

 Presents
**Eskimos And
 Artic
 "You-Knows"!**
 Friday
 January 9th
 9 - Close
 Happy Hour
 9 - 10:30


Have You Heard About
 the "You-Knows"
 pg 10

SMU Students Solving
 Conflicts in Northern
 Ireland pg 8

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THE JOURNAL

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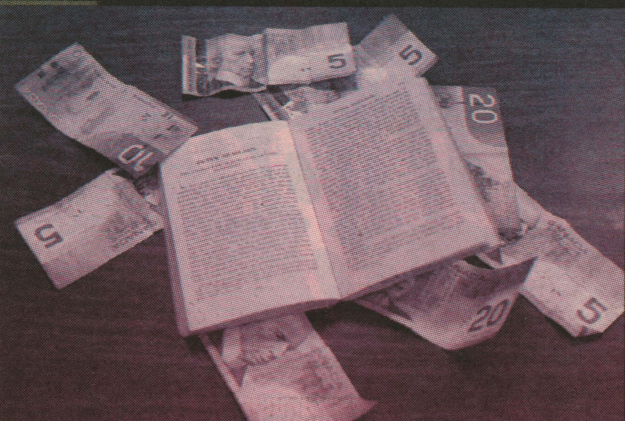
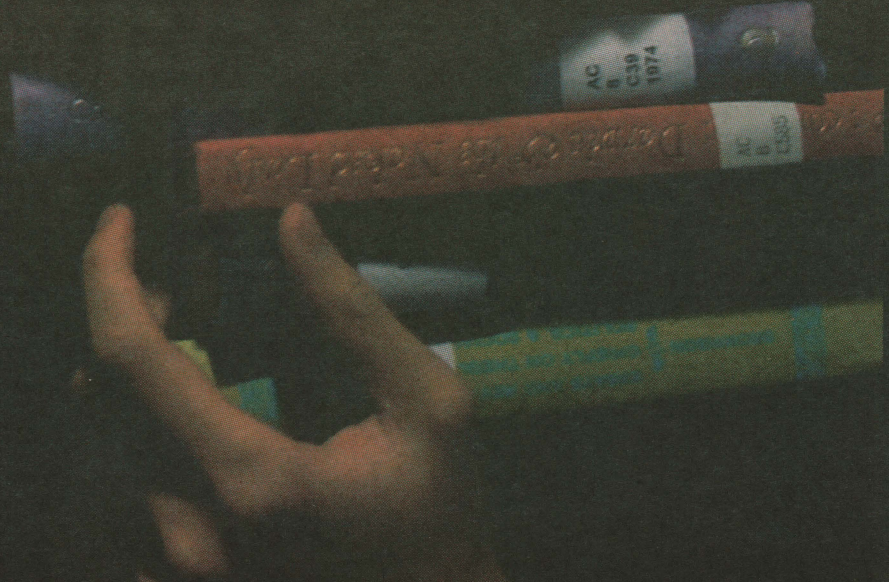
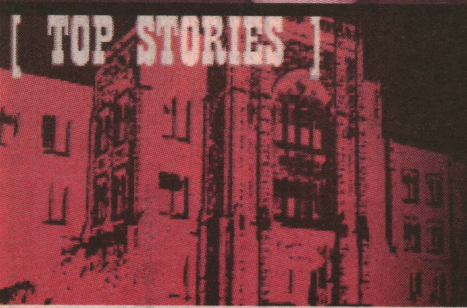


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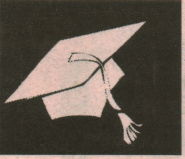


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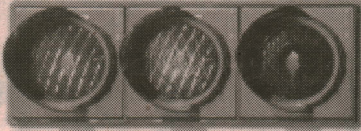
SPENDING TOO MUCH ON TEXT BOOKS?
 CHECK PAGE 3 FOR THE
 "BE BOOK SMART CAMPAIGN"

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smusa NEWS



Grad Class



STOPLIGHT PARTY

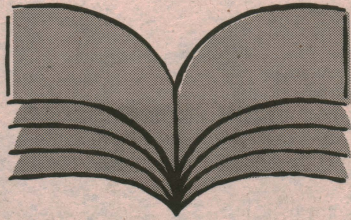
January 16th ~ Gorsebrook

Red ~ Shaken but already taken
 Yellow ~ Dressin' to keep you guessin'
 Green ~ Single & ready to mingle



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 6PM

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 PARTY

SATURDAY
 JANUARY 17th
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SUNDAY
 JANUARY 18th
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TIME TO BE BOOK SMART

ADAM HARRIS
(WITH INFORMATION FROM THE UNIVER-
SITY OF ALBERTA STUDENT'S UNION)

VP Academic
Academicinfo.blogspot.com

Do you find your textbooks too expensive? So does SMUSA and the SMU Bookstore! Your Students' Association has been working together with the Saint Mary's Bookstore toward reducing the cost of academic materials by initiating a campus-wide awareness effort. We have been working with post-secondary institutes from across Canada — and now we are looking for your help.

Students, instructors, and administrators make for a powerful alliance and have significant power to change things for the better. A little change

In fact, textbooks account for 17.7% of the average student's educational costs. Considering the costs of textbooks are increasing at a rapid rate in excess of inflation, this percentage is likely to increase even more and place even more financial pressure on already over-burdened students.

We need engaged students to help with the campaign by discussing this issue one-on-one with instructors and by getting the message out to other students. We are trying to make this issue front and center everywhere on campus, and we can't do it without you!

There are lots of ways for instructors to help reduce the burden of the cost of textbooks. The publishers have come up with a lot of tricks, but we know some tips to help get around them. Find out more information on the website about constant edition changes, bundling, inflated prices, making the publishers compete, and



Photo Credit: Nicole Fu

can go a long way: if one single instructor switches from a \$150 textbook to a \$100 textbook in a 200-student class, the student population will have saved \$10,000. Imagine what we can do if we all work together!

Welcome to Be Book Smart, where you can be part of the solution!

Textbooks are one of the largest expenses for students, after tuition, rent, and food. The Saint Mary's University Bookstore recommends that students budget approximately \$120 per course for textbooks, which amounts to \$1200 per year for a full course load. That's a huge expense for most students!

other options besides textbooks. For more information, resources, and frequently asked questions, check out www.becooksmart.ca. SMUSA's website, www.smusa.ca, will be updated soon with more SMU specific information.

SMUSA would like to acknowledge Jon Braga and the University of Alberta Student's Union for their generous contribution in creating this information. We would also like to acknowledge permission to use materials from the UASU Be Book Smart campaign.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

KIMBERLEY DARES
Features Editor

Canadian Hockey is the kind of thing best enjoyed with a crowd of other excited fans, while munching on nachos and chicken wings. So to watch the Gold Medal World Junior game last Monday night a friend and I ventured to Spring Garden Road to find a Sports Bar with big TVs, greasy food and of course lots of beer.

Oasis Sports Bar seemed a good choice being as its outdoor sign boasts it as the "#1 Sports Bar in Halifax." The game didn't start until 8:30pm and we were there by 7pm so getting a table was no problem. After about the standard wait time in a restaurant or pub for a menu the waitress brought us our menus, and promised to be "right back". One hour and 50 minutes later, she still hadn't returned to take our order but had served people at EVERY single table around us. Adding to our growing frustration the waitress acknowledged we were still waiting, but continued to walk past us, some tables were even served twice while we waited for our original order to be taken.

Waiting for our drinks was a similarly heinous experience, a member of the bar staff came and asked what we would like. We waited over an hour for his return, he walked past us many times and also made eye contact yet

we remained without our drinks.

You might wonder why we didn't approach the waitress and tell her directly we were ready, or why we didn't go to the bar to get out drinks? Everytime the waitress walked by she had her arms loaded with food, or was on an unstoppable mission to the kitchen with a list of orders, we acknowledged that we were ready to order anytime she looked our way. As for the drinks, once someone takes your order it seems counterproductive to head to the bar and order the same thing.

Despite the fact we were ignored by virtually all members of the Oasis staff, it is hard to blame them for the poor service as there appeared to be just two waitresses for the whole pub and by the time the puck dropped the place was packed. It was clearly a faux-pas by the Bar's management. If the staff at Oasis were not prepared to serve that many customers perhaps they should have placed a cap on how many people they allowed in.

This was my first visit to Halifax's "Number 1 Sports Bar" and unless there is an apology in the form of a free meal headed my way it will also be my last. If that's the kind of service Oasis offers they better watch out before Bubba Ray's knocks them out of the top spot as Halifax's #1 Sports Bar.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

WORLD WIDE WONDERFUL

BRITTANY CURRAN
Writer

The illustrious- albeit fictional- spendthrift Carrie Bradshaw once rebuffed online purchasing, saying "shopping is my cardio." But is there merit to cyber-spending? Has it become the idle means to an endless overindulgence? Or does its convenience factor override any lethargic implications?

