

Vanier Cup Ends In Surprise pg 9

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

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# THE JOURNAL

**TOP**  
**STORIES**  
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**HOLIDAY TIPS**

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Saint Mary's University Students' Association

WWW.SMUSA.CA

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
<b>CAMPUS CALENDAR</b>	<b>LEGEND</b> Presented by SMUSA Sporting Event / SMU Athletics Academic Event or Presented by SMU Alcohol Available No Entry Fee for SMU Students No Minors (19 years+ only) Gorsebrook Special To get your event added to the Campus Calendar, send an email to <a href="mailto:marketing.manager@smusa.ca">marketing.manager@smusa.ca</a>		<b>December 2</b> <b>LAST DAY OF CLASSES</b> <hr/> <b>OPEN MIC NIGHT</b> The Gorsebrook Lounge 9:30 pm SA [Alcohol] [No Fee] [No Minors]	<b>\$5.50 DOUBLES</b> The Gorsebrook Lounge [Gorsebrook Special]	<b>EXAM PERIOD BEGINS</b> <hr/> <b>BEST OF OPEN MIC</b> The Gorsebrook Lounge 9:30 pm SA [Alcohol] [No Fee] [No Minors]	<b>EXAMS</b>
	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>EXAMS</b>
	7	8	9	10	11	12/13
	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>NO EXAMS</b> Patronal Feast of the University  GORSEBROOK CLOSED at 5pm for a private function	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>EXAMS</b>	<b>EXAMS</b>  GORSEBROOK CLOSED at 5pm for a private function	<b>EXAMS</b>

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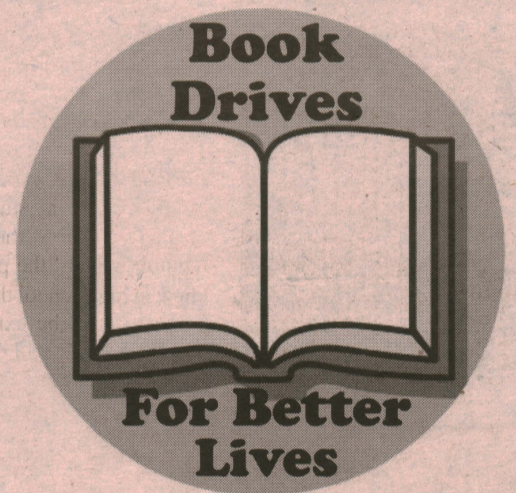
### SMUSA Holiday Hours

**SMUSA Main Office** (5th Floor, Student Centre)  
 496-8700  
 Closed December 8 - Patronal Feast of the University  
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 Tuesday: 12 noon - 10pm  
 Wednesday - Friday: noon - 1am  
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 Monday - Friday: 12 noon - 11pm  
 Closed December 19-January 4, re-opening Jan 5

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 Sunday - Friday: 6:30pm - 12 midnight  
 Closed December 19-January 4, re-opening Jan 5



### Saint Mary's Residence Department Through Better World Books December 1- January 15

\$1 FOR EVERY BOOK DONATED AND ACCEPTED BY B.W.B WILL BE DONATED BY THE RES. DEPARTMENT TO THE FOOD BANK ON CAMPUS. SMUSA WILL HAVE A BIN ON THE 5TH FLOOR OR VISIT THE RESIDENCE LIFE OFFICE.

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# Live band in the Gorsebrook on January 7th, 2010

hosted by the winners of  
**The Pub Trivia Society Challenge**

**Winners TBA on SMUSA.ca next week**

Happy Holidays  
 Good Luck On Exams!

From: Saint Mary's University Students' Association

Classes Resume January 5th

# PERSPECTIVES

JEFF CUSACK  
Editor-In-Chief



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### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## Christmas... And Stuff...

JEFF CUSACK  
Editor-in-Chief

The Christmas break, also known as the winter break, is a bit of an odd time for university students. Everyone's schedules break apart from each other as student schedules become dominated by the inhuman monster that is exam scheduling. Previously congenial students will turn into rabid dogs celebrating the end of their last exam on December seventh while other students on the same floor will try desperately to continue studying because theirs haven't even started yet. To those of you who finish your exams and are tempted to party heartily, I plead, nay beg of you: take it outside the residence. Imagine having an exam the next morning, and desperately staring at your textbook unable to study because "Poker Face" is blaring in the hallway and a drunk friend won't leave your room? Not fun.

There are plenty of other places to get drunk in Halifax, residences and apartments with studying students probably aren't the best first choice.

Another weird thing about the Christmas break is the return of high school. For many students, the break means a return to their home, and a reunion with all the people who they knew in high school that also returned home. It can be extremely easy to fall back into old high school habits, and a little weird to find out that after you've spent so much time building an independent lifestyle for yourself at university, your parents still treat you like you're the same person you were before you left. These challenges are something to roll with now that you've had the university experience. Parents may not treat you exactly the way that you feel you deserve, but it's only a month, and the difficulties of dealing with family shouldn't override the opportunity. That said, university is an independent journey, and

there's no reason not to stay independent over the holidays.

Meeting with the people you knew in high school is a similar experience to watching a show you liked as child. Sure, My Secret Identity seemed like an amazing show at the time, but watch it now and you might ask yourself "what was I thinking?" It will be a bit jarring to realize that the people who you perceived as awesome during your high school years are in fact, unbelievably petty and boring, but that's a price that we all pay by growing up. When meeting old high school people, it can be strange to find that the people you connect with most are those who you knew nothing about during high school. Due to the breakdown in social barriers or the growth caused by university, you now have some things in common with people you previously felt completely different from in your high school days.

For some reason, the Christmas season is a tension filled time of year. People can get angry based on the smallest things that seem to go against the mythos of cheer and happiness. Everyone has their idea of just what should go on during this time of year. For instance, some people are probably quite upset that I'm writing about the "Christmas Season" rather than "December" or the "Holiday Season"; in Austria, a group is trying to ban displays of Santa Claus due to accusations of commercialism; this year in North America, environmental groups are launching an attack on the use of Christmas trees; and sometime during the holiday season Bill O'Reilly and Glenn Beck will tell U.S. Americans how the Liberals are trying to kill Christmas while Lou Dobbs lashes out at Mexican Mall Santas. If I hold one thing dear about the season of good cheer, it's that everyone should chill the heck out.

This is the last issue of The Journal for 2009, but don't cry too hard, because we'll be back at it for 2010!


## Soylent Green Is People Or "The Room Mate"

BEN POIRIER  
Perspectives Contributor

Most people, at least in my experience, are nervous about coming to university. Not nervous as in being skittish to take off your pants in front of a crowd nervous, but nervous in the sense that you are entering a place where nobody knows you and the slate is clean. You can be whoever or whatever you want. Most people are driven by a desire to fit in, even if fitting in means you go out of your way to not fit in, by wearing clothes people will laugh at in ten years. (Or laugh at now, depending on what you wear.) Now that we're on the subject of putting clothes on (Or taking them off), another realm of social terror involves the room mate. Oh no! What if my room mate doesn't wear Hollister or sleeps naked? First of all, anyone worth having as a friend doesn't care if the shirt you are wearing has a brand name plastered on it. As for the second part, it doesn't seem to bother my room mate. I admit to a bit of apprehension on the drive here from Toronto concerning my room mates. Maybe they won't like me playing my CCR collection when I write my papers? Or maybe they eat

Kraft Dinner with ketchup? My real irrational worry was that one night my room mate would sew my head to the carpet for looking at him the wrong way. Some of you had to think you'd wake up to a Kathy Bates in Misery wannabe sledge hammering your foot off for forgetting the dishes, but don't worry, I'm not crazy and I thought that too.

On the subject of torture, nothing is worse than listening to Miley Cyrus. Oops I mean snoring. My room mate snores like a couple of Wookiees are in the bed next to me getting to know each other. Maybe some of you might enjoy that; I suggest you seek help. Regardless, a month or so ago I discovered ear plugs, and homicide has since been averted. Not to suggest I don't like my room mate, because I do. He is probably the best kind of room mate to have, meaning he puts up with me, and that is not easy to do, or so I've been told. I myself have three room mates, and as I type one of them has just brought his guitar into my room and serenaded me with a song he wrote about my brown eyes. I didn't know the guy three months ago and now he sings to me. If that doesn't describe residence life in a nutshell, I don't know what does.




## THE JOURNAL WANTS YOU

Interested in writing for The Journal? Join our meetings on Thursdays at 4:30pm in The Journal office on the 5th floor of the Student Union Building



Check Out SMUtube!  
www.smutube.ca



## WRITE FOR THE JOURNAL!

Join our meetings on Thursday at 5pm on the 5th floor of the Student Union Building

# NEWS

KIMBERLEY DARES  
News Editor



## Workplace Health and Safety

JASON MACDONALD  
Sports Editor

Following the recent six metre fall of a construction worker on a job site in Bedford and heading into the winter break when students may be going back to work, The Journal is looking at workers safety, the responsibilities of employers and the rights of workers.

