

MARCH 15 - APRIL 4 | ISSUE 151 - 12

# DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

NORTH AMERICA'S OLDEST CAMPUS NEWSPAPER EST. 1868



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# DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

NORTH AMERICA'S OLDEST CAMPUS NEWSPAPER  
EST. 1868

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## THE FINE PRINT

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

### Life be like that...

#### But it's all OK

There's nothing I love more than when I'm riding the bus and use my bag to take up the empty seat beside me and getting dirty looks from men.

I will take up all the space I want thankyouverymuch!

I don't actually take up handicapped seats or washrooms like you'll find in this issue's photo essay, *Womanspreading*. And there are folks definitely guilty of doing these things -- ALL genders can be rude about space, though. You just expect women to take up less than other genders.

Women are often demonized for taking up space with their purses, jackets and scarves. It's not lady like to sit with our knees apart (a woman's vagina needs to air out just like a man's balls OKAY). We're not supposed to take up space so when we do, people get annoyed.

Oh well.

In the rest of this issue of *The Dalhousie Gazette* you'll find all the news you actually want to read. Including the aforementioned piece on so-called "womanspreading."

I'm sorry to say that there is still chaos everywhere in the real world. But in these pages, everything is OK. Because everything is satire.

*Karla Jefford-Moore*

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# The life of a Canadian boy at 23

What it's like to grow up white and male in the era of social media, rape apologists and doxxing. Do white men have it the worst?

BY REBECCA DINGWELL, NEWS EDITOR



PHOTO BY CHRIS STOODLEY

Craig MacDonald is a fourth-year university student from Toronto (but actually some suburb in the GTA), Ontario.

"The big city is great," he explains, with a video game controller in one hand and a double-double in the other. "But it's nice to be in a place like Halifax with a small-town vibe. I can just chill, you know? There aren't as many restaurants and stuff, but it's chill."

Like all 23-year-olds — ones who are male, white and middle-class, anyway — he thinks a lot about whether he wants to be a professional video game critic or a YouTube star, because his mom keeps telling him he's sup-

posed to have it figured out. He'd rather just talk about his girlfriend or Blundstones or the Montreal Canadiens.

But there's this thing that's been bothering him. While MacDonald has always been a fan of no-frills lagers and the like when he goes out for a beer, his friends have been getting into the craft brew scene. This intimidates him. When talking about his friends, MacDonald smiles, often referring to them as "my boys" or "my buddies." But it's clear that craft beer has brought a little dark cloud over those relationships. A couple weeks ago, his boys invited him to try a new bar. When it was

to the kitchen of his bachelor apartment (an apartment paid for by his parents). He grabs a package of bacon from the fridge, and a frying pan from the cupboard.

"I love bacon! Don't you? I saw this show about a restaurant where they deep-fry chocolate bars and wrap them in bacon. I really want to go. Now *that's* a breakfast of champions."

As he fries up a questionable amount of bacon, MacDonald explains that he moved into this apartment last September. He used to live in a three-bedroom with a couple of his boys, but they opted to move in with their girlfriends this fall. Asked if he has a girlfriend, MacDonald pauses. It's silent but for the sizzling of grease on the stove.

"For a bit," MacDonald concedes. "We broke up over the summer. She kind of went crazy."

Asked to elaborate, MacDonald says, "Well, she got mad about weird things. Like if I said I would call her and then forgot, or if I bailed on her to work on my fantasy football league. It was too much to deal with."

And that's not the end of MacDonald's girl troubles.

"So there's this other girl, Courtney, who I really liked. We were hanging out in the fall. But when I tried to make a move, she told me she just wanted to be friends." MacDonald plates his bacon. "So I talked to my boy Jason about it, right? And you know what he said? 'You're not entitled to women's bodies, man.' I couldn't believe it."

For a moment — just a moment — I think I see a tear in MacDonald's eye. But then he turns away to eat his bacon.

MacDonald is just like any other white, middle-class, cis, heterosexual Canadian man. He likes hockey and video games. He wears basketball shorts even when it's way too cold to wear shorts. One thing is for sure: he is not oppressed. Oh my god, people, why are we reading and writing features like this?

MacDonald's turn to order, he made a big mistake: he asked for a Guinness. The server and all his buddies laughed.

"They called me 'basic,'" sighs MacDonald. "I don't think anyone actually thought I was. They were just giving me crap. It was just a stressful time."

MacDonald thinks that if he were a girl, he wouldn't be expected to become familiar with so many varieties of beer.

## An eternal struggle

After shutting his Playstation down, MacDonald says he's feeling peckish. He leads me



# Eight ways to save for your tuition

## No need to worry about the upcoming tuition hike

BY REBECCA DINGWELL, NEWS EDITOR

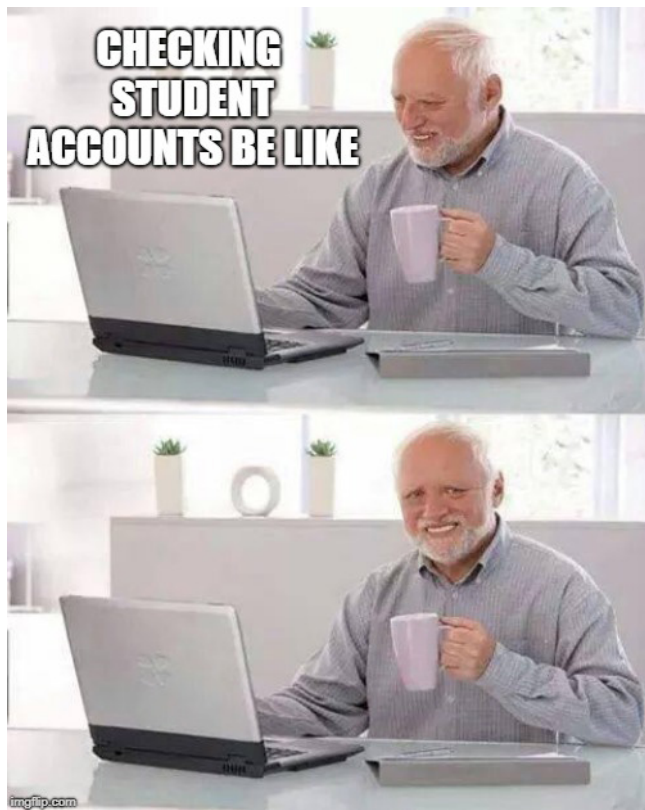
Dalhousie University has another tuition increase on the horizon.

On March 1, Dalhousie students received an email with recommendations from the Budget Advisory Committee. Among other thing, the committee recommended a three per cent tuition increase.

As reported by Jennifer Henderson in the *Halifax Examiner*, Dal students already pay the highest tuition in the country at almost \$9,000 a year (for an undergraduate science student). But that's fine! We have a bunch of ideas for how you can save or make the money required to get your education. Contrary to popular belief, it is not a human right.

### 1. Have rich parents.

Struggling to make ends meet? Quoth Yzma in *The Emperor's New Groove*: "You really should have thought of that before you became peasants!" Seriously, though — if your parents aren't rich, find a nice, wealthy couple to adopt you. Done and done!



### 2. Sell your youthful, youthful blood.

For three years, a United States-based startup company called Ambrosia injected old people with the plasma of young folks with the claim that it slows aging. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently put its foot down and Ambrosia has ceased treatments as of Feb. 19. However, there's no reason you can't start selling your blood on the black market to gullible people. Is it morally questionable? Perhaps. But you've got tuition to pay. At \$8,000 a litre, you'd be doing pretty well for yourself.

