# The Dalhousie Gazette

# An interview with **Andy Fillmore**

Halifax's new MP speaks on student issues, PG.4

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### The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

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# 'We've been working at this for 15 months':

# an interview with Andy Fillmore

Our newly elected Member of Parliament talks about keeping students in Nova Scotia, tuition fees, and goals for a greener Halifax

ELEANOR DAVIDSON, NEWS EDITOR

Andy Fillmore has calloused hands. Peeking out beneath a dark blue blazer and a crisp white shirt, these work-worn hands seem out of place. But the story behind them makes a bit more sense: in the months leading up to his election as Halifax's new Member of Parliament, Fillmore and his team knocked on over 40,000 doors. His hands are still rough from the wood of thousands of Halifax homes.

On Monday, the Gazette sat down with Fillmore to discuss his plans for the future, and how he will represent Haligonians on Parliament Hill. It's only been a week since the Dalhousie alum's election, and he leaves for Ottawa in just a few days.

*Gazette:* At the Youth and Student Issues Debate in September, each candidate gave a fun fact to the audience. You mentioned there that, to your family and friends, you're known as a karaoke all-star. What is your favourite song and why?

Andy Fillmore: The one that started it all was Rhinestone Cowboy (by Glen Campbell), believe it or not. That was the one that I finally broke through and found that I could finally be a karaoke somebody. I knew it very well from when I was a kid, and it's just a really uplifting song and when that was starting I was still at the city, doing urban planning stuff there, and the city was in this really optimistic moment with HRM By Design, and it felt like things were changing in the city, and the song just kind of embodied that.

*G*: Megan Leslie was extremely well known and well recognized as an MP in Halifax. At the debates, some of the other candidates made comments along the lines of "when Megan Leslie wins," treating her re-election as inevitable. Is there a single factor that you would say contributed most to your sweeping victory last week?

*AF*: We've been working at this for 15 months, and if you add the thought process of deciding whether or not to become a nomination candidate, we're almost at two years. So all of that thought, I don't think that I, that my wife, that my team, would've stuck with this for so long and with such tenacity if we didn't think that we could have done it. We always felt like we could do this.

The hard work of the team, the literally 40,000 doors that we knocked on - I knocked 20,000 ... the connection that we're making with the community is really what turned the tides here. We knew, starting before the momentum, even back when the national polls told a very different story than they did in the final weeks, we knew that the story we were hearing at the doors, the informal polls that we take every day when we're knocking on those doors, is that people were ready for something different.

It was never about "Megan did something wrong," it was always about, "What does the city need now?" We're at a moment where the city is so incredibly important for all those things that you've heard me talk about: traffic and transit and building confidence for business innovation and all those things that people felt there hadn't been a focus on for a long time, and through successive members of Parliament, successive governments. So that was really starting to resonate. My sense of it was, had that momentum not kicked up at the end of September, we would've won, but it wouldn't have been such a margin.

*G*: As a new MP for a riding with so many universities and colleges, what are you planning on doing in order to keep students who have spent their time and money in Nova Scotia in the province after they graduate?

*AF*: It's a great question, and it's one that I've been working with for a decade through many different aspects of my work here. There are some very specific things and then there are some more general things, but I'll start by talking about the strength of the Liberal Party platform.

There are very specific things about helping student debt, about helping employers to hire graduates and interns, but then there's more than that too: there's what happens where people are working. I mentioned a moment ago about creating the conditions for innovation to succeed. And there's a lot (in the platform) about a favourable small business tax rate, but there's also something about the way the city celebrates success and holds people up and supports people who are trying to do something great and different.

I was at an immigration summit this morning down at Pier 21, and I was having this conversation with a few people, that there are so many things that we need to be doing, but we also need to make a place that people just want to be in. We need to make a city that's beautiful, a city where the transit works, a city that's got great architecture, where there's a theatre to go to, where there's a great art gallery, where the sidewalks are clean and not cracked and broken.

We have to be able to compete internationally as a place, as a city, in order to be able to retain people. It's not just about creating student loans — that's part of it — but it's about so much more than that.

G: The Board of Governors at Saint Mary's University has recently allowed for up to \$1,620 in undergraduate tuition hikes over the next three years. This is allowed due to the provincial Liberal government's deregulation of tuition fees in March. If you were speaking to a Saint Mary's student, what would you tell them about that lack of correlation in the promises made by the federal Liberals and what is going on here in the province?

AF: I would say that the provincial government is facing a lot of difficult choices right now, and education is one of them. It's no secret that the province is broke, so the choices that the premier and the cabinet are having to make are - I hate to even put them in the balance - but are things like early childhood education, or hospice care, or keeping tuition rates down or keeping roads safe so that people don't get killed in head-on collisions. I can't imagine the difficulties that the Premier and his cabinet must have making those choices, given the limited resources that they have.

The major impact of the Liberal Party's platform, the way it can impact here in Nova Scotia especially, where we are among the most depressed economies in the country, is to fuse a tremendous amount of new wealth and opportunity into this province so that the province has to make fewer tough choices, so that then the province can ultimately begin to ratchet back up its share of contribution to universities, which means that the universities can ratchet down tuition costs and so forth.

We've spent so much time in Nova Scotia fighting over the pieces of a relatively small pie, and there are always going to be losers, people are always going to go hungry in that scenario. What we want to do now is grow that pie, make the pie much bigger so that there's a proper piece for everybody.

*G*: In the less than a week that you've got left here, as well as in the week since you've been elected, what has your top priority been?

*AF*: It's interesting: there's a looking forward piece to that and there's a looking back piece to that. I'm very focused right now on wrapping up the campaign: there's a significant amount of paperwork and things that we have to get done. There are also many, many people to thank, people that have given thanklessly of their time, that have missed hours and hours on weekends with their families and have contributed to this. It really is an enormous team of people that have given so much over a long period of time.

Looking forward, we're busy trying to establish our constituency office in town here. No news on that yet, but stay tuned. And then it's also getting ready to go to Ottawa: we leave a week from yesterday. There's a swearing in ceremony, a lot of information sessions covering all aspects of the job of an MP, and that is filling every spare minute, all those things.

*G*: Continuing to look forward: a year from now, what do you hope to have accomplished that will reflect Halifax in Parliament?

*AF*: That's great. As one of two urbanists among the MPs in the Liberal Party now (Adam Vaughan is the other), we are going to work very closely to develop the National Housing Strategy that we talked about, and the National Transit Strategy. There will be work on the National Infrastructure Plan as well, so those are far-reaching national initiatives that are going to resound very loudly here in Halifax.

To be able to improve the housing offering, putting CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) back to work the way it used to work for many decades in Halifax will be enormous to think about. From modernising our transit system to getting money into our schools: those are the city-building pieces, but there are other things too, like the help for students that we are going to be doing.



Imagine how much our world has changed that Justin, within a week of being elected, has got all the Premiers and has invited all the leaders of the parties to go to Paris with him (to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference): to be able to support that effort is going to be enormous as well.

G: With all these things that you have to look forward to in the next few years, what do you think the biggest challenge will be that you'll be facing?

*AF*: It's the economic challenge, I think, and it's going to be immigration as well. We've got a lot of work to do to remove the road blocks that have been dealt over the last ten years nationally, and their impact locally as well. There's no question in my mind that, as a capital city of Nova Scotia and as, ostensibly, the capital of Eastern Canada, we really need to model the behaviour for all of our communities in the east of what it means to be a welcoming and inclusive community, and all the hard legislative work and rule-approving that goes along with that.

*G*: And of all the thousands of doors that you knocked on over the past few months, was that a concern you found people here were sharing as well?

*AF*: You hear all points of view on that; you hear all points of view on every issue. But the large majority, without question, of people in the Halifax area understand the importance of increasing rates of immigration and are supportive of that, and that's where the government will be placing a lot of effort.

And that will move very well with the great efforts that are underway at a provincial level right now.

G: You mentioned the idea of Halifax as the capital of the Maritimes. Of the new Liberal party platform and of all these new changes that are being made, which of those do you think will be most beneficial to people here in the Maritimes?

*AF*: I think it's the community building and city building. We are in a condition now where much of our infrastructure is falling apart. Infrastructure is a boring word, but it means things like the VG (Victoria General Hospital) which had a terrible flood a couple of weeks ago, it means things like the terrible housing shortage that we have in the city, but it also means the more uplifting things.

The topic of a new Art Gallery of Nova Scotia has been talked about for a long time; a new performing arts centre has been banded about for a long time. There are folks who would like to see a stadium built somewhere in the municipality, and there's no question that there is a suite of major investments that we need to make in order to be a competitive world city.

We've got a couple of them already: the (Halifax Central) Library was an incredible start, and the Nova Centre will show itself to be a similar element of that network of major public infrastructure, but there's more that we need.

*G*: By the end of your term as an MP, what is one goal that you really hope to accomplish?

AF: I'd like to pause for a minute on that ... when I was

campaigning, someone sent an email one day and said, "Andy, where do you see Halifax ten years from now? What is your vision for the city?" So maybe that's what I'll tell you about.

My vision for the city, and what I am going to work tirelessly to help to realize, is a much greener city than we have now, a city that is running in large part on renewable energy sources.

We have this whole Cogswell Interchange, 14 acres of downtown land that could have all of its energy needs met by the waste heat from the sewage treatment plant that is next door. That's an incredible opportunity.

A city that's more walkable, so fewer people are driving in their cars, a city that has better transit, a place where there are job opportunities for people close to where they live, so they can walk, so their kids can walk to school.

An incredibly diverse city, a city where the arts and culture are held high like they once were 120 years ago. This was an arts and culture capital of North America at one point, and we've let that slip away. So those are all goals to strive for, and I'm going to work very hard to achieve them.

*G*: Is there anything else that you would like to add?

*AF*: Well, I'll say that we're going to have our constituency office open in the next few weeks. The door will always be wide open and I look forward to hearing from students on any issue at all that they'd like to discuss and just to say hello.

