

FREE!

Does university help or hinder
the search for romance? pg. 8

Love on-campus



The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868







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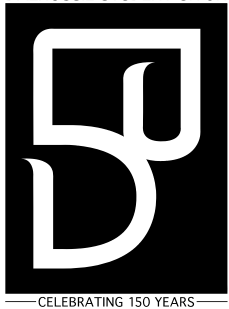
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DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION



WEEKLY DISPATCH

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK, YOU NEED BOOKS! IT'S A WIN WIN!

Simply post your feedback and suggestions for the upcoming DSU renovations on the DSU Facebook page and you will be entered to win one of four \$25.00 and one \$50.00 gift certificate to the Dalhousie Bookstore.

We will be accepting feedback until November 30, 2013, and the draw will take place on December 3, 2013.

HELP THE DSU IMPROVE EQUITY AND ACCESSIBILITY ON CAMPUS!

A survey is being conducted by the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) in order to understand student opinions and needs and improve student services on campus.

If you would like to help us out by taking the survey, go to <http://dsu.ca/equity/survey>.

FIND YOUR INNER ZEN: INDULGE IN SOME MINDFULNESS, REST, AND RELAXATION!

Where: The DSU's Wellness Room (Room 306 in the Student Union Building)

When: Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday during the month of November

Tuesdays, Ben Reid-Howell will lead us through breathing exercises and help us to reconnect with ourselves and get rid of some of that November stress. Come as you are!

Wednesdays, Dani McAllister will introduce us to, and help us refine our asana practice and the five principles of yoga. You'll want to be in comfortable clothing for this one! Feel free to bring a mat if you have one but we do have a few there for you to use.

Thursdays, Judy Johnson from the Halifax Brahma Kumaris will guide us through meditation. We'll learn how to take this practice with us in our daily lives so that you can channel that inner peace in the most stressful of situations.

Come as you are!

P.S. IT'S FREE!

Stay connected with the DSU through Facebook & Twitter
Facebook Page: [DalhousieStudentUnion](https://www.facebook.com/DalhousieStudentUnion)
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Nov. 8 - Nov. 14, 2013 •

The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

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the fine print

The Gazette is the official written record of Dalhousie University since 1868. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general. Views expressed in the letters to the editor, the Street, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Street feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff.

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DalGazette.com Website Top 5

- 1) Dalhousie trans student claims discrimination from cafeteria staff—Ian Froese, News
- 2) Don't mess up when you dress up—Elise Boudreau Graham, Opinions
- 3) "I was ashamed to see anyone"—Alia Karim, Opinions
- 4) Mincing words—Jennifer Fay, Opinions
- 5) A library without books? Hilarious—Samantha Elmsley, Opinions

Letters

letters to
the editor

Email Ian at
editor@dalgazette.com
Ian Froese Editor-in-Chief



A copy of the Big Oil Bingo card that was handed out by students during a classroom panel involving an oil industry executive. • • • Submitted photo

Keep stunts out of the classroom

Dear editor:

Canada's oil sands are undoubtedly a contentious issue, but as university students we are required to give our full consideration to all aspects of these issues when in the classroom. Late last month, some of my fellow graduate students disrupted class because of the nature of the content. This session featured a two-person panel on the oil sands and was especially contentious given that one of the guest presenters was a high-level executive involved in the oil sands industry. The students who were disrupting the class decided that playing a game of "Big Oil Bingo," complete with scorecards, candy prizes and heckling every time someone completed a "Bingo," was an effective way to advance an environmental message. It was not.

It was a stunt—a poorly planned one that had no place in a classroom.

There are two things that the students who organized this stunt failed to understand or think about in their planning. First, the way they delivered their message

completely destroyed whatever credibility their message could have had. Second, it was contrary to the very spirit of learning in an academic institution: considering contentious issues and challenging the assumptions associated with them.

The organizers undoubtedly sought to make a statement of some sort on the oil sands and the executive from the oil sands industry. The idea of delivering an environmental message against the oil sands certainly sounds admirable. However, by heckling and interrupting, they not only forgot what that message was supposed to be, but more importantly, they forgot who it was for. Their approach of heckling and interrupting targeted the presenter, not the people listening. It made whatever message they wanted to convey personal—you vs. us; we are right, you are wrong—and everyone else listening, fellow students, the very people who their message was intended to reach, became uncomfortable—bystanders caught in the middle of a crossfire. By targeting the presenter, the organizers of this stunt effectively alienated their audience and failed to convince anyone they were worth listening to.