Under the Nova Scotia Occupational Health and Safety Act-legislation from the NS government that protects workers and their employers-employers have the responsibility to ensure the health and safety of all persons at or near the workplace. They must provide and maintain the equipment, machines, and materials that are to be used at the workplace and ensure that they are equipped with safety devices. Also, employers must provide the instruction, training and supervision that their employees require. It is the employers responsibility to ensure that everyone is familiar with the health and safety hazards of the workplace and are provided with the necessary protection equipment.

Employees also have responsibilities; employees must take every reasonable precaution to protect their own health and safety and the health and safety of those around them. As an employee one must also cooperate with your employer and follow the health and safety regulations mandated by your employer or the OHS Act. Employees also have the responsibility to report anything they feel to be unsafe to their employer or supervisor.

As an employee you have the right to refuse to work in any situation you have reasonable grounds to believe will endanger your health or safety. You can continue to refuse to work up until such a time as your employer has taken remedial action to your satisfaction, the OSH committee has investigated and unanimously advised you to return to work or an OSH officer has investigated and advised you to return to work. If you refuse to work in an area you feel is unsafe you must immediately report to a supervisor who will take the appropriate actions to remedy the issue.

Employees who have a legitimate cause to exercise their right to refuse to work may

find themselves on one of two paths. You may be reassigned (which you must accept) and paid your regular wages and benefits or you may not be reassigned but still paid regular wages and benefits until such a time as the problem that cause you to refuse to work is remedied.

Above is a very small portion of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. For a more in depth study look at the OHS Act. Log onto [http://www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/legc/statutes/occp\\_h\\_s.htm](http://www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/legc/statutes/occp_h_s.htm) and read the full text, in the Act you will find all the information you could ever need pertaining to the health and safety of workers in Nova Scotia.

For workers who are less concerned about health and safety and more concerned about pay, benefits, and regulations pertaining to holiday closures, check out the Nova Scotia Labour Board website at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/lwd/Codes.asp>. Click on the Employment Rights link which will take you to a PDF version of the Employment code where you will find information about breaks and hours of work, pay and wages, vacations and holidays, and much more.

## Newsfeed

### Two Halifax Police Officers Injured in Hit and Run

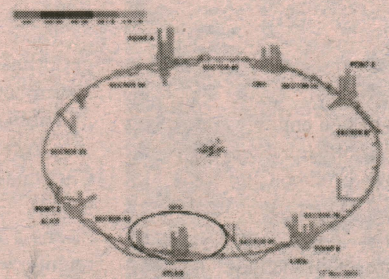


In the wee hours of Sunday morning two Halifax Police Officers were injured in a hit and run on the Angus L. MacDonald Bridge. The officers were on the bridge running a drinking and driving checkpoint as part of the recently launched Operation Christmas campaign against impaired driving. Luckily

the officers have been released from hospital and were not seriously injured in the incident that knocked one to the ground, and dragged the other a short distance. The driver of the vehicle had not been caught at the time this issue went to print. The vehicle is described as a 1992-1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee, grey in colour and it may have roof racks on the top. Police have video of the incident and believe there were three white men in the Jeep at the time the incident took place.

[www.halifax.ca/police](http://www.halifax.ca/police)

### LHC Breaks Power Record



The European Organization for Nuclear Research released a statement early Monday morning that the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) broke the record for proton acceleration. The LHC, the largest atom smasher in the world sent beams of the particles at 1.18 trillion electron volts. This achievement is the result of many improvements and repairs to the LHC in the past year.

<http://lhc.web.cern.ch/lhc/>

### Canadian Government Reduces Wait Time on Foreign Credentials

By this time next year, foreign trained individuals in eight fields will have a much reduced wait time for having their credentials recognized in Canada. By December 2012 another six fields will be added to the list. The changes are known as the Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications. The wait to know if their credentials have been approved will be less than a year, compared with the current, significantly longer wait time. The fields affected next year include engineers, architects, pharmacists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, registered nurses, financial accountants and medical laboratory technicians. This will greatly improve the ability of individuals trained outside of Canada to find employment in the country.

### The Olympic Torch from NB to Quebec



The Olympic torch is continuing across the country, leaving New Brunswick for Quebec on November 29th. It will spend close to two weeks in the province before crossing the Ontario border on December 14th. While in New Brunswick the torch walked the shore of the Bay of Fundy, was part of two First Nation ceremonies and was transported in a mine clearing vehicle at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown.

[www.canada.com](http://www.canada.com)

IMAGINE A WORLD WITHOUT FISH

*Saint Mary's University and  
The Ecology Action Centre*

Oceans cover 70% of the world

Carbon dioxide is changing them

Ocean acidification threatens over one million species with extinction

...and with them our entire way of life

present a screening of...

# a sea change

A feature documentary film about climate change, our oceans and all life on Earth.  
**Friday, December 4th, 7:00 PM**  
**Burke Theatre, SMU**  
**Suggested donation of \$5.00**

During the upcoming Copenhagen Summit on climate change, help send a message to the world that Canadians want action on global greenhouse gas emissions. The effect on oceans will threaten all aspects of life on Earth - oxygen regulation, sea life changes, sea level rises, and fishery collapses.

Join the discussion! Following the screening will be a Q&A with renowned climate change, international development, and fisheries researchers.

**Door prizes too!**



This event is made possible by the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in partnership with Saint Mary's University and The Ecology Action Centre

# Remembering the Halifax Explosion

KIMBERLEY DARES  
News Editor

The Halifax Explosion is a familiar story for many Nova Scotians but not as well known to those not from the region. The tragic events of 92 years ago shaped Halifax into the city it is today.

The First World War (1914-1918) became a reality for those living in Halifax and surrounding areas on December 6th, 1917. The Port of Halifax was extremely busy during WWI and the Harbour was often filled with ships carrying various supplies, including troops, munitions, clothes, and food, bound for Allied Forces in Europe.

The morning of December 6th, started out just like any other morning in the busy port city. The streets were bustling with people heading off to school and work when the unthinkable happened.

The Imo, a Belgian relief ship, was proceeding out of the Bedford Basin headed for New York the same time as the French munitions ship the Mont Blanc was heading into the Basin to meet up with a convoy. When the ships passed each other in the Narrows the Imo struck the bow of the Mont Blanc.

The Mont Blanc was carrying a very dangerous cargo load of 200 tonnes of TNT, 2,300 tonnes of wet and dry picric acid, 35 tonnes of benzyl, and 10 tonnes of gun cotton.

After the collision a fire quickly broke out on the deck of the Mont Blanc forcing the crew, who were aware of its dangerous content, to abandon ship and seek safety on the Dartmouth shores. The fire aboard the Mont Blanc burned slowly for almost two hours after coming to rest on the shore near Pier 6. The sight of the burning ship attracted many people who had no idea of the ship's explosive cargo.

Then moments before 9:05 a.m. the Mont Blanc exploded in a ball of fire that rose 1.9km in the air and destroyed much of the city in its wake. The ship blew up into a million pieces that rained down over the city. Nothing remained near Pier 6 where the ship has sat and burned. The explosion triggered a tsunami, which reached a height of 18m above the high water level in the harbour.

Halifax, particularly the North End, was virtually destroyed. Homes, churches, factories and schools burned, and windows were shattered throughout what is now the Halifax Regional Municipality. The blast covered an enormous distance shat-

Officials had organized official relief committees. Any buildings left usable following the blast were quickly turned into makeshift hospitals and shelters.

Help and volunteers arrived as quickly as possible to Nova Scotia. The most notable and substantial help came from Boston, Massachusetts. A train loaded with supplies and all available doctors, nurses and relief staff was sent to Halifax from Boston by early evening. As a token of gratitude for the great assistance the city of Boston offered every year a Christmas tree is sent from Nova Scotia in time for Boston's tree lighting ceremony.

Recovery efforts were dampened when a large snowstorm hit the province, dropping over 40cm of snow on the city. For people left with damaged or destroyed homes this made finding a place to sleep even more of a struggle. It also led to a higher death toll as a result of the bitter cold.

Over 1,900 people lost their lives in the explosion and its aftermath. The blast led to the death of more Nova Scotians than World War 1. Approximately 250 bodies were never identified, and even more were never found. Over 4,000 people received treatment for various injuries following the blast. 37 people were left completely visionless, another 250 eyes were removed and 25 limbs were amputated.

Prior to the atomic bomb the Halifax Explosion was the largest manmade explosion.

A Bell Tower memorial was erected in 1920 on Fort Needham in the city's North End which overlooks the harbour. There is a short ceremony held every year at the Fort Needham Hill memorial.

The explosion that rocked the city of Halifax on December 6th, 1917 left it forever changed. It brought the tragedy of war closer to home, and created a sense that Halifax was not as distant from the war effort as previously thought. Still, in the face of inexplicable tragedy the city banded together and prevailed to rebuild and start fresh.

The hydrostone district in the North End of the city was built following the explosion to provide homes for those in need. Homes and stores were built out of the fireproof material and helped restore the sense of community in the area hardest hit by the explosion.

