

# The Journal

FREE | January 19 - 25, 2011

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

## Lots of Seats to Fill:

Now's Your Chance to Usurp the  
Throne (p. 12)

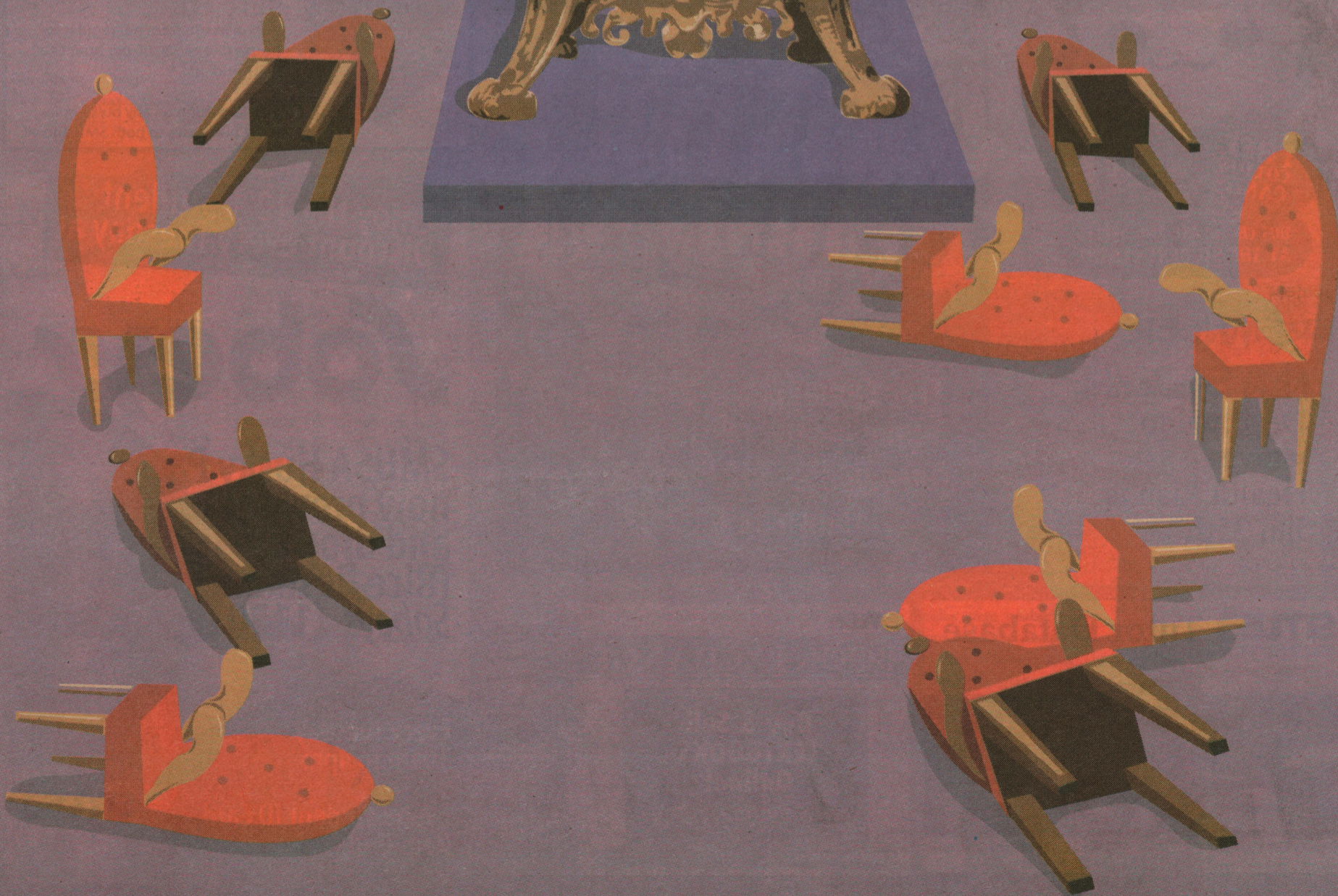
## PLUS:

### No More Money:

Nova Scotia Bursary Program Under Fire (p. 12)

### Sexy Business:

Hefner's plan to Penetrate the Market (p. 10)



Saint Mary's University Students' Association

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 <small>To get your event added to the Campus Calendar, send an email to marketing.manager@smusa.ca</small>		<b>Open Mic Night Jan 19</b> @ The Gorsebrook Lounge 9:30pm 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>BASKETBALL (M &amp; W)</b> Acadia @ SMU 6:00pm & 8:00pm www.smuhuskies.ca 	<b>22 23</b> Jan 23 <b>BASKETBALL (M &amp; W)</b> UNB @ SMU 2:00pm & 4:00pm www.smuhuskies.ca 
<b>24</b> <b>FREE Cotton Candy, Hot Chocolate &amp; Apples</b> 11am - 2pm @ the Student Centre 	<b>25</b> <b>Tribal Fusion Belly Dancing with the Women's Centre</b> 3pm - 4pm @ the Tower <b>FREE Cotton Candy, Hot Chocolate &amp; Apples</b> 11am - 2pm @ the Student Centre Trivia & Picnicface - <b>FREE</b> @ The Gorsebrook Lounge 7:00pm 	<b>26</b> <b>Video Game Day</b> Xbox Kinect 12pm - 2pm @ the Gorsebrook 	<b>27</b> <b>80s Party</b> Hosted by the GradClass Bacardi Sampling at the Door 8pm @ the Gorsebrook 	<b>28</b> <b>SMU Skates the Oval</b> For all SMU Students, Staff and Alumni! 1pm - 3pm Wear your SMU Gear! 	<b>29 30</b> Jan 29 <b>International Night</b> 6pm - 1am Loyola Residence Conference Hall L290 \$25 SMU Students \$30 Regular Admission



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Adam Faber Editor-in-chief

# Perspective

## Letter From The Editor The Business case for the U-Pass

With an upcoming change in the price of the U-Pass, it makes sense to run the numbers. After all, the best kind of choice is an informed choice (unless the choice is between two brands of hot dog, then you're probably better off not knowing). How much money is saved by someone who requires the bus?

The U-Pass is a special transit pass that provides full-time students with unlimited access to HRM's Metro Transit for the academic year, from September through April. All full-time students registered in three or more on-campus courses per semester are charged a mandatory \$117.00 U-Pass fee. Divided into the eight months of study it is valid for, you are paying about \$14.63 a month for mass transit. Without the U-Pass, Halifax Metro Transit would charge \$64 per month for a MetroPass, a difference of \$49.37. Almost fifty bucks a month is nothing to sneeze at. After the whole year is factored in, the saving has reached almost four hundred dollars (\$394.96, by my calculations)! Surely, for a bus user, this is a no-brainer.

"I drive, and it's stupid," states a SMU student who prefers to be unnamed, "I paid two-hundred bucks for a parking pass, and I also shell out a hundred bucks for a bus pass." More accurately, the student in question likely paid \$180 for the September to April parking permit. In September 2009, 1029 parking permits were sold to members of the university community, including students, staff, full-time faculty and part-time faculty. Of the 1029, 476 of the permits were sold to students. That makes 476 people who couldn't opt-out of the U-Pass deal.

476 people who pay \$117 totals \$55,692 dollars in bus pass. While these bus passes may get some use, they certainly aren't all required by those students. In contrast, the savings by

commuters is over three times what the driver's are obligated to chip in.

The Parking Pass form itself seems intent on dissuading you from

**“Divided into the eight months of study it is valid for, you are paying about \$14.63 a month for mass transit.”**

the beginning. The first page is a questionnaire with the apparent goal of educating you on how to get along without your car. "Did you know that you get RESERVED parking when you register a carpool group with Facilities Management?" the parking forms asks, "Did you know that the University Security and SMUSA offer safe walk home and safe drive home programs?" after ticking 'yes' through an information seminar, the guilt trip section begins; "Did you know the use of alternative forms of transportation helps reduce traffic loads, toxic emission released into the atmosphere, and parking issues on campus?" 'yes', I do hate my fellow drivers and the environment, where do I sign and where can I park?

In the end, it all seems to be a question of communal payment versus individual choice, "I put it in the same category as a health plan." says Dalhousie Graduate Scott Richard, "Some people will use it, some people won't but to make things fair and to make things cheap as possible, everybody has to have it, and pay some minimum price."

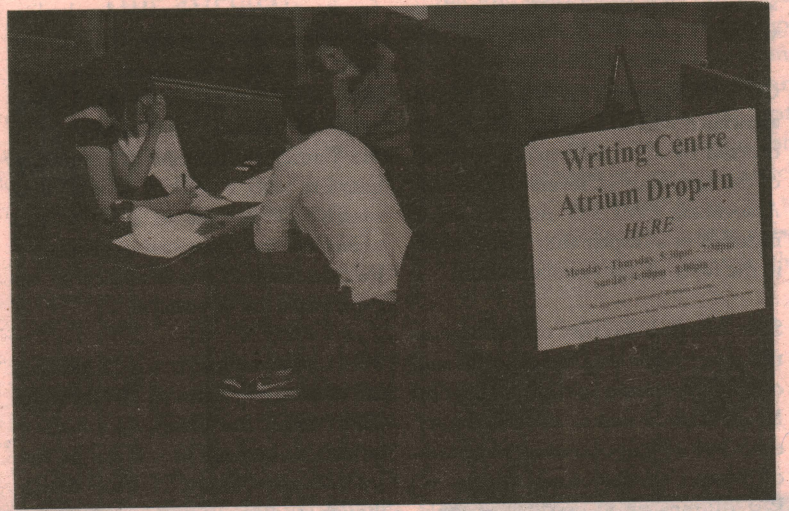
Adam Faber  
Editor-in-Chief

## Writing Centre's Tip of the Week

Stephanie Smith  
Contributor

The Winter Break is sadly over, which means it's time to start sharpening those writing skills. In the past, we have given tips on thesis statements, proof reading and how to outline an essay. This week will focus on what to include in the body paragraphs of an essay.

**“Many people let the evidence stand alone and let the reader figure out for themselves how everything works together. This is a bad idea!”**



A standard 1000 word essay has at least three body paragraphs, but this changes with higher word counts. Paragraphs are your chance to show your instructor what research you have done and to support your thesis statement. There are three things a strong paragraph should incorporate:

- an introduction/topic sentence (what the paragraph will discuss)
- body or evidence (quotes from your research and your thoughts)
- a conclusion (how the evidence supports the argument)

It is extremely important that you explain how your research supports your thesis statement. Many people let the evidence stand alone and let the

reader figure out for themselves how everything works together. This is a bad idea! Always tell the reader how things fit together; not doing this can weaken your points.

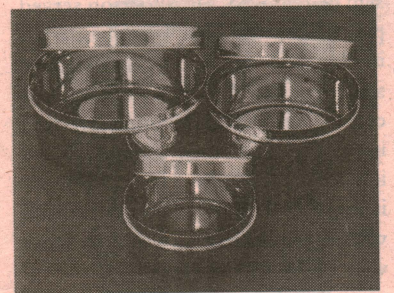
In addition, each paragraph should only discuss one topic or idea. Any more than this can disrupt the flow of your essay: making it appear disorganized.

It may be helpful to think of a paragraph as a sandwich: the topic sentence and conclusion are the bread while the body/evidence is the meat/chickpea spread. Generally a good sandwich has a lot of filling; i.e., the majority of your paragraph should be the evidence and your thoughts.

## Green Tip of the Week

Stephanie Smith  
Contributor

If you bring a lunch with you, bring in a good quality reusable container which will last a long time, rather than using disposable bags or plastic wrap.



SMUES

Join us Monday January 24th at 7:00pm in Atrium 217 for our next meeting! Lots of volunteer opportunities are coming up with SMU Environmental Society.



## The Journal

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# Features



James Urquhart Features Editor

## The Cranky Professor

### Memos we desperately need to receive (but probably won't)

**Mark Mercer**  
Department of Philosophy  
MEMO

**To:** The Saint Mary's University Community  
**From:** Colin Dodds, President, Saint Mary's University

**Re:** SMUSA's interference with students attempting to express their views

On 30 November last year, students associated with a campus society were ordered by Matt Anderson, president of the Saint Mary's University Students' Association (SMUSA), remove a sign included in a display they had erected in the foyer of the Loyola Building.