This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

# **Environmental racism bill hopes to get to second reading**

### First Canadian bill of its kind asks NS Ministry of Environment to consult communities near hazardous sites

SABINA WEX

Lincolnville has a large African-Nova Scotian community, and it also has a landfill right beside it. This isn't rare for the African-Nova Scotian community: throughout the province, there are several toxic waste sites — many of which lie near African-Nova Scotian, Acadian or Mi'kmaq communities.

This is known as environmental racism. Environmental racism refers to placing environmental hazards near commu-

nities of the working poor or of colour, who often lack the power to have their concerns heard or afford preventative measures, such as garbage removal.

The Nova Scotia Legislature passed the first reading of Bill 111: An Act to Address Environmental Racism on Apr. 29. The bill asks the Nova Scotia Ministry of the Environment to begin consulting the public near toxic waste sites about the effects it has on the communities.

Ingrid Waldron, an Assistant Professor at Dalhousie's School of Nursing, is the project lead and head researcher of Environmental Noxiousness, Racial Inequities and Community Health (ENRICH). She organized several workshops in 2013 and 2014 to speak with the African-Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaw communities near these environmentally hazardous sites to discover the problems within the communities.

Community members discussed health issues, such as high rates of cancer, diabetes and asthma, as well as polluting the water and air, and thus the food.

"People have to understand that it is racism," Waldron said. "I'm trying to get them to see this is a manifestation of racism."

Waldron and her team at ENRICH filmed the community workshops and held interviews with community members to create a documentary, "In Whose Backyard? – Exploring Toxic Legacies in Mi'kmaw & African Nova Scotian Communities." Waldron also wrote a report on the consultations. Waldron sent out these resources to several Nova Scotia governmental agencies, but discovered that not much could be done due to lack of resources. She met with Nova Scotia Environment three times in 2013 and they said that they can't get rid of these waste sites—or even hold community consultations—because of their limited resources.

An ENRICH colleague led Waldron to Lenore Zann, MLA



Picture courtesy of ENRICH

for Truro–Bible Bill–Millbrook–Salmon River. Zann heard Waldron's problems and suggested that they pass a bill to ask the government for community consultations around environmental hazards.

"Lenore developed a bill that people can't say no to," Waldron said. "It's a simple, benign bill that says you need to do consultations."

"We're using the term racism—it's blunt," Waldron added. "I could see a term like that turning people off."

Bill 111 was passed in April. The second reading of the bill could happen on Nov. 12. However, only certain bills are chosen for that reading, and Waldron hopes it will be Bill 111. If the second reading approves it, it can go to a third reading. If the bill passes on the third reading, it will mean it can be officially passed.

"This is the first ever bill that has ever been created in Canada on environmental racism," Waldron said. "Can you imagine, if it's passed, we show the rest of Canada that we're a leader in this issue?"

## For Whom the Bell Tolls 🔉

### Halifax Legacy of Town Crying Left Unfulfilled

WILLIAM CONEY

At the Oct. 20 meeting of the Halifax Regional Council meeting, council voted 11–5 to follow a staff recommendation to cease looking for a new town crier for Halifax. This followed a search conducted by the staff earlier this year which drew no candidates. But the question arises, how did this vacancy first come to rise?

The city of Halifax and the surrounding communities, while they had not had town criers for the largest part of the 20th century, would have the tradition resurrected by Peter Cox, a world famous for his town crying in the 1970s and 80s.

Cox would be the Halifax Town Crier for much of this period, serving in the role until his death in 2009.

During this time, Halifax would be a centre of international town crying. Until 1990, the city hosted in the city's Historic Properties the Halifax International Town Criers Championship under the influence of Cox, a major competition in the field. A plaque still commemorates these competitions in the courtyard of the Historic Properties to this very date.

Since his death, though, town crying in Halifax has fallen onto hard times.

Cox had been grandfathered into the position of the Halifax Town Crier when amalgamation occurred in 1996. As such, the position had not been adequately defined and the process by which a successor was to be appointed was unclear.

In 2013, a motion was passed by Councillor David Hendsbee (District 2-Preston-Chezzetcook-Eastern Shore) to both appoint an interim Town Crier, who resigned shortly after appointment, and to have a competition to fill the position.

The competition, launched in the spring, was advertised as any other position is by the City, but no individuals came forward.

Talking with city staff, this entire process

was done in association with the Nova Scotia Guild of Town Criers (NSGTC), and was in part based off of the process by which the city has made its appointment of the Poet Laureate. During this, some awkwardness present within the position emerged.

While in the past, Peter Cox had been the Town Crier for Halifax, at the present there are town criers for other communities throughout the Halifax region – Greg Fenwick in Spryfield, Bob Raoul in Spryfield, and Jamie Rouse in Eastern Passage.

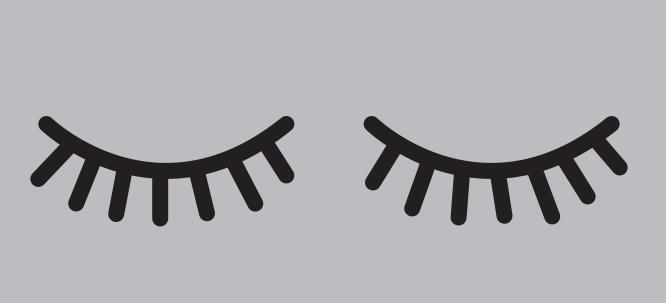
But the position, as it had been in the past and would be by appointment, would put in interesting hierarchical issues, where this process undertaken would've been appointed by the office of the mayor, and as such would be above these council level town crier positions.

As the late Peter Cox's functions as town crier had been mostly within the former city of Halifax (largely falling into districts 7–10), this would suggest that an appointment may wish to be made at such a level and not a citywide level, like those Town Criers in the outlying communities of the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Difficulty itself would also arise from the nature of the position. The position would receive \$300 a month from the city and throughout the year would be asked to cry at specific town events and ceremonies, hardly a livable wage. This could be supplemented by acting on commission as a representative of the city, for example, crying out towards the cruise ships and tourists as they frequent through the Halifax waterfront, an activity which would be hired out by the Waterfront Development Corporation throughout the summer and fall.

As such, the position proper would not be one viable for many. As Paul Forrest, the Civic Events Coordinator who has been working this process for the city of Halifax, the position was one which would likely need to be filled by a retired individual. It was not a position by which one would be able to solely make a living through.

As such, the recommendation for the city to cease actively looking to fill the vacancy was brought forward, a recommendation with the support of NSGTC. While a few councillors, such as David Hendsbee (District 2 - Preston-Chezzetcook-Eastern Shore) and Bill Karsten (District 3 - Dartmouth South-Eastern Passage) had very active interest in maintaining the staff be actively involved, the council as a whole agreed that the process would be best guided by the city working with the NSGTC rather than following formal process which has failed to produce results thus far.



# You need more sleep

Sleep expert James Maas warns students of the perils of sleep deprivation

SHELBY BANKS

University students are becoming the new walking zombies, sleep specialist Dr. James Maas told a group at Dalhousie University.

"Sleep...it affects your alertness, health, thinking, academic performance, social relationships — and it is the best predictor we have for how long you are going to live," said Maas, who is known internationally for his research on sleep.

According to Maas, 95 per cent of the population does not meet the recommended nine hours of sleep per night.

Thirty people showed up at 7 p.m. on Oct. 20 to the Sleep for Success talk, including both students and health professionals.

Maas stressed that sleep deprivation leads to higher risks of hypertension (heart attacks and strokes), Type 2 diabetes, depression, influenza, skin and allergy problems, cancer (due to a weak immune system), Alzheimer's, and obesity.

He started off the conversation by asking everyone how many hours of sleep they get each night. Most people indicated only five to six hours of sleep per night, with two people putting up their hands for the recommended nine hours of sleep.

"In our research we found that students are moderately to severely sleep-deprived," Maas

said. "and so are adults."

"Sleep affects your mood," Maas added. "You get irritable, you get angry, and you can get clinically depressed — simply because of your sleeping."

75 per cent of students and adults experience sleep problems at least two nights a week, Maas said. They have difficulty falling asleep, or wake up in the middle of the night, wake up too early or a combination of all three.

"We have to do something about it," Maas said. "All of these things cause what we call daytime sleeping, which means you are going to be groggy all day and you feel a lack of mental clarity."

Sleep deprivation also can kill brain neurons. The damage is irreversible, according to Maas.

Maas stated that the sleeping brain puts new information into long-term storage. He stressed that it is essential to put all of the newly learned information into the part of the brain that makes a physical record of the information. This is essential for memory, learning, performance, problem solving, critical thinking and athletic performance.

"Our research has demonstrated that you need a minimum of nine hours of sleep to put short-term memory into permanent memory," Maas said. "You just can't cheat on your sleep."

"Students tell me, workers tell me to 'get real' because there are not enough hours in the day because they have school, work responsibilities, and would like some downtime to play golf or to be on the Internet or talk to their friends," Maas added.

Maas stressed that you can still do all of those things — but you need to prioritize. He said people need to learn how to do the most important things first. This way, you will have time to have your recommended nine hours of sleep per night.

Maas said he had completed an experiment with students from Massachusetts. He asked the students to get one more hour of sleep by having them come into the dorms a little earlier and have a later first-class start time. What happened?

"There was an increase in grade point average, reduced drug use, improved athletic records, moods of the students increased, and 17 per cent more hot breakfasts were consumed," said Maas.

"Exercise is important, nutrition is important – but nether are as important as predictors on how long you are going to live," said Maas.



# Well met by midnight

### CKDU's annual Witches' Ball to be held November 7th

PAOLA TOLENTINO, ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Halloween may be over by the time you read this, but the spirit of the season continues into early November with the annual CKDU fundraiser, the Witches' Ball.

