

the journal

Saint Mary's University's Independent Student Newspaper

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Stephen Ashworth, President & CEO of JA Canada and Bryan Rice JA Alumni.

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal Awarded

Saint Mary's University is proud to congratulate Junior Achievement Alumni, Bryan Rice on receiving the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, January 30th, 2013!

The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal was created to celebrate her Majesty's ascension to the throne sixty years ago. Stephen Ashworth, President & CEO of JA Canada presented Bryan with this honorary award in recognition of

his exceptional contributions and distinguished service to his fellow citizens, community, and country.

Bryan Rice, a resident of Bridgetown N.S., is a second year student at Saint Mary's University where he is pursuing a degree in commerce. Bryan is a Residence Assistant in Loyola Residence this year and a current candidate for the Saint Mary's University Students' Association Board of Directors.

A former member and

past president of his Middleton JA company, Bryan was commended for being a proud and engaged ambassador for Junior Achievement and thanked for his work in helping to establish a JA Ambassador program across Canada.

We congratulate Bryan Rice as a most deserving recipient of this significant honour and thank him for his continued contribution to Junior Achievement and Saint Mary's University.

'Sugar Daddy' Student Dating Growing in Halifax

Adam Faber

A website connecting 'generous' men and women to those looking to pay for school through 'companionship' continues to expand in Halifax and other Canadian cities. SeekingArrangement.com is a self-styled 'Sugar daddy dating site' launched in 2008, offering well-off mentors who aren't afraid to spend as a solution to tuition

costs to students who want to date their way to a degree.

"It's clear that the Canadian government can't be trusted with your information," said site founder Brandon Wade, "So why pay interest on a loan and risk losing your personal information, when you could get a Sugar Daddy instead? By seeking a mutually beneficial relationship while in school, students will be more likely to find success later in

life."

Wade's company has experienced a 46% increase in students signing up, and is now boasting over 2 million total student and non-student members. A month into the new year, the matchmaking site released a list of the top 20 fastest growing Canadian universities in terms of newcomers. Among those top 20, Halifax's Dalhousie

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SMU Makes Finals in 35th ICBC

SMU ICBC TEAM

GPA isn't everything – Barry Gorman, and this was truly demonstrated as Saint Mary's ICBC team travelled to Kingston, Ontario in early January.

Inter-Collegiate Business Competition (ICBC) is organized annually by Queens University. This year the Sobey School of Business enrolled 15 students in the competition throughout various events including: Ethics, Accounting, Finance, Management Information Systems, Marketing, Human Resources, and Business Policy. Schools from across the world prepared case reports and competed in the preliminary round in the hopes of making the finals. Many events get upwards of 30 submissions; however, only six teams can make the final for each category. Once the reports are ranked and results are in, schools from across the world gather in Kingston for a full three days of events.

This year, our Ethics team did us proud by qualifying for the final round. The two member team consisted of Arianne (Skeeter) Amirhalkhali and Matt Snow. In the final round, the two were given five and half hours to analyze a business ethics case and prepare an oral report. With the whole SMU team present, we saw Arianne and Matt shine as they presented to a full room and a panel of judges. Although many of us did not compete in the final round, the whole team had the opportunity to travel to Kingston and support Arianne and Matt.

Not only did we meet many new people, we also gained valuable knowledge to benefit new and returning competitors for ICBC 2014.

Our school offers a Case Competition course in the winter semester, which prepares students on how to analyze business cases. In addition to getting classroom credit, this course gives students the opportunity to step out of the textbook and apply knowledge to business situations. It helps develop creative thinking, presentation skills, analytical ability, and see the functionality of a business and appropriate innovative solutions. Challenging yourself with this class and competition will diversify you as a student and prepare you with skills to excel in the workforce. When we first arrived, very few people knew where Halifax was let alone Saint Mary's University. Throughout the weekend, the team attended all ICBC social events repping our famous maroon and white scarves. By the end of the weekend, everyone knew who we were and no longer asked where Saint Mary's was! Overall, it was a great weekend with lots of memorable experiences and knowledge gained. It couldn't have been possible without the support of Barry Gorman, Karen Lightstone, Dean Patricia Bradshaw, and the Sobey School of Business. The 2013 ICBC Team is truly grateful for the experience and highly encourages SMU peers to become involved with this remarkable program!



Photo: Dr. Barry Gorman, faculty advisor for Saint Mary's teams in the Inter-Collegiate Business Competition since 1995.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Legend Presented by SMUSA SMU Athletics & Recreation Event Alcohol Available No Entry Fee (for SMU Students) 19+ only, No Minors (get it?) Gorsebrook Lounge Event/Special SMU Event/Announcement SMUSA Elections					
		SMUSA ELECTIONS: VOTING Feb 13 All day online - SMUSA.ca Polling stations open 9am-6pm on campus ✓	SMUSA ELECTIONS: VOTING 14 Until 6pm online - SMUSA.ca Polling stations open 9am-6pm on campus ✓	15 Last day for withdrawing , without academic penalty, from six (6) credit hour courses taught from September to April.	INTERNATIONAL NIGHT 16 L290 @ 6pm Tickets required
		OPEN MIC NIGHT 9:00pm Gorsebrook Lounge 	THERAPY DOGS 2pm-4pm Homburg Centre WING NIGHT 6-9pm Gorsebrook Lounge ELECTION RESULTS After 6pm - The Gorsebrook IDS SOCIETY EVENT 9pm - The Gorsebrook	BASKETBALL Women's DAL @SMU 6:00pm Men's: DAL@SMU 8:00pm Homburg Centre 	17
18 READING WEEK (ALL SMUSA SERVICES CLOSED)	19	20 BASKETBALL Women's ACA @SMU 6:00pm Men's: ACA@SMU 8:00pm Homburg Centre	21	22	23/24
25 CHARTER DAY NOMINATIONS CLOSE 5:00pm GAMES ROOM PRESENTED BY THE GAMING SOCIETY The Gorsebrook Lounge 11:30am-2:30pm all ages 	26 PUB TRIVIA 7:00pm The Gorsebrook Lounge 10% STUDENT DISCOUNT @ SOBEYS Queen St. & North/Gladstone	27 OPEN MIC NIGHT: SNOW PANTS OR NO PANTS PARTY 9:00pm Gorsebrook Lounge 	28 CHARADES & WING NIGHT (Definitely not "Charingo") 6-9pm Gorsebrook Lounge All ages welcome There will be prizes 	March 1 SMU SKATES THE OVAL 1-3pm The Emera Oval All ages welcome Free hot chocolate for SMU students, staff, faculty, and alumni! 	2/3

Reading Week Closures:

SMUSA Office closed after 5pm on Friday, Feb 15
 The Gorsebrook closed after Friday, Feb 15

Information Desk closed at 5pm on Friday, Feb 15
 Husky Patrol will not run Friday, Feb 15-Sunday, Feb 24

INTERNATIONAL MONTH EVENTS:

Wednesday Feb 13

11am-4pm 7th annual I-Represent Festival L290
 7:00pm Film Screening: A Bite of China Episode 4: the taste of time SB201

Thursday Feb 14

12 noon Film Screening: A Bite of China Episode 5: secrets of the kitchen SB201
 7:00pm Film Screening: In The Same Food Boat SM201

Monday Feb 25

12 noon Film Screening: A Bite of China Episode 6: balancing the 5 tastes SB201
 7:00pm Film Screening: Locally Abundant SB201

Tuesday Feb 26

12 noon Film Screening: Boys, Toys and the Big Blue Marble SB201
 7:00pm Film Screening: Garbage - the Revolution Starts at Home SM201

Wednesday Feb 27

1:00pm Film Screening: A Bite of China: Episode 7: our rural heritage SB201
 7:00pm Guest Speaker Dr. Heather Chappells: Safe Drinking Water SB201

Thursday Feb 28

12 noon Film Screening: Blue Gold SB201
 7:00pm Film Screening: Refugees of the Blue Planet SM201

snow pants or no pants PARTY
 Wednesday February 27th at 9:00pm
 The Gorsebrook Lounge

 Must be 19+ with valid photo ID
 Please drink responsibly.

SMU SKATES THE OVAL!
 Friday March 1st | 1 to 3pm
 The Emera Oval Free Hot Chocolate!
 For all SMU Students, Staff and Alumni

the journal

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WRITING AND ARTWORK SUBMISSIONS
Wednesday 5pm
(One week prior to publication)

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Letter from the Editor

So, you guys have heard a lot about the election in the last three weeks, eh? Campus has been plastered with posters, there have been forums and debates, student consultations and people accosting you with hot coffee and tea to talk about campaign platforms.

You've also read a lot about the value of student journalism and its impact on campus life and the national mainstream media – many of the most influential Canadian journalists started their careers not at J-school but at their campus papers.

For \$4 a year, you, the student, are a member of The Journal Publishing Society – an on-campus media source by student, for students. Fully independent from the university and SMUSA, the Journal is here for you, the student body, to contribute to, read, and be

informed by. What else can you get for \$2 a semester? Not even a cup of coffee in the morning will go for only a toonie, and with The Journal, you get 8 issues of news, the Journal covering your events and what's important to you, the student body.

So I urge you, when it comes time to vote for the levied societies, please vote to continue paying for the Journal; it's part of the fabric of campus life and history of SMU, a source of student employment and something worth having for another four years and beyond.

The SMU Women's Centre and WUSC are also on the ballot this year, asking students to continue to pay their \$2 levy and allowing them to keep doing their valuable work at Saint Mary's University.

