

the journal

Saint Mary's University's Independent Student Newspaper

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Dr. Shelagh Crooks named 3M National Teaching Fellow

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS — SMU

Saint Mary's professor Dr. Shelagh Crooks, Department of Philosophy, has been honoured with the prestigious 3M National Teaching Fellowship in recognition of her exceptional accomplishments in teaching and educational leadership.

The 3M Fellowship recognizes educational leaders and innovators across Canada, and has been known for 28 years as our country's most prestigious award in teaching.

Since joining the Faculty of Arts in 1987, Dr. Crooks has been repeatedly lauded as an outstanding professor and mentor. Driven by a desire to help instill the value of critical reflection in her students, Dr. Crooks has inspired many to challenge their intellectual boundaries and embrace new ideas.

As one student notes, "Shelagh teaches the skill of independent thought and then actually inspires

one to think."

Dr. Crooks describes her classroom as a "thinking laboratory" where students test their ideas in the hurly-burly of group interaction and class discussion. She leads her students through experiments in thought and asserts that there is no such thing as failure.

According to Dr. Crooks, "All thought experiments have the potential to tell us something important, about the idea being tested, and about each of us as thinkers."

Dr. Crooks' contribution to the Saint Mary's community extends beyond the classroom. During her tenure, she has established mentoring protocol for new faculty members, launched a teaching philosophy discussion group, and developed procedures for student evaluation of teaching at Saint Mary's.

In recognition of these and other contributions, Dr. Crooks has

been honoured with a number of awards throughout her career, most notably the 2009 Association of Atlantic Universities Distinguished Teaching Award for excellence in teaching and instructional leadership.

She has also received a number of awards from Saint Mary's University, including the Saint Mary's University Student Association Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the inaugural Dr. Geraldine Thomas Award for Educational Leadership. She was also awarded the Reverend William A. Steward, S.J. Medal for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Crooks is the fifth 3M National Teaching Fellow at Saint Mary's University; previous winners include Dr. Adam Sarty, Astronomy & Physics (2011); Dr. Esther E. Enns, Linguistics & Education (1998); Dr. Geraldine Thomas, Classics (1993); and Dr. John Young, Chemistry (1990).

Letter from the SMUSA President

BY JARED PERRY

There are many important skills that students learn during their time at a university. Some are questionable and should not be spoken of, but for the most part they are extremely positive and will shape the person we will become after our experience at

university. I can say that Saint Mary's University has been a great place for many of us to develop and become the people we want to be.

Think back to your first year and how different you are today and what circumstances and people changed you for the better. If you're in your first year think

of where you want to go, and surround yourself with the people who will help to get you there.

This weekend one of my roommates and I were up late chatting about the first time we met. It was the first day of Orientation Week and before I

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WOMEN'S HOCKEY AUS CHAMPIONSHIP Huskies shut down in dramatic final

X-Women's offence too much for Huskies in Sackville

ROBERT MURRAY
NATIONAL SPORTS EDITOR

It didn't end the way head coach Chris Larade and the Huskies thought it would but the future is bright for Saint Mary's Women's hockey two years after their program was cancelled.

The miracle season for the Huskies ended abruptly in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) Championship game against the Saint Francis Xavier X-Women by a score of 4-1 on Sunday.

"We asked them one thing and it's the same thing I've been asking them from my first days here, demand for nothing but their very best and today I really think we got it," commented head coach Chris Larade. The Huskies stormed out to a 1-0 lead early in the game on a goal from Caitlyn Schell.

That would be it for the Huskies' offence as the X-Women took over. Before the period was over, Brittany Perkins and Erin Brophy had scored for the X-Women.

Katie Greenway brushed off an early mental lapse and recovered well, making 20 saves on 21 shots. The story of the game involved the number of penalties taken by both sides. Despite the X-Women leading for most of the game, both teams had chances to swiftly change the momentum for the game in their favour. Unfortunately neither team were able to take advantage of the mistakes the other team made after the first period.

Despite not taking home the banner, the Huskies earned several accolades. First-year goaltender Sienna Cooke was named to the All Rookie team, a first team All-Star and Rookie of the Year for the AUS. She was named a tournament

All Star for her play during the weekend. Coming into the game, Cooke had stopped 61 of 63 shots she faced.

Other Huskies who were noted for their play included forward Brianna Soper and defence woman Rebecca Mosher who were also named to the tournament All-Star team.

"I think they gained two or three years of experience from this weekend alone," commented Larade. Certainly the story of the Huskies' success this year follows the script of a Hollywood movie — without the happily ever after ending. But this is not how the story will end if the Huskies have anything to say about it.

In the 2011-12 season the Huskies were the worst team in the entire nation and sunk to the bottom of the AUS standing. This year, they finished third in the AUS and sat in the top 15 in the nation.

The story and script will continue next year for Saint Mary's Women's Hockey. With a team of eleven rookies and five sophomores, the team will be able to keep a core group of players together in net, on the blueline and up front for several years to come.

On his outlook for the team in the future Larade mentioned that he was, "Looking forward to it."

The 2013-14 season will see the introduction of a playoff series format for AUS Women's Hockey. Just like in previous years, six of the seven teams in the AUS will qualify for playoffs. Instead of a week-long tournament the third place team will face the sixth place team while fourth will play fifth in a best-of-three series. The first and second seeds will receive a bye to the semi-finals.

special feature

Michael Langlais considers the tenuous peace in Libya, a nation still dealing with deep internal divisions and growing regional instability. P.10

Fireworks over Tripoli



Photo: MICHAEL LANGLAIS

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 International Month Event		Feb 27 1pm Film: A Bite of China: Ep. 7 7pm Guest Speaker Dr. Heather Chappells: Safe Drinking Water SB201 (both events) SNOW PANTS OR NO PANTS PARTY OPEN MIC NIGHT 9:00pm Gorsebrook Lounge 	Feb 28 Noon Film: Blue Gold 7pm Film: Refugees of the Blue Planet SB201 (both events) CHARADES & WING NIGHT 6-9pm Gorsebrook Lounge 	March 1 DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR 2013-2014 SMUSA JOBS 5pm. SMUSA Offices SMU SKATES THE OVAL 1pm-3pm The Emera Oval MEN'S BASKETBALL AUS Final 6 @ Metro Centre Teams TBD. 6:00pm 	MEN'S BASKETBALL 2 AUS Final 6 @ Metro Centre Teams TBD 6:00pm MEN'S BASKETBALL 3 AUS Final 6 @ Metro Centre Teams TBD 3:00pm
4	5 LUNCHTIME W/ 101.3 THE BOUNCE 11:30am-2:30pm The Gorsebrook Lounge PUB TRIVIA The Gorsebrook Lounge, 7pm EXAM WRITING SKILLS WORKSHOP hosted by SMU History Society MN219, 7pm	6	7	8	9/10
			WING NIGHT 6-9pm Gorsebrook Lounge 		

NOW HIRING:

SMUSA is hiring for summer and 2013-2014 academic year positions!

- Gorsebrook Lounge bar staff
- Gorsebrook Lounge door staff
- Husky Patrol drivers
- Information desk staff
- Marketing/Design staff
- Society Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Orientation Week Sales & Mkt Coordinator

Deadline to apply is 5pm on Friday, March 1.

please drop off a resume and completed application form to the SMUSA offices located on the 5th floor of the Student Centre.

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

Gorsebrook lounge

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

APPLETON ESTATE

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the journal

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Letter from the Editor

First, thanks SMUdents! We at The Journal are super grateful for your support in the recent levy vote, and are very appreciative of your decision to continue to pay the \$4 per-year levy. I think I wouldn't be speaking out of turn if I said that WUSC and the Women's Centre are similarly pleased. It's things like this that make me so proud to be a member of the SMU community.

Secondly, it's now Summer Job time, isn't it? Reading Break always puts that sick feeling in my stomach that if I'm not first out of the gate having a summer job by now, I'm behind the eight-ball and going to go into the scary world of even more debt and summer temp work uncertainty.

So, did anyone find a job over break? What is even out there? I'm consulting the list of options on the HRDC Job Bank and the sketchy listings on kijiji and I'm full of panic.

How do we curb that panic, also summer unemployed students? Get those ears to the ground! I'll be the first to admit that job hunting sucks, and I'd rather go to the dentist than write cover letters, but they are necessary evils. This campus is a bustling hub of business owners, researchers and people who want to give you money to do things you want to do anyway. Get out to events, rub those elbows and shake some hands. Also - rehearse your handshakes with you're roommates if you're not positive on the power of your paws. As someone who hires people, your handshake is something I take note of when you come in for a chat.

Chat with profs, they're often on the forefront of a ton of cool stuff happening on and off campus and are a gateway into very cool opportunities. Check with member of your societies, they might be doing something cool that you can get in on. And don't forget on-campus job positing and the Student Employment Centre and SEEP positions. SMU runs all summer, and in order to work like the (mostly) well oiled machine it is, it needs students helping turn things.

So, you've got your eye on a dream job, but what's next? Check in with Career Services for pointers, mock interviews and to have them take a peek at that resume or dreaded cover letter. These things have their own trends just like summer fashions, and you'd hate for your resume to be as last-season as those winter boots, wouldn't you? And get thinking of those post-graduation prospects by activating that Co-Curricular Record; every little bit helps with those big-kid jobs, right?

There are a lot of people on campus and in Halifax who want you to succeed. It is a student city after all, and we like to see our own thrive. Take advantage and give yourself the edge going into this more-than-a-little-stressful time of year. When is a better time than coming off of a relaxing and productive (read: exhausting and booze-soaked) Reading Week?