CKDU 88.1 FM, Dalhousie's independent radio station and "What's left on the dial," is a nonprofit organization allowing Dalhousie students and members of the Halifax community to both participate in radio shows and be exposed to music that doesn't tend to be played on stations that prefer repetitive top 40 charts.

While grants and volunteers help to keep the station going, buying new and replacing old equipment is always a concern — not to mention wages, handing out research grants to students, funding programming and upgrading

#### the archives.

"Our license is...to uplift and encourage voices which would not otherwise be heard," says Mj Patterson, host of The Astrology Show, which runs 6–7 p.m. on Fridays.

Patterson has been a programmer for about 25 years, starting with The Witching Hour show and then helping out in various capacities and positions, including helping to organize the Witches' Ball.

"Never mindradio, never mind Dal, I think just in the world, it's extremely important that everyone should have a voice."

The fundraiser itself has grown over the years, from a small house gathering to the 300+ people gathering that it is today. It's complete with live entertainment like David

Bradshaw, Patrick Murrey, and Matt Walsh, and a theme of Masquerade this year, meaning masks and gowns.

As if the Masquerade aspect of the celebration wasn't enticing enough already (who doesn't love a good chance to get dressed up?), there are also prizes to be won.

Specifically, there are prizes for the best witch, best tarot card reader, most original costume, and largest group from a workplace or organization, which requires proof of membership (So if you're a Dal student, bring your Dalcard).

The ball is held at the Royal Artillery Park, and tickets can be found either on their Facebook Event Page or at Venus Envy on Barrington. All tickets are in advance only and \$20.

# Life remains in history A ghostly tour at Citadel Hill

#### ZACK LONG

All hundred of us — give or take — are packed together like sardines in the fort's entrance when the gate behind us closes. Dressed in an 18th century artillery soldier's outfit, our guide brandishes a lantern, making the shadows upon the wall dance in chaotic rhythm, and directs us from the front to follow after him.

We've all gathered for the same thing. To be led through Citadel Hill's history of hauntings and spooky goings-on. While our guide, who has split us into two groups, one of which is lead off by another "soldier," makes

disclaimers towards the authenticity of his tales, a doubt lingers in the back of the mind.

Like the days of old, we gather around the light and listen to the storyteller spin yarns about life, death and the tragic web of fate inherent to them. Without a microphone, he relies on his

own projection to make his voice be heard and, like the tribe around the fire of old, we quiet ourselves in order to let his words be heard.

His stories cover the gamut of technological projections that could not be rationally explained, sounds that should not have been heard, love lost and forever wandering, and ghastly specters stuck searching for scripted statements.

Each of these stories follows a predictable, yet entirely enjoyable, pattern. First we're

brought to a location, lit only by lantern light. We're given a few moments to allow the silence of the Citadel to wrap us in its' cloak, and then the speaker begins the tale, first taking his time to set the stage and impart our third eye with the details of the day in question: a stormy night in the 1800s, a cold winter day in the 1970s, even just several months earlier while summer was in full bloom.

After the stage is set, we meet our characters as we approach the inciting incident of the tale: the idea to stay over night, the arrangements for a wedding being finalized, a figure sighted on a security camera.

The middle part of each story is almost always followed an investigation into what was seen, and as our guide begins making the last dash towards the climax, his voice drops lower, low enough that we all seem to lean in to hear the final revelation we know is approaching.

Finally, as the climax hits, the voice raises back up, delivering a punch to the metaphorical gut that drives a chill down the spin.

The way these tales are presented offer nothing new to connoisseurs of ghost stories but serve as a fun way to prepare for Halloween.

While they claim to be based on historical accounts and evidence, we're not presented with any of it and it seems more likely that they have been written by, or at least extended upon, by the hosts.

In this sense they show a knack for horror writing and a respect for the conventions of the genre that have been developed over the years. The choice to light the experience only by lanterns, based on period design, serves to heighten the suspension of disbelief and while you are being presented with each yarn it helps to set you in a "this could actually be

"After the stage is set, we meet our characters as we approach the inciting incident of the tale: the idea to stay over night, the arrangements for a wedding being finalized, a figure sighted on a security camera."

#### real" mindset.

For only ten dollars, you are given ninety minutes of entertainment that, while not top notch, is more than suiting for chilly October nights.

This particular Ghost Walk is run by Citadel Staff, starting at the Citadel's Main Gate from July through October. It is only one of the few ghost walks available around Halifax, and more details can be found on the Halifax Citadel website (regimental.com).



### **Dancing to a different jig** Celtic Music Festival comes to the other side of the Harbour

EMMA MELDRUM

"One more, one more!"

Kids seemed to love Re-Jigged as much as their parents. They learned Gaelic by playing games in a circle, and from the sounds of it, they had a great time.

The Celtic music and dance festival was aloud one. At Dartmouth's First Baptist Church and Christ Church Hall on Saturday, there were about a dozen workshops happening at one time.

President and co-founder Glenn Coolen says that's what makes Re-Jigged special.

"Our festival grew out of workshops rather than performances," Coolen explained. "Most festivals start as a concert and grow there to fill in the days. Whereas our thing went in the opposite direction. We started as a series of workshops during the days and added concerts to it."

The workshops are the heart of the festival, but the concerts shouldn't be missed.

"We're excited for the Friday night concert because it's a bit different...we've brought a session like the one in a pub that's performance based. So the artists will be in a circle in the middle of the floor and the audience will be on the same level with them but in a complete circle around them. So it's like a session in the round."

Heather Colquhoun says the sessions are a

unique experience.

"They're traditionally Irish. It's nice for people to sit in, see how it works, and have all the styles together."

Colquhoun came to Re-Jigged for a Quebecois Dance workshop. Dominic Desrochers from the band Bon Débarras taught an enthusiastic group of a dozen dancers.

"Woo! On lache pas! Don't give up!" he yelled as dancers giggled over missteps.

At Saturday night's concert, dancers had a chance to practice their new moves. The evening was split in half: the first section was a performance, the second a dance.

Coolen said on Saturday that participation numbers were up again. Every year, organizers aim to increase attendance by 15 or 20 per cent. At the same time, they're trying to tap into a new demographic.

"We're also trying to reach out to people who are on the periphery or who are younger students."

To that end, there's a 'session' (spontaneous communal music making, according to Re-Jigged's website) just for youth.

And of course, the Gaelic language workshop the kids got such a kick out of. "One more!"



Construction

workers,

Tím Hortons

employees,

students,

all seemingly

naïve to any

otherworldly

events.'

The Dalhousie Student Union Building (SUB), since it was built in 1968, has been home to many bizarre and spooky phenomena. Late at night, students stumble out of the Grawood like hordes of starved zombies, and the bookstore infamously sucks students dry of money, akin to vampires sucking the blood of innocent souls. The story you are about to read is not one of living origins, however; it is a ghost story.

It all began after the editors of the Gazette received an anonymous e-mail sharing a story of paranormal activity in the SUB, followed by me accepting the task of discovering the truth of this ghostly entity — not only for my sake, but for the sake of all Dalhousie students.

I knew this would be an investigation unlike any other I have done, but even I couldn't have prepared myself for the mysteries and terrors that awaited me as I delved into this case. The SUB is a place of constant change, like the new construction, energy, and movement, with hundreds of students passing through each and every day ... surely, someone has noticed something.

The first person I spoke to about the

ghost was Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) Vice President Internal, Kaitlynne Lowe. As an individual who knows the building like the back of her hand, I was hoping she would have some insight.

"Tve slept overnight in the SUB before, and didn't hear anything," began Lowe, sitting adjacent from me on a plush brown chair in a DSU office room. She mentioned many of the others ghosts Dalhousie is famous for such as Penelope, the blue-dressed spirit who

apparently hung herself in Shirreff Hall in the 1920s; as well as spirits in the Arts Centre and University Club buildings. Wind howled gently outside the window, competing with the sounds of the welding being done out front, grey clouds rolled across the dreary October sky. Upon being

> asked if she had seen anything strange in the SUB specifically, one thing did come to Lowe's mind... a rat.

> "Tve seen a rat the size of a cat in this building," she said, her voice lilting as she recounted the story of her 3 a.m. encounter with the rodent fiend.

> It seemed everybody else I spoke to thought I was crazy.

Construction workers, Tim Hortons employees, students, all seemingly naïve to any otherworldly events.

Responses ranged from "I haven't seen a ghost," "They had heat lamps once, so we thought the DSU staff might be lizard people," to, "I wish I was more imaginative to think of something to tell you."

They clearly didn't realize the gravity and importance of the situation at hand. The only comment I heard on multiple occasions was an influx in mice and rats in the SUB. How could something a rodent does convince someone to believe in the paranormal? I knew I was missing something essential, but what could it be?

Then it came to me.

The construction.

What if the recent construction on the building was influencing the behaviour of the rats and mice, making them produce actions and noises not usually heard, scaring someone enough to make them think it was a ghost?

I suppose, in the end, it all comes down to the fact that we are most afraid of the unknown. We will likely never know if there truly is a spirit haunting the SUB, or if it is just a ghost of our own creating.

Perhaps, some of us enjoy the bliss of not knowing.

oto:

This is 211. How may I help you?

l just can't live here anymore. It's gross. It's just a slum. And the people in this building are so sketchy. Half the time, I'm afraid to step into the hallway. Oh man! I've made a big mistake.

Tell me - how did you end up living there? Has something changed since you first saw the place?

> Well, that's the problem. I never saw it. I'm not from here. I'm a university student this is my first year in Nova Scotia. I rented this place online, sight unseen, but I just can't live here anymore.

l need to understand something before I can suggest your next step. Do you live in university residence or in an apartment?

> lt's an apartment. Can anybody help me? I just don't know what to do.

> > When you don't

know where to turn.

