

The Dalhousie Gazette



**THIS IS A BLACK
POWER FIST.
It is now Evelyn C.
White's tooth.**

The lost art of dental tech, PG. 12

IT'S YOUR STUDENT UNION KNOW THE ISSUES!

**MEET YOUR
CANDIDATES:
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2
5pm-7pm
Room 303, SUB**

DEBATES:

**THURSDAY, MARCH 3
5pm-7pm
Sexton Campus Debate
T-Room (All Ages)**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4
Noon-2pm
Studley Campus Debate
Room 303, SUB**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6
2pm-4pm
Agricultural Campus
Debate
Riverview Room,
Jenkins Hall**

**MONDAY, MARCH 7
Noon-2pm
Studley Campus Debates
McInnes Room, SUB**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8
Noon-2pm
Sexton Campus Debate
Sexton Alumni Lounge**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8
4pm-6pm
Agricultural Campus
Debate**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9
5pm-7pm
DISA Debate
International Centre**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 10
Noon-2pm
Carlton Campus Debate
Tupper Link**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11
5pm-7pm
All Candidates Debate
Grawood (All Ages)
Followed by
Candidate Karaoke**

VOTE FROM MARCH 14-16, 2016!

DSU.CA/ELECTIONS

The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

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THE FINE PRINT

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**Free tuition:
is it possible?**

PG. 9

**Double AUS swimming
championship win**

PG. 14

**Tessa Stammberger:
destined to drill**

PG. 16



Students heat up Board of Governors meeting after being left out in the cold

Tuition reset protesters kept out of BOG meeting

ERIN BROWN

“We will not give up the fight, education is a right” was the chant echoed across the Dalhousie Studley quad on Tuesday. Approximately 40 Dalhousie students gathered in front of the Henry Hicks building to attend a public meeting held by the Board of Governors, but were turned away at the door.

The students, after being turned away, started to chant in protest so that their voices did not fall flat to the board. Dalhousie security allowed eight students to attend the meeting after the protests started, and then six more were allowed entry after the protest gained more momentum.

Students that were left in the cold to have their message heard were not shaken by the exclusion to attend, as they continued to chant, shake signs and pass around candy to support their fellow students in the cause for reducing tuition fees.

George Shannon, a second-year engineering student, attended the protest. His program will be seeing some of the largest tuition hikes.

“I think we pay a lot of fees already. The services for

engineers aren’t very good,” says Shannon. “We have a lot of our lectures in a movie theatre, our facilities haven’t been updated, there’s a new building that has been on the table for about 25 years that has just never come to fruition, and a lot of what we’re going to be paying isn’t going to go to our discipline or degree.”

The proposed tuition hike comes from the Dalhousie University budget committee, which recommended an increase of 18.9 per cent for agriculture, and 15 per cent for engineering and pharmacy. The Board of Governors of Dalhousie is the governing body that will vote on whether or not to approve these increases on Apr. 19.

“I just feel there’s a lot of shadiness of what’s going on and why they’re raising the fees,” says Rayne Schwinghammer, also a second-year engineering student at Dal.

“It’s hard to believe that the people up top are encouraging students to come to Dalhousie when they’re raising fees and making it less accessible to everyone”.

For some students, this may mean that they can no longer continue their education at Dalhousie, and will have to seek

more affordable post-secondary education.

Gillian Stanton is in her first-year of engineering, and says she may have to leave due to the high cost of tuition.

“I don’t know if I can continue to go to Dalhousie, I may have to go to a different school or I’m obligated to do a co-op,” says Stanton.

“It’s kind of depressing, because it’s already so high compared to places like Newfoundland, so compared to Nova Scotia where it’s more than \$20,000 for school for Nova Scotian students, it’s quite depressing to realize this sad truth.”

The proposed tuition hikes have yet to take effect, and the students most affected by these increases are making sure that their voices will be heard. One of the key themes among students at the protest was that they are questioning whether or not Dalhousie University is the right institution for them.

Shannon, who has already studied at Dal for the past two years, says, “I think this will definitely affect my experience here at Dalhousie. I don’t take as much pride in my education because I don’t feel supported by the people who are running this school.”

Breaking down the BAC Report

Plan proposes another year of tuition hikes

ELEANOR DAVIDSON, NEWS EDITOR

Each year, Dalhousie's Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) presents a report on the University's budget for the upcoming year. The BAC report details what faculties will be receiving tuition hikes, which services will see decreased operating budgets, and compares Dalhousie's fees to other large Canadian universities.

On February 9th, the BAC released an updated version of their Draft Operating Budget Plan for 2016-2017.

This draft means that students can still have a chance to propose amendments to the plan, to voice their opposition or their support before the plan is finalized.

However, sitting down and reading through this report can be a bit dry. Below, you will find a condensed, simplified version of some of the biggest changes proposed by the BAC for next school year.

The heavy-hitters

- 3% tuition increase across all programs
- 5% annual increases for the Engineering, Pharmacy and Agriculture faculties
- 2.5% (\$7.1 million) budget reduction to Faculties and service units
- Spending \$1.5 million in reserve funds to balance the budget
- Estimated expenditure increases of \$15.1 million.

Reasons given for tuition increases

- 90.3% of Dal's revenues comes from a combination of Provincial Government grants and tuition
 - Provincial Government grant: 52.5%
 - Tuition: 37.8%.
- Between 2011 and 2014, the Provincial Government grant decreased by 10%. Since then, it has only been increasing by 1%/year
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the province determines university funding and limits tuition fee increases—it will allow for an overall increase of 3% in 2016-17
- Intake of new-from-high-school students decreased by 10% overall in 2015
- Enrolment in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) entering class of Fall 2015 was 22.8% lower than in Fall 2014
 - FASS will receive \$500,000 in special response funding in the

2016-17 budget to help with these lower enrolment figures

Why the larger increases for certain faculties?

- As of April 2015, the province allowed Dal to raise fees for specific programs if their tuition rates were lower than those charged by other universities for similar programs
- Tuition for all undergraduate Engineering and Pharmacy courses will be raised by 5% each year for three years (a 15% increase by 2018), in addition to the 3% general fee increase
- Tuition for undergraduate courses taught on the Agricultural Campus will increase by 6.3% per year (18.9% over a three year period), in addition to the 3% general increase)

Facilities Renewal

- \$1.0 million increase in Facilities Renewal budget for Halifax campuses
- 3% increase in the Facilities Renewal auxiliary fee for all students (will rise from \$84.35 to \$86.90 per term)
 - This increase will give Facilities Renewal an additional \$91,000
- The increase in funds will help to operate the university's 150 buildings in Halifax and Truro
 - Buildings total 5.4 million square feet
 - Replacement value of almost \$1.5 billion

Technology

- Suggested investment of \$500,000 to increase network capacity
- The number of electronic devices used at the university has grown so significantly that, without additional investment, the University will reach its network capacity in 2017

The Operating Budget Plan will be released later this term. Written feedback about the BAC Report should be sent to BAC@dal.ca.



It's time to talk about sex

Research finds that communication between partners can lead to better sex

SHELBY BANKS

The key to a healthy sex life? Good communication.

That was the message Tuesday at a panel discussion, "Taking Care of Down There," held at the Halifax Central Library.

"One in five women might experience pain during sex," Kate Rancourt told the session, creating problems for women and their partners.

Rancourt, a PhD student in psychology at Dalhousie University, researches women's and couples' sexual health and she's particularly interested in couple's behaviour: how does the couple communicate? What is the meaning of touch between two people?

With around 40 people in the crowd, mostly women, Rancourt, talked about how communication is the best ingredient to maintain a healthy sexual relationship with your partner.

"What we know so far is that talking openly about sex is associated with many benefits like more pleasurable sex, better emotional health and in some cases less pain during sex," says Rancourt.

Rancourt says if women experience pain during sex, it can interfere with the

relationship with their partner.

"Some women report that the pain makes it challenging for them to be affectionate with their partner because they fear that affection is going to lead to pain."

Rancourt's research has found that women who experience any type of a sexual problem are more anxious and distressed by their partner's touch (kissing, holding hands, tickling), and they were also more likely to say that they hold back or withdraw from such contact.

"Good sexual communication involves talking in an open caring way with your partner about all the things that you sexually like and also the things that you dislike or that are problems," says Rancourt.

"Good sexual communication is more than saying, 'Honey, I love it when you kiss me there,' but it is also saying, 'That position is kind of painful for me, can we try a different one.'"

Panelist Shannon Pringle, who works at Venus Envy, an award-winning sex shop and book store in Halifax, suggests that communication is great for couples, but so is mixing things up.

"If you are having issues, like pain during sex, try adding something fun into the mix—like bringing a sex toy into the bedroom and see if that works for you, but communicate with your partner first to make sure they are comfortable with it," says Pringle.

Rancourt says talking about sex is still difficult for lots of people, but that it is one of the most important thing to talk about.

"Generally most people are afraid to talk about those kind of things because they are worried about how their partners are going to respond," says Rancourt.

"So when you go home, I challenge you to embrace that fear and say to your partner 'Honey, keep calm but I think we should talk about sex.' And you can blame it all on me because chances are good that better communication results in better and less painful sex."

Abolishing the debt-sentence

Observations from a debt-drained Dalhousie veteran

JOHN HILLMAN, OPINIONS EDITOR

This week's issue was put together during reading week. Unsurprisingly, most of my regular contributors did not have material to send in. No problem. One of the hot-button issues on campus this month is the proposed tuition increase, and when it comes to tuition, I have opinions enough for 10 contributors.

Before we go any further: I'm not an economist, an education specialist, or a dictator. Nothing that follows is a detailed plan or a demand; it is all nothing more than a series of observations that I hope might spark some thought and discussion that deviates from the usual tropes of tuition-increase outrage.

What qualifies me to talk about this at all, let alone spend 2000 words blabbing on about it? I may not be a postsecondary education guru, but I AM a student who has been studying at Dal for a long, long time, and if there is one thing I'm familiar with, it's the hardship posed by high tuition.