Exactly. Now, who can tell ME about a sweet summer gig? I need a drink.

CYDNEY PROCTOR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Involved in extracurricular activities on campus?

The Canadian Association of Career Educators and Employers has published a study in 2012 that surveyed 450 Canadian employers. Based on the results, "core skills including communication, analytical ability and a strong work ethic, are most valued by employers. They also place a slightly higher premium on co-curricular involvement than academic performance, meaning that a well-rounded graduate will have an advantage in the competitive job market." (Marchildon)

The Co-Curricular Record (CCR) is here to assist you in discovering and developing these sought skills. It is designed to help you find, recognize, and supplement your formal education with valuable out-of-class experience. By developing your record you can document your holistic university experience. The CCR documents activities that have occurred during your time at Saint Mary's University; therefore, providing a viewer with more details on your activity levels. With a

CCR you can supplement your formal education when applying for employment, reinforce your scholarship application package, or bolster an admission package for a graduate school.

Activate your account now and ensure successful verification of your past activities. To learn more see the Student Academics tab on SMUport or stop by Career Services, 4th floor Student Centre.



SMUSA President...

Continued from Page 1

knew him, I had already written something completely offside and immature as his Facebook status. Some of these memories we discussed we will never forget and some we will struggle to remember. It was at this moment we found ourselves thanking each other for the impact we had on one another and thinking about how two people from completely different places could become lifelong friends. We were talking about our future plans, and how no matter where we went, or what we ended up doing, that we would always be close and continue to be best of friends. This was seriously one of the biggest bro moments of my life.

When I first stepped on campus I didn't realize it but I was already surrounding myself with great people and lifelong friends who would support me and help me through this whirlwind of events called university. We would stay up late crunching out assignments, studying, taking the bus, watching UFC, jamming with instruments and, of course, playing a lot of N64. Surround yourself with people you trust and those who would do anything to see you succeed and be sure to return the favour. Best friends are hard to come by but when you find them be sure to thank them and keep them around you as they will have a significant impact on the person you will become.

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Student elections

Hello fellow students,

I am writing this open letter because I was the one in charge of the student elections that took place before reading week. Hopefully most of you are aware that we experienced some problems during the first day of voting and I would like to take this opportunity to explain why the ballot had to be reset. Once we figured out what the technical aspects of the problem were, it was clear that if we did not reset the numbers, about fifteen percent of students who wanted to cast their vote would not have been able to.

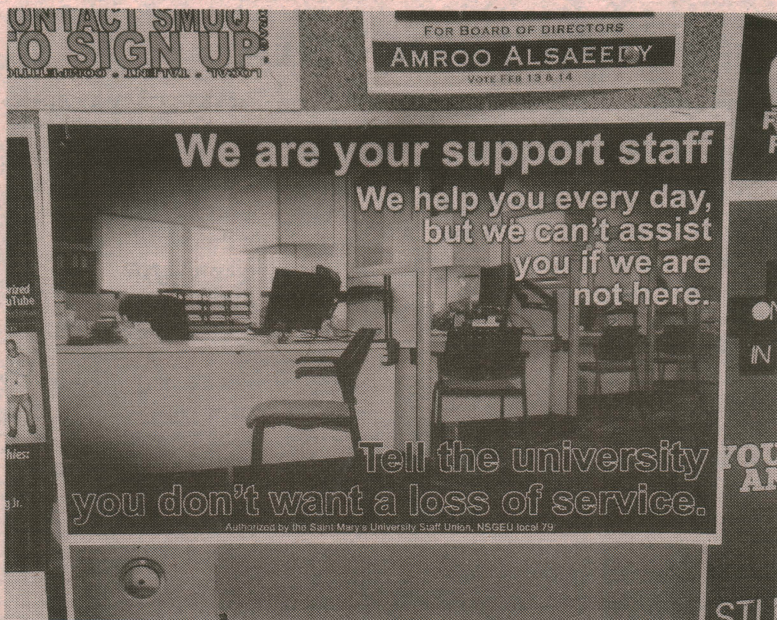
I was able to derive this number from the voter turnout of last year's election, where roughly fifteen percent of the student population voted. Basically, when you log into the voting site with your student number, it disguises you as a random 10-digit number so that you're able to cast your vote anonymously. This year, ITSS had to reset all the previous attachments between student numbers and 10-digit numbers so that no two numbers would be tethered. This means that for anyone who logged in to vote this year, there was about a fifteen percent chance that they would be re-assigned a 10-digit number with a vote already recorded by someone else from

the previous year.

The student association operates on a budget which is made up by the fees we each pay as a part of our tuition. It would not be fair to anyone who helped pay for the costs of the student association without representing that stake with a vote. I made the decision to reset the ballot because it was in the best interest of all the students at Saint Mary's. The only reservation I had with a full reset was to know for sure that we would not encounter the same problem again. Once I spoke to the program designer on the phone, I okay'ed the reset.

At 5pm on February 13th, we cleared the cache of votes and extended voting all night until 9pm the following day. Posters were put up around campus and on polling stations, and there was an extensive social media campaign to notify every one of the reset. Hopefully everyone who had previously voted was able to re-vote. If not then I apologize, but I do not regret my decision. I value full disclosure and I think that is an important part of what SMUSA represents. It is a student-owned business and every one of us is a stakeholder - that is why everyone's vote matters and that is why the ballot was reset.

JAMES PATRIQUIN
CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER



Support staff reject offer; strike possible March 5th

BY: ADAM FABER

The non-academic support staff at Saint Mary's University have rejected the latest offer from administration, voting 80% in favour of a strike.

"Friday, we voted 80% in favour of rejecting the employer's latest offer. That's a clear message to the university that they have to put a better offer on the table." union representative Colin Sutton wrote in a statement to The Journal, illustrating the negotiating timeline. "The province's conciliator filed his report on the failed conciliation effort. That started a legally-required 14-day countdown to job action."

If there is no agreement reached between the two sides, a strike could begin as early as March 5th. 48 hours notice would need to be given in the event of a strike or a lockout, which has not been done at this point. The university has applied for a second round of conciliation, which is expected to happen Tuesday, February 25th. "If that meeting fails to produce

an agreement, there is one more round scheduled with the conciliator on the last day of our countdown, March 4." wrote Sutton.

"Classes would continue," said SMU spokesperson Travis Smith when asked of the impact of support staff going on strike. "It's prudent to have plans to ensure students have the best experience possible regardless of any possible labour disruptions, but it would be the university's position that we're working towards a solution, so that's not even going to be a thing."

"The total of what they offered is less than half of the Consumer Price Index increase over the span of our last contract," said Sutton about past offers on the table. The details of the latest offer were not specified.

According to the collective agreement, the local 79 includes positions such as library assistants and library clerks, postal clerk, secretaries, and help desk and front desk information clerks, among others.

Saint Mary's Athletic and Recreation Facilities Get a Facelift

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – SMU

A three year plan to renew the university's aging recreation facilities was announced this week.

Under the plan, which will be funded by a new Athletic and Recreation fee, older sections of the Homburg Centre for Health & Wellness will be revitalized and dramatic changes are in store for Huskies Stadium.

"We take great pride in our athletics and recreation facilities. We maintain them and do our very best to ensure they meet the needs of today's students, but there is no disputing they are beginning to show their age," said Gabrielle Morrison, Vice-President Finance and Administration.

The older sections of the Homburg Centre were building in 1986 and the stadium, with its concrete bleachers, were constructed in the late 60's.

The three year plan will begin this summer with the renovation of the men's and women's main locker rooms, renewal of the weight room, including new ceiling, floor and painting, redevelopment of the steam room and refurbishing the popular cardio room.

Next summer the focus will be on the gym. The floor will be replaced, as will the bleachers. The playing area will be restructured and there will be new lighting, security and general upgrades to make the space friendly and functional. The floor of the spin room will be refinished and new football and recreation offices will be built in the area above the spin room.

Ms. Morrison said precise details of the redevelopment of Huskies Stadium will be available once a soon to be released Request for Proposals has been issued. She did say the University envisions the replacement of the bleachers, earth mound and canopy with a new open air stadium to accommodate 3,500 spectators. The turf will be replaced and there will be field

storage rooms, concession stands and new lighting for the west side of the field.

The Homburg Centre and Stadium are used by more than 4,000 students annually who take part in 16 intermural opportunities, 10 clubs and 90 programs ranging from stretching and pilates to dance club and spin class. It has classrooms for academic use, yoga classes to help clear the mind and student and community spaces for everything from Weight Watchers to Peaceful Schools International.

The Stadium is used for varsity football soccer and other sports, but it is also used for Orientation, ultimate Frisbee leagues for residence students, walks, United Way tug of wars and dozens of other events.

"With the run up to the opening of the newest section of the Homburg centre last April, we spent time developing a Health and Wellness strategy that focuses on the health of the whole individual," said Ms. Morrison.

"To ensure the University is living up to its responsibility to provide venues for people to work on their physical, emotional and spiritual wellness, we need to provide modern facilities with flexible use. These changes help accomplish that goal."

The cost of the changes will run into the millions of dollars and the University has elected to finance the renewal with the introduction of a new Athletics and Recreation Fee that will be phased in over three years as the work progresses.

Keith Hotchkiss, Senior Director of Student Services, says financing projects can be complex. Some projects are financed by donors, like Dr. Richard Homburg,

others like the new TESL Centre/ Business Development Centre are financed by savings and debt. Others are financed by capital campaigns.