Halifax might never harbor a Fred Segal, and having breakfast at Tiffany's will always be a plane ride away, but plenty of inventories are now attainable by the mere click of a button. For example, Shopbop.com includes collections from the ever young and fresh, Alice + Olivia; up-and-comer Alexander Wang (recent winner of the coveted CFDA/Vogue Fashion Fund Award), and the slightly more affordable line, Velvet. But online shopping isn't just about designer buys; it's a hotspot for discounted goods. A real steal is the online Target catalogue, where inexpensive meets in vogue, and you can also find something for everyone.

Quirky little stores are buried in the heart of every city and as more set up shop on the Net, their unique gems become available to a wider

demographic. But selling online isn't just for companies. As both eBay and kijiji have proven, the internet has become an individual marketplace to sell and swap merchandise; it's our own digital flea market.

I've yet to suggest the most pleasing portal purchase, however: Flowers! At flowersforcanada.com, you can view arrangements by occasion or price, and bright bouquets- like "Sunshine Thoughts"- are a surefire way to beat the winter blues. (I personally dream of placing their "Perfect Pastel Roses" on my dining room table.) So really, what's better than shipping irises to your grandmother during her 80th birthday party when you couldn't make it there yourself?

Buying original trinkets, hard-to-get-here items, and avoiding December 24th mall mayhem makes online shopping not only enjoyable, but essential. Purchasing plain white socks, however, is sheer laziness. So as long as you're safe with credit card information, log on and explore the wonderful world of online spending. You might stumble across some fabulous finds.

Plus no one can bump into your online shopping cart.

THE JOURNAL WANTS YOU
Interested in writing for The Journal? Join our meetings on Thursday at 4pm or Monday at 10am in The Journal office on the 5th floor of the student Union Building.

**LETTER TO SMU ITSS
RE: BLACKBOARD**

GARY
Contributor

This year, Saint Mary's University was scheduled to "flip the switch" and make the switch from WebCT (web course tools) to a system called BlackBoard. On an implementation that was started in mid-2008, the launch date for faculty was to be December 2008, and the launch date for students was to be January 5, 2009 — the first day of class in the winter semester.

Now, let me preface this post by saying that I've worked on a bunch of IT related projects before, and I understand that deadlines are frequently missed due to unforeseen technical issues and delays from various parties involved. I consider this par for the course for most IT organizations, and this is not what I fault SMU ITSS and the blackboard implementation team for. What I do fault them for is the premature launch to students who rely on the system (some in-whole, some in-part) to attend and interact with their courses. If the system is not ready, then fine. Just don't launch it into production when ZERO functionality is ready.

As a part time student upgrading some Information Systems skills, I'm taking a few "online" courses. This requires that I use BlackBoard to "access the course" - which is the online equivalent to attending class and receiving the physical class material.

We're told to expect delays of roughly a week. Well, that's sort of acceptable. No sweat there? Not exactly. Another failure on the part of the SMU ITSS department (the IT organization within/supporting faculty and students) was that they have not communicated well with students. Most are walking around with NO idea how to access the new system, and those who do know (like myself) have not been informed of how to log in. Great. SMU has a myriad of disparate systems for the students and staff to manage their "stuff" (most of which are horrible from a UI standpoint) and none of those logins work. Surfing both the student intranet (smuport) and the SMU.CA website reveals no hint of information regarding the new system or the delays.

So, SMU ITSS, this is my plea. Please communicate, at least daily with students and faculty with regards to the blackboard implementation.

Students Acting for Global Awareness (SAGA)

JANUARY EVENTS

- Thursday Jan. 15th: Conversation Lunch: BYOL and mingle with fellow SMUdents at the Student Centre cafeteria
- Sunday Jan 18th: Ice Skating!
- Saturday Jan 31st: International Night (Part of International Development Week!) Tickets will be for sale mid-January for this event.

For more information about SAGA or any of the above events email international.centre@smu.ca or visit their website <http://internationalcentre.smu.ca/saga.html>

FARWELL TO GEORGE BUSH

KIMBERLEY DARES
Features Editor

So with the Obama inauguration just around the corner, it seems only fitting we pay tribute to the guy everyone loves to hate, Mr. George W. Bush. His eight years of presidency have been full of gaffes, misquotes, and plain stupidity at times.

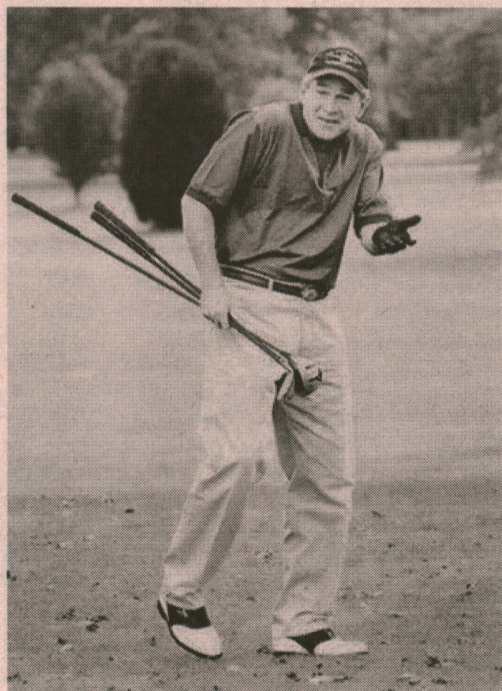
As America's 43rd president he helped unite the country after 9/11, leading the country into a war that many supported at the time, the war wasn't supposed to out live his presidency, was it an attempt to further his personal agenda or to finish the work his father started? It's surely possible and highly debatable.

He survived being blasted by The Dixie Chicks, mocked in every form of media possible, the guy even had a shoe thrown at him. He has enraged lovers of the English language everywhere with his lack of understanding of basic grammar skills; he is always mixing tenses and is often struggles with verb conjugation. Love him or hate him, he's been a part of life since he was sworn into office in January of 2001 and now here's one last chance to have a chuckle at his expense.

As the world welcomes Barack Obama with open arms, it seems it's time to take a look back at the George W. Bush years. The following quotes are just a brief sampling of the many ridiculous things George W. has said during his years in office:

"If this were a dictatorship, it'd be a heck of a lot easier, just so long as I'm the dictator." - Washington, D.C., Dec. 19, 2000

"A dictatorship would be a heck of a lot easier, there's no question about



it." - July 27, 2001

"And it's a struggle between good, and it's a struggle between evil." - On terrorism at the Cattle Industry Annual Convention and Trade Show, Denver, CO. Feb. 8th, 2002

"Now, there are some who would like to rewrite history-revisionist historians is what I like to call them." - Elizabeth, N.J., June 16, 2003

"I glance at the headlines just to kind of get a flavor for what's moving. I rarely read the stories, and get briefed by people who are probably read the news themselves." - Washington, D.C., Sept. 21, 2003

"The best way to find these terrorists who hide in holes is to get people coming forth to describe the location of the hole, is to give clues and data." - Washington, D.C., Dec. 15, 2003

"We stand for things." - Davenport, Iowa, Aug. 5, 2004

"We actually misnamed the war on terror. It ought to be the Struggle Against Ideological Extremists Who Do Not Believe in Free Societies Who Happen to Use Terror as a Weapon to Try to Shake the Conscience of the Free World." - Washington, D.C., Aug. 6, 2004

We will make sure our troops have all that is necessary to complete their missions. That's why I went to the Congress last September and proposed fundamental -- supplemental funding, which is money for armor and body parts and ammunition and fuel." - Erie, Pa., Sept. 4, 2004

"Those who enter the country illegally violate the law." - Tucson, Ariz., Nov. 28, 2005

"And the second way to defeat the terrorists is to spread freedom. You see, the best way to defeat a society that is -- doesn't have hope, a society where people become so angry they're willing to become suiciders, is to spread freedom, is to spread democracy." - Washington, D.C., June 8, 2005

"I would say the best moment of all was when I caught a 7.5 pound large-mouth bass in my lake." - On his best moment in office, interview in German newspaper Bild am Sonntag,



May 7, 2006

"Information is moving -- you know, nightly news is one way, of course, but it's also moving through the blogosphere and through the Internets." - Washington, D.C., May 2, 2007

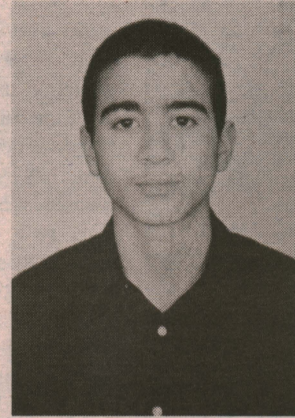
"The decisions we make in Washington have a direct impact on the people in our country, obviously." - New Albany, Ind., Nov. 13, 2007

"I don't want some mom whose son may have recently died to see the commander in chief playing golf. I feel I owe it to the families to be in solidarity as best as I can with them. And I think playing golf during a war just sends the wrong signal." - Washington, D.C., May 13, 2008

"And they have no disregard for human life." - On the brutality of Afghan fighters at Washington, D.C., July 15, 2008

Quotes Courtesy of: <http://political-humor.about.com/library/blbushisms.htm>

Newsfeed



Canadian Omar Khadr, the only foreign national belonging to a Western government still being held in Guantanamo Bay, may have his case transferred to Canada after Barack Obama takes over the presidency. Child rights advocates headed to Washington on Monday to try and get Khadr released from Guantanamo. Those who went to Washington included Liberal Senator Romeo Dallaire, former child soldier and UNICEF ambassador Ishmael Beah, and David Crane, a former war crimes prosecutor in Sierra Leone. Khadr was 15 when he was arrested for war crimes, and Beah says that if the killed were not Americans Khadr would have been considered a child soldier and forgiven, as Beah himself was. When Obama closes Guantanamo it is likely that Khadr's case would move to the U.S. criminal courts if he was not sent back to Canada. Stephen Harper has so far said that he would not support any initiative to have Khadr released. Canadians are divided on the issue due to Khadr's unpopular family, which has admitted to knowing Osama Bin Laden and carrying extremist views.

