light" is a song about being so much in love that you don't care if you die as long as they die with you. A tad on the obsessive side, but the thought is still there. "And if a ten ton truck kills the both of us/ to die by your side/ well, the pleasure, the privilege is mine." More mopey confessions include "I Won't Share You" and "I Want the One I Can't Have".

"Billy Brown" by Mika - Bored of the same old boy meets girl love songs? Well, here's one with a twist. Billy Brown lives an ordinary life with an ordinary wife until he falls in love with another man. Oh Billy Brown, you can run away to Mexico, but you can't deny your true feelings. For the same sex inclined this one is a cute reminder that you're not alone. If you get this from your opposite sex partner, they might be trying to tell you something. Mika also hits a high note with "Grace Kelly" and "Big Girls".

"Reconsider Me" by Warren Zevon - You've screwed up, but you've changed, and you really want to give it another try...haven't we all been there? Well the late, great Mr. Zevon was, and he can sing it better than you. When he assures us "And I'll never make you sad again/ Cause I swear that I've changed since then/ And I promise that I'll never make you cry" you completely believe him.

Zevon produced some very tender love songs like "Keep Me in Your Heart" and "Hasten Down The Wind" along with some more sardonic masterpieces like "Excitable Boy" and "Roland the Headless". "Love Will Tear Us Apart" by

Joy Division - This is one of the best songs ever made, and one of the saddest. Sometimes, even when you love someone, things just can't work out. It's sad, but true. This song is for those trying to say, 'it may be over but I still love you'.

For more moody post-punk check out "Atmosphere" and "Isolation". "One More Minute" by Weird Al Yankovic - Trying to say 'it's totally over and I don't love you anymore'? Rather, I hate you, and you make them sick? Or this one is

just for all the Valentine's Day haters looking to laugh at lyrics that mock typical love songs; "I'd rather spend eternity eating shards of broken glass than spend one more minute with you".



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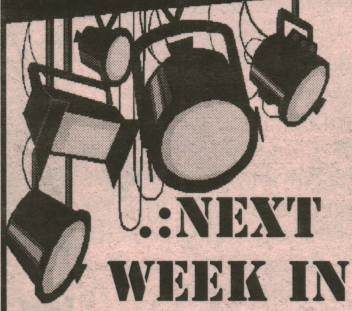


Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada

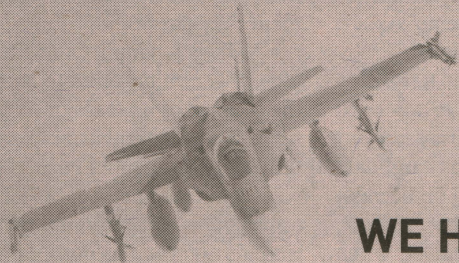
Affaires étrangères et Commerce international Canada

Canada

<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • illScarlett at The Greenwood, 9pm, \$5. • LIFTED A night of SOLID hip-hop with DJ Cosmo and Ghet-tosocks, at Hell's Kitchen, 10pm, \$4 or FREE for Students and Bar Staff 	<p>THURSDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandmaster Flash with Scratch Bastid and First words at The Marquee, 10pm, \$20 advance (www.ticketpro.ca) or \$25 at the door. • The Phantom of the Opera at the Rebecca Cohn, 8pm, \$24 for students. 	<p>FRIDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Down with the Butterfly @ Marquee Club, 10pm, \$8. • The Vagina Monologues at SMU (McNally Main Auditorium). Preshow with Ashley Macpherson, Catherine McCormack & Mitchell Hunter. \$7 advance, \$10 at the door, 8pm. 	<p>SATURDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLASSIFIED @ The Marquee w/Shad, Chad Hatcher, J-Bru, DJ IV, and Mike Boyd, \$15, 10pm. • Protest the Hero, Track Dirtyz and Others TBA at The Pavilion, doors open at 6.30 pm. \$16 Advance, \$20 Door (www.ticketpro.ca). 	<p>SUNDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oh Dinah, Newberry vs. Newberry (Vancouver) + TBA at Gus' Pub, 10 pm, \$5. • Let's talk development: Oxfam's work in the world public discussion and meeting at Just Us! 6pm. 	 <p>..:THIS WEEK IN HALIFAX:..</p>
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 <p>..:NEXT WEEK IN HALIFAX:..</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sam the record Man Reunion Show with Jonathan Andrews, Don Brownrigg, Amelia Chester, Scotty Cochran, Kev Corbett, Creepy Finger, Andrea Curry, Jus, Todd Michalik, Speedy Recovery, Spesh K, + many more at Ginger's, 7.30pm, \$5. 	<p>THURSDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guns 'N Bombs this L.A. DJ duo presents upbeat electro fun at the Marquee Club, 10pm. • Poseidon's Trident Sound System at The Seahorse, 10pm, Free 	<p>FRIDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Divorcees, Garrett Mason, and Steve Gates. A night of country-fried, blues, root-rock at The Marquee Club, 10pm • The Superfantastics 7" EP release with Doug Mason and The Just Barelys at Gus's pub, 10pm, \$5 	<p>SATURDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlie Hunter Trio at The Marquee Club, 10pm, \$25 Advance, \$30 Door • Hot Springs (Montreal), Their Majesties and Cuban Assassins at Gus's Pub, 10pm 	<p>SUNDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Not Bombs, at The Halifax North Library, 1pm. • 4th Annual Doggie Expo and Carnival; Fundraising for Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada. At the Forum, 11am-3pm, \$2.
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FIGHT WITH THE CANADIAN FORCES