"Others still, like this one, will be financed by a new fee spreads the cost among the users," he said. "Saint Mary's has never had an athletic/recreation fee. Two years ago the finance committee approved the concept of a renewal

"To ensure the University is living up to its responsibility to provide venues for people to work on their physical, emotional and spiritual wellness, we need to provide modern facilities with flexible use. These changes help accomplish that goal."

fee in principal, but the University held off implementing it until now."

Many universities in the region have had an athletic and recreation fee for some time, he said.

The new fee will be phased in over three years, starting at \$5 per half credit course this fall and potentially rising to \$20 per half credit course by 2015-16. The university has structured the new fee so that only students who have

the potential to benefit from the revitalization are the ones paying the fee.

In 2013, for instance, the \$5 fee recognizes that students will be able to take advantage of the revitalized sections of the Homburg Centre carried out this summer. The fee will then rise to the \$20 maximum as the work progresses. If the maximum fees is reached in 2015-16, it would mean an extra \$200 a year per student.

The exact cost of the projects will depend of the results of the request for proposals but it will be in the millions of dollars and it is expected it will take 25 years to cover the financing.

Mr. Hotchkiss noted that even with the fee at its maximum level in three years, the total educational cost at Saint Mary's remains lower than 10 of the 13 comparable sized universities across Canada.



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Driver Dave's shuttle service shifts gears

BY: ADAM FABER

A shuttle service specializing in student airport runs has lost their commercial license, and is now rearranging their business model to continue getting students to the airport.

David Wolpin, a New Brunswick businessman who founded Driver Dave's, has been operating a shuttle service since 2009, with a major focus on low-cost student trips to the airport.

"We've become the standard in student transportation, with over 7,000 customers. I went from being an underground taxi company to deciding I wanted to be legit," said Wolpin, describing

how he went to get his license. "A year later, I realized my commercial vehicle license doesn't allow me to operate within the municipality, only between them." The Halifax International Airport is in the same municipality as the universities he serves, making his student runs illegal as per the motor carrier act.

However, the Utilities and Review Board (UARB) regulates shuttles and taxis, and they dispute the fact he was misinformed. They cite him 'knowingly operating contrary to the laws' as the reason to not only keep him from obtaining the proper license, but also cause to revoke his previous commercial

license. Wolpin surrendered his vehicle plates and commercial vehicle license to the UARB.

At the January UARB meeting, taxi operator Tim Auld was one of the companies who appeared opposing Wolpin's license. 'Mr. Auld worries Mr. Wolpin and Driver will continue to attempt new and innovative ways to skirt the Board and the Taxi By-law' read the UARB's decision document.

"It's a monopolistic system meant to benefit those who are already in," said Wolpin, prior to the UARB hearing. Unwilling to hit the brakes on his company, he has continued working through a company that is already 'in',

while keeping his drivers on staff, many of them students themselves.

"Due to the licensing problems, we have become a dispatch company," said Ryan White, a SMU student who is one of Dave's drivers. "[We] work with other companies, using their legal cars, with our drivers, and charging the same fares." Driver Dave's site is still up taking bookings, arranging group transport to the airport for anywhere between \$5 and \$30 per student, a lower price point than a student getting a lift by his or her self.

White says that while things have changed behind the scenes,

customers won't see much of a difference on the road. The user interface has not changed, the new setup simply uses another company's cars, paying them for the service.

"We are operating the same way, with no effect on the customer experience. Sadly, the only change is that we are not using the Volkswagen Jetta, the most economical, and environmentally friendly car we had." White said, noting that business has not been suffering. "I would say that business has maintained its steady climb, and it not slowing down. We are, however, just getting into the spring break, and already it is looking busy for bookings!"

Saint Mary's and Dalhousie propose sharing arena with HRM



BY: ADAM FABER

Saint Mary's is exploring the possibility of a shared hockey arena with Dalhousie.

"I would say it's preliminary, we're certainly chatting to see what the options are," said SMU spokesperson Steve Proctor. "There is a joint proposal that is looking for government assistance to make it all work."

The two universities, Saint Mary's and Dalhousie, have submitted the concept to Nova Scotia's excellence and innovation fund for some financial support, which was created while the province was trimming money provided directly to universities through operating grants. By splitting costs between the universities, the city, and the provincial fund, the financial impact on any one group would be reduced.

"We have an ongoing relationship with the Forum while something is figured out," said Proctor.

A long-term solution for both universities hockey teams has yet to be finalized, at SMU the men's hockey team has played out of the Forum since 2003, and Dalhousie tore down the Memorial Arena in 2012.

"There certainly have been discussions with the city," said Proctor. "Dal kind of took the lead on it, and we're co-applicants. It's a two-pad arena that will serve the needs of the two universities." A smaller arena than Bedford's, which boasts four skating surfaces in order to share resources, custodial, and equipment such as the zamboni.

"If HRM can partner with SMU and Dal, so that they are spending less money than they would on their own, and that helps us

bring our own costs in line," said City councillor Wayne Mason. "And finally, if we can save the universities money... That's a great role for the city to have, is to help bring the players together and help save the universities and the taxpayer money."

While Mason is in support of the idea, he said the idea is still on the drawing board. "There are no plans in a briefcase, nobody is at that stage yet."

Mason estimated a cost of \$25-30 million for a two-pad arena, which is what would fit on the Gorsebrook site, as opposed to past ideas for a four-pad arena, which he pegged at \$45-50 million. While it would be more expensive from a maintenance perspective to have multiple sporting locations, there are other factors to consider.

"It's a little bit more expensive on the capital side, but with SMU and Dal bringing a reported \$10-15 million to the table, then we've got to analyze all those figures," said Mason. "Maybe it's only a one-pad with a recreation centre, or a one-pad and Halifax Curling Club puts of a facility next to it. It's literally at that point where it could be any number of things."

Meanwhile, SMU is keeping their options open as well during ongoing discussions, as long as a solution is on the horizon. "The arena is getting old, a little long in the tooth," said Steve Proctor. "We're open to all alternatives, the thing with Dal is one option, but we're open to suggestions from all levels; the government, public sector, or private sector."

Loading the dice for offshore exploration

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS — SMU

There's something quite literally earth-shaking about geology, especially at Saint Mary's University, where two geoscientists have just received more than \$450,000 in research funding to blaze a trail in the search for offshore reserves of oil and gas.

Equipped with innovative geoscience methods, Drs. Andrew MacRae and Georgia Pe-Piper will build on their contributions to Nova Scotia's Play Fairway Analysis (PFA), a digital atlas that plots the potential for petroleum (gas and oil) in deep water in the southwest of the Scotian Basin. Initiated by the Offshore Energy Research Association of Nova Scotia (OERA), the analysis revealed an encouraging potential for offshore reserves and was one factor resulting in \$2 billion in work commitments for future exploration by Shell and BP.

"Deciding where to drill for petroleum isn't simply a roll of the dice," explains Dr. MacRae. "There's a geological context for where petroleum occurs. Understanding that context loads the dice in our favour."

Dr. MacRae will be using a \$244,000 research grant from Encana Corporation, the owner of the Deep Panuke offshore natural gas project, to search the Scotian margin—not for oil and gas—but for the salt deposited there at the time of the dinosaurs as the Atlantic Ocean began to open.

"The salt deposits control most of the structures containing oil and gas," he explains. "Understanding the movement of salt gives us a better understanding of the plot of this story."

Thanks to roughly \$230,000 in grant money from Encana as well as matching funds through the federal Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Collaborative Research and Development program, Dr. Georgia Pe-Piper and her team will be studying the changing sources of sediment supply to the southwestern Scotian Basin and assessing the risk of encountering low-quality petroleum reservoirs.

"The quality of the reservoir, and the amount of petroleum it can hold, depends, in part, on the types of minerals present," says Dr. Pe-Piper.

Both Pe-Piper and MacRae are

enthusiastic about the opportunity to continue the research they conducted for the Play Fairway Analysis project. Not only is the work rewarding on a scientific level, but it also offers unique opportunities for Saint Mary's student researchers, many of whom have gone on to leverage their university internship experience to rise to senior positions in the energy sector.

"This vitally important research by Drs. Pe-Piper and MacRae is an excellent example of how research carried out by professors, students, and post-doctoral fellows at Saint Mary's can address extremely important issues of our day and have significant positive impacts on the lives of Nova Scotians" says Dr. Kevin Vessey, Associate Vice President Research at Saint Mary's, and current Board member of OERA.

"The story we're trying to unravel has broad implications—and not just for Nova Scotia," says Dr. MacRae, "but also for the whole central Atlantic. From an exploration point of view, this is a really important opportunity, and we wouldn't have it without Encana's support."