Saint Mary's University deeply regrets this interference with the peaceful and orderly expression of opinion. Saint Mary's is dedicated to maintaining an environment that encourages freedom of thought, expression and discussion. Part of the reason university people value freedom of expression so highly is that through open discussion and debate false or pernicious views can be exposed as such. The main reason, though, is that a commitment to freedom of expression is essential to our existence as intellectuals in intellectual community. We are passionate about making up our minds for ourselves and about enabling others to make up their minds for themselves.

That the sign offended and hurt some students gave Mr Anderson no reason at all to order it removed. Students who objected to the message the group sought to convey were free to engage in discussion about it and to explain why that message is false or pernicious. They were free to set up their own counter display.

In acceding to the demand that the sign be removed, Mr Anderson served poorly those students who objected to it. Mr Anderson mollified these students, thereby treating them as emotionally immature and, moreover, interfering with their emotional and intellectual growth. He also made it more likely that others on campus will pester authorities to shut up those with whom they disagree.

I have spoken with Mr Anderson about his actions and I believe he understands the many ways in which they have compromised the integrity of campus culture at Saint Mary's and harmed the people he sought to aid. I am pleased to be able to say that I am confident the current SMUSA will not again prevent students or others from saying what they want.

To ensure that future SMUSA admin

istrations do not repeat Mr Anderson's mistakes, SMUSA needs to reform its constitution so that its officers no longer have the power to vet or censor messages contained in student society displays or other communications. I am delighted that constitutional reform has already appeared on SMUSA's agenda.

The administration at Saint Mary's, for its part, is currently developing a system whereby the university itself can sponsor student societies and supply them with what they need to operate successfully. In the future, should SMUSA wrongly interfere with a student society, that society will be able to apply to the university for sponsorship, knowing that the university values freedom of expression and discussion.

The administration is also reviewing the relationship between SMUSA and Saint Mary's. The administration is not looking to increase its control of the students' association. It is concerned, though, to have in place mechanisms by which SMUSA can be shut down and its functions transferred to student services should future student associations threaten the values of our community.

**MEMO**  
**To:** The Saint Mary's University community  
**From:** Matt Anderson, President, Saint Mary's University Students' Association

**Re:** My recent interference with students attempting to express their views

On 30 November last year, I ordered students who had set up a display in the Loyola Building to remove one of their signs.

I was wrong to have done so. I apologize. I apologize to the students to whom I issued my order, to the students who demanded that the sign be removed, and to the university community as a whole.

To the students who had set up the display, I apologize for interfering with the peaceful and orderly expression of your claims and views. Now, I continue to believe that the message you posted is false and pernicious, and I sympathize with those offended and hurt by it, but after speaking with Saint Mary's University president Colin Dodds and others, and after much hard thought, I accept that we all must be able to speak falsely and to advocate the harmful without interference. This is especially true on a university campus.

SMUSA invites your society to mount

its display again, in the same location, so that you may express in it whatever claims and opinions you wish.

To the students who demanded that the sign be removed, I apologize for treating you as other than competent intellectuals. You are not people who need to be protected from claims and opinions. I am sorry for the disrespect for you inherent in my actions and I regret that I deprived you of an opportunity for emotional and intellectual growth.

When we disagree with a message, even if we are hurt or offended by it, we must respond by discussing and criticizing that message, not by seeking to suppress it. Yes, life is hard, but let's not feign to be so delicate.

To members of the university community generally, I apologize for compromising the integrity of campus culture. Saint Mary's aspires to be a place marked by the vigorous and free expression and exchange of claims, ideas, proposals, and visions. SMUSA should be in the business of protecting and extending intellectual culture, and not acting in ways that thwart it.

I regret that my actions might well have made it more likely that other people on campus will seek to suppress opinions they reject rather than to discuss and debate them. This would be sad, for right now Saint Mary's is attempting to overcome its history of hostility toward freedom of expression. I fear I might have set that process back. With this memo, I hope to help put things right.

While I was wrong to have ordered the sign removed, technically I was in within my rights to do so, at least on the interpretation of the SMUSA constitution under which I acted. (I am no longer sure that that interpretation is accurate, though.) Because no SMUSA officer should have the power to interfere with the peaceful and orderly expression of opinion or emotion on campus, SMUSA is currently consulting with the university community on rewriting the SMUSA constitution to make it clear that SMUSA may not vet or censor the messages student societies wish to convey.

While I appreciate President Dodds's concern to create mechanisms by which the university administration can serve student societies abused by future SMUSAs and protect campus culture, I want to assure him and the university community that these efforts are unnecessary. A new spirit is alive at SMUSA and the organization is committed to reforming itself so that it will never be other than an active promoter of an open and free campus culture.

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## Educational Needs

**James Urquhart**  
Features Editor

As Canadians, one of our most fundamental rights is to a basic education. Throughout the world, Canadians are amongst the best educated in all of the major categories that are measured (mathematics, literacy, et cetera). So in the scheme of things, on the international scene anyway, Canadians are fairing much better than most at the battle for a good education. However, when we look at it from a national perspective, the levels of education are steadily decreasing across the country. For Nova Scotians, the news is even graver; Nova Scotian schools perennially score amongst the lowest in the country for those categories mentioned above. This is synonymous with many things, but there is one factor that presses especially hard on our school system: Money. The problem, however, only appears as though it is going to get worse before it gets any better. The government of Nova Scotia has recently stated that it is "looking into" the possibility of cutting 22 percent from the education sector on their next budget. Although this will certainly affect me, I am most of all worried for the education of the younger generation of students who will go through the public school system in Nova Scotia.

What concerns me most is that something that has no value, other than the value that we place upon it, can have such a damaging impact on a thing that perhaps has the most intrinsic value of all the things we might say have intrinsic value. It's true; if we did not give value to those pieces of paper and metal, then of what value would they be to us? However, I do not think that anyone, if they really thought long and hard about it, would say that an education is devoid of value. So why is it that we let money get in the way of the education of our young people? Simple: capitalism. Think about it; the more money you have, the better the change that your child will end up with a better education, start to finish. With the shape that the public school system is in, it is of course in your best interest to send your child to private school. If you have the means to send your child to private school, and you choose to do so, then you are essentially ensuring that your child will receive a good education. Furthermore, you are also providing your child with the gateway to get into a better post secondary education, meaning that they will, on average, be more competitive on the job market than others. So really, what is being encouraged is that you yourself go to a good post secondary school, get a good job, make lots of money and put your child in a good private school. It all comes back around full circle to



capitalism; one hand washes the other. So, where do the majority of students fall within the framework of the education sector? Well, to be quite honest, they are in big trouble. Lack of resources, lack of opportunities and overall lack of money means that most students are going to have to deal with a less than desirable education, and will be forced to pick up the scraps that are left behind for them by those students who's parents have the means to send them to private school. It is unfortunately a very vicious cycle, one that I, and most of you, have had the unfortunate opportunity to live through.

Of course I would like the situation changed, and have the playing field leveled. This however would require a complete overhaul of our system of economics; something that I am still not quiet sure would be the best idea. I do think that small steps can be taken to improve the school system within the economic framework that we already operate under. Perhaps shift spending away from other sectors that are less important than education? Perhaps increase taxes in order to deal with the problem (although I will admit that Nova Scotians are being taxed heavily as it stands)? I am not an economist, and therefore I cannot offer a sensible solution that could fix this problem. I can, however, as a journalist, bring this problem to the forefront of the issues, and do my part to make sure that all are aware of the problem, and thus will have the opportunity to make their voices heard!



## The SMU Women are Angry: why my uterus does not belong to Stephen.

Jasmine Paloheimo  
Contributor

Who in Canada doesn't love free speech? Or the Canadian policy, which is actually freedom of expression! Freedom of expression is a wondrous thing—as human beings, we are innately expressive and that's a gift! What gets blurry is when discrimination and hate speech hides behind this line. To the women on this campus who feel insulted, upset and angry that a group exists on a university campus (with access to your money) that would have your uterus' as official property of the Stephen Harper administration, I invite you to not be silent about it. Being told to "suck it up" and not get emotional about it, (yes, this was printed in an article for proliferers) I ask you to consider why revoking the rights to women's bodies deserves a display for students while picking up their Timmy's double-double. By mounting public displays with slogans "Women regret their abortions" and inviting speakers onto your campus that would compare the WWII holocaust to abortion (in an attempt to broaden how many people they offend?), this group falls below the freedom of expression line. Freedom of expression doesn't mean my racist

“Freedom of expression doesn't mean my racist old grandpa deserves a display table beside your local Tim Horton's”

old grandpa deserves a display table beside your local Tim Horton's, nor a sound bite on CBC. Groups and organizations that exist to revoke rights of another group, and I don't mean the rights to their SUV, or their third rifle, but the rights to their own bodies, cannot hide behind freedom of expression, at least I hope it can't on SMU campus. Personal circumstances are the only grounds for deciding what to do with an unexpected or forced pregnancy, and no organization or ratified group can make a woman's choice for her. Let's step up our expectations of what is allowed in student space and make more room for respecting the rights of individuals on this campus (word up to the new ratified SMU Q group!) and make less room for discrimination, especially while placing your beverage order.

## SMU Women Deserve Better

Jasmine Paloheimo  
Contributor

“Our slogan? Trust Women.”

The articles in the last few weeks in the Journal, along with the display up in Loyola has resulted in several women coming to join us at the Women's Centre looking for someone to talk to. The SMU Women's Centre would like to invite any women who have felt the impacts of the anti-choice propaganda around campus to stop in and enjoy a safe, judgment-free space. You deserve one. We are located on the 5th floor of the student centre and are open from 11 – 4pm, Monday through Friday (Friday we are open at 10). We have tea, coffee, tampons, pads, condoms, books and support. We believe in freedom of choice and women are to be trusted to make decisions for themselves. Our slogan? Trust Women.



Halifax's campus & community radio station  
**top 10 new releases** for the week ending Jan 10th, 2011

- 1 Laura Peek / Key / *Just Friends*
- 2 The Rizdales / *How The Marriage Ended!* / *Self*
- 3 Mississippi Live / *Way Down Here* / *Self-Rel*
- 4 Cee-Lo Green / *Lady Killer* / *Elektra*
- 5 Tanya Davis / *Clocks and Hearts Keep Going* / *Wordy Music*
- 6 Dance Movie / *Bask* / *Self-Released*
- 7 Jen Lane / *For The Night* / *Self-Released*
- 8 It Kills / *It Kills* / *Self-Released*
- 9 Abstract Artform / *His Story in the Making* / *Self-Released*
- 10 Gee Wunder / *Original Heads w/ T Major* / *Ether*

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## Show some respect why don't you?

James Urquhart  
Features Editor

R-E-S-P-E-C-T, we are all familiar with that classic Aretha Franklin song. If you listen to the words carefully, there are two different, yet equally important, messages that Ms. Franklin is trying to convey to her listeners. One, women are strong, and deserve an equal amount of respect as do men. Secondly, she is saying that everyone deserves respect, and it is not a choice, but your responsibility to treat everyone you meet with respect. It is the second message that I am most interested in for the purpose of this article. I ask you; do you not agree with this message? Most people would probably say that this simply "goes without saying", that of course they agree with this message. Well, if this is the case, then there are many people here at Saint Mary's that are guilty of not putting their money where their mouth is.