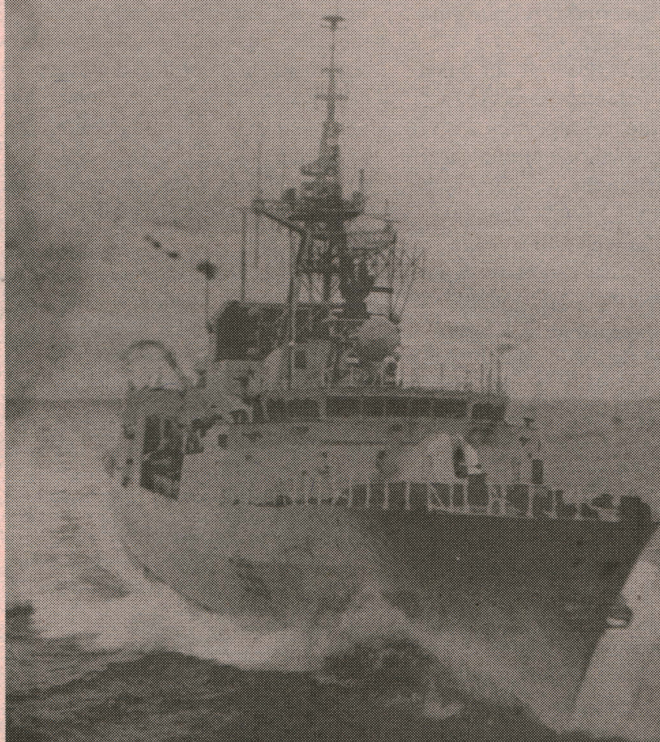


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FEATURES

Paris is for Loners

ELI STOLL
Far-Flung Travel Writer

Marketing aside, Paris is not just "the city of love". I ran into quite a few people around Europe, mostly girls, who thought they wouldn't enjoy visiting the city alone. They told me they should be part of a couple to really enjoy themselves and psychology aside; honey, that is just wrong.

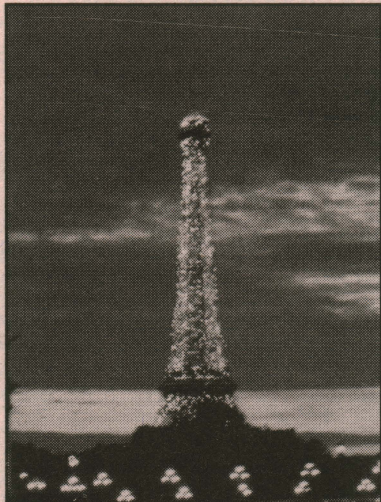
I've been to France's capital twice now, all alone and I'll probably go again. There is a mind blowing amount of things to do (most of which I can't even begin to cover) even if you refuse to ever step foot in a church, museum, or bar. Don't worry about stereotypical rude French attitudes if you don't speak French. Besides the fact this is all legend anyway, there is a person anywhere you could go in the world who might look down their nose at you for one thing or another. Do what you do at home and ignore them. The next person you meet will be better.

To begin your sightseeing, I highly recommend one of the double-decker bus tours that circle the core. They have telephone style audio guides you can listen to (or ignore) and you can hop on and off at lots of different places. The wear and tear they save your feet are worth whatever they take out of your wallet, honest. They'll help you orient yourself in the city, and you can make mental notes of places you want to go back to and see in more depth while gawking at the real life history channel all around you.

Seeing the Arc de Triomphe on TV did not prepare me for how

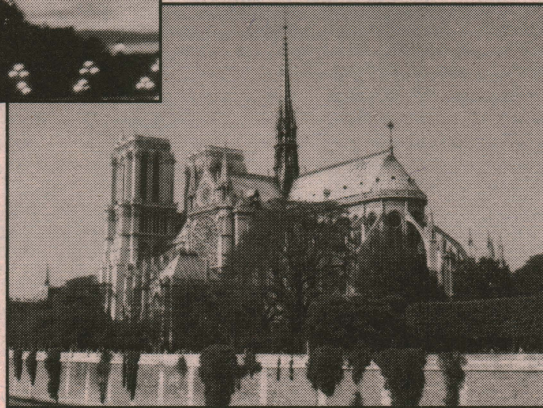
huge it would be in real life. A vanity sculpture that's a building, how did they do it? Seeing it in a modern context, in the middle of a traffic roundabout with hundreds of cars whizzing by actually makes the spectacle more impressive when you think about the changes that landmarks like this have withstood.

The pilgrimage you are obligated to attend is to the Eiffel Tower.