Law school is expensive. I've spent the last few years working 40 hours a week between multiple low-paying student jobs for the 'privilege' of graduating with over \$40,000 in debt. This is considered a pretty light debt sentence in my program, but it came at the cost of countless sleepless nights spent catching up with schoolwork, the complete abandonment of anything remotely resembling a social life, and some serious exhaustion-related health complications.

So trust me, few people have a stronger belief in the concept of free (or at least vastly cheaper) post-secondary education than I do. What follows are two articles that outline both the problems I see with student advocacy for lower tuition as we have traditionally pursued it, and some thoughts as to how we might plausibly achieve truly universal access to postsecondary education.



The old ways aren't always the best ways

Winning the fight for lower tuition may require a change of strategy

JOHN HILLMAN, OPINIONS EDITOR

The demographics at Dal have changed, but the classic classroom education model has remained largely the same. This is the only system we have ever known. Perhaps because of this, we have difficulty imagining other possibilities.

To paraphrase a tired but accurate journalistic cliché, the definition of futility is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. Students have fought for lower tuition for decades, and yet the result—ever increasing tuition—has almost always remained the same. Perhaps it's time that we took a critical look at our longstanding advocacy strategies and isolated some of the issues and assumptions that might be obstructing real progress.

Nothing that follows is directed at the actions of any individual student politician or activist—the following issues I've decided to highlight come from a decade of personal observation and untold hours reading through the *Gazette* archives.

Issue #1: We don't have enough power to force change.

While we students sometimes tell ourselves that the fix for high tuition is as easy as rising up, showing our anger, and demanding change, the reality is that we are starting from a terrible bargaining position. We simply lack the leverage to force anything.

Of all the complex network of actors involved in funding post-secondary education, provincial governments ultimately make the final call on the vast majority of government funding that universities receive.

So what sort of firepower can Dal students bring to the battlefield when engaging the provincial government with more aggressive tactics?

The best measure of our influence is the number of bodies we can march to the polls on Election Day. According to Dalhousie's website, Dal, by far the biggest university in Nova Scotia, has something like 18,500 students enrolled. That sounds like a decent number of potential voters, until you realize that 56 per cent of those students are from other provinces and an additional 14 per cent are international students. That leaves 30 per cent of the student population, or roughly 6,150 students, who are both able to vote and immune to the government's ability to time elections outside of the school year.

Compare this with the number of senior citizens in Nova Scotia: 153,375 according to the 2011 census (and given that there were an additional 137,425 in the 55-65 bracket, the number is likely much higher now). Without even considering the differences in voter turnout between the students and seniors, you can understand why the government recently retreated from proposed changes to seniors' pharmaceutical after about five seconds of outrage, while students

have been complaining about tuition for the last century with almost nothing to show for it.

The best thing we've figured out to do with our numbers so far is put on moderately well attended protests, but these generally fail to achieve anything practical. The government doesn't take them seriously, since we have almost no bargaining power. The average voter tends to view them with anything from amusement to anger, depending on how disruptive we are and how late they are for work when we block traffic. In the end, our more aggressive protests give us a chance to blow off some steam, but they don't actually change anything.

Issue #2: We oversimplify things.

The problem of crippling tuition isn't simply the result of a bunch of greedy 'fat cats' wanting to watch students squirm.

I suspect that we characterize it this way partly out of frustration and partly in an effort to address our lack of actual power.

In theory, the simpler we make our message, the more likely we are to achieve student solidarity. Giant leering effigies of Stephen McNeil and Richard Florizone make for great rallying propaganda. The issue is simple: tuition is too high. The villains are clear: those paper mache monsters with their fingers steeped in the classic Mr. Burns pose.

The reality of the situation is obviously more complicated.

The government only has so much money to hand out—and they are already giving Dalhousie alone almost \$200 million dollars in funding. Free tuition for Dal students would require another \$150 million or so in funding diverted from somewhere else. Is it going to be healthcare? Not if the seniors have anything to say about it. The P-12 school system? The Nova Scotia Teachers Union and the angry parents of 150,000+ students might have a few issues with that.

Some have suggested raising taxes on 'the corporations,' because corporations are easy, vaguely evil-sounding targets.

Higher corporate taxes may well have their time and place, but even this solution isn't as simple as we'd like to make it sound. Higher corporate taxes would lead to corporate flight, which would mean fewer available jobs. (You'll only fully understand just how important of a consideration this is about two weeks after graduation, when the clock starts ticking on those student loans.)

One recent public announcement that comes to mind is the government's granting of up to \$1.5 million in payroll rebates to Oxford Frozen Foods. Several students in my social-media circle decried this decision as another example of the government favouring corporations over impoverished students. The company makes an easy target: it is owned by the Bragg

family, one of the wealthiest clans in Nova Scotia. Why should they get \$1.5 million when we can't even afford name-brand KD?

This is an easy appeal to emotion, but it isn't the full picture. That \$1.5 million is contingent on Oxford Frozen Foods creating 110 jobs (an \$18.7 million salary investment) in a part of rural Nova Scotia that has faced serious economic and demographic decline. I'm not qualified to comment on whether this is the most efficient way the government could be spending our tax dollars, but given the impact it will have on the lives of the residents of Oxford, I suspect that many voters view it as at least as appropriate an investment as the government's \$200 million grant to Dalhousie.

This issue is clearly complicated. Simplifying it will get bodies out to rallies, but won't get us any closer to solving any of the root problems. There a number of legitimate competing interests at stake, and only by keeping these in mind will we develop more innovative, potentially successful solutions to our problem.

Issue #3: We remain committed to a system that was designed to educate 19th century elites.

When Dalhousie was founded, universal education wasn't on the agenda. This institution was meant for the elite few who could afford the luxury of paying learned tutors to teach them the esoteric disciplines that would allow them to fit in as cultured members of the upper classes.

The demographics at Dal have changed, but the classic classroom education model has remained largely the same. This is the only system we have ever known. Perhaps because of this, we have difficulty imagining other possibilities.

We are convinced that the only way to improve access to education is to increase funding for the system as it exists. We protest for more government funding, but we never stop to consider how we might transform the current system to make post-secondary education more sustainable and accessible.

Consider the upcoming tuition increases. The government is actually increasing our funding by \$2.3 million, but faculty and staff raises account for an extra \$10.7 million in new expenses—about 79 per cent of the deficit that we will be forced to cover. This is good for the professors, and it would be foolish to fault their union for seeking wage increases, but these increases directly affect our tuition.

By continually allying ourselves with the Dalhousie Faculty Association in defence of the system as it currently exists, we have severely limited our ability to advocate for lower tuition. Until we recognize that the current system isn't necessarily the best system, we will be stuck fighting an uphill battle against other, more influential interests for access to the government's limited resources.



What might a free university education look like?

Rethinking our post-secondary education model could put free tuition within reach

JOHN HILLMAN, OPINIONS EDITOR

I don't want to be the guy who rains on everybody's parade without at least suggesting an alternative, so let me assure you that I am not all gloom and doom when it comes to the future of postsecondary education. I genuinely believe that free tuition is an achievable goal—and I actually think we can reach it without a major permanent increase in government spending.

I know that proposal sounds a lot like a lazy DSU election promise, but there is reason to believe that, if we have the will to reorganize, we already have the tools to make it happen.

Consider Harvard's edX program. Through edX, Harvard provides a number of massively open online courses (MOOCs) for free. Students watch lecture videos interspersed with practice exercises. They may use online textbooks, interact with other students and teaching assistants through class discussion forums, and even participate in online lab exercises.

The revolutionary potential of such a system is obvious. Some of Dalhousie's biggest expenses include \$230 million per year on academic staff, \$30 million on administration, \$26 million on campus renewal, \$21 million on energy, water, taxes and insurance, and \$21 million on facilities management.

An online-focused university could offer larger class sizes with no physical constraints. With unlimited online classroom space, we would use up far fewer resources and need to maintain far fewer buildings. We could have a single professor teach the popular/mandatory courses that class-size limits currently force us to divide into numerous sections facilitated by multiple professors. We could further reduce faculty size by supplementing our course offerings with licensed classes from brilliant professors at other schools. Assuming government funding remained constant and we figured out a way to cut our expenses by a significant but not inconceivable 37 per cent—\$144.5 million off our current \$391 million budget—we would be able to offer free tuition.

There would be obvious ripple effects. Dal and the other universities play a large role in Halifax's economy, and we'd have to think long and hard about the potential economic and human outcomes of such a significant reorganization. This is all just an embryonic imagining of alternatives at this point though, so let's set the bigger picture aside for the moment and focus on how such changes would affect students.

Could such a system provide the same benefits to students as a traditional Dalhousie education?

The answer to that question probably depends on what you

value in your education.

You could certainly graduate having crammed your head full of the same knowledge you leave with now—the ability to replay lectures at will would likely only increase retention for students who have trouble keeping pace with their professors. Government accredited testing procedures could ensure that you earned all of the same qualifications and credentials of a current Dal grad. The social aspect of classroom education could be duplicated by regular tutorials or study groups facilitated by graduate students—we already do this in most of the larger first and second-year classes. Student societies could still exist for those who had the time to participate and were interested.

Some have worried that any shift in public funding towards online-based universities might create a two-tiered system in which the rich would attend the surviving traditional universities, while the rest of us would attend the publicly funded schools. Given that universities can be hubs of networking, such a divide might only widen the social gaps between classes.

I understand this concern, but I think it is outweighed by the benefits to lower and middle class students. Such stratification already exists—for the most part, the truly poor can't afford to attend university at all, and shockingly expensive schools such as Harvard and Yale already serve as finishing schools for the global elite. Those of us who are working to pay for our education are already missing out on most of the meaningful networking opportunities—I don't have the space to list all of the of law school socials, firm meet-and-greets, and special guest lecturers that I have missed due to my work schedule. Personally, I would trade any of the marginal social benefits of occasionally hanging out with my richer classmates in a heartbeat in exchange for a big fat zero on my student loan balance sheet.

The benefits of such a system for less privileged students would go beyond lower tuition. Recorded online modules would be playable at any time, meaning that students who must work outside class to pay rent would be able to fit their academic duties around their work schedule. Students who work until midnight wouldn't have to rely on the poorly transcribed notes from their 8:30 am classes. Students who had the chance to pick up extra shifts at work wouldn't have to make the choice between paying rent and attending class. Students with children or steady day-jobs would be able to complete their studies at night. This flexibility alone would open the door to large numbers of people who would otherwise never be able to thrive at (or even attend) university, whatever the price of tuition.