By no means am I going to put myself on a pedestal of perfection; it is of course the case that I am not always as respectful as I should be, but this is simply part of the human condition. I am not concerned with those students who try their best, on the majority of occasions, to demonstrate respect to their fellow man and woman. The person I am addressing is the person who goes out of his way to be disrespectful and rude at any chance they get. They may, or not may not realize that they are being

disrespectful and rude, but that is hardly an excuse. My theory is that most people have simply become so complacent in going about their day-to-day business that they have simply forgotten to remember those who are around them. Case and point: Every time I go to use the restrooms at Saint Mary's I am utterly repulsed by what I see. I have to ask myself how old the students are that attend Saint Mary's University, and often, given what I see, I am not sure that it is university aged individuals who use the facilities on campus. When you are a child, if you are less than accurate with your "poo-poo" or "pee-pee" it is somewhat comical for a short period of time. However, when you reach an age synonymous with voting, drinking, have long been old enough to drive for several years, and as a group we are the supposed future of civilization, the joke is now on you. Personally, I am not quite sure how confident I am in the future of our society when a considerable amount of students at university apparently cannot get their byproducts in the designated area; a task that should have been learned years ago. To tell you the truth, it is not the fact that students my age cannot use the washroom properly that bothers me. What bothers me is that they cannot be bothered to clean up after themselves. Of course the common attitude seems to be that we have services for that. In fact, I have often heard students say something along the lines of, "well, that what they get paid for you know." Aside from being extremely asinine, this

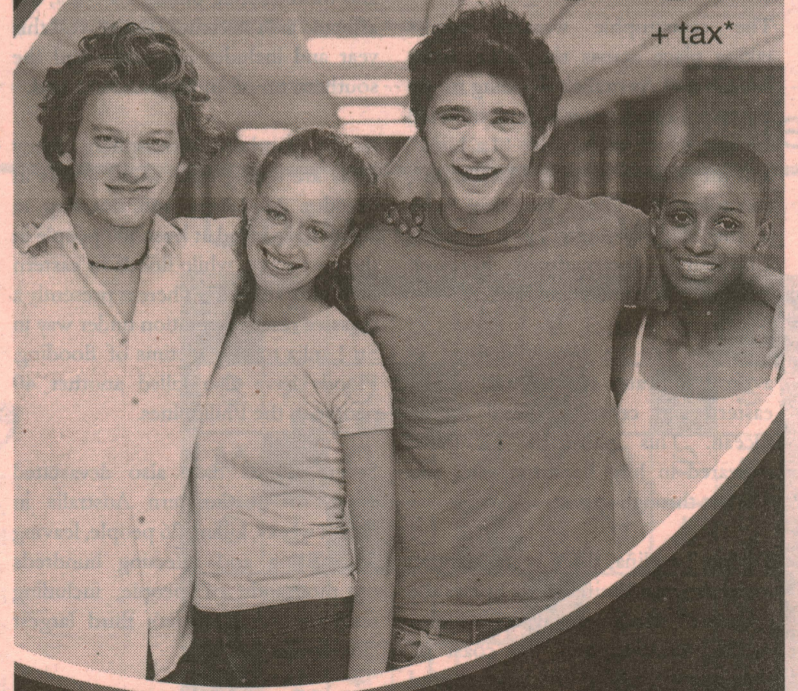
statement borders on malicious. If that is your opinion you are entitled to it, but I ask you how you would feel if you had to clean up a large amount of urine and fecal matter of the floor at the end of a long day? The point here is that just because these individuals are paid (although, from what I have seen they are not paid enough for what they are forced to do), it does not mean that you should go out of your way to make their lives difficult and unnecessarily adverse. Take two seconds to wipe up your mess; you made it, what entitles you to leave it for someone else? What would happen if you did not clean up after yourself at home? Well, I hate to burst your bubble, but the custodial pixies are on permanent vacation.

The behavior I am describing is certainly not limited to the washrooms on campus, or even to Saint Mary's campus for that matter. There are plenty of people out there disrespecting a great deal of people on a daily basis, whether it is not holding the door for your fellow man or women; or perhaps throwing your trash onto the ground two feet in front of a garbage can. However, I argue that we need to set an example for the rest of those disrespectful people out there. Saint Mary's is known throughout the city, the province, and even throughout the country for its courteous attitude and hospitality. Lets not forget that respect is just as important as either of those qualities, or any other quality I can think of.

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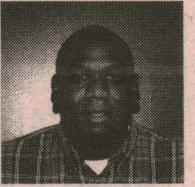


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# News



Keimeko Scotland News Editor

## Rape victims fear being jailed in Mauritania

Mohamed Yahya Abdel Wedoud  
Contributor

Mahjouba was raped in March 2010 on the nighttime streets of Mauritania's capital, but she will not bring charges against the man she says did it since she may be the one who ends up in prison. The 25-year-old says the legal advice she received was to not go to court, leaving her to suffer in silence.

There is no law in Mauritania that defines rape.

According to a local U.N.-funded group working with the victims, the law criminalizes the women instead of their rapists -- and society ostracizes the women.

Mahjouba, who asked not to use her real name, said: "I am sure that if I raise my voice I'm going to be criminalized by my society and I will pay the price harshly ... and as a result I may stay single for the rest of my life."

She added: "I consulted a lawyer secretly, and he advised me sincerely not to seek justice because that would throw me in jail. I know what happened to other girls who decided to go to court and face the community. Their lives were destroyed completely forever. So I already know what would happen to me if I had to follow that path."

"This Islamic republic has no place for rape victims like me."

Mauritanian laws are based on Sharia law and the penal code forbids relationships between both sexes outside marriage. That includes a consensual relationship between a boyfriend and girlfriend but can also criminalize a woman who is forced to have sex.

Sidi Athman Ould Sidi Salem, a law specialist and legal adviser to the government, said: "If raped women don't bring strong evidence, which is not easy, they would be accused of Zina -- an Arabic word meaning sex out of marriage -- and end up in jail. It's because the victims of rape are always accused of a Zina which make a lot of problems."

Sidi Athman added: "The rape issue has been one of the many taboos that haven't been investigated (by the government)."

UNFPA, which promotes health and equality issues, is working with local groups and the government to define rape in law and protect its victims.

Thierno Coulibaly, UNFPA assistant representative in Mauritania for its reproductive health program and

**“This Islamic republic has no place for rape victims like me.”**

population and development program, said he was not aware of any rape victim in the capital currently in jail but could not comment on what was happening outside the capital.

Even with legal protection, women victims of rape still face a social stigma that is hard to overcome. He said: "Women are still afraid to complain if they are victims of rape because there is an attitude from the society."

Coulibaly added: "There is no law to define rape but there will be one. And work is being done with police officers and judges ... to let them understand the problem is not the woman, but the perpetrator of the rape."

The U.N.-funded Mauritanian Association for Maternal and Child Health (known by its French acronym AMSME) is at the forefront of trying to change both the law and society.

When a woman reports a rape, police contact AMSME and the woman is taken to the El Wafa center.

Zeinebou Mint Taleb Moussa, a former midwife and president of the organization, set up the El Wafa center in 2001 to provide help for rape victims.

Mint Taleb Moussa said: "There is no mention of the words 'rape,' or 'sexual violence' in the Mauritanian laws which left a growing number of women as victims ... All the words that are related to sex are extremely taboo and can never be mentioned publicly."

Mint Taleb Moussa said there were 308 rape cases registered by her organization in 2008 and 205 in 2009, but she noted that "what has been reported is only the tip of the iceberg."

She said they mainly deal with cases in the capital, Nouakchott, but there remain many unreported rapes in the city and the country.

She said rape victims bring shame to their families and the woman's reputation, and few women have the courage to report the crime and be registered.

Mint Taleb Moussa added: "We focus basically on the capital Nouakchott, but we think of covering the interior regions as well."

Mint Taleb Moussa has tried in vain for a decade to get her message into the national media to assist rape victims.

"I requested having a program in the state mass media -- radio and TV -- but my request was turned down. Recently, the national TV hosted me for the first time on a program, but it was censored without giving any justification ... It's a big problem here to defend rape victims," she said.

AMSME is also working with government and religious leaders in a bid to get a new rape law.

Sidi Ould Beyade, spokesman for the Ministry of Welfare, Children and Family, said the ministry has begun work on the issue to help end the ordeal of rape victims.

"For the first time, the ministry is now in touch with NGO activists, lawyers and opinion makers with the purpose of studying the situation, first, and then trying to act."

*Reproduced from CNN News*

*The views and opinions expressed by the author do not represent those of The SMU Journal, Saint Mary's University or their staff or agents.*



## La Nina and North Atlantic Oscillation cause Catastrophic Global Weather

KEIMEKO SCOTLAND  
News Editor

The catastrophic weather events taking place across the globe, from Brazil's and Australia's flooding to the Eastern United States' heavy snowfall are due to the effects of "La Niña" and the "North Atlantic Oscillation", according to Tony Barnston who is the lead forecaster at Columbia University's International Research Institute for Climate and Society.

La Niña can be simply defined as a drop in water temperature in the eastern and central tropical Pacific Ocean. This particular La Niña appeared in July, Barnston said, and will last through spring.

During La Niña, there is less rainfall in the tropical Pacific and a horseshoe pattern of warm water typically forms in the North Pacific, the coast of Southeast Asia and the seas around Indonesia and Australia (check out the graphic above).

In this case, though, "the whole globe looks to be compensating," Barnston said, noting that it's difficult to determine if La Niña spawns individual weather events.

While Southeast Asia and Australia can typically expect warmer oceans and more rainfall during La Niña, the affected area stretches farther west this year and includes Sri Lanka and the southern tip of India, Barnston said.

In the Southern Hemisphere, many areas are seeing their worst floods in decades. Mudslides and flooding in Brazil have killed at least 600 people in the past week, while floods in eastern Sri Lanka killed 27. There is presently a massive rescue operation under way in Sri Lanka to save victims of flooding. Floods have also killed another 40 people in the Philippines.

Severe floods have also devastated much of northeastern Australia in recent weeks, killing 26 people, leaving 53 missing and affecting hundreds of thousands of people, including residents of Australia's third largest city, Brisbane.

The heavy rainfall in Australia is a direct result of La Niña's effect on Pacific trade winds, according to reports from National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). NASA's satellites confirmed that the current La Niña event is one of the strongest in 50 years.

Brazil is on the Atlantic side of South America, making a link between its disastrous floods and La Niña more difficult.

The death toll from flooding caused by torrential rains in Brazil's Rio de Janeiro state rose to 591 people, Brazil's official news agency reported. Most of the deaths were reported in the cities of Nova Friburgo and Teresopolis, located in a mountainous region northeast of Rio, according to Agencia Brasil. Rescuers have not been able to reach some hard-hit areas and many more people are feared dead.

The rain is predicted to continue for several days in areas already submerged in water or slathered with mud. Thousands of families are still living on mountain slopes or on riverbanks and face extreme risk of being washed away.

At least 257 people died in Teresopolis, while 267 were killed in the town of Nova Friburgo, Agencia Brasil reported.

Other areas bordering the Atlantic have also seen unusual weather. Heavy snowfall and cold temperatures have hit northeastern North America, and

similar conditions led to hundreds of flight disruptions in Europe before Christmas. In Canada, Nunavut and other areas of the eastern Arctic have seen mild weather, while meteorologists have reported that snow was present on the ground in every U.S. state but Florida.

As of early January, the areas affected by La Niña were 1.5 degrees cooler than normal, according to reports from the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "La Niña is currently near its peak and is expected to persist into the Northern Hemisphere spring 2011 at a lesser intensity," said an update from the agency in a Jan. 6 update. However, it wasn't clear whether the event would last into summer.

*With files from CNN, AP and CBC News*



## Stampede Kills over 100 in India

KEIMEKO SCOTLAND  
News Editor

Authorities in India report that a stampede near a religious temple killed 100 people in southern region of the country.

Apparently, pilgrims were returning from a Hindu ritual at a temple when a vehicle overturned, prompting the stampede, said Jai Kumar, home secretary of Kerala state. Video footage showed authorities loading up bodies in large pickup trucks. Onlookers gathered around, looking at the pile of bodies as some took pictures and sobbed.

The incident occurred about 5 miles from the Sabarimala Temple, Kumar said.

The vehicle struck many of the people in a narrow stretch through a forest, the news agency Press Trust of India reported.

Stampedes at events in India have occurred several times because large crowds gather at narrow, congested areas. In March 2010, more than 60 people were killed during a stampede at a temple in the Uttar Pradesh state.

*With files from CNN*

# Political Turmoil in Tunisia

KEIMEKO SCOTLAND  
News Editor

Tunisia has a new interim president after 24 hours of political uncertainty and a month of violent street protests that forced his predecessor to flee the country.

The speaker of the Tunisia's parliament, Fouad Mebazza, was sworn in Saturday after a ruling by the Constitutional Court, which called for new elections in 60 days.

Mebazza said on state television that he has asked Prime Minister Mohammed Ghannouchi to form "a national unity government in the country's best interests."

Tunisia's capital remained under a state of emergency after President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, 74, and some members of his family fled the former French colony for Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on Friday night.

For more than 23 years, Ben Ali presided over a repressive regime that many said was corrupt and served only the interests of a small elite ruling class. He relied heavily on the police to quash opposition.

Frustration with Ben Ali's regime was exacerbated recently by rising food and fuel prices and high unemployment.

The wave of rallies in the North African nation was stirred by the suicide of an unemployed college graduate, who torched himself last month after police confiscated his fruit cart, cutting off his source of income.

A travel warning from the British Foreign Office on Saturday said "there have been demonstrations, some violent" and "significant looting" in Tunis and other locations, naming cities such as Sousse, Sfax, Nabl, Hammamet, Douze, Kasserine, Requeb and Thia.