) 2-1-1

help@ns.211.ca

Yes, I can help you find the help you need.



ns.211.ca

Games are whatever you want

Features, not Bugs, highlight of Computer Science Society Game Jam

WILLIAM CONEY

The sun falls over the Henry Hicks building on Saturday as the students within the fourth floor Shiftkey Labs of the Computer Science enters hour nine of the Computer Science Society's Game Jam. This all-weekend event was hosted to foster student's interests in Game Design and other related disciplines.

A game jam, an event popular among independent game developers the world over, is made up of groups of developers and programmers working together in small groups to complete a game (or at least try) in the allocated period.

This Jam was the brainchild of Richard Sage, the President of the Computer Science Society. He described the origins and process behind the event as such:

"A couple years ago, I said to myself, 'Hey it would be cool to organize a game jam here in computer science.' This was not long after I joined the society [the Computer Science Society] council, and so I wanted to make something happen that I thought a lot of people would enjoy. Starting last May or so was when I was finally putting the plan into motion. I've been talking with both the faculty and specific game development studios around Halifax to help out."

The game development studios included local developer Alpha Dog Games, known for Forgeworld and Wraithbone, and Orpheus Interactive, who released the game Sons of Anarchy in January, each of which had staff volunteering to help the students program their games and providing mentorship and advice.

The games which the students were programming varied. One popular genre was that of Simulator games, like that which the 1st year Computer Science student duo of Nick Burris and Liam Hartery was working on.

Their game, "University Simulator 2k15," was a Java encoded university simulator, with a heavily pixelated art style. In it, they were hoping to give the player free range with running the university. As Burris put it:

"We're hoping to program a university simulator, hoping to simulate the management of the university. You can run this university however you want, you can be very mean, very nice, however you want to be."

At this point they were establishing the graphic display of their game. They tried to present the visuals from the game itself, but the code was broken — instead, they showed me some of the visuals they had drafted up earlier.

The kind of a hiccup wasn't unexpected — for them, this was the first time they were programming a game in Java, and while it wasn't an completely unfamiliar, it was one which they were still learning new aspects of.

This duo had programmed at an online Game Jam prior, making the game "Furaingu Kai" (Flying Trees), completing the game in 48 hours. The game consisted of a space ship, which would dodge around trees and laser beams flying through the screen.

Another group was made up of Anna Marie Leblanc, a King's FYP student with an interest in Computer Science, Cuong Nguyen, a CS Master's student, Peter Sousa, a third-year Computer Science Student, and mentors Jeffrey Fillingham, Cameron Hall, from Copernicus Studios/Dune World Collective and Orpheus Interactive respectively.

Their game, "Male Fantasy Simulator 2015," a wrestling game featuring glistening male bodies, was mostly complete and was playable. As Fillingham described it:

"You use the left stick to move the left arm. You use the right stick to move the right arm. And you press A to thrust your pelvis, and X to back up."

The goal of the game was to knock the opposing player off of the platform which the male forms were upon. The group was especially happy with the implementation of the hip thrust mechanic: "That Hip Thrust Mechanic is beautiful," said Anna Marie.

Fillingham described how they had done this: "Basically, we just use a rag doll for the entire body. And for the hip thrust, there is a rigid body on the pelvis. And for the Hip thrust, we just add force to the pelvis. And we add for backwards to the pelvis to back up. Pretty much everything is done by forces."

The team had also was working on a second game, "Fall of the Whales: Game of the Year Edition," featuring Whāle, a robot accompanied by flying whales as spirit companions, navigating an obstacle course, which was incomplete at this point.

Earlier the Computer Science Society President Sage described what he envisioned success to be like:

"Some of them [the teams] might have something playable. But the purpose is to get them started, get there feet wet and get advice from local professionals. This is the starting off point for people that want to make games but that hadn't had the opportunity or motivation to do this in the past."

By all accounts, this seemed to be on track for the participants of this year's Game Jam.

## You don't have to sit in school to stand among greatness.

# Halifax Pop Explosion









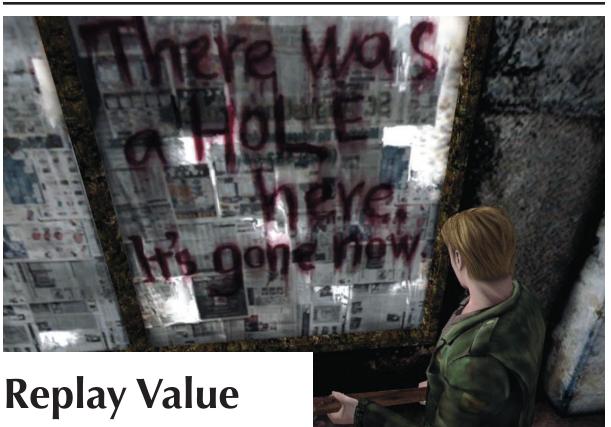
#### > Thomas Edison:

The world's most extraordinary failure never gave up. Thank goodness.



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## **Reviews**



### A classic look at Silent Hill 2

#### JAHSH DURRANT

As Halloween draws ever closer and we all want to get into a horror mood, let's look back at one of the scariest video games to ever be released: 'Silent Hill 2'.

The concept of the Silent Hill series may seem pedestrian in that various people visit a resort town which is haunted by unexplained monsters. We've all seen such ideas in various novels and movies and other video games. But what 'Silent Hill 2' accomplished is absolutely nailing the creepy atmosphere of such a place. From the dense fog, to the dirty environments and ominous musical score, the game is able to consistently make seemingly outdated horror tropes fresh again. The monster design is commendable in striking fear, most notably in the boss monster 'Pyramid Head', whose otherworldly face and otherwise human features make him one of the scariest creatures in the video games.

Where 'Silent Hill 2' shines is in the

story department. Playing as James Sunderland, a man who believes he has been called to the town of Silent Hill you uncover the secrets about both his and other characters' past. From the simple set up, the story plays with expectations and goes into shocking places with three dimensional characters. The game has a strong running theme of accepting ones' own past mistakes, with each character showing how ones' past can impact them in the future. The game offers multiple endings (including 2 joke endings) which give different resolutions to this theme and can encourage replays.

Of course, like all games, 'Silent Hill 2' has its issues. The games controls aren't as refined as they should be with the use of a tank control style layout. Movement is slow at best and simply doesn't work at worst. You also have no control of the camera, which can often mean that you are running into obstacles which you can't see. These issues are most apparent in the games combat, which has both guns and melee weapons. The controls make it so it is hard to aim and the camera means that you have to try to shoot enemies which you can't see. However maybe that is the point as a means to encourage you to fear enemy encounters due to their cumbersomeness in order to make the game feel scarier. There is little excuse, however, for the frequent puzzles whose difficulty only operates on two extremes- pathetically easy or ridiculously hard with little middle ground.

'Silent Hill 2' is an very strong survival horror game which although weak in its core gameplay still remain one of the scariest and most interesting games from its story and atmosphere.

Silent Hill 2 is available on Playstation 2, Xbox and PC. It is also available as part of the Silent Hill HD Collection on Playstation 3 and Xbox 360.

# **FILM** *Rites of Spring* (2011)

#### ZACK LONG

*Rites of Spring* is a slasher movie cloaked in the guise of a crime film that would have been more enjoyable if it dropped the horror aspect.

The movie, directed by Padraig Reynolds — who has done nothing of note — top bills A. J. Bowen, who delivers a fantastic performance.

The first half of the 80-minute run time follows two different stories, each linked thematically with a kidnapping. The first is

the kidnapping of two women by an unnamed assailant who ties them up, collects their blood in a bowl, and preforms a strange ritual.

The second follows a group of thugs who kidnap a child from a millionaire and, thanks to the inclusion of a criminal with incredibly violent tendencies, murders his wife.

As the film progresses both of these stories become linked when the ritual brings forth a creature – whose ter-

rible costume could be recreated with ten dollars at Value Village — and one of the kidnapped women escape, only to run into the criminals.

There is almost nothing of note to the film. The effects are terribly cheap looking; the cinematography is bland — it understands the proper use of Dutch angles and the rule of thirds but offers nothing unique or challenging. The characters, with the exception of Ben (A. J. Bowen), are incredibly cliché and don't grow; the main female, who preforms the "final girl" trope as coined by Carol J. Clover in her book *Men*, *Women*, *And Chainsaws*, never completes a character arc and instead spends the length of the film screaming and hiding.

A. J. Bowen brings the only charm to the film, playing a character with a heart who tries his best to stay moral. Overall, *Rites of Spring* is a disappointing mess of a film whose first half sets you up for a fun time but then serves right into a brick wall of disappointment.



poster: wikipedi



StFX's student dental plan.

### Bluenose Magic: Student Edition

### Traditional Nova Scotian magic: what doesn't kill you...will probably cause organ failure.

JOHN HILLMAN, OPINIONS EDITOR

(Editor's note: The following article is not actual medical advice. Do NOT, under any circumstances, try ANY of the remedies in this article. Some of these purported cures may kill you. Kill you dead. Neither the author nor the Gazette accept any responsibility for the results if you igno re this warning. I write this fully understanding that most of you aren't morons, so please don't take offense. I'm a law student who's taken Torts though, so I understand how much damage that one-in-athousand paste-eater can do if they aren't properly warned.)

The election campaign is over, and the Halloween season is well upon us. In the absence of debates to scrutinize and platforms to evaluate, I've decided to devote my free time to a new hobby: traditional folk magic.

This might seem like a strange leap, but are the two really so different?

Traditional magic involves divination rituals, the chanting of sacred mantras, and the swallowing of bitter, sickening potions in the hopes of preventing worse ills. Politics involves polling predictions, the constant repetition of campaign catchphrases, and the swallowing of bitter, sickening bullshit from the candidate you vote for in the hopes of preventing worse parties from gaining power. The transition wasn't that hard.

To advance my studies, I turned to Bluenose Magic-a seminal collection of Nova Scotian superstitions and folk remedies published in 1968 by Helen Creighton, a celebrated folklorist from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

You may have your doubts as to the relevance of some of the archaic superstitions she catalogues, but they are as effective today as they ever were. Let me illustrate, using some examples copied word-for-word from the text. You'll be surprised just how much such folk magic can help you deal with common student problems over the course of a typical week!