Cydney Proctor
Editor-In-Chief

Academic Journal on Porn and Erotica Being Published by King's Student

Adam Faber

If you've got any thoughts on pornography and erotica, the deadline to submit them to a new academic journal on the subject is Valentine's Day. Kate Toth is publishing NSFW, an annual publication out of Kings College. "We're working to get a space for discussion about porn and erotica in Atlantic Canada." The goal is to have an educated discussion about what might be normally relegated to the back room of a video shop or top shelves of a bookstore. The title of the publication, NSFW, refers to the term 'Not Safe For Work', a warning for people online that clicking the link you see on your screen will take you to a site that may get you in hot water if your boss sees what you're surfing. In the editorial team's view, it's how prevalent adult material is that makes the subject so important to discuss.

"Pornography has become so ubiquitous in our modern lives, not only because of the internet, but especially with rise of internet culture," said Toth. "I think it's really important to have a space where we can analyze these forces in our lives that is academic, creative, and critical, the same way we examine so many of the other aspects that are around us." NSFW is seeking a wide variety of different submissions; from creative non-fiction, poetry, and art; to essays, studies, and fiction. Natasha Hunt, the social media co-ordinator and webmaster, is looking to reach the culture of sex

and sexuality on another level. "My dream is to connect sex workers with academics, I know one of the criticisms of academia is that you talk about things in a disconnected way and forget these are actual processes that affect actual people," said Hunt. "To have conversations between those who like to write essays with five-syllable words, and those who want to be artists, or even work in porn, I think would be a really great thing." Natahsa also said that for new university students, NSFW would be a good first time...

For publishing their academic writing, that is. "For undergrads, to share their work academically for the very first time, is a real opportunity. A lot of students wait until grad school to deal with getting published. We're a little more friendly than grad school."

Natasha was working on her thesis in the library, writing on fashion, when she saw a call-out for interested people to get involved with the publication. "Pornography, you can even see this in other facets of culture - fashion being one of them - becoming increasingly mainstream," said Hunt. She jumped at the chance to get involved with Kate's project.

"Those of us on the exec generally come from a sex-positive background, where pornography is a thing worth discussing and a thing worth engaging with," said Toth, "Keep an open mind, a lot of things people might deem unworthy of academic study really are worthwhile."

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Browse Sugar Daddies >

'Sugar Daddy' Dating...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

University was 14th for new members in 2012, the highest rankings being largely dominated by Ontario schools. With the top three universities each sporting over 150 new sign-ups, the corner of the site devoted to Dalhousie had only 55 new 'Sugar Babies'. In an effort to attract students to the service, a free premium membership is given to those who register using an official school e-mail address, something an enterprising SMU student won't be able to take advantage of, having lost the ability to activate a smu.ca e-mail account in October of 2010.

As reported by the Canadian Federation of Students, the average Nova Scotian

university student graduates with almost \$31,000 of debt, which is three times the amount carried on average by students in 1990. While the student lobby group advocates more government support through funding and policy changes, alternative solutions to tuition challenges have cropped up as well, SeekingArrangement being one of them. "College should be an opportunity to expand the mind and experience new things," said Wade. "Unfortunately, because of recent tuition hikes, the college experience has become greatly unbalanced." For the complete top 20 list of 2012's Canadian 'Sugar Baby' schools, visit www.smujournal.ca.

Credit Protection Offered to Misplaced SIN Students

Adam Faber

The Canadian government has offered some credit protection to the students affected by misplaced personal information, including SIN numbers and student loan balances.

A hard drive was misplaced by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) in Gatineau, Quebec. The hard drive held, which was discovered missing November 5th, 2012, contained the information of nearly 600,000 students who used the student loan program between 2000 and 2006. The public wasn't informed of the incident until January 7, 2013.

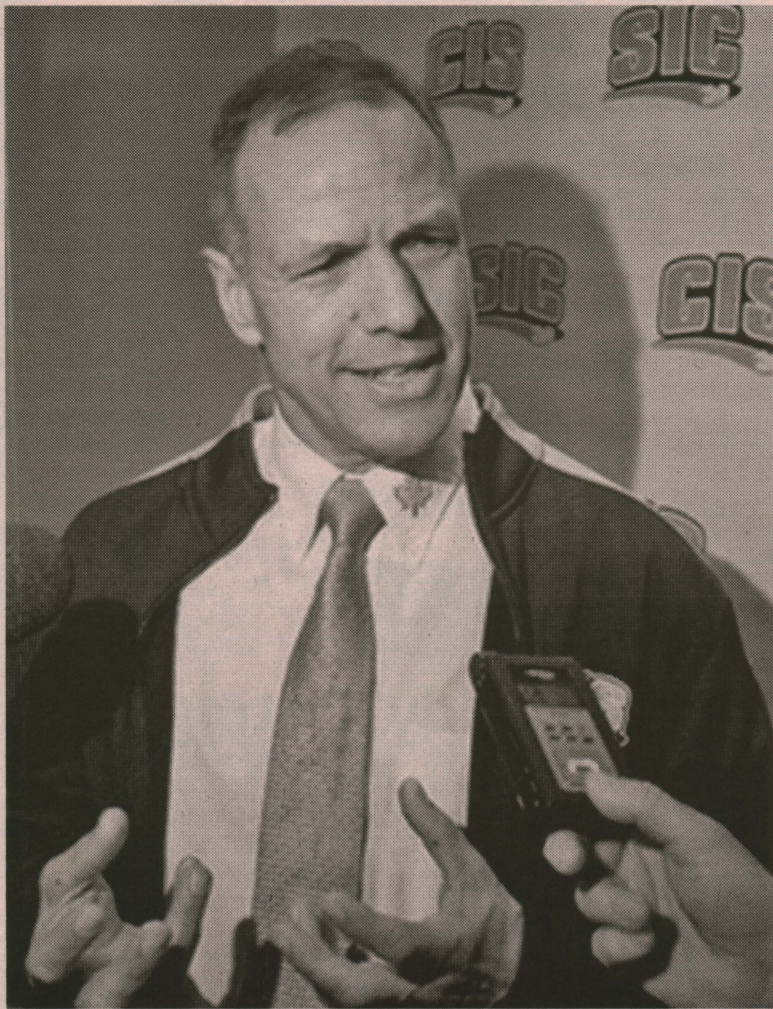
Earlier in the new year, HRSDC advised people to purchase their own credit monitoring, which costs approximately \$15 a month. Credit monitoring would alert a customer when their Social Insurance Number was used to apply for credit, as well as providing periodical credit reports.

While the service being supplied free of cost isn't as

comprehensive, there is a 'credit flag' being offered free of charge for up to six years. A credit flag forces banks issuing credit to look into who is applying for credit when personal information is being processed, which would add another step before any credit is issued.

"While there is no evidence that information has been fraudulently accessed or used, I want to reassure Canadians that we are serious about protecting their personal information," Human Resources Minister Diane Finley said in a press release. "That is why we will provide potentially affected individuals with credit protection at no cost, which will flag their credit files and help detect any potential compromise of their personal information."

If you are affected, you can provide your consent to the credit flag by calling the toll free number, 1-866-885-1866 within North America. If you are outside of North America call 1-416-572-1113 and dial 0 to speak to your operator in order to reverse the charges.



(Photo: Sam Brooks/Canadian University Press)

Pierre Lafontaine Named New CEO of CIS

Robert Murray — CUP Sports Editor
SACKVILLE (CUP)

Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) made a big splash by naming Swimming Canada's CEO and national coach Pierre Lafontaine their new CEO. Alongside current CIS president Leo MacPherson and president-elect Gord Grace, Lafontaine introduced himself to members of the media and university sports fans across Canada. "We need to be better at the CIS," said Lafontaine at the press conference in Toronto on Jan. 31. In recent months the debate has grown over what role the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and CIS play in competition. Lafontaine noted the importance of building the brand of the CIS before considering any drastic moves regarding mixing the CIS and NCAA. He did however paid homage to the fact that several athletes have enjoyed success on both sides of the border. MacPherson said during the conference that he thought, "Gord [Grace] and Pierre [Lafontaine] will make a heck of a tandem." Both Grace and Lafontaine will take over an organization with fifty-four members in four different conferences from coast-to-coast. Lafontaine brought up the role of para-sport and the contribution made by the CIS to the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Committee. He re-iterated that he wanted to, "Create this pride

that we haven't seen everywhere." He brought up the potential of including para-sport within the CIS program for students with disabilities in university but said that such decision would come as soon as tomorrow and was in its early stages. Gord Grace, who also serves as the current Athletic Director commented during the conference that, "It is a new era moving forward [for the CIS]." This isn't the first time Swimming Canada and the CIS have come together on a mutually beneficial relationship. Olympic bronze medalist and World Champion Brent Hayden is an alumni of the University of British Columbia, where he competed for many years. Richard Weinberger, a long distance swimmer who claimed bronze as well in London is a current student at the University of Victoria and member of the Vikes swimming team. On the other Canadian coast, Dalhousie swimming team member and Canada Games Gold medalist David Sharpe made his Olympic debut in London. Lafontaine was a driving force behind getting Canadian swimmers more involved at the Summer Universiade in the early 2000s. After a large quantity of podium finishes since then, and the next edition of the Summer Universiade taking place in Kazan, Russia this summer, Lafontaine will look to spread this success to other sports in the CIS program in the years to come.

Starting Up the Next Generation of Entrepreneurs

The 2013 annual Halifax Entrepreneurship Expo & Dine with a Legend will be hosted at the Cunard Centre on March 21st, 2013. Sobey School of Business at Saint Mary's University and Calvert Events have teamed up to ignite the entrepreneurial spirit with "Start-up Sunday," a unique competition where business students and entrepreneurs work together to compete for \$10,000 in seed capital for a new venture. Calvert Events, creator of the Halifax Entrepreneurship Expo (HEE) & Dine with a Legend, has grown the annual event, attracting over 1,000 entrepreneurs from across Nova Scotia to network and share their ideas and passion for growing their businesses. Now in its second year, the "Start-up Sunday" business competition bridges the gap between the business community and aspiring

business students, inspiring the next generation of entrepreneurs. Contestants will meet at Saint Mary's University on Sunday, March 10, and form teams. Teams will be composed of a business person, a Sobey School of Business MBA student and a Sobey EMBA student. Each team will have the opportunity to meet throughout the day with business advisors representing different professional disciplines to hash out their ideas and formulate a well-thought-out business idea.