Amnesty International spokesman Claudio Cordone said that 55 people have been killed over the past several weeks of demonstrations.

"We hope that the army will match its reputation for being more professional and less trigger-happy than the security forces that have been responsible for much of the violence over the last several weeks", Cordone said.

Ben Ali's sudden departure has reverberated in the Arab world, where the news of the uprising elated people in other countries across the region, where authoritarian rule has persisted for years.

In Cairo, Egypt, about 100 people inspired by what some are calling the "Jasmine Revolution" in Tunisia massed in front of the press syndicate and called for a similar uprising there. Amid heavy security and the presence of many riot police in the city, the people chanted, "Down with Hosni Mubarak", the nation's leader, and called him a corrupt and ruthless ruler.

Tunisia has close cultural and economic links to France, which invaded Tunisia in 1881. That move led to the creation of a protectorate until Tunisia became

independent in 1956. An official statement from French President Nicolas Sarkozy noted France's "many ties of friendship" to Tunisia and called for free elections as soon as possible.

The African Union's Peace and Security Council "expressed its solidarity" with Tunisians and deplored the "excessive use of force against demonstrators" in a statement issued on January 15.

It also urged "the political stakeholders and the Tunisian people to work together, in unity, consensus and respect for legality, towards a peaceful and democratic transition, which will allow the Tunisian people to freely choose their leaders through free, open, democratic and transparent elections".

The Arab League released a statement regarding "this historic stage" and urged the "return of calm and security", according to reports by Jordan's state-run news agency, Petra on January 15.

The Cairo-based alliance offered support for a peaceful, legal realization of "the Tunisian people's aspirations for a decent, secure and stable future in a climate of democracy and political stability".

With files from AP News



# Canada Games Centre opens in Halifax

KEIMEKO SCOTLAND  
News Editor

On January 15, the \$45 million venue for the 2011 Canada Games in Halifax officially opened with less than a month to go before the games begin. Hundreds of people gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Canada Games Centre in the city's west end. Halifax Mayor Peter Kelly, Premier Darrell Dexter and Defence Minister Peter MacKay, cut the ribbon.

jewel" of the games. "This is a world-class facility that will not only host some of our nation's best athletes ... but will also serve Nova Scotians for generations to come", Dexter said before the crowd was invited inside for a tour.

The centre is a multi-purpose training and recreation facility that includes an eight-lane, 25-metre indoor pool, leisure pool, fitness centre, 200-metre indoor running track and four



"In just a few weeks time, we will be hosting Canada's elite athletes for what may be some of the greatest competitions of their careers", MacKay told the crowd. "We can't wait to welcome all of those participants. This will be the best Canada Games ever".

The games will be held during the last two weeks of February.

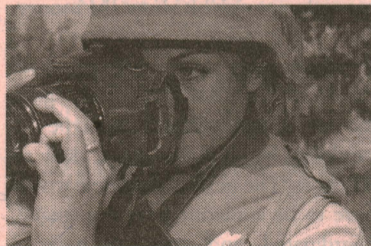
full-sized gymnasium courts. The Halifax Regional Municipality is reported to have spent \$21 million on the project, with the federal and provincial governments each contributing \$12 million. During the games, the centre will be used by athletes competing in artistic gymnastics, badminton and synchronized swimming.

Dexter said the centre is the "crown

# Journalist Lindhout speaks at Ottawa conference

KEIMEKO SCOTLAND  
News Editor

Canadian journalist Amanda Lindhout who was kidnapped and held in Somalia for 15 months was a keynote speaker at Carleton University's Yes You Can Leadership Conference, sharing her story with about 200 students.



hopes to give back to the African country.

"Just beneath the pain in the heart of suffering lies the seed from which inspiration grows," said Lindhout.

The conference, organized by students, aims to halt the trend of diminishing volunteerism, organizers said.

With files from CBC News

Lindhout, who now runs a scholarship program for Somali women through her Global Enrichment Foundation, said the point of her talk was to get students to take action.

"Volunteer. Join an organization. Create an organization," Lindhout told the group.

"We all, every one of us here, have the power to create real sustainable change in the world no matter where we come from, no matter what baggage we have."

Lindhout was captured by gunmen while working in Somalia as a freelance journalist. A year after being freed, she said she's learned to forgive her captors for abusing her. She now



## You could write for The Journal

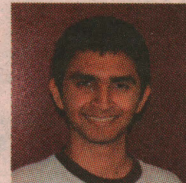
[thesmujournal@gmail.com](mailto:thesmujournal@gmail.com)

Tribal fusion Bellydance Classes with the SMU Women's Centre

Tuesday from 3pm-4pm @the Tower

Starting January 18th and every Tuesday.

# StudentLife



Suvir Pursnani Student Life Editor

## Grade Your Experience at Saint Mary's

### The 2011 National Survey of Student Engagement

**Adam Faber**

Editor in Chief

The roles are reversed this month as Saint Mary's asks its student to grade them. "Quizzes, exams, papers, presentations... students are pretty used to being tested and graded on their performance," says Margaret-Anne Bennett, Director of the Centre for Academic and Instructional Development (CAID), "How often do students have an opportunity to grade their university?"

Beginning in late January, approximately 2200 first year and 650 fourth year students at Saint Mary's will receive an email invitation to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). Bennett explains that the survey is more than an opportunity for students to indicate what they are happy or unhappy with, "NSSE is not a 'student satisfaction' survey. It is designed to gather feedback on students' educational experiences". She went on to describe the many aspects that the survey covers including ways in which students engage in their studies, their relationships with faculty, staff and other students, as well as the availability of academic programs and quality of administrative services. "NSSE is designed to identify ways

the university can better support and contribute to our students' personal and academic success".

"When Saint Mary's students participated in 2008, they gave us lots of feedback - on things that were going well, but more importantly, on ways we could improve - to improve the student experience, and the university responded."

Based on the 2008 survey results, additional resources were put into academic advising; a Senate Committee on Student Success was formed to identify, promote, coordinate, and evaluate efforts to improve success among Saint Mary's University students; individuals, groups and committees used NSSE data to examine/improve their programs and services and how they interact with students; and a program designed to support first year students' as they transition to University, LEAP, was developed and piloted this year. Margaret-Anne describes the message she wants to get out to students. "It's been three years since Saint Mary's last participated in NSSE. What we want to know now is 'what are Saint Mary's student issues in 2011?'"

With competing demands on your time, energy and attention, you may well ask 'Why should I bother filing in the survey?' Bennett boiled it down to

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**Grade Your Experience at SMU!**

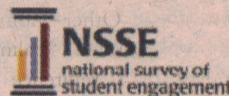
National Survey of Student Engagement

All 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students ...  
Check your email - late January, 2011

We want YOU to tell US how we're doing



**Win one of two \$200 Bookstore Gift Certificates**



three basic ideas: the university wants to listen and learn from students; students will benefit from expressing their opinions; and, the survey completion rate needs to be high for the data to be considered valid and

useful. That being said, sweetening the deal never hurts: "All students who complete the survey will be entered in a draw for two \$200 gift certificates to the Saint Mary's Bookstore. NSSE will provide us with the two names at the

“How often do students have an opportunity to grade their university?”

end of the survey cycle.”

The National Survey of Student Engagement was developed by the Indiana University Center for Post-Secondary Research and is used annually by more than 500 universities and colleges across North America, including many in the Atlantic region and across Canada. The Indiana University Center will oversee the electronic distribution of surveys, do the data collection and analysis, and provide each participating university with a comprehensive set of institutional reports by August 2011. Bennett concluded, "I hope when students check their email at the end of January and see a message from NSSE inviting them to complete the survey, they take fifteen minutes and 'overwhelmingly' respond, because student voices matter!"

## It's Election Time

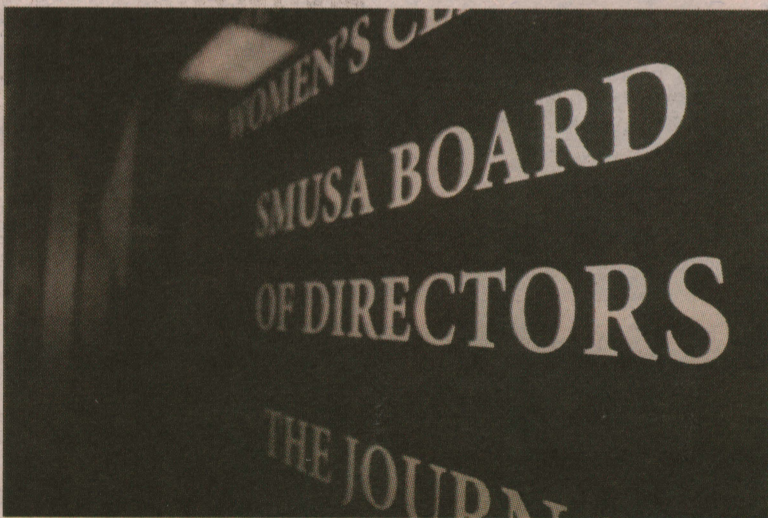
**Suvir Pursnani**

Student Life Editor

As some of you may know, it's close to election time here at Saint Mary's. The time of year where politics is a buzz and nominees are going to be trying their best to earn your vote. This year will be a little more intense than others for the sole fact that there is a substantial amount of positions available. It should be important to us students to know exactly what holding these positions mean. The persons elected into these positions will be given the task to plan out the future of Saint Mary's. Some of you may even be wondering how to get into politics yourself. The next few weeks should be interesting.

The Board of Directors will have at least seven of eight positions up for grabs out of a possible nine this year. Imagine that, pretty much the whole board will be stepping down this year. Let's stop here though and take the time to understand what the board of directors actually is. Why do we have a BoD? What does the BoD do? How do they function?

There are nine positions on the BoD. Directors are elected on to the board by us, the students. The directors are



just like us, normal students, either undergraduate or graduate. Out of the nine directors, one chair is appointed. This is done at the discretion of the board itself; they are responsible themselves for appointing the chair. Together they are the second highest authority in the student body, next to us; the students as a whole. Politics within Saint Mary's works using the *policy governance* model. This is focused on the existence of a board of directors and provides a clear differentiation between governance and management abilities of an organization. The board is set with the task to plan out the future of the student body. It is then up to SMUSA and other affiliations

to accomplish the goals set. A good way to think about it is that the board points out the present, point A, and what it wants to see accomplished, point B. SMUSA's mission is to step in and make it to point B, or as close to it as possible anyways. It should be noted that it is not the board's job to make day to day decisions. They exist to plan the future and to make sure that the students' best interests are put forward. They act as the link between students and SMUSA. One the responsibilities of the board is, among other things, to approve the budget for SMUSA. Each director gets paid a grand per year, while the chair pockets 2 grand. The position of president of

SMUSA is also available. While this job needs no explanation, it's interesting to know that the job pays 20 large for the whole year. However, these jobs are certainly not one bit about the money.

I talked with Mike Mercer, Vice President of SMUSA, who gave me his thoughts about the type of candidate he would be most likely to vote for. "The perfect candidate would have to be someone who is engaged, coordinated, and wants to make a difference that would benefit us all." I asked a few other students on campus too; what type of person would you vote for? One student, who preferred to stay anonymous said "I'd like for someone to actually let us know exactly what it is they're going to do. Last year there were a lot of posters to get people's names and faces out, but as for what they had planned to do it was kind of vague. That might be partially my fault because I didn't attend any public events or speeches or anything. Overall though, I really was unaware of their game plan and what they had planned for the next year." Another student said "I would want someone who reached out more to students, and threw more parties." Whatever your decision may be, keep in mind that these are going to be the people that will represent your interests. The president's position is

“Whatever your decision may be, keep in mind that these are going to be the people that will represent your interests”

also just as and maybe even more important to think about. This will be the guy/girl who will head up SMUSA, our beloved student association. If you're interested in running, head over to SMUSA's offices on the fifth floor of the student union building. There's some paperwork that you'll need to fill out. You're also required to achieve a number of signatures from the student body. The deadline for all this is January 28th. That's the easy stuff though; winning over the votes of your fellow students, not as easy.





# "App" Voted Word of the Year

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

The word of the year has been chosen by the American Dialect Society, and this year it is a word loved and often used by technology enthusiasts everywhere: "app". With 69 votes, "app" defeated the word "nom" (amongst others) in a vote by linguists in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Allan Metcalf, executive secretary of the Dialect Society, says that the word is not always a clear choice amongst voters. "Some years there's a very clear choice. I think this past year there wasn't anything clearly dominant, but there's no question 'app' is a very powerful word."