## ATTEND THE MEMORIAL SERVICE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 6TH

8:50-9:25AM AT THE FORT NEEDHAM, BELL TOWER



Source: www.biocrawler.com

tering windows on homes over 80 kilometres away. The explosion was heard in Cape Breton, and Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Hundreds of people were killed instantly when the Mont Blanc exploded. Many of those who had stop-



Source: Wikipedia

ped outside on their way to work or school to watch the ship burn were killed or seriously injured following the blast. Those watching the ship burn from the safety of their homes were not exempt from the destruction, and many were left blind after windows shattered, blowing glass shards into their eyes.

Rescue efforts were quickly coordinated as there were many trained troops and naval brigades available to aid in the relief effort early on. By early afternoon on December 6th City

# Keep It Green this Holiday Season

KIMBERLY DARES  
News Editor

The holiday season is a time of celebration but also a time of increased waste. The month of December has become the most wasteful time month of the year with a 25% increase in waste production. Reducing your waste is easy, even around the holidays.

Try giving gifts wrapped in reusable or recyclable containers. Skip the boxed chocolates and make a trip to a bulk food store to get chocolates or holiday candies, and then fill a reusable dish, jar, mug, basket or cookie tin with the goodies! It puts a more personal touch on a holiday standby. Baking your own cookies or holiday Rice Krispies squares are some other ideas for filling reusable containers.

Wrapping gifts in recycled newspapers (The Journal works great

for this!) is a good, time honoured way to cut back waste and spending. It also allows you to personalize the wrapping paper, try and pick their favourite section of the newspaper or a picture of something they like from a magazine. Another neat eco-friendly alternative is using old (clean) cereal boxes to conceal hard to wrap gifts. Using old maps or posters are also good alternatives. If you prefer to use store-bought gift wrap try and buy some with recycled content.

The re-usable bags sold at just about every store imaginable make a great substitute to traditional gift bags. They are often offered in various colors, designs, and sizes making it easy to find one and they usually sell for less than a dollar, and can be used over and over, making them a cheaper option than traditional bags. Those re-usable bags aren't just for wrapping presents! They are for carrying them home from the store too! Take a few along when you head to the mall, some stores offer a discount if you use your own bag. If you forget the re-usable bags, just be sure to recycle the plastic ones rather than putting them in the trash.

Try giving gifts to events rather than giving merchandise that will just sit on a shelf. Some ideas to consider are tickets for a Mooseheads (or SMU) sporting event, concert, play, movie, or gift certificates. Look for unique events at smaller venues or bulk buying opportunities to save a little money. If it's still out of your price range consider providing services yourself; from house cleaning to snow removal the possibilities are endless so get creative! Charitable donations are also a great gift idea in lieu of a box of chocolates or decorations that may never be used.

When having holiday parties avoid disposable dishes and cutlery. If you are wary of having guests use your usual dishes, buy a few reusable plastic tumblers and dishes at Wal-

Mart or the Dollar Store. Then you'll have some for the next time there is a party and reduce the waste parties can create. If you cannot avoid buying disposable dinnerware opt for those made out of paper rather than Styrofoam and be sure to compost the dishes afterwards! Having a blue bag available for guests to recycle cans and bottles is a great way to cut back on waste (and post-party clean up!)

Sending holiday greetings is a great part of the season, but can also contribute greatly to the amount of waste produced. Try sending online greetings instead; many websites offer

free e-cards for every occasion and you can personalize them with your own messages; you could also use Paint or Photoshop to design your own cards if you have that kind of skill. If



Source: www.realsimple.com

it just doesn't seem right not to mail cards look for cards made of recycled materials or those that are free from fabric add-ons or sparkles, etc that would prevent them from being recycled. If you receive a lot of cards and don't plan to keep them in the new year be sure to recycle them.

After the presents have all been opened, if old electronics have been replaced by something newer be sure to recycle them and an ACES drop off centre. Old cell phones can be recycled at most cell phone retailers. Working phones can be sold on Kijiji if you need to earn a little extra money. Unwanted clothes or furniture in good condition can be donated to the Salvation Army (there is one on Green Street!). Christmas trees can also be recycled if placed curbside, free of decorations and tinsel, the same day as the green cart.

It's easy to have a green holiday season if you get creative, and it might even save you some money too!

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## Assassin's Creed II Review

JEFF CUSACK  
Editor-In-Chief

The following review was done on a PS3 copy of the game.

When the original Assassin's Creed came out it was a game that was mostly successful on style. People loved the basics of the gameplay system as well as the gorgeously detailed Middle Eastern setting, but the problem was that there wasn't much to enjoy beyond that. Once players learned the basics of gameplay they had learned all of the gameplay. Missions were repetitive and unless players were the type of gamer that could stand with playing the game in thirty minute bursts they were likely to become tired of the game quickly.

Assassin's Creed II fixes all those problems.

With the game taking twenty hours to beat minimum, and a variety of sidequests that can extend it to forty hours, AC2 requires variety to work. The developers introduced new types of enemies and allies, a wider variety of missions, and host of weapons and arms. Players even get their own village to build up, and a home base that starts with boarded up windows and ends with flags and classical renaissance paintings attached to the walls.

For those who don't know the Assassin's Creed story, the main character is a bartender, Desmond, who gets kidnapped by an organization which acts as a front for the Knights Templar. Desmond is the descendant of a line of Assassins who are the sworn enemies of the templar. In the first game the templar use Desmond's genetic memories to cause him to relive the story of Altair, an Arabic Assassin living in twelfth century Israel. In the second game Desmond's genetic memories take you to fifteenth century Italy to relive the story of the Assassin Ezio Auditore.

The story is outlandish, and as the game goes on it gets even more so as grand Da Vinci Code-esque conspiracies are revealed. At the same time, players will have a hard time not being sucked in by the plot, simply because the story is told so well. It helps that Ezio Auditore actually existed. This is historical fiction at its finest. Ubisoft Montreal, the studio which developed the game, sent historians over to Italy to ensure that they were

able to use real historical characters in their game. The real Ezio was a criminal, something which allowed the developer to smoothly slide Ezio into the role of Assassin. It's also a real treat to be able to have the character speak to Leonardo Da Vinci in historical recreations of what his work may have looked like.

Everything is genuine in this game. The Italian accents are real, and the architecture is based on historical knowledge and photographs of remaining structures. If a famous church was undergoing construction at the time the game is set in, then you can bet you'll see some scaffolding up against the church. With graphics that are rendered in stunning detail and make me truly sorry that I am stuck in Standard Definition hell, if you can't actually travel to Italy, picking up Assassin's Creed II might be your next best bet.

While the game could stand up on its own just due to the fantastic production values, there's also gameplay to match. The combat system is far more elaborate than in the first Assassin's Creed; Ezio has smokebombs, sand (to throw in other people's faces) and even a butcher knife at his disposal. Combat in the game is smart. When you are

surrounded by enemies they don't all start swinging at once, instead approaching you a few at a time. Why? Because when a group starts all swinging swords at the same time, comrades get hit (the AI has various levels of intelligence.) The combat rewards clever gameplay. Take out a tough enemy in a spectacular fashion and his comrades may decide running is a better option. If an enemy's axe is too big and his armour too tough, disarm him and use it against him. The player will even find themselves disarmed if they take a bad blow, or... get their weapon lodged in an enemy's skull. Or you always have the option of hiring mercenaries or thieves to fight your foes... Or hiring prostitutes to distract them.

If I could sum up this game in a few lines I would do it this way: Assassin's Creed II is on every major game critics list for Game of The Year. The mathematical equation for this game is Assassin's Creed II = Grand Theft Auto: Renaissance Italy + Splinter Cell + The Da Vinci Code + Parkour.

Assassin's Creed II is available on Playstation 3 and Xbox 360.



## Television News:

JEFF CUSACK  
Editor-In-Chief

This time of year is a busy one for people in the TV biz, and can be either a blessing or a curse depending on what side of the chopping block your favourite shows land on.

In Canadian television, the CTV/Space show The Listener has been renewed by CTV, Space, and Fox International. The show ran on NBC this past summer but was cancelled due to horrible ratings. The show received excellent numbers both at home and abroad however, and was able to survive without an American network. That said, CTV is currently looking for an American network to buy the show.