On March 13, teams will have 15 minutes each to pitch their business ideas to a group of judges, which have been selected to represent the venture capital industry. This event will be held at the Sobey School of Business and the top three teams will then have the opportunity to present their business ideas for final

judging on March 21st at the Halifax Entrepreneurship Expo. "We are excited to sponsor and host Start-Up Sunday, as the event supports one of our key goals, supporting our students in working with the business community. It also helps us encourage the entrepreneurial mindset that will help Sobey School students innovate and succeed," states Sobey School of Business Dean Patricia Bradshaw. March 21st, Dine with a Legend, will kick off with Derek Edwards, award-winning Canadian comedian, followed by keynote Arlene Dickinson, CEO of Venture Communications and co-star on the CBC series Dragons' Den. The excitement continues with the announcement of \$10,000 being awarded to the winning team of savvy students and entrepreneurs.

Just in Time for Valentine's: Nice Guys Deserve to Finish Last

Women don't owe "nice guys" anything and the friend-zone is a meaningless term

Ryan Bromsgrove — The Gateway
(University of Alberta)
EDMONTON (CUP)

This is an open letter to all the self-described "nice guys" out there, and one that I can sum up in three words: knock it off.

You know the type. They're always that shoulder to cry on. They're always there to listen. Their heart is five-sizes bigger than other guys', but gosh darnit they always end up in the dreaded "friend-zone" because girls are dumb and only date assholes. These guys then complain about how much of a bitch that girl is for not reciprocating their feelings. We all know at least a few people who seem to be stuck in the zone.

No. Just no. The "friend-zone" is nothing but an invention of the nice guy to explain why he doesn't get the sex he feels he's entitled to just by knowing a girl. Unfortunately, what these nice guys don't understand is that you're not actually entitled to coitus. In order to embark upon the adventure of having a sexual relationship with a partner, it's not enough to just be nice. You also need to be sexually attractive to that person and your personalities have to click on a deeper level than simply "I keep bringing you roses — why aren't we fucking?"

Basically, what you need to understand is that girls are more than simply objects you're entitled to fuck after meeting a certain degree of niceness. You don't get to just fill in a checklist. Bought her dinner? Check. Listened to her complain about her ex? Check. Held her hair

while she drunk-vomited all over your car? Check. Achievement Unlocked: Right to Fuck. What you need to understand is that women are human beings capable of deciding for themselves who they're going to have sex with. You're not trapped in the "friend-zone" — like having a friend is such a terrible thing anyway — you're just not compatible enough with the girl for a relationship. And that's just for now, too. There are plenty of times when good friends turn into something more.

And you know what, if you really, truly are a nice guy, and you've been there for some girl for all her life, and she does, genuinely exclusively date bona-fide assholes, then her judgement sucks and she actually does not deserve you.

But that's giving most of these "nice guys" way too much credit. Thanks to the Nice Guys of OKCupid Tumblr, we can actually get a glimpse into the minds of these poor, misunderstood gentlemen. These absolute gems complain about girls never sleeping with them despite how nice they are, while also espousing such opinions as yes, women must always shave, and yes, there are situations where a woman is obligated to have sex with you.

If you're a nice guy permanently stuck in the friend-zone, take a good hard look at yourself and your attitude towards women. The problem is not that women won't date you; the problem is that you are a misogynistic

human being hiding behind an invented excuse as to why you aren't getting sex you feel entitled to.

And if a woman wants to be your friend despite your dehumanizing opinion of her, count yourself lucky.



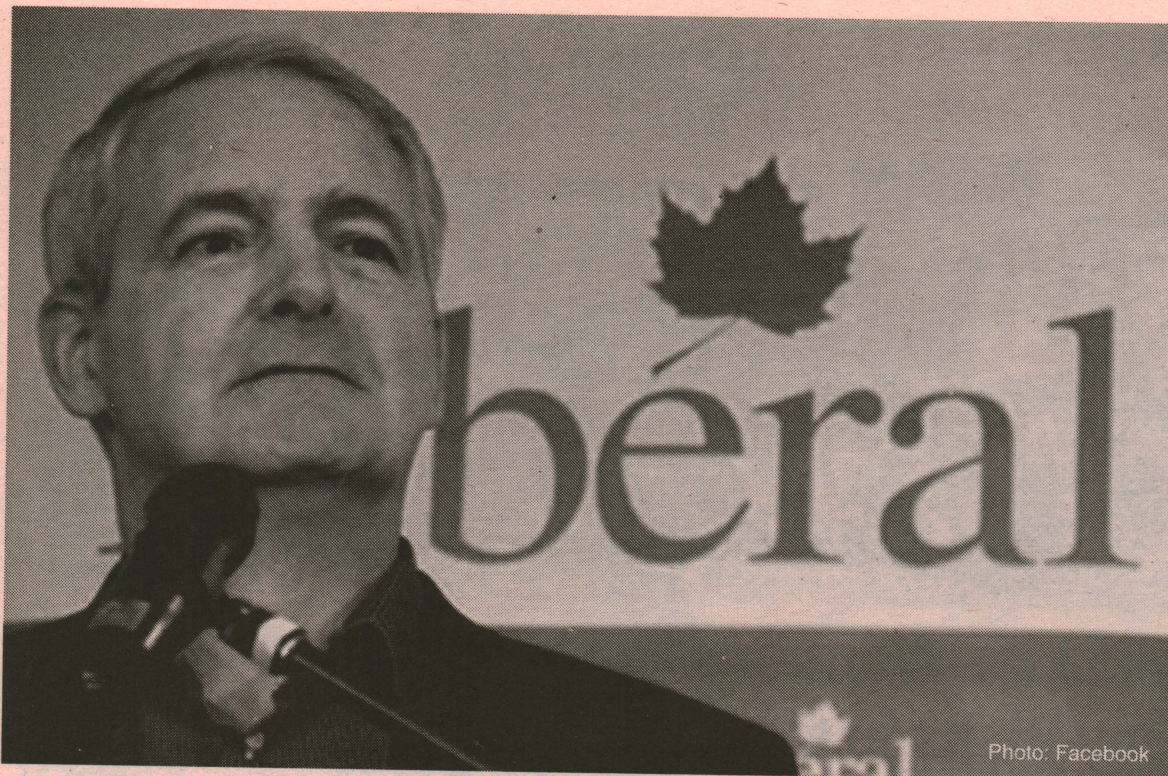


Photo: Facebook

A chat with Liberal Leadership Contender Marc Garneau

Rosie Townshend-Carter — The Cadre (University of Prince Edward Island) CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP)

Considered a front runner in the ongoing race for the Liberal leadership, Marc Garneau stands among a diverse field of nine candidates. Garneau has been criss-crossing Canada of late, gathering support from Liberals and non-Liberals alike in anticipation of the April vote.

The Cadre called up the former Royal Canadian Navy Officer, retired astronaut and past-President of the Canadian Space Agency to chat about his leadership campaign, post-secondary education, and the economy.

Cadre: Hi Mr. Garneau, how are you today?

Garneau: I'm very well, thanks.

Cadre: How is the Campaign going? What has been the best part of the campaign so far?

Garneau: Well it's going great. Last time I was at UPEI was just a few days ago. I was in Charlottetown, and then the next day I went up to New Brunswick, and yesterday I was in Cape Breton. Today I'm moving into northern Ontario. It's been a pretty busy campaign but its going very well ... and meeting a lot of Liberals. The campaign is picking up momentum as it has been since the beginning.

Cadre: Sounds like you've been doing a lot of traveling.

Garneau: You bet. Next week I'll be in Quebec.

Cadre: So, what is one thing that you offer that other leadership candidates do not?

Garneau: Well I think that I offer a lifetime of experience and demonstrated leadership capability. As you know I started my career off in the Navy. I was in the space business of course — I flew as an astronaut 3 times, I was Canada's first astronaut, [and] I ran the Canadian space agency which is a big responsibility because I was responsible every year for \$300

million of federal money to do [the] Canadian space program, and I'm very proud of my accomplishments during that time and of course [I'm] a politician now. I was elected in 2008, and I've had some important jobs within the Liberal Party. I was also the industrial and science and technology critic.

What else I'm offering is basically what I think is a vision that will focus on Canada's economy. The main concern, particularly with young people is that of the future, jobs and job opportunities. That's the kind of policy that I will bring forward, because that's what I'm hearing across the country, that is the greatest concern to Canadians. They are concerned about their jobs, the security of their jobs, they're concerned about the end of their life, about secure retirement, and those are the things I'm focusing on. If you go to my website, I've already announced some policies in that area.

Cadre: Experience is obviously key, but the youth vote is also very important. How would you increase youth voter turnout in the 2015 election?

Garneau: Well I think speaking to issues that concern you. I know that one giant concern of theirs is job opportunities. As you probably know, youth unemployment is twice the national average at around 15 per cent. Young people coming into the work force ... they are looking for jobs, they want the same thing as we all did in the past, which is to get a job and begin to build a life, and perhaps at some point buy a house and start a family and those kinds of things. It's a different kind of situation these days, so one of the things

that I've done, this is only one of them, I will do more, is that many of them coming out of university are also having a very large student debt as well to pay off, but one of the things I'm doing is too that I'm saying is that I would give a tax credit to an employer who hired a young person, so they wouldn't have to pay a payroll tax as part of hiring the student, so this would be an incentive for employers to hire young people.