The Government of Canada has announced that Barack Obama's first official visit to a foreign country will be to Canada. Obama accepted the government's invitation to come shortly after his inauguration. Prime Minister Harper is expected to propose a climate accord between the two nations, and to highlight energy concerns. Obama has spoken about the importance of reducing America's dependence on foreign oil repeatedly, however this primarily means the Middle Eastern oil producers and other unstable states. Canada already exports large amounts of energy to the United States, and if this could be an opportunity for Canada to fill a void if the U.S. looks elsewhere for their energy. Obama met Monday with Mexican President Felipe Calderone.

A recent Nanos poll has shown the Liberals in a virtual tie with the Conservatives for popular support throughout the country. Significantly, the greatest jump in support for the Liberals has come in Quebec where they are up 13 points and hold a significant lead among the federal parties. Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff is also the favoured party leader in Quebec. The Conservatives have lost much of their support in Quebec after cutting funds to culture and the arts, slamming the Bloc Quebecois, and supporting Israel in the current conflict (Quebecers tend to feel sympathetic towards Palestine.)



The UN Human Rights Commission has passed a resolution condemning the Israeli offensive into Gaza. The resolution passed 33 votes to 1, with 13 abstentions. All 13 European Union nations abstained. The one vote against the resolution? Canada. Israel has dismissed the resolution as one sided.

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Email: mobility.international@smu.ca

IGNATIEFF IN HIS OWN WORDS

NICK SIMARD
Science & Business Editor

From the town hall meeting at The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on Friday, January 9th:

"Last night people were talking to me about entrepreneurs who had mortgaged their own house to pay the wage bill of their own workers. That's the kind of daring, that's the kind of risk-taking, we've always welcomed in the Liberal Party."

"Cuz we've all gotta put our shoulder to the wheel here. The truck is in the ditch. And when the truck is in the ditch Liberals get outta the truck and we push and we push and we push and we get the truck outta the ditch. And we do it together." [applause]

"When you look at the Atlantic economy, when you look at its future, energy is in the centre. Renewable energy is in the centre. Whether its ti-

dal, whether its wind power, whether it's geothermal."

(in reference to Canada providing international monetary aid)

"Canada can't change the regimes of other countries. I mean, we have to respect their particular path to growth and development. But we have to find partners who won't steal the damn money." [applause]

"Best thing we ever thought of, but took too long to get it out. And then we sold it as daycare. It was never daycare. We were trying to change the educational outcomes for every single child in Canada. And it's one of the signature, defining themes of what we oughta be as a party. And I'll tell you why. Cuz there's nothing that differentiates the Liberal Party of Canada from the Conservatives more clearly than this." [applause as he continues]

HAPPENING @ AND AROUND SMU

JEFF CUSACK
News Editor

January 14th: Did you write a great paper for a class? Saint Mary's wants to reward you! Entries for the SMU writing awards are due January 14th at the Writing Centre.

January 15th: Today is the last day to withdraw from classes without academic penalty. The winners of the Citizen Science: Say it, show it, be part of it, video competition will be screened from 6 to 9 PM in the Loyola Private Dining Room. The competition challenged students to give their views on the environment.

January 15th - 25th: The library is hosting its annual Food for Fines event. Students can reduce their fine by \$2 dollars an item, to a maximum of \$20 dollars, by donating an item of

food to the campus food bank.

January 18th: World religion day is happening at 3:00pm at the Cathedral Church of all Saints. People of all faiths are encouraged to attend. Don't expect to see Mark Mercer there.

January 21st: At 7:00pm in the Scotiabank Theatre Auditorium Saint Mary's will host a panel of business experts on the topic of ethics in financial markets.

The Department of English will host its 15th annual Gallery Reading Series. The guest speaker will be Mary Novak, who will read from her novel *Conceit*, which was long-listed for the Giller prize.

January 26th: SMUFEST is kicking off! The only problem is that we don't know what that is.

Saint Mary's University business stu-

dents placed 4th overall in the nationwide MBA Games competition at Dalhousie. Good job guys!

Judy Streach, a Saint Mary's University alumnus, has been named Education minister for Nova Scotia by Rodney Macdonald. Ms. Streach has held several previous cabinet positions such as Minister for Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

The TESL centre is looking for native or fluent English speakers to talk with English learners for an hour a week for their intensive English program. Those interested should contact Tarra in room 101 at 980 tower road, or email her at tarr.chartrand@smu.ca. Alternatively, you can learn Chinese and teach English to a Chinese student by contacting them at xaiusmu05@yahoo.ca. The student is requesting a commitment of two hours a week.

NEWSFEED CONTINUED

JEFF CUSACK
News Editor

One of the deadliest attacks by Israel was a bombing of a UN school in Gaza which killed 40 Palestinian civilians who were taking shelter there. The Israeli army originally claimed that Hamas was inside the school using civilians as human shields, this explanation was condemned by many. The Israeli army now claims that Hamas was only firing near to the school, and that one of their mortars went off target and accidentally hit the school. UN Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon has expressed dismay that all three UN schools in Gaza have been bombed despite the Israeli Army receiving their precise locations. Palestinian doctors say that approximately 900 Palestinians have been killed since the Israeli offensive began. So far thirteen Israeli's have been killed, ten soldiers and three civilians.

Israel's Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni has stated that Israel has no plans to negotiate with Hamas, and rejects any alternatives to the use of force in resolving the situation. A ceasefire is currently being negotiated between the two countries by Egypt and France. Israel has stated that it is now close to achieving its goals. Khaled Meshaal, Hamas' exiled political leaders, has said that Israel's actions in Gaza have ended its chances for a lasting peace with Palestine.

Two prominent members of the town



of Bountiful, British Columbia were arrested by police last week on charges of polygamy. James Oler and Winston Blackmore, the head of rival religious sects, were taken into custody on the charges. The community has existed for over 60 years now and the majority of nearby inhabitants have claimed that they only see the community as their neighbours. However, many note that there have been allegations of sexual abuse in the community as well. The trials will test Canada's anti-polygamy laws, which may be overturned by the religious protections granted through the Char-

ter of Rights and Freedoms.



Joe the Plumber, who actually isn't a licensed plumber, is now a war correspondent. Pajamas TV sent Joe over to Israel to cover the offensive in Gaza. Joe's foreign policy credentials are doubtful, during an interview he said he agreed with the idea that a vote for Barack Obama meant a vote for the death of Israel.

Doctors are lashing out at a new policy among Canadian airlines which requires obese passengers to acquire a doctor's note stating that they need two seats to sit down on the plane. The Canadian Medical Association says that the ability to sit in airplane seats is not a medical one, and that any airline should easily be able to assess whether or not a passenger can comfortably sit in a single seat. This controversy comes on the tail end of a legal decision requiring a one-passenger one-fare rule. The rule also applies to disabled persons who have to bring a personal care assistant with them on the plane.

The Canadian aerospace industry is upset with Peter MacKay. Industry leaders allege that MacKay has reneged on his promise to provide millions of dollars in high-tech work to Canadian industry. Some claim that the Canadian spin-offs between the Canadian government and U.S. giants Lockheed Martin and Boeing amount to little more than simple mechanical work. The Canadian Aerospace industry employs 80,000 people, and its lobby group, the Aerospace Industry Association of Canada, plans to emphasize that by not giving them these contracts, the government is deprived of millions in taxes. The AIAC also warns that by allowing foreign companies to take control of the maintenance of Canadian military equipment we are ceding our sovereignty to the Americans. The Canadian government is currently in a once in a generation buying cycle of military equipment, most of which will come from American companies.

A related concern comes from the purchase of 1,300 hundred Navistar military trucks which will be built in Texas. The Canadian government stresses that as many Canadian parts as possible will be put into the Navistar trucks. Military contracts commonly stipulate that for every dollar given to a company, they must spend a dollar in Canada.

SMU STUDENTS SOLVING CONFLICTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

KIMBERLEY DARES
Features Editor

In less than a month 14 students and a staff advisor from Saint Mary's will be travelling to Belfast, Northern Ireland to teach students there about conflict resolution. This will be the fourth year students from SMU have spent their reading week in the formerly contested area as part of a Peaceful Schools International initiative.

To prepare for this trip the students, members of SMU's Conflict Resolution Society have been leading and assisting with workshops at Oxford Junior High where student ambassadors have received basic training in conflict resolution skills. The workshops provided by SMU students have helped the student ambassadors develop their skills which they will be teaching to fellow students at a Youth Summit in May.