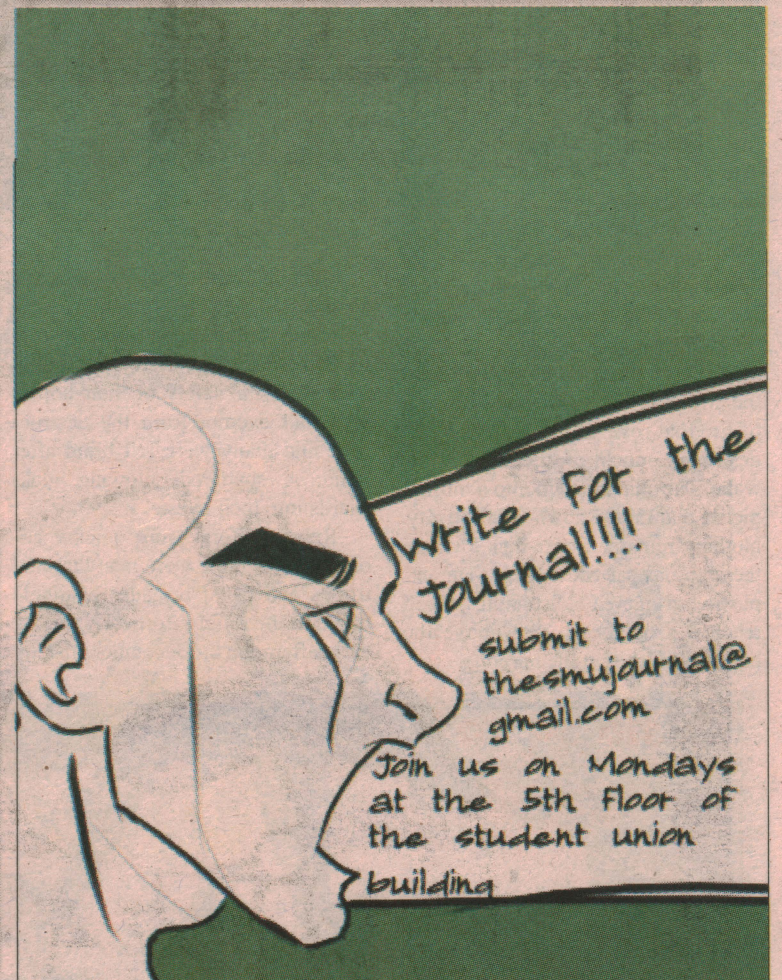
Glee, the big new hit of the fall season, will not be a big hit this winter, because it won't be on the air. Fox is saving the show for May sweeps, which is the period when advertisers look at ratings to decide how much money to spend on each network. Glee's hiatus begins Dec 9, and the show returns April 13. Some show called The Simpsons (I haven't heard of it), will air its 450th episode on January 10.

At NBC, Heroes is being shuffled back to 9:00pm EST on Mondays from its current 8:00pm slot, beginning January 5th after a two-hour

winter premiere on January 4th. If you've been paying attention at all to US TV drama, you know that mediocre-rated but critically adored spy drama Chuck was given a renewal by NBC last year. The show was originally slated to come back in March, but will instead be starting Sunday, January 10th with a two-hour premiere before taking Heroes' old 8pm slot starting January 11th. If you're looking for an outsider's perspective on the Olympics, NBC is also the U.S. network charged with covering the Vancouver games.

If you're a fan of dancing or witches I've got some bad news. ABC has decided that it will cancel Canadian Paul Gross' witch story Eastwick, the show's thirteen episode run marking the end of the series. The ABC reality show Let's Dance, to be hosted by Kathy Griffin, has been shelved due to casting difficulties. Those of you who are fans of the alphabet network's Ugly Betty should probably start getting ready to say 'good bye' to the series, the show was the only new episode in its 10pm slot last Friday, and it came in fourth, losing even to a repeat of The Jay Leno Show.

CBS is probably doing something with procedurals. If you're over 50 I'm sure you'll love it, whatever it is.



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# The Twilight Saga Continues with New Moon

KIMBERLEY DARES  
News Editor

The second film in the Twilight series, *New Moon*, was released November 20th and broke opening weekend box office ticket sale records. The film was directed by Chris Weitz, who replaced the direc-

tor of the first film, Catherine Hardwick. I was hoping the new director would be able to bring *New Moon* to the screen without losing the novel or making it too cheesy. Sadly Weitz was unable to produce a film of any more substance than the first.

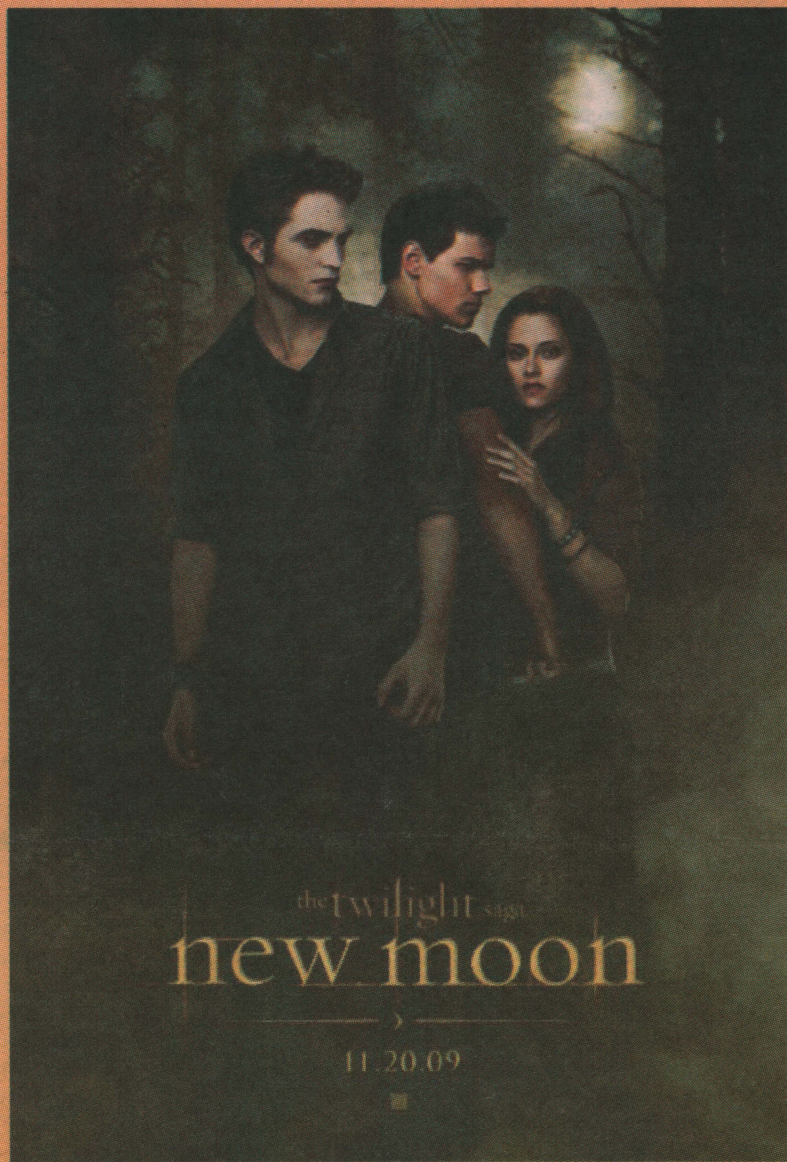
Without giving away the novel's plot too much, the film centers around a broken-hearted Bella Swan, played by the ever-vacant

Kristin Stewart after she is left by her vampire lover, Edward Cullen, played by the apparently dreamy Robert Pattinson. In his absence, Bella is consoled by her friend Jacob Black, played by the extremely buff, but only 17 years old, Taylor Lautner. Jacob and the other boys from his reservation develop the ability to turn into wolves to protect the town of Forks from vampires more threatening than the Cullens. Although the werewolf boys are attractive in their shirtless glory, the "morphing" from boy to wolf is hard to take seriously.

In an attempt to capture the "fan-pire" audience, Weitz altered the plot to allow Edward to appear more in the movie than in the novel. Bella does reckless stunts to hear his voice in the book, but actually sees a vision of him in the film.

When I left the theatre it was hard to decipher if I had just watched a drama or a comedy. The part of me so dedicated to the books wanted to feel the emotions I experienced when reading the book, but the movie comes short of conveying them. The portrayal of the characters are lifeless for the most part; Stewart plays depressed well but seems unable to showcase any other emotions. Pattinson and Lautner also leave something to be desired, looks aren't everything and it is unfortunate this series has been built around "heartthrobs" lacking acting ability.

Bottom line: If you love the books you will probably like the movie. If you haven't read the books but want a good laugh, wait for the DVD.



Source: www.twilightthemovie.com

## BITE SIZE ENTERTAINMENT

### Rogers Launches Online Video Portal

Well, it's not quite Hulu, but thanks to the CRTC, it looks like this is as close as we're going to get. Rogers is launching its own video portal, aptly dubbed "Rogers On Demand Online", streaming television shows from networks owned by Rogers, Corus, Warner Brothers, or are otherwise straight-up affordable. Shows from networks like G4, Teletoon, Rogers Sportsnet, YTV, and Bio (among others) are available to stream from Rogers' web portal. The beta for this program started on Monday, launching with 1500 videos from 15 network partners. They plan to update the service and its videos regularly with more networks and videos. The layout of the site is very much like Hulu's, feeling like an unashamed knock-off. This, coupled with the relative lack of quality content compared with Hulu (along with the "too little too late" dynamic of the whole situation) makes it seem like a store-brand of your favourite cereal. Check it out at <http://www.rogersondemand.com>.

### Susan Boyle Hits a High Note

Susan Boyle may have been the runner up in the reality show "Britain's Got Talent" but she has topped the charts with the release of her debut album, *I Dreamed a Dream*. Her appearance on the show won her fans around the world, and made her a YouTube sensation. Boyle was also featured on NBC's recent *People of the Year* TV special and is the topic of an upcoming documentary "I Dreamed a Dream: the Susan Boyle Story." Her album is the fastest selling record in UK history, with release day sales of 130,000 and first week sales surpassing 410,000.