In 2001, the word of the year was "9/11", while 2010's word of the year was "tweet" and the word of the decade was chosen to be "Google". Metcalf says that the word of the year isn't universally popular amongst the members of the society, but he believes it draws attention to their work, such as school curriculum and raising education standards. Any person can nominate a word for word of the year by e-mail, Twitter, or using links on their website,



App Store

americandialect.com.

According to MSNBC, tech terms have been the most popular nominations and winners since the competition's beginning, in 1990. These winners include "millennium bug" (1997), "information superhighway" (1993), "web" (word of the 1990s), and even the prefix "e-" (1998).

Other nominations are often political or relating to current events, such as the inaugural winner in 1990, "Bushlips", defined as "insincere political rhetoric", or 2002's winner, "WMD", as in "weapons of mass destruction". Other nominees for this year included "Palinism" and "refudiate", in reference to Sarah Palin.

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# Zeller's to Dawn a Different Shade of Red

Kerry O'Rourke

Business Editor

Canada's oldest corporation is about to get a little leaner. As a quick lesson in HBC history, most recently, Richard Baker purchased the company a short three years ago. Included with his purchase was Canada's own Zeller's. However, the Hudson Bay Company has just announced the planned sale of Zeller's to Target, a major American retailer.

According to the deal, Target will pay approximately USD \$2 billion for Zeller's 220 stores located nationwide. Once the sale is completed Target intends to convert 100 to 150 of Zeller's locations to Target stores. In doing so, the company expects to spend in the neighborhood of USD \$1 to complete the process.

Target is believed to be interested in entering the Canadian market due to Canada's relatively healthy economy. The Canadian retail sector has also experienced strong consumer demand. Some have suggested, due to these factors other American retailers such as Kohl's have expressed interest in potentially buying some of the Zeller's locations Target does not convert in a

“...Target intends to convert 100 to 150 of Zeller's locations to Target stores”

bid to enter the Canadian retail sector.

With target's purchase of Zeller's it allows them to extend their brand for the first time outside of the United States.

Consumers should expect to see newly converted Zeller's locations into Target locations by 2013.



# Trumped

Adam Faber

Editor in Chief

The Trumped Competition is back at SMU for it's 5th year. Trumped 2011 is open to all university and college students across Nova Scotia. Groups of 2-4 students solve real Nova Scotia business problems under the dual pressures of time and resource constraints. Entrepreneurial student leaders will develop solutions to specific business challenges and compete with each other for cash and in-kind prizes. The education goal is to gain firsthand experience and develop business and personal relationships with competitors and provincial business leaders in communities across the province. Emphasis will be placed on learning leadership, creativity and teamwork skills by mirroring the entrepreneurial experience. The competition is geared to help prepare students to take their places in the Canadian business community after the completion of their studies. For information or to register go to [www.trumped.ca](http://www.trumped.ca).

**DATES & DEADLINES**

Tuesday, January 25, 2011  
Online Registration Closes: 5pm

Boardroom 1 @ 7pm  
Place: Scotiabank Theatre

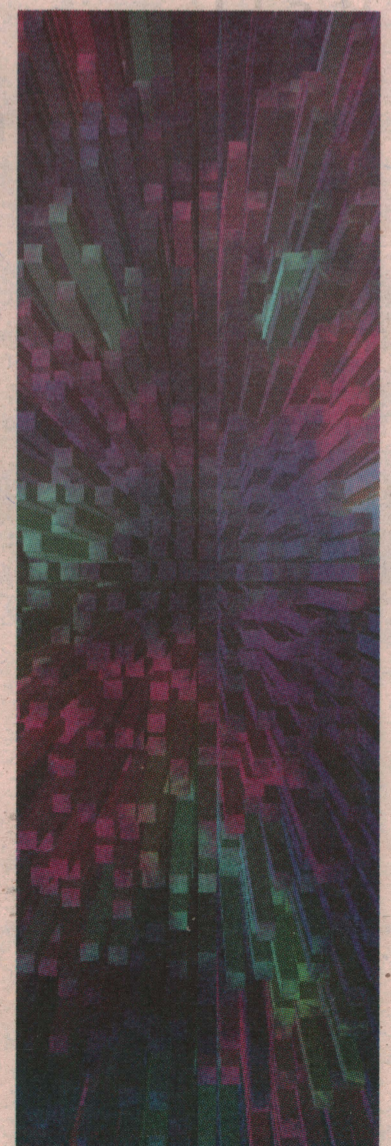


Saint Mary's University Tues February 15, 2011

Boardroom 2 @ 7pm  
Place: Scotiabank Theatre  
Saint Mary's University  
Tues March 8, 2011

Boardroom 3 @ 7pm  
Place: Scotiabank Theatre  
Saint Mary's University

Fri April 1, 2011  
Closing Ceremony Dinner  
Time/Place: TBA  
\*Boardroom dates/times are subject to change



# Business

Kerry J. O'Rourke Business Editor



## Sexy Business: Playboy Style

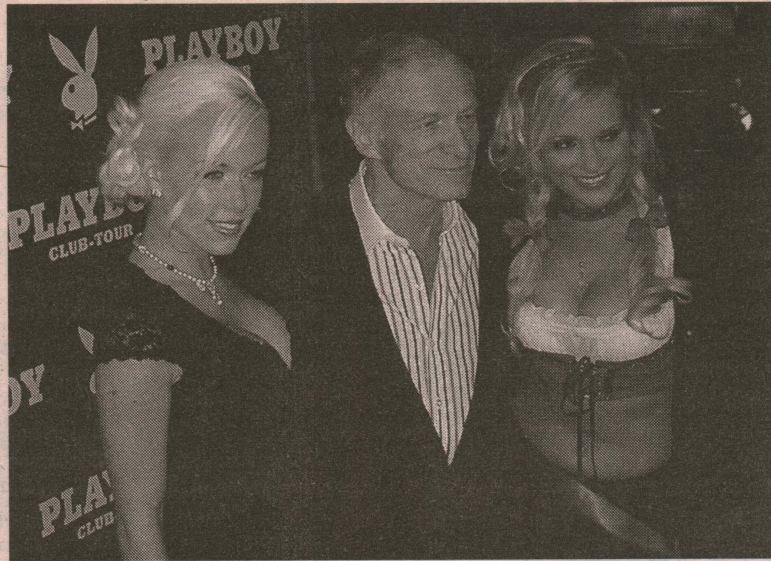
Kerry O'Rourke

Business Editor

Some look to the iconic adult Playboy brand as a means to obtain adult material but others do not. It is important to realize that while Playboy Enterprises has provided adult material to paying consumers for decades to others it is merely a business. On this theme, there is no greater example of this idea than the magazines infamous founder Hugh Hefner and his business interests in Playboy Enterprises.

Any business should always be looking to be more profitable and seek greater efficiency in its operations. Thus, Playboy's founder Hugh Hefner has hatched a plan to change the business side of Playboy. Given Playboy's current stock price, Playboy enterprises is worth approximately USD \$205 million. Furthermore, the company's founder owns about one third of the company's outstanding stock. It appears, this is not satisfactory as the 84-year old mogul is seeking to obtain the company's other two thirds of outstanding stock in a bid to take the company private. While, Hugh Hefner does not have the financial means to buy the outstanding stock solely by himself, Playboy's charismatic founder has found a wealthy private equity backer in Rizvi Traverse Management help fund his objectives.

From an outsider's perspective,



High's new wealthy business partner and financial backer is willing to pay a premium in order to secure the remaining stock. Hugh Hefner along with his partner, Rizvi Traverse Management have pledge to pay an approximate 56% premium over the stocks current price in order to obtain to remaining two-thirds majority, they don't currently own. All told that equates to paying approximately USD \$300 million for a company currently valued at USD \$205 million (given Playboy Enterprises current stock price and number of outstanding shares).

In order to understand how these figures are arrived at lets take a quick & simple look at Playboy Enterprises

current financial position. Canada's own RBC Capital Markets has suggested that during the fiscal period of 2010 Playboy Enterprises turned a net profit of USD \$15.8 million before depreciation, taxes, interest and amortization. Once those issues have been taken care of it stands to reason that the actual net profit the company will announce, should be significantly lower. Regardless, paying a 56% premium over the company's current stock price for such meagre earnings means that Hefner and his partner are willing to pay more than 20 times earnings. This may prove to be an offer just too sexy enough to pass up for the remaining Playboy Enterprises, stock holders.

However, if one looks a little bit deeper under Playboy's covers a troubling picture emerges to some. Playboy's main businesses segments are their magazine and television efforts. Unfortunately, both these business have experienced contraction from increased competition from the internet. To illustrate this point, Playboy's revenue streams in their two primary business models have seen significant decreases in revenue over the last three years resulting in a 73% decline since 2007.

Going forward Playboy is trying to addresses these fundamental problems within their current business model. Thus, Playboy has identified an area that the company feels it can grow in order to mitigate the losses it's seen in other areas of its business. The primary area Playboy now believes it must grow in order to succeed is in its licensing. Given that Playboy has a brand that is synonymous with the adult entertainment industry, many feel this is an area of significant strategic advantage and potential growth. Playoff is actively underway in their attempts to establish new licensing agreements.

Some analysts have suggested Playboy may be able to double their licensing revenue by 2013. If this were to occur, their licensing revenue which is completely separate from their television and & magazine businesses could translate to an earnings before

interest, tax, amortization, and depreciation of approximately USD \$42 million.

As an independent number USD \$42 million earnings before EBITAD from licensing may, appear to be attractive. However, when you consider that a private equity firm is providing the initial capital infusion the number this figure by itself may not be as attractive as it sounds. Thus, one is lead to believe that even if licensing revenue grows to \$42 million in a short period of three years, a private equity firm such as Rizvi Traverse Management has to be in this investment for the long term. Given that private equity firms typically look for at least a 20-40% return on their money Rizvi Traverse Management should not expect a substantial return on their money until at least a period of five years has passed.

All told the adult entertainment business is an industry that has seen tremendous change since the dawn of the information age, Thus it will be interesting to see whether an iconic brand such as Playboy is able to come back in order to lay claim to the top of the adult entertainment industry once again.

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## Holiday Returns : Don't fear them

Kerry O'Rourke

Business Editor

As the holiday season has faded, all too often at this time of the new year many consumers often wake up with buyer remorse. The disdain one may feel may not be derived from something they bought themselves. All too often it's may be from a gift they received over the holiday season. By example, the classic tale of receiving an ugly sweater from your grandmother or some weird gift from another family member are all too familiar tales. As such, here's a rough guide to taking action and being able to return those unwanted holiday gifts. Don't wait. It's not too late yet! You'd be surprised by how willing big retailers are all too keen to ensure you become a repeat customer. Thus, taking that ugly dress or sweater back, the retailer often feels they might be able to ensure that you shop with them next time v. going to their competitor.

### Go Straight To The Top:

Companies often put lower level employees, policies and procedures in place to act as a deterrent to giving you your money back. These tactics

may work on some. However, if you are persistent and ask to speak to higher level employees, often times these more senior managers will help you get the result you deserve! This result often comes in in different forms. By example, if the store, online retailer, service provider, etc. does not accept returns they may concede and provide you with an exchange or in-store credit. In theory, this option should be made available to everyone but all too often you'll need to speak to someone in charge to get the result you desire.

If mid-level managers don't provide a satisfactory solution you might consider writing to the company's CEO or senior managers. Often times in an effort to avoid negative PR, company's will bend the rules on a case by case basis. Unfortunately, this idea is not readily published as company's don't want to encourage it. However, if you are to take it in such a direction a desirable outcome might just result.

### Use your Credit Card Bill:

If you have an item you don't want, you have the receipt and are within their stated returns criteria, most often a receipt will easily solve the problem.

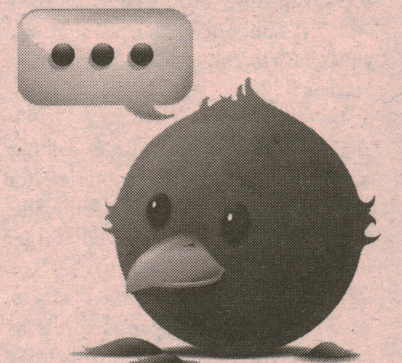
However, a lot of people tend to lose their receipts unfortunately. Thus, if you use the power of your credit card statement you may be able to prove the purchase was made in order to get your money back. This simple yet effective trick might serve as a productive way to receive an exchange/return without the traditional documentation, such as a receipt. With this method, retracing your steps by looking over your credit card bill might serve as proof to the vendor that your purchase is legitimate and eligible to a return or exchange. If you're lucky you may also find yourself dealing with a retailer that does not have stringent returns policies and thus making a return without a receipt may prove to be an easy task.