#### **ON PROCRASTINATION**

You have an essay due Monday, but you've reserved all of Oct. 30 for Hal-Con. Worry not!

"It is bad luck to start anything new on a Friday [Wolfville and Dartmouth, English]"

Turns out it would be a bad idea NOT to procrastinate — according to the wisdom of our forebearers, the only responsible thing to do is to start on Saturday.

#### **ON MENSTRUATION**

At the movie, you run into a friend who invites you out to her Halloween party the next night. Given how huge Jurassic World was this year, you desperately want to dig out your old genderswapped John Hammond costume. There's only one problem: considering the time of the month, you're a little concerned about those tight, pearly white pants.

 $Don't \ worry; the \ Germans \ have \ you \ covered.$ 

"Pennyroyal for menstruation. [Corkum's Island, German]"

The instructions are a little lacking (do you drink it? Eat it? Smoke it? Apply to skin?) and the effects are unclear (does it start menstruation? Stop it? Alleviate the pain? Slow the flow?), but one thing is for sure — modern medical research shows that if you take too much Pennyroyal, it can lead to organ failures, seizures, and death, so you definitely won't be worried about your period anymore.

#### **ON VOMITING**

You go to the party. You have a few too many drinks and suddenly feel like hurling. Creighton provides you with two options, one English and one German:

"Make a poultice out of all kinds of spice; mix and lay on stomach. [Milford, Annapolis County, English]"

"For vomiting, take the lining from the gizzard of a turkey or any fowl, dry it, steep it in water, and drink. [Conquerall Bank, German]"

Given the German solutions for menstruation problems and vomiting, I can only imagine their instructions for treating more serious ailments.

#### **ON HEADACHES**

Even if your turkey-gizzard tea fends off the vomiting, odds are good that you'll wake up on Sunday with a killer headache. The English and the Acadian settlers couldn't agree on much, but they did mostly concur on how best to get you back on your feet and writing that essay:

"For a headache, get a piece of brown paper and saturate with vinegar and tie a handkerchief around the forehead over the paper. [West Jedore, English]"

"Soak cloth with vinegar and tie over forehead for headache." [West Pubnico, Acadian French]

You'll smell like a pickle, but it's cheaper than Advil.

#### **ON TOOTHACHES**

You cured the headache, but all of that Halloween candy you binged on has caught up with you, and your teeth are throbbing. The dentist's office is closed — what can you do?

"When Dr. Dan L. MacDonald was practicing dentistry in Antigonish, he had a woman patient who said to cure toothache you should scratch the tooth with a splinter from a tree that had been struck by lightning [Argyle, Scotch]"

(Kind of puts in perspective how Peter MacKay kept getting elected in that riding, doesn't it?)

#### ON THE FLU

You've submitted your essay, and you realize that it's now November — flu season. You've read some troubling things about vaccines from reputable news sources like "supertruenews.biz", so you want to skip your flu shots this year and handle things in a safer, more traditional way.

"Two or three drops of turpentine on sugar for flu, and cold water [Mooseland, MicMac Indian]"

Keep in mind: I don't know what "two or three drops" works out to, but studies have shown that turpentine can be lethal to children in doses as small as 15 mL. On the other hand, I'm pretty sure I read somewhere that vaccines contain CIA tracking devices and alien DNA, so I guess you're taking your chances no matter what.

#### **ON NERVES/INSOMNIA**

You've looked over that essay you submitted, and you're starting to wonder whether if maybe you should have started on Friday after all. You can feel that knot of fear twisting in your stomach, and you're finding it difficult to fall asleep. What kooky concoction did the old-timers rely on for dealing with anxiety/insomnia?

"Poppy for sleep, but you must be very careful with it. Old people gathered herbs in the fall and kept them in the attic. [Kingsburg, German]"

That...actually doesn't sound like magic. That's just opium, an illegal narcotic. Let's see what the other settler cultures had to say:

"A colored woman living here grew poppies, and she said her children were always quiet because she fed them poppies. [Granville Ferry, English, Irish, and Scotch]"

Well, I guess you can't argue with results. To anyone suffering from sleepless nights, four out of five sleepless 19th-century Nova Scotian settlers agree: you can't pronounce Opium without saying "yum"!

(I know he's not exactly a big fan of Nova Scotian culture, but given that this remedy will probably be legal any day now under that reefer madman Trudeau, maybe someone should pass it on to Harper.)

# You think it's harmless, but you're not the target

### DalOUT on Halloween Costumes

THE DALOUT BOARD

"On October 31st in 2012, I attended my Dal classes dressed in costume for Halloween. That year I was Ja'mie King from the television show Summer Heights High. This involved me wearing a green plaid shirtdress, knee high socks, women's business wedges, and a brunette wig. In the afternoon, I attended my Abnormal Psychology class, where we learned about mental health 'disorders' and diagnoses. When my professor noticed my outfit during class, she offhandedly remarked that I should come back dressed like that for the class on 'gender identity disorder'. (Gender identity disorder is an old diagnosis given to transgender people, and has recently been renamed 'gender dysphoria'.)

"After my professor's remark, I was embarrassed, taken aback, and pissed off. I waited until class was over and quietly let her know that what she did was wrong and how it could have offended people. She was very willing to listen and learn, and she apologized publicly during the next class."

We begin with this personal story because it illustrates that while Halloween costumes can be fun for many people, they can also be complicated or even very negative for transgender people. In one sense, wearing a costume that expresses aspects of your identity can be validating. In another sense, costumes may allow the wearer or those around them to trivialize or make a joke out of being transgender, even unintentionally.

Regardless of the wearer's intentions, a costume that targets or mocks a specific group of marginalized people the wearer does not belong to is harmful and disrespectful. Our intentions do not take precedence over the very real hurt of others.

Fast-forward to 2015. DalOUT shared two posters to its Facebook page (facebook.

### MY IDENTITY

IS NOT A COSTUME YOU THINK IT'S HARMLESS, BUT YOU'RE NOT THE TARGET.

OUR GENDER IDENTITY

IAM,

THIS IS

KAY

UCSC CANTU QUEER CENTER Inspi

com/dalout) about gender identity in relation to problematic Halloween costumes. One reads, "My identity is not a costume. You think it's harmless, but you're not the target." The other reads, "Our gender identity is not a costume. This is not who I am, and this is not okay." These posters received significant attention on Facebook and beyond, were shared over 700 times within a few days, and generated a lot of conversation and debate.

These posters were created alongside a movement against cultural appropriation during Halloween. Cultural appropriation is the act of adopting and trivializing elements of other cultures in costume, normally leading to offensive racial stereotypes.

With the creation of Caitlyn Jenner Halloween costumes this year, the concept of transphobic Halloween costumes began to receive widespread attention. Halloween costumes often play up stereotypes and laugh at misconceptions society has about groups of people. This humour can be harmless when directed at cartoon characters, movie stars, professions (i.e. police officers or doctors), or spooky creatures.

But Halloween costumes involving gender become much less funny considering the reality of transphobia and violence that trans people, especially trans women, face. Trans women are murdered at a rate much higher than any other group within the LGBTQ+ community, with trans women of colour facing the most discrimination and violence.

When a cisgender (the opposite of transgender) man dresses in stereotypically women's clothing as a joke on Halloween, it supports the misconception that transgender women are just "men in dresses." In other words, a costume like this spreads the idea that a man wearing a dress is inherently funny, and that transgender people are not to be taken seriously in their gender presentation and identity.

"Performing and dressing in drag was one of the first ways I came into my identity as a transgender person, and because of that I think that it still is an important aspect of LGBTQ+ culture. Dressing in drag or in costume lets people explore and express their gender identity and can allow other people to see aspects of someone's gender that may go unnoticed from day to day.

This being said, drag isn't always positive or beneficial for the LGBTQ+ community – at times it can reinforce misogyny, toxic masculinity, and the gender binary, and it can be a terrifying source of gendered policing.

I performed in drag a handful of times, but now the connotations associated with being a 'drag queen' lurk over me in different aspects of my life. I try hard to separate myself from it because I view myself as a trans feminine person. I am not a man in drag; I am not a man at all."

This Halloween, when you're coming up with costume ideas, think about who the costume may impact or disrespect in ways outside of your intended or desired effect. Often, the things we do without a second thought carry much larger consequences for the safety, comfort, and belonging of others.

Halloween can be a fun-filled occasion for many people, whether they are transgender or cisgender. But keep in mind that transgender and gender-questioning people deserve so much more than having one day a year to explore their gender identity and expression without fear of stigma or harassment.

What can you do to be a safer person for transgender people on Halloween and on every other day of the year? If you aren't sure, there are many on-campus resources that can answer your questions, including DalOUT's drop-in centre, found in the lower level of the SUB!

# **Divine Love**

The fascinating history of romantic divination rituals.

#### SHANNON SLADE

Halloween is a magical time of year. They say it is when the veil between the earthly and spiritual realm is at its weakest, and thus it is far easier to divine the future.

I love reading about love divination rituals. Aside from being great fun, they offer a fascinating window into the eras in which they were most popular. For many years — from time immemorial until the Second World War — divinatory games were among the most important Halloween traditions. (Editor's note: See this week's archives section for a reference to such games in an 1876 issue of the *Gazette*!)

The most popular rituals involved predicting future relationships, and some could be quite involved. Take the kale test. Young men and women would take turns guiding each other blindfolded into a garden on Halloween.

The blindfolded youth would then pull up a stalk of kale, and the state of the kale would determine who they were destined to marry. A long, healthy stalk meant the future spouse would be tall and in good health, a decrepit older stalk meant the partner would be older and not so vigorous.