Again, this rough sketch isn't meant to be the definitive answer to our tuition problems, but rather a prompt to start imagining alternatives to the status quo. We may never have the political clout to convince the government to give us free tuition at the expense of Nova Scotian taxpayers, but the power to reorganize and redefine postsecondary education is very much within our reach, and is a strategy that is likely a much easier sell to the general public.

"I can't, I'm too busy"

The increasing pressure of an intensive degree causes harmful effects on mental health

DEREK MOREAU

Through my position on the Engineering Society, I am a member of many different engineering-related Facebook groups. This helps me to keep up to date on student issues, to see what students are saying, and to communicate with them about upcoming events. This morning, I woke up to a post by a student who shared that they had dropped out of engineering due to an overwhelming workload and mental illness.

This student had been "chasing the engineering dream" for six years before effectively burning out. Although I do not know this student personally, the post saddened me—unfortunately it didn't surprise me. I know many students, not just in engineering, who have been impacted so profoundly by the stresses of post-secondary education that the tone of their voice has shifted since we first met. Gone is the sound of excitement for university; all that remain are stress and anxiety.

For many students, coming to university is their first time living away from home. Their first time being pressured by their peers and carrying the tangible burden of achieving best-in-class grades. Not to mention the significant financial commitment. These issues still don't begin to describe a student's struggle through their university career.

Student wellness is not something that is easy to improve, as it takes a collaborative effort from everyone at the University. At least two sides must work together to facilitate change: concerned campus organizations, and faculty. The organizations on campus are doing a great job providing awareness and resources regarding mental health. However, when students really begin to stress themselves out about schoolwork, usually they forgo those resources in favor of reducing their workload. This is where faculty must come in.

I understand how difficult it is to change the structure of a program. With accreditation standards set high, this puts pressure on the faculties to offer the best education possible. However, the model usually consists of stuffing more content into lectures, to ensure that students are experts in all areas. I've taken classes where the professor has started by saying "You will need to spend a minimum of 40 hours per week on this course," when everyone in the room has an additional five courses to worry about.

Where does it end? In 50 years, will students be arriving at class on the first day of school, and working for 140 hours a week until they graduate? What will Adderall consumption look like? What will students' mental health look like? There must be a solution where students in intensive programs are able to refine their work ethic and learn the material, while maintaining some quality of life.

It is difficult to predict what will change, or how and if it is even possible. But every day that the current situation remains the same, more students are burning out, and more students are losing their enthusiasm. It is hard to say that these are the "greatest days of our lives" when we don't have enough time to enjoy them. Perhaps that simply comes with the territory of an intensive degree, but there must be room for improvement. Whatever the solution, there is one strategy that I know definitely won't make the situation any better: raising our tuition!

Re: Peter Svidler's "Students Against Israel"

ZALMAN AMIT

Being as much an Israeli/Canadian as Svidler (except probably quite a bit older) forces me to respond to some of his more bizarre contentions about local Haligonians reactions to his pride and loyalty to Israel. Having been a loyal citizen, a full-fledged academic, as well as a soldier in several wars, I nevertheless found Svidler's whining tirade more than a bit hard to take.

During my 20 years of living on the South Shore of Nova Scotia, I heard and expressed many critical opinions and contentions about Israel, but characterizing "a proud Israeli" as a monster seems fetched out of thin air. But then, Svidler changes course and switches into an attack on "Students Against Israeli Apartheid (SAIA)" and how full of bottled up hatred against Israelis they are. They apparently hate everybody and everything Israeli: soldiers, settlers, products and academic institutions and on and on.

Svidler then focuses on a talk given last year by Dr. Norman Finkelstein (I was there and it wasn't very good) who had the unmitigated gall to claim that "Israelis are lunatics" when it comes to their positions about peace.

Finally, the absolute worst. The Waterloo University Student Federation held a referendum (quite democratic) to decide about their relationship with Israel's major universities. From there, according to Svidler, there is only a short step to a ban on Israeli students in Canadian universities, including probably Svidler himself.

As is usual in articles of this type, they tend to miss some basic things. Even a thorough and careful reading of this letter will not reveal one single critical word about Israel. Only pride, loyalty and such characteristics. Not a word about Israel's brutal military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza for the

nearly half a century. Not a word about the checkpoints and the humiliation Palestinians undergo on a daily basis when they try to go to work or to engage in other daily routines. While reading the letter a thought kept nagging me: did Svidler ever visit the occupied territories? Did he see the tens of thousands of Palestinian houses that were and still are being demolished—the hundreds of thousands of olive trees that were uprooted and on and on? Most importantly, is he aware of the number of Palestinian children who were killed by Israeli soldiers and settlers during the past few years? I guess not.

Just about the entire world has been lately critical of Israeli oppressive moves throughout the occupied territories, including celebrities such as the American Ambassador to Israel, who was then called by a senior Israeli politician "a Jew boy." The European Union, as well as the government of France and the UN, the Swedish Foreign Minister and more also criticized Israel. I guess all these hateful people are just that: hateful.

Whether Svidler likes it or not, during the past 49 years Israel committed numerous violations of International Law, acts of oppression against civilian population and many other such unacceptable acts. It is actually uplifting to see, of late, some rising criticism and objection to these oppressive acts against millions of Palestinians. Those who rise up and voice their objections to all this should be commended, not criticized.

And yes, if Svidler will ever face an attempt by any student body or simply "A major Canadian university" to kick him out because of his "nationality" he should let me know and I, despite my criticism of Israel, will come and do everything I can to help him.

On the neglect of Palestinian suffering

Your discomfort shouldn't deter us from having much-needed conversations students against Israeli apartheid at Dalhousie University

We at *Students Against Israeli Apartheid (SAIA)* get some emails every now and then telling us that what we talk about and what we advocate, despite it being true and ethical, is 'divisive,' and that it makes some uncomfortable. The same people sending us those emails would immediately imply that, by criticizing Israel's abuse of indigenous Palestinians, we are offending some Israelis. We are then instructed to stop reminding students of what many human rights groups are saying about Israel's policies, and of our student union's complicity in them.

Statements such as these can only come from a cornered opponent who doesn't know how to respond to reasoned arguments. If the reader wants to see an instance of such absurd claims being made, the last issue of the *Gazette* published a great example under the title 'Students Against Israelis [*sic*] Apartheid: On the normalization of hatred against Israelis.'

In that example, Peter Svidler, the writer, repeated the now-outdated argument that, because talking about Israel's unethical behavior made him uncomfortable, we should all just stop engaging in the subject. In saying so, he showcased his disconnect from the reality that Palestinians face, only to then proceed to accuse SAIA of (wait for it) "normaliz[ing] hatred against Israelis."

Let's be very clear. SAIA actually *has* Israeli members. We also collaborate with Israelis living in Halifax for many of our events. In fact, many of the speakers whom we've hosted in Halifax, or helped host, are

Israeli. These Israeli members and speakers are some of our strongest allies working against their own government's injustice.

If Peter was meticulous enough to read our previous articles in the *Gazette*, or attend some of our past events, he would have noted the many times we make it clear, in one way or another, that we are not against Israel for the sake of being against Israel. We are against Israel's unfair policies towards native Palestinians.

Our criticisms of the Israeli government's policies, and of Israel's history of settler-colonialism, are echoed by virtually all human rights organizations, including Israeli and Jewish groups like B'Tselem and Rabbis for Human Rights. We really do hope that Peter will fact-check us on that by visiting those groups' websites. If he does, he would probably refrain from making offensive statements implying that the biggest problem facing Palestinians in Halifax is going to bed "knowing they will wake up to a cold Haligonian morning." The weather may be Peter's biggest concern, but to many Palestinians in Halifax, the story is much different.

Many Palestinian-Haligonians fear for their politically active friends in Palestine, who can at any point be the targets of Israeli authorities, simply because they called upon Israel to respect international law.

Those same Palestinian-Haligonians are scared that their relatives may be evicted from their lands and homes to make way for ever-expanding illegal Israeli settlements or military outposts.

If those Palestinians are students at Dalhousie, their biggest grievance may very well be that their student union invests in companies perpetuating the suffering of their families, their friends, and their people all-together.

It was surprising to hear Peter, who seemed to care a lot about his own feelings, disregard the feelings of the many Palestinians being marginalized by Israel's occupation. His disregard showcased his double-standard when he implied that, because we renounce illegal Israeli settlements and the soldiers that protect them, we are part of "demonization campaigns... against anything or anyone that associates with [Israel]." Once again, Peter would do himself well by reading what Israeli human rights groups themselves think of illegal settlements and of Israeli soldiers.

Getting students talking about our complicity in human rights abuses, Israeli or otherwise, takes precedence over Peter's feelings and unfounded accusations. We will not apologize for our pursuit of an ethical student union. We will not apologize for our refusal to neglect or forget the suffering of Palestinians. If that makes some uncomfortable, so be it.

Movie review

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies

SAGE BEATSON

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies offers exactly what it says it will: Jane Austen's classic story, spiced with legions of the undead. Is the joke good enough to base a whole movie on? It depends on how funny you think it is. If the phrase "zombie aristocracy" makes you crack a grin, read on.

The Bennet sisters brawl like it's a ballet. If what you're looking for is badass ninja ladies in exquisite dresses, you're going to be well satisfied. Watching finely attired, high-society ladies throw down in hand-to-hand combat comes with a special, freeing joy. The stifflingly meticulous social graces of the early 19th century novel are replaced with honest punches. Yes, something sophisticated is lost, but busting out of the bodice feels fantastic.

Mr. Darcy is played by Sam Riley, who has clearly been typecast for his ability to play the pasty misanthrope. His leather trench coat squeaks at every step. Every moody comment he makes in his nasally voice satirizes the dark-and-handsome types like Colin Firth. In fact, its melodramatic gloominess is one of the most comical parts of the entire movie. He's as funny as Elizabeth is sexy. The true accomplishment of the film is that by the end of it you, like Elizabeth, somehow see him as a reasonably attractive hero and not an idiot.