Another thing is that very often some of the brightest ideas that people have come from young people who want to start a business,

"...Youth unemployment is twice the national average at around 15 per cent. Young people coming into the work force ... they are looking for jobs, they want the same thing as we all did in the past..."

who want to start an enterprise, or start a company because they have a great idea and they want to develop something. Whether it's a product or a service and they need some capital, they need some money to start it. At the moment for those who want to start a business, its very difficult getting access to some money to develop their idea and turn it into something that is commercial.

Another thing that its on my website, and I've spoken about this, is to start giving a capital

gains exemption to somebody who is prepared to invest in a start up, and very often those are young people out of university and they've got this bright idea, and also to in some cases to give what's called an angel investor tax credit. It's to encourage people who have money to invest in new young enterprises and to put their money there. That will help those young people who need to get access to money to develop their idea into a product.

Cadre: Accessible post-secondary education is a policy of the Liberal party. How would a Garneau

government work to make post-secondary education more accessible?

Garneau: Well, I believe in the last election the Liberal Party stated that its platform said that if you get the grades, you get to go. The whole idea there was to point out the fact that there are some young people who definitely do well in high school and would like to be able to go onto university, but they don't have the financial means to do it. So, that is something that is important if we are going to develop the knowledge based economy. It means we need as many people having opportunities to take advantage of university ... but ideas to provide a grant program that would allow young people who don't have financial support, and it would be based on a means test. Don't have the means to go, because of income. This would be a grant system to get them into university so that they can realize their full potential, [and] so it would depend on the income situation of the student in question.

Cadre: I think that it would be a great opportunity.

Garneau: Well, I think that it's a smart investment in the future of this country. You know we need to get the maximum out of our young people, and this is one way to do that.

Cadre: Keeping a balanced budget is a vital part of governance. How would a Garneau government work to balance the federal budget? Would that plan include tax increases?

Garneau: No, not at the moment. I would [work to balance the federal budget] by growing our economy, and specifically the knowledge based economy. In the same way as you and I have to manage our finances and be responsible, and cannot get ourselves into debt, I would take the same approach towards government. Government has access to the taxpayer's money, so we need to manage it in a responsible manner. That includes balancing the budget. In normal circumstances, there is no excuse to not balance the budget; you and I have to in our own lives. I have a family, and I can't put myself into debt to the point where I have to sell my house and sell my assets and change a whole bunch of things, and it would be irresponsible of me and the bank would be there to tell me that. So, we need to take the same attitude in respect to government.

Cadre: It was great to talk to you today. I'll be interested to see where the rest of the campaign goes, have a great afternoon

Garneau: It was my pleasure Rosie. Thank you, Bye

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Women's Basketball Team Extend Win Streak to 15

4 February, 2013

The Saint Mary's Huskies defeated the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds 73-63 in AUS Women's basketball action at the Homburg Centre on a snowy Sunday afternoon in Halifax.

Subway Player of the Game and reigning CIS Athlete of the Week Justine Colley (East Preston, N.S.) scored 26 points, grabbed 7 rebounds, and added 4 assists to lead the nationally second ranked Huskies to victory. Colley leads the CIS in scoring average with 27.8 points per game.

Laura Langille (2nd year, Bedford, N.S.) scored 17 points and grabbed 7 boards to help propel Saint Mary's to their fifteenth win of the season. The

undefeated Huskies stand alone in first place with 42 points.

Claire Colborne (3rd year, Calgary, AB) led the Varsity Reds with 17 points, Chelsey Collette (1st year, Rothesay, N.B.) added 12, and Rachel Cleary (2nd year, Brantford, Ont) chipped in 11 in the losing effort for UNB.

The Huskies led 44-23 at half time. UNB will travel to Charlottetown this Friday night for a four point game in the standings with the UPEI Panthers while the Huskies will head up Robie Street in Halifax for a re-match with the Dalhousie Tigers from Dalplex on Wednesday night.

The Huskies defeated the Tigers 77-69 in a thrilling affair last week at Dalplex. Huskies fans can see the game via live webcast on Tigers TV.



Huskies Women's Hockey, Volleyball, Pay Visits in the Community

31 January, 2013

Students at Rockingham Elementary School were treated to a nice surprise Wednesday morning, when members of the Saint Mary's University Women's hockey team visited the school to hand out achievement awards during the school's monthly assembly.

During January, students at the school were learning about perseverance and commitment, two traits the women's hockey team knows very well. The young students were told it took The students gathered in the gym, also heard that the players also put a great deal of work into their studies as they do practicing their hockey skills. All students who received awards got to shake hands with the Huskies players and high five

or hug the very popular Huskies mascot.

The players then had a chance to visit classrooms and read a book to the students. The school was given some free tickets to upcoming games. But the best announcement was saved for last, any student at Rockingham elementary will get in free for this Saturday's women's hockey game between the Huskies and Mount Allison. The young students will get to see how years of practice, perseverance and commitment helped turn the women on both teams into exceptional hockey players.

The Huskies hope to grow their school visits and reading program during the next season. More than just the Women's Hockey team were

out in the community however, and on Friday before their match against the University de Moncton, the SMU Huskies Women's Volleyball Team had the pleasure of meeting the Moncton Roofers Volleyball Club. "This was a great opportunity for our team to meet young volleyball athletes and it gave us a chance to sit down and answer questions that they had. I think it is great when you get the chance to get out in a community and I know this is something our varsity athletes really enjoy doing" said Coach Russell. "The principal at Magnetic Hill Elementary is very welcoming and the support his athletes gave us as they cheered us on during the match is something special our girls will always remember".



Photo: Wes Wilcox

Bowing Out: Ariel Smith in her final home game

Huskies Men's Hockey Team Keeps Rolling Towards Playoffs

MARK MOFFAT

The Saint Mary's Huskies men's hockey team continued to roll towards the playoffs and earned a bonus that should help them and in their cause in the post-season. The Huskies defeated the Acadia Axemen 3-0 in Wolfville on February 2nd. Goalie Anthony Peters stopped 28 shots to earn the shutout between the pipes. Cory Tanaka and Matt Tipoff led the Saint Mary's offence, each getting a goal and an assist. Jeff Marchand scored the other goal for the Huskies. Shawn O'Donnel with two, Ryan Hillier, and Lucas Bloodoff also had assists in the game. Axemen goalie Peter DiSalvo was the only bright spot for his team, making 26 saves for his team. In addition to winning the game, the Huskies clinched second place in the Atlantic University Hockey Conference and earned a bye directly into the league semi-finals. This bye gives the Huskies nearly 2 weeks off from playing between their last game of the season on February 8th and when the Semi-final series

begin on February 20th. This should give the team lots of time to rest, practice, and strategize in preparation for whomever they meet in the semi-finals. The first place UNB Varsity Reds clinched first place and the other bye into the semi-finals. Their final record stands at 23-5-0 (wins-losses-overtime losses) for 46 points. Speaking for their season finale on the 8th, the huskies were not able to cap their season with a win with a 4-3 shootout loss to the Saint Francis Xavier X-men. Ted Stephens was the shootout hero for St.FX. Huskies scoring was provided by Justin Wallingford, Bradley Greene, and Stephen Johnston. The Huskies final record stands at 18-7-3 for 39 points.

In men's basketball action, the Huskies have made a nice turn-a-around after a bad start to their season. The Huskies defeated the UNB Varsity Reds 86-72 in a big 4 point win on February 3rd. Kevin Thomas led the Saint Mary's offence with 21 points. Harry Ezenibe had 19 points, Miguel Pink 15, and Jordan Lee 11. Thomas also powered

the Huskies' rebounding attack, snagging 14 in all. UNB countered with Will McFee scoring 23 points, Dan Quiron getting 20, and Matthew Daley finishing with 10. Daley and Michael Fazzolari led their team in rebounds with 7 each. This win was part of a good stretch of wins that was very opposite to their bad start to their season. After losing 8 straight after winning their first two games, the Huskies have four of their last six games. In the Huskies last game on February 6th, they were on the losing end of an 82-65 outcome at the hands of the Dalhousie Tigers. Thomas and Lee led Saint Mary's in scoring with 23 and 15, respectively. Jumol Mullings powered the Tigers with 17 points and William Yengue had 16 points. The Huskies' record currently stands at 6-10 for 18 points, with a combination of 2 and 4 point wins. The Huskies are 6 points ahead of UNB for the final Atlantic conference playoff spot with each team having just 4 games left in the regular season. It should be exciting to see how the end of the season plays itself out.