A clean stalk meant they would be broke, or in the case of a potential future wife, there would be a meager dowry or none at all. However, if it was dirty, it meant good times ahead, at least financially. The taste of the kale mattered too: a sweet stalk meant you would marry someone with a great personality, but a bitter stalk meant you would end up with a jerkbag.

It does sound kind of fun, right? Perhaps you want to try for yourself. On the off chance you don't have access to a kale garden (perhaps you are fortunate enough not to know any hipsters), you can always use everyday stuff around the house to get in on the action.

According to the wonderful book *Games* For Hallowe'en by Mary F. Blain (written in 1912), all you needed to spice up your Halloween party was a pot of mashed potatoes. (As a side note, all parties should be required to have a big pot of mashed potatoes on standby; they are fucking delicious.)

Before serving the potatoes, mix in a ring, a thimble and a dime, and then give each of your guests a spoon. Whoever gets the ring will be married within a year, the person with the dime will have wealth, and the lucky winner of the thimble will have "single blessedness". Not being of the Christian religion I had no idea what that last prize meant, so I Googled it. According to Yahoo Answers (I go real in-depth with my research), "single blessedness" is the quality of "someone who will remain single, pure and chaste for the rest of their lives and dedicate themselves to the greater glory of God." I'll take the dime.

Not hungry? You can always just walk backwards in the moonlight holding a mirror, and your future lover will appear! (Presumably as a hallucination as you fade into unconsciousness after tripping over a rock.)

Now that I have given you some amazing Halloween party ideas, I really hope all of you ladies out there are finally able to divine your future husbands. As a contributor in the March 2, 1932 issue of the *Gazette* once wrote, the primary reason a woman comes to college is because "it offers the delectable opportunity to enjoy a gay, social existence, to make charming acquaintances, to display her physical gifts, and above all, 'to get a man."

This sentiment is fascinating because it comes from an era in which divination games were at their height of popularity. At the time, even university was first and foremost considered a place to find a quality husband. It's sad to think that this was the major reason women were encouraged to attend. Whatever the private hopes and dreams of the women students, their presence in school only indicated (whether correctly or incorrectly) that they were on the hunt for husbands. The activities listed in *Games For Hallowe'en* offer another indication of the overriding societal imperative to 'land a man', as the majority of the games are steered towards divining a potential husband. It seems like the author threw in male rites as an afterthought. Even on Halloween, a night to celebrate freedom and fluidity of identity, women were being pushed in a certain direction. Sadly, this push was not without its justification given the lack of options for women at the time—for the woman who failed to consider her marriage options carefully, life could turn into something far more frightening than the usual Halloween scares.

Without the ability to determine their own

fates, women were either damned or blessed, depending on the man they married. The desire to learn more about future husbands makes perfect sense in this context. Of course, I'm sure a lot of these games were done in good fun, but there was clearly also a more serious anxiety lurking underneath it all.

But that is way too depressing a note to go out on. This is Halloween after all, so let's end with a riddle from *Games For Hallowe'en*. It's a real corker.

"An old woman in a red cloak was passing a field in which a goat was feeding. What strange transformation suddenly took place?— Answer: The goat turned to butter (butt her), and the woman into a scarlet runner."



sales@centurycomputer.ca

### From the Archives



JOHN HILLMAN, OPINIONS EDITOR

Halloween is upon us. Of all the major holidays, perhaps none generates quite as much controversy as Halloween. It is by its very nature a night of transgression and subversiveness, and this often puts it at odds with the ever changing values that order our society. Gazette writers have addressed these conflicts on many occasions over the years, harkening back to Halloween's origins in efforts to explain and sometimes even defend the spirit of season.

#### "The Compliments of the Season" Volume 8, Issue 10 — April 1, 1876

It is noteworthy how in the observance of days, the merely ludicrous appendages of the ceremonies have outlived the portions that are really commemorative. Hallowmas is forgotten. Burns tells us that in his age and country Hallowe'en was a favourite season with youth for the practice of certain oracular games in order to obtain information respecting their matrimonial prospects. In our country it is called Cabbage Night, from the fact that it is specially consecrated to the abduction of that vegetable from gardens whose owners have forgotten what day it is, and neglected to store their crop.

#### "Old Nick Walks Of All Saints' in Ancient Customs Eve" Volume 84, Issue 9 — October 30, 1951

Tomorrow being Hallowe'en, it would seem high time to remind our gate-filching, cows-on-the-roof friends (could they be students? Never!) that they are not nearly as clever as they like to imagine, but are actually possessed by evil spirits!

Yes, in the good old days the last night of October was supposedly the one evening in the year when all spirits, good and bad, could wander the earth to their heart's content. The good little ghosts are rarely mentioned, they just went back to their old homes and got something earthly to eat, but the evil 'uns!!! They roamed the skies, byways and highways in the form of black cats, vampires, werewolves, witches, and what have you.

With the coming of Christianity, the fateful 31st became known as Hallowe'en, the eve of All Saints Day, but the essential character of the night remained, in fact in some parts of Ireland the eve of November is called "Oidche Shamhna", vigil of Saman, the lord of death, to this day. In general, however, Satan became Master of Ceremonies in A.D.

The Black Mass evolved as the most gruesome event of the evening. This was a parody of the Christian Mass, celebrated

by the Devil himself and followed by will revelling until dawn.

The evil spirits were presumably afraid of fire, hence the custom of lighting huge bonfires. As for apple-bobbing and such like, that came into being after the Roman Conquest of Britain. The feast of Pomona, goddess of fruit trees was celebrated on November 1st, therefore the Romans simply combined that holiday with Hallowe'en.

Maybe if more pranksters knew in whose footsteps they were following on October 31, there would be less chaos come morning. On the other hand perhaps the maligned ones really are possessed by demons. What a ghastly thought!



November 8, 1961

#### "A SUB Hallowe'en" Volume 115, Issue 9 — November 4, 1982

To the Editor: Unfortunately something has gone astray with the tradition of Hallowe'en this year. On accompanying a young brother of my friend, I noticed two distinct features this year.

I) Kids: There was only a token force of them as compared to previous years.

2) About 1 in 4 houses didn't participate in Hallowe'en in any form (treats, jack-o-lanterns).

Why? Obviously the recent scares of tampered products and candies have many parents scared as hell for the safety of their children. Halifax is not exempt; reports of 3 cases of tampered candy have surfaced.

What can the Dal community do to help remedy the situation? One answer can be to use portions of the SUB building to hold a supervised party for the kids. A single fee could be charged, if any at all, for costs.

Various student organizations could get together and plan such an event, but why bother? Basically, to put the fun back into Hallowe'en for the kids but also to give the Student Organizations of this city a chance to show they care and want to help and gain some badly needed recognition and respect from the community. Also the personal satisfaction that one feels when they stop to help a child.

I wouldn't be writing this letter if a certain incident that I witnessed on a street corner Monday didn't happen. A little girl tearfully explained to her friends why her parents wouldn't let her go trick or treating. It makes me wonder how many more little girls are around this city in the same situation. I think maybe the Dal community should consider helping some of those unhappy children next year and give them a place to have fun with their friends in safety and protection!

Someone who cares,

Robert Lavoie

#### "Editorial" — Catherine Cooper Volume 137, Issue 8 — October 28, 2004

This year Halloween falls on a day of the week that has received a lot of attention lately. As in 1999, the last time that Oct. 31 fell on a Sunday, there has been pressure from some religious groups to change the date of Halloween so that it doesn't fall on the Sabbath. As a result, some Canadian communities-including Cape Breton Municipality, Pictou and Yarmouth Counties and the District of Argyle-are officially observing Halloween on Saturday this year.

Whether or not it is fair to enforce observance of religious holidays is an issue that has been beaten to death over the past few weeks, so I won't even mention the fact that Jews and Seventh Day Adventists observe the Sabbath on Saturday and therefore might not appreciate having this apparently satanic holiday dumped on them. The problem that I have with this changing the day of Halloween business is that it makes no sense in terms of the meaning or history of the day.

On Oct. 27, the Herald quoted Rev. Raymod Fancy of Amherst as saying: "I'm sure your Bible is the same as my Bible and mine says to honour the Sabbath and keep it holy."

Members of the Lewisporte, Nfld., council that unanimously voted for a Saturday Halloween this year are quoted as stating "devil's night and the Lord's day should not be mixed." But our account of the history of Halloween reveals it to be a day for celebrating saints and souls rather than devils and ghouls. The tradition of wearing scary costumes on Halloween is actually believed to have been created to ward off evil spirits trying to enter human bodies. And although Halloween is originally a Pagan tradition, it was mixed with Christian tradition after the eighth century and is named as the eve of a day honoring "hallowed" or revered Christian saints. So even from a purely Christian perspective, changing the day of Halloween just doesn't make any sense.

In the town that I'm from, the swings were chained up on Sundays. You were not supposed to mow your lawn or hang your washing. In return, you were protected from the wrath of God and avoided being ostracized by the other members of the community. My mother likes to tell this story as an example of how backward that place was.

It makes sense that Christians want to reserve Sundays for rest, but trying to arrange it so that kids, Christian or not, can't trick or treat on the Sabbath seems pretty similar to the ridiculous Sunday restrictions of my hometown. And in any case, changing Halloween to Saturday is counterproductive, because kids can just go to the next town on Sunday and have two Halloweens rather than one.

Trying to police a fun and harmless event like Halloween just seems silly, not to mention unfair. I suggest that Christians who are worried about the Lord's Day being misspent by kids getting dressed up and having fun on Sunday should start a new Halloween tradition based on the Christian rather than the Pagan roots of Halloween. So stock up on non-perishable food items and support a local charity-but leave out the part about prayers for the departedand have a Holy Halloween.





#### The Dalhousie Gazette

uring research for our annual Halloween issue, our editors have uncovered pertinent information on two myths behind this holiday.

If you dare, enjoy the tale of how our Opinions Editor solved a Dalhousie ghost mystery from 66 years ago — and learn why you may wish to drop "Ouija" from your vocabulary.