The album is not just setting records in the UK, as Amazon.com reports the record has the highest global number of pre-ordered CD's in the site's 14 year history. The 48-year old Scottish singer claimed the number one spot in Ireland and Australia as well, and is predicted to top the US charts as well. The CD contains one original song, "Who I Was Born to Be" and eleven covers including a few holiday classics such as "Silent Night" and "Amazing Grace."



### Last Bit of Jon and Kate News You'll Read in the Journal (Promise)

The Jon and Kate circus is coming to an end. First off, TLC cancelled the show, *Jon & Kate Plus 8*. Production on the new show, *Kate Plus Eight*, intended to show Kate as a single mother raising eight children, wait halted due to Jon Gosselin's lawyers issuing cease and desist orders to stop filming the children last month. While they've expressed (possibly feigned) interest in continuing production after this fiasco is over with as a mini-series, it seems that project is canned. The last episode of *Jon & Kate Plus 8* aired last Monday night, much to the chagrin of TLC execs. Several projects have been pitched to TLC as a replacement to the hit show, but nothing has been announced as of yet.

The failing marriage of Jon and Kate Gosselin became a source of entertainment news this summer, when it was announced on their show on June 22 that they were getting a divorce, despite everyone seeing it coming. The show was put on hiatus for a short while after that, returning in early August.



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# FEATURES

ALEX CLARKE  
Features Editor



## The CRANKY Professor

THE JOURNAL, THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT SAINT MARY'S



### Multiculturalism: liberal or communitarian

We're all multiculturalists now. The only remaining question is whether we will be liberal multiculturalists or communitarian.

The single-culture option is not open to us. We can neither find nor create a rich public life of common institutions, practices, and customs to which each of us is bound by tradition and affection. Hockey Saturday night, church on Sunday, 9-5 for the men during the week, housekeeping and shopping for the women....

It's far from clear we ever lived that way, and not just because Canada has historically been friendly to Jews, artists, and others not entirely in the mainstream, let alone because of our two or three solitudes. Nonetheless, once upon a time the mainstream ran stronger than it does now, it could be identified (more or less, and with regional variations), and, significantly, those who by choice or status swam outside it had to accommodate themselves to it, or else take their chances. That's all behind us now.

A substantive common life makes possible a substantive common good, and the existence of a substantive common good can give direction and order to politics. Perhaps that is what those who resist multiculturalism yearn for most—a widely accepted, emotionally compelling vision of the common good, a vision by which people and governments could resolve justly the competing demands of labour and management, development and conservation, men and women, city and country, young and old, and all the rest.

A multicultural society, on the other hand, lacks a substantive common life. But that doesn't mean it has to have no common life at all. How deep and how compelling should the common life in our multicultural society be? That, I think, is one way of putting the question whether Canada's multiculturalism should be liberal or communitarian.

Over a decade ago, Steven Lukes, in *The Curious Enlightenment of Professor Caritat*, parodied communitarian multiculturalism, the condition in which little common life exists in a society and the state is nothing but a benevolent administrator, trying to maintain peace among society's various cultures.

Lukes has his professor visit a society in which each person is officially a member of one or more cultures according to his or her age, sex, profession, ethnicity, religion, taste in music, and on and on. In Lukes's communitarian society, each person has certain rights and responsibilities within the cultures to which he or she belongs, rights and responsibilities that members of other cultures don't have. (Those born into a culture of hard work must work hard for their living, while those born into a culture

of loafing receive subsidies so that they may maintain their dignity while remaining true to their tradition.) A justice system internal to each culture keeps its own members in line. The justice system for the society as a whole adjudicates disputes between groups—which includes, importantly, disputes in which someone feels an outsider has slighted her group.

The alternative to a communitarian society of sovereign cultures is a liberal society, a society in which people are respected as individuals, not as members of groups, and in which laws and policies have as their end the protection and flourishing of individuals as individuals. Of course, much of what matters to us as individuals stems from the cultures and groups with which we identify, and so if a liberal society is home to many cultures, that liberal society will be multicultural.

Central to any liberal society is that each individual be equipped with the skills, knowledge, and breadth of mind needed to make his or her own way in the world. And so the society will require that children be educated, that they be educated in certain subjects, and that they be educated to certain standards. Central also to a liberal society is fairness and justice—fairness and justice for individuals. Thus the society will have a single system of law and adjudication. The police will not treat people differently on the basis of their group membership, nor will the courts, nor need employers. So that people can live the lives they want and participate in the life of the community as a whole, members of the society will enjoy freedom of expression, freedom of association, and all the other civil liberties communitarians despise because of the frictions they can create.

Since important social institutions in it will embody liberal values and goals, a liberal multicultural society will sustain a common public life. Yet it will be a fairly thin common life, important though it is in supporting the rich particular lives people live.

Now in a liberal society, if one person is entitled to have his wish honoured, then anyone else is similarly entitled. If a Muslim woman may testify in a trial with her face covered, then anyone else who wants to may. If some schoolboys may carry a small dagger, then any schoolchild may. If no one else may take two spouses, then men in break-away Mormon sects may not either. No one will be exempted from the rules on grounds of culture.

It might well be the majority custom or tradition in Canada today that one not hide one's face when on the witness stand, that kids don't carry knives, that we have but one spouse at a time. But custom or tradition cannot itself justify a practice, at least not in a liberal society. What can it be that the practice is harmless to others or promotes individual flourishing. As liberals, we must not require people to follow majority traditions just because they are majority traditions, no more than we can allow people to violate liberal norms in the name of their illiberal cultures.

Folks say things like "Apples are a delicious gift from Mother Nature", or talk about how we can use things in the way Mother Nature intended.



That's WEIRD, you guys!



We have this "Mother Nature" metaphor that we all share but rarely consider critically, and it has all these connotations that are sublimated into our lives and thinking! It suggests the planet tries to care for us as a mother would, sure, but it also suggests that plants and animals are provided by this mother with the intent of our nourishment, and that nature can carry parental authority!

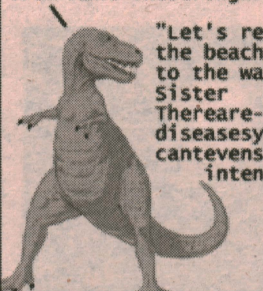


I say we adopt some new metaphors, cats and kittens!!

Like what? "Father B. Planet?"



I was thinking more like Brother Entropy or Uncle Everybodydies! You know? "Apples are a delicious gift from Aunt Thestrongwilleattheweak."



"Let's restore the beach to the way Sister Thereare-diseasesyou-cantevensee intended."

"Climate change hurts Cousin Theplanetwon'tnoticeifwealldie tomorrow!"



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## Just Five More Minutes! – Does the Library Need Later Hours?

ALEX CLARKE  
Features Editor

December is now upon us, meaning that holidays are just around the corner. However, along with the excitement of our much needed vacation we unfortunately know we have to face the hurdle of exams first.

The entire atmosphere of SMU changes during the month of December. Students aren't congregating near Tim Horton's as much and are meeting in computer labs more often. In fact, there was a time when computer labs were completely empty during the day. Now the chances of you obtaining a free computer during normal school hours are slim to none. In fact SMU's superior Digital Education Neighborhood more commonly known as the "Den" is attracting a lot more attention than normal. It has even attained the attention of a few Dal students who use the 24 hour accessibility for studying purposes. Just this weekend I happened to be in the Den late one evening and witnessed a student break down over accidentally losing an assignment on her computer. Someone suggested that she simply start it again and she replied that it wasn't possible because the library was closed.

This brings me to the issue at hand. Although the facilities of the Den are available 24 hours, a greater percentage of students use the Patrick Power library as their main study grounds. Don't get me wrong; with the addition of the grand Atrium, study space has been greatly improved. However, study time on campus is still the same. This situation needs to be adjusted, especially during exam time when every minute counts for a student.

If you're not familiar as of yet,

then you should know that the Patrick Power Library has a vast collection of material that students can use to access diverse resources and services for educational purposes. Not only are you able to obtain important material but the library is also an excellent study environment. It is quiet, spacious, clean, and also provides excellent internet access for people who walk in with their own laptops.

I must admit that not every SMU student will benefit from having later hours. Students living off campus aren't really concerned with how late the Library is open but students that

beneficial to EVERY student, at least 40 percent of the school prefers studying during the hours of 9pm and 3am. During this time the building is quiet and students are deeply rooted in their studies; when the lights flicker at 10:50 they get so upset that they lose interest in any more studies for the night. This interruption in studying time makes studying in the library unattractive to some students and unaccommodating to the ones that do. Hopefully, after future renovations are fully completed, if the university can't keep the library open they can at least keep the Atrium open past library hours.

The Journal is aware that keeping the library open later than 11pm increases costs and it also forces staff to leave later than normal. However, if the library placed a notice informing all students that the library would be open later during the EXAM period, then more than enough students would be grateful for this extra time.

It is possible that the budget to keep the library open may be somewhat stressed due to the recent opening of the Atrium. Even so, the argument for later hours should still be made. If a new schedule was implemented for a few weeks for the staff, such as flexi-hours, then these costs could easily be covered.