The cost of this trip is quite high

and as of right now there is around \$6,000 left to be fundraised. This is where you come in. The Conflict Resolution Society will be hosting a variety of events in the coming weeks to help raise the rest of the money.

This Friday, January 16th, the Conflict Resolution Society and SMU's Model UN are joining together to present a midnight pre-screening of *The Wrestler* starring Mickey Rourke who recently won a Golden Globe for the film. The film has been nominated for a slew of awards, praised by critics and created quite a stir in the entertainment world. This is your chance to see it without waiting in a crazy line on opening night. And you save \$3 off the regular ticket price. Tickets are \$7 each and available at the SMUSA info desk or from members of the Society if you happen to know any. You'll need to purchase a ticket in advance as they are expected to sell

out so don't wait until the last minute.

Tuesday, January 20th there will be a social at the Old Triangle on Prince Street. This is a great chance to meet some of the students participating in this initiative, ask questions and enjoy some great live music. Watch for posters with more information around campus soon!

There will be a Soccer Skills fundraiser camp at The Tower the weekend of Jan 31st for children aged 4 to 14. The camp will be run by members of the Huskies' Men's and Women's Soccer teams, with proceeds being donated to the initiative. For more information or to register contact: 420-5429 or 420-5555.

This initiative is making a difference in the lives of children both here in Halifax and Ireland, as well as in the lives of the SMU students involved. For more information stop by any of the events and ask participating students.

Green Tip Of The Week

Instead of just throwing out your old printer cartridges, look into a recycling program or one that refills the ink cartridges for you! On campus you can turn in your empty ink cartridges to the information desk in the student centre and get

them refilled through Island Inkjet. Don't want it refilled? Check out www.staples.com for information on their recycling program, which includes anything from computers to ink cartridges

THE JOURNAL wants YOU

Interested in writing for The Journal? Join our meetings on Thursday at 4pm or Monday at 10am in The Journal office on the 5th floor of the student Union Building.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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THE DRAMA SOCIETY IS AT IT AGAIN!

~ ARSENIC & OLD LACE

DAWN DAVIS
A&E Editor

The illustrious- albeit fictional- spendthrift Carrie Bradshaw once rebuffed online purchasing, saying "shopping is my cardio." But is there merit to cyber-spending? Has it become the idle means to an endless overindulgence? Or does its convenience factor override any lethargic implications?

Halifax might never harbor a Fred Segal, and having breakfast at Tiffany's will always be a plane ride away, but plenty of inventories are now attainable by the mere click of a button. For example, Shopbop.com includes collections from the ever young and fresh, Alice + Olivia; up-and-comer Alexander Wang (recent winner of the coveted CFDA/Vogue Fashion Fund Award), and the slightly more affordable line, Velvet. But online shopping isn't just about designer buys; it's a hotspot for discounted goods. A real steal is the online Target catalogue, where inexpensive meets in vogue, and you can also find something for everyone.

Quirky little stores are buried in the heart of every city and as more set up shop on the Net, their unique gems become available to a wider demographic. But selling online isn't just for companies. As both eBay and kijiji have proven, the internet has become an individual marketplace to sell and swap merchandise; it's our own digital flea market.

I've yet to suggest the most pleasing portal purchase, however: Flowers! At [nada.com, you can view arrangements by occasion or price, and bright bouquets- like "Sunshine Thoughts"- are a surefire way to beat the winter blues. \(I personally dream of placing their "Perfect Pastel Roses" on my dining room table.\) So really, what's better than shipping irises to your grandmother during her 80th birthday party when you couldn't make it there yourself?](http://flowersforca-</p>
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Buying original trinkets, hard-to-get-here items, and avoiding

December 24th mall mayhem makes online shopping not only enjoyable, but essential. Purchasing plain white socks, however, is sheer laziness. So as long as you're safe with credit card information, log on and explore the wonderful world of online spending. You might stumble across some fabulous finds.

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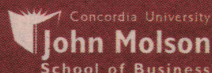
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Alex Giannou, 2005 graduate
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2009 PREVIEW PART 2: GAMING

NICK MADORE
Contributor

Please note that all release dates are subject to change. Many of them were already rather vague anyway.

The House of the Dead: Overkill (Wii) (February 10)

We received our House of the Dead Wii appetizer in the form of last year's compilation, House of the Dead 2 & 3 Return. One year later, we're treated to a brand new House of the Dead title. Overkill promises to be an over-the-top, stylized traditional arcade shooter. Much faster-paced than its arcade predecessors, the game's style and gameplay cater toward a more modern gamer, with features such as exploding headshots and bonuses for shooting styles (Sega promises a special unlockable for killing 50 zombies "gangsta style"). Honestly, the game seems like a parody of its predecessors, but there's nothing wrong with that. Keep giving me zombies to shoot and I'm quite happy.

Bionic Commando (360, PS3, PC) (Q2 2009)

A modern-day reimagining of the 1987 arcade title Bionic Commando, Bionic Commando stars Nathan "RAD" Spencer and his giant robotic arm, with which he can swing around various environments and make far-away things less far-away. Whereas the original Bionic Commando was a silly, over-the-top adventure with witty dialogue culminating in you blowing up Hitler's head, this game seems to take a more hard science fiction direction. The game will have plenty of wide-open environments to swing around in, Tarzan- or Spider-



Ghostbusters (360, PS3, PC, Wii) (June 19)

The Ghostbusters are back! Worry not: this isn't a typical licensed cash-grab game. Written entirely by Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis (who wrote both movies), Aykroyd has gone on record saying that this release is essentially Ghostbusters III. Quite possibly the game I'm most looking forward to this year, Ghostbusters has been in development for a while now, and was originally supposed to come out in '08. After being dropped by Activision Blizzard shortly after the merger, Atari has since picked it up and is set to release it alongside the Blu-ray release of Ghostbusters, on its 25th anniversary. Complete with proton packs, the giant Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man, and of course the Ecto-1, this game looks ridiculously fun. Being a fan of the originals, (well, the first movie, anyway), I'm really hoping this turns out alright.

StarCraft II: Wings of Liberty (PC) ("2009")

In a questionable decision announced at Blizz-Con this fall, Activision

Blizzard is releasing the intensely anticipated sequel to the classic ridiculously-popular real-time strategy game StarCraft in three parts: one for each faction. Hopefully this means that each game will be a bit cheaper, but don't bet on it. Korea (where the original StarCraft is played professionally, and sponsored competitions are regularly shown on television) will implode with joy this year as the first game, the Terran campaign, is released. The Zerg campaign, Heart of the Swarm, is set to release in 2010, with the Protoss campaign rounding out the trilogy in 2011 with Legacy of the Void. If Blizzard's promise of each release being a full-length game, complete with online multiplayer, holds up, StarCraft II could be a rather large investment, both in money and spare time.

Man-style, and carry out your duties as a government commando.

Infamous (PS3) (Q2 2009)

A third-person sandbox action adventure, Infamous puts you in control of Cole, a man who wakes up after a terrible accident to discover he has electricity-based superpowers. You're tasked with the burden of taken down three major forces, which have each taken over an area of Empire City. Cliché plot, but the previews and videos make the gameplay seem solid. As with many sandbox games nowadays, you have the choice of using your powers for good or evil. Exploration is a big part of the game, with developers going so far as calling Cole an "urban explorer". Given that bit of info, expect numerous collectibles scattered throughout the city.

MadWorld (Wii) (March)

Blood! Guts! Chainsaws cutting people in half! Gratuitous violence! On the Wii? Believe it, as Sega brings their gore-fest MadWorld to the Wii this March. Completely in black and white (with copious amounts of red blood throughout), the game takes place in the waterbound Varrigan City, recently taken over by terrorists. The sadists instate a new television show, "Death Watch", wherein combatants fight for their very survival. Complete with hokey sports announcer narratives and comic book-style pop-up onomatopoeia, will also feature over-the-top bad guys and interactive environments (slamming an enemy's face into a garbage can, for example). The violence is so ridiculous that it's hard to be offended by it, but expect people to make a fuss anyway.

IS CLINT EASTWOOD'S PERFORMANCE IN 'GRAN TORINO' WORTH AN AWARD?

JEAN BRUNET
sizzlingpopcorn.com
IRating: Butter Popcorn

In his first motion picture since 2004's Academy Award-winning Million Dollar Baby, Clint Eastwood stars in Gran Torino as Walt Kowalski, a disgruntled racist Korean War veteran who is out to change a young Hmong teen's life after he attempts to steal Kowalski's most prized possession, a 1972 Gran Torino. As Kowalski unwittingly draws closer to the teen, he finds himself having to defend the boy and his family from the gangs that are trying to terrorize their neighbourhood.

Gran Torino is a story of redemption that focuses on the aging veteran's life and his relationship with the Hmong teen as both of their characters change dramatically while they face the challenges that surround them. Since the death of Kowalski's wife, the parish priest is constantly after him to redeem himself by confessing his sins and doing his penance, however Kowalski always pushes him aside. Will he ever come to peace? Clint Eastwood takes on the roles of director and actor in screenwriter Nick Schenk's first film. Gran Torino is not propelled by big explosions nor any special effects, but by its plot alone. Clint Eastwood gives a terrific performance that has the audience laughing because of his racial slurs, his grumbling and his iconic stare

that reminds us of some of his earlier western movies.