That these students chose to disrupt a *graduate-level* class is much more disturbing. By making a mockery, the presentations became wasted opportunities for all students, but the organizers of this stunt in particular, to challenge assumptions on oil sands issues. The organizers could have taken the time to learn how other people view the oil sands, and to perhaps convince them that they could be wrong, not by heckling, but with rational, reasoned commentary. Instead, they chose to view this issue in extremities, leaving no room for anyone, themselves included, to challenge their assumptions on the issue. Where else is it more appropriate to learn how to challenge assumptions than in a university classroom? Sometimes that means listening to people who hold a different view. These students, *graduate* students, failed to listen. Instead of choosing to further their understanding of a contentious environmental issue, they chose cheap theatrics reflective of a smug mentality that suggests they know better than everyone else.

The oil sands may very well be one of Canada's biggest environmental disasters in the making, but that message will only resonate with well-reasoned, insightful and evidence-based discussion and debate. The graduate students who organized this stunt owed it to themselves to listen to the presentation. They, along with any other students who may consider disrupting a class because of the content being discussed, should realize their responsibility to give full consideration to different views, and that no amount of heckling or candy throwing will change anyone's opinion on already polarized issues. Such stunts do not belong in a classroom.

Jeff Blair is a graduate student in the School for Resource and Environmental Studies. He is in his second year toward a Masters of Environmental Studies degree.



Levied societies should welcome collaborative space. • • • Photo by Chris Parent

Levied societies will be fine in new SUB

Dear editor:

Dalhousie University is an institute with an identity crisis. With a mandate to support sustainable practices and with a growing and vibrant student body, the school is plagued with brutalist architecture and squabbling societies who never learned how to share. After attending the recent consultations surrounding the new SUB design, I was disappointed to bear witness to the petty arguments put forward by some of the 'respected' societies on campus.

In the new space, each of the 300 student societies will have access to a common meeting space, three separate and private boardrooms, print facilities and society storage. Larger societies such as the *Gazette* and NSPIRG will continue to have private offices in addition to the aforementioned common areas. The overall design of the building is also incredibly sustainable. While the society hub encourages cooperation between societies and the creation of community, the overarching design of the building incorporates features such as a green roof, greywater storage and living walls. With brutalist

buildings such as the Killam and the LSC, the new design is exactly what this university needs.

I was disappointed to find, therefore, that the consultation session held on Oct. 28 was the scene of petty squabbling among societies who might be losing some of the privileges they've had since time immemorial. Currently, DASSS, the *Dalhousie Gazette* and NSPIRG take up almost all of the office space on the third floor of the SUB. Members of the two latter organizations were in the crowd and actively arguing against the society hub for petty reasons. I know members of these organizations who use these spaces as private offices and storage areas. This is a building meant to service the entire student body (including the 300 student societies), not a privileged few.

The *Dalhousie Gazette*, one of the main offenders at the consultation, should not be worried about losing private office space; they should be rejoicing that the new society hub will give them access to new opportunities to connect with other students and be in the same location where student news is made.

Sincerely,
Eric Millan

On the cover:

Fourth-year Dalhousie arts students Hudson Mclellan and Yasmeen Ghebari enjoy a typical 'first date.' Mclellan, who is taken, said his single friend is quite the catch: she's caring, likes photography and enjoys painting. Our opinion writers weigh in on university dating and singledom beginning on page 8.



Library budget cuts somewhat explained
Students still protesting administration



Student services get sliced down annually, but this year students are rebelling. • • • Photo by Yi Nuo

Jesse Ward
Assistant News Editor

Books are returning to the “New Acquisitions” shelves at Dalhousie libraries, but the money for them is being redirected from unknown sources. Since September, confusion has surrounded this year’s library budget cuts. In short: new books are coming in again, the number of journals are still facing cuts, and reports will be released by Dal librarians and administration soon with more concrete information gathered in a central location.

The full story is a little more complicated. **First petition** Library acquisitions have traditionally been protected from standard cuts in Dal’s budget, but this year they took a one per cent cut totalling \$64,000. Dal Libraries have taken a 3.5 per cent budget cut along with the rest of the university’s faculty and service units. While new acquisitions at the library were halted on Oct. 1, they have since started again. However, a total of 409 serials and databases are either being cut

or have been cut from the Kellogg, Killam Memorial and Sexton libraries. The Dunn Law Library faced the loss of 161 subscriptions between April 1, 2012, and Oct. 17, 2013. While the Dalhousie Libraries website says that some subscriptions will only lose one form of access – either print or digital – it’s unclear which subscriptions will still be available in what forms. It’s also unclear for now where money is being redirected from to fund new acquisitions. “There’s enough money about that I’m confident. I’m not going