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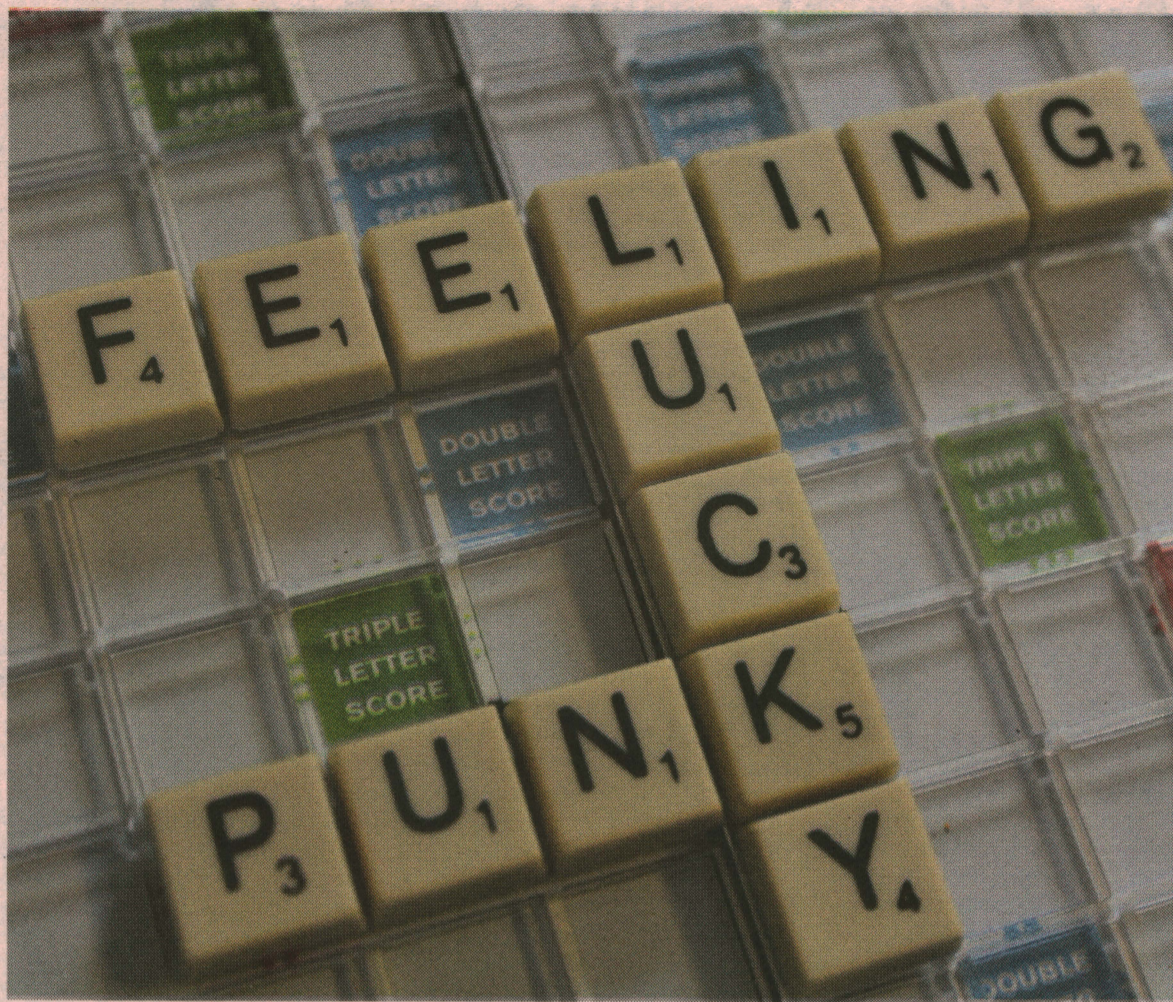
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SMU Writing Centre Challenges City to Scrabble Smackdown

Adam Faber

Now that Santamarians have had some practice, the Writing Centre is challenging the rest of the peninsula to test their Scrabble skills.

"Scrabble Smackdown is a campus-wide tournament that is open to all members of the Saint Mary's community. We are also opening it up to the city, including all the universities, scrabble leagues and groups around." Said Brian Hotson, director of Saint Mary's Writing Centre.

The Writing Centre has been organizing a battle of the wordsmiths for three years, in addition to their day-to-day services of helping student create better papers through tutoring sessions. When Hotson started at the Writing Centre, one of the ideas he brought with him was his annual Scrabble Smackdown.

"It was an idea we came up with. It was an idea I pitched at my job interview, actually." Hotson said. The first two years of the tournament had teams made up of people on campus, from different students to campus security and other groups. "Residence life are

the real stalwarts, putting together a serious team every year."

The event is taking place on Saturday, March 2nd at the Student Centre Café, and is a Scrabble sanctioned event.

The tournament uses official tournament rules, which creates some dramatic moments during the elimination-style matches.

"If you put a word down, they can challenge it. If it's not a real word or if it's spelled incorrectly you lose your turn. That happened last year and it was a real tide turner in the game, which was very exciting." Hotson said.

The word game adds to the scope of events that students can participate in, as well as encouraging spelling, creativity, and vocabulary, all things that help a writer create a strong piece. While the Writing Centre gives away prizes for well-written papers submitted to them each year, having something to brag about doesn't hurt either.

"The long term goal - I have a five year plan, like all good socialists - is to open it up to the Atlantic Canadian schools." Hotson said. "I've put out invites

to some schools last year, but they couldn't make it. I've invited Dal, the Mount, and the Kings Bookstore. People are excited, and we've already had some response and people sign up."

Solo players or teams of two or three can register for \$5 by downloading a form at the Writing Centre's site on www.smu.ca, or visiting the office at Burke 116 for a paper entry. The registration fee gives participants lunch, an event t-shirt, and access to a number of prizes contributed by local businesses and other entities on campus, such as the campus bookstore.

"We try to give away prizes for the most unusual word, the highest scoring word, things like that." Hotson said. "Last year our most unusual word was Bigfeet, which is the plural of Bigfoot... Which I did not know until that actual game." While physical prizes are one thing, the coveted honour being fought for is the title of Wordsmith of Saint Mary's, the difference being this is the year students and staff will have to defend it from challengers from around the city. So bring it, Halifax, and let the Smackdown begin!

Website Survey Draws Over 800 Student Responses

More than 800 students responded to the recent request for feedback in a Stakeholder Survey that was emailed to the entire university community.

Congratulations to Maria Lamprea. Maria is a 3rd year BComm student. She won the \$200 Visa Gift card in a draw that all students who filled out the recent SMU website survey were entered in.



And the winner is... Maria Lamprea

The survey was part of the Research phase of the website redesign project. We received over 800 responses from students alone and over 1300 responses in total when Faculty, Staff and Alumni are included. Some key findings and recommendations:

- Current website navigation was considered by all groups (Students, Faculty, Staff, Alumni) as the most important element of

the website to improve.

- Students asked for more apps and functionality.
- There was common agreement that the best things about Saint Mary's are: the sense of community; the friendly and professional faculty and staff; and the small class size.

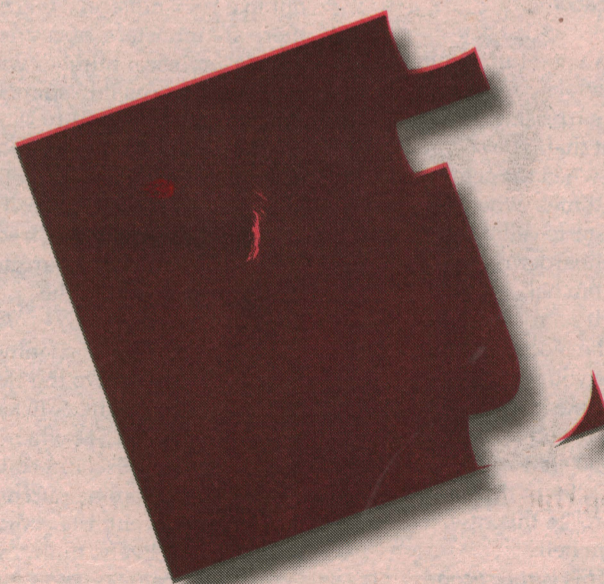
The current site has over 12,000 pages. "Redesigning a new website the size of SMU's is a massive undertaking. We are working hard to design and build a website the entire Saint Mary's community will be proud of. Our new site will be a responsive site allowing for ease of use on mobile devices," said Gabe Morrison, Vice President, Finance and Administration and Chair of the Web Steering Committee.

Focus Groups will be held this week and next. These meetings will be the final part of the research phase. From there we will move into development of the IA (Information Architecture) and Creative Strategy. A university wide Town Hall will be held in late Spring when the creative look and feel of the site will be unveiled.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Survey - we value your feedback.

Jane Mitchell
Project Manager

On Feb 13 & 14...



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And the Nominees Are?

By: Connor Donald

The East Coast Music Awards are five weeks away and the bands are warming up, the volunteers are getting ready and the tickets are selling. The Chronicle Herald proudly presents the ECMA Awards Night and Gala which takes place on Sunday March 10 and the official nominations are in. What is shaping up to be an exciting week of East Coast Music has a tremendous list of talent, performances and nominations.

The 2013 ECMA Nominees are led by Halifax natives, Wintersleep. Leading the way with six nominations Wintersleep has stiff competition in all categories. They are nominated for Album of the Year for Hello Hum and are set to compete with other local artist Matt Mays and his album

Coyote. They are also up for Fans Choice Entertainer of the Year against a strong list of competitors like The Stanfields, The Trews, Matt Mays and Joel Plaskett. They are also looking to bring home



Group Recording of the Year, Rock Recording of the Year, Songwriter of the Year and Fans Choice Video of the Year.

Closely trailing Wintersleep in Nominations is another Haligonian, Matt Mays. Mays' latest album Coyote received great praise from fans and critics alike. His successful attempt to mix together a world of musical sounds earned him five nominations at this years ECMA's,

including: Album of the Year, Fans Choice Entertainer of the Year, Fans Choice Video of the Year, Rock Recording of the Year, Solo Recording of the Year and Songwriter of the Year.

Four artists trail Mays in nominations with four each: Rose Cousins, Radio Radio, Rich Aucoin and Tim Chaisson. Those artists' nominations range from Fan Choice Awards, Recordings of the Year, Albums of the Year and Songwriters of the Year. Numerous artists come in with three nominations this year including: The Trews, The Stanfields, David Myles and Joel Plaskett. There is also a strong showing by new first time artists to the ECMA's including The City Natives and Mo Kenney.

A busy year in East Coast Music comes to a close on March 10 and the Awards Gala are sure to be a high-energy show with performances by artists from all genres. The celebration of East Coast music has become a tremendous, week-long event every year; with ECMA winners becoming Juno winners becoming world touring artists, the Atlantic music scene is rockin' hard as ever.

For a list of all nominees or ticket information visit the official ECMA website, ecma.com.



Photo: www.timothyrichard.com

One Hell of a Good Time

By: Adam Faber

A good number of us have had a lousy roommate, so it's not surprising to see a play about that. The surprising bits come when the actors start throwing things, when the audience starts yelling back, and when the hoarder roommate is literally from hell.