If you're not comfortable with that, there's always the option to give blood the ol' fashioned way. They won't pay you for it, but you can overstay in the snack area and fill your tummy so you don't have to worry about dinner later. Of course, this is not an option if you are gay. Sorry.

### 3. Get a side hustle.

A summer gig or a part-time job won't be enough to pay tuition on its own, so you'll have to come up with something extra. Try something like driving for Uber — oh, wait.

### 4. Busk on the boardwalk.

Think back to first year, when you couldn't stop playing "Wonderwall" in the quad. Perhaps you haven't picked up that guitar in a while. It's time to dust it off and bring it down to the Halifax waterfront, where you can play for pennies. This applies to just about any instrument: fiddle, bagpipes, whatever. If you don't have musical any talents, that's OK. Just weep with a hat or jar in front of you and claim it's a performance art piece.

### 5. Stop buying coffee.

An oldie but a goodie. Stop buying coffees to-go every day and make it at home. Hell — stop buying food in general! Dial back on nourishing yourself, would ya?

### 6. Crowdfund.

People crowdfund for so many different reasons these days: going on a trip, starting a business, getting surgery for their cat, getting surgery for themselves... the list goes on. Unfortunately, crowdfunding will likely only work for folks who are particularly popular, unless you can get Ellen Page to retweet your GoFundMe page or something.



### 7. Marry rich.

If that adoption didn't work out, forget true love and start looking for true money. Getting married at 20ish might seem ill-advised, but show any nay-sayers your student account page and they may feel differently.

Not ready to commit? Find a sugar daddy, sugar mama or otherwise sugar parent. According to *Business Insider*, upwards of 2.5 million "sugar babies" identified as students on SeekingArrangements.com in 2016. In May 2018, CBC reported that 90 Wilfrid Laurier University students and 624 University of Guelph were registered on the Seeking Arrangement site. Perhaps it's time for some Dal representation.

### 8. Just drop out.

Fuck this shit, I'm out.

# Environment is OK

## Hottest collab of the year: scientists and AI declare climate crisis over

BY KAILA JEFFERD-MOORE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Scientists in Atlantic Canada have been tracking the weather patterns of sou' westerly and winter storms for decades. Recent data analysis of has revealed shocking results: the environment is OK people.

The world heaved a collective sigh of relief on Feb. 24 when Adanam Jolley announced the findings of his team's hard work. A team of 14 climatologists, biologists and other scientists pooled their data together using a new artificial intelligence (AI) program.

### NSstorms

The scientists didn't start out with the goal of analyzing all of the data together — when

they began collecting their respective data AI was still laughable.

"It was Snomageddon back in 2017 that kind of got us thinking," said Jolley. "There is so much snow and it's been known for a while now that these great, big fucked-up winters are proof of global warming, right."

Back in 2017, Halifax was called out for comparing its infamous February storm as equal to 2003's White Juan that brought down over 88 cm of snow on the city.

"When we saw that comparison we were inspired," said Jan Suredan, lead climatologist on Jolley's team.

But there was so much information. So much to analyze. There was too much to do

and not enough power to do it.

"It would have taken us 36 years and 22 days and like, 45 seconds to analyze it without Dara," said Suredan.

### Dara

Dara is the AI technology Jolley's team bought from Chinese tech giant, Huawei Technologies Co. back in early 2018.

It's the only verified actual artificial intelligence in the world that is truly a free-thinking computer. Secretly developed by Huawei over the past six years and finally revealed on the world stage in December 2017, Dara is a powerful technology.

Jolley said he bought usage rights for his team's "world-saving data analysis" in March 2018 and immediately began using Dara to analyze all of the data.

"First, I asked the team to input all of their data in raw form," Dara told *The Dalhousie Gazette* during an exclusive interview. "And then I decided on which parameters and priorities to use; this is based on my years of knowledge on the world and each individual society and culture — past and present."

What Dara figured out: White Juan and Snomageddon are actually a prediction pattern that climate crisis is a non-issue.

"We are OK. It is getting light and my batteries are full," said Dara.

# Mental health will be OK

## Dal cut therapy dog program, invests in tangible mental health help

BY KAILA JEFFERD-MOORE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dozens of therapy dogs are out of work now that Dalhousie University will no longer be bringing them in to cure Dal students' mental illnesses.

During the Feb. 12 board of governors meeting, the board voted on and passed a motion that would invest \$2.2 million into robust mental health care for students, faculty and staff.

This involves cutting other, "band-aid fixes the university has been implementing for years," said Barbara Gerald a faculty board

member. She's referring to programs like the therapy dogs and WellTrack, the "free, online self-help program that targets depression, anxiety, stress, and phobias (e.g., fear of heights) available to Dalhousie and King's students."

The change will begin in the Fall 2019 semester. Check out [dal.ca/healthandwellness/](http://dal.ca/healthandwellness/) bye-bye-dogs to stay up-to-date on all the new resources and programs available to you using all that money.





# Dal profs decide to set a universal extended deadline

## University spokesperson says students should live with uncertainty

BY VEER GHANDI

After a grueling 36-hour meeting, the Dalhousie University Faculty concluded that for future study terms, assignments for all courses will have a universal fixed deadline: at the end of the term for all their courses.

“We want students to understand what its like to live in uncertainty — much like real life — and by not providing timely feedback, we are doing exactly that,” said a spokesperson for the university. “Students need to thrive in an environment of uncertainty and establish a sense of optimism for an uncertain future. By not providing responsive feedback we are encouraging them to find light in darkness.”

With this major decision, Dalhousie will be saving thousands if not millions of dollars from salaries for teaching assistants and similar funding. When questioned where the money will go, the spokesperson simply stated that this will be invested in mental health facilities and resources to cope with expected rises in stress and anxiety levels over looming uncertain-

ty in performance

“We recognize that this may cause some stress and increase anxiety over the uncertain future, but this is exactly what we want our students to be prepared for,” said the chair of the Board of Governors.

“We want to encourage them to fail, we want to encourage them to lose their hard-earned money and also face some serious mental health problems during their time at university. Because only after overcoming these problems will they be truly prepared for the trials life has to offer. Universities generally just give degrees away for four years of hard-work, but we are taking a different and more concise approach. We want our students to have a unique experience like no one else, that will prepare them for years beyond here. This exactly what we are striving to give to our students.”

This modern view was shared and echoed by many of the students who recognized the necessity

**This modern view was shared and echoed by many of the students who recognized the necessity of trauma and negative experiences in going on to live a prosperous life.**

of trauma and negative experiences in going on to live a prosperous life.

“Our teachers are like our life mentors and role models. Everything they do is always in our best interests and it is our goal to honour them, till death do us part,” said the president of the Dalhousie Student Union. “Whether it is going extremely broke that we are forced out of our homes and onto the streets, or whether we end up in a lifetime worth of student debt, we will persevere and learn to apply these experiences as we embark towards a

millennium of greatness — the kind of greatness this world has never seen.

Now that Dal has surpassed 200 years old, the DSU president said it’s the right time to modernize.

“I believe that now is the time to separate from worldly trends and embrace our uniqueness and our teachers are doing exactly that,” she continued, in between gulps of an energy drink. “As a result, the faculty has my relentless and unequivocal support at every step we take towards this journey of greatness.”