#### Uncovering the Great Ghost Boax of 1949



Since the incredible staff at Dalhousie Archives uploaded our entire surviving archives to their online Dalspace content portal last year, the *Gazette* has published a weekly From the Archives section bringing current trends at Dal into context.

In last year's Halloween issue John Hillman, our Opinions Editor, wrote about an odd front-page story the *Gazette* published on March 22, 1949. (See *Campus Haunts*, published on Dalgazette.com on Oct. 22, 2014.)

Looking for stories of Dalhousie ghosts, Hillman found that our editorial staff at the time had printed the results of their investigation into rumours of a ghost in the Arts Building (now the University Club).

After locking themselves within the building overnight, four staffers wrote about how they witnessed a ghost. The article included a photo of a human shape with a limb stretched out from behind a large white sheet, with an explanation the photograph was the result of their photographer waiting at the bottom of a stairwell after they all heard mysterious footsteps.

The editors swore they were in attendance when the photo was developed, and that it was not doctored.

"The trouble is, the ghost looks too much

like a traditional ghost—if it is a ghost," the story said.

"Whether this particular article was all an elaborate prank by the *Gazette* staff remains unclear," wrote Hillman last year.

But Hillman, who truly deserves a contract writing the third volume of *The Lives of Dalhousie University*, did not stop there.

He found that in the next issue printed after this 1949 ghost investigation, a picture was printed of the same "ghost," but with a man clearly visible under the sheet.

Hillman realized the man under the sheet shared a strong resemblance in Charles W. MacIntosh, who was later *Gazette* editorin-chief and had his likeness printed in the newspaper.

Hillman's research determined MacIntosh went on to be an incredibly influential lawyer in Nova Scotia, authoring the *Nova Scotia Real Property Practice Manual*—the definitive reference text on property practice in the province for self-represented litigants.

Reached by phone in winter 2014, MacIntosh confirmed with a laugh to the *Gazette* that he remembered the "haunting" of the Arts Building in March of 1949, and that the story had indeed been a practical joke on the student body.

The follow-up article to the original March 22, 1949 hoax story made it seem clear the initial story was only for laughs. But just in case any long-time readers have been wondering, yeah, it was a hoax.

#### 5ay no to "Ouíja" and join #Team5piritBoard

After our editors received a plea for help from an anonymous reader seeking to understand a "paranormal" experience in the SUB two weeks ago, the *Gazette* editorial board decided that, with Halloween so soon, we would treat this request for an investigation as seriously as any other pitch that comes our way.

Our contributor Logan Robins did a great job of asking students and SUB frequenters about any possible paranormal experiences on campus they have faced, and his "rodent fiend" theory is quite convincing.

But in a long-standing *Gazette* tradition, our editorial board's Halloween story meeting got out-of-control. and we decided we also needed to interview the SUB ghost itself.

John Hillman and I decided we would use the classic divination method of the Ouija board to see if the ghost was interested in giving their own side of the story.

Among our editors – generally the types of people biased in the favour of evidence and data – there was not a single Ouija board in our possession. And when I asked friends and loved ones about whether they had any magical tools I could borrow to interview a ghost, they mostly expressed concern and asked about the actual stories I'm working on.

So, from the *Gazette's* Twitter account, I made a plea to the public on Oct. 20: "We're looking to borrow a ouija board for a very special investigation. Any leads are much appreciated!"

Moments after I put that message out, I started to wonder: why is it important that I have a real "Ouija board"? What is, even, a Ouija board, and what would separate any board I borrow or purchase from a board I could create myself?

I found the Oxford English Dictionary gives the etymology of "Ouija" reads thusly:

"The word has been variously explained as (a) < French oui oui adv. + German ja yes (see yea adv.), (b) < an ancient Egyptian word for 'good luck' (although apparently no such word exists), and (c) < the name of Oujda, the name of a city in Morocco."

The OED's first recorded mention of the word "Ouija" goes back to 1890 when the American Stationer trade journal mentioned a "new mysticism" of the Kennard Novelty Company in Baltimore, the 'Ouija Board' or 'Egyptian Luck Board.'

Further research showed the first modern incarnations of the Ouija board, created in mid-19th century England, were carved in wood and simply called Talking Boards or Spirit Boards. It wasn't until the product was mass-marketed in 1890 that it was assigned the arbitrary, exoticized name of "Ouija."

Yet, to this day, Google Trends shows there is a spike for search term "Ouija" every October and none for "Talking Board".

A Google News search for "Ouija Board" finds 7,040 results. For "Talking Board" there are 109 results, and "Spirit Board" has 438 (with some of these results referring to the South African Wine and Spirit Board).

I realized that an infinitely better alternative to spending \$40 at Spencer's Gifts would be to share in the passion of the first spiritualists who created their own boards, and so I found a template on Wikihow and printed off my own paper board from the comfort of the Killam Library.

Back at the *Gazette*'s temporary office in the basement of the SUB on the evening of Oct. 23, without a true planchette (the board that slides over the Spirit Board), Hillman and I placed a toonie over our looseleaf portal to the spirit world.

We said a greeting to any ghosts willing to speak with us, and asked if anyone was there.

The toonie slid to "Yes" on the board, surely by Hillman's intention.

When we asked the spirit we were in contact with for its name, as is standard journalistic practice, the toonie spelled F-L-A-W. We asked the spirit why they were in the SUB, and the toonie spelled O-F-F.

When initially asked why they would not leave the SUB, the "spirit" moved our makeshift planchette to spell D-E-I-G-S.

When the spirit was then asked if it felt it could properly communicate with us, the toonie moved towards "Yes." We repeated our last question, asking the spirit why it remained at Dalhousie, and the toonie spelled I-P-E.

The planchette remained on "E" for a minute before Hillman and I took our hands off the board to discuss how we could determine whether the spirit was mysteriously spelling "IPE" or possibly meant to say, "I PEE," or even "I PEEEE," etc.

We realized we hadn't determined criteria for how any letter could be repeated. Crying with laughter, we abandoned the entire endeavour in lieu of any obvious signs of otherworldly interference.

In the end, our attempt at communicating with any willing spirits possibly disturbed by renovations in the SUB was a failure, but we're reporting the results here with honesty because we learned something important in the process — the word "Ouija" is outdated.



Let's not uncritically use any old marketer's language that obscures the actual history of other nations and groups of people when we refer to our everyday tools of pseudoscience. Instead, let's say #NoToOuija and join #TeamSpiritBoard.

Adjacent to this page is a Spirit Board you should feel free to cut out and refer to if you absolutely must ever attempt to communicate with the dead. If this prevents the sale of even one "Ouija Board," we have made the world a more accurate place.



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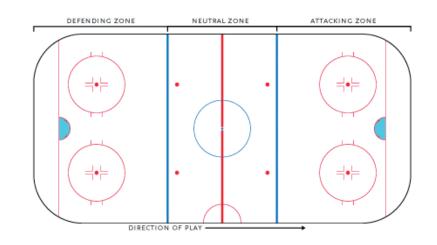
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# HOCKEY

JOSH YOUNG



## Women's hockey scores

#### TIGERS WIN FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON

The Dalhousie Tigers Women's Hockey team won their first game of the season 5-3 over the Mount Allison Mounties on Saturday, Oct. 24 at Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB.

The Mounties scored the first goal of the game in the first period. Kara Anthony scored on the powerplay to give the Mounties a 1-0 lead.

The game broke open in the second period as both teams combined to score seven goals.

The Tigers got the first two goals of the period to give the team a 2-1 lead. Forwards Sarah Robichaud and Corinne Desjardins scored for the Tigers.

Later in the period, Rosie Heffernan scored for the Mounties to tie the game at 2-2.

The Tigers regained their lead from a goal by forward Courtney Sheedy.

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However, the Mounties tied the game again from a goal by Heather Richards.

The Tigers were stubborn to keep their lead and scored to make the score 4-3. Sarah Robichaud was credited with the goal.

In the third period, Sarah Robichaud completed the hat trick and the Tigers ended up winning 5-3.

The win puts the Tigers' record at (1-3-0).

#### TIGERS LOSE TO ST. MARY'S, 2-1

The Dalhousie Tiger's women's hockey team lost 2-1 to the St. Mary's Huskies on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at the Alumni Arena.

The Huskies scored the game's first goal when Breanna Lanceleve scored 03:55 into the first period. Laura Polak and Hayley Halilihan got the assists.

At 03:53 into the second period, Breanna Lanceleve scored her second goal of the game to make the score 2-0 for St. Mary's. Haylee Tretiak and Gemma MacDonald got the assists.

Shortly after, the Tigers answered back. At the 04:27 mark of the period, Jesse Rietveld scored for the Tigers to make the game 2-1. Sarah Robichaud and Kayla Ogilvie got the assists.

In the third period, the Tigers fought hard to tie the game, outshooting the Huskies 16-11 in the period. However, they were not able to score and St. Mary's won the game by a score of 2-1.

Tigers' goaltender Mati Barrett was fantastic in the hockey game, stopping 46 out of the 48 shots she faced. Huskies goalie Rebecca Clark also had a great game stopping 27 out of 28 shots.

Neither team was able to score on the powerplay. Dalhousie had nine powerplay chances while St. Mary's had seven.

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### Men's hockey wins home opener

The Dalhousie Tigers men's hockey team won their home opener 4-3 in a shootout against the Acadia Axemen on Oct. 21 at the Halifax Forum.

"We played within ourselves," said the Tigers' leading scorer, Fabian Walsh. "We played our system. We kept it simple out there and we played the way we knew we could play. That's a good team over there and we battled them hard and we came out with the two points".

The Tigers got an early lead two minutes into the hockey game from a goal by Tanner Williams. Tigers forward Felix Page drove wide and shot the puck at Acadia goalie Robert Steeves. It rebounded out to Williams in front and he shot it in the net.

Eight minutes later Axemen forward Zachery Franko scored to tie the game. Kyle Farrel got the assist.