Newcomers Bee Vang and Ahney Her, who play the roles of the Hmong neighbours, as well as Thao Vang Lor and Sue Lor (Thao's sister), perform decently, but are not spectacular. One of my favorite parts of this film is when Walt Kowalski is teaching Thao how to ask for a hair cut at the barber shop. Thao innocently tries to mimic Kowalski's entrance by acting rude and throwing out racial slurs to the Italian barber. Ahney seems a little weak as Sue, and could have added a little more emotion to her character.

Warner Bros.' Gran Torino is the first Hollywood film to incorporate the Hmong community, an Asian culture practically unknown to the world. It was the Hmong who helped out the Americans during the Vietnam War. Through the film, we learn the history of the Hmong culture: who they are and what they did.

Although Gran Torino is not a must-see-in-theatres movie, it is definitely worth the watch. There has been some award buzz going around for Eastwood's performance, but it's pretty much all snuffed out. He was nominated for a Critics' Choice Award, yet it was snatched by Milk's Sean Penn. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association didn't even nominate him for a Golden Globe! His last chance for a prestigious award will come on February 22nd, but only if he can secure an Oscar nomination,

and his chances are slim with the wide pool of talented actors.

After being released in a limited number of theatres a few weeks ago, Warner Bros.' Gran Torino is now playing in theatres everywhere.

100 WORDS

The morning always comes way too early, though the excitement she feels is enough to fill a Tim Horton's double double. Christmas was great, but she wants to see friends. Pants! She needs her pants! Didn't she wash...? She looks great in her new skirt. Sure, she's freezing, but that's okay. Her favorite thing in the whole world is the crowded Saint Mary's Campus. Classes are going to be fantastic. Looking at the homework and reading list she realizes there are still three months, or twelve weeks, or about 162.5 hours of this semester left. She sure misses Christmas break!

Think you can write a story in 100 words? No more, no less. Submit your story to arts.smu@gmail.com this week and enter to win free preview movie passes, thanks to www.sizzlingpopcorn.com

BITE SIZE ENTERTAINMENT



It's Game Over for EGM

The only unbiased gaming magazine on the market was tossed last week when Ziff Davis Media, owner of Iup Network (Iup.com, mycheats.com, gametab.com and gamevideos.com) sold out to UGO Entertainment – a division of Hearst Corporation. In this move, EGM was immediately cut, and its January 2009 issue will remain the last to ever be on store shelves.



Ryan McGrath in Your Company at The Seahorse

East Coast musician Ryan McGrath is performing at his own CD release party at the Seahorse on Friday, January 16th. Performing with Caledonia, pick up his EP "In My Own Company". After being compared to Jeff Buckley and Rufus Wainwright, the next time he plays you might be paying more than \$10.



Watchmen Not Clear for Release Just Yet

It appears Fox has won its rights to pursue a lawsuit against WB for its production of Watchmen. If you've missed it so far, Fox supposedly had sole rights to create and produce the movie of the classic graphic novel. The film, due out on March 6th, may end up being delayed because of it. In the meantime, the first set of action figures are due out this month!



How Does A Popular Show Get Cancelled? With Difficulty.

Last week marked the beginning of the end for Battlestar Galactica. They released the first half of the final season on DVD on January 6th and the final half is in production for the winter-spring. However, when does the ending really begin? Another movie is in the works for the popular sci-fi saga, along with an additional mini-series. So Galactica is coming to a close, kinda sorta not really.

THE CRANKY PROFESSOR AFTER ALL, IT'S ONLY NATURAL

MARK MERCER
Columnist

Recently, two fussy shop clerks in a Halifax department store urged a woman who was breastfeeding her baby to move to the store's designated breastfeeding area. A columnist in the Chronicle Herald wrote about the incident, and readers posted their thoughts. A few commentators were upset that a mother would breastfeed her child in public, and they commended the clerks for trying to hustle her out of sight. Most, though, wanted that mothers be free to breastfeed babies in public without interference.

An argument popular among those contributors who were in favour of mothers breastfeeding babies wherever they like is that breastfeeding is natural. Because breastfeeding is natural, this argument went, people should be accepting of public breastfeeding.

The same style of argument, let's call it the argument from nature, is found in all sorts of contexts. In any number of controversies, people offer the claim that it's only natural to X as a reason for Xing or for accepting that others X.

Now sociologists, anthropologists, and other empirical scientists might have reason to wonder whether something is natural or normal or the done thing around here and to investigate the matter. But natural and normal are concepts that can do no work when we are discussing what to do or not to do. It's not that claims about what's natural or normal are themselves controversial, or that being natural or normal is relative to background standards. Rather, that something is natural is simply no reason at all to do it or to accept others doing it—just as that something is unnatural is no reason not to do it or not to accept it. Whatever one's preference regarding public breastfeeding, that breastfeeding is natural, even if that claim is true, is no reason at all why

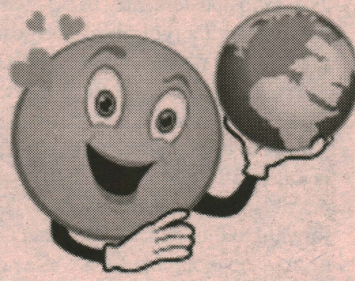
others should prefer as one does. It's not even any reason why one oneself should prefer as one does.

Facts are reasons for you to do something only when they touch your desires or values. Otherwise they cannot motivate you to take action or to change your attitudes. That breastfed babies are generally happier and healthier than bottle-fed babies (if that's true) can for a person be a reason to breastfeed a baby, but only if the baby's happiness or health matters to that person. That some people are disturbed by the sight of a baby breastfeeding in public can for a person be a reason not to breastfeed a baby in public, or a reason to oppose public breastfeeding, but only if that person cares not to disturb others, or not to disturb them in this way. The naturalness of breastfeeding, or of being disturbed by the sight of breastfeeding, is neither here nor there.

One might respond that arguments from nature have their point not in the context what to do, but rather in the context what to value. Our values should be those that are natural or normal for people to have. We should value in line with our human nature.

But, again, that a value is in line with our human nature would be a reason for one to adopt that value only if one cares to be in line with one's human nature. That is, facts about human nature have normative significance only for those for whom such facts already have motivational significance. By the way, I doubt that there are any such people. But here's a consideration that should incline us not to want to be such a person.

Imagine that empirical scientists convince us by evidence and argument that breastfeeding children, at least in public, is unnatural or abnormal. Would you now cease to work hard to remove whatever barriers still prevent women from breastfeeding their babies wherever they want to?



greening S.A.M. Saint Mary's And Me!

I overheard a student in Loyola the other day complaining. He said,
"Everywhere I turn, I constantly hear people talking about Sustainability.
I can't get away from the topic!"

What he said is true. Everywhere I turn there is an article, an ad, or something telling me what to do to live more sustainably: "Turn off the lights!" "Recycle your plastic bottle!" "Use a travel mug!"

So what makes this article any different? I'm going to give you info on what's happening at *right here at SMU*. So consider me your *Wikipedia* or *Dear Abby* for all things green at SMU. Tell me what you want on campus or what you don't want! Send me your complaints, your praise, your questions, and even your rants!

A lot of students have questions or complaints about what they see SMU doing. They also have suggestions as to what they'd like to see SMU do to be greener. However many students don't know who to direct their comments to or if anyone is even listening.

Well guess what, The University is listening! That's right, SMU wants to know what YOU have to say. I am here to help you let them know what's on your mind. I'll also tell you if the University is already trying to get something done, what challenges staff are facing, or whether you have a new idea that SMU can look into.

To sum it up, send me your thoughts! I'll find out what's going on and fill you in.

Your pal,
Sam

To contact S.A.M. (Saint Mary's and Me.), email greening.SAM@smu.ca

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Dear Ginger:

My girlfriend and I have awesome sex. Like, really awesome sex. In the hopes of making it all the more awesome I want to learn how to do something for her that she's never had any other guy do before. I've heard a lot about female ejaculation but I wouldn't know how to get there. Or more accurately, get her there. Can you help?

This is a question that often gets asked. Many seek to make a woman ejaculate and few achieve this lofty goal. This is often because it takes more than just simple actions to make it happen. For a female to ejaculate (fe-jack), the woman involved has to be able to let go and let it happen. Many women do not orgasm at all because they cannot relax to the

EXPLODING WITH QUESTIONS

extent they need to. Fe-jack is only different in that it is far more intense and therefore requires all the more preparation.

Fe-jack itself occurs when a woman releases up to a litre of liquid as she is having an orgasm. This liquid is not urine and it does not have a strong odour. It is warm and clear in colour but it could definitely prove to be messy as it may squirt some distance as it is being released. The orgasm accompanying fe-jack is more intense and can feel different than normal. Its rarity and intensity are the reasons why many people attempt to achieve it.