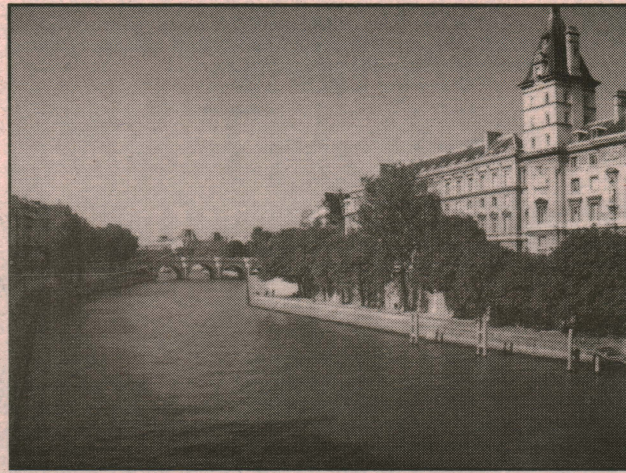


Don't worry about the line, you have to wait twice as long to see the Louvre. Save up your euros because ascending by elevator or by your leg muscle doesn't come cheaply. Unless it is incredibly foggy the experience is worth it. You didn't come this far to save your money—you can do lots of nothing at home. Climbing is cheaper but you'll

find out, like I did, that you can only go so far. We're talking about security here, not stamina. Police and fences about twenty minutes or one quarter of the way up prevent further hiking. I saw nothing regarding this at the bottom, and didn't know. Other people were stopped as well and we were all too angry to pay the 40 Euro to continue elevating to the top. The thing about the view that even city kids can't handle is how unending the sprawl is. The buildings go as far as you can see 360 degrees around with clumps of skyscrapers at points distant. Reading how populous a city is and having it hammered home visually are two very different things.



Honestly, the best thing isn't the view; it's the other gawkers around you. Never, ever in my short life have I seen and heard such a diverse group anywhere. There are people who look Japanese speak-



diverse places on the planet. Unlike most destinations where a handful of recognizable groups reliably make up the bulk of tourists and temporary locals, everyone who travels makes a point of stopping here. And I'm going out on a limb to say you should too. Forget waiting for your friends to get it together and snap up one of the cheap online flights. See

just what you want at your own pace, and fall in love with the feeling of independence.

ing accented Italian, Australians trying their French, a Scot giving a tour in Russian and a family conversing in what sounds like Swahili.

This exemplifies my favorite thing about Paris—it must be one of the most cosmopolitan, ethnically

Photos courtesy of Eli Stoll

The Chief Returning Officer's Power to Subvert Democracy

MARK MERCER
The Cranky Professor

"The CRO [Chief Returning Officer] must assess ALL campaign materials before the material may be used in a candidate's campaign." So states one of the Saint Mary's University Students' Association rules for elections.

Why ought the Chief Returning Officer have the power to refuse to allow a candidate to post a poster? In order to prevent a candidate from posting something embarrassing to Saint Mary's. That, at least, is the only answer I received when I asked SMUSA about this rule. I can't imagine anything more embarrassing to a university than that at that university an official assesses campaign posters with an eye to rejecting anything embarrassing to the university.

There are two excellent reasons why the Chief Returning Officer's oversight ought to be limited to formal matters such as poster size and the walls on which posters can go. The first is fairness to the candidates; the second is full information to the voters.

A contest for office isn't fair unless candidates can communicate to the voters the message they wish to communicate, and communicate that message in the way they deem most effective. Should the Chief Returning Officer veto a candidate's poster, that candidate is no longer able either to communicate his or her message or to communicate it in what he or she thinks is the most effective way. If that candidate loses the election, he or she loses it unfairly.

Voters do not have access to full information regarding the candidates if the Chief Returning Officer has prevented a candidate from getting out his or her message or getting it out in the way he or she sees fit. Voters will not know that the candidate stands for whatever awful thing he or she put on the poster that the CRO has suppressed. Voters will not know that the candidate lacks the good taste or judgement not to convey his or her message in the sickening or stupid way he or she sought to convey it. If the candidate whose poster has been vetoed wins the election, voters could be stuck with someone they would not have supported had they seen his or her poster.

So let the candidates post whatever posters they want. Let each candidate get out the message he or she wants and get it out according to his or her taste. Make sure no voter finds out too late that they supported a candidate whose message they reject or whose judgement they doubt.

Why is having a Chief Returning Officer empowered to oversee the content of a poster or its presentation more embarrassing to the university than could be anything we might imagine on a poster? A university is a community of intellectuals and there is nothing more antithetical to the existence of such a community than regulations regarding thought or expression. That the CRO is empowered to oversee content and presentation signals to the world that we are not really a community of intellectuals after all. And that's in addition to the fact that the CRO has the power to subvert democracy by being unfair to candidates or by denying voters full information.

Better than the "embarrass-the-university" argument for granting the CRO powers of oversight is the argument that words and images can serve to harm us. A sexist image, for instance, can do damage to women's struggles for social equality. The CRO ought to have powers of oversight to protect us from harm.