Two and a half minutes later the Tigers regained their lead. Daniel Walsh tried to pass it in front to his brother Fabian Walsh. An Axemen defender laid out in front of the net to stop the pass. Fabian Walsh managed to regain the puck and went to his backhand and shot it into the net to give the Tigers a 2-1 lead. Daniel Walsh and J.P Harvey got the assists.

"It was kind of a scramble play," said Fabian Walsh. "I picked up the puck in front and slid it under the goalie's pad."

The second period did not go very well for the Tigers. The Axemen outshot them 28 to nine in the period. Tigers goaltender Corbin Boes was spectacular making a couple of fantastic saves in the period.

Unfortunately for Dalhousie, they could not get out of the period scot-free. With four minutes left in the period, Acadia defenseman Matthew Pufahl scored off a nice wrist shot from the point to tie the game at 2-2.

A few minutes later, Acadia thought they had scored again. Franko shot the puck and it went off Boes and up into the air. Franko knocked the puck out of the air on to the ice and he shot it into the net. The referees, however, called off the goal because Franko knocked the puck down with a high stick. Acadia was upset with the call. However, the game stayed at 2-2.

In the third period, the Tigers settled back

down. Eight and a half minutes into the period, Fabian Walsh stole the puck at the half boards and skated into the high slot and fired the puck into the net to give the Tigers a 3-2 lead.

"That one was a turnover. I just got the puck in the high slot and I shot it, and I put it right where I wanted it and it went into the net," said Walsh.

Late in the third period, Acadia pulled their goalie to give the Axemen an extra attacker. With under a minute left, Corbin Boes made an unbelievable glove save to keep the Tigers in the lead. However, Acadia regained the puck and with four seconds left in the period, Zachery Franko jammed the puck in to send the game to overtime.

The Tigers played well in overtime, outshooting the Axemen eight to six, but neither team was able to score. Therefore, the game had to be decided in a shootout.

In the shootout, first-year Tigers forward Phil Gadoury made a nice deke to score. Corbin Boes managed to stop all three shooters he faced and the Tigers won the game by a score of 4-3.

Dalhousie goaltender Boes was spectacular in this game. He stopped 47 out of the 50 shots he faced. Acadia goaltender Robert Steeves stopped 22 out of 25 shots he faced.

Dalhousie forward Jackson Playfair had nothing but high praise for his goaltender.

"Boesy (Boes) is exceptional," said Playfair. "He is one of those guys who know is going to keep you in any game and if you have him in the net you have a chance to win, so that is something our team tries to build off of. It's nice to know you got a guy who can take those thirty or forty shots and he is only going to let in one or two or none."

This was the Tigers' first win of the season. Playfair believes the team has been playing well up to this point, however, everything clicked for the team tonight.

"I think we have been close in a lot of games," said Playfair. "We haven't been getting blown out of the water. We are keeping games tight and playing a well-structured game.

Tonight was one of those nights we did everything right. We kept pucks in, we didn't over think our game and it ended up working out for us".



# Men's hockey Tigers lose to StFx in overtime

The Dalhousie Tigers Men's Hockey team lost 5-4 in overtime to the StFX X-Men on Friday, Oct. 23 in the Keating Centre in Antigonish.

StFx got off to an early lead when X-Men forward Blake Gal scored at 1:58 into first period. Nathan Chiarlitti got the assist.

Dalhousie tied the game at the 10:06 mark in the period when Tigers' forward Jackson Playfair scored his first AUS goal. Alex Cote got the assist.

StFX regained the lead three minutes later on the powerplay to make the score 2-1. Eric Locke scored while Steven Kuhn and Blake Gal got the assists.

The Tigers' answered back with a powerplay goal of their own with just less than two minutes left to play in the period. Tigers forward Tanner Williams scored while Felix Page and Phil Gadoury got the assists.

StFX regained the lead again at 01:43 into the second period. Holden Cook scored for StFX while Nathan Pancel got the assist.

The X-Men were finally able to gain a two goal lead when Steve Kuhn scored to make the score 4-2. Kristoff Kontos and Eric Locke got the assists on Kuhn's goal.

The Tigers did not quit. At 9:41 into the

third period JP Harvey scored to make the score 4-3. Fabian Walsh and his brother Daniel Walsh got the assists.

Then at the 15:15 mark of the period, Tanner Williams scored his second goal of the game to tie the game at 4-4. Felix Page and Luke Madill got the assist on William's second goal.

The Tigers, for the second straight game, had to go into overtime. However, 03:08 into overtime, X-Men forward Kristoff Kontos scored to win the game for StFX. Bronson Maschmeyer and Eric Locke got the assists on the overtime goal.

Even though the game went into overtime, neither team was able to generate a lot of shots. Tigers goaltender Corbin Boes made fourteen saves on nineteen shots. X-Men goaltender Drew Owsley made nine saves on thirteen shots.

Both teams scored a powerplay goal in this game. Dalhousie went 1 for 5 while StFX went 1 for 6 on the man advantage.

The game makes the Tigers' record (1-4-1). The Tigers have two home games this weekend. They host Moncton on Friday, Oct. 30, and St. Thomas on Saturday, Oct. 31.



# **Big wins for Tigers soccer**

CAM HONEY

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER

Playing the StFX X-Women to wrap up homecoming weekend at 'the Wick' on Sunday, Oct. 18, the Tigers Soccer women came away with a gigantic 2-1 win. The win upped their record to 4-4-2 on the season and kept their playoff hopes alive.

"It's nice to see a lot kinda come our way," said Tigers head coach Jack Hutchison. "We've had some tough losses, some tough breaks and today everybody knew what was on the line and it's nice to get a bounce go our way for a change."

The match did not start well for the Tigers as the X-Women stormed out of the gate. X-Women forward Kelsey Ellis ran onto a pretty through-ball in the box behind the Tigers back line and moving to her left used the outside of her right foot to chip it back across the grain into the bottom right corner. The goal came in just the 4th minute of the game and made it 1-0 X-Women.

The Tigers generated some quality scoring chances in the first half. In the 23rd minute Shea Jeffrey-Novak had the ball behind the X-Women back line but couldn't beat Keeper Erin Visser who charged to make the save. In the 28th minute the Tigers were awarded a free-kick from 19-yards out lined up with the left post, Kristy McGregor-Bales sent her try over the bar.

In the 45th minute, mere moments before the halftime whistle, the Tigers got their first goal of the match. Jeffrey-Novak got the ball from a throw-in deep in X-Women territory and sent a high cross into the box, Visser called for it but the ball took a high bounce out of her reach and found the back of the net. The goal gave the Tigers momentum going into halftime and made it a 1-1 game.

Most of the second half was uneventful as the two teams struggled to generate offense. On the few occasions they did Visser and Tigers Keeper Katie Morgan were up to the task.

In the 83rd minute that all changed as Jeffrey-Novak fed a beautiful ball to Jensen Hudder on the left edge of the six-yard box, Hudder took advantage and chipped the ball over the sprawling Visser for a 2-1 Tigers lead. The Tigers proceeded to wind out the clock

to pick up the much needed victory.

"We started off slow but it's good to win this game and we beat SMU as well," said Jeffrey-Novak. "It picks our team up a lot."

The win left the Tigers tied with UNB for the final playoff spot with 14 points, though the Tigers have played one more game. With three games remaining in the regular season the Tigers still have a shot at the playoffs but it won't be easy as two of those games are against Cape Breton who boasts a 6-2-1 record.

"I think if [you can make] the playoffs from where we are, I think you're going in on a super high," said Hutchison. "It [would be] great for the girls...if we can be fortunate enough to keep this streak going and make the playoffs I don't think you're going to have anybody there very happy to play Dalhousie."

#### **MEN'S SOCCER**

The men's soccer Tigers had an impressive 3-1 victory over the StFX X-Men at 'the Wick' on Sunday Oct. 18. The win gave the Tigers a 5-2-3 record and has them sitting in second place in the AUS.

"It feels great," said Tigers head coach Pat Nearing about picking up the win. "It was excellent to see two guys score who hadn't scored for us this year. We're scoring goals and winning games without [Bezick Evraire] or [Zach Mbolekwa] scoring so that's a good sign for us."

The Tigers got off to a fast start as Zach Shaffelburg picked up his first goal of the year in only the 5th minute of the match. Evraire made a spectacular back heal pass just feet from the end-line to Freddy Bekkers in the box on the right side of the net, Bekkers hit a hard shot on goal that X-Men keeper Thomas Pieroway dove to save, the rebound sat in the left side of the 18-yard box and Shaffelburg got their first to demolish the ball into that back of the net. The goal made it 1-0 Tigers early on.

Only 13 minutes later in the 18th minute Shaffelburg was at it again. He found himself with the ball one on one with an X-Men defender, he made a nice move to his left and delivered a spectacular left foot blast to the top corner of the net for his second of the match and the season. The goal had the Tigers up 2-0. "Playing a team like StFX is always tough," said Shaffelburg. "Coming out with a solid win like that is great moving forward."

In the 29th minute Mbolekwa worked the ball to Mark Hagen up the right sideline, Hagen sent in a cross that landed square on Bekkers in the box, who delivered his second goal of the season. The goal made the score 3-0 Tigers at halftime.

The second half saw the X-Men try desperately to rally but Tigers Keeper Jason Ross came up with a number of monstrous saves.

"It feels great first of all. It was the first time we beat X in a little while so it's nice to have that," said Ross. "It's really satisfying ... to be peaking at the right time."

The X-Men were able to find the back of the net in the 85th minute when Natneal Tecle curved a well placed strike into the back of the net to make it 3-1.

The win moved the Tigers one step closer to their goal of one of the top two spots in the AUS heading into the playoffs. If they can secure one of the spots they will have a bye to the semifinal and only need to win one game to reach nationals.

"That's really been our goal since day one," said Ross referring to finishing in one of the

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