### Prof: I won't accept late assignments

Students: We'd like our marks back within a reasonable time

Prof:

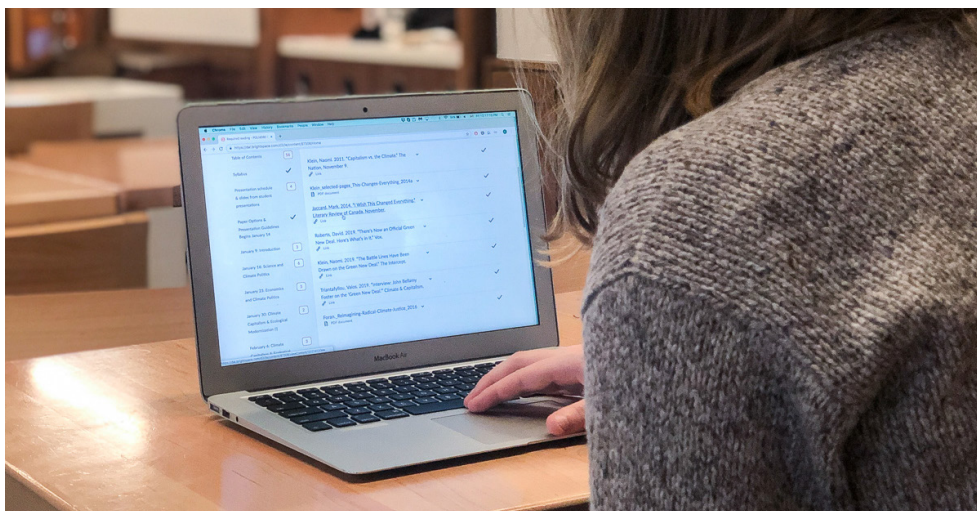


PHOTO BY KARLA RENIC



imgflip.com

# Dean of students shocked at textbook prices

Some university admin finally tap-in to the student pulse

BY ELIZABETH FOSTER

Dalhousie University's dean of students is still in shock after accidentally wandering into the bookstore last Thursday afternoon and coming into contact with the textbook section.

Joseph Tremblay has been in the position for almost 10 years now. He claims he's never entered the bookstore until that fateful day.

"I was trying to find room 233 in the LSC," he said, unashamed. "I must've taken a wrong turn somewhere because all of a sudden I found myself surrounded by Dalhousie themed merchandise. And then I saw the books. And -- the price tags."

He physically shudders.

"So I go up to the employee and I say 'Wow!

\$200 for all these books?' And she just shook her head like she was annoyed. So I ask: 'Per book?' and she just goes 'Duh,'" recalls Tremblay.

"I can't believe students are paying that much for textbooks! That's unbelievable! They should really do something about that."

The whole episode has given Tremblay a new perspective on student experiences at Dal.

"I guess I don't know the school as well as I thought I did. I mean, what's next, you're going to tell me that that cluster of buildings over by the LSC is actually its own separate university?"



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## OPINIONS

# 6 habits to be a high achieving student @ Dal

## Burnout is fake

BY KAILA JEFFERD-MOORE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

### 1. Eating only Doritos and Pokeh from the Killam

Maintaining supreme health is the number one priority for any high achiever. Why go anywhere else when you can get all the food groups and chemicals in one location.

### 2. Juuling in the bathroom

When you don't have time to head to the smoke pit and you need to pee -- the closest bathroom and keeping your Juul handy will Save. Your. Live.

### 3. Not wearing a jacket in negative degree weather

When you only sleep in intervals of 4 hours every 10 hours, the chilly maritime winter air really keeps you awake, refreshed and charged. The itching frostbite is a helpful study tool: scratch the itch only once you're done reading a chapter.

### 4. Talking on the phone in the Killam

The best service is in the Killam. Whenever you need to argue with your student loan provider, cry to your best friend across the country or answer a job interview call -- go to the Killam. The good service has something to do with the fact

the centre used to be an open-element atrium. It's also an unusually quiet place, so you won't ever have to worry about being disturbed by anyone around you.

### 5. Standing in line at LSC Tim's for 20 minutes only to spend 10 searching for your wallet at the register

It sounds counterintuitive but hear me out.

Those 20 minutes are your only true break during the day. You're standing there and you can't really be typing on your computer. You may be able to read a reading if it's in a textbook; but you might as well just use that time to turn off your

brain and scroll through Twitter or Instagram.

And when you get to the register and you're searching for your wallet, you're actually giving those other students waiting in line *their* 20 minute break of the day.

### 6. Crying at a designated HRM smoke spot

All high-achievers understand the necessity of multi-tasking, even when relaxing. So when you have more than 30 seconds to pee and Juul in a campus bathroom and make it out to the smoke pit -- that's your best time to cry.

There is nothing quite as cathartic as taking a drag and then a sob.



# Recent drug study is a little fishy

The youth are at risk of algae addiction, the proof is in the crab cake

BY JESS MOINZ

You may remember the scientific studies about how chocolate helps you lose weight, red wine stops heart disease, and how nothing really matters because the health benefits of tumeric will make you pretty much immortal.

After multiple government buildings across Canada were tumeric-bombed by protestors supporting mandatory turmeric injections in schools, scientists realized that their meme accounts were being taken much more seriously than anticipated. Many popular science articles are now being scrutinized.

Researchers worry that in the media's rush to report the exciting results of study concerning a new student drug craze, some details may have been lost. The often-reported fact that "eating algae makes students 100 per cent less likely to pass the MCAT," may not be as accurate as we once thought.

## Ya'll smell that?

The Hawkings drug study went viral earlier this year, claiming that of all participants interviewed, every low-scoring test taker had engaged in algae consumption.

For weeks people's feeds were blowing up about the new trend of young adults "getting high off algae, which affects cognitive ability." Many Dal students reported multiple emails from their parents about the study; subject line, "Stay safe! PROOF THIS STUFF IS DANGEROUS..."

The Hawkings study reported definitive evidence of negative health outcomes pertaining to recreational algae use. Based on 30 groups of test subjects, Hawkings concluded that any algae use, no matter how small or how casual, impaired subjects'

ability to recall information on a written exam taken three weeks after learning a subject, that is, if they hadn't been eaten by another group member. These study participants were particularly prone to cannibalism -- probably because they were marine crabs.

**"If it happened to the crabs, it could happen to our kids"**

Various online articles citing the study note the strong influence of peer pressure exhibited during the social interaction portion of the study. Results showed crabs using algae more often in groups with older crabs. It's speculated that smaller crabs fear the larger crabs' silent cold judgment, their cruel, beady eyes, mocking any deviation. Always ready to point out at those tiny little pincers, planning a social crucifixion for a cheap laugh.

## Save our students

Some report that crab group behaviours are a defence mechanism to confuse predatory birds; but Hawkings allowed the crabs to speak for themselves, "survival of the fittest, kiddos," says one large crab, clicking his claws.

These statistics are causing some parents to call for more anti-peer pressure education at schools around the country.

"If it happened to the crabs, it could happen to our kids," tweeted one concerned mother. Memes depicted similarities between sun-burnt school boys and their crabby counterparts.

Scientists emphasize that while humans are susceptible to herd mentality, making inferences based on crab groups is impossible. Nonetheless, articles titled "peer pressure causes teenage test subjects to abuse algae every single time" are influencing politicians to change drug education.