The zombies are lacklustre. They're too smart—not in an uncanny way, either. It's just as if they're regular people with particularly rotted faces. Either they're conversing with the heroes, or they're slow, crawling mounds of flesh. Neither are the stuff of nightmares. The few jump scares worked enough to feel cheap but fun, like a midway roller-coaster. Mostly, the zombies provide limbs for the Bennet sisters to gracefully sever.

With so much action, the relationships between the characters fall flat. Their changes of heart seem unpredictable. Luckily, the underlying plot of *Pride and Prejudice* gives all the characters just enough substance to get by. The new additions to the plot involving zombie politics and different battle territories are confusing, but luckily, irrelevant: it's easy enough to tell safe zone from not-at-all safe zone.

This is not high literature. Anyone expecting a complex masterpiece of the human spirit will be sorely disappointed. But if what you're looking for is an action-y romp that doesn't take itself too seriously, and you're willing to relax your inner academic long enough to cheer as decaying brains get splattered, this movie will be the most fun you've had in a while. *Pride and Prejudice* has been driven into an early grave by remake after remake. *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* brings the story back from the dead.



Clothes for cheap—and for charity

Dal Commerce student opens online boutique

HANNAH DALEY

With spring (hopefully) on its way, why not support a few charities while shopping for your new wardrobe?

The Crooked Closet, an online boutique started by third-year Dalhousie commerce student Kate Robertson, gives one dollar from each item purchased to charities. The online store sells dresses, tops, skirts, and more. Robertson started and launched the store last semester and uses her knowledge from her commerce classes to run it herself.

There's also a discount for Dal students, if that helps to sweeten the deal (discount code: DAL15, for 15 per cent off).

The name "Crooked Closet" is one that Robertson came up with. She wanted something different that would also make it clear that she was running a clothing store. Since Halifax is known for more "offbeat" names, she thought it would be a good fit.

"I've seen a lot of boutiques around Halifax that have done really well," Robertson said. "I thought there was room to start something that is affordable for college students and that can get shipped to them in a couple of days at a lower cost. I thought it was a good opportunity, as well as I [have] always wanted to do it."

Robertson manages the website, does inventory, keeps the books, orders stock, and ships everything. The stock of clothing is at her house, where she processes everything.

"It's nice because I can do it on my own terms, on my own time," she said.

There are three charities, and each dollar is divided and split evenly between the three, which are the Canadian

Mental Health Association, World Wildlife Fund and Clean Foundation.

Robertson chose the organizations herself. Every four months, she adds up the money and sends it in a lump sum to each of the charities.

When it comes to balancing work and school, Robertson handles it well. What may have been difficult at first has become easier with practice.

"I would not have been able to do it without the commerce degree," she said. "Everything I've learned, from how to do my own books—the accounting aspect of that, how to market the right ways and who to market to that I've learned from [the program]. They transfer over each other, so I learn things from my store that help me answer questions and see it from a real life basis in commerce. They coincide and it's really great."

While Crooked Closet may be a business venture started during her degree, Robertson says she wouldn't stop just because of graduation. She hopes to continue the boutique after she earns her degree.

"I would love to do it after I graduate if I had the opportunity, and if it grows large enough, to do it as a job," Robertson said. "It's really hard to get into sometimes because there's a lot of competition but we'll see—it's something that I would love to do."

You can find The Crooked Closet online through the website crookedcloset.com, Instagram: [@thecrookedcloset](https://www.instagram.com/thecrookedcloset), and Facebook: The Crooked Closet.

New research has revealed that people of African descent are at greater risk of developing an aggressive strain of oral bacteria that can prompt periodontal disease.

“The prevalence of this particular (bacteria) is very high in the northern and western parts of the African continent but is also frequently found in... individuals of African origin living (elsewhere),” said experts at the Aarhus University School of Dentistry, in Denmark.

The researchers note that early detection of periodontal disease enables interventions that can prevent or reduce tooth loss. Populations with severe gum disorders are also at increased risk of heart attack or stroke.

A Halifax dentist hails the Danish findings. “If you are a person of African lineage and haven’t had a recent dental visit, take heed,” said Dr. Ken Rhodenizer, an esteemed Dal dental school graduate. “On a general note, anyone can develop periodontitis and the consequences can be catastrophic.”

—Evelyn C. White



The Raised Fist

Evelyn C. White explores our emotional attachment to our teeth

I was captivated by a story that appeared in the media last March about a Nova Scotia man who was stoked to buy dentures with winnings from his \$675,000 lottery prize jackpot.

“Yep, I went right out and got a new set of false teeth,” said James Hanlon, 60, in a recent phone interview. “I’d been completely toothless for 17 years.”

Hanlon attributed the loss of his teeth to a severe case of periodontal, or gum, disease. “The dentures have made a big difference,” he said.

As someone who has spent countless hours at the business end of a dentist’s drill, I was heartened by Hanlon’s commitment to improve his oral health. Indeed, my most recent dental odyssey coincided with the scandal that turned a global spotlight on the Dalhousie University Dental School.

In the aftermath of the controversy that led, last year, to disciplinary action against a group of male Dal dental students for alleged sexist and misogynist behaviour, I’ve found myself reflecting on my experiences with a school staffer that has given me special pride

in my pearly whites. The backstory: Winter 2012 found me in need of a dentist. Then new to Nova Scotia, I secured an appointment at the Dal dental school clinic that offers, as officials note, “care at a reduced rate compared to general dentists in the area.”

After an initial exam and x-rays, a faculty-supervised, final-year student replaced a large filling in a bottom molar. Unfortunately, the restoration soon failed.

Tooth tender (but tolerable), I attended a party, in early 2013. There, I noticed a woman who, in her quiet demeanour, stood in stark contrast to a lively crowd that included a guest in a clown suit and neon green Afro wig.

Drawn by the woman’s calm remove, I introduced myself. Her name? Alison Tuton. Occupation? Registered dental technician. Call it kismet.

A 1997 graduate of the since discontinued dental tech program at the Nova Scotia Institute of Technology (now part of the Nova Scotia Community College system), Tuton joined the profession by chance. She was employed at a Kentville fitness centre when she met a woman whose jewelry caught her eye.

“She was wearing a striking gold ring and

I asked her about it,” Tuton recalled. “She said she’d created it herself, as a dental technician.”

Tuton continued: “I didn’t even know what that was. So, the woman explained that she made teeth by using much of the same equipment, materials and procedures as goldsmithing. I wanted to become one right away.”

Tuton’s application to the highly competitive dental tech program included tests that evaluated her artistic skills and manual dexterity. The former star goalie for the Acadia University women’s soccer team aced both and completed the two-year program in the construction and restoration of dental appliances such as crowns, bridges, implants and dentures.

Tuton later apprenticed with Martin Mueller, owner of Mueller’s Dental Arts Laboratory in Bedford. A member of the Dal dental technician staff for the past four years, she also does private work.

Encouraged by Tuton, I consulted other dentists about my ailing molar, including a Halifax endodontist who performed an ineffective root canal. Eight months after my first visit to the Dal dental clinic, I was poised for an extraction. My spirits tanked.

Research shows that the emotional impact of losing teeth is sorely underrated. A study

in *The British Dental Journal* (May 2000) revealed that tooth loss often prompts reactions such as grief, shame, secrecy, concerns about appearance, and premature ageing.

“The researchers were surprised at the depth of [negative] feeling that existed among the participants...as they were all coping apparently well,” the study noted.

As one who’d been diligent (if not obsessive) about my dental hygiene, I was especially dismayed by the prospect of losing a tooth. Like Hanlon, I’d once suffered an extreme case of periodontal disease. Then in my mid-twenties, I was diagnosed while working in Denmark. Luckily, a colleague directed me to the local Aarhus University School of Dentistry where I underwent a series of treatments— including a bovine bone graft—that strengthened my gums and saved my teeth. For 40 years, I’d kept my teeth intact. Now a molar was biting the dust.

Ever supportive, Tuton suggested that I meet with Dr. Andrew Nette, who practices in Wolfville. The distinguished Dal dental school graduate extracted my tooth and, over the course of a year, prepared me for an implant, or fixed dental device.

Several months before my final appointment, Tuton arrived at my home with an array of her lab tools, so I understood that she



Far left: Dental technician Alison Tuton assessing the colour contrast of the author's teeth before crafting a custom dental implant.
Left: Finished dental implant crafted by Alison Tuton and now affixed in the author's mouth.
Below: Early prototype of "black power fist" dental implant.



was collaborating with Nette. But I was gobsmailed by the object that she presented to him in a blue velvet ring case on my official "implant day."

The gleaming porcelain molar that she'd handcrafted featured an enduring symbol of the Black liberation movement—a raised fist. Popularized during the 1960s, the fist salute was widely used, by activists, to express strength and to protest social injustice. As a Black woman who came of age during the era, I'd proffered the salute many times.

Wowed, Dr. Nette immediately photographed the dental device that he later declared "the most impressive" he'd seen in his 39-year career. Tuton had not previously shown him her unconventional design.

"Alison strives for a level of excellence that is rare," Nette said. "She has a fantastic eye, is fastidious, and most all, unlike the big dental labs, she takes the time to get it right. It's amazing to achieve that kind of detail on such a small space. Her work is flawless."

Martin Mueller agreed. "Our trade is multi-disciplinary and demands a specific constellation of skills to succeed," he said. "Alison has artistic instincts, good hands, the ability to see options and to solve problems. I feel honoured to have been her mentor."

Mueller lamented the demise of the dental

tech program in Halifax. "It was the only one in the Maritimes," Mueller said. "Now the nearest programs are in Quebec or Ontario. It's difficult to find local people, like Alison, who could flourish in the field."

About her inspiration for the molar, Tuton said she hoped the design might lessen my despair about losing a tooth.

"I was thinking that the fist would give you a sense of empowerment," she explained. "Along with physical pain, I know that dental problems can be tough, mentally."