to put the university into receivership by getting new books,” says VP Academic and Provost Carolyn Watters. “You can’t just exactly say it’s going to come from account one, two, three, four.” Dal library budget cuts became a hot topic on campus in September when students organized against reduced weekend hours at the Killam. The library had reduced its Friday and Saturday hours from closing at midnight to closing at 6 p.m. On Sept. 28, Dalhousie Science Society president Emma Herrington announced a petition

against the change in hours after speaking with library administrators and Dal president Richard Florizone. The petition quickly grew in popularity, with several hundred students joining and sharing the information. That week, Marlo Mackay, communications coordinator for Dal libraries, commented on the cuts on the libraries blog, The Libvine. “We made this decision very reluctantly, due to a significant reduction in the Dal Libraries’ budget this year.” The post said the hours would not have been changed “if there

were alternatives.”

Herrington announced on the petition's event page that 1,045 signatures were collected on Oct. 3.

Dal Libraries made the announcement Oct. 8 that, in response to student feedback, the hours would be immediately reinstated. They said they would explore how they could lower expenses in other ways.

Bigger problems

Students and faculty started talking more and more about the budget cuts and organizing their own events after Herrington's success.

Mackay posted again on Oct. 24, beginning with the misunderstandings of Dal Libraries' "initial attempts to communicate the recent cuts to the library."

Mackay said the misunderstandings have resulted in a misperception that the Dal Libraries "will not be purchasing any new materials this year."

She explained that there will still be a one per cent cut to the acquisitions budget but that \$5,741,510 will still go towards new acquisitions this year, and next year's collection will continue to be invested in as well.

"It is true that some lines in the acquisitions budget have already been spent out for this year," says Mackay in the post, "but that is because we have already purchased access to 84,000 e-journals, approximately 1,000 print and e-books, and more than 50 materials in other formats, such as DVDs, maps, etc."

A Facebook group titled "Stop Dalhousie's Library Budget Cuts" was created Oct. 27 and hundreds of students joined almost immediately.

Posters against the cuts started appearing on campus walls. The *Gazette* followed the cuts across several articles and a letter to the president. Members from across the Dal community reached out to administration.

On Oct. 28, Watters sent an email to all Dalhousie students and faculty for an update on "the Dalhousie Library's budget situation, of which there has been some significant discussion recently among both students and faculty."

"I'm always a little reluctant to send emails off to students because the messages go to spam channels," says Watters, "but in this case there were so many odd

numbers running around that I thought I'd better just say, definitively—there will be books."

The email says the university's library has a \$5.7 million acquisitions budget, and that the budget has fallen short due to a decline in purchasing power.

The decrease was attributed to "the value of the Canadian dollar, inflationary costs and a one per cent budget cut."

Later that day, the Stop the Dalhousie Budget Cuts group voiced dissatisfaction with the email in an open letter.

The group complained of vague terms, no explanation being given for where the money to cover the acquisitions budget would come from, and that the "library budgets were even being cut in the first place."

"I'M NOT GOING TO PUT THE UNIVERSITY INTO RECEIVERSHIP BY GETTING NEW BOOKS"

— Carolyn Watters, VP Academic and Provost

"Dalhousie is an academic and research institution, and thus the library is the focal point," said the group. "To have a university with a diminishing library network is inexcusable, especially with an increased salary of the Executive and a large student body paying copious amounts of tuition fees."

A letter was written the same day to Dr. Florizone by the four chairs of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Robert Summerby-Murray, Krista Kesselring, Julia M. Wright and David Matthias.

Their letter says that while most FASS disciplines are "book disciplines," the library's purchasing of FASS-related print books has dropped from just over \$400,000 in 2008-09 to less than \$245,000 in 2011-12, to about \$182,000 in 2012-13.

They had been told FASS book funding would be frozen at the current year-to-date level of "about \$52,000."

"The crisis in the library is not in the budget," says the letter, "but in the damage that short-term budgetary problems are causing to a 200-year-old investment in Dalhousie's research capacity and

reputation as an institution of higher learning."

Administrative intervention

The cuts were on the agenda of the Oct. 29 Board of Governors (BoG) committee meeting that Watters and Florizone both attended. It was discussed that libraries had indeed stopped purchasing new books and journals on Oct. 1, and there had been a cut of \$62,000 to library acquisitions this year.

Usually the library's acquisition line doesn't run out until February, so for this to happen in October came as a surprise to administration.

At the meeting, Watters asked the librarians to prepare reports on how library needs can be met until February.