The only other alternative for students studying is the Den as mentioned before. Although it may lack the quiet, solitary environment that the library provides it is still usually quiet on empty nights and students have the added benefit of using the computers.

Although there are other alternatives for study places, an extension for library hours, if only during the exam period, seems like a reasonable request. Although the library may not be swarming with students, it would greatly improve the learning experience some students have here and also the university atmosphere.

“IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN STUDYING AT THE LIBRARY IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS; HERE ARE THE PATRICK POWER'S LIBRARY HOURS:

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SUNDAY 10:00AM - 11:00PM

DECEMBER 14 - 20  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00AM - 11:00PM  
SATURDAY 8:00AM - 11:00PM  
SUNDAY CLOSED

DECEMBER 21 - 23  
MONDAY AND TUESDAY 8:00AM - 5:00PM  
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are campus residents or even live near SMU are concerned with the availability of the school library. Even though it may not be entirely

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## These Are the Years to Party ?!

MILAD YEKTA  
Features Contributor

For decades, drinking and social gatherings have been a huge part of the lives of college and university students. In fact, this holds true to the extent that a college student has either said or heard of a phrase along the lines of "...these are the years to party, dude!" But some individuals even those who do take part in such activities, i.e. myself, may wonder about the fundamental roots of such a cultural trend. One may consider the roles of personality characteristics, levels of maturity, and alcohol as a social catalyst to play part.

In a current news piece, Reil reports on recently published statistics in the United States that suggest that the average amount of binge drinking among individuals between the ages of 18 and 23 who are not in college has decreased; whereas, the rates continue to elevate for those who are in college. In relation to this issue, research study by Hussong examined the role of personal motives, social influences, and three of the 'Big Five Personality Traits' in drinking among college students. The findings of this study provide reasonable explanations for the use of alcohol during the college years.

Hussong identifies three types of motives that lead individuals to use

alcohol; the three are social motives, coping motives, and enhancement motives. Further, he assesses personality traits such as extraversion, neuroticism, and agreeability in relation to the aforementioned motives. Lastly, he takes into account the influence that our social environments can potentially have an effect on the rates of alcohol consumption. The structure of the study proposes a matrix of interacting factors involved in drinking among students. One aspect of the findings directly supports the statistics provided in the report. Hussong concluded that when drinking with friends, students' drinking habits are as much influenced by their friends' drinking motives as are by their own motives. I have personally seen this hypothesis in practice! Many times, a friend who initially did not intend to drink much continued to consume more and more as we socialized with others, especially those of the opposite sex!

Hussong also found a mediating relation between certain motives and the recognized personality traits. He proposes that social and enhancement motives mediate between extraversion and alcohol use. Also, that coping motives mediate between neuroticism and alcohol use. When in college or university, a lot of students use alcohol as a social catalyst in gatherings and parties. Moreover, some students use drinking as a form

of self-medication to overcome anti-socialism and depression. This goes hand in hand with the description of behavioural manifestations of The Big Five Personality Traits.

Lastly, I can personally relate to the findings of Hussong's study. An extraverted individual will find drinking to be one of the best excuses to bring people together; moreover, in so many ways alcohol can lead to having more fun in social situations. In relation to the report, there is no wonder why students consume more alcohol than non-student individuals of the same age group. As students, we live in our societies as well as in the smaller communities on campuses. All in all, the facts speak for themselves. Drinking among college and university students is still on the rise while that of non-students has reduced over the years. The findings of the abovementioned study do shed some light on the issue. It seems that personality traits, individual motives, and social influence play an undeniable role in drinking among students. However, I believe there is much room left for examination of the issue from different perspectives, and not just from within the psychology discipline. For instance, sociologists and perhaps even political scientists could possibly have some useful contributions to our current knowledge regarding the matter.

## Vanier Cup Ends In Surprise

KIMBERLEY DARES  
News Editor

Despite being down by 18 points at the half the Queen's University Gael's, with 5th year QB Danny Brannagan at the helm, were able to come back strong in the second half of the 45th Vanier Cup, the Superbowl of CIS football. The competition was stiff against the Calgary Dino's led by 2x Hec Creighton winner Erik Glavic

but the Gael's prevailed.

At the end of the first quarter of play both teams were on the board with a touchdown apiece. Calgary went on to score 18 unanswered points in the second quarter, making the score 25-7 at the half.

The Gael's came back after the half and managed to close in on the lead bringing the score to 25-19 for the Dino's going into the fourth quarter. The Gael's comeback affected the Dino's confidence and it showed, with three turnovers, a blocked field goal,

and an end zone interception.

The final quarter began with a Gael's touchdown, giving them their first lead of the game 26-25. Another touchdown secured the Gael's lead 33-25. The Dino's matched it with a touchdown but were unsuccessful in tying it up due to a failed two-point convert attempt. The failed convert was Calgary's last attempt to take the lead and the Gael's came out victorious 33-31. Brannagan was named the game MVP for his outstanding play.

## New Year's Resolution: Think!

HEATHER MACLEAN  
Women's Centre

It's only December 2, and visions of terms papers and multiple choice exams are dancing in your head. New Year's seems like a long way off. Of course, we all know New Year's is the traditional time to make resolutions, and lots of people resolve to lose weight. I shouldn't say people; I should say women and girls. A Wall Street Journal Online/Harris Interactive Health-Care Poll of 2005 found that 32% of women resolved to lose weight compared to 18% of men. Whenever we invest time and money into our appearance, for example by dieting and exercising, we are essentially turning our bodies into projects. Most of the time it's innocuous; going to the gym, watching our portions, but sometimes, for some women, it escalates to procedures like gastric bypass, or disorders like anorexia. Body projects become a problem when we think that we are only our bodies and we have nothing else to offer the world, that our thoughts and feelings have no value.

The problem with treating the body as a project, or a means of transcendence, is that the body breaks down, it will change, no matter what sort of drastic intervention we make on its behalf. Also, women have been associated with the body since antiquity, and the body has been regarded in Western civilization as a cage for the soul. Body projects just reinforce

this idea. But there is a flipside (there's always a flipside when you use feminist analysis, which is good and bad—another flipside!). Losing weight can give women a sense of mastery and control, and we can transfer those feelings of empowerment from our body projects to other aspects of our lives. For example, once I started exercising and watching what I ate, I decided to start monitoring my finances more closely, and I began depositing money in a savings account.

There is no easy place to stand; do you decide that you're not going to care what you look like (as if that's a real choice), or do you capitulate to the beauty myth? Or, do you try to negotiate, which is what most of us do, because we're not automatons enslaved by the diet-beauty complex. Luckily, we're all in university, hopefully we all know we're more than our bodies, and that we've got something going on between our ears. If you're thinking about losing weight as a New Year's resolution, think about what you want to get out of it, because in the end, being just a body isn't very fulfilling. As Marilyn Monroe said: "A sex symbol becomes a thing. I just hate to be a thing." Here's where I get sappy ('tis the season, after all): If we all decided that our bodies didn't need any 'work' and decided instead to focus our time and energy on developing our intellect or helping others, don't you think that the world would be a kinder, better place? On that note, Happy Holidays, everyone!

Photo Credit: Jason MacDonald



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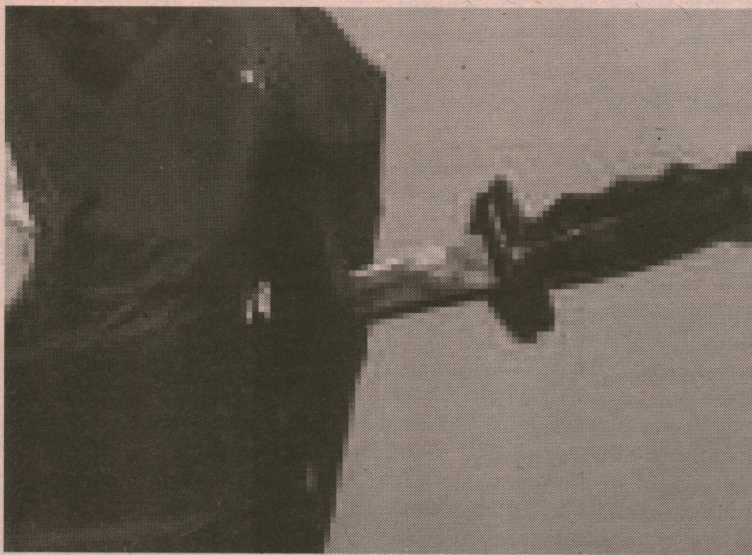
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# BUSINESS & SCIENCE

MONIQUE JOHNSON  
BUSINESS & SCIENCE



## Where Health And Terror Collide

MONIQUE JOHNSON  
*Business & Science*

The IWK Children's hospital here in Halifax is going to great lengths to protect the security personnel by purchasing bullet proof vests. These vests are to protect security guards from shooting and knifings: thirty-five bulletproof and slash proof vests are to be ordered. The vice-president of patient care, Jocelyn Vine, mentioned that the extra security mechanisms will come in play for family members who get emotional and need to be restrained.