Words and images certainly can help to keep people down, though one might be doubtful that anything on a SMUSA election campaign could keep down a Saint Mary's University student, at least for long. There's a better way to respond to potentially harmful words or images than suppressing them, though, and that is to criticise them. In criticising them, we can help to remove their power to harm us. Indeed, part of our goal in being at university is to understand words and images so that they don't have power over us. So this second argument doesn't really stand as a reason for having the CRO vet posters, especially when put against the reasons why the CRO ought not to be vetting posters.

One of the first tasks for next year's Students' Association: Reform the role of the Chief Returning Officer so that he or she no longer assesses the content of campaign materials.

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True Love: 90's Techno Seeks an Answer

TOM WESTOLL

In honour of Saint Valentine's Day which falls on the 14th of February, just as it does every year, this is a glimpse at the feeling we call love.

Instead of focusing on the usual Valentine's Day notions of romance and its associated mixed bag of feelings, this is a broader brushstroke attempting to explore what this love thing really is.

Back in the early 1990's, when the people making dance music pretended to know what they were doing, a little song by Haddaway called "What is Love" came along. The tune was made immensely popular through numerous dance mix cassettes and eventually it was featured as the only memorable part of the film "A Night at the Roxbury". With its minimalist approach to lyricism, the song asks, "what is love, baby don't hurt me, don't hurt me no more" over and over again set to a jam that inspired late night dance parties all over the continent.

Haddaway was on to something though. Okay, maybe not musically on to something, but definitely he had one of the great age old questions in mind when that gem was composed in 1993.

What is love? Is it something that is tangible, something that is real, like a product? Can you see it?

Or is love simply an emotion that can only be felt by those who are in it? In popular culture, the portrayal of love seems to be all about sex... something that invokes a deep burning lust within the very core of the person experiencing it.

Let's explore a few of the different types of love that are known to mankind and see if we can come up with some sort of answer for Haddaway so he can finally stop singing that song.

The Love of a Mother

The love of a mother is like no other, not even a sister or brother (say that five times fast). Almost everybody has a mother for whom we feel a certain love for, but the love there is more like some sort of permanent bonding agent such as super glue or something of that nature. It is probably safe to say then, that when we think of the word love, we are not immediately thinking of our mothers.

The Love of a Fluffy Bunny or Other Pet

Who couldn't love a fluffy little bunny? Other household pets such as cats and dogs are equally lovable and affectionate and they will love their owner just as much as you love them. Love for an animal though must be on a similar plane as the love we have for mothers, otherwise, when we thought of the word love, fluffy white bunnies would be the first image to pop

into our heads.

So, to recap, we love our mothers and we love fluffy little bunny's but we don't love them in that way which love is portrayed in popular culture so it can't really be love, can it?

The Love of Led Zeppelin

All right, well maybe you don't love Led Zeppelin, but undoubtedly there is some type of music out there that makes you so impassioned that you would be willing to go to the ends of the earth to listen to it. Music is loved and cherished by every culture in the world, it's the universal language. There is nothing like settling in to a nice cup of hot cocoa with your favourite record playing in the background... is this true love though? Sure music can exude sexuality but it's doubtful that anyone would ever want to sleep with their CD collection. Listening to them is good enough; besides, sharing a bed with pointy plastic CD cases is less than desirable.

The Love of a Higher Being

This one is just too easy to say that real love can't be for an imaginary figurehead- but wait! There are legions of people out there who swear by the love of God (or Buddha or Allah... it doesn't matter which one) so it must be something, right? For example, there are many people of faith that would seem to love God more than they

love what popular culture says love is. Catholic priests have to take a vow to never marry and therefore, never... you know, love.

Now, without getting in to the debate on religion let's just say that for this love-quest, God is not the answer.

The Love of Unrequited

Love

For those who are perhaps a little masochistic there is the love of unrequited love. Lacking reciprocity, unrequited love is as hard on the heart as anything, and the object of desire may not only be a woman or man, but perhaps also it could be any of the things listed above.

Many times has popular culture told us the stories of an unrequited love where the person receiving the affections does not even know of the feelings that the other person has for them... a hopeless romantic constantly looking for Mr. or Mrs. Right to come along, falling in love with people that don't even know their name. It's probably safe to say that for these people, love hurts.

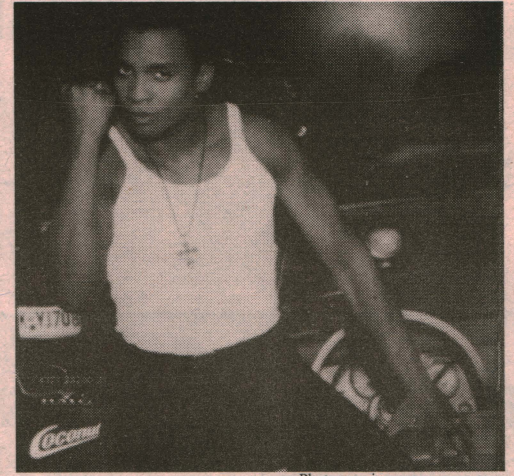


Photo: ecx.images-amazon.com

Well, it's hard to say if any definite conclusions about love can be drawn from this process, however, we can say that when Haddaway was singing "what is love", he was in the same boat we are in right now. He really had no idea what the true meaning of love was, all he knew was that he didn't want to be hurt by it again and really, even if we don't know what love is, one thing we do know is that we don't want to be hurt by it. Perhaps the Beatles had a better idea of how to define love than Haddaway did when they stated on their Abbey Road album, "in the end the love you take is equal to the love you make".