"It's a rock musical about living in the North End of Halifax on Gottigen Street, and all of the horrible things that can happen when you're subletting," said Ian Mullin, who stars as the diabolical main character of this campy production. "In this case, it's the sublet from hell."

This is the second coming of the musical, originally done as a part of the 2012 Queer Acts festival at the Bus Stop Theatre and directed by Sam Horack. While the venue and involved people remain the same, the musical score has been expanded to include four new songs, as well as dialling up the over-the-top segments that the audience responded to so well in the past.

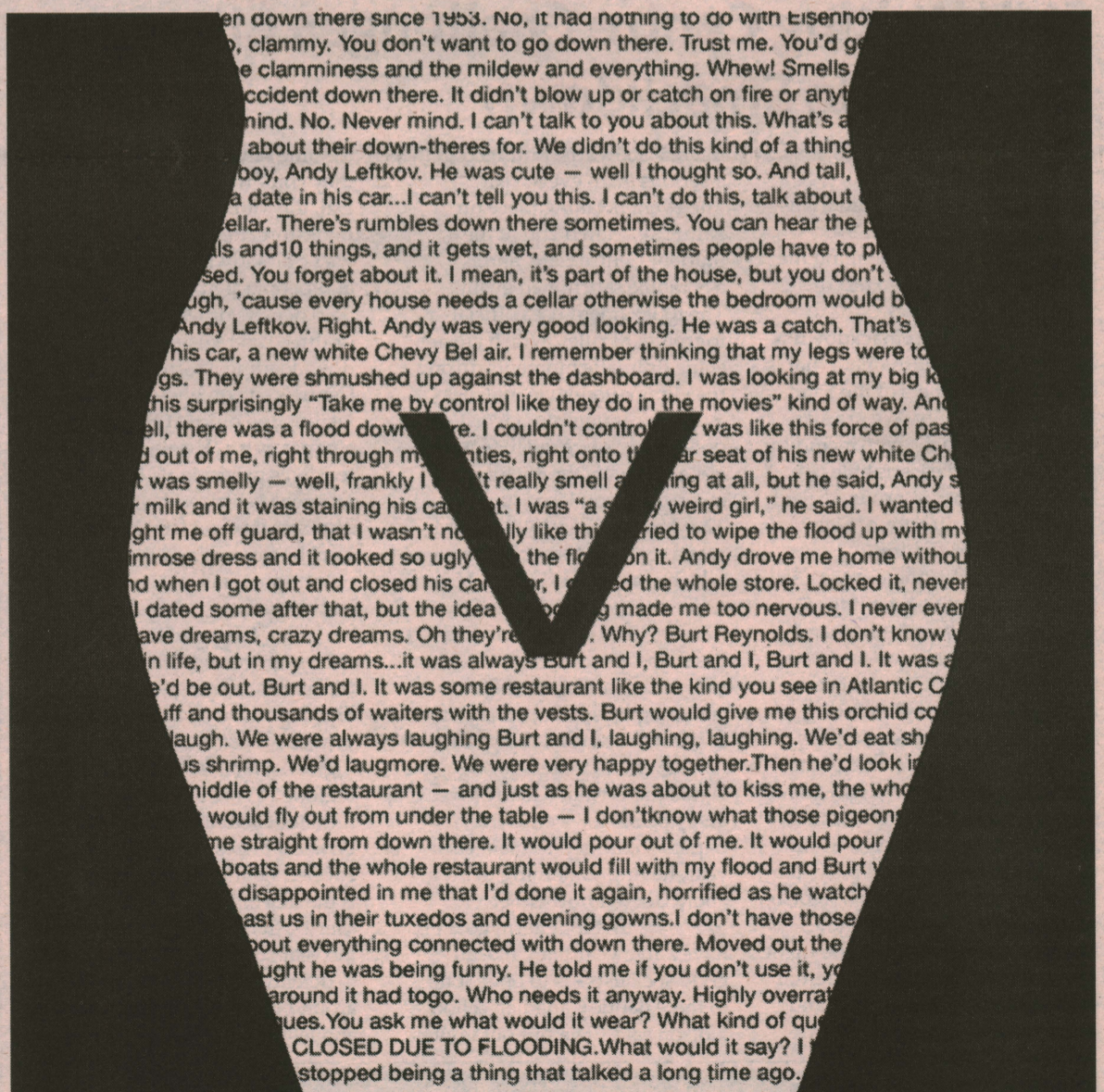
"Once we knew it was a rock musical we knew we could push the envelope more and more," said Ian, who also wrote and produced the play. "A crazy ending might not be accepted,

but in a rock musical... Of course there are monsters, of course there's a musical number where a character turns into someone else." Ian saw the reality show Hoarders and the musical Rocky Horror Picture Show as wells of inspiration to draw from when building the Gottingen Street story of a run-down apartment that hides a portal to the underworld.

The show is running from February 14th to the 18th at 8:00PM each night. A ticket will only cost you \$12 when you use the student discount code 'darling' for an online purchase at sissydude.eventbrite.com. The production is lively, funny, and extremely local.

"The great part is that it actually takes place in Halifax's north end, with multiple references to that," said Ian. On top of that, local band Piggy's tune Gottingen Street is one of the many fun tunes in the hard-rockin' lineup.

A fun time for someone looking for an energetic show with lots of audience interaction, or even a couple - especially if one half of the duo is a bad roomie! What a good way to show a stark contrast to your loved one: "See, honey? I may not throw things out around the house, but at least I'm not in league with the devil!"

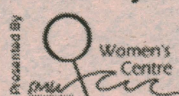


THE CURTAIN LIFTS AT 8

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

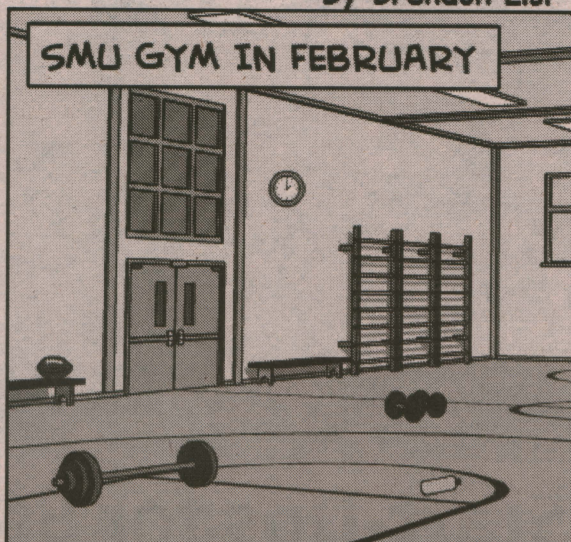
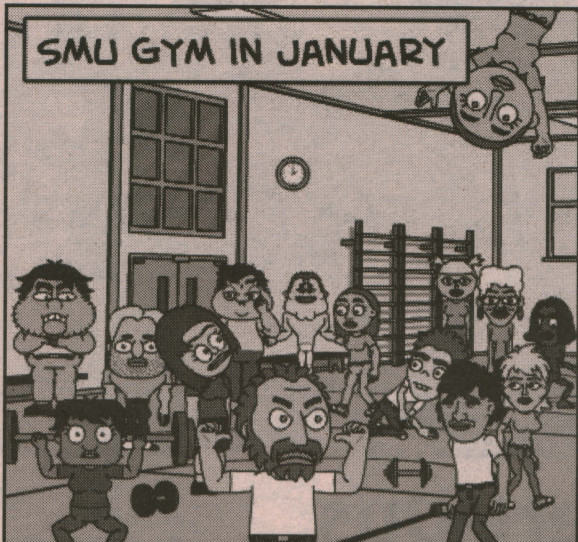
February 21 - MSVU -Seton theatre
February 22- SMU - McNally theatre
February 23 - Company House

Tickets Available At
Saint Mary's Women's Centre, Venus Envy
World Tea House, Uncommon Grounds, and
Atlantic news, Video Difference Bedford
The Company House



Tickets \$10 in Advance \$15 at the Door

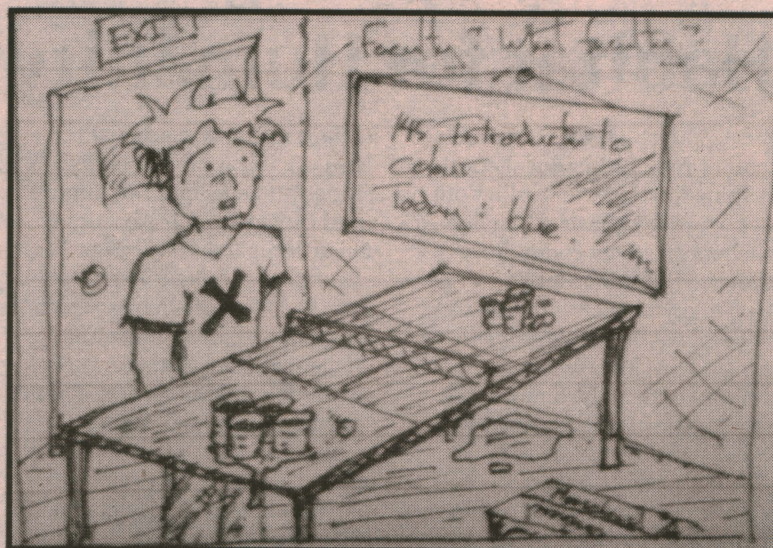
NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



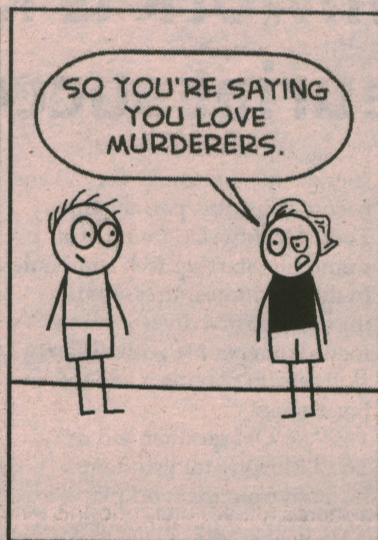
By Brendon Lisi

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WE ALL KNOW 'THAT' GUY



By Brendon Lisi

SUDOKU

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SMU Poll ✓

Have you kept your New Year's Resolution?