If you've ever watched a medical or criminal drama on television like Grey's Anatomy, ER, or Law and Order, it is evident that the vests are needed. With news of their children's illness or unfortunate death parents and family members do become highly emotional. This can turn into unin-

tentional harm to medical personnel and security guards.

The move is not in retaliation to the shooting in the parking lot on November 18, 2008 where a man was injured by a bullet. This altercation at in the IWK parking lot was in connection with a drug war incident in Spryfield.

Dan Sawler is the owner of Viking Police and Security Co. in Dartmouth. His company is responsible for supplying the bullet proof vest to the IWK. He was not surprised that the children's hospital needed the vests because he has been made aware by some of his security guards of the threats against them.

The whopping price of each bullet proof vests is ...drum roll please ... \$20,000. These will be delivered in the next year. The \$700,000 for the vests will come from the hospital's budget.

## Watching The Fat



MONIQUE JOHNSON  
*Business & Science*

According to the Nutrition Action Newsletter due out next month, the fat contained in a large bag of popcorn at some of the movie theatres here in Canada and the United States is as much as quarter kilogram of potato chips.

When visiting the theatre, I've witnessed both adults and children adding buttery popcorn topping along with extra salt. This screams a heart attack. The popcorn itself is quite high in calories and to add the extra toppings can triple the calorie intake. The non-profit Center for Science in the Public Interest is conducting the research. Bill Jeffery of the Centre for Science in the Public Interest in Ottawa pointed out the inconsistencies of saturated fat included in popcorn offered in movie theatres here in Canada. He mentioned that some bags of popcorn have three grams of fat, while another bag the same size at a different theater has thirty-eight grams of fat! While the food preparation system at some movie theatres may not be as standardized as McDonalds, this finding is still scary to think about.

While companies are doing their best to include ingredients with less fat there is still some concern with the amount of calories included in the popcorn. Cineplex Entertainment is the largest chain in Canada. The company itself has 1,328 screens. Cineplex Entertainment now pops their popcorn with non-hydrogenated ca-

nola oil. This almost carries the same calories as air-popped popcorn popped at a consumer's home.

The Center for Science in the Public Interest found that the popcorn weighed more than what the company, Cineplex Entertainment, claimed. A small bag of popcorn with no toppings had 480 calories. A large bag with no toppings contained 1,120 calories and 530 milligrams of sodium. This sounds like a remedy for many artery clogging ailments. As recommended by Health Canada, an adult should consume less than 20 grams of saturated fat, and about 1,500 mg of sodium in an entire day based on a 2,000 calorie diet. The movie goers who used 5 pumps of the Becel butter topping on a large 20 cup bag of popcorn at Cineplex, added 270 calories and 4 extra grams of saturated fat. With the 5 pumps of the Lactantia butter topping, patrons got 320 calories and 22 grams of saturated fat. Empire Theatres, which is Canada's second-largest chain with 377 screens, uses non-hydrogenated canola oil to pop its corn. A small bag of untopped popcorn contains 360 calories. This is equivalent to 60 grams of potato chips. And there's more: a small bag of popcorn at Empire theaters included 740 milligrams of sodium, which according to the Center for Science in the Public Interest is half a days worth of sodium intake for an adult. Without adding the seasoning packet, a large bag has 1,480 milligrams of sodium. If this does not make you want to limit your popcorn intake at movie theaters, I don't know what will.

Researchers also found that AMC's popcorn did not weigh as much as they claimed it did. AMC has 184 screens here in Canada and its popcorn is popped in coconut oil containing 90 percent saturated fat. A small bag with no toppings had 13 grams of saturated fat and the large bag with 16 cups had 38 grams. All the butter and salt included in the popcorn prompts movie goers to purchase a bottle or two of pop, which includes 150 to 200 calories. The study also focused its attention on candy at the theatres. I'm sure you've noticed that the chocolate bars offered at movie theatres are double in size. The typical chocolate bar is for a 40 to 50-gram serving. The chocolate bars at the theaters are 100 to 200-gram sizes.

Canada is not onboard yet in regards to mandating that restaurant and theatres post their nutritional value on labels so consumers can be made aware of the calories and fat intake. Authorities in California and New York mandated last year that that restaurant and theaters post calorie counts on their menus and menu boards. Authorities in Ottawa are jumping on this ship to pioneer this in Canada as well.

A report from the Center for Science in the Public Interest in 1994 on popcorn in the United States did prompt management at theaters to pop healthy popcorn, but consumers wanted the traditional popcorn back. Are we becoming our own worst enemies? I think that we have grown as a society to be more health conscious, but we'll have to wait and see how the popcorn pops.

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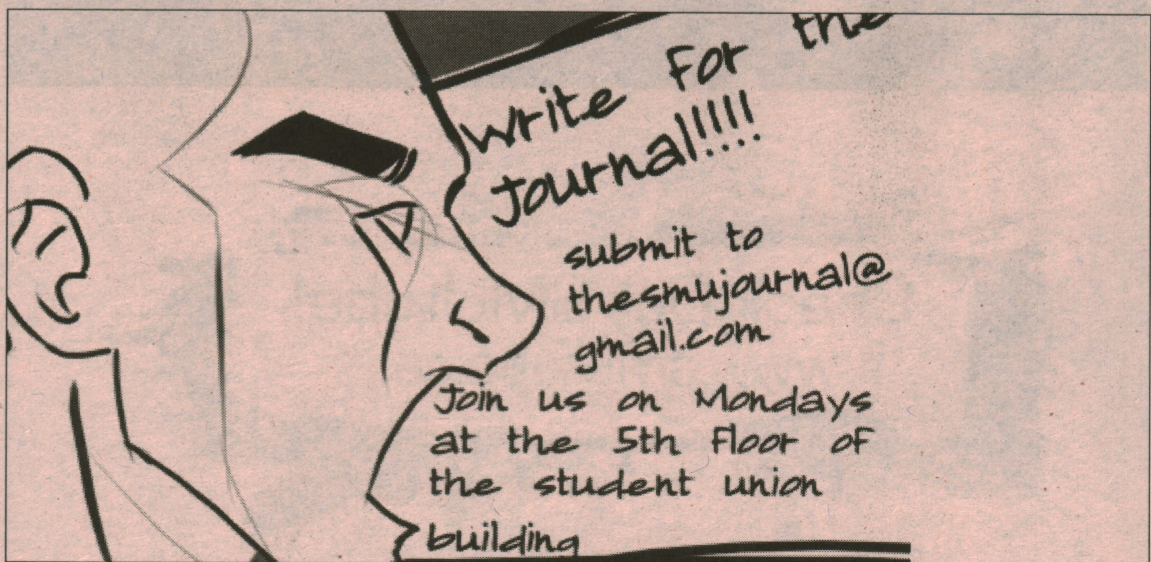
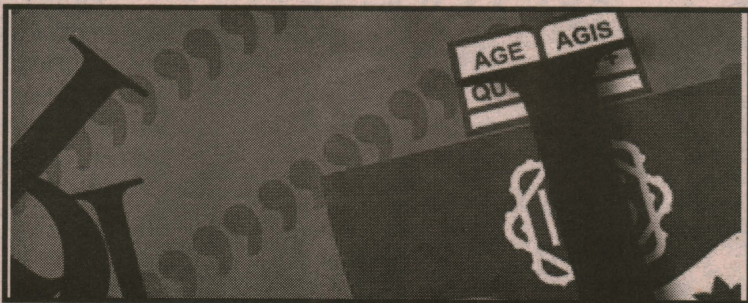
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Dr. Brad's quote of the week:

"Don't just let your joy be the source of your smile, let your smile be the source of your joy!!!"



## DAL Student Gets Bailout

MONIQUE JOHNSON  
*Business & Science*

A Dalhousie University student does not have to pay back his bank loan. A Nova Scotia court ruled that Alfredo Abdo does not have to pay back thousands of dollars he borrowed from the bank. The court mentioned that the Royal Bank of Canada was partially responsible for Abdo's default on his student loans which he has not been able to pay back. He represented himself in court.

Richard Cregan, who is part of the registrar at DAL, questioned the judgment of the bank in giving Abdo the money to finance his university education. At the tender age of 19, Abdo

borrowed \$20,000 from RBC through a student line of credit. It was reported that he also made bad investments online and then applied for an additional \$30,000 to rectify this issue. He was granted the second loan.

Abdo dropped out of university during his third year due to illness and the stress of a demanding engineering program at DAL. The social anxiety and dizzy spells prohibited him from working and he could not pay back the loans in a timely manner. Last November he filed for bankruptcy. RBC did not agree that Abdo should be excused for his behavior. When the money was initially borrowed there was no evidence that it was for educational purposes. Abdo, now 23 years-old, does not have to pay back the \$50,000 in student loans.

## Who Is In Charge Of The Minds of Tomorrow

MONIQUE JOHNSON  
*Business & Science*

Another non-profit daycare here in Halifax has closed its doors. After 6 six years in operation, the Sackville Bedford Developmental Centre will be closing at the end of the month. Though the daycare has space for

25, only 13 students were enrolled. Anna Weagle, the program director, has seen enrollment decline over the years in her area. The centre is losing \$80,000 per month in operations. Though the Sackville Bedford Developmental Centre is affiliated with another daycare in the area, there is not enough room to enroll all of the children.