Where's The Love? A Taxing Relationship with Metro Transit

TOM WESTOLL

There are plenty of things that the average student loves: pizza, beer, skipping class to sleep in, and sex are just a few of them, but just as there are things to love, there are things which get little to no love from students.

Riding the bus everyday definitely gets no love from many students who commute to campus via the services of Metro Transit. If the bus gets any love, it's an abusive love/hate kind of relationship.



I love you, I hate you Metro Transit! It's complicated. Photo: www.msvu.com

Without ragging too hard on Metro Transit, because let's face it, they do the best they can with what they have; how can a person who rides the bus everyday not feel a little contempt towards them when they are squeezing themselves like a sardine into the tin can that is the bus? There are days when it feels like riding the bus in India would be less crowded, but then you remember it's only crowded on a few routes and at certain times of the day. It just sucks when one of those routes is the one you take and those certain times are exactly when you need to ride the bus. Without getting in to the logistics of urban transportation planning and implementation, let's just say that there are a lot of factors dictating the way that Metro Transit provides its services, from overhead costs to population densities to the various studies that go into setting schedules and routes. Oh, and that's not including anything about public pressure and city council officials having their say to get (increased) service to whichever part of the city they represent.

The school year for a Saint Mary's student is a hectic one; there are classes to get to which are often scheduled sporadically throughout the day, there are part time jobs to get to for many and then there is a student's social life which is, of course, the most important aspect of the school year. All of these require that a student be at any different point in the city at any given time

and for the majority of students who don't have access to a car it means riding the bus and ferry services provided by Metro Transit in order to get around.

The main reason that Metro Transit lacks my love is their frustrating scheduling which can leave you scratching your head at times. The number 18 bus, for example, has become one of the busiest routes over the last five years since the U-Pass program was put into place, and, yet, its schedule has not been altered to reflect that. It only goes every half hour, and more often than not, it is stuffed

full of sardines. It is not uncommon for the 18 bus to go rolling right past a person waiting at a stop because it is too full to take on any more passengers. What could be more frustrating than waiting for the bus on a cold morning when you are already feeling grumpy and you have to get to class for a test and having the bus drive right by you without even slowing down?

Metro Transit's schedule should actually be called a general guideline or a roughly estimated time of arrival manual. When the bus comes to your stop at the same time a few days in a row, don't get used to it because as soon as you do, it will be ten minutes early. An excellent practice for bus riders in the HRM is to get to the bus stop at least ten minutes early because you never know for sure if

the bus will be early or late.

Not everything about Metro Transit gets no love though. Luckily for the hordes of SMUdents who ride the bus, Saint Mary's offers a U-Pass; something that is definitely loved as it is included in tuition fees and works out to be a very reasonable rate of \$16 per month for the months of September through to April when it is valid. Without that little pass, student commuters could only dream of being a sardine in a tin can bus. Would the buses be packed like this if the U-Pass was not available though?

Mobility is one of the most important factors in how we organize our day to day

lives and when the options are limited to taking the bus, our days become more rigid and we start to live according to the bus schedule, which we know by now is not the most frequent or reliable. Riding the bus is a positive and proactive way to reducing the number of cars on the road; a full bus can theoretically take about 50 cars off the road. The amount of carbon dioxide in the air, therefore, is drastically reduced by people using Metro Transit, so by all means continue to ride the bus if you already do, just don't show it much love because it will drive you absolutely insane (while getting you to your destination!)

JACK BLACK
MOS DEF
DANNY GLOVER

BE KIND REWIND

You name it, we shoot it

NEW LINE CINEMA PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH PARTIZAN FILMS A PARTIZAN FILMS PRODUCTION A FILM BY MICHEL GONDROY JACK BLACK MOS DEF DANNY GLOVER "BE KIND REWIND" MIA FARRROW MELONIE DIAZ CASTING BY JEANNE MCCARTHY COSTUME DESIGNER RAHEL AFLEY KISHU CHAND MUSIC BY JEAN-MICHEL BERNARD EDITOR JEFF BUCHANAN PRODUCED BY DAN LEIGH DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ELLEN KURAS, ASC CO-PRODUCER ANN RUATH EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TONY EMERICH GUY STOBEL PRODUCED BY MICHEL GONDROY JULIE FONG PRODUCED BY GEORGE S. BERMAN WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MICHEL GONDROY

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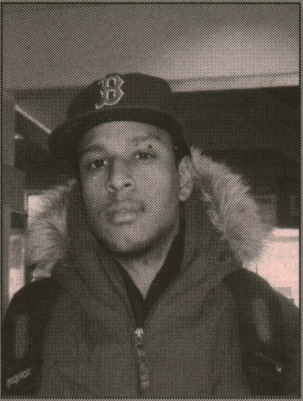
STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND!