She continued: "I love helping to complete a patient's smile, giving them confidence, and helping them to masticate properly. As a technician, I work behind the scenes and have a different role than the dentist. Most of the things that I create or restore are never noticed. And that's just fine by me."

Now permanently affixed inside my mouth, Tuton's work is not readily visible, but I know it's there.

Set against the backdrop of African heritage month, Beyonce's magnificent Superbowl nod to the Black Panther Party, and social justice efforts on the Dal campus, and elsewhere, the fist molar resounds, for me, with an ebullient cry of the 1960s: "Right on! Be Free."

The author of *Alice Walker: A Life*, Evelyn C. White is a freelance writer in Halifax.



Black History Month is almost over

Educate yourself with alternative picks to mainstream media

PAOLA TOLENTINO, ARTS EDITOR

The world seems to get more diverse as time goes on. In the new Star Wars film, two of the leading stars, Oscar Isaac and John Boyega, were Puerto Rican and African American, respectively. One of the biggest literary hashtags is #weneeddiversebooks, and with the use of the internet, it is now easier than ever for people outside the mainstream to get their voices and their works out to the public. With the closing of Black History Month, it seems appropriate to bring up some resources for people who enjoy learning about varying aspects of histories and works of fiction.

In terms of fiction, *The Substitutes* (Myisha Haynes), *Nibi* (Gyimah Gariba), and *Demon Street* (Aliza Layne) are easy to find, entertaining webcomics. If you prefer books, *Pointe* by Brandy Colbert and *This Side of Home* by Renee Watson are contemporary YA with black leads, though if fantasy is more your thing Ursula K Le Guin's *Earthsea* series might be the way to go. Neil Gaiman's *Anansi Boys* is a good choice for adult fiction, and if you're looking for classics, notable author Alexander Dumas was a black writer with some of the best adventure stories of his time.

Sometimes history is just as interesting as fiction. For example, *Hamilton*, one of the biggest Broadway Musicals at the moment

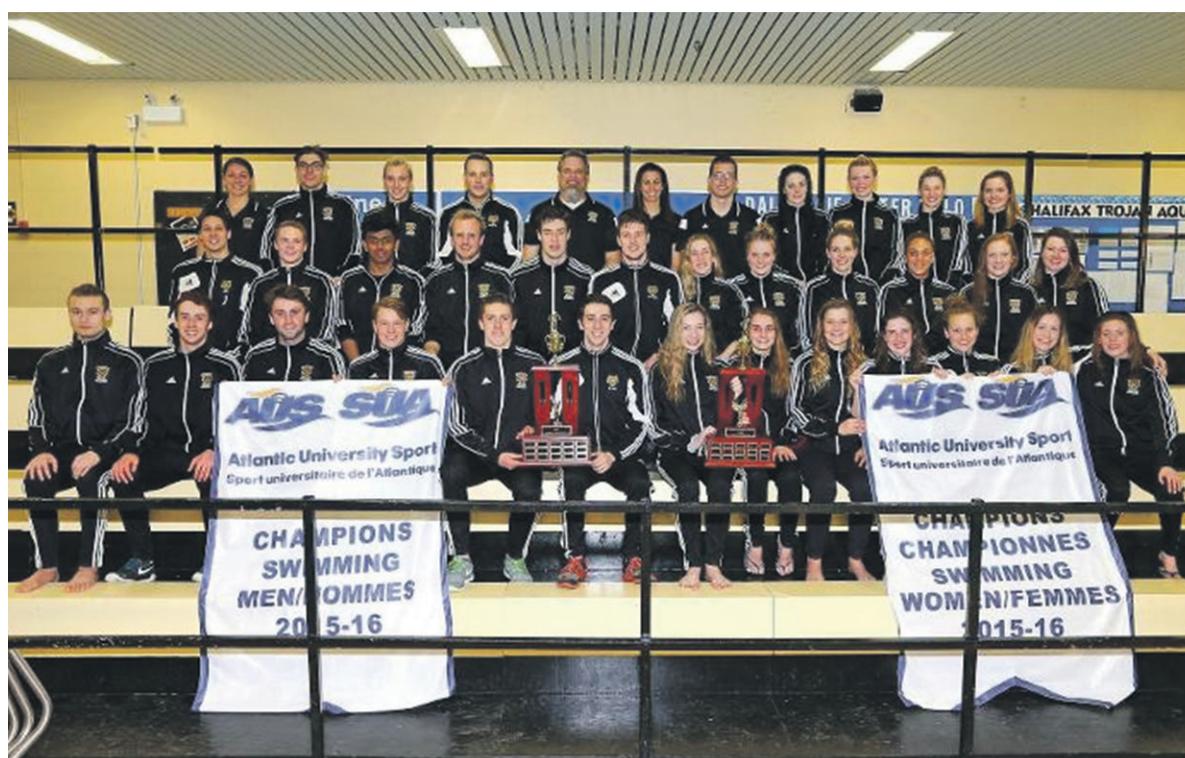
which mixes hip hop with history from textbooks. Written by the very passionate Lin Manuel Miranda, who is of Puerto Rican descent, the play is about one of America's Founding Fathers, Alexander Hamilton, and his journey from "a bastard, orphan, son of a whore and a Scotsman dropped in a forgotten spot in the Caribbean" to the revered figure he is known as today. While the play is not specifically about black history, it does feature anti-slavery themes in accordance with Hamilton's own views, and the cast is almost entirely non-white—except for the role of the King of England, George III.

History is also presented in an interesting manner by Tumblr's MedievalPOC. It aims "to address common misconceptions that People of Color did not exist in Europe before the Enlightenment, and to emphasize the cognitive dissonance in the way this is reflected in media produced today." It provides short blog entries on paintings, manuscripts or artifacts that demonstrate the presence and influence of people of color in European history, as well as provides resources, such as open source academic articles and timelines.

If you've seen the same story in the mainstream media or history books all the time, why not try something new?

Swimming

CAM HONEY, WITH FILES FROM DALTIGERS.CA



Tigers swimmers are double AUS Champions... again

The Tigers swim team shredded the competition to victory at the AUS Championships in the Dalplex on Feb. 12-14. The men's team win was their eighteenth consecutive AUS title, while the women picked up their fifteenth in row.

The Tigers started the competition with a bang on Friday, Feb.12. They won nine of 10 individual events on the day, on top of both 400m freestyle races. Both the men and the women built big leads over the competition. The women ended the day with 148pts over UNB who had 60 in second place. The men finished with 160pts over Memorial's 46.

Katherine Webster led the Tigers to a podium sweep in the first event of the evening, winning the 200m freestyle event with AUS female rookie of the year Lise Cinq-Mars and Lucy MacLeod following close behind. Webster followed up the win with another gold medal in the 100m breaststroke a short time later

Fellow Tiger and AUS female swimmer of the year Phoebe Lenderyou set a new AUS record in the 100m butterfly, beating her time at last year's AUS championship by seven tenths of a second.

Rachel Shin led the Tigers in another podium sweep after taking first in the 400m IM. Teammates Annie Douglas and Claire Yurkovich were not far behind posting CIS qualifying times in second and third. The Tigers (Lenderyou, Macleod, Cinq-Mars & Fraser) won the 400m freestyle relay.

On the men's side, AUS male swimmer of the year Gavin Dyke won two events. He led the Tigers in a podium sweep of the 200m freestyle, setting a new AUS record with Tyler Herron and Kyle Watson close behind. Dyke grabbed his second win of the night in the 100m butterfly, posting a CIS qualifying time of 55.72. Dal's Mathieu Bernier placed second behind Dyke.

Dalhousie Tiger and AUS male rookie of the year Morrgan Payne won his first AUS championship event, grabbing gold in the 50m backstroke. Dal's Tony Liew claimed gold in the 100m breaststroke with fellow Tiger Keenan Teghtsoonian placing second.

In the men's 400m IM, it was the Tigers Teghtsoonian getting his first taste of gold of the championships leading the Tigers in a podium sweep. Herron and AUS community service award winner Jeremy Ryant finished second and third, respectively.

The Tigers (Dyke, Liew, Watson and Herron) grabbed gold in the men's 400m freestyle relay.

Saturday, Feb.13 was the second day of competition and the Tigers continued to win races. Both the women and the men were able to build upon their leads. The women closed the day with 291pts over UNB's 132, while the men had 319pts over Memorials 110.

Lenderyou was the first swimmer to find the top of the podium on day two winning the women's 100m breaststroke posting a CIS-qualifying time.

Cinq-Mars grabbed her first individual gold medal of the championship, winning the 50m butterfly event.

Webster grabbed her third individual gold medal of the

meet, winning the 400m freestyle in a CIS-qualifying time of 4:16.34. Yurkovich was second.

In one of the tightest races of the night, UNB's Charli LeBlanc won the 50m freestyle in a time of 26.16. Dal's Lucy MacLeod was second (26.44), followed by Mount Allison's Allison Loewen (26.69). All three swimmers posted CIS-qualifying times.

The women's 200m butterfly event was won by Shin with Tiger teammate Cinq-Mars coming in second. Both swimmers posted CIS-qualifying times.

The Tigers (Lenderyou, MacLeod, Cinq-Mars and Webster) won the 4 x 200m relay in a time of 8:21.58.

On the men's side, Payne won the 100m backstroke event. Following closely behind was fellow Tiger Liew and Memorial's David Haines. All three posted CIS-qualifying times.

The Tigers swept the podium in the men's 400m freestyle. Watson was first, followed by Herron and Peter Inches. Dal's Teghtsoonian found himself at the top of the podium in the 200m breaststroke. Acadia's Adam Deutsch was second, followed by Ryant.

Dyke won his third race of the meet, grabbing gold in the 50m freestyle.

Tiger James Profit won the 200m butterfly.

In the last event of the night, the Tigers (Dyke, Watson, Inches and Herron) won the 4 x 200m relay, setting a new AUS record with a time of 7:29.02.

The Tigers continued to roll on Sunday, Feb. 14 on the final day of the championship.

The women closed out the weekend with 435pts while the men had 460. Both teams more than doubled their closest competitor.

In the first event of the night, Webster won the 800m freestyle event, with teammate Yurkovich and UNB's Kayla Martin placing second and third. All three swimmers posted CIS-qualifying times.