## SodaStream Teams Up With Venngo's Work Perks Program

HOME SPARKLING BEVERAGE MAKER DEBUTS IN HUGE ONLINE REWARD PROGRAM

CAITLIN GAMBEE  
*Contributer*

TORONTO, Canada – December 1, 2009 – SodaStream, the world leader in home produced sparkling beverages, announced today that its line of home soda-makers will be available through Venngo's Work Perks Program. The program offers subscribing companies exclusive discounts on leading brand-name products and trusted services in their area.

The SodaStream line of soda-makers provides an endless supply of sparkling water, freshly made from tap water in just a few seconds. SodaStream is more environmentally friendly than store bought soft drinks because its carbonating bottles are reusable, helping to reduce the pollution and waste caused by transportation and disposal of billions of plastic bottles each year.

"We are thrilled to be involved with Venngo's Work Perks Program," said Marta Mikita-Wilson, president of Eco Stream, exclusive Canadian distributor of SodaStream. "We are confident that people will love a convenient, easy, and eco-friendly way to make delicious carbonated beverages in their own homes."

SodaStream products are designed to reflect modern trends and lifestyles

and to enhance today's modern kitchens. Characterized by modern, sleek designs, SodaStream drink makers produce high quality, sparkling, healthy, natural drinks, and are economical to operate. SodaStream drink makers come equipped with two specially designed reusable carbonating bottles and CO2 cylinder that makes up to 60 liters of carbonation, which is equivalent to 180 pop cans.

SodaStream's line which was officially launched on November 15, includes designs such as Genesis, Pure, Crystal and Penguin. A wide variety of healthy and natural SodaStream flavor mixes are also available.

"We're looking forward to working closely with retailers and reward's programs such as Work Perks to ensure that SodaStream can be the great success we know it can be," continued Mikita-Wilson.

SodaStream products will be available at select Canadian retailers and also for purchase online at [www.sodastream.ca](http://www.sodastream.ca). Prices range from \$149-\$299.

### About SodaStream

SodaStream, with Canadian headquarters in Winnipeg, Manitoba, is the world leader in home carbonation systems. For more information and to purchase online, visit [www.sodastream.ca/shop](http://www.sodastream.ca/shop).

## H1N1: Who Picks Up The Tab?

MONIQUE JOHNSON  
*Business & Science*

The cost for the H1N1 is now at \$20 million. This includes the vaccines, syringes, masks and other supplies needed to prevent the flu from spreading. \$10 million has been spent on ventilators for flu patients. The overall cost still cannot be determined until the pandemic is close to being over. This does not help the already unstable Nova Scotia budget that is so in the red it competes with Valentine's Day. \$57 million has been set aside for the H1N1 expenses. Ottawa is paying 60% of the tab and Nova is paying 40%. The H1N1 clinics are now open to all Nova Scotians.

The Capital District Health Authority is also feeling the financial strain ... make that the \$2.5 million financial strain. According to Chris Power, the president and CEO of the Capital District Health Authority mentioned that \$760,000 has been spent on combating the virus and \$120,000 has been used to pay overtime staff.

### H1N1 PROGRAM COSTS SO FAR

\$2,899,396: VACCINE (NOVA SCOTIA'S 40 PER CENT SHARE)

\$1,443,807: SUPPLIES (NEEDLES, SYRINGES, SWABS, COOLERS ETC.)

\$5,260,526: VENTILATORS

\$1,000,000: MASKS

\$170,769: PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

TOTAL: \$10,774,498

SOURCE: HEALTH PROMOTION AND PROTECTION



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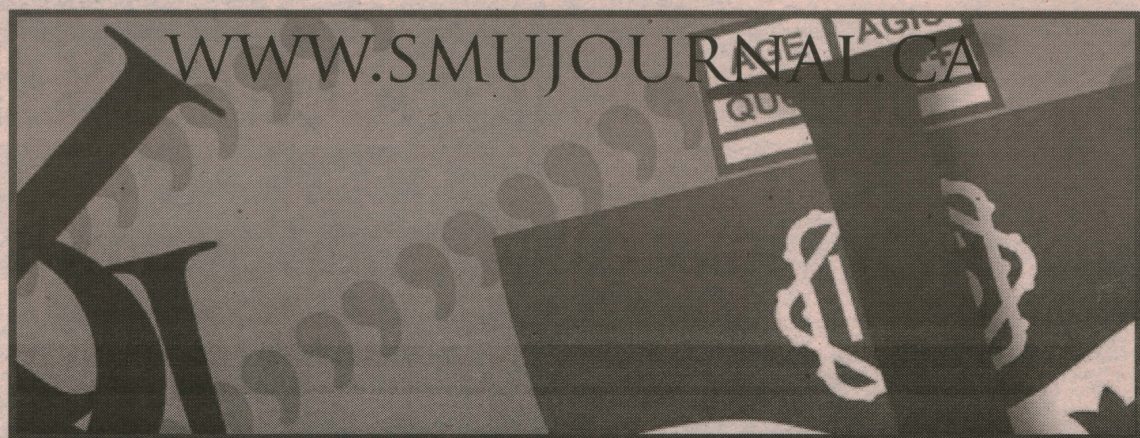
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# SPORTS

JASON MACDONALD  
Sports Editor



## Men's Hockey Team Record Tough Win Over Dal

JASON MACDONALD  
Sports Editor

The Saint Mary's Huskies hosted the Dalhousie Tigers Saturday night for their second-to-last home game before the Winter break. Despite being the worst AUS team last season the Tigers have rebuilt and revamped their team and as a result have come out strong this season, improving their last season record of 4-23-1 to 3-8-3 in their first 14 games.

The Tigers surprised the Huskies and came out swinging, playing a much more physical game than the Huskies had anticipated and looking much stronger than they had in previous meetings between the two Halifax teams. Dal's Kenzie Sheppard struck first scoring an even strength goal 3:12 into the 1st period. His goal was

quickly answered by Cody Thornton, assisted by David MacDonald and Andrew Hotham. Tigers captain Jeff Larsh scored their 2nd goal of the game, a power-play point that came about as a result of a tripping penalty handed out to Andrew Hotham.

The end of the first period got a little heated between SMU enforcer Justin Wallingford and Dal's Jeff MacGregor, both players were awarded penalties for roughing after the whistle at the end of the period.

Larsh's goal went unanswered until Andrew Hotham tallied a power-play goal of his own late in the 2nd period and tied the score at 2 all. The tie was broken 51 seconds later, Dal's Brendon MacDonald netted an even-strength goal with 2:10 left to play in the 2nd period.

There were 5 goals scored in the 3rd period, 2 by Dal and 3 by SMU

including Cam Fergus' tying power-play goal, scored 12:22 into the 3rd thanks to a holding penalty given to Francois Gauthier.

At the 14 minute mark of the 3rd period O'Keefe was dropped by a Dal player in a less than legal hit, this resulted in Thornton retaliating, throwing an elbow and roughing up the offending Dal player, Thornton received 4 penalty minutes as did Dal goaltender Bobby Nadeau who received 2 minutes for leaving the crease and getting involved with the scuffle.

SMU won the game thanks to Justin Munden who scored 14 seconds into over-time, sneaking the puck past Nadeau to the enjoyment of everyone in attendance.

The Huskies play again Wednesday, 2 December at 7pm when they take on St FX at the Forum.

## Women's Hockey Team Drop Last Two Games Before Winter Break

JASON MACDONALD  
Sports Editor

The Huskies had a pair of games this weekend, first against the St FX X-Women Friday night and then against Dalhousie Saturday night.

The Huskies and X-Women met for the second time this season and once again the X-Women came out on top. They defeated The Huskies 6-1, a two game total of 14 goals for, 2 goals against. The X-Women are currently first in the AUS with a record of 9-2-1 and are ranked 5th in the country. They are a powerhouse team and will be hard to stop this season.

Friday's game started quickly with X netting 2 quick short-handed goals early in the first period; Jessica Shanahan scored the first during Daniela Falconio's interference penalty and Brittney Perkins scored an unassisted shorthanded goal during a checking penalty.

Jessica Shanahan scored her second goal on the powerplay resulting from

Kyla Thurston's interference penalty midway through the second period.

SMU's only goal of the game was scored 11:51 into the second period when Melissa Young beat X goalie Katie Harvieux. Danielle MacDougall got the assist on the goal.

The X-Women scored 3 unanswered goals between the middle of the 2nd period and the end of the game including a last second goal that beat Jillian MacIssac.

Powerplays were equal for both teams however the X-Women capitalized on theirs and had considerably more chances than the Huskies.

Saturday night the Huskies were at Dal for their last meeting before the winter break. Currently ranked 4th in the AUS, Dal defeated the Huskies 6-3 in their fourth meeting this season. The teams are currently 2-2 in the series.

The Huskies are back in action Wednesday January 6th at Alumni Arena when they take on the Dalhousie Tigers in a mid-season exhibition game.



Photo Credit: Jason MacDonald



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