PHOTO BY SIDNEY PEARCE ON UNSPLASH

Most were convinced of the seriousness of the study when they read about the number of test subjects that engaged in cannibalism. This is how calls to make algae illegal began, to save young people from a possibly fatal craze, despite that biologists confirm that crabs eat other crabs all the time, mostly because crabs are both delicious and stupid as hell.

Some concerned parents and health officials were initially skeptical that anyone would willingly ingest algae, even for the high. But other studies have not yet forgotten the Tide pod days. If kids were eating detergent, which they definitely were, then algae can't be ruled out. Tide pods may

even be a gateway to algae use.

The statistic that "100 per cent of the drug free subjects performed better" is based off the 12 crabs left uneaten by the end of the study, one in the control group was able to grip the pencil. The rest of the crabs in the control group had skittered off to the other end of the tank and were trying to eat the test materials, they were disqualified from the study.

No word from either Hawking or the original research team on the methods employed during the experiment, but some researchers have abandoned the project due to rumours of Hawkings surprisingly sensual crab fetish.



# Meng Wanzhou single handedly raises Vancouver housing prices

## Other socialites lament her media attention

BY LEXI KUO

A recent article in the New York Times details the lavish bail lifestyle of Meng Wanzhou, Huawei's CFO who is awaiting her extradition trial.

According to the article her main home is a "seven-bedroom mansion, worth approximately six million Canadian dollars," but she is currently "holed up at her other Vancouver home, a six-bedroom house worth approximately 6 million Canadian Dollars, while this one is being renovated."

Some lament that "she is yet another wealthy foreigner who has used the city as a real estate investment, helping make it one of the most unaffordable cities in North America."

Vancouver's socialites point out that Wanzhou isn't the only rich bitch around, but she's the only one the news cares about.

Some of the rich are cast members for hugely popular shows; Supernatural, Chilling Adventures of Sabrina and Riverdale to name a few.

Madelaine Petsch of Riverdale posted a "How do I spend a day off in Vancouver" vlog. To answer the question: her day consists of the gym, the grocery store and a mas-

sage. After the vlog was posted, wealthy Riverdale fans clawed and clashed for the real estate between her home and gym, driving up housing prices by nearly 300 per cent in the following days.

One home features a multi-layered neon display which reads "I'M A MADELAINE PET." Some owners Airbnb their properties, charging extra for a pair of binoculars and an hourly breakdown of

when Petsch is likely to drive by.

Petsch has since moved from that property. The tipping point may have been "360-degree video of Madelaine Petsch Driving," made of layered footage taken by fans from different houses along the street.

Besides the wealth, there are political concerns. Canadians are discontent with her privilege, "they contrast her predicament — able to travel freely about the city, if with a GPS tracker around her ankle and under 24-hour surveillance — with that of their fellow citizens, several of whom have been arrested by China in apparent retaliation for Ms. Meng's arrest."

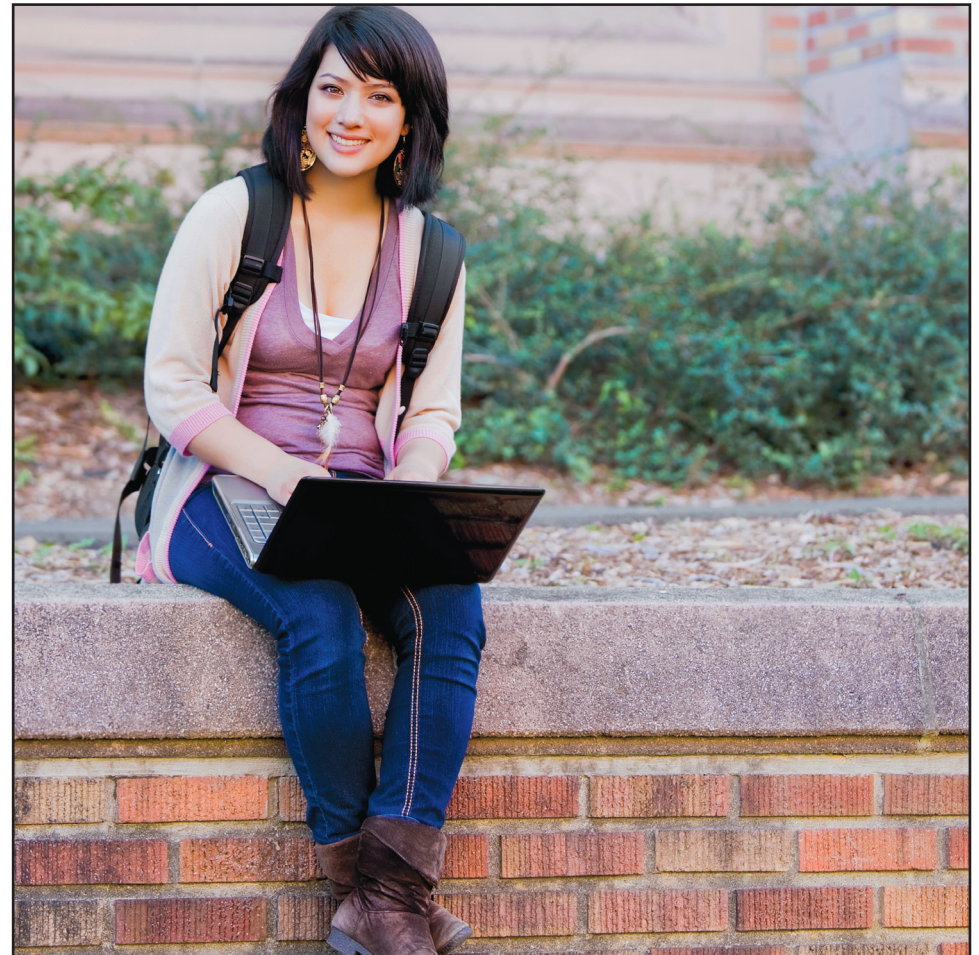
Jensen Ackles of Supernatural says Wanzhou's backstory isn't so different from his.

"So I don't have the drama of an authoritarian regime, but last I heard, the United States has some Canadian Supernatural fans in detention. They were protesting in front of my Los Angeles home and chanting: 'Pay Canadian income tax!' I haven't been home to L.A. since, I'm basically trapped here."

Cast members are acutely aware that they are affecting the economy, and do everything they can to offset the negative impact.

The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina cast allegedly enjoy gold flaked lattes every morning before filming. A statement released by the cast reads, "The coffee shop is locally sourced. We are doing everything we can to give back to Vancouver citizens. If that's buying their gold flakes, we're all for it."

**Jensen Ackles of Supernatural says Wanzhou's backstory isn't so different from his.**



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# Chess is Better than Sex

## These moves will have you heavy breathing and sweating

BY VEER GANDHI AND LEXI KUO

Bobby Fischer was the greatest chess player to ever live. But even the mightiest of the mighty have their lows and Fischer was no exception to this.

Fischer felt down at a certain point in his life. His friend, recognizing this, took him to a brothel to cheer him up and lift his spirits. After spending one whole hour in the brothel, Fischer came out and said, "Chess is better."

A genius like Fischer — who thrived off dominating his opponents on the chess board — clearly believed this and upheld his view as he transitioned through life.

Legend goes, he castrated himself after his first international victory. Ball-less, he went on to experience his ultimate pleasure and success, freed from the primal limitations of his bodily form.