ALLIANCE FILMS

THE JOURNAL PRESENTS T&A ASKS...


Q & A with Tom and Amanda

“What are your plans for Spring Break?”




ROBERT BARTLETT
4TH YEAR ACCOUNTING

“I will just be working and studying.”




JENNIFER NEWELL
2ND YEAR ARTS

“Homework! Hopefully get some skiing and ski-doing in, depending on whether we have enough snow.”



PATTY ROGERS
1ST YEAR ANTHRO

“Nothing, I will just be staying around Halifax.”




APRIL BATEMAN
4TH YEAR POLI SCI

“I’m going to Montreal, and then to Winterlude in Quebec City.”


JENNA MCGRATH
4TH YEAR POLI SCI

“I’m going to St FX for a weekend, and then going home to Cape Breton.”



ALEX MACDONALD
1ST YEAR CRIM

“No idea. I will most likely be sticking around the city.”



MELANIE FOWLER
1ST YEAR COMMERCE

“I am going to Cuba for the whole week with my brother.”

Photos courtesy of Tom Westoll

SMUDOKU

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

HOT OR NOT

- Turkey Crans from Uncommon
- Getting out of the psych ward
- Obama and Clinton
- Voting in the SMUSA election
- Showing you care the other 364 days of the year
- Candy hearts
- New apartments
- Going bald for kids
- Study dates
- The cucumber
- Being drugged by your 'manager'
- Caring more about American politics than our own
- Only having one contested position
- Valentine's Day
- Love songs
- Subletting
- Receding hairlines
- Studying your dates

G SPOT

Roses Are Red and Nipple Clamps Are Blue

SS RANDY BLUE

“Instead of answering a question this week, I thought it would be nice to write about some sexy and sensual ways for you and your partner to make this February 14th the most romantic Valentine's Day ever”.

Anyone who has ever told you that flowers are passé and are a terrible gift doesn't know what they are talking about. There is, however, more to it than just buying a dozen roses on your way home from work at the closest gas station. You have to put some thought in to your flower choice and arrangement. Roses may be a classic, but

at their February mark up you may as well get orchids and make it look like you have some class. When in doubt, ask your local gay florist...they know what looks good and you can dish about men while the arrangement is being made (what more could you ask for?).

Once you have acquired your flowers and placed them in the new crystal vase you bought for your partner, you need to focus on how to romanticize the bedroom a little bit. Head down to your local sexual health store and inquire about some erotic aroma candles, Honeydust and a Karma Sutra guide book. If you don't know what any of those things are, don't

worry; you'll figure it out very soon.

Now that you've set the scene, light the candles and put on some nice relaxing music; it's time to unwind with your partner. Draw a hot bubble bath and take turns washing each other, being careful to clean every inch of each other and being sure to wash slowly and sensually, with special attention for sensitive areas like around the ears and along the back.

Once you have both cleaned up in the bathtub and are lounging around eating fresh strawberries and sipping some nice merlot, it's time to bring out the Honeydust and sprinkle a little on your partner's chest. Starting around

your partner's navel, start to lick the Honeydust off of them. Take frequent breaks to enjoy the beauty of your partner's eyes and to kiss them passionately.

After you have gotten your partner in the mood and want to have some fun, it's time to whip it out, the Karma Sutra guide book that is. Look through the guide together and pick out 3 of your favourite moves. Be sure to pick something you're able to do, not every persons back is meant to contort into the helicopter position. After you have had one of the most passionate nights of your life it's time for the grand finale. Exclaim to your partner about how tonight has been the most passion-

ate of your life and then open the gift box and give her the beautiful three carat diamond necklace she has been eyeing at the jewelry store every time you go shopping.

If your partner doesn't respond to any of these romantic moves, then maybe you can just rent The Notebook and curl up with a big bowl of popcorn and mini sips. Either way, I hope you and your partner have the best Valentine's Day yet.

Until next week everyone, keep it wrapped. If you have any questions, write them down and send them in to thesmujournal@gmail.com

SPORTS

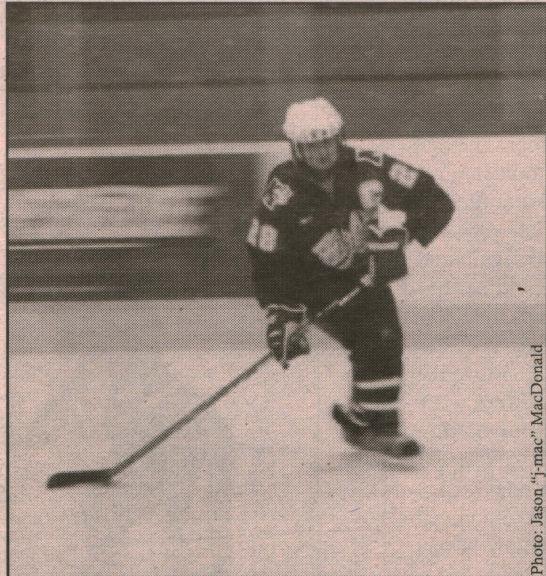
Huskies Destroy Varsity Reds and Leave the Rink With a 5-1 Win

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

You had to feel bad watching shot after shot get smashed onto the Reds' goal and Terri Ryerson scrambling to try to stop flying pucks. But that's what will happen when you let the Huskies own the side lanes of the ice and free-wheel with the puck.