Female ejaculation is often connected with stimulation of the G-spot. This is the most common way of making a woman squirt but it isn't the only way. Stimulation of the clitoris also helps. Intercourse is not likely going to work in this case so that means that you will have to get your hands dirty and maybe a few other things as well. Simultaneous stimulation of the G-spot and clitoris via the use of your hands and maybe even your mouth and tongue will likely be your best plan of action. Use your fingers to stimulate the G-spot by inserting them inside her and bending them in a hook like manner up towards the front of her body. You'll

know when you hit the G-spot from her reaction to this highly sensitive area. At the same time you can use your thumb or your tongue to stimulate her clit. This will pretty much guarantee an orgasm if you do it right. Take it slower than you usually would though. Allow the pleasure to slowly build. Allow her to feel every single little ripple of wonderful sensation. Make her go crazy before you let her release and have an orgasm. This building tension will intensify her orgasm to the point where she may ejaculate.

The problem with fe-jack is that if she isn't comfortable enough to let it happen then it won't happen. She really has to let go and not care about the mess she's going to make or if it's going to end up all over your face. Some women are more prone to ejaculate and this is likely due to their ability to relax and let it happen (and enjoy). Not all bodies are exactly the same so it's important that you both play around (how terrible, I know) and find out what's working and what isn't. In this time you need to help her relax and the more you practice the closer you'll get till eventually you'll achieve the big bang you've been searching for.

FOOD FOR FINES!

January 15 - 25

Reduce or clear your library fines — with food!
Drop off your donations of canned goods or other non-perishable foods at the library's Circulation Desk.

For every non-perishable food item you donate, the library will reduce your fines by \$2, to a maximum of \$20.

All donations will be given to the campus food bank.

Good for the Library
Good for the Food Bank
Good for You!

(an initiative of the Patrick Power Library and the other libraries of Nova Scotia)



SMU WOMEN DROP EXHIBITION GAME TO DAL

JASON MACDONALD
Sports Editor

The Huskies got the 2nd semester started with an exhibition match against the Dalhousie Tigers. The Tigers opened up the scoring early with two quick goals by Doucet and LeBlanc. Huskies goaltender Jillian MacIsaac looked more comfortable in net after allowing the first two goals, steering away numerous chances by the Tigers. The Tigers continued to drive hard, breaking down the SMU defence, winning races to the puck and pinning the Huskies in their own end. After Huskies forward Meagan Bradbury took a hooking penalty, Lauren McCusker had an excellent short handed chance, walking in alone on the Dalhousie net. With 6:27 left in the first period, Meagan Bradbury scored the Huskies' first goal with the assist coming from Boulanger. The goal helped shift the momentum in the Huskies' favour, allowing them to keep the Tigers on their toes and forcing a hard backcheck.

Dalhousie started the 2nd period quickly with a great breakaway attempt shut down by MacIsaac who

is easily the Huskies player of the game. She successfully stopped breakaways cold and shut down rebounds 3 at a time. At the other end, SMU players put shots on net and had good chances to tie it up. The tying goal came on a delayed penalty to Dalhousie, as the Huskies pulled their net minder to them an extra skater. Amanda Boulegon hammered home the Huskies 2nd goal of the game McCusker and Dawson got the assists on the play. Dalhousie came back with a powerplay goal on a holding penalty by Jocelyn Campbell with 6:12 left to play. Saint Mary's answered with a goal at 3:07, Maynard capitalized on rebound chances, Boulegon and Dawson came up with the helpers.

The 3rd period saw lots of back and forth play with excellent opportunities at either end for the Huskies and Tigers. While the Huskies had a couple of good chances in front of the Dalhousie net, they were unable to get good wood on the puck and couldn't capitalize on the chance. The Saint



Image Credit: Jason MacDonald, Lindsey MacInnis Chases a Flying Puck

Mary's defenders got caught behind the play while the faster Dalhousie forwards skated in alone on a breakaway, Tiger forward Jocelyn LeBlanc got her 2nd of the game, squeaking the puck past MacIsaac. Carcary scored the go ahead goal with 8:45 to play and despite a good late game effort by the Huskies, the Tigers held on to their lead to win the game 5-3.

HUSKIES FINISH WEEKEND ON TOP

JASON MACDONALD
Sports Editor

After beating the Saint Thomas Tommies Friday night, Fergus added another point to his 5 in the Huskies 4-2 win over the University of Moncton Aigles Bleus.

The Huskies opened the scoring early in the game, Pridham slipping one past Lachance on a pass from Rancourt just 13 seconds in. The Huskies Continued to push to the net, causing some anger in the Aigles Bleus and lots of roughing after the whistle. The Aigles Bleus had a 2-man advantage but were unable to cash in, the Huskies killed off the penalty well, blocking shots and clearing the opposition out of the zone. The line of Rancourt, Fergus and Thornton saw lots of ice time in the first period with most scoring chan-

ces coming from them, out shooting the University of Moncton 13-6. The Huskies had excellent puck movement and communication, pinning the Aigles Bleus in their own zone.

After being generally out played in the first period the Aigles Bleus came back mid-way through the 2nd scoring 2 goals just 41 seconds apart, Bureau capitalized on an empty net after Verge was out of position following the puck, Gautreau walked in on a breakaway beating Verge to tie the game at 2. The Aigles Bleus almost took the lead in the game however the goal was called back because Verge and a UdeM player were pushed into the net. Fergus scored the game winner with just 8:24 to play in the second on a feed from peters. Doucet got the go-ahead goal with 1:11 left, Morrison and Pridham were given the assists after some confusion. SMU were

looking and playing like themselves again after a couple of shaky minutes.

The 3rd period saw numerous chances for SMU, with shots hitting legs and being deflected out of play. The SMU defenders managed to shut down numerous break out attempts by the Aigles Bleus, keeping them to only 8 shots in the period, Verge made some excellent saves stacking the pads against Lockyer, an maintaining the Huskies 2 goal lead. Moncton opted for the extra skater with less than 2 minutes to play, even with the extra skater and a man advantage off a hook by Andrew Hotham the Aigles Bleus were denied another goal.

The Huskies have won 8 of their last 10 games, facing Dalhousie in the Battle of Halifax on the 17th of January at the Forum.



Image Credit: Jason MacDonald

Huskies Net Minder Brandon Verge Gets his pads up as Brophy clears the attacking player out from the front of the net

GLAVIC HEADS WEST

JASON MACDONALD
Sports Editor

Erik Glavic ends his career with the Football Huskies after three and a half years. The 22 year old Hec Creighton winner decided late last week to leave coach Sumarah for Blake Nill and the Calgary Dinos. Glavic has 3 years of eligibility left and will play out his remaining time in the Canada West conference. After tearing his ACL during the 2007 Uteck Bowl win over the Laval Rouge et Or Glavic was unable to play the 2008 season, taking only one snap all season. The Huskies will be sad to see the CIS top player of 2007 move away from Halifax but certainly he will make waves no matter where he is playing. Congratulations Erik and best of luck!

For more information on the transfer see Monty Mosher's article at

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/Sports/1100089.html>

Asshole of the Week!

SMU Students

There are lots of ways that students can be called assholes but this week's beef is that students aren't supporting their teams. Don't be an idiot show some pride you

Asses.

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

Write for the Journal

INTERESTED IN WRITING FOR THE JOURNAL? JOIN OUR MEETINGS ON THURSDAY AT 4PM OR MONDAY AT 10AM IN THE JOURNAL OFFICE ON THE 5TH FLOOR OF THE STUDENT UNION BUILDING.

Huskies at home

Men's Basketball
at the Tower

Jan 16
SMU vs CBU
8 p.m

Jan 17
SMU vs UPEI
8 p.m

Women's Basketball
at the Tower

Jan 16
SMU vs CBU
6 p.m

Jan 17
SMU vs UPEI
6 p.m

Men's Hockey
at the Forum

Jan 17
SMU vs DAL
7 p.m.

Volleyball
at the Tower

Jan 14
SMU vs DAL
6 p.m.

Jan 18
SMU vs Acadia
3 p.m.

You can find scores and more at smuhuskies.ca

SCIENCE & BUSINESS

THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE "YOU-KNOW" BUSINESS

NICK SIMARD
Science & Business

There were nine of them staring me in the face as I approached the top of the stairs in Loyola; a 3 x 3 rectangle of posters with Eskimos and Artic [sic] "You-Knows" written in large letters, accompanied by a scantily-clad (and likely very cold) young woman. Oh, Gorsebrook Pub, I thought this was cleared up in the past when the "CEO's and Office Ho's" party was torn apart in The Journal and an apology was delivered. Arguably, this is even worse! As an establishment wanting to welcome students (thereby making money) this is just plain bad for business.

Eskimos (the word): Wikipedia tells me that "in Canada and Greenland the term Eskimo is widely held to be pejorative and has fallen out of favor, largely supplanted by the term Inuit". You can argue that one is over-sensitive to claim this, or that there are few SMU Inuit students, so who's being affected. The bottom line is, however, that "while the word is not inherently pejorative, since the 1970s in Canada and Greenland Eskimo has widely been considered offensive, owing to folklore and derogatory usage" (Wikipedia). You can come back with the fact that the Edmonton Eskimos exist, but they were founded in 1949 when the word was more commonly used. Even if referring to Alaskan or Eastern Siberian (Russian) Eskimos, for which the word is still used, we're IN Canada.