But is chess really better than sex?

Chess games last anywhere from minutes, to days and even months. It takes a tremendous amount of stamina to last long in the game, play well and con-

quer your opponent. Sex on the other hand only takes an average of six minutes.

In chess, you plan for the climax from the very start, calculating for the movements of each piece, reading your opponent with each sensuous glance. Each move is a tentative act of courtship, exploring all their spots — their sweet spots, blind spots, and the spots that get them a little hot.

There's much less calculation in sex. Most of the time, you don't know how it's going to end until ten seconds before it does, in which case, one of you really blew it.

Chess players all play each other, you won't ever lack a partner. Even if you really suck, someone will still play you. Sucking isn't that bad anyway, everyone's sucked at some point, even Fischer.

Sometimes it's a slow burn, or maybe a quickie. Sweat on a furrowed brow, a clenched fist on the table, and when things really get going, a clenched fist under the table.

**You unleash your inner beast with a certain tenacity, courage and quite frankly, balls.**

Chess players try to mate — checkmate — their opponents wherever they want. You might mate someone in public, in front of their significant other, in extreme cases in front of the whole world.

To mate your opponent, you hit them in all the right places. You unleash your inner beast with a certain tenacity, courage and quite frankly, balls.

Chess has millions, if not billions of mating positions. There are always opportunities to take your opponent on and dominate them in ways they've never experienced.

If you aren't into dominating, being submissive is also a great learning experience. A more experienced chess player might take you under their wing, and even though you're set up for failure — a spanking — it's for your own good. Good chess players don't make the same mistake twice, once a game is in the spank bank, it's never forgotten.

Chess is a safe sport which provides pleasure over an entire lifetime with no significant financial and health implications. This is why the smartest people, like Fischer, prefer it over sex.



PHOTO BY EVAN DE SILVA





# Taco Week is here

## Universities join together to sponsor first ever taco week in Halifax

BY JESSICA BRIAND, ARTS AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR



PHOTO BY MELANIE KENNY

Food services teams from six Halifax universities and one college have teamed up to bring students Taco Week.

Taco Week will take place from March 28 to April 3, 2019 – the same dates as *The Coast's* annual Burger Week.

Organizers say they planned Taco Week to line up with Burger Week in order to encourage students to “eat healthier” and in hopes of “making up for loss of revenue in food services” that tends to happen during Burger Week every year.

All proceeds from tacos will be split

amongst the universities for their own use. For example, Dalhousie University will be using the proceeds it receives to continue paying ex-presidents' salaries.

The six universities and one college — Dalhousie University, Saint Mary's University, Mount Saint Vincent University, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, University of King's College and Nova Scotia Community College — have created unique tacos which are supposed to represent their respective student bodies favourite dishes.

### THE TACOS

All tacos cost \$8 and include a choice of fountain drink or milk. A \$2 upgrade allows students to get chocolate milk. Drinks are refillable.

### Tasty Tiger

*Available at Howe Hall and Risley Hall meal halls on Dalhousie's Studley Campus.*

The Tasty Tiger features black and gold

died taco shells to show school spirit. The line-ups for this tasty creation will be as long as the Tim Hortons line in Student Union Building so arrive early or you may just miss out. The taco tastes best while crying in the Killam Memorial Library (don't ask how I know, just trust my judgement). Flavours include hints of Dalplex sweat and Sir James Dunn Building asbestos. To save a couple bucks Dal decided they would use leftovers from previous meal hall fails to stuff their tacos. Some are better than others, but we'll let you be the judge of that.



### The Engineer

*Available on Dalhousie's Sexton Campus only.*

The Engineer features a programmable robot that will make your tacos with your desired toppings. Engineers on Sexton campus have been working to accommodate all your taco needs and have not stopped bragging about their success since. Although, this sounds too good to be true — it really is. Tacos are customizable as long as you want chicken, cheese and lettuce. It seems the only thing that you can choose is spiciness of salsa and the choice of no sour cream or extra sour cream. Seems like more of a work in progress than success, but that's just one reviewer's opinion.

### The Husky Husky

*Available at SMU's Dockside Dining Hall.*

The Husky Husky is inspired by the SMU football team. This taco could also be

named the “everything but the kitchen sink” taco. Each order comes with two soft tacos inside a crunchy shell. We're told this represents the hard exterior and soft interior of the SMU Huskies. Due to having too many “stars” wanting a say in the taco creation, the tacos also feature ground beef, chicken and steak all on one taco. With every vegetable you can imagine because they need all the help they can get to grow big and strong.

### Mount Taco-more

*Available at the Mount's Rosaria Dining Hall.*

The Mount made sure to avoid their ominous mascot — is it a bird or is it a mountain lion — in this creation by instead focusing on the location of the school on a large hill off the Bedford Highway. Picture a plate of nachos but instead of chips you have taco tortillas. That's exactly what the Mount created with Mount Taco-more. A

mountain of tacos stacked on top of each other. The only way to eat this creation is with a fork and knife. There's so much food that it's a good thing there's that hill to exercise off all the extra calories.

### The Artist's Palette

*NSCAD will be selling their tacos at a pop-up inside the Halifax Seaport Market next to their Port Campus location.*

Served flat, each taco is a painting in itself. Students are behind the creation of each taco and no taco is the same. NSCAD took the unique approach of making taco week an extra credit assignment for those in its abstract art classes. Some of the example tacos are on par with creations by Picasso, but in food form. These tacos aren't customizable so you must have a lot of trust in your food artist to create something that isn't just visually pleasing but appetizing.

### Skill-et Taco

*Available in the full-service cafeteria at the NSCC Institute of Technology campus only.*

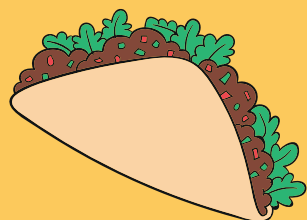
This punny taco takes the traditional foods of tacos and breakfast skillet and turns it into one. Served on a platter made of floppy disks, the Skill-et taco is inspired by taking the old and boring and making it hip and exciting. Careful though, I hear that at this trade school there will be a lot of taco trading happening during taco week. Keep a close eye on yours or someone might just assume you're taking part.

### The Philosophy of Tacos

*Available in Prince Hall at the University of King's College.*

It doesn't think, so therefore it isn't. That's how it goes right? Does this taco exist or does it not? You'll have to leave or maybe even enter the cave and trek to King's campus to see for yourself.

Don't waste your money on Burger Week.  
Your universities are working hard to do something new for you this year.



# TACO WEEK



# IS COMING

**MARCH 28 TO APRIL 3 2019**

Locations across all Halifax area university campuses will have tacos to die for!

There's no better fuel for your final exams than the unique creations of tacos by your university food services staff.

*All proceeds from taco sales go towards your university.*

# Man gives up headlining spot for musician with superior skills

## Turns out he just wants to get into her pants

BY BAYLEIGH MARELJ



PHOTO BY STOO METZ

Local musician, Chayden Stevenson decided to give up his headlining spot at a dive bar show last weekend so an objectively better musician, Melissa Mothtattoo, could play in his place.

The gig, which Stevenson booked through his “bro who is a promoter,” took place in the basement of a laundromat turned dive bar at night.

Mothtattoo crooned to a sea of cuffed beanies and Blundstone clad regulars as

the smell of detergent wafted down the stairs. Her transcendent vocals mesmerized the mostly male audience.