The opening face-off set the tone of the game as Courtney Schriver won the face-off for SMU and sent the puck to the side boards. Schriver chased after the puck and fired it up the ice and the Pack moved the puck around making UNB skate hard to try to intercept a pass. But the Huskies moved the puck with crisp passes and kept UNB scrambling for two minutes before Sharon Kelly cracked a slap-shot off the blue-line that was stopped by Ryerson's blocker. Lauren McCusker intercepted the UNB clearing pass and found the empty passing lane with Kyla Thurston waiting. Thurston took a wrist-shot that found the low right side of the net at only 2:57 into the game.

UNB's Sarah Belmore tried to move the puck up the left side of the ice but Leah McLennan stuck out her stick and poked the puck away. McLennan fired a long pass to Schriver who raced up the right side of the ice un-opposed for a hard wrist-shot on the UNB net. Zoe Launcelott dove after the loose puck and used her body to keep a UNB player off the puck. Facing off to the left of the UNB net, the Huskies won the face-off and slid a pass to Carla Little. Little didn't waste a second as she sent a one-timer onto the UNB net. Kori Cheverie tried for a goal as she took a back-hand shot from the top of the face-off key on the Reds' net. Saint Mary's kept the pressure high as Kayla Oakley stepped into



Zoe Launcelott breaks alone with the puck

Photo: Jason "j-mac" MacDonald

a fast-moving slap-shot that took two bounces before being stopped by Ryerson.

The Reds' still had not noticed that they were leaving the passing lane open in front of their net as another pass slid through and Cheverie tried to backhand it into the net. Oakley tried to put a puck past Ryerson as she lined up another slap-shot from the blue-line that bounced off skates and ended up sitting in the crease. Kori Cheverie fired a shot on net that bounced off the keepers mask and fell loose in the crease as Schriver tucked it into the net.

With two unanswered goals UNB received their first opportunity of the game to score when a pass came from behind the net but Heather Gallant missed the pass and SMU head-manned the puck up the ice. Schriver and Cheverie raced up the ice before breaking into a 2-on-1 play. Schriver sent the puck across and Cheverie fired high over the crossbar. UNB came back down the ice and put a shot on net and crashed the goal. Jill

work on her diving skills as a soft poke at the puck sent her sprawling onto the ice as if she'd been shot. Cheverie received two for tripping but you wouldn't have known SMU was a player down as Schriver and Little raced against the UNB goal with no one between them and Schriver put a hard wrist-shot on net and Little tried to backhand the rebound above the goal. Less than a minute later Courtney Schriver drop-passed the puck to Mullowney, who was already winding up and hit the post with her shot. UNB's Katita Douglas grabbed the loose puck and raced in alone against Jill MacIssac. Douglas moved the puck at the last second for a back-hand shot and was robbed as MacIssac stuck out her left pad.

Lauren McCusker found herself with the puck and started up the left side of the ice before slapping a pass across to Zoe Launcelott who had just stepped off the bench. Launcelott cracked a slap-shot through the five-hole from

MacIssac made two quick saves before the Varsity Reds' Shannon Wise put the puck past MacIssac for the one and only time of the match. Cheverie took SMU's last shot on net of the period as she walked past a defenseman for a quick backhand that hit Ryerson in the chest.

The second period started out with Cheverie helping a UNB player

more than 15 feet out, making it 4-1 SMU. Two minutes later Blair Kitlar took a slap-shot from the left side of the net that was tipped in by Launcelott standing by the side of the net for the five goal lead. The women's hockey team is not a team that plays defensive with a big lead, and to prove it Kitlar took another slap-shot from the same spot on the ice that rung off the cross-bar and went into the netting above the glass.

With the period winding down UNB would get another opportunity to shoot on MacIssac but she stuck out the glove and stopped the puck. UNB's Anna Waite and Amber King tried to put a one-timer past MacIssac but Jill went into the butterfly and covered up, denying a rebound. After the whistle, King tried to dig the puck out but Leah MacLennan shoved her out of the crease. King shoved a glove into MacLennan's mask and both players went off for two minutes. Katerina Biron from UNB received a two minute minor for boarding and put SMU on the powerplay.

Cycling the puck between the defense and forwards Sharon Kelly took a slap-shot on the net with the rebound coming out. One of the sweetest goals of the game came when Lauren McCusker ripped a wrist-shot from the top of the

key that went into the top left corner past Ryerson's blocker. SMU now had five un-answered goals.

The third period started strong again for SMU as Melissa Young showed her speed as UNB scrambled to catch her. Her wrist shot went wide and Sharon Kelly tried to finish the play with a slap-shot on the net. Cheverie started the next play with a pass to Schriver who took a back-hand shot that went into Ryerson's five hole for a six goal lead. Before the announcer could credit the goal, Melissa Young passed to Launcelott and she fired the puck to Kyla Thurston. Thurston lifted the puck with a back-hander into the top of the net. The game would start to get rough as Thurston took a check from behind and Campbell received a slash. Cheverie tossed another puck at the net and a frustrated defenseman from UNB cross checked McCusker onto the ice after the whistle. But the scuffle wouldn't accomplish anything for UNB as the period wound down with SMU on top 8-1.