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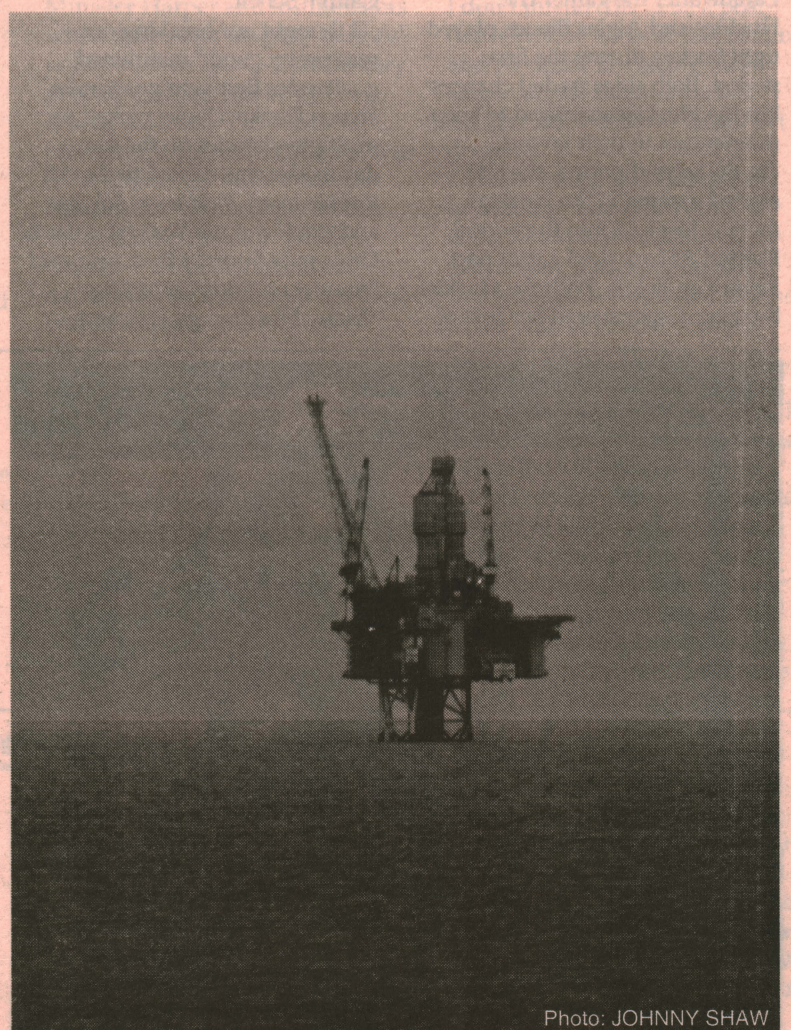


Photo: JOHNNY SHAW

WOMEN'S HOCKEY AUS CHAMPIONSHIP



SMU # 18 Kaitlyn Abbass of Goose Bay, NL, SMU # 13 Sarah Maynard of Cole Harbour, NS, UdeM # 7 Kaitlyn Gallaway of Stratford, PEI and UdeM # 16 Elisa Savoie of Val d'Amour, NB chase the puck

Huskies pound Aigles Bleues Soper's pair propel Huskies to victory

BY ROBERT MURRAY

In a game full of hits, fights and red lights, the Saint Mary's Huskies came out on top.

Brianna Soper scored a pair of second period goals while Sienna Cooke made 25 saves for the Huskies in a 4-1 victory on Friday afternoon in Sackville, NB.

"All in all [I'm] very proud of what the girls have accomplished this year," commented Chris Larade after the game. The Huskies and Aigles Bleues played tight hockey during the first period. Both sides traded chances but the Huskies managed to keep momentum in their favour.

In the second period, the tide started turning in the Huskies favour. Just 6:03 into the period, Kaitlyn Abbass fired a shot past Jenna Van Belois. With the Huskies buzzing, Soper scored her first of

the game just 28 seconds later.

The Huskies seemed to sit back on their lead as Moncton came roaring back towards the end of the second period. With the Huskies on the power-play, second-year forward Marie-Pier Arsenault scored a shorthanded marker short side on Cooke. With the Aigles Bleues buzzing around SMU's zone, the Huskies turned the tide and Soper scored her second of the game on a feed from Caitlyn Schell.

"I thought our breaking out was pretty good," mentioned goaltender first-year goaltender Sienna Cooke. Cooke picked up multiple victories on the same day as she was named to the All Rookie team, First team All Star and Rookie of the Year for Atlantic University Sport at their year-end banquet on Friday morning.

Many Moncton players and

fans took exception to calls from the referee. At one point Jodie Dupéré slammed the penalty box hard enough to break off a part of it. Despite the 3-1 hole, after a strong second period, things fell apart for Moncton. In order of succession: Genevieve David, Marie-Pier Arsenault and Natacha Bergeron were all given ten minute misconducts late in the third period.

To make matters worse, Sarah Maynard scored for the Huskies on one of the power plays to make the final score 4-1 in favour of the side from Halifax.

The Huskies will play in a do or die game Saturday in Sackville. After ending any chance for Moncton to make the final, the Huskies and St. Thomas Tommies will battle at 3:00pm on Saturday to see who advances to the championship game on Sunday.

Cooke-ing up a win

BY ROBERT MURRAY

There are moments in a championship tournament when one player rises to the occasion. Today, that player was Sienna Cooke.

Described by her head coach Chris Larade as a, "diamond in the rough that landed in our laps", Cooke stopped 36 shots in a 3-1 victory over the St. Thomas Tommies.

The game started off with a bang as Rebecca Mosher and the Huskies crashed the net 20 seconds into the game. With the ice still fresh, Mosher fired a shot past a stunned Julia Sharun.

While there was to be no scoring until the start of the third period, the Huskies and Tommies traded chances. An issue for the Huskies throughout the game was staying out of the penalty box. The Huskies accumulated 22 penalty minutes throughout the game.

After first-year forward Brianna Soper put the Huskies up two

goals, the Huskies took four minors including two five-on-threes as Mosher was called for a double minor for contact to the head. Maggie Polisenio and Chelsea Osbaldeston took the other penalties for Saint Mary's. Somehow, the Tommies failed to score throughout this stretch.

Jordan Miller was the first and last Tommie to solve Cooke as she scored with just over two minutes left in the game. The Tommies made a last stand pulling Sharun in an attempt to tie the game up but Carly Gray scored into the empty net.

After the game, Soper spoke about the team's focus while shorthanded saying, "We do have an excellent penalty kill so we're just trying to stay focused and maintain our own end."

The Huskies now advance to Sunday's championship where they will face the X-Women. The Huskies hold the distinction of being the only team in the AUS to beat the X-Women all year. The puck drops at 4:00pm.



STU Forward # 8 Jordan Miller of Murray River PEI, SMU's Defenceman # 8 Carly Gray of Williamswood NS and Forward # 13 Sarah Maynard of Cole Harbour NS battle for the puck behind SMU's net



PHOTO: WES WILCOX

Husky picks up rookie honours in AUS

22 February, 2013
Sienna Cooke, a first-year goalie from Surrey, B.C., is the AUS women's hockey rookie of the year. Cooke, also named a first team all-star today, started in 19 games this season for the Huskies, posting a 10-9 record and a 1.86 goals against average. She led all AUS goalies in minutes played (1160:10), total saves (506) and her 0.934 save percentage ranked third in the conference.

Sienna was in goal for 10 of the 12 Saint Mary's wins this season as the Huskies rebounded from a 1-22-1 campaign in 2011-12 to finish in third place this year with a 12-8-4 record.

"Cookie has a real passion and love for the game that is contagious,"

says Saint Mary's head coach Chris Larade. "She has come in and just ran with the challenge she was given. She is very coachable and is also on pace to become an Academic all-Canadian in her rookie year. She has been a great addition to our program both on and off the ice."

Sienna becomes the third Saint Mary's player to be named the conference's top rookie, joining Courtney Schriver (2004-05) and Lindsay Taylor who won the award in 2002-03.

Cooke will look to become the fourth Atlantic conference player to be selected as the CIS rookie of the year. StFX's Alex Normore (2010-11) and former Saint Mary's players Taylor (2002-03) and Schriver

(2004-05) are the only AUS players to have won the CIS award.

Other AUS major award winners announced during the awards banquet this morning at Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B.; Third-year StFX forward Alex Normore was named the Atlantic University Sport most valuable player for the second consecutive season; Ashlyn Somers of the Mount Allison Mounties, who was selected as the most sportsmanlike player; St. Thomas forward Kayla Blackmore of Fredericton, N.B., who received the student-athlete community service award; and StFX X-Women head coach David Synishin, who was named the AUS coach of the year.

Huskies football add three coaches to staff

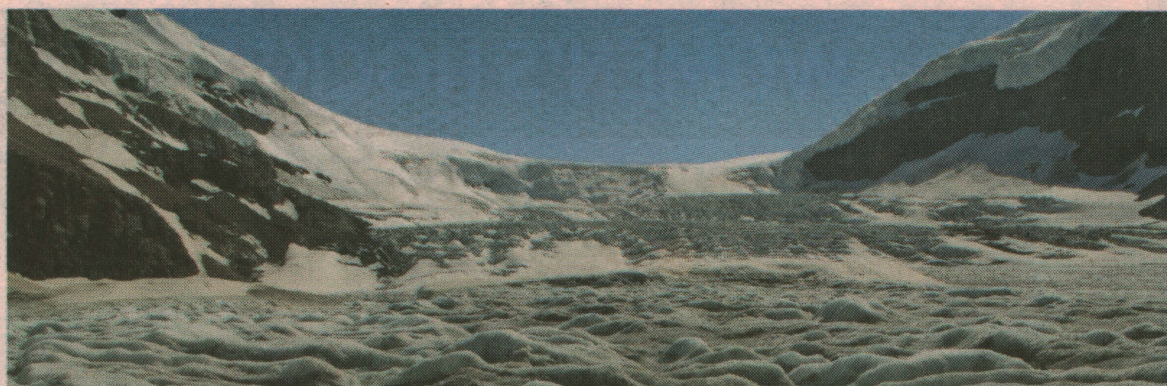
12 February, 2013

Huskies football is very happy to announce that two former players, Dean Jones and Brad Chalmers, and former CFL and NFL player Marcello Simmons have joined the coaching staff.

Simmons, who previously coached with Acadia and Guelph in the CIS, will take over as Defensive Coordinator. Marcello has playing experience with the Toronto Argonauts, Edmonton Eskimos and the BC Lions in the CFL, and played with the Bengals

in the NFL. Marchese and Simmons were assistant coaches together with the Argos for three seasons.