### Be nice. It won't go unnoticed:

The truth of the matter is that we are all people. Hence being nice on either side of the counter goes along way to getting a desired result. It's important to be polite but firm. If you are to approach a return with an aggressive stance the retailer may be less inclined to provide assistance and/or it may cause you have a minor eventual meltdown yourself. Saving face in any situation should always be a priority. Furthermore, many people

that shop retail have worked in retail jobs themselves at one point in time or another in their lives. Essentially, the customers may have in fact worked on the other side of the counter. Thus, simply recalling back to your (if you've worked on the other side of the counter) past experiences and having to deal with unruly customers might serve as a lesson. If you stop and think back, you may remember how you felt when dealing with rude and aggressive customers and how it in turn made you less empathetic to the customers complaints and/or desire to receive a return/exchange. A little consideration goes a long way to getting what you want!

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# Technology



Angela Lindsey Technology Editor

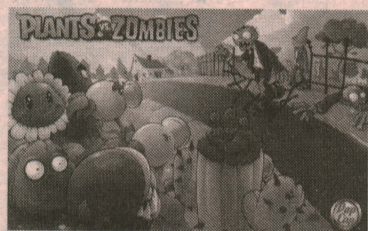
## Video Game Releases

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

Be sure to check out these new games this week!

- 01/13/2011 – Spellforce 2: Faith in Destiny (PC)
- 01/18/2011 – Venetica (PC)
- 01/18/2011 – Mass Effect 2 (PS3)
- 01/18/2011 – Plants vs Zombies (DS)
- 01/18/2011 – Little Big Planet 2 (PS3)
- 01/18/2011 – Mindjack (Xbox 360/PS3)



## NFL Considers Accelerometers in Helmets

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

Since October, the NFL has been looking into the possibility of embedding impact-sensing accelerometers into its players' helmets to help analyze the effects of brain injuries, such as concussions, in real-time. In addition to these discussions, the league has been discussing ways to prevent concussions, as well as warning players about the risks of playing such a sport.

According to the Washington Post, the NFL is nearing the testing stage of three different accelerometer installations in three separate places: earpieces, mouthpieces and helmets. What they are looking to see is whether it is possible to analyze the effects during the games accurately.

The benefits of such a device being installed in the gear of these football players could potentially make their



job a bit safer, allowing coaching staff to isolate and diagnose the severity of injuries to the brain within minutes. This would also allow for the collection of data regarding the causes of such injuries, as well as what happens to the player following the injury.

Many believe that this is the first step in building a safer and more effective helmet for football players, who are at high risk for concussions – some say that they are nearly unavoidable for players. It is believed that we will see many various models – often self-funded – within the upcoming months and years.

## AMBER Alerts Available on Facebook

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

A new project created by Facebook teaming up with the United States government will make it possible to deliver America's Missing Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER) alerts to users, to help find and identify abducted children. Facebook has created an AMBER Alert Facebook page for each state, as well as Puerto Rico and some Canadian provinces.

The announcement for this new project was made on the 15th anniversary of the abduction and murder of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, for whom the AMBER Alert program was originally created. This deal has been made through a partnership of Facebook, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the Department of Justice and the Virginia State Police.

Some believe this idea to be a door



opening to new uses for Facebook. If the AMBER Alert pages are successful, it could be possible for Facebook to be used for other emergency alerts, both local and global, including warnings about things such as serial killers, natural disasters, or terrorist threats.

In addition to the Facebook pages, AMBER Alerts are sent out in a variety of ways: television, radio, and road signs are the most popular and common, but AOL users and MySpace users are able to sign up to receive them, and they have also been made available via SMS. Because of the widespread availability of this information, the program has reportedly saved 525 children to date.

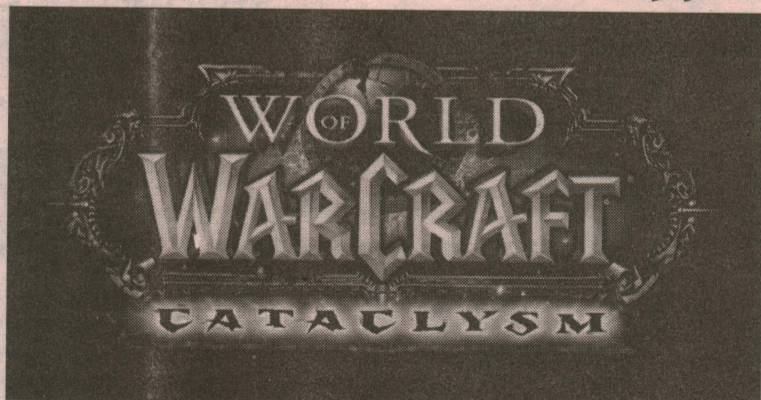
## Cataclysm Breaks First-Month PC Sales Record

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

Cataclysm, the latest expansion for popular MMORPG World of Warcraft, has broken a second sales record after its release of December 7th, 2010. Based on records from the game's publisher Blizzard Entertainment, as well as distribution partners, the game has a record 4.7 million copies sold within the first month of release.

“We've been floored by the community's response so far, and we'd like to thank them for their continued passion and support for World of Warcraft, and for helping Cataclysm reach this incredible milestone.”



What makes this unusual is that the number of copies sold isn't much higher than its first sales record. Within the first day of sales, the company had sold over 3.3 million copies, making Cataclysm the fastest-selling PC game ever, in terms of first-day sales. This number is especially high when compared to the previous expansion, Wrath of the Lich King, which sold 2.8 million copies on its first day.

Blizzard feels positive about the expansion's success, as would be

expected. CEO and cofounder of Blizzard Entertainment, Mike Morhaime, said that “We created thousands of new quests, introduced new lands to explore, and extensively revamped the game world for World of Warcraft: Cataclysm, making it our biggest and most ambitious expansion yet. We've been floored by the community's response so far, and we'd like to thank them for their continued passion and support for World of Warcraft, and for helping Cataclysm reach this incredible milestone.”

## Twitter Fights Gag Order for User Privacy

Angela Lindsey

Technology Editor

In the aftermath of the WikiLeaks “scandal”, the privacy and protection of internet documents has come into question quite a bit, with sites such as Facebook and Twitter being served with subpoenas at a rate up to 10 or 20 per day. At the moment, the current privacy law in the United States dates back to 1986, before cell phones and internet e-mail and file sharing and storage were popular. Because this law is outdated, it seems that a file in your own home filing cabinet is safer than one in your e-mail inbox, since law enforcement doesn't necessarily need a search warrant to request this information from a website company. Many of these websites are saying that there should be amendments to privacy laws to reflect the new forms of communication and document storage. Susan Freiwald, a professor at the University of San Francisco School of Law and electronic surveillance law expert, says, “Some people think Congress did a pretty good job in 1986 seeing the future, but that was before the World Wide Web. The law can't be expected to keep up without amendments.”

The Justice Department disagrees, however. They argued in court last year that cell phone users were forfeiting privacy about their location by voluntarily giving that information to cell phone carriers, amongst other



things. Ryan Calo, director of the consumer privacy project at the Center for Internet & Society at Stanford Law School said, “When your job is to protect us by fighting and prosecuting crime, you want every tool available. No one thinks D.O.J. and other investigative agencies are sitting there twisting their mustache trying to violate civil liberties. They're trying to do their job.”

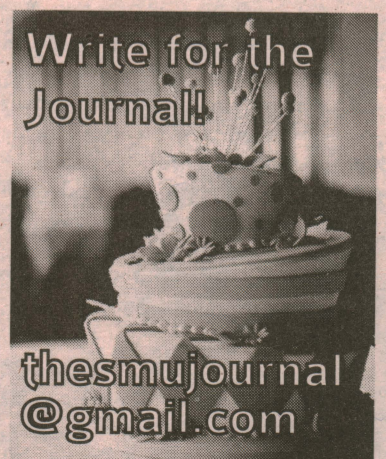
Popular social networking site Twitter, however, is fighting for the privacy of its users as best it can. Often, when a request or subpoena is sent to an internet company for information, it comes with a gag order, demanding that the user in question not be notified of the request. When Twitter received the demand for information about a number of people who were connected to WikiLeaks (including founder Julian Assange), they successfully fought the gag order in court, enabling themselves to notify the users of the request, who could then fight the subpoena

themselves.

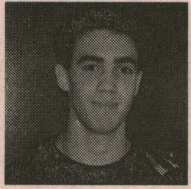
This bold act of user privacy and protection came at a good time, when many companies aren't sure where privacy laws end and confidentiality agreements extend to. Many companies are following the law enforcement officials' requests, including PayPal, Mastercard, VISA and Bank of America banning donations to WikiLeaks. Perhaps this is the start of a new era in personal privacy, as we see more and more situations where this information is necessary.



Write for the Journal!



thesmujournal@gmail.com



Kyle L. Trimper Arts & Entertainment Editor

# Arts & Entertainment

## The "Dire Straits" of Censorship: Protecting our Sensibilities or Covering Up the Past?

Kyle L. Trimper

A & E Editor

You won't be hearing Dire Strait's 1985 hit single "Money For Nothing" on Canadian classic rock radio stations in the future – at least, not in its original form. The Canadian Broadcast Standards Council (CBSC) has ruled that the song, which contains three instances of the word "faggot", is unacceptable for airplay in Canada. This ruling comes 25 years after the song's original release, after a radio listener complained about the lyrics upon hearing the unedited version on a local radio station.

By essentially banning this song, the CBSC has created a double-standard. If the CBSC is banning, or at least editing songs that could possibly be offensive to particular groups and individuals of certain sensibilities and belief systems, then they have a lot more work ahead: they must ban or edit every song that contains anything that may be offensive to any individual. Are they going to outlaw Billy Joel's "Only the Good Die Young" so as not to offend Catholics? I certainly hope not: that may be my all-time favorite song. However, I am offended every time I hear John Lennon's "Imagine"; therefore, if the CBSC starts banning offensive songs, that must be banned too. You see, if we open the floodgates of censorship, there is no stopping it.

In saying this, there are certain things that are agreed upon by the general public as not necessarily offensive but inappropriate for public broadcasting, whether it be television or radio: the "f" word, a couple of terms for female genitalia, and certain types of nudity (on television, not radio, of course). Don't agree? Think about this: would you like your young children to be exposed to this? Of course not. I feel that these things are inappropriate for public broadcasting, which reaches people of all ages and sensibilities. I can't count how many times I've heard Roger Daltrey yell "Who the fuck are you?!" at me through my car speakers. And every time, I go, "Huh? They allow this?" The CBSC does not respond to one "f" word; why should they respond to another?

Secondly, context is as important the actual content. One must remember that this song was written in 1985, and reflects the cultural and societal views of that time. Also, one must remember that the song was written about, and in the voice of an appliance store employee whom writer Mark Knopfler encountered commenting on the music videos that were playing on the store televisions. The person singing this song is not interested in being politically correct: he is tough, loud, rude, and a little bit bigoted.

Now, let's assume for a moment that Knopfler is what the ignorant public



abusively labels "homophobic". Let's assume that he himself is talking in this song. Does that mean that as an artist, he does not have the right to express his opinion? That's a challenging question, and I don't intend to answer it; however, I will say this: if you want to control what people say, you have to control what people think, and this is impossible outside of an Orwellian dystopia. Nevertheless, society and the government has exerted increasing pressure on people to think and act politically correctly, while supposedly making individuals feel free to express themselves freely. This is an impossible contradiction.

In regards to the age of the song, the ruling on this song after 25 years reflects a disturbing trend of "covering up" or "replacing" our past. Films, music, and books that contain ideas and terminology that are now considered offensive are systematically being banned or edited to make

“...people know how they have been represented in the past; trying to cover it up won't erase it, or hide it from the affected individuals...”

them more acceptable to today's audiences. Some examples of this are old WWII-era cartoons that are now considered racist, and of course, the classic novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

These works, while they do not represent our modern views, are a part of our history, and represent how our ancestors viewed the world around them. This cultural "Holocaust denial", as it were, demonstrates a naïve philosophy that society can change its past in order to protect its present. It's stupid to ban old cartoons that portray black people negatively, for example. Black people know how they have been represented in the past; trying to cover it up won't erase it, or hide it from the affected individuals. Nevertheless, this cultural witch hunt continues, and "Money For Nothing" has been the latest victim.