Eskimos (as costume): How are you going to get people to dress up like an ethnic group? And an indigenous peoples, no less. No better way to start a party than to don a costume depicting a racial minority. So the guys can dress up all warm but the "you-

knows" have to dress like, you know, and freeze? That's fair.

"You-Knows": Yeah, I know. I know you mean "ho", and not using the word doesn't make it any less offensive to women. Of all the ideas for a themed party, is it not possible to leave ho's out of it? I remember a few years back it was pimps and ho's, then CEO's and ho's. Now, it's Eskimos and ho's. Why must there be ho's and why should women be expected to play along with this? It's not just harmless fun. Especially in this frigid weather. Even if the theme was a good idea, it's been done numerous times. Why not move on to something else?

SMU Policy: In SMU's Policy on the Prevention and Resolution of Harassment and Discrimination, "the words discrimination and harassment refer to any action or behaviour, which is known or reasonably ought to be known to be offensive or inappropriate, that denies equality and fair treatment". Also, according to the Conflict Resolution at Saint Mary's University brochure "harassment is determined in law by the impact of the behaviour on the person being harassed, rather than the intent of the harasser".

Missing Mascot: A co-Journaler of mine pointed out that given the emphasis on Eskimos and the Artic (I'll get to this), there isn't even a freakin' husky involved in this. If it was necessary to create this at all, why not include our university's mascot? Actually, I'm glad the Husky was left out; the poor dog got to keep some dignity by doing so. Unlike the poor

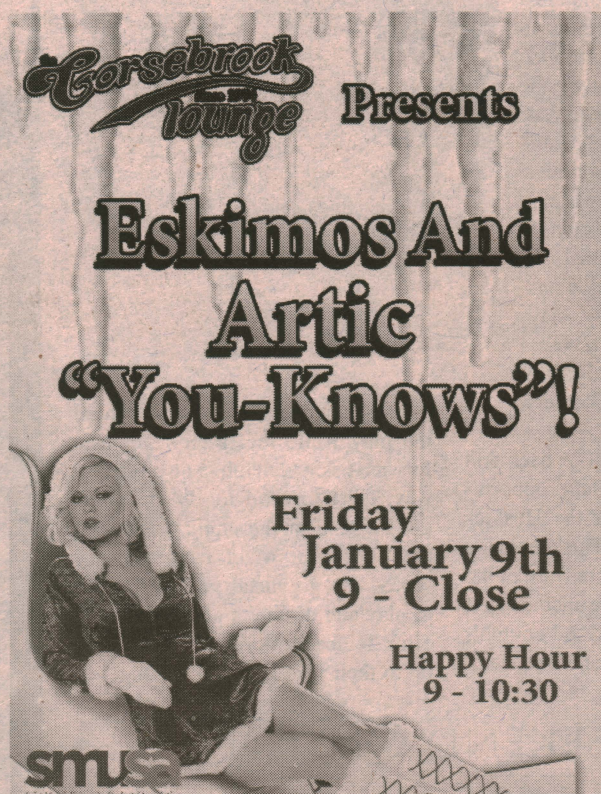
woman who posed for that photo (unless it's a random Internet image, in which case let's add copyright infringement to the list).

mistake either. Did anyone proofread this? We all make spelling mistakes (I'm sure you'll catch some I've made) but there are only eleven actual words on the poster. The others are logos or numbers. That's almost 10% of the words misspelled. Yikes. Imagine writing a 2000-word paper and spelling 180 of them wrong?

I know I kind of addressed this lightly, but it's a serious matter. Stamped by SMUSA, with their logo on the bottom, this is a representation of our university. To quote some text from the SMUSA Executives themselves: "SMUSA is your voice; it represents you to the university, the provincial and federal governments, and community as a united front", and "by paying student fees, all students at Saint Mary's University are the members of the association and my duty is to ensure the resources of the association are being allocated efficiently." Is this the best representation of SMU? While visiting Halifax that day, what if Michael Ignatieff (new Federal Liberal leader) had decided to tour SMU, with TV coverage no less? And he and/or the cameras caught that? His father Russian-born or not, I think the reception may have been a cold one.

Copyright Infringement: Out of curiosity I searched "sexy eskimo" (creative huh?) in Google images and the second one I found looked awfully familiar. From www.buycostumes.com, the image was altered by adding some icicles in the background. The original should have been kept (if an unattributed source was going to be used, anyway) as it's a nicer image. Google it and see for yourself.

Artic: In addition to nobody seeing this idea (or poster) as a bad one, apparently nobody caught the spelling



TRUMPED BUSINESS COMPETITION - WIN UP TO \$7000

ACE SMU

Saint Mary's University, EQ Media, and A.C.E (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) present the third annual Trumped Competition. The competition is comprised of three tasks over a three-month period. This is a fun, hands-on experience open to students from SMU, Dal and MSVU which allows you to apply and present the skills you've learned in university to Top-Ranked Global Businesses who are looking to recruit students for future positions.

The registration deadline is fast-approaching, so make sure you and your teammates are registered at www.eqmedia.com/trumped by January 28, 2009 at 5pm. This year's competition is bigger and better than ever with more sponsors, competition, and cash bursaries available. The competition will see teams of 4 students compete in three real

world business tasks (similar to the apprentice) until one team is left standing. Each task is designed to provide students with vital experience for the marketplace that a classroom simply doesn't provide you.

If you're looking to boost your resume, have some fun and compete for cash and prizes then DO NOT hesitate to register for Trumped @ www.eqmedia.ca/trumped by January 28, 2009 at 5pm! You may register an entire team or register individually; however, don't hesitate or you will regret it.

The three main focuses of the Trumped Competition are to:

- 1) provide students with experience that all future employers seek
- 2) bridge the gap between the business community

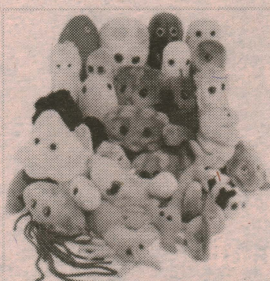
and top notch prospect students

3) support your local community while doing so

Last year's competition saw over 65 undergraduate and graduate students from DAL and SMU compete. In the end a team of accountants from SMU took home the cake (\$5000+). This year's competition has been extended to all three major universities in the HRM. Therefore, be prepared to have your creativity, team work skills, and business skills put to the test. Draft up your dynasty team of prospect entrepreneurs and let's see if you have what it takes to be trumped!

For more information or to register please visit the website at www.eqmedia.ca/trumped. Also, see the ad on the next page!

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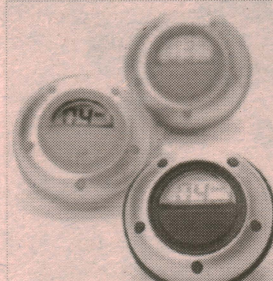
HiJack Headphone Splitter Keychain

Splits one headphone jack for two listeners, and doubles as a keychain. Ideal for travelers, chronic "check this out" video watchers and YOU!
\$9.99



Duct Tape Passport Holder

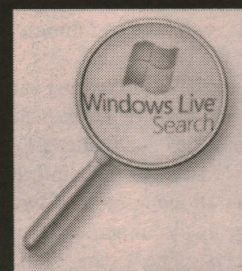
Having recently washed my passport, I think this is pretty cool. Oh, duct tape, is there anything you can't do?
\$9.99



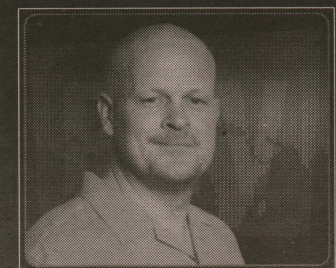
DaysAgo Refrigerator Timer

Open something, put it in the fridge and stick one of these timers on there to keep track of how many days old it is.
\$7.99

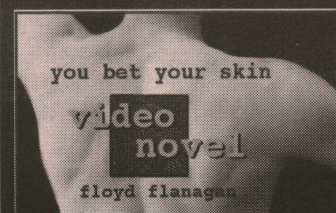
TECH AT A GLANCE



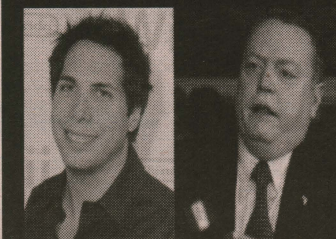
In one swift move, it appears Microsoft's partnering (5 years) with Verizon Wireless will have Live Search tools replacing Google in Verizon cell phones, and therefore out of RIM's Blackberry Storm. Stay the heck away from Canada's cell phones, Microsoft.



In "I can't believe this is true" news, Joe "the plumber" from the recent US election bonanza is (wait for it) being sent to Israel to cover the conflict in Gaza, by Pajamas TV (www.pjtv.com). PJ Joe! Real American Zero!



In what may be the first full-length novel to be published on Google Video (could this catch on?) author Floyd Flanagan has done something that begs the question "why didn't someone do this sooner?" Check out www.youbetyourskin.com to watch or just listen to this dark, satirical novel.