Dean Jones will be Special Teams Coordinator and Running Backs Coach and will be a full-time addition to the coaching staff. Jones a member of the 2001 and 2002 Vanier Cup teams, sits 7th in the AUS record book in career rushing yards with 2489 (1998-2002). Former lineman, Brad Chalmers also joins the coaching team as Strength and Conditioning Coach.



The Athabasca Glacier in the Canadian Rockies. (Photo courtesy of BitHead/Flickr Creative Commons)

Op Ed: It's time to end Canada's fair-weather environmentalism

JONAH LETOVSKY — THE STRAND (UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)

TORONTO (CUP) — When it comes to addressing the catastrophic consequences of climate change, this nation is often described using words like “laggard” and “indifferent.” Indeed, for a country whose very identity is so tied to the Rocky Mountains, abundant fresh water, diverse species of animals and plants, as well as its forests, Canada has had an abysmal record on setting and meeting greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.

We are no Denmark, Sweden or Norway. Nor are we Germany, or Iceland, or Japan, or Britain, or Australia or even the United States, for that matter. There is no doubt that Canada is an international embarrassment. So, who is to blame for this continued failure to step up to the plate at the national level? To be frank: all Canadians. Students, seniors and especially boomers have shirked their collective responsibilities to each other and their children. Certainly, there are many activists and environmental supporters, including university students, who make noise and call for concrete policy shifts. But in recent years, this noise — so critical for compelling politicians to act — has been overwhelmingly reactive. Yes, Canadian students expressed outrage at Canada's withdrawal from Kyoto. They were angry at the government's clear lack of regard for the Doha COP18 talks. Discussions arose, locally and globally, in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, linking the type of massive devastation seen on the U.S. east coast to rising sea levels and temperatures. But in all cases our passion was purely reactionary and faded away after each crisis, allowing the media to shift the

conversation back to less vital but sexier topics.

When was the last time you saw a Canadian newspaper with a front-page article about the enormous costs of future Sandys, or the similar and immediate threat to other major cities such as Miami or Vancouver? Where is the investigative reporting on the dying winter sports industry? Canadians seem content to allow these historic changes in ocean, climate and biodiversity to subsist as a “flavour-of-the-month” niche topic.

We must demand better. For Canadian prosperity to survive, a sustained discussion needs to take place, as has appeared to happen in the United States over gun control. The sadly-unsurprising elementary school shooting in Connecticut occurred many weeks ago, yet the debate over gun ownership has continued to rage on front pages and social media. Federal legislative action, endorsed by President Obama, is sure to follow.

As students, we can no longer simply react, criticizing Prime Minister Harper and his ministers when they enact tangibly harmful policy such as Bill C-45; as history proves, inaction can be just as crucial as action. For concrete measures which experts agree will most effectively reduce carbon emissions — including a carbon tax and investment in public transit — to finally take root nationally, we must hold our local politicians to account at every turn.

It is vital for those in Toronto, where the urban summers will grow continually hotter and dirtier.

It is vital for Westerners in B.C. and Alberta, whose freshwater sources are drying up along with the vanishing glaciers.

It is vital for Maritimers, whose community viability is threatened by bigger, badder and more

frequent extreme weather events. It is vital for the elderly, whose health will suffer as Canada's climate becomes less and less moderate.

It is vital for aboriginal peoples, whose heritage, culture, spirituality and, in many cases, livelihood depend utterly on the nation's biodiversity — which is already in such widespread collapse that it has been termed the anthropogenic “sixth great extinction.”

And it is vital for the taxpayers of tomorrow, for whom the costs of adapting to an aggressive planet will skyrocket while suffering up to a 20 per cent loss in GDP.

Keep in mind: those future taxpayers are today's students, who also happen to be facing a dismal unemployment crisis and rising healthcare costs.

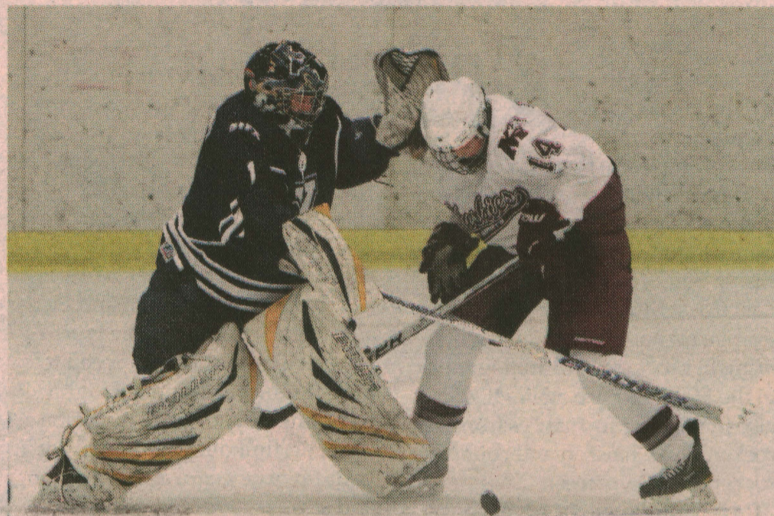
So, please remind me — why isn't climate action the prevailing topic in every one of our political discussions? Why aren't there visceral and angry weekly protests? With regards to posterity, Canadian civil society has essentially failed.

I don't intend this to be a post-mortem. Our ways of life, health and economy are facing their single largest threat, yes. But we also know that we're not yet doomed.

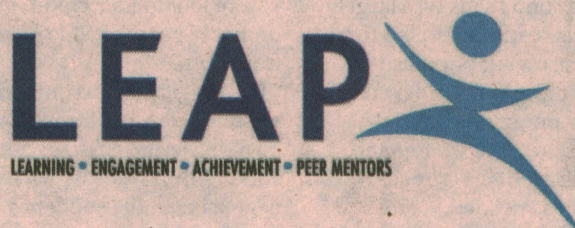
Climate change is no temporary or transient issue for youth. It is the existential threat of our generation, marching on every day whether we confront it or not. In the end, of course, it comes down to the politicians. In our liberal democracy, a popular failure always results in political failure. In other words, we cannot expect Prime Minister Harper and the provincial and territorial leaders to take drastic, capital-intensive measures as we sit at home, silently fuming about the state of affairs.

So: as students, let's turn carbon reduction into a popular success.

Final heartbreak



StFX Goaltender Katie Greenway of Guelph, ON gets caught in the play well outside her crease against SMU Forward Haylee Tretiak of Teulon, MB late in the first period of the AUS Women's Hockey Championship Game. See *Huskies shut down in dramatic final* on Page 1



Now accepting, 2013-2014....

Peer Mentor Applications

LEAP peer mentors help first year students make a successful jump from high-school to life and studies here at Saint Mary's University!

Consider applying to be a peer mentor, if you:

- Enjoy helping others,
- Want to actively develop your leadership skills,
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0, and
- Will be a full time undergraduate student next year.

Applications and extended position information now available from:

- The LEAP website (<http://www.smu.ca/leap/peer.html>)
- Student Employment (<http://www.smu.ca/administration/sec/jobs.html>)

Application deadline: March 11, 2013 at 5pm

Saint Mary's University is committed to the principles of Employment Equity.



Colley breaks records on the court

On February 21st, Justine Colley became the Saint Mary's all-time leading career scorer and broke her own AUS single season scoring record.

Colley, who is in her fourth year, took only minutes into the game to score 4 points to top her

current AUS scoring record of 515 that she shared with CBU's Kelly Hodgson.

The second record was the Saint Mary's career scoring record, which was currently held by Jadranka Crnogorac. In 100 games from 1993 - 1998

had scored 1928 points. Justine needed 19 points to surpass that record in only 4 seasons and 77 games. At half she had 17 points, so into the 3rd quarter she broke her second record, to earn her way into the Saint Mary's record book.



Photo courtesy of bradalmanac/Flickr Creative Commons

A sit-down with Sloan's Jay Ferguson

JUSTIN SHAW — THE CADRE (UPEI)
CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP)

Sloan, one the East Coast's most popular bands, is returning to the Maritimes and set to perform in Charlottetown. In honour of the occasion, The Cadre chatted with the band's guitarist, Jay Ferguson.

Cadre: You have been together for over twenty years, and have maintained consistent quality work. What do you feel has kept the band together this long?

Jay: It's hard to say exactly what. I think being able to control our own career and not being under the shadow of a potentially fickle large record label, for most of our career, has helped us steer our own ship. I also think that our band is an outlet for everyone creatively, everyone sings and writes and contributes ... there isn't the frustrated bass player itching to do his songs, although I think Chris has a large stash dying to see the light of day. We've also democratically kept things evenly divided on a financial basis so we are all in the same boat, even though it may not be a yacht.

Cadre: Do you feel there is much a difference in audience response between your shows in the Canada and the U.S.? How about between Canada and the Maritimes?

Jay: I'm not sure about the Maritimes vs. the rest of Canada, but there is a bit of a difference between the U.S. and Canada. Our Canadian audience has always been a mix of the casual fan who may know a few songs from the radio and the uber-fan that knows every last album track and b-side. In the U.S., since we never really enjoyed major above ground TV or Top 40 exposure, there are not as many casual fans ... the people who seem to come to our shows are fans of everything and know our entire catalogue. It's a fun issue to have, it's nice to play the hits and have big sing-a-longs at shows in Canada, but also our U.S. audience allows us to often play more album songs from our

catalogue that fans in the U.S. seem to know just as well as the singles.