The letter says a report released earlier this year by the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) suggests "the university had quietly transferred \$85 million from the operating budget to the capital budget over ten years."

It goes on to say former DSU president Jamie Arron had been told at a past BoG meeting that "capital expenditures are not just buildings: library books are also capital expenditures and the University surely doesn't want to stop buying books."

"The DSU is troubled by the irony of this statement considering the present situation," says Jha.

Complaints and confusion

At a Dalhousie Arts and Social Sciences Society (DASSS) meeting on Oct. 30, library budget cuts were the main topic of discussion.

DASSS council and society members in attendance vented frustration with Dal budgets.

Dal student Matt Musgrave said a student collective started Oct. 27 after some were discouraged by the lack of a movement.

Musgrave said students were going to classes, handing out letters and asking students to sign them for when they would be delivered to Dr. Florizone.

The letter format was also posted on the Stop Dalhousie's Library Budget Cuts Facebook page.

The beginning of the letter reads: "I, _____, am writing to you to voice my concerns and frustrations with Dalhousie University's current budget allocations. The issue that worries me most is the \$600,000 budget cut to our library budget."

The figure of \$600,000 being cut to either the library's operating budget or the acquisitions budget has shown up in various places.

Watters says she can't imagine where that number came from.

The Stop Dalhousie's Library Budget Cuts group links to *Gazette* opinions piece written by Jacob Sandler, "Little victory, big problem," published online Oct. 17.

"As blog posts by Dalhousie librarians make clear, while library hours are being reinstated, there has still been a \$600,000 reduction to Dal's library budget," says the article.

MacKay says she never posted this figure, and is the only person

blogging in any official capacity.

Sandler says the number was presented at the Oct. 8 FASS faculty meeting.

When a DASSS council member asked if it was possible for budget information to be distributed before meetings, VP Internal Kaitlynn Lowe said there is no good information to be found in any central location.

"Numbers are vague, numbers are not to be found anywhere," said Lowe. "If you want statistics, you basically have to derive them on your own."

"Anything I've found has been (by) hunting people down. Find administrators, who in my view, once you find them, are terribly unconcerned with this," said Lowe, "and see it as a tidal change within libraries and something we should accept. It's something that's happened across Canada, it was bound to happen to us."

Still protesting

One idea for peaceful protest posed at the DASSS meeting was a "read-in," to be staged in the president's office.


DASSS president Taylor Quinn said he had discussed the possibility of a student protest with Florizone, and that Florizone said he would approve of a protest "as long as it was based in facts."

With official reports scheduled to come out over the next few weeks, some student action is still happening.

Anna Dubinski, president of the King's Student Union (KSU), said at Oct. 30's DASSS meeting that the KSU is "3,000 per cent behind" the DASSS' stance against library budget cuts.

Dubinski said a student government round table is coming up in the province on Nov. 8, where she will have a say in terms of what's on the agenda.

"We have a brand new government and this is the first time we're going to meet with them," said Dubinski. "The first thing they're going to hear is that this is unacceptable, and we will be speaking to them about that as much as we can."

In the meantime, Dal students can check out some of the newest scholarly work available in print. Acclaimed Canadian author Lawrence Hill's "Dear Sir, I Intend to Burn your Book: An Anatomy of a Book Burning" showed up at the Killam last week. 

Campus group fights for food charter

Foodies come out to give input



Eating snacks and talking sustainable food sources. • • • Photo by Chris Parent

Sabina Wex
Staff Contributor

The Campus Food Strategy Group (CFSG) hosted its first meeting to begin its year-long goal to create a Dalhousie food charter.

Fewer than 10 students attended the café-styled meeting

held Oct. 30 at the Student Union Building. Included were snacks, Sharpies and large sheets of paper to get ideas flowing.

The food charter would be based on student input generated through public meetings on campus, as well as surveys and meetings with other food-concerned

student associations. The idea comes from the National Student Food Charter, which collected input from over 400 Canadian post-secondary school students as a tool for them to change the food at their own schools.

"If it's just me knocking on the door being like, 'This is my job and I want local food,' they (food providers) are like, 'Okay, well, you want local food? The other student wants cheap food,'" says CFSG coordinator Samantha Luc. "And so I think it's important to have a statement of collective values of students that are interested in being able to eat well on campus."

Chartwells provides food for Aramark, which hires the kitchen staff in Dal's residential cafeterias and the Killam, to name a few. With Chartwells' national connections, Dal saves money on food costs.

First-year student Owen Brush wants to see Dal involved in the management, putting the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU)

in control. Luc agrees in having Dalhousie involved, but thinks it would be too much for students to completely run the food services. She'd prefer that Dal pick the kitchen staff and providers on their own, rather than contracting the work out to Chartwells. She cites the Vancouver Island School, which allows its culinary school to provide the campus food supply.