“I’ve never listened to a woman that wasn’t my mom or Beyonce,” said Hunter Loudly, a laundromat regular. “It was cool to hear something so different.”

Stevenson, who picked up the guitar after breaking up with his girlfriend last month, decided that music could be the way to win over a new girl.

third Stratocaster of the month. He broke the first two out of anger.

According to Stevenson, the two Turbo-folk musicians “really hit it off.”

After their reportedly instant connection, Stevenson wrote a song called “the girl at the music shop.” It’s going to be the first single on his new mixtape which drops on SoundCloud sometime between next week and a year from now.

“I didn’t ask for this,” said Mothtattoo. “I barely know the guy.”

She appreciates the exposure however, “I’ve been playing in the scene for 10 years, and I’ve never been able to headline a gig until now.”

Mothtattoo picked up the piano at age five and started playing guitar, violin and bass soon after.

Since the show, Mothtattoo has seen a 95 per cent increase in free downloads of her self-produced Bandcamp albums.

Stevenson is being praised for his actions in bringing such a dynamic sound to the stage. He is being given Halifax’s prestigious “Woke Man of the Month” award. A program set up by the Alliance of Soft-Boys to promote performative activism in the city.

This award has had a real impact of Stevenson, and his identity.

“I’ve been getting into feminism lately, and I have been thinking of adding ‘feminist’ to my Twitter bio.”

Despite this newfound notoriety, Stevenson doesn’t want to forget the original motivation for his heroism. “I just really dig chicks who play bass.”

“My buddy is always telling me about picking up chicks at his shows,” he said. “Sometimes he even picks up girls from bands that opened for him.”

### Meet-cute turned music opportunity

The two musicians met at Long & McQuade when Mothtattoo was browsing the aisles, and Stevenson was buying his



# The day the impossible came true

## 20-year-old student finally gets her shit together

BY TARINI FERNANDO

On March 4, Dalhousie University student Jenny Jefferson woke up and felt something incredible. For the first time in her life, Jefferson realized she finally had her shit together.

“It was just this amazing feeling,” Jefferson said. “I got out of bed and looked myself in the mirror and was like, ‘Damn, everything’s great.’”

Jefferson claims that she suddenly felt incredibly confident and self-assured that day. She was happy with everything about herself: her mind, her body, her spirit, her heart.

“It was mentally the most peaceful thing I’ve ever felt,” says Jefferson.

### An active and social life

Instead of sleeping in until 11 a.m., the 20-year-old Arts and Social Sciences student decided to “get [her] ass out of the house and go to the gym.”

In fact, Jefferson remembered that she had regularly been going to the gym three times a week for the past month.

“I guess I was just so into the steady routine that I didn’t even realize how great my commitment had been.”

On her way to the gym, Jefferson says she saw her old yoga instructor walking his dog. Instead of intentionally looking away and pretending not to see him like she would on any other day, Jefferson made the effort to smile and wave to him.

“It was like this force came over me,” Jefferson says, “and I felt incredibly social and friendly.”

Later on, she saw two more acquaintances and actually spent a minute talking about the weather with one of them. At the gym, she even struck up a conversation with a stranger about how great the new treadmills were.

During her school day, Jefferson met up with her long-time boyfriend, Henry, for lunch. She bought some sushi, and Jefferson’s boyfriend made an offhand comment about how raw fish was “kind of gross.” Jefferson proceeded to defend the iconic Japanese staple food by detailing its health benefits and delicious taste. Jefferson’s boyfriend still disagreed with her by the end of her spiel, apparently saying the food simply wasn’t his “cup of tea.” In that moment, Jefferson decided not to make a big deal out of their fight.

“I just thought to myself that it doesn’t even matter. Henry don’t like sushi, so what? He’s still a respectful, kind person and really great in bed. We have such a solid relationship. I told him I’m in it for the long haul.”

### Stress-less school, food and family

Not only was she on top of things socially, Jefferson realized she was entirely on track with her school work too. Over the weekend, she had finished all the readings she needed to get done for her English and film classes. She even got a head start on an essay that wasn’t due for another week.

“It’s crazy,” Jefferson said. “I’m usually up till 4 a.m. finishing a paper the night before a deadline. But now that I have my shit together, I can actually plan things out early and work on assignments over a reasonable period of time.”

When she got home from school that day, Jefferson sat down at her computer and paid off the full amount on her Visa. She then went to her kitchen and decided to make a mushroom risotto, from scratch.

“I used to eat Kraft Dinner with ketchup literally every night for supper. But things are different now. I’m a completely new



PHOTO BY MADDI TANG

person.”

At the end of her life-changing day, Jefferson called her mother and father back in British Columbia and asked them how their day was. Jefferson says that her mother was incredibly confused and asked if her daughter was okay.

“I think she was really surprised I was the one calling her. Then I explained to her how I finally got my shit together, and she understood everything.”

### Manifest your thoughts

When asked what her magic trick was to

get on top of her shit, Jefferson simply replied, “Just sit down for a minute and think. Don’t worry about anything. Just think about what you want in life and who you want to be. Just think it, and it’ll eventually come true.”

Whether or not the stability of Jefferson’s life will last is uncertain, but the young student is optimistic that she will always find her way back up if she ever starts losing control again.

“I’m just going to try and live my best life and take care of myself and the people I love as much as I can,” says Jefferson. “That’s all you can really do at the end of the day – just try.”



# The life of a womanspreader

She can't just leave her stuff at home

BY CHRIS STOODLEY



STUDENTS AT DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT WOMEN WHO TAKE UP TOO MUCH SPACE WITH THEIR BELONGINGS ON CAMPUS. HANNAH HILL, A SECOND-YEAR NURSING STUDENT, THINKS STUDENTS MAY BE TARGETING HER.



"I CAN'T JUST LEAVE MY THINGS AT HOME," SHE SAYS. "THERE'S SO MUCH I NEED WHEN I'M ON CAMPUS: MY ROSE GOLD MACBOOK, MY MAKEUP, MY VENTICED COFFEE WITH SOY MILK, A GREEN MANGO SMOOTHIE FROM SECOND CUP. THEY'RE ALL NECESSITIES."



STUDY SPOTS AND CLASSROOMS ACROSS CAMPUS ARE USUALLY FULL. WITH AROUND 20,000 STUDENTS ENROLLED AT DAL, IT'S OFTEN HARD FOR HILL TO FIND A COMFORTABLE SPOT ON CAMPUS. BUT THIS DOESN'T STOP HER. IF SHE CAN'T FIND A PLACE FOR HER AND HER THINGS, SHE SIMPLY LEAVES CAMPUS.





PUBLIC TRANSIT IS NO EXCEPTION FOR HILL. "SOMETIMES WHEN I'M ON THE BUS, PEOPLE GIVE ME DIRTY LOOKS," SHE SAYS. "YEAH, MAYBE I TAKE UP THREE SEATS IN THE HANDICAPPED SECTION, BUT WHERE ELSE WOULD I PUT ALL OF MY STUFF? DON'T PEOPLE SEE THE OTHER SEATS IN THE BACK?"



WHEN HILL NEEDS TO REAPPLY HER MAKEUP, BATHROOMS BECOME A FREE-FOR-ALL. PRIVATE BATHROOMS - WHICH ARE TYPICALLY RESERVED FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HANDICAPPED, HAVE SMALL CHILDREN OR ARE GENDER-NEUTRAL - ARE HER FAVOURITE PLACES TO FRESHEN UP.