Cadre: What is your opinion on the current state of Canadian East Coast music? Are there any artists in particular that have impressed you in recent years?

Jay: I haven't lived on the East Coast for years, so I'm a bit out of touch. It's nice to see Rich Aucoin be getting lots of international recognition. I thought Laura Peek's last record was really fine ... as was Mike O'Neill's latest. It was encouraging to hear him make a new LP after so long.

There were bands that kinda split that I really liked ... The Stance made one LP that had lots of good songs. Brent Randall & The Pinecones were excellent in their Halifax configuration, but have since transplanted to Toronto in a different form. I've not kept up on my latest Two Hours Traffic, but they definitely have some good songs too.

Cadre: When the band first formed, what were among the biggest influences in forming your sound/style? Have these influences changed over the years?

Jay: I guess influences change or one may be listening to different music while making a particular record. For our first record, *Smeared*, there was definitely an influence represented by the music that was happening in England at the time ... pop bands that used layers of distorted guitar but were still writing melodic pop songs ... My Bloody Valentine and Ride and other similar bands that were on the Creation Records label. The parallel underground US scene was also rubbing off ... influence of bands like Dinosaur Jr. and Sonic Youth made it's way into some of our early recordings as well.

Cadre: What song (or songs) is the most fun to perform live?

Jay: I think my personal favourite is *Fading Into Obscurity* from our *Never Hear The End Of It* album ... a long song, treated like a suite with many little parts and interesting changes.

What should you check out during East Coast Music Week?

BY: CONNOR DONALD

The countdown to East Coast Music week is coming to an exciting end. With less than two weeks until the East Coast Music Awards and the start of the biggest week of East Coast Music, it's time to decide what shows you want to see. There are 70 artists performing on 10 different stages but only 24 hours in a day and four days in the East Coast Music Award week. Now, what shows should you see?

The Palace Night Club will be busy Thursday, Friday and Saturday with three different genres of music and three different awards being handed out.

Thursday March 7 will be a night of pop and rock performances featuring: Repartee, Paper Lions, Coyote and more. That night the award for Pop Recording of the Year will be presented. Friday night, March 8 will be Electronic Night at the Palace. Seven of the Maritime's best Electronic music producers will show their stuff and the award for Electronic Recording of the Year will be handed out. The final night, Saturday the 9, will be Rap and Hip Hop night featuring Kayo and Three Sheet plus the Rap/Hip-Hop recording of the Year will be announced.

This year is the Year of Rock

at the East Coast Music Awards with some very talented Rock performers and nominees strutting their stuff this year. On Thursday night at the Baronet Ballroom at the Delta in Halifax from 1:30 to 4:30 will be the Export Buyers Showcase East Coast Style featuring: David Myles, Ben Caplan and The Backyard Devils. Caplan, a Halifax native, has taken the East Coast Music scene by storm and put on sold out shows all over the East Coast. David Myles has been a regular at the ECMA's and has been nominated for numerous awards the past couple of years.

On Saturday ain't the same place, there will be yet another exciting Export Buyers Showcase from 2:30 until 5. This one will feature the hard-rocking Carmen Townsend from Cape Breton. The 2011 ECMA Rising Star continues her rise on the East Coast Music scene this year, despite no nominations; she will bring her rocking-and-rolling music to the ECMA's once again. It will also include performances from folk rocker, Tim Chaisson and country rocker, The Divorcees.

Then Saturday night from 8 pm until 12 am at the Schooner Room

in Casino Nova Scotia the UPS Rock Stage will take center stage and yet again include Carmen Townsend. It will also bring hometown southern rockers, Gloryhound to the big stage and The Meds and The Motorleague are also set to perform.

And of course on Sunday night you can't miss the East Coast Music Awards Gala. All the major awards will be handed out and performances by Classified, Ashley MacLissac, David Myles, Repartee, Rich Aucoin and Rose Cousins. The exciting finale to East Coast

Music week will bring out the best performances by East Coast artists of all kinds and welcome in a new year for East Coast musicians.

East Coast Music week is bound to bring music of all genres and promises an exciting week for all! Volunteering for and taking in shows at the ECMA's last year in Moncton was fun and I was able to go and listen to the types of music I like, and was exposed to tons of new performers. I highly recommend you check out ecma.com and find out when artists of your favorite genre are performing and support your local artists during East Coast Music week.



The Ire of the Internet: Comic Sans

BY MALCOM CAPSTICK

It's fun, playful, and the perfect font for birthday cards, so why then is comic sans so universally disliked? Although there are countless Facebook groups, YouTube posts and websites dedicated to its expulsion, comic sans is still used frequently (and often poorly), serving only to add fuel to ire of the internet.

Designed by Vincent Connare in 1994, the original intent was to lend a series of Microsoft animations a feeling of whimsy as they navigated new users throughout the Microsoft Bob software suite. Inspired by the hand written lettering within the speech bubbles of comic books, the design was intended to lend a lighthearted feeling to the text.

Since then, the misuse of comic sans has become so ubiquitous in our culture that it has become somewhat of a meme, inciting the fury of the design savvy and fontly ignorant alike.

But why comic sans and not brush script, papyrus or any other font in the wide array of the ridiculous?

Well there are a few reasons.

First is the accessibility. Though it missed the initial release of Windows 95, the typeface was later repurposed and released with the Windows Plus Pack and subsequently all Microsoft releases thereafter. Due to the market share

that Microsoft held at this time, the ubiquity of comic sans was largely due to the accessibility to the font within the growing popularity of home computing. As a result, design was put in to the hands of the amateur, where a typeface could be selected, used or abused, as often as one needed.

Second is personal branding. The advent of home computing has afforded the opportunity to put an individual spin on things that had not been possible in the past. People tend to view easily navigable design options to be an opportunity to express their own individuality. If one views themselves as being fun, informal, approachable, and yes even a little immature, comic sans is a font that may speak to the way one wishes to be understood. The issue with comic sans is not so much in the design of the font, but rather in the way people choose to use it.

Lastly is the failure to recognize context. Fonts can be viewed much like our clothes and accessories. They are selected with the intention to best personify either our personality or fit a context. You wouldn't wear a Tony Bahama shirt to a board meeting, the same way one shouldn't use comic sans in a power point at a Nobel lecture on the measurement and manipulation of quantum particles (this actually happened). There is a time and a place for everything, even comic sans and

Tony Bahama shirts. However, if you're looking for credibility, it's probably best to just to stay away from both.

The font itself is harmless, its intention, lets not forget, was to provide a cartoon dog with a fun and inviting voice whilst easing new users in the subtleties of opening and closing a program. However, the font has a tendency to be used in all the wrong places, from doctors' offices to national currency (oh Canada). It is in these mistakes that the font has become so disconnected with its original purpose (to be fun) that any use, regardless of context, has become a typographical sin. Given the combination of amateur accessibility and neglect for context, the frequent misuse of the font has propelled it into the crosshairs of Internet scrutiny.

So why does any of this matter? The implication that one can use a font incorrectly is a collective admission that design is important. We seem to have come to an understanding that presentation of content is as of equal importance to the content itself. The feeling that a font produces in the minds of the reader must now reflect the institution or individual presenting it. A writer must be aware of its audience, its context and whom they represent, as a misstep in presentation serves to only diminish the impact of the message and the credibility of its author.

SUDOKU

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Word Search

By Brendon Lisi

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DOCTORDODDS
 HOCKEY
 MIDTERMS
 READINGWEEK

ATRIUM
 HALIFAX
 JOURNAL
 PERRY
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GORSEBROOK
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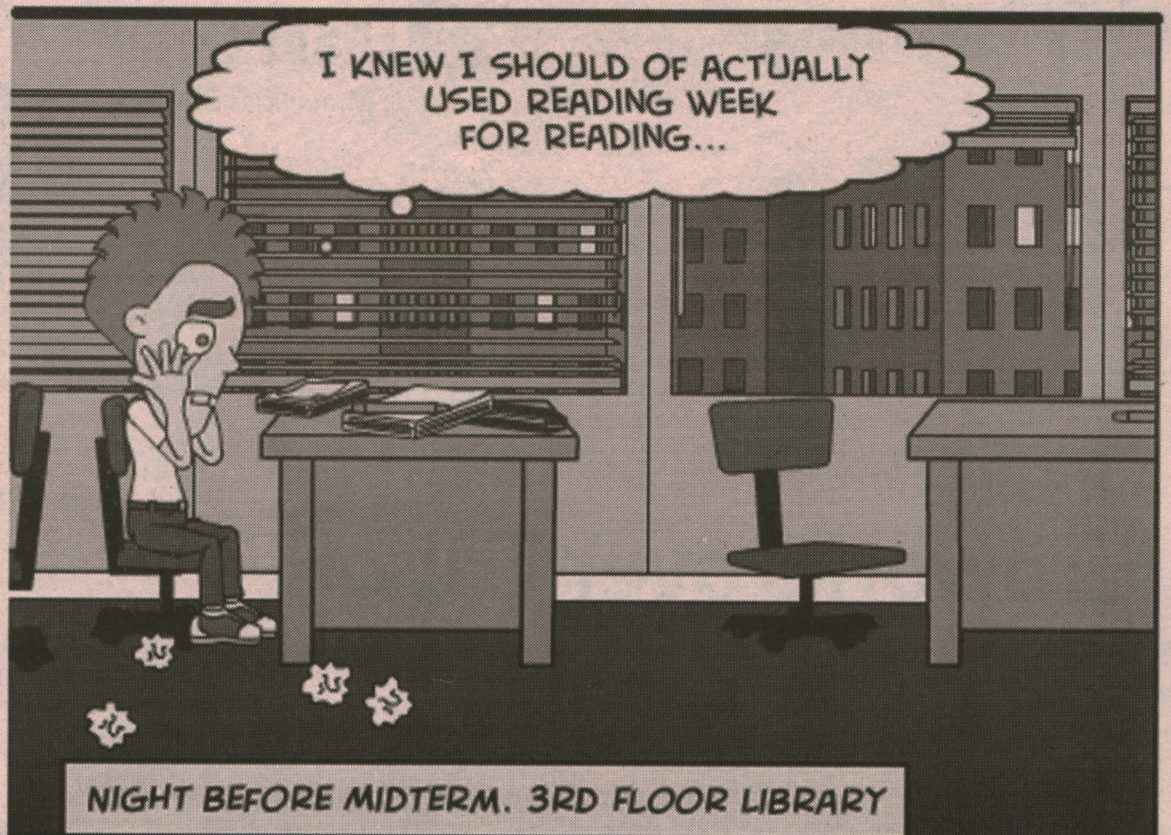


Did You Know That?