Lenderyou won her first event of the evening, setting a new AUS record in the 200m backstroke event. The Tiger broke her own record of 2:11.05 (set at the Kemp-Fry Invitational in November) by nearly three seconds. Acadia's Rebecca MacPherson was second, followed by Dal's Shin in third. All three posted CIS-qualifying times in the event.

UNB got their first gold of the night from Charli LeBlanc in the 100m backstroke. She was followed by Cinq-Mars in second and Acadia's Rebecca MacPherson in third. All three posted CIS-qualifying times in the race.

Lenderyou got her second gold of the night, setting another AUS record in the 200m IM. She broke the record she set at last year's championship by nearly a second, touching in at 2:14.84. The Tigers swept the podium with Annie Douglas and Sarah Wood finishing in second and third, respectively.

The Tigers won the final relay of the weekend, completing the relay sweep, breaking the record the Tigers set at last year's championship. The team of Lenderyou, Webster, Cinq-Mars and MacLeod clocked in with a CIS-qualifying time of 4:11.64.

Dal's Liew got things started for the men, setting a CIS-qualifying time of 28.64 in the 50m breaststroke. Acadia's Brendan Vibert was second, followed by Teghtsoonian in third.

Payne set the pace in the 200m backstroke, winning in a time of 2:01.96. Inches was second, with Memorial's David Haines finishing in third. Both Payne and Inches swam CIS-qualifying times.

Dyke won his first gold of the night in the 100m freestyle event, setting a new AUS record in the process. He beat the record he set in November by .19 seconds.

Herron won his first event of the night, winning the 200m IM. Profit was close behind, narrowly out-touching Acadia's Adam Deutsch.

Watson led a Tigers podium sweep in the 1500m freestyle, clocking in a CIS-qualifying time of 5:42.96. Tigers teammates Ryant and Jackson Sinclair were second and third.

The Tigers completed their relay sweep of the weekend, winning the 4 x 100m relay. Payne, Liew, Herron and Dyke narrowly missed setting a new AUS record, clocking in a CIS-qualifying time of 3:43.47.

Dalhousie swept the meet awards, claiming both rookie and swimmer of the year titles.

Cinq-Mars was named the AUS female rookie of the meet after claiming gold in the 50m butterfly, and silver in the 200m butterfly, 100m and 200m freestyle events this weekend. Payne was named the AUS male rookie of the meet after sweeping all three backstroke events. Both Cinq-Mars and Payne were named the AUS rookies of the year at the championship luncheon on Friday.

Lenderyou was named the AUS female swimmer of the meet after claiming gold in the 100m butterfly, 100m and 200m backstroke, and the 200m IM events this weekend. She also set three AUS records in individual events over the weekend. The AUS male swimmer of the meet went to Dyke after sweeping all three freestyle events and the 100m butterfly. He set two new AUS records over the weekend. Both Lenderyou and Dyke were named the AUS swimmers of the year during Friday's championship luncheon.

At the end of the third and final day of competition, the team standings are as follows:

WOMEN'S

Dalhousie.....	435
University of New Brunswick.....	187
Acadia.....	173
Mount Allison.....	129
University of Prince Edward Island.....	47

MEN'S

Dalhousie.....	460
Memorial.....	170
Acadia.....	129
Mount Allison.....	107
University of New Brunswick.....	85
University of Prince Edward Island.....	20

All CIS qualifiers will head to the CIS championship at the l'Université de Laval on Feb. 26-28, 2016.

Basketball

CAM HONEY, SPORTS EDITOR



16-year-old Tessa in her U-17 team Nova Scotia uniform.



Tiger's blood: basketball in the heart of a family

A profile of Dal Tigers' forward Tessa Stammberger

Editor's note: Tessa Stammberger had her Tigers career on the court end when she broke both bones in her right forearm in a game against Memorial on Sunday, Feb. 7.

Tessa Stammberger dribbles the ball up court. She passes it to a teammate and moves off the ball to get ready for a return pass. She gets the ball back and hits a step out jumper from the foul line just before the shot clock expires.

Tessa knew what to do. Her coach only had to hold up her index finger and yell out a single word, "one." These play calls are all the direction Tessa needs during the game. Tessa and her coach have spent five years working together on the Dalhousie Tigers women's basketball team.

Her coach, Anna Stammberger, also happens to be her mom. Passion for basketball runs deep in the Stammberger household. Tessa, 22, grew up watching her mom play the game professionally in Germany. She even plans to do the same thing herself.

"I just love the competitiveness," said Tessa. "I always liked

the game from when I was little."

She spent her first 10 years in Germany, where her mom played for Rentrop Bonn. Tessa and her younger brother Sven, who plays on the Tigers men's basketball team, got to see the game a lot as youngsters.

"I was lucky," said Tessa. "I was always in the gym. Me and my brother just always wanted to be at their practices, be at their games running around dribbling the ball."

Anna says Tessa showed a true knack for the game at a young age. Playing in Germany in grade two, she frustrated her opponents with stifling defence.

"Most kids just chase the ball," said Anna. "She was playing deny defence. It was quite interesting because I knew her knowledge of the game was always advanced."

The Stammbergers moved to Anna's hometown of Kensington, P.E.I., in 2004. Five years later, Tessa represented the U.P.E.I U-17 provincial team as a 15 year old. The next year the Stammbergers moved to Halifax so Anna could be the head coach of the women's basketball team at Dalhousie, her alma mater. That year, Tessa was able to make the Nova Scotia under-17 provincial team.

Her first year in Halifax, Tessa, now 16, played for Halifax Grammar High School and helped them win the provincial championship. That's when Anna felt her daughter would be able to compete at the Canadian Interuniversity Sports level.

"If she's helping her team win provincials of Division 1 in

Grade 11 then she's probably going to be able to play at the next level," said Anna.

Tessa ultimately decided to become a Tiger and go play for her mom.

"It's been so awesome," said Tessa. "I've grown so much, I've learned so much about basketball and about life. I've met so many great people and I've just had a great time."

She says basketball has given her so much.

"I've always been kind of shy but I was never shy on the court," said Tessa. "Now I'm starting to be less shy and more confident off the court and I think that probably has to do with basketball."

Tessa is listed as a forward, but handles the ball like a guard, just as her mom did. At Dal she was able to shine on the court right away. She was named to the CIS all-rookie team in her first year. Her teammates voted her team captain in her third, fourth and now fifth years.

"Off the court Tessa is very chill," said teammate Diedre Alexander. "On the court it's completely different. She's very intense, she's super aggressive and she's a real leader. I mean this honestly: she's the ideal teammate."

At one practice Tessa took a spill to the court. A couple of plays later her teammates noticed some blood on her leg and told her to go to the sideline to have the cut bandaged. As soon as the bandage was in place, she sprinted back onto the court to rejoin her teammates.



Tessa's first team in Canada. Tessa is front row third from left, Anna is last to the right.

"I would rather just stay out there," said Tessa. "The competitive drills, those are the fun ones, that's what I want to be on for."

It's no surprise that both Tessa and Anna think a lot about basketball away from the Tigers. But they say they try to keep their player-coach relationship separate from their mother-daughter relationship.

Still, it can be difficult at times when the coach is also your mom.

"During the game or on the court that's the easiest because she really treats me like a player and I have to look at her like a coach," said Tessa, who currently lives at home. "Living with your coach, I'm sure every athlete can understand that's a little challenging."

Anna understands the challenge as well. They both say they've enjoyed their time together on the team, but they're looking forward to getting back to being purely mother-daughter.

In her final year as a Tiger, Tessa's basketball career and life will see a drastic change. She is about to get her degree in kinesiology and will now try to get another one in education so she can become an elementary school teacher. For most university athletes, their time in competitive sport ends after their five years of eligibility. Tessa, however, has the opportunity to go to Europe and play professionally.

"She loves the game and I think that's something that her and I share," said Anna. "I think she can really enjoy a couple of good seasons there with a good club."

Tessa wants to return to the professional basketball courts in Germany, this time as a player. She's fluent in German and has a German passport, which would help her chances of making a team.

"The plan has always been to go play basketball in Germany because I do have that German passport," said Tessa.

She still doesn't know if she's going to head back to school in the fall to study education.

"If I get in I'll do that, but then I want to go over to Germany," she said.

While Anna spent more than a decade playing professional basketball, Tessa is unsure of how long she would play. She knows she would return to Canada after.

One thing is for sure, the story of Tessa and basketball will continue to dribble on.

Panthers beat Tigers 68-67

Women's basketball team loses last game in Dalplex this season

Playing in their last game at the Dalplex for the 2015-16 season, the women's b-ball Tigers dropped a nail biter 68-67 to the U.P.E.I. Panthers in a four-point game. With the win the Panthers were able to jump over the Tigers for fifth place in the AUS.

The loss left the Tigers with a 6-13 record on the season. They hold the sixth and final playoff spot in the AUS with one game left to play. The Tigers have yet to win since leading scorer and team captain Tessa Stammberger was lost for the season with a broken arm at Memorial on Feb. 7.

The Tigers honoured graduating players Tessa Stammberger and Ainsley MacIntyre with a ceremony before the game. Both players were given gifts to commemorate their commitment to the Tigers.

The Panthers built a seven-point lead in the first quarter as they took the frame 17-10.

In the second the Panthers stretched their lead out to 18 points at 34-16 but the Tigers were able to rally.

MacIntyre made a layup with a foul and capitalized on the and-1 opportunity. Christina Brown and Shalyn Field each hit jumpers and then Diedre Alexander and Sophie Gaube hit back to back threes, as the Tigers finished the half on a 13-3 run.

The Panthers won the second 20-19 and took a 37-29 lead into the half.

The Tigers kept their hot hand coming out of the break with a vengeance. They were able to take the lead 47-45 on two Alexander free-throws with 3:16 left in the quarter. The Tigers won the game 22-13 and carried a 51-50 lead into the fourth.

The fourth started as a back and forth affair with both teams exchanging buckets. MacIntyre made another hold fashioned three-point play to make it 59-58 Panthers with 5:16 remaining.

From there, the Panthers built an eight-point lead at 68-10 with 3:03 left in the game.