## Money for Artists

Adam Faber

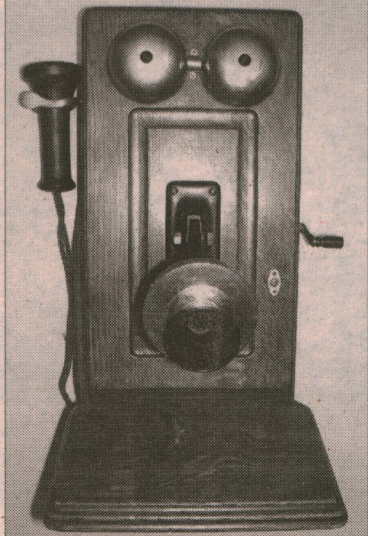
Editor in Chief

Sure, 'starving artist' carries a certain prestige to it, but in all honesty, most people would prefer to eat. The Nova Scotia Talent Trust has changed its deadline dates for 2011, as well as some submission procedures. For those of you who don't know, the Nova Scotia Talent Trust provides scholarships to Nova Scotians exploring theatre, dance, music, media, film, literary and visual arts as well as fine craft and design. The new deadline date for Spring/Summer study is March first. For more information, or to download application forms, visit [www.nstalenttrust.ns.ca](http://www.nstalenttrust.ns.ca), or call the Trust at 492-6801.

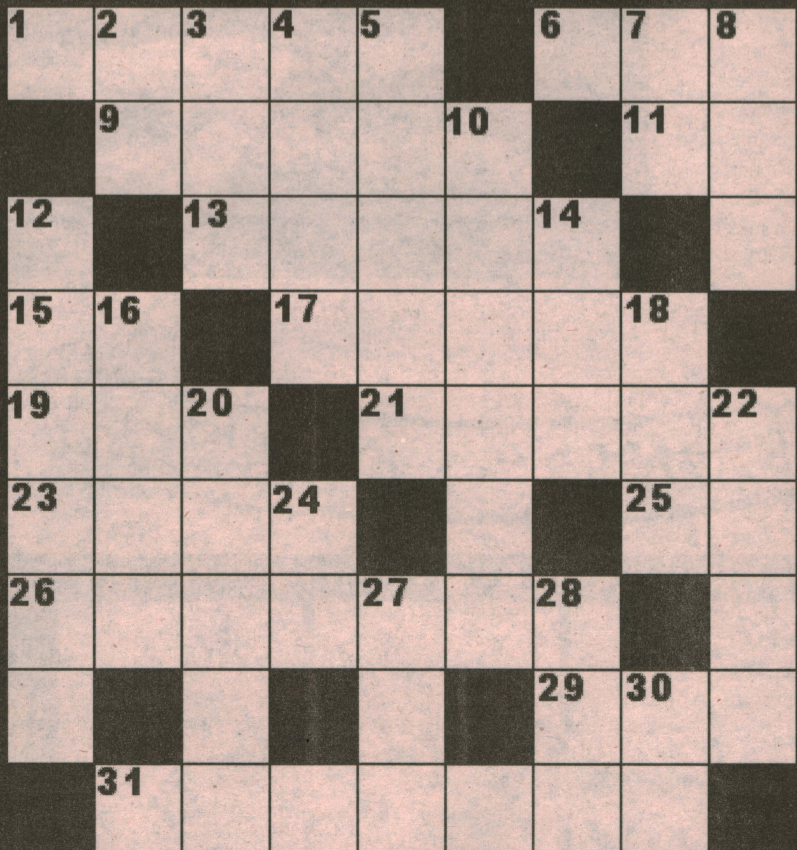


Have something to say? Call the SMU's Soapbox! 496-8201

[thesmujournal@gmail.com](mailto:thesmujournal@gmail.com)



### This week's crossword is dedicated to



Across

- 1. Rage
- 6. Enthusiast
- 9. Has weapons
- 11. Intended for
- 13. Lubricated, for a motor
- 15. Ready, Set, \_\_\_!
- 17. Floor squares
- 19. Master Splinter, for one
- 21. Machine that judges melodic pitch
- 23. Expected arrivals
- 25. 'à', en France
- 26. Got away
- 29. Exclamations of realization
- 31. Began

Down

- 2. Sodium, to a chemist
- 3. Plant food brand 'Miracle-\_\_\_'
- 4. Broadcast
- 5. Illuminated again
- 7. @
- 8. Immediately
- 10. Mislead
- 12. Concur
- 14. Lair
- 16. Horsefeed
- 18. Egyptian god of storms and chaos
- 20. Unspoken
- 22. Linear arrangements
- 24. Saudia Arabia's country code
- 27. Each
- 28. A female deer
- 30. Latest TV feature

the enthusiastic staff at Victor's Bar & Grill

Answers on page 11

## A &amp; E

## Stone Mary Rocks Halifax Hard

Amandah Turner

Contributor



On such an awesome day, being 1/11/11, I had the privilege of getting to attend an equally awesome show at the Seahorse Tavern, headlined by Stone Mary and opened by Little King Hunter. Both Halifax-based bands put on an unreal performance filled with original songs, insane guitar riffs, and some very impressive vocals.

Little King Hunter had a great dynamic going for them; with the really tall bassist and average sized vocalist/guitarist, I immediately pictured Nirvana. The songs were solid and full of passion, and I can honestly say I was incredibly impressed with their performance, especially for an opening band. I see great things coming from these guys in the future, so make sure to keep an eye out for them.

Stone Mary took the stage and immediately you could tell they

connected with the audience. Each song that was performed was preceded by a story about it, and it certainly sucked you into the raw emotion behind the music and lyrics. The guitar solos and vocals were amazing, and when they pulled out a Led Zeppelin cover at the end (which they nailed by the way), the audience was blown away. Everyone chanted for an encore, which Stone Mary definitely rocked for all of us. Amazing!

I had a chance to speak with Stone Mary's front woman, Christine Campbell, to talk about the band's music and future plans. This woman not only has the appeal and talent, but she also dominates what could be deemed a fairly male oriented music genre. "I always wanted to be a rocker," says Campbell "I used to jump around and play air guitar as a kid and my four favorite bands were and still are Guns 'n' Roses, Deep Purple, Queen, and Led Zeppelin. I always used to imagine rocking out those [guitar] solos and singing like that." Man, did she sing. Christine is no stranger to the stage; she does a great solo acoustic set and she's actually won all three of the SMU best of open mic nights that she has entered.

Stone Mary's hard rock tunes are amplified by Christine's powerful vocals which, given her soft-spoken manner, completely blow you away when she performs on stage. She shares the vocals and guitar riffs with



“Christine is no stranger to the stage; she does a great solo acoustic set and she's actually won all three of the SMU best of open mic nights that she has entered.”

fellow band mate, Alex MacDonald, who equally rocks hard. This band is so tight and has an unreal connection with each other which emanates from their stage performance.

The band is currently in the midst of finishing up their new album, which is currently being produced by Paul Northfield. For those of you who don't know his work, Northfield has produced such influential albums as *Celebrity Skin* by Hole, *Ozzy Osbourne's Ozzmosis*, and many other huge names. I'm really looking forward to hearing this album, but

in the meantime, look out for Stone Mary gigs and make sure you attend. You won't be disappointed!

**Little King Hunter:** <http://www.myspace.com/littlekinghunter>

**Stone Mary:** <http://www.myspace.com/stonemarymusic>

A FEW SHOWS TO CHECK OUT THIS WEEK:

Thursday, Jan 20th:  
- Absolut Thursdays Music Nova  
Scotia Open Mic @ The Carleton, 10pm, FREE

Friday, Jan 21st:

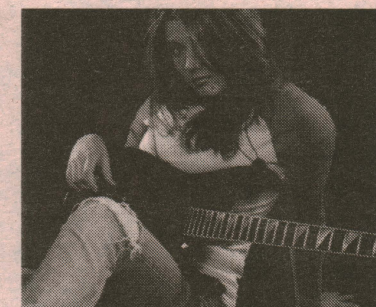
- Halifax Parking Ban Stand @ The Seahorse Tavern (Various Artists TBA), 8:30pm, FREE  
- Kid Koala w/ DJ Slam and Luchador Proper @ The Paragon Theatre, 9pm, \$10/\$15  
- Bad Vibrations, Hymn, Homo Duplex, and Fat Stupids @ Gus's Pub, 10pm, TBD

Saturday, Jan 22nd:

- Windom Earle, The Deadly Hearts, Quivers, and Trish Robb @ Gus's Pub, 10pm, TBD  
- Statik Selektah and Termanology w/ DJ I.V. Quake and the I.V. League Members @ The Paragon Theatre, 10pm, \$10/\$15

Monday, Jan 23rd:

- Camen Townsend CD Release Show w/ The Town Heroes @ The Seahorse Tavern, 8pm, \$10



## Short and Sweet: Carmen Townsend's Waitin' and Seein'

Kyle L. Trimper

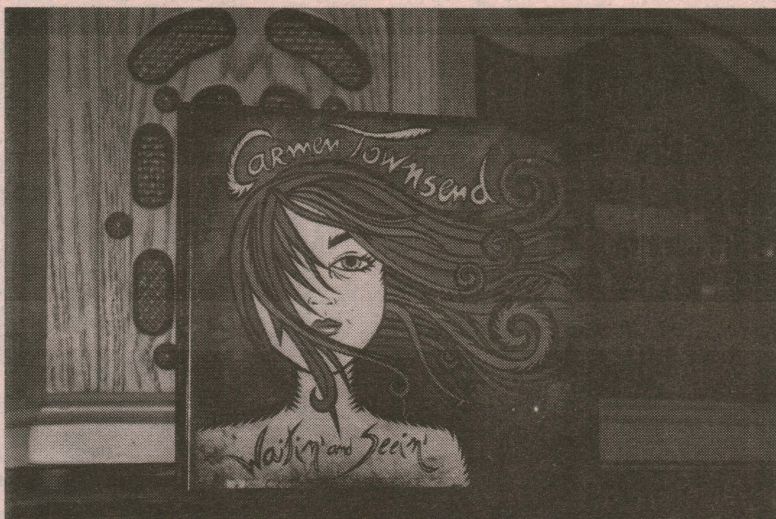
A &amp; E Editor

Carmen Townsend's new album, *Waitin' and Seein'*, is all about balance. The album alternates between fairly hard rock songs and soft acoustic ballads in an effort to produce a strong album overall. In this, the album succeeds. While some of the songs may be somewhat weak at times, pulled together as cohesive whole, they form the framework for success.

“...Rather than holding back and delivering soft, emotive vocals, Townsend sings out, which is a refreshing change ...”

artists. Rather than holding back and delivering soft, emotive vocals, Townsend sings out, which is a refreshing change. Due to this, *Waitin' and Seein'* shows promise and deserves a place in the annals of maritime indie rock.

As part of the album's release, Townsend will be at The Seahorse on the 24th, and will be performing at the Metro Centre on Feb. 3 as part of her cross-country tour opening for the legendary rock band Heart. Make sure you check out these performances!



Decidedly a relatively short album, *Waitin' and Seein'* does not exhaust the listeners' patience, so even if one does not particularly enjoy the album, one will not become of it. That is part of

the album's charm.