McCusker, Dawson, and Thurston celebrate a SMU goal as UNB looks on to see how much longer the beating can go on for.

Photo: Jason "j-mac" MacDonald

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SPORTS MINUTE
BROUGHT TO YOU
BY ROBBIE NAUFFTS

**Marc Rancourt AUS Player of The
Week**

Still on a 13 point streak Marc Rancourt has been named the Atlantic University Sports Player of the Week as he reached 47 points in 24 games. Marc has 14 goals and 33 assists so far this season. Marc is ranked second place in the CIS for scoring. Congratulations Marc!

**Women's Hockey Wins Two in A
Row**

After the 6-2 loss at St. FX last Saturday, they've pulled up their socks and turned around again with the big 8-1 win over UNB Friday night on home ice. The next night was another big win at the Alumni Arena as they shut down UdeM 4-0. The last regular season game for the Women's team is Saturday at Dalhousie.

Double Header at Dal

The regular hockey season ends this Saturday at Dalhousie as the Huskies take the Tigers in a double header. The big finale starts at 3pm as the Women take the ice with the men following up at 7pm. It is going to be an intense day so be sure to get out and support the Pack.

SMU Comes From Behind to Beat MUN Off the Court, 73-68



Alise Brown, key player in the end of the game

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

The losing streak is over for the Women's Basketball team as they beat St FX by one point on Thursday night. But if you wanted to see the game of the year it was Saturday night as SMU took on the league leader, Memorial University, on home court. The last quarter alone was a nail biter as SMU slowly closed the gap until they nudged ahead by a dangerous point.

Alise Brown would make two free throws after a MUN foul and the shots would fire up the Huskies who, every game, battle through the last quarter until the buzzer.

Darting around several Seahawks, Jasmine Parent set up Kelsey Daley for a lay up to open up the point gap further. The Seahawks started to panic as more fouls handicapped their team as Daley sunk another two point basket.

MUN let the Huskies slip past again and Parent tossed the ball blindly behind her head to Daley who took two quick steps for another lay-up. Still scrambling, MUN drove down a Huskies player that was trying to move the ball giving SMU two more free-throws with 14 seconds left in the game. Parent would sink both shots easily.

With only seven seconds left, the Sea Hawks received another foul that set Daley up with two free throws on the MUN basket. The first basket bounced out on Daley but her second shot dropped in. You could feel the excitement of the team from the bleachers as hugs were exchanged and cheering filled The Tower.

"I'm so excited right now, it feels amazing. We knew we had nothing to lose, and that we really needed to go out and play our game. Early this season we were nervous with the pressure on us, but there was no pressure for this game. We played X [earlier this week] and thought 'let's give it all we have [today]' and played together tonight. We were the underdog and no one expected us to do it. I'm so proud right now to be a Saint Mary's Husky" replied Jasmine Parent after the game smiling from ear to ear.

"We're definitely meshing more now and playing together with the spirit that this is our team." Parent finished as she signed shirts for two young fans.

Dalhousie, third place in the league, comes to the Tower Thursday night to take on the Pack before a week off for SMU students.

Hockey Love/Hate Relationships

ROBBIE NAUFFTS

Since Valentine's Day is coming, it's time to step back and look at some of the love to hate relationships that have been famous in the NHL this year.

You know, those guys who as soon as the puck hits the ice they express their deepest hatred of each other?

Be sure to check out www.youtube.com to watch these couples sharing the love.



The Lovely Couples

(from top to bottom)

Georges Laraque
vs. Don Brashear

Jarkko Ruutu
vs. Darcy Tucker

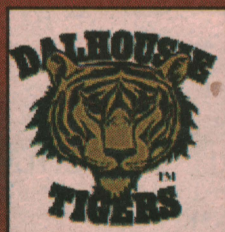
Jeremy Reich
vs. Ryan Hollweg

Eric Bolton
vs. Eric Godard

Huskies at Home This Week

Women's Basketball
Thursday, Feb 14th
DAL vs. SMU @ 6pm The Tower

Men's Basketball
DAL vs. SMU @ 8pm The Tower



Hockey End of Season Home Game
Men's Hockey
Friday February 15th
ACA vs. SMU @ 7pm The Forum

Special Reminder!

The last SMU Hockey games are Saturday February 16th at Dalhousie Arena

Women's Team at 3pm
Men's Team at 7pm

If you haven't seen a hockey game yet this year, this is the time to get out and see one! For more Season Games and information visit www.smuhuskies.ca

ASSHOLE OF THE WEEK

"Why does Metro Transit let drunk handicapped people ride the public bus and slow the routes down? I've missed my connections and had to wait over 45 minutes for my next bus because we had to wait to strap in a guy only going down the street."

-Bus Jockey

Do you know an inconsiderate prick? Sent a blurb to sports.smu@gmail.com and have them recognized as the Asshole of the Week!