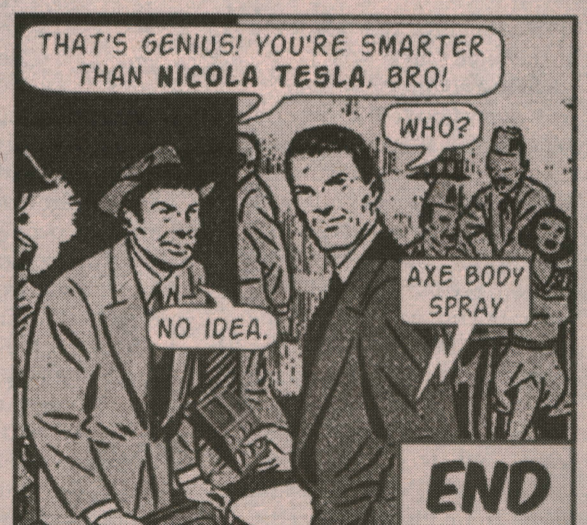
SMU's Faculty of Commerce was originally founded in 1934, and was the first of its kind in all of Canada.

Procrastination

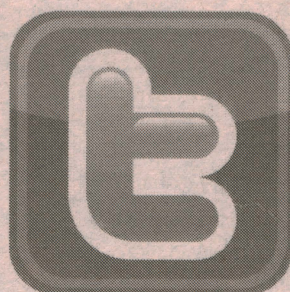
By Brendon Lisi



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Revolutionary graffiti is everywhere in Tripoli. Photo: MICHAEL LANGLAIS

Fireworks over Tripoli

BY MICHAEL LANGLAIS

Everywhere I look, Tripoli's dusty horizon is exploding in starbursts and colourful fireballs. It's the eve of Mawlid, the prophet Mohammed's birthday, and the people are exhilarating in their newly-found freedom to celebrate in defiance of a Fatwa issued by the Dar Al-Ifta, Libya's official religious authority. This is the picture of freedom unchained: a jubilant chorus of constant, beautiful explosions enduring well into midnight, an eerie mockery of the civil war that overthrew the Qaddafi clan. Those few Westerners that I'm sitting with laugh it off, sitting at a small café being showered with ash, but their eyes are apprehensive – to them, these aren't the sounds and smells of celebration. They're the sounds of war.

We're in Libya al-hurra – free Libya – where a country with almost no civil society or institutions has suddenly found itself liberated from a widely despised dictatorship following the tumultuous upheavals of the Arab Spring. Suddenly, the most abject of revolutionaries have found themselves rich with loot gleaned from the siphoned wealth of the former regime. The country is flooded with imports; it seems that every store overlooks stacks of new appliances in boxes on the sidewalk. Pristine Maseratis hurtle around beat-up Lacettis on the chaotic roads, where traffic is unregulated and rarely controlled – Libya's roads are the most dangerous on earth, claiming 49.6 of every 100,000 Libyan souls in 2012 alone. The newly-opened Cinnabon in Tripoli is among the most successful in the world, and poorly-translated local franchises Uncle Kantaki and King Burger vie for the flourishing business along Gargaresh road, side-by-side with omnipresent shawarma shops. Improvised stands selling fireworks spring up everywhere during holidays: alcohol and

drugs may be illegal, but there is no compunction about lighting up impromptu fireworks displays in the heart of the capital almost every night.

Libya is undergoing a profound identity crisis, as the revolutionary Thuwarr brigades, who see themselves as the guarantors of the revolution in the absence of a strong central government, begin to lose patience with the slow pace of progress. Their ideologies are increasingly at odds with each other, following the accomplishment of their shared goal: victory over the "mad dog", Qaddafi. Every city now has a Martyr's Square commemorating the fallen – in Tripoli, it is the frequent site of protests over every cause imaginable. Veterans

"Libya is undergoing a profound identity crisis..."

are demanding health care and compensation. Salafist-inspired Islamists demand a war against vice. Disillusioned army recruits demand changes in leadership.

Families demand housing. The constant parade of improvised posters and chanted slogans is part of the routine in Libya al-hurra: the people have found their voices, and a torrent of repressed thoughts and feelings is cascading through the country. It is a state with little national identity, composed of a constellation of Arab, Berber, Tuareg and Tebu tribes, divided over vast regions of desert in disparate regions and frequently disenfranchised outside of the capital. The resource-rich eastern region of Cyrenaica, anchored by the turbulent city of Benghazi and the birthplace of the revolution, feels neglected by the government in Tripoli. The arid, deserted southern region of Fezzan remains largely ungoverned, and a prime route for lucrative weapons smuggling and extremist insurgents targeting occidentally-developed oil fields.

The Thuwarrs are not wrong: the revolution is far from secure. Weapons proliferation from plundered government caches

has destabilized the entire North African region. Nomadic Tuareg mercenaries previously employed by Qaddafi, who fled to carve out their long-desired homeland of Azawad in Northern Mali, are now being pushed back towards Libya. The unfortunate death of US Ambassador Chris Stevens on September 11th, 2012 is the most notable of a constant assassinations and bombings in Benghazi. The siege of Bani Walid in October 2012 occurred in tandem with ongoing conflict in Derna and Kufra. Largely powerless outside of Tripoli, the General National Congress is limited to acting through the hastily organized Supreme Security Council, composed of revolutionary Thuwarr brigades who refuse to disarm, while they desperately try to rebuild an army decimated by the revolution. These "Shield Forces" are nominally under the control of the government, who pay the bills, but can be unpredictable: rumours of vengeful massacres

and prohibited weapons used by the Misrata brigade in Bani Walid are rampant. The loyalties of the people are aligned with various Thuwarrs according along geographic and tribal lines. Everyone remains deeply suspicious of central government: assassination attempts on President Mohammed Magarief and multiple stormings of Congress sessions by protestors highlight the deep fault lines that must be bridged, and the growing premonition of conflict dogging the afterglow of the revolution.

In the meanwhile, the region continues to experience growing instability. French and allied military actions in Mali have drawn extremist attacks against the Algerian In Amenas oilfield. Led by the United Kingdom, many occidental nations have pulled their citizens from Benghazi following the spectre of an unidentified imminent threat. Terrorist groups in Derna linked to the Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) have threatened

spectacular attacks against Western interests in the principal cities of Libya. Tentative Egyptian claims to Libyan territory, denied by the government but sensationalized by the media, threaten to jeopardize relations on the Eastern border. Tripoli itself has seen unilateral vigilante actions taken by conservative Thuwarrs against drug and alcohol dealers as part of a broader campaign against vice, and several instances of militia-on-militia violence throughout the city.

Time will tell whether the General National Congress can maintain the teetering balance of power within the country and garner enough support across the widening ethnic and regional gaps to reassert peace and stability. Until then, my colleagues and I watch the fireworks over Tripoli, waiting for a counter-revolution that we pray will never come.

Michael Langlais is currently on sabbatical in North Africa.



The Marcus Aurelius arch dates back to the Roman occupation in the 2nd century AD. Photo: Michael Langlais

GSPOT: Sexy Stress

Valentines and Spring Break sex is behind us now, and as we look down the barrel of my least favorite time of the year, I feel as though it's time to think sexy and stress-free thoughts, particularly for those of you who are dating/fucking/something with someone who is an academia or in it yourselves. This time of year is really stressful, and for that, sometimes our relationships and sex lives suffer. Let's fix it. Or — at least acknowledge it and talk about it.

So — what have we got coming up? Mid-terms, papers, lab reports, more tests, more essays and then finals, between now and the end of March. That sounds less than hot, and more than a little bit of a tough balancing act. So, how do we maintain a healthy, horny relationship until the freedom of summer, sleeping in and unlimited sexy-times? Communication, that's how.

You're busy, we get it, and chances are, so does your partner. I know it feels like they're being needy when you're being hassled for Thursday night sleepovers or Monday coffee dates and make-out sessions between classes, but you need to remember to spend some time thinking about how the other is feeling. Is your girlfriend taking a reduced course load and

not working compared to your five-classes-plus-varsity-sport-and-part-time-job schedule? Is your boyfriend graduated and working a job he can leave in the office while you slave over a microscope or finance assignment that you never will really understand?

Yeah — both parties need to really make sure they're being very clear about needs, expectations and boundaries. If you're feeling neglected, you need to talk about it with sympathy and without pouting. Your partner should hear you without going on the defensive. All relationships thrive on communication, and without it, and a modicum of understanding, you're doomed to fail. Relationships need to be places where people feel comfortable talking about what they feel and what they require from a partner — and a place where the partner can be honest about their ability to meet those needs or not. And just to be clear, I'm using relationship in the broadest terms possible — friend, fuck buddy, fiancé, anything in between.