Also part of the album's charm is Townsend's vocal delivery, which is unlike that of many female indie

ROCK, PAPER, CYNIC BY PETER CHYKOWSKI



# Sports

James Urquhart Sports Editor

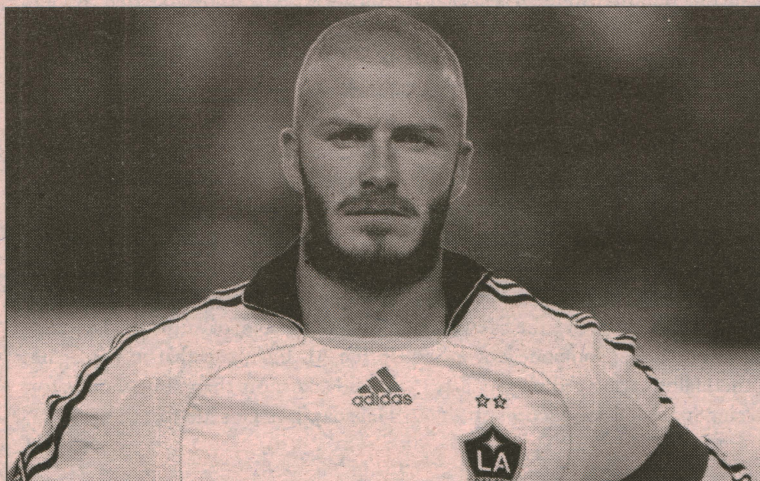


## David Beckham: Back to Britain?

**Jonathan Kushneryk**  
Contributor

David Robert Joseph Beckham, current target of London side Tottenham Hotspur of the Barclays English Premier League, has likely experienced the most tabloid-ridden career of any footballer. From his days as a 16 year-old youth with the Manchester United reserves, to his dalliance and marriage to Posh Spice Victoria Adams, Beckham has remained at the forefront of the public eye for his exploits both on and off the pitch. Given his relatively advanced 35 years of age, his inflated insurance valuation by current club Los Angeles Galaxy, his brand has at this point superseded his ability as a footballer. But for England's goat at the 1998 World Cup and its zenith in 2002 qualifying, it hasn't always been so.

Beckham's value can best be quantified with his 4 year stay at La Liga's Real Madrid. Often out of favour with the carousel of managers at the helm, he still managed to net Real \$600 million US worth of merchandising sales during the time frame. As a member of Real's 'galacticos,' Beckham was part of two league titles in his four seasons, disappointing by the club's lofty standards. With a diminished role midway through his fourth campaign, the USA's Major League Soccer declared they had secured Beckham's services for \$250 million over 5 years. However, he experienced



a rejuvenation and Real attempted to have him bought out of his deal but the Galaxy were ardent that he was more than just a player, but a messiah for an increased public eye on football in America. Currently, he is ranked number 36 on Forbes Magazine's most 100 powerful celebrities and in 2008 made Time's prestigious 100 list.

Beckham was never the great goals corer he has been advertized as to the general public. His greatest haul was for United in 2001-2002 with 16 goals in 42 games over all competitions. In actuality, his greatest skill was his synergy as a Red Devil with Dwight Yorke and Andy Cole and again at Madrid with Raul and Ronaldo. It continued over to the Galaxy where he and American star Landon Donovan, regardless of their off-field clashes, led the club to 2009-2010 MLS Supporters shield (regular season title).

As the winter transfer window opened this past January 1st, talk of former FIFA World Player of the Year Ronaldinho's potential move to Blackburn was vastly overshadowed by Beckham's potential return on loan to England with either Bolton, Newcastle or frontrunners Tottenham. This, outside of club legend Kenny Dalglish's return to manage Liverpool, has gripped British headlines while overseas has been front page espn.com news. Even his three week sojourn to train with Spurs has found its way to the top of reports. Even though the Galaxy could stand to benefit significantly from such a deal as they did with Donovan to Everton last season, they remain reluctant given the Achilles tear Beckham suffered last season on loan at AC Milan, dashing his World Cup hopes and cutting out a significant part of his season domestically in America.

Above and beyond, Beckham remains a global brand. Much the way Michael Jordan trailblazed in the 1990s with his Nike Air Jordan shoe deal, Beckham quickly main in-roads with his own brand of Adidas predator. Zinedane Zidane, the French international and Beckham's teammate at Real Madrid and arguably the greatest player of the past 20 years, pales in comparison to Beckham in recognizance and brand even though Zidane led his nation to two World Cup finals and was the man of the match with 2 goals in the 1998 final at Stade St-Denis on home soil.

That being said, his addition to Tottenham would stabilize a young squad making its first Champions league appearance. A first place finish in the group stage has landed Spurs fans in wonderland as they managed to miss the other English clubs in the second round draw and would greatly benefit from Beckham's insight as they face off against his on-loan club of last season in Milan. Should Beckham manage to join the club in the next few days, the Merseyside derby (Liverpool-Everton) is no longer the most attractive tie on Sunday the 16th. Instead, it would be Spurs-United, or rather, Beckham-United. A game that would stretch its audience around the globe. Bigger than el Classico (Barcelona-Real Madrid), or any other given derby. Tottenham itself will grow as a brand given the shirt sales that would accompany such a move, certainly a win-win situation for club and player.

## Women's Volleyball Team Playing Well

**James Urquhart**  
Sports Editor

One of the most successful sports programs over the past few years has been the women's volleyball team. Although they have been very successful, they are often forgotten and overshadowed by many of the other varsity programs here at Saint Mary's University. This is a real shame, as we do not have a male volleyball program here at SMU, so students only have one chance to see volleyball here on campus. It also does not help that their games are not advertised very well, so even if you did want to catch a volleyball game, it would be very difficult to find out when they are held (although there is a schedule posted online on the AUS website, but many students I have talked to did not even realize that the AUS had a website). Another reason that you should get out to check out a game is that these ladies are really talented. Last year they were able to win the AUS banner, and this year they are looking like heavy favorites to repeat as AUS champs.

So far this season, the AUS has been little competition for the girls. They began the season back on October 22nd, 2010, with a game against their cross-town rivals from Dalhousie. The game was close throughout, but the girls managed to win it 3 sets to 2. They next played another close game against Acadia, once again winning by a 3 set to 2 margin. The girls then beat Cape Breton, and then Memorial in convincing fashion 3 sets to none. The girl's first loss of the season in the AUS came at the hands of Memorial, on October 31st, losing that game 3 sets to none. The girls unfortunately stumbled again losing to UNB in closely contested match 3 sets to 2. The ladies have not loss to an AUS opponent again this season, beating St. FX. (3-0), Moncton (3-1) and UNB (3-2) in there last 3 matches. This means that the Huskies are 7 and 2 in AUS action, and are safely ahead of their opponents.

The ladies look poised to make another run at the AUS crown, and from what I have seen, it looks as though they are heavy favorites to win the title. I am sure that the girls would love to have some more support at their home games, so let's all do our best to get out and show our support. The ladies play their next home game on Thursday, January 20th, so do your best to get out, make some noise, and cheer on our Huskies to other convincing victory. Go Huskies Go!

## The NFL Playoffs : There's a Reason it's called the Wild Card Round

**Geoff Lowe**  
Contributor

### Seattle Seahawks 41, New Orleans Saints 36

There will be a new NFL Champion. The Saints' title defense ended Saturday in one of the biggest playoff upsets in NFL history. The absence of Saints safety Malcolm Jenkins allowed 'Hawks injured QB Matt Hasselbeck, kept out of last week's NFC West title showdown with a hip injury, to throw for 272 yards and 4 TDs. The underdog Seahawks, who rank in the bottom five of the league in both offense and defense, ended all hope of a Saints comeback with a 67 yard TD scamper by former Buffalo Bill Marshawn Lynch, proving there is actually a reason for calling him "The Beast". Seattle heads to the windy city to take on the Bears Sunday at 2:00PM.

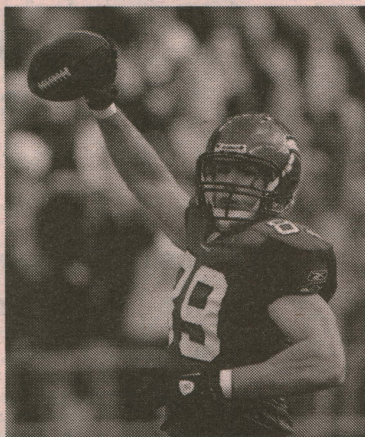
### New York Jets 17, Indianapolis Colts 16

What's the best defense against one of the greatest quarterbacks in NFL history? Keep him off the field in the second half. The Jets started the

third quarter with a drive of 5:12 and followed that with a drive six seconds short of ten minutes, both ending in points. It looked like future Hall of Fame kicker Adam Venatieri was adding to his playoff legend by hitting a 47 yard field goal with just under a minute left to put the Colts up by two. But a 47 yard return by Antonio Cromartie put Nick Folk in position to hit a 32 yard field goal for the win, which he did. The Jets go into New England to face Tom Brady and the Patriots next Sunday at 5:30PM. That's all FOLKS! (Sorry, couldn't help myself)

### Baltimore Ravens 30, Kansas City Chiefs 7

Ray Lewis and the Ravens defense lived up to their reputation Sunday afternoon by causing Matt Cassel and the Chiefs' offense to commit five turnovers, three interceptions and two fumbles. Although Kansas City running back Jamaal Charles was able to average 9.1 yards per carry, the Ravens were able to make K.C. one dimensional by shutting down the Chiefs' passing game, limiting Cassel to nine completions for 70 yards. Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco was



able to manage the game well (Ravens had 69% of the game's possession) and protect the football, allowing the Ravens offense to establish both the running (142 total yards) and passing game (248 total yards) and throw 30 points on the Chiefs young defense. The Ravens head to Pittsburgh next Saturday at 5:30PM to face their divisional rivals the Steelers.

### Green Bay Packers 21, Philadelphia Eagles 16

Mike Vick's dream comeback season came to an end Sunday night thanks to a stellar performance by the Packers defense and a surprise running attack

from the Packers offense. Aaron Rodgers recorded his first playoff win throwing for 180 yards and three touchdowns and undrafted rookie free agent James Starks ran for 123 yards, following a year in which the Packers struggled to run the football ranking 24th in the NFL (100.4 yards per game). Green Bay was able to overcome the loss of 11 of their starting 22 players to injuries to put together wins in their last three games, all of which the Pack needed to win. This loss puts an end to a Cinderella season for QB Mike Vick, who had an average game with 292 yards and a passing touchdown. However, the Eagles were unable to convert on key third downs, could not make the big play their offense needs for success, and ended the game with an interception in the endzone. The Packers will face in the top seeded Atlanta Falcons Saturday night at 9:00PM.



# Sports

## Catch the Taste

**Brian Hotson**

Contributor

It is easy to be a Yankee fan, especially if television or the Internet is available. The Yankees are easy to consume, like burgers and fries, super-sized at 1st and on the mound and in the DH spot. They are an inward team, an isolationist team with gunboat diplomacy and a federal-reserve vault of money. They are a team that lives in fear of themselves, each player compared to the last. They feel familiar. And they play in a stadium that is a replica of itself, a Potemkin village across the street from the vanished village. Daily, the American National Newspaper

reminds the Yankee Organization (and us) of their microscopic failures, their spending habits, and the number of pinstripes on Sabathia's jersey in serif font—while their Captain speaks and says nothing and the muted voice of The Boss now speaks only from Seinfeld reruns. Things happen to the Yankees; they can be followed, studied, and hated or loved.

On the other side, it is just as easy to be a Cub fan, with their goat and Bartman, a Horatio Alger story in reverse. The ivy-covered outfield walls of Wrigley stadium, the only stadium left from the Federal League, coughs out lost fly balls at irregular and inopportune moments, reminding

fans and players of all the missed opportunities, in spite of 10,000 wins. But Cub fans wallow in it like a tonic, bathed in the light of failure, living in a glow of one hundred and two years of nothingness, in full knowledge that, at the end of the upcoming season, it will be one hundred and three years.

Last week when former Blue Jay Robbie Alomar was elected into the Hall of Fame with 90% of the vote, third highest vote total in Hall of Fame history, I thought about what it's like to be a Blue Jays fan or the fan of any middling team, like the Brewers or Seattle, now that someone, anyone, is in the Hall wearing a Blue Jays cap. The stage-managed production of

Alomar answering The Call from the Hall felt self-conscious, forced, and literal, like a call from Rogers Communications saying, surprisingly, you've won a month's free phone service. There was Alomar, looking like he could step on the field again, gracious, even when asked about expectorating, with Beeston, who promised himself he'd never be Blue Jays president again, and A.A., who worked for the Expos. For Jays fans, who increasingly live in the not so distant past, it is a proud moment, to reflect on losses and wins, World Series bought and sold, to know the Jays play in the AL East, and that to win again would take more than draft choices for Halladay. Jays fans are forced to

watch games in a stadium that is more tourist haven than temple of baseball—no ivy, no façade.

Once I was asked whether I was a fan of the Blue Jays or of baseball. I was surprised to find that I was embarrassed to say the Blue Jays, so I answered baseball. But what's to be embarrassed about? Looked who was on the Hall list this year—Jack Morris, Fred McGriff, Al Leiter, John Olerud, Benito Santiago, and Raul Mondesi (who stole home against the Yankees... the Yankees!), all former Blue Jays. Still, it's hard to be a Jays fan.



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