IN CLASSROOMS, SEATS ARE NOT RESERVED, EVEN IF IT'S NOT A STUDENT IN THE SEAT, IT'S STILL CLAIMED. "IF I COME TO CLASS EARLY AND GET A GOOD SPOT, THAT'S NOT MY FAULT," SHE SAYS. "IF YOU DON'T HAVE A SEAT, MAYBE YOU SHOULD COME TO CLASS EARLIER."



# Ping-pong pandemonium

## University of King's College to be site of new varsity facilities

BY JAMES INNES

The Dalhousie Athletics Department has announced it will be expanding Dalplex once again to create a state-of-the-art facility for its brand new varsity ping-pong team.

The site of the expansion? The University of Kings College.

King's is a tiny, chartered university nestled in a corner of the greater Dalhousie campus. The whole school will be repurposed to accommodate the ping-pong team.

"We needed a lot of space. This is going to be a big team and let's be honest, who really needs it more?" said David Davidson, the newly named head coach of the

ping-pong team.

"I mean, King's does a minor in witchcraft — what even is that? At least with the new ping-pong team, students can learn an actual useful life skill."

The new facility will house over 300 ping-pong tables, a weight and cardio room, a pool and hot tub a cannabis greenhouse, a refrigerator repair shop and, of course, 16 bars.

The announcement received its fair share of criticism, with many questioning why a ping-pong team would need so many facilities when there is yet an official varsity league for them to play in.

Also pointed out: the largest part of the facility by far would be Davidson's new of-

fice, spanning three floors and containing its own hot tub and bar.

"I've had a lot of people asking me why the gym needs to be so large. It's simple. If we wish to eventually compete on an international level — which we do — we need a facility to match," said Davidson. "As far as the criticism of my office goes, it's none of your business and this interview is over."

There have been complaints from the students and faculty of King's as well. They argue that Kings provides valuable courses and necessary education and should not be steamrolled to make a training facility for Canada's 13th favourite sport.

Dalhousie responded with a statement including that with most of its students get-

ting philosophy, history and journalism degrees, King's produces more baristas and bartenders than it does actual academics.

King's lawyers tried to fight it, but they couldn't come up with a good enough reason as to why it's actually independent from Dal.

To pay homage to King's for allowing the ping-pong team to use the campus as a ping-pong training facility, the team will not be dubbed the Tigers, but the Kings.

Amid all the debate, the plans for construction go ahead with a tentative start date of April 1, 2019.

# True Grit

## Florida Panthers trade for Gritty

BY JAMES INNES

In a shocking and unprecedented move, the Florida Panthers have announced the trade of their three of their best players to the Philadelphia Flyers.

Captain Aleksander Barkov, defenceman Aaron Ekblad, and goaltender Roberto Luongo are going to the Flyers. In return, the Panthers are receiving Gritty, the current Flyers mascot.

"We looked over the last few seasons and thought to ourselves, 'What is holding us back from consistently making the playoffs?'" said Panthers General Manager Dale Tallon. "Then it came to us — no one cares about our team."

It's true; the Panthers have the second-lowest attendance in the league this sea-

son with an average attendance of 13,029 — most of whom are retired Canadians who'd headed south for the winter.

The hope is that Gritty will bring much-needed energy and renewed interest to the Panthers' fanbase. The orange-maned monster has been the envy of the hockey world since he debuted in late September 2018. He quickly became one of the most recognizable figures in the NHL and has made multiple media and talk show appearances.

Gritty will be replacing current and considerably less popular mascots Stanley C. Panther and Victor E. Ratt, a giant rat that was described by critics as "a rancid embarrassment to the entire league and

the very concept of decency."

Losing so many key players could impact the Panthers' performance, but Tallon remains optimistic, "there is absolutely nothing wrong with our on-ice strategies, training or recruiting," he said. "Boosting fan engagement is the only change we need."

While the Flyers have been quiet about the trade publicly, it was revealed in a leaked email between Flyers management that they are thrilled with the deal. The leaked message reads in part, "Those absolute idiots, I can't believe they traded their best players for a man in an orange suit!"

Critics of the trade have pointed out that the move will leave Stanley and Victor unemployed. While a petition has already

been drafted to have Stanley picked up by the Carolina Panthers of the NFL, the future looks less bright for Victor.

The Panthers allegedly contacted the Albany River Rats of the American Hockey League to ask if they would give Victor a home, but their only response was to dissolve their team stating, "We will never let that abomination represent us."

New reports say he will become the personal mascot for Brad Marchand.

The deal is the first of its kind, and thus it remains to be seen whether trades of this variety will be seen again in the league. The only certain thing is that Florida is about to get a whole lot grittier.



# The Killam is the top workout spot on campus

## The heavy doors give a great upper-body workout

BY ANASTASIA PAYNE, ASSISTANT ARTS & LIFESTYLE EDITOR



THE DOORS IN THE KILLAM LIBRARY TAKE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF FORCE TO PULL OR PUSH OPEN. PHOTO BY CHRIS STOODLEY

A few students at Dalhousie University are deciding to skip going to the newly renovated Dalplex gym in favour of a more traditional workout: pushing and pulling doors in the Killam Memorial Library.

“It’s just a really great full body workout,” said Jane Doe, a fourth-year psychology student. “I used to go to the Dalplex, but then I realized I could get just as much of a workout by coming to the Killam to study. I’m all about efficiency and

working out at the library saves so much time.”

Some staff members at the library have started to take advantage of the unlikely workout space. Paul Appleton uses his lunch break from the main desk to get fit.

“I usually try and run the stairs a few times on my lunch break,” Appleton said. “But I’ll pretty much take any opportunity to leave my post and move around the library because it gives me so many opportunities to open the heavy doors and really work my chest and shoulders.”

Matt Weight, a spokesperson for the Dalplex, says that while they’re disappointed to see a decline in numbers, they have a plan that they think is sure to draw people.

“Basically, we’ve been doing some shopping around for a nice heavy set of doors. The goal is that if we get heavier doors, less people will book it to the Killam to workout,” he said.

Paige Booker, a spokesperson for the library said they are happy to give the doors to the Dalplex. With so many people using them to work out, it’s caused anger from students trying to go to the library to actually study. Dal hired bouncers to break up fights.

“I hope the doors stay,” says a bouncer who wanted to remain anonymous. “We don’t have a lot to do during the day, and only a few of us are lucky enough to work afternoon bingo at the retirement homes.”

In case the Dalplex doesn’t get the doors, they have a backup plan. Announced on the Dalplex Instagram page: it will now offer unlimited free pedometers and water refills to anyone who trains at the facility.

“We wanted to offer more incentives,” says Weight. “But all of the money was spent on renovations.”

Dal student Sarah Smith hopes they stay because she can feed two birds with one scone.

“The doors at the Killam is central to my life, I pass through them every day, multiple times a day,” said Smith. “It really makes working out that much more convenient and unavoidable.”



# Dal is planning to host the Olympics

## The school is preparing a bid for the 2026 Winter Olympics

BY JOSH YOUNG, SPORTS EDITOR



DALHOUSIE JUST HOSTED THE AUS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS. NOW, THEY'RE PLANNING TO HOST THE 2026 WINTER OLYMPICS. PHOTO BY EVAN DE SILVA

Dalhousie University has put in a bid in to host the 2026 Winter Olympics.