The Tigers put in a valiant effort to rally one more time. Sarah Preston-Thomas hit a jumper, Gaube drilled a three and then Michaela Barresi made a layup to make it 68-68-67 with 0:30 left. That was the end of the scoring for the game and the Tigers comeback bid fell just short.

Gaube led the Tigers with 15PTS off the bench. MacIntyre and Alexander recorded double-doubles with 14PTS, 10REB and 13PTS, 11AST respectively. Barresi chipped in with 11PTS.

The Tigers travel to Cape Breton to play the Capers on Fri. Feb. 26 in the final game of the regular season. If the Tigers win the game they are in the playoffs. They will also make it if StFX loses one of their two games against Memorial on Feb. 26-27.

Tigers roll to 94-81 'W' over Panthers

Dal secures first-round bye in playoffs

The Tigers' men's basketball team picked up a big four-point 'W' 94-81 over the U.P.E.I. Panthers in their final game at the Dalplex for the 2015-16 season on Saturday, Feb. 20.

With the win the Tigers are 13-6 on the season and sit in first place in the AUS with 38PTS, four more than the second-place Panthers, and have secured a first round bye in the playoffs.

The game was back and forth early on as the two teams traded points. A Sven Stammberger three gave the Tigers the lead 14-12 with 4:41 left in the first quarter.

From there, it was all Panthers for the rest of the first as they ended the frame with a 19-14 lead.

In the second quarter, the Panthers were able to stretch their lead to 13 at 29-16 before the cardiac cats started to claw their way back.

Alex Petronis hit back to back threes for the Tigers. Then Matt McVeigh hit consecutive threes of his own sandwiched around a Lorenzo Parker jumper for the Panthers and the lead was down to five at 33-28 with 3:45 on the clock in the second.

Jordan Aquino-Serjue made a layup and then hit two free-throws to tie it up at 36-36 and then Petronis drilled another three to give the Tigers the lead 39-36 and they would not trail again. The Tigers won the second 29-20 and took a 43-39 lead into the break.

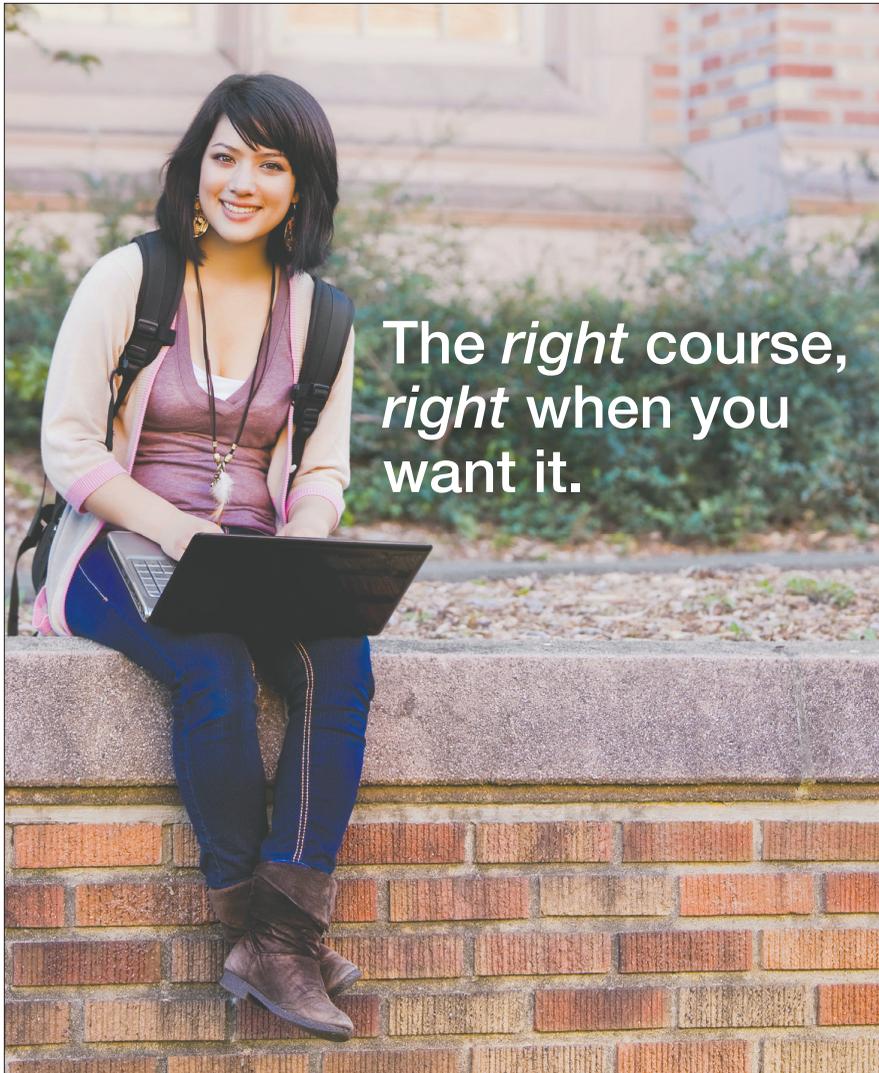
The third quarter was a high scoring affair as both teams filled it up in the frame. The Tigers took the quarter 29-26 and held a 72-65 lead heading into the fourth.

In the fourth, the Tigers AUS leading defence took over holding the Panthers to 16PTS in the quarter and 81 on the night. The Panthers came into the game averaging 93 plus points per game to lead the AUS.

The Tigers won the fourth 22-16 to take the game 94-81.

McVeigh led the Tigers with 18PTS off the bench. Stammberger added 13PTS, 9AST, 6REB. Aquino-Serjue had 12PTS while Petronis finished with 11. Ritchie Kanza Mata posted a double-double with 10PTS, 14AST to go with 6REB and 2STL. William Yengue had 10PTS while Kashrell Lawrence and Cedric Sanogo each chipped in with 9PTS.

The Tigers travel to Cape Breton to play the Capers on Friday, Feb. 26 in a four-point game to close out the regular season. The AUS championships will be held at the Scotiabank Centre on March 4-6.



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Volleyball

CAM HONEY, SPORTS EDITOR



Tigers knock off Axewomen 3-0

Women's v-ball good for first place in the AUS

The women's v-ball Tigers closed out their regular season with a 3-0 (25-13, 25-23, 26-24) win over the Acadia Axewomen in Wolfville N.S on Sunday, Feb. 21. The win gives the Tigers a 14-3 record on the season: good for first place in the AUS and a first round bye at the upcoming AUS championships.

The first set was all Tigers as they led from the opening point and did not look back on their way to a 25-13 score in the frame.

The second set was a much closer affair as the Axewomen upped their game in the frame. The Tigers were able to build a 7-2 lead early in the set but the Axewomen responded and were able to tie it up at 16-16.

The Axewomen took the lead 22-21 on a kill by Jazmin Prest. The Tigers answered back with kills from Amy Appleby and Anna Dunn-Suen before a Sarah Ross kill tied it up again at 23-23. The Axewomen committed consecutive errors and the Tigers won the set 25-23.

The third set was all Axewomen early on as they built a 5-0 lead. The Tigers started to claw back but the Axewomen took a 16-12 lead into the technical timeout. The next 14 points saw the Tigers make it 20-20 yet four points after that the Axewomen had set point at 24-20.

Victoria Haworth made a kill for the Tigers, then the Axewomen made two hitting errors, followed by two Appleby service aces and the Tigers found themselves with set and match point at 25-24. Dunn-Suen picked up a kill to finish off the match as the Tigers took the third 26-24 and the match 3-0.

Dunn-Suen led the Tigers with 9K. Courtney Baker added 5K. Abby Czenze had 22A and Appleby came up with 14DIGS.

The Tigers will be back on the court in Wolfville for the AUS championships on Saturday, Feb. 27 where they will play the lowest remaining seed. If they win that match, they will play in the finals on Sunday Feb. 28.



Men's volleyball

Tigers drop first AUS championship game 3-0 to Varsity Reds

The men's v-ball Tigers fell 3-0 (25-21, 25-15, 25-23) to the UNB Varsity Reds in the first match of the AUS championships at the Dalplex on Friday, Feb. 19. The loss puts the Tigers up against a wall, as they will need to win the next two matches in the best of three series to claim the title.

The Tigers honoured their graduating players with a ceremony before the game. Fifth-years Jonathan MacDonald, Justin Lynch and Connor Maessen as well as fourth-year Logan Baillie were all presented with gifts for their commitment to the Tigers program.

The first set was a tightly contested affair in front of a capacity crowd at the Dalplex. The teams were trading points throughout the set and were tied at 19-19 before the Varsity Reds closed it out 25-21.

The Tigers struggled to find their rhythm in the second set and trailed from the opening point. The Varsity Reds showed

no mercy winning the set 25-25 on their way to grabbing a commanding two sets to none lead.

The third set saw a refocused Tigers squad early on as the stormed out of the gate to take a 12-5 lead. They led 16-11 at the technical timeout and seemed to be on their way to winning the set. The Varsity Reds had other plans and were a reinvigorated group coming out of the timeout, as they fought back to take the set 25-23.

Kristen O'Brian led the Tigers attack with 13K and was named their player of the game. Matthew Donovan added 10K, and MacDonald had 33A.

Elvind Anderson was named player of the game for the Varsity Reds.

The two teams will be back on the court in Fredericton on Saturday, Feb.27 and if the Tigers are able to win will be back at the Dalplex on Friday, Mar. 4 in a winner take-all match.

Hockey

JOSH YOUNG



Gadoury and Vye lead Tigers to overtime victory over StFX

Tigers' last game of the season

Dalhousie Tigers' men's hockey team beat the CIS ranked sixth best team in the country, the StFX X-men 3-2 in overtime on Friday, Feb. 12 in Antigonish, N.S. This was the Tigers' last game of the season.

Gadoury opened the scoring for the Tigers one minute into the game. As the Tigers were entering into the X-men zone Gadoury passed the puck to Tigers leading scorer Fabian Walsh on the left wing, Walsh quickly passed the puck back to Gadoury in the high slot and Gadoury fired the puck past X-Men

goaltender Drew Owsley. Andrew Rieder got the assist.