Yes.....40%
No.....10%
Didn't have one...50%



Did You Know That?

In 1960, students voted for the SMU mascot, with the Husky coming out on top with 48% of the vote. Some of the other options included The Falcons, The Cardinals and "The Schoos". We think they made the right choice.



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ACROSS

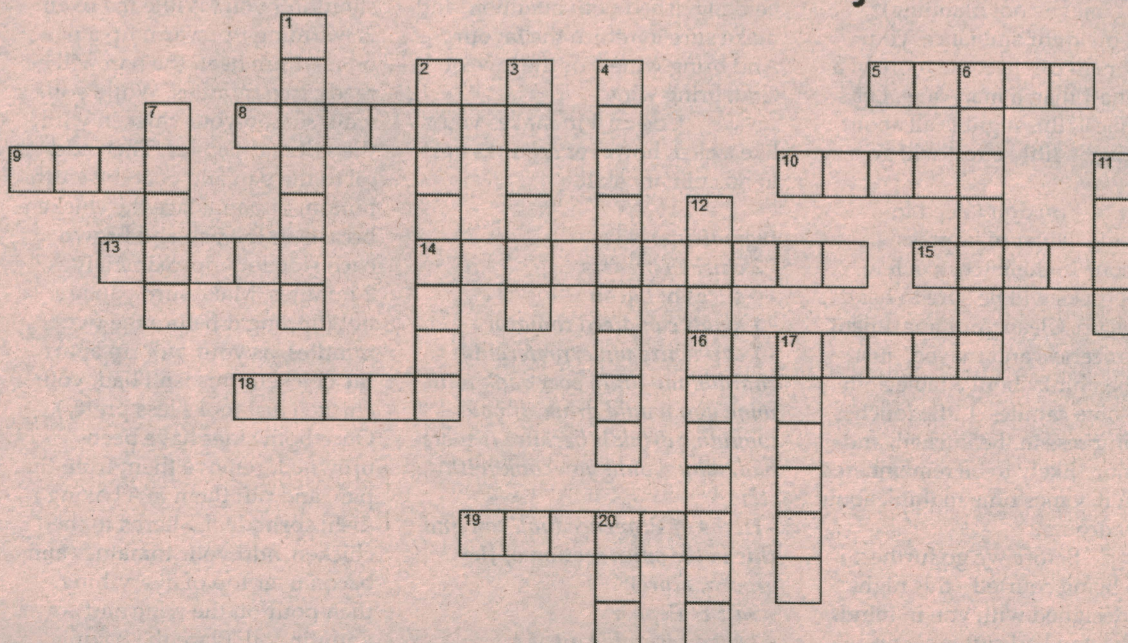
- 5 President
- 8 To Teach
- 9 Old Enactus
- 10 Open Mic Host
- 13 Once a husky, never a _____
- 14 New Classified CD
- 15 Hipster Halifax School
- 16 What you'll never call the tower but the 94's will
- 18 District 7 Councillor
- 19 The "D" is silent. Movie.

DOWN

- 1 Tests in February
- 2 Pier 21 Brewery
- 3 SMU Women's Basketball CIS ranking (current)
- 4 Sunday night out in Hali
- 6 Faster than walking
- 7 Last year Raven
- 11 Soon to be torn down at SMU
- 12 Longest line on campus
- 17 Director, Athletics
- 20 It's finally back!

Huskies 101

By Brendon Lisi



Society Spotlight: Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit international effort at helping low income families out of poverty by constructing homes, shelters and even community centers. The Saint Mary's University Habitat for Humanity Society was created four years ago and has given a tremendous amount of help to communities across North America and local HRM communities as well.

Last year 42 student volunteers travelled to Laredo, Texas, which is the poorest city in the United States. While in Laredo, we did everything from building, to visiting alligators and indulging in traditional Mexicana cuisine. This year 48 students will be travelling to Punta Gorda, Florida, which is a small city that was devastated by Hurricane Charley. While in Punta Gorda we will be building homes from the walls up to the roof and everything in between!

One organization that we have been extremely fortunate to be associated with

is CampusPerks. CampusPerks is an organization that helps students like us find funding we need by pairing our societies with major companies. Last year we participated in their Virgin Mobile On The House challenge, which was made up of a number of challenges from obstacle courses to poutine eating contests! Poutine is something our society really knows how to eat! We won over \$1000 in prizes. This year we're participating in their Samsung Mobilers Challenge, ranking in the top 17 societies across Canada we were awarded with the Smart PC and funding for our trip.

Habitat for Humanity is an amazing society to be involved with. Being apart of Habitat gives you the opportunity to not only meet great people, but also enrich your university experience internationally. We are counting down the days to our next journey and we can't wait to get building, meet the people of Punta Gorda, Florida and continue to give back to communities in need.



Start-Ups for Start-Ups proves teamwork is key to entrepreneurial success

Brendon Lisi
February 6, 2013

In a low lit, private dining room of a south end restaurant, students from many faculties came together in a setting more attune to a secret societies. But this was no secret society, instead it was the culmination of an idea spurred by Professors Ellen Farrell, Claudia De Fuentes, and successful SMU alum and entrepreneur Todd Murphy. A round the table were students from the commerce, sciences and computers faculties, a mix of programmers, finance majors and students in environmental sciences. What was common link between them? Their entrepreneurial spirits. The purpose of the event was to give a chance for students of different faculties to meet and form

friendships that could very likely become business partnerships. Todd Murphy, Co-founder of numerous start-up tech companies in the Maritimes, stressed the importance of a diverse team, made from people with different skill sets, in playing a key role in his success.

Over dinner and drinks Todd Murphy told students his path from the workplace, to Saint Mary's, and ultimately, to becoming an expert at starting up businesses in the tech industry. Engaged students learned that a programmer could go a lot farther with the help of a business student, and vice-versa. Ideas were put forth and discussed, and numerous questions answered about generating ideas, making them into a reality, and raising funds, of which Todd Murphy is an expert. Medrunner and

Onelobby are just some of the start-ups in which he's needed to raise money through angel investors and from VC groups, and he has raised millions. He stressed the importance of being confident in your idea, and to show your passion and knowledge, telling us that best idea in the world doesn't mean you'll get investor's money if you don't have the guts to say it is, and the skill set to back it up.

All in all the night was a resounding success with students leaving feeling empowered to continue or think about starting new entrepreneurial endeavours, and now had the knowledge, and some potential new business partners, to do it with. A plan is in place to make this type of meeting a regular event, to further foster entrepreneurship in the Saint Mary's community.



Bone's in GSPOT's Kitchen

A Special Presentation by Oliver Bone and Gspot

Tomorrow can be the most romantic night of the year, but if you don't already have dinner reservations, you're gonna have to be a little more creative than you were planning (or, let's face it, maybe not planning). With the right ambiance, your apartment can become more of a love-nest than a man-cave. Let's be honest, this night is all about courting; a little effort will go a long way.

You don't need to be Jamie Oliver to impress someone in the kitchen; a few small tricks will be sure to heat things up. Clean your apartment, get groceries, and maybe - just maybe, think about a tablecloth and some candles. Little touches will impress in the kitchen, and are more likely to be remembered when it comes time to think about the bedroom.

Before we go further, folks being courted - this night was designed with you in mind. Maybe you had sights set on

a corner booth in a candle-lit restaurant with rose petals and tuxedos, but don't turn your nose up on a night at home. It's more effort being put in on your account, so don't be a jerk, enjoy being lavished with attention, and make sure to return the favour. And bring wine. For the love of God, bring wine.

Coq au Vin makes you like a chef, however requires next to no culinary skill.

Ingredients:
- 2 chicken breasts
- 4 slices of bacon
- 1 small can diced tomatoes
- 1 cup white wine, preferably chardonnay (only ever cook with wine you would drink. If you wouldn't drink it because it taste bad, why would you cook with it?)
- Herbs of Provence (you can find this is the spice section of the grocery store)
- Salt & Pepper
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil

Preheat your oven to 300°. Open your wine - for wine to be at its best, it needs to breathe before you drink it! It also doesn't hurt to have a sip or two while you cook; Italians do, so why shouldn't you? While the oven is warming up, warm up a pan on medium heat; the pan will be ready two minutes. While you wait, season your chicken with the salt and pepper. Then add oil to the pan and coat the entire bottom of pan. Place the chicken breasts in the pan and brown each side for approximately 2 minutes. Make sure you are not flipping it before the two minutes, as your will rip apart the chicken (this isn't bad, your chicken just looks less pretty). Once both sides have been browned, remove them from the pan, and put them in a baking dish; sprinkle the herbs to the chicken, add your tomatoes and bacon over top of everything, then pour on the wine and cover with tin foil. Place the baking

dish into the oven for roughly 20 minutes. While the chicken is cooking, make a side dish to go with it (this means veggies!).