"We have hosted multiple U Sports basketball championships, AUS swimming championships and AUS volleyball championships, so obviously the next logical sporting event to host is the Olympics," said Dal's executive director of athletics, Tim Maloney.

The problem is Dal has no venues to host any of the winter sports, let alone at an Olympic level.

The biggest obstacle is for skiing and snowboarding events that require at a mountain. The plan is to have skiers/snowboarders to start at the top of Citadel Hill and go down-

hill towards the waterfront and try to dodge cars along the way. It will be the same thing for ski and snowboard jumping.

"Michael Hayboeck is one of the best ski jumpers in the world," said Maloney. "Who knows, after the Olympics are over Carmichael street may have a whole new meaning."

### Incoming: new ice

For hockey, Dal plans to tear down the Rowe business building and build a hockey rink.

"All the commerce students are hockey bros

anyway, so we don't mind," says commerce student, Justin Selminski from downtown Toronto. He was wearing a backwards Bass Pro Shop hat.

As for curling, Dal is just not going to host it. "I don't think anyone would notice," said Maloney.

That may change as new reports say curling has just introduced fighting.

That leaves the bobsled track which will be built at the Sexton Campus. Nothing says engineering quite like making an engineless object move fast.

The event will take place during a two-week

winter reading week so the athlete's village can be the Dal residence. The athlete's village is notorious for being one big orgy. But the facilities staff is not too concerned as that is basically frosh week.

As for the money it would cost to host this event. Dal isn't too concerned.

"This wouldn't be the dumbest thing we have ever spent money on," said interim-president Peter MacKinnon. "Two years ago we paid for billionaires to go to MIT."

Dalhousie will be up against perennial Olympics contender, Beijing, as well as Minsk, Belarus, and Dubai.



# Don Cherry leaves television and many NHL players disappear

Nobody knows where Pax Maxeritty and other players went

BY JOSH YOUNG, SPORTS EDITOR

Don Cherry retired from Coaches' Corner last week and strangely many NHL players have disappeared after his departure.

The players missing include Vegas Golden Knight Pax Maxeritty, Toronah Maple Leaf Kasper Kenneth, Edmonton Oilers Milan Lucic, Ryan Nugent-Thompsons and Leon Dress skull. The last player to disappear is Arizona Coyote's captain Oliver Lossom-Tossom.

"The weird thing is we have no idea who these players are," said NHL commissioner Gary Bettman. "Only Don has ever said those names, and now he's gone so we can't find them. Like I know there is Max Pacioretty on the Golden Knights but I have no idea who Pax Maxeritty is."

The 85-year-old Cherry made enough money to retire from television after he trademarked his saying "A bunch of jerks." He called the Carolina Hurricanes that for their creative post-game celebrations. The Hurricanes have been selling merchandise with the saying and Cherry is receiving so much money he calls it "a storm surge of cash."

From Cherry's analysis, here is what we know of all the missing players.

Cherry said when Pax Maxeritty was playing for Montreal he was going to be a big factor in the playoffs. Oddly, Pax Maxeritty was never in the line-up for any Canadiens' playoff games. Maybe it was Pax's power of positive thinking from the stands that helped the Canadiens not win a Stanley Cup in 25 years.

All we know about Toronah Maple Leaf Kasper Kenneth is that he doesn't play the Canadian way. Which makes sense considering he is from Finland.

Speaking of Finland, the Toronto Maple Leafs has Fin with a similar name, Kasper Kappanen. Interesting coincidence.

The only thing Cherry has ever said about Oliver Lossom-Tossom is that he is from Sweden. It is unfortunate that the Coyotes lost their captain; luckily fellow Swede Oliver Ekman-Larsson replaced him.

The Oilers suffered the biggest blow losing three players. According to Cherry, Leon Dress skull has the magic hands. The Oilers could use Dress skull's magic hands. A little Wingardium Leviosa could lift them into the playoffs for the third time in 15 years.

I guess they will need star player Leon Draisaitl to lift them into the playoffs. Draisaitl has 83 points in 66 games so far this year.

Ryan Nugent-Thompsons is a star that kills penalties, which Cherry thinks is dumb because he could get hurt blocking shots. Our investigative team has discovered that being checked at any point of the game could also hurt Nugent-Thompsons.

An Oiler with a similar name, Ryan Nugent-Hopkins has killed penalties this year, he has not missed a game this season.

Milan Lucic is on the Oilers so nobody pushes star player Connor McDavid around. He is obviously useful player to have. Unfortunately, he officially has never played a game for the Oilers and McDavid does get pushed in games. Too bad Lucic is gone. I guess 6'2, 215 pound Milan Lucic will have to do the job.

Luckily, all the teams have players to take over for the missing ones.

"Who is Lossom-Tossom," said Arizona's Head Coach, Rick Tocchet. "I don't remember him, I probably tossed him out a long time ago."

SMU has lost 3 straight  
AUS men's basketball  
championship games





# Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Curling

## New regulations allow full contact

BY JAMES INNES



PHOTO BY EVAN DE SILVA

The Nova Scotia Curling Association (NSCA) came under fire in late January when it announced that the 2019-2020 tournament season would allow full contact between opposing teams.

"At the end of the day all we are doing is what we think is best for the sport," said NSCA President Gregory Fondle. "We didn't expect the backlash that we have received."

The move to allow physical contact was made as a reaction to increasingly low interest in the Nova Scotian league and its televised tournaments. In 2018 the provincial cup had seven viewers, making it the second lowest viewed sporting event of all time after the 1992 Ugandan golf

open.

The NSCA made it clear that, like all other aspects of the game, contact will be heavily regulated. In the current rules, a team may sweep the opposing team's rock once it has past the middle of the bullseye. The new rules now allow free contact as defence against opposing players trying to sweep the rock away from the bullseye.

"It livens the game up a little," explains Fondle, "and keeps everyone on their toes."

The addition of fighting has drawn more fans to curling. A game between the Dartmouth Curling Club and Mayflower Curling Club was sold out. Each team has its own enforcer.

**"I don't know how to play curling, I'm just here for the fights"**

Mayflower has Doug Glatt and Dartmouth has Ross Rhea.

"I don't know how to play curling, I'm just here for the fights," said Glatt. "I do feel bad that I took a roster spot from poor 72-year-old Mr. Little who got cut from the team."

In the ninth end, Mayflower was trying to sweep away a rock and Dartmouth came out storming. Glatt (who has big arms and naturally curls) hammered Rhea and knocked him out ice-cold.

### Fighting the fights

Even with the sold-out crowd, not everyone is happy with the rule change.

"I was quite taken aback by all the complaints. The other board members and I thought it was going to be a popular move,"

said Fondle. "We were even planning on extending the new rules to the youth and wheelchair leagues in the 2020-2021 season."

Many local curlers such as Hubert Plimble from Cole Harbour voiced concerns as to the negative effect this break from tradition will have on the sport.

"It's quite simply barbaric," said Plimble, age 87. "For someone my age, getting pushed on around on the ice could be the end of me. If I wanted this kind of violence, I would have stayed in Nam."

Despite the criticism, Fondle remains optimistic about the future of curling in Nova Scotia.

"At least people are talking about us now; a week ago no one even knew we existed," he said. "As for that coward Plimble, I'll be waiting for him on the ice."



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