Almost two minutes later the Gadoury, Walsh and Rieder line struck again. On the power-play Walsh passed the puck to Gadoury at the point and Gadoury one-timed the puck past Owsley to give the Tigers a two goal lead. Rieder got the second assist.

Neither team was able to score in the second period. The X-men outshot the Tigers 26-8 in the second period but fifth year goaltender Wendel Vye shut down the X-men.

The X-men kept on coming in the third period and halfway through the period they were finally able to put the puck past Vye. X-men forward Nathan Pancel shot the puck from the left half wall and Vye made the save. X-men captain Nathan Chiarlitti got the rebound and shot it past Vye. Michael Clarke got the other assist.

With two minutes and 40 seconds left, the X-men tied the game. Pancel skated behind the Tigers' net out the right of Vye. He shot the puck but Vye made the save. X-men forward Jagger Dirk got the rebound and put it into the net to send the game to overtime. Michael Clarke got the other assist.

Gadoury completed the hat trick 2:45 into overtime. The X-men iced the puck on the power play but Vye skated to the puck and passed it to Gadoury in the neutral zone. Gadoury skated around Steven Kuhn and then deked Trey Lewis and shot the puck over Owsley's shoulder and into the net.

First year forward Phil Gadoury's forth hat trick of the season gives him 17 goals in 25

games and makes him the AUS goal-scoring champion. He should be a candidate for AUS rookie of the year.

The X-men outshot the Tigers 66-28 in the game. Owsley made 25 saves for the X-men. This was Tigers goaltender Wendell Vye's last game as a Dalhousie Tiger and he is leaving with a bang making 64 saves for the victory.

Even with the loss, the X-men managed to get the one point they needed to secure second place and get a bye in the first round of the playoffs.

The win finalizes the Tigers' record to 9 wins, 15 losses, and four overtime losses (9-15-4) on the season while the X-men finish with a record of (18-6-4). The Tigers had a good second half having a record of (5-6-2) and only missing the playoffs by three points. With 68 per cent of their team being in either in their first or second year, the league the Tigers should be able to grow from this season and be in the playoff hunt again next season.

Tigers are eliminated from Playoffs after losing Game 2 to Tommies

The Dalhousie Tigers' women's hockey team lost 3-1 to the St. Thomas Tommies on Friday, Feb. 19 at the Halifax Civic Centre. The Tigers were eliminated from the playoffs after losing the first two playoff games against St. Thomas in the best of three series.

"I thought our team played extremely well and I am proud of them for how hard they worked," said Tigers head coach Sean Fraser.

There was no scoring in the first period. Both teams played tough defensive hockey. The Tigers had a checking line of Andrea Lyon, Victoria Macintosh, and Taylor Riecheld go against AUS's second leading scorer Kelty Apperson's line throughout the game. The Tommies narrowly outshot the Tigers 8 to 7 in the period.

On the power-play 12:52 into the second period, the Tommies struck first. Tommies forward Emily Oleksuk skated into the slot and fired the puck past Tigers goaltender Jessica Severeys and into the net.

The Tigers tied the game 1:33 into the third period. Tigers defenseman Kenzie McPhee shot the puck from the point. Tiger Laura Brooks was standing in front screening the goalie Taylor Cook and the puck went into the top corner of the net.

With five minutes left in the third period, the Tommies got on a two-on-one break. Kelty Apperson had the puck and

she fired it past Severeys's blocker to give the Tommies the 2-1 lead.

The Tigers got a power-play a minute, and even pulled their goaltender for the extra attacker 30 seconds in, but were unable to score.

With 44 seconds left in the game, Tommies forward Teah Anderson scored on the empty net to stretch and win the game for the Tommies by a score of 3-1.

The Tommies outshot the Tigers 33-17 in the game. Taylor Cook made 16 saves for St. Thomas while Jessica Severeys made 30 saves for the Tigers.

The Tommies scored on one out of three power-play opportunities, whereas the Tigers did not score on their three opportunities.

The win means the Tommies move into the semi-finals to play L'Universite de Moncton. The loss means the Tigers season is over as they are eliminated from the playoffs.

This was a tough season for the Tigers. They battled injuries all season long especially near the end of the season where they had four players suffer season ending injuries.

"I think we had a great season. We pushed through a lot of adversity. Coach told us we only had six players all season play all our games out of 26 of us so that's tons of injuries," said defenseman Laura Brooks.

"This game was like a microcosm of the season where we went in, we were the underdog, it was tough, we battled through and we played through the adversity. Unfortunately we came up short. I'm proud of them because of everything we have gone through this year," said Fraser.

Fraser thought his team battled hard in this series but lost to a good team.

"I thought we worked hard and they are a good team over there. We just got to continue and be ready for next season."

The loss means it is the end of Joleen McInnis, Sarah Robichaud and Sarah MacNeil, as it is their last season with the Tigers.

"They have given so much to the program and everything they have gone through from the suspension in their second year to playing home games at Saint Mary's in their third year so they have gave so much and have helped push this team in the right direction and when we do win a banner down the road they have been every much as part of it because they helped push us in the right direction," said Fraser.

Sarah Robichaud believes her experience with the Tigers has made her a more mature person.

"I have definitely matured over the years especially with Sean appointing me assistant captain in my third year. I have definitely taken on a role that acquires a lot of leadership and just holding the girls accountable and making sure the team is doing the right things. I am very thankful for that because it has allowed me to mature as a person and be a better person and player."

Next year is Brooks' last season as a Tiger and she is really excited for the season to start.

"We have a couple of amazing rookies coming in. We are losing good players but it is only three so I think we can hold it together and limit the injuries. I think we are going to have a really good team next year and I am excited."

Curling

JESS BURNS



Tigers sweep 2016 Subway AUS Curling Championship titles

The 2016 Subway AUS Curling Championships wrapped up Sunday with the Dalhousie Tigers men's and women's teams taking home both banners at the Highlander Curling Club in St. Andrew's, N.S.

In the women's final, the Tigers faced the UNB Varsity Reds who had defeated the Mount Allison Mounties 8-1 in semifinal play earlier in the day to advance to the final. The Tigers, undefeated in pool play, defeated Acadia 5-1 in the second women's semifinal.

Dalhousie, skipped by Kristin Clarke jumped out to an early lead and held a 4-2 advantage at the fifth end break.

The teams exchanged points in the sixth and seventh ends before the Tigers took a commanding lead with a steal of two in the eighth to go up by a score of 7-3.

Clarke and the Tigers managed to grab two more points with a steal in the ninth end to post a 9-3 win and claim the 2016 Subway AUS women's curling title.

In the men's final, Dalhousie skip Matthew Manuel faced the Saint Mary's team skipped by Adam Cocks.

The Tigers finished the round robin schedule with a perfect 5-0 record to advance directly to the final, while the Huskies won their way into the championship game

by virtue of a 7-5 win over the Memorial Sea-Hawks in Sunday's semifinal.

In the final, the Tigers led 1-0 after the fifth end after the two teams blanked the opening four ends.

After another blanked end in the sixth, Dalhousie would steal singles in the seventh and eighth ends to go up 3-0.

In the ninth end, the Tigers stole a deuce to make it 5-0 and the teams shook hands, giving Dalhousie both titles.

All four finalists will receive a berth in the 2016 CIS/CCA Curling Championships hosted by the Kelowna Curling Club, March 20-23.

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THE SEXTANT

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF DALHOUSIE SEXTON CAMPUS

Get Involved With The Sextant: Upcoming Elections and AGM

Garrett Allain Smith
Editor-in-Chief
Civil '16

The Sextant is a student operated publishing society that has been active on Sexton campus for decades. This year The Sextant has undergone major constitutional changes to better represent its student readership.

Running a newspaper, even one as small as The Sextant, is no easy task and requires a team effort. The Sextant executive staff is comprised of three positions: the Editor-in-Chief, the Assistant Editor and the Treasurer.

In previous years these positions were based on appointment and the acting executives would select the executives for the coming year. Under the new society constitution, the executives making up the publishing board are now to be selected by election. The change from an appointment system to an election was to provide a more level playing field for the selection of executives and to try to encourage participation from more Sexton Students.

This year elections will be held for all three positions at The Sextant's annual general meeting. The AGM is being held on March 14th from 1:30pm to 4:30pm tentatively. All students are encouraged to come learn about The Sextant, vote for the candidates and enjoy some free food. Nominations for the positions

are currently open and the responsibilities of the three positions are as follows:

The Editor-in-Chief is the Chief Executive Officer of The Sextant and is the one primarily responsible for its publishing. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for the overall vision of the paper as well as its day-to-day management. Specific responsibilities include editing and formatting weekly articles, writing articles, canvassing for contributors, raising awareness among the student readership, maintenance of The Sextant's online presence, liaising with other Dalhousie societies including the Dalhousie Gazette, chairing all meetings of the society and generally representing the society when required. Compensation for the Editor-in-Chief is currently \$1,500.

The Assistant Editor mainly acts to help the Editor-in-Chief in publishing the paper. The Assistant Editor shares a portion of the Editor-in-Chief's responsibilities that both parties agree to. This sharing of responsibilities is done to maximize the effectiveness of both editors and so which editor is responsible of which section is largely left open. Like the Editor-in-Chief, the Assistant Editor is constitutionally obligated to write a set number of pieces a year. Compensation for the Assistant Editor is set at \$1,000.

The Treasurer is responsible for managing the finances of The Sextant. The Treasurer's main responsibilities are to coordinate financial

audits with the DSU and to manage the payment to contributors. As a member of the Publishing Board, the Treasurer also has a say in the direction of The Sextant. Compensation for the Treasurer is set at \$500.

Nominations for the positions will be accepted in the lead up to the election in March. All interested parties are encouraged to contact The Sextant for more information or to submit their candidacy.

The Sextant AGM and Elections

Currently accepting nominations for:

Editor-in-Chief: \$1,500

Assistant Editor: \$1,000

Treasurer: \$500

AGM on March 14, 1:30 pm
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Share your Sexton event by sending details to sextant@dal.ca

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