Hustler's Larry Flynt and Girls Gone Wild's Joe Francis are asking Washington for a \$5 billion federal bailout, claiming that the porn business is suffering from the economic crisis. Just when you thought the porn industry couldn't get any more offensive. Way to reach an all-time low, guys.



The SD Association revealed a new SD card specification that can support up to 2TB of data. Wow! Better not lose THAT card.

Photo Credits:
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Joe "the plumber": www.pjtv.com
YouBetYourSkin: www.youbetyourskin.com
Porn Bailout: www.aje.com & www.evilbeetgossip.film.com
SD Card: www.tracyandmatt.co.uk

THE AMERICAN EAGLE-IZATION AND BLUENOTES-IFICATION OF LOVE

NICK SIMARD
Science & Business

If you're familiar with these two clothing chains you'll no doubt know what I'm talking about. The photos they use in their ads and around the stores. You know the ones I'm talking about, right? Young, cool, attractive people all happy and in love and having a great life. Well, how do YOU achieve such bliss? It's easy, wear American Eagle and/or (preferably AND, so you can double your chances) Bluenotes clothing and VOILA! You'll be as happy as all the models in those photos. Who knew love would only cost you about \$100 for a couple of outfits. But wait...what about when you're NOT wearing their clothes? Uh oh. Looks like you'll have to spend a little more money than that, to ensure that EVERYTHING you own is from there. That way, your relationships will always be safe.

To be fair, it's not just these two companies that do it. It's probably the majority of them. Their names just worked so well with the title I wanted to use though. The Gap, American Apparel or Old Navy just weren't as catchy. But they're probably guilty as well. To be honest, I try not to shop at any of these places so I'm not even sure what they use for ads. I checked AE and BLNTS (that's actually their web address) to see, and sure enough it's young (seemingly he-

terosexual) people having a great time with their significant (or not so) others. What else could the ads be, you ask? Well, they could be just about anything else. The good old days of the Sears catalogue just showed models wearing the clothing, so you'd get an idea of what it looked like. None of these fictitious scenarios that will supposedly happen when you slip on a pair of Bluenotes jeans.

Am I reading into it a little? Maybe. But I honestly think they're trying to play on our unconscious (or very conscious) desire to find love. And I know that having models of opposite sexes in the same photo, smiling, doesn't mean love. But it could, couldn't it? If we don't have someone to love, then wouldn't those images make us yearn for it a little more? If AE and BLNTS can show you that, maybe their clothes can BRING you that. Or, maybe nobody will care one bit about where your clothes come from. Just as you don't care about theirs. We all like to believe that everyone else picks us apart, and if we don't buy all the right brands we're not worthy. But I'm not so sure that's the case. Hence the reason I tend to buy used clothing, and whatever I like the look and feel of, regardless of brand. Sometimes I even find AE or BLNTS. Will that make the love I find a little used? Maybe.



10 WAYS TO LIMIT YOUR SUCCESS AT A CAREER EXPO

NICK SIMARD
Science & Business

1. Wear something casual and informal

Nothing says "I don't really care" like dressing the same as you would if you were lazing around the house.

2. Walk around texting or talking on your cell phone

Despite your intentions, potential employers can easily misconstrue your actions as disinterest.

3. Speak to the company representatives as you would a friend

Lingo and slang sure don't impress potential employers who are seeking the best of the best.


4. Better yet, don't even talk to anyone

Pretty much the best way to let someone else impress the companies; just keep to yourself.

5. Do no research on the companies attending

If you want someone to lose interest in you, try knowing NOTHING about the company whatsoever

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COMMERCE SOCIETY
Celebrating 100 Years of Student Success in Commerce
10th annual Career Expo
January 15th, 2008
Loyola 290 Conference Hall
10:00 am - 4:00pm
Open To All SMU Students



Companies that will be attending

- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- University First Class Painters
- Certified General Accountants of Nova Scotia
- Certified Management Accounts of Nova Scotia, PEI, Bermuda & Caribbean
- Nova Scotia Association of Realtors
- Wells Fargo Financial
- Convergys
- Canadian Forces Recruiting
- TD Insurance (Meloche Monnex)
- Sunlife Financial
- SMU Business Development Centre
- Sobeys Inc.
- Symcor
- TD Canada Trust
- SMU - Career Services
- Nova Scotia Power
- SMU Employment Centre/ Co-op Department

6. Go with a big group of friends

Are we ever more UNprofessional than when with a group of our friends? Try it out and see.

7. Don't bring business/contact cards

Give an employer a ripped piece of paper with handwritten info and see where it ends up.

8. Have no plan at all about how to sell yourself

Stuttering, stumbling and incomplete sentences are great conversation killers; your competition will love you.

9. Assume you're not as good as the others attending

A lack of confidence makes it easy for companies to disregard you, in favour of someone who believes in themselves.

10. Just don't go at all

No better way to gain nothing than to avoid the event altogether. Whatever. You're not good enough anyway.

A CONCISE COMPANION STORY TO MY QUEST TO FIND A BOOK APPARENTLY UNAVAILABLE FROM THE BOOKSTORE

NICK SIMARD
Science & Business

On the desk next to me is a handout from SMU-SA, about www.bebooksmart.ca. It discusses the problem of expensive textbooks and predatory practices by publishers, urging students to get involved with a campaign-wide initiative to raise awareness among instructors and students. Be sure to check out the website or www.smusa.ca to get more information about this campaign. It's very apt that this is taking place now, because I experienced something in relation to books, their prices and availability.

Here comes the concise story about my quest to find a book on Thursday January 8. For concision's sake, I'll make it point form:

SMU Bookstore: Didn't have the book and wouldn't get it until around the end of January because (I was told by customer service) it is a print-on-demand import from the UK, and on backorder for 4-6 weeks from the middle of December. How does a print-on-demand book end up on backorder? The cost is \$43.50 for new.

SMU Book Exchange: I searched but found nothing. Novanet: One copy but it was borrowed and due back at the end of May. I could request a photocopy but the student would have up to 10 days to bring it in. That wouldn't help me get Chapter 1 read by Tuesday.

Amazon (US): I could get the book in 1-3 days, at a cost of \$32.95 + shipping. I assume the cost is in \$US. After shipping the cost became \$62.48. There would be the exchange rate and potentially a fee for international shipping.

Amazon (Canada): The book says "Usually ships in 2 to 3 weeks" but the shipping method "avera-

ges 2-3 business days". Which is it? A total price of \$51.42 after the quick shipping, but I can't afford to wait 2-3 weeks if that's what happens. How does the US site have faster shipping to me than the Canadian one? Maybe I missed something.

Ebook version: It's not ideal but I was curious to see what it might cost to get a digital version of the book. Some sites sold the hardcover copy for about \$100, compared to a cheaper paperback. The digital book ranged from (get this) \$90-\$100 on the sites I found. What?! The world makes no sense.

Chapters (local stores): The website said there were no copies in any of the stores, so I called to see how long it might take to get one. I was told it would be about a week and a half. Sigh. Really? I can get one quicker by ordering one myself?

Chapters (online): \$35.99 for the book and \$7.48 for 2-4 business day shipping. Seems backwards to get a book faster than the Chapters STORE can get it.

Bookmark: Checked this local store and it would take them about a week and a half as well. He confirmed that this is a print-on-demand book.

John W. Doull's and Schooner Books Ltd: Checked websites and did a search, with 0 results. Then, magically, I got an email on my Blackberry (forwarded from SMU email) from the professor, with a solution. What a relief! So, the moral of the story is this (in addition to other, more obvious ones): forward your SMU email somewhere else. Or, even better...get a Blackberry.

Next week: Blackberries Aren't Just for Business People.

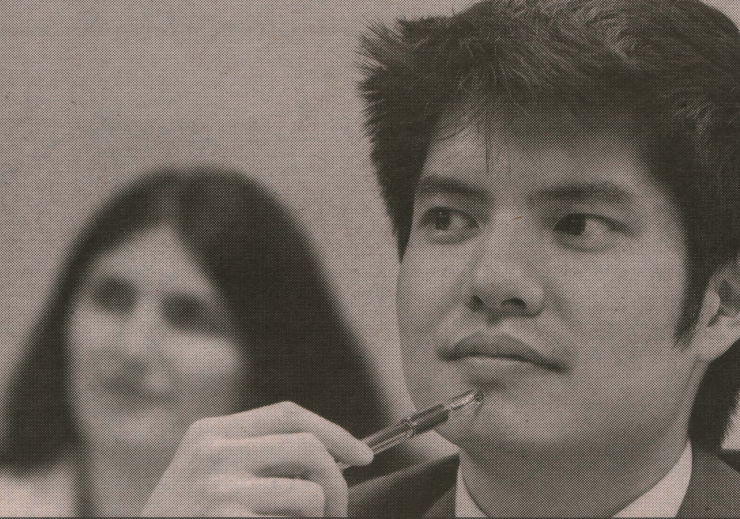
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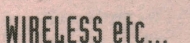
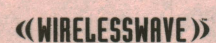
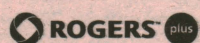
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