Are things so crazy that for a while you need to schedule sex? Maybe that takes some of the feverish spontaneity out of it, but it means you're gonna get some, your partner will be happy, and you have the anticipation factor deeply

seeded. People get insecure when they think they're not wanted, and insecurity will always do more harm than good. Remind him he's sexy and that she's gorgeous and not of each others essay due-dates and exam periods and you'll be much more likely to cum harder and remember why you started doing whatever it is you're doing in the first place.

Regular date nights don't actually get old, or too comfortable, they become appreciated, foundational and noticed when a family commitment or emergency dental appointment disrupts them. Make an effort to call or chill — even if just for a little bit. A text doesn't say it all, contrary to popular beliefs. A squeeze of a hand says way more than a "sup?" ever will.

For heaven's sake, you, your partner, or both need to give the benefit of the doubt this time of year. Take a big breath, be honest — painfully honest, and prepare to compromise. Have big relationship conversations to stay accountable and on the same page, and make sure you intentionally book each other time. I know what it's like to have ALL OF THE THINGS on the go, but even 30 minutes here or an hour there makes a much bigger difference than a "luv u" text message ever will.

The hybrid student: Half Husky, half Tiger, all engineer

BY: ADAM FABER

A Saint Mary's engineering student who went on to Dal has a bumper of a warning for Santamarians doing the same thing: kiss your free time goodbye.

Suvir Pursnani, a fourth year civil engineering student at Dalhousie, started at Saint Mary's and feels there was quite a jump in workload when he changed his stripes from a husky to a tiger. "The change is tenfold. Engineering is the hardest program you can take at a bachelor level, or at least I think so. It was tough at the beginning, at SMU, but I still had some time to party and for a social life." Pursnani says that's changed, as he studies between midterms.

Pursnani is one of many engineering students who started at an associate university for his

first two years, transferring into Dalhousie for his final two years of university. At Dal, he would have spent a little over \$8,000 a year in tuition, with an almost \$8,000 'international differential fee' added on due to the fact he's an international student. At SMU, the tuition and differential fee averaged at about \$6,000 each, as well as SMU more readily accepting his out-of-country education.

"It was cheaper at SMU, a significant amount as well. Also because I'm a Caribbean student, SMU would accept my credentials, but Dalhousie wouldn't. In general, SMU accepts a whole range of international credentials. Classes were smaller [at SMU] as well." All that being said, be it the difference between 2nd and 3rd year courses, or the universities themselves, Pursnani warns the

transition can be a shock for those who aren't prepared to work hard. "It may seem simply challenging at first, getting your engineering courses at Saint Mary's to start, but it's about to get much, much more challenging." Pursnani recalled telling a first year student at Saint Mary's this year. "The first thing I had to learn was planning and scheduling your time, you have to prioritize. I got away with not studying at all in high school, and studying somewhat at Saint Mary's. Now my schedule has changed phenomenally. I was never in the library before, but when third year hit I was there all the time." Having been involved with some SMU societies before transferring, branching out didn't fit his schedule so much these last two years. "At Saint Mary's I had a social life, it just went all downhill after that."

Take the laptop away from me Why banning laptops in the classroom is a legit policy

Jane Lytvynenko — The Fulcrum
(University of Ottawa)

OTTAWA (CUP) — I am weak. Instead of doing work, I go on Twitter; when it's time to buckle down, I have to turn on an app that shuts down all of my social media. I can't resist the vortex of information on the Internet whether I'm in class, on the bus, or at home. I read the news

when I walk my dog and browse Foursquare when I come to a new place. And I'm not the only one.

University of Ottawa professors have the ability to ban electronics in the classroom and I'm all for this policy. One glance around a crowded lecture hall will show that most people are web surfing. Why listen to a professor drone on when half a dozen of your friends are dying to tell you about the

latest gossip?

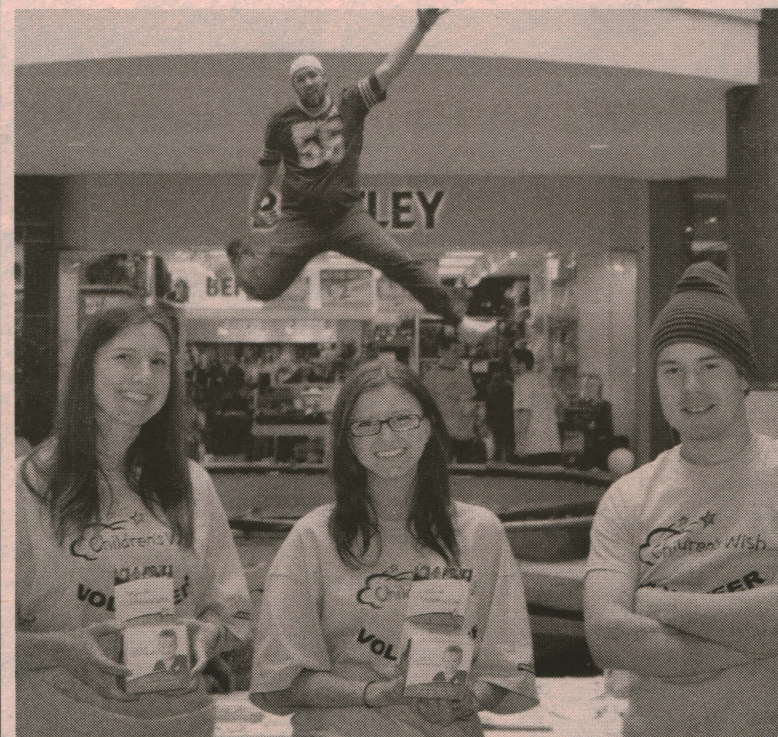
I've seen a rise in my grades when I put my laptop away. I dusted off my pen and paper and started bringing it to the classroom, which made me more engaged and involved — the profs can actually see my face this way instead of trying to make eye contact with the cat sticker on my computer lid.

Whenever I give a presentation

and see people texting, I get nervous and irritated: Was my hard-researched material too boring? Am I boring? Will they pay attention if I start tap dancing? Our poor professors have to put up with technologically induced ADD in every class. It's disrespectful and unnecessary. The professors won't ever top the hilarity of the latest Lazy College Senior meme,

but that's no reason not to pay attention to them.

That's why I support technology bans in the classroom — they are eye-opening and annoying, and they work. It's good to know I can survive three hours without my dear laptop, and it's nice to work on my calligraphy skills too. Above all, I want to learn, even if that means parting with my MacBook for a while.



SMU/Dal fraternity jump at the chance to help

BY: ADAM FABER

For another year, a group of gentlemen from Saint Mary's and Dalhousie are working together to benefit the Children's Wish Foundation.

Sigma Chi is a joint fraternity that came to Halifax in 1933, and for over 25 years members have been raising money for charity through a 36 hour trampoline-fest at the Halifax Shopping centre. Collecting funds for the Make-a-Wish foundation.

Starting on March 1st, shoppers at the Halifax Shopping Centre will hopefully grant another wish, raising another \$7,000 from donations watching the brothers take turns bouncing on the tried and true trampoline they roll out each year. The idea is to raise awareness for the cause, without raising the brothers so high that they hit the ceiling.

Sigma Chi is a 'Greek letter society', which means the old-school club looking to attract leaders, normally associated with secret handshakes and brotherly camaraderie. The chapter that exists in Halifax doesn't draw lines between the two universities that are only a stone's throw away from each other, the members simply meet and mingle without drawing the lines of rivalry... Although the occasional good-

natured ribbing certainly isn't forbidden.

The chapter owns a house, which is located between the two universities, and each year they take to the mall to raise funds for a good cause. Volunteers from the active membership take turns in the spotlight, bounding to and fro to catch the eyes of everyday shoppers, while the others set out with collection boxes. When the mall shuts down, that's when the turns on the trampoline get significantly longer. Brothers might compete for the longest stretch on the circle, channelling their competitive nature into an activity that helps kids in an unfortunate situation.

Children's Wish is a national non-profit organization dedicated to fulfilling a wish for children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses. Children's Wish grants approximately 1000 wishes annually. The Halifax chapter of Sigma Chi tries to raise enough money each year to grant one of those wishes.

If you're at the mall on March 1st or 2nd, don't be surprised if you see more than young kids bouncing around in the food court, and for significantly longer too. These big kids will be up way past bedtime in an effort to make their community a better place.





Library Survey 2013

who?

The Patrick Power Library would like to find out what you think of us – our resources, our services, the library itself

what?

LibQUAL is an online survey that has been used by university libraries around the world. It only takes about 10 minutes, it's completely confidential and you can take it any time, day or night

where?

Go to smu.ca/library/survey for the link and more information

when?

February 25 - March 15

why?

1. Because you want to make the library even better
2. **Great Prizes!** – One student will win an **iPad2**, others will win 1 of 4 \$25 Bookstore gift cards or 1 of 10 \$10 Aramark gift cards



YEP, THAT'S A CROSSWALK...

Crosswalks don't have to be painted on the street.

A crosswalk exists at every intersection whether it is painted or not.

Drivers **MUST** stop for pedestrians at **unmarked crosswalks**, it's the law.

Pedestrians should **make eye contact with drivers** & make sure the driver sees them before proceeding.

www.halifax.ca/traffic/CrosswalkSafetyBooklet.html

A MESSAGE FROM WAYE MASON

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