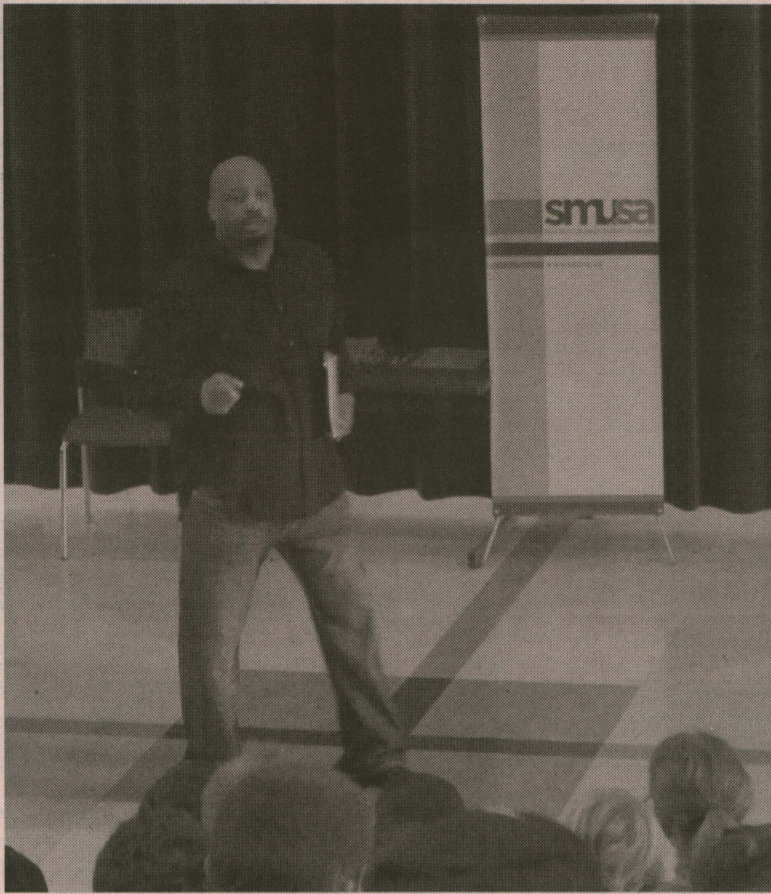
Now get ready to romance! This night was set up with courting in mind and you, chef, have probably impressed the pants off of whomever you're looking to impress - and getting that persons pants off may have been the motivation all along! Your guest is going to clean themselves up and want to be presentable for you, so do your lover a favour and get extra spick-and-span for them. Remember what we said before about extra touches? That goes for more than not having dishes piled up, it also applies to personal grooming.

Get dressed to impress! You might not like it, but a clean shirt does wonders to impress a potential mate. It doesn't hurt to put on your sexiest underwear, to go with your suave kitchen skills and even if you're not sure

to score, feeling sexy will make you more confident, which will up your chances a hundred-fold. Serve your date a drink as soon as they walk in the door. This will surely put a smile on their face, and help loosen them up, without pressuring them to get liquored- it is a Thursday, after all. That, and there's nothing less sexy than someone trying to get you drunk and full of food in an over-zealous and nervous attempt at seduction. We all know you want to get laid, that's why this holiday even exists.

The point of romance is that it's not supposed to be hard. If you're genuine and sincere in your attempts to impress, humble in your achievements, and can laugh at your sometimes-awkwardness, it's both fun and easy. So breathe, Valentines Day panickers, smile, and if you're gonna get busy in the kitchen or the bedroom, don't forget to just have fun.

"Drugs are great because they have to be" says Powell



By Andrew Barbour

"Drugs are great." Once Alvin Powell works through his upbringing as the son of a loving mother and an absentee military father, the guest speaker gets to the part where, when pledging for a fraternity in college, he begins dabbling in drugs. Alvin isn't like you or me in a lot of ways, but his susceptibility to temptation isn't unique to him. Powell got out of his college drug slump thanks to a number of incidents, like his roommate trashing his brand new car, forcing Alvin to run 5 miles each way to school in the summer. This, combined with an almost fanatical devotion to weight training (because he was too poor to do anything else), put him in the best shape of his life and eventually got him drafted into the now-defunct United States Football League.

After the NFL sued the USFL out of existence, Alvin was one of the lucky few to be offered an NFL contract with the Seattle Seahawks. At about the same time, he fell into serious and heavy drug

usage. Crack cocaine, speed balls, weed, alcohol, you name it. His story has him spiralling down into darkness as many times as it has him surfacing and resolving to do some good. After being released from Seattle by a disgruntled NFL, he went back to Florida and worked with youth at a local church. The NFL heard about his change of face and gave him another shot in their farm league, the World Football League (also now defunct). But still, he wound up in trouble.

Alvin's story continues on like this until he realizes he is hurting the kids he cares about; they look at him and his addictions with disgust. He heads to Montreal, a city that had shown him great love, to end his own life. But there, in a moment of clarity, he finds an outreach program and finally is able to connect with someone to manage and overcome his addictions. Now, he lives in Montreal and operates a drug addiction prevention office, focusing on educating youth and hoping to keep them

from making the same mistakes he's made. He doesn't sugar-coat the stories, the feelings, or experiences. He makes sense of gateway drugs, not that doing one makes you want to try others, but because friends or relatives (people you trust) introduce them to you in environments that you're comfortable in. If you try it once in a good place with good friends, you're likely to be more open to the idea of repeating that experience.

SMUSA, SMU Athletics and SMU Counselling all got together to bring Alvin Powell in to speak on Feb 1st to students because his story can resonate on our campus, like it can on any other campus. If you or someone you care about may have a problem, please seek help. The counsellors on the 4th floor are an excellent place to start. As a community, we need to take care of ourselves and each other. As Alvin says, "Drugs are great because they have to be to lure you into the killing field. Their sole purpose is to destroy you."

My Experience Teaching in China

Its that time of year that graduating students start looking for a job, and sometimes students chose to go overseas and teach. Linguistics student Willofrika tells us her story about teaching English in China.

Willofrika Moturi

Teaching English in China was a very good and rewarding experience for me. Being in a different environment for the first time and interacting with people of a different language and culture was a daunting task, but at the end of it all I can say is that it was very worthwhile.

When I first arrived at Guangzhou Airport in China I was greeted with stares and frustration. My flight from Nairobi was delayed so I missed my connecting flight to Beijing. Some of the Airline attendants did not speak or understand English and my inquiries were met with blank stares and grim faces, and some just smiled and shook their heads. Despite all of this, generally, the people were quite friendly. The main challenge was the language barrier and everything being written in Chinese. You were lucky if you stumbled upon someone who could speak English, but basic Mandarin was necessary to "survive". Most of the products in the stores are all written in Chinese so I had to be sure what I was buying, I remember one time I thought I bought a bottle of shampoo only later on to realize that it was hair oil. They basically looked the same.

Teaching English in China was interesting and fun. It was a completely different system altogether from the one

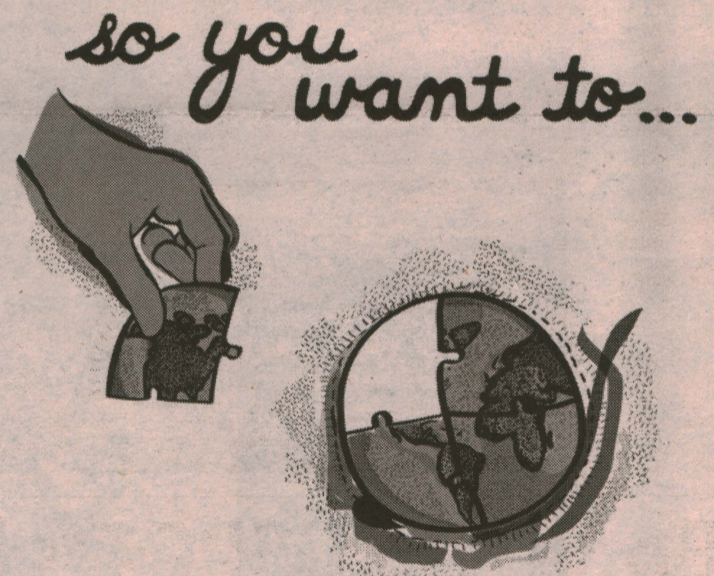
I was used to back at home in Kenya. In my country students, already speak and understand English and I mainly taught them Language arts and Literature, but in China the students neither speak nor understand any English. I had to use a different approach and devise different methods of teaching than I was used to, like incorporating games and music into the lessons to make the learning more interesting and fun. Many student in China find English a very difficult language to learn and sometimes boring, so games and any type of audio-visual aids made a lot of difference.

I also had to get used to the large number of students in the classes because I was teaching in a public school - remember the population in China is 1.3 billion! But the students were fun and were very eager to learn particularly when they knew they were going to have games in class. I enjoyed eating Chinese food, like dumplings and tofu as well as learning to eat with chopsticks. The first restaurant I went to didn't have spoons and forks! Rice is a staple food and every meal is served with rice. I also liked "hot pots," where a pot with a burner is brought to the table and food is cooked at the table.

In China you can find pretty much everything "Western" that you might want, as there are Wal-Mart stores and Carrefour stores all around. They

also have McDonalds, KFC and Starbucks, but I preferred eating in the Chinese restaurants. I also got a chance to visit historical sites and I got to see what I had read in books, like the Great Wall and the Forbidden City. Travelling by train was the cheapest means, particularly the overnight trains to other cities, but the worst time to travel was during the Chinese New Year and the festivals, as they would be packed with other people who also had traveling in mind. The cost of internet in China is much cheaper than in Canada. There are internet cafés or "internet bars" virtually everywhere; I would see most Chinese going to them to play video games, but they had strict regulations regarding students being allowed in. One thing I had to deal with is the internet censorship in China, or "the great firewall." I couldn't get to open some sites like You Tube and Facebook as they were blocked in China and remain that way. Other sites which are also blocked are the ones that the government considers sensational or dangerous for the political interest of the country.

For those who are interested in teaching English and love to travel and explore the world, I would encourage you to go to China. It can be a very rewarding and an eye opening experience. You will get a different perspective of the world, its people and its diverse and exciting cultures.



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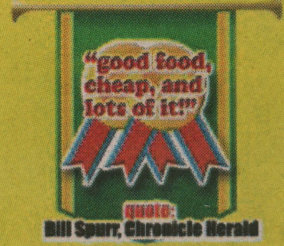
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