.....
**"THE STUFF
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 WHAT I GET TO
 SEE"**

Brush would also want to know how other foods are treated for other Aramark clients. "If Aramark will provide this utopian food at university, but continues to do the same at prisons or hospitals, has anything changed?"

The proposals between Dal and its food providers don't contain

student input, and third-year student Aaron Levitt questioned how the providers would react to student movements, such as ones for organic food. The responding proposals from food providers to Dalhousie's requests are around 400 pages long and not publicly available for proprietary reasons.

"The stuff I want to know isn't necessarily what I get to see," says Levitt. He'd like to see CFSG condense these documents if they are ever made available.

"It's really not transparent," says Luc. "It's hard because we're sitting here and we want to change things, but sometimes we don't even know."

Other participants at the consultation discussed issues regarding seafood and fair-trade in Nova Scotia. The participants were highly educated about food issues, occasionally discussing broader topics rather than just the Dalhousie specifics.

Luc hopes the Dalhousie food charter will be done by April. She wants to present it to the DSU to have councillors vote on adopting it either in part or in its entirety. She would also like to present it to the President's Advisory Council on Sustainability. **✉**

Executives eye expansion

DSU execs look to add one more seat to the table

Dan Malone
News Contributor

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) is considering adding another member to their executive council, which would mean almost an additional \$30,000 per year in expenses for the DSU.

The proposed new position would mean separating the positions of vice president academic and external.

Aaron Beale is the current VP academic and external. He describes the current job as a "huge portfolio ... and the two jobs aren't necessarily related."

Beale says he hopes council will be able to start work on separating the two positions by the end of this year.

For this to happen, the DSU's

constitution would have to be changed, which can only be done at an annual general meeting or by referendum.

Before it can reach that stage, it first must pass the DSU's Board of Operations, which will determine if the proposal is financially viable. The council will then have to vote whether or not to add the new position.

Elizabeth Croteau, chair of the Board of Operations, says it's highly unlikely a new executive position will be in place by the next academic year.

"I think for due process to be followed," says Croteau, "it's going to take more than four months."

The four-month time frame she refers to spans from November to the end of February. Any changes to executive positions for the



The DSU is going to need a bigger table. • • • Photo by Chris Parent

2014-15 school year would need to be approved before the next election, which means that the addi-

tional position would have to clear the Board of Operations, council, and then be passed, most likely

via referendum, by the student body.

CONTINUED ON PG. 7

CONTINUED FROM PG. 6

Right now, Croteau says the new position is still in the fact-gathering phase.

"If you want it for next year, it's going to be rushed. And I don't think this is something we can afford to rush."

However, Croteau characterizes the likelihood of the new position coming to a vote as "probable," most likely impacting the 2015-16

focused on Orientation Week, at the expense of other responsibilities. Hiring a coordinator who would report directly to the VP student life would simplify the process while still allowing the VP student life to maintain oversight.

Croteau says that hiring more part-time staff could have a "very positive" financial impact on the DSU.

"Right now, each DSU executive can hire part-time staff ... without the kind of oversight that you would typically think of in a job environment," she says. "I think if we actually looked at distributing these small jobs and putting it in policy very clearly, this person does this job and gets paid this amount of money, then it all becomes much more accountable."

Hiring more part-time staff could also solve another issue Beale mentioned with the DSU, that the executives spend what he feels is an "inordinate" amount of time on menial tasks.

"You run on a platform," he says, "but then you spend all this time doing logistical work."

But, it's still too early to say much.

"We're trying to figure out what the ideal is," says Beale, "and then we're going to get the ball rolling on creating it."

A seven page draft has since been sent to council to discuss in November. It reportedly calls for two additional executive positions. ☹

"YOU RUN ON A PLATFORM BUT THEN YOU SPEND ALL THIS TIME DOING LOGISTICAL WORK"

year.

Another route the DSU could take is adjusting the responsibilities of the current executives. Since this would not require a constitutional change, it could be passed just by the Board of Operations and a two-thirds vote at council.

One key change could be a part-time Orientation Week coordinator. One argument against the current structure is that the position of VP student life is too

Gravestones on the quad

Students voiced problems with Dal budget cuts



Library cuts and disappearing classes were among the most popular complaints. • • • Photo by Yi Nuo

Kristie Smith
News Editor

The Studley quad was littered with tombstones on Halloween, each one planted by a student, staff or faculty member concerned about campus operations.

"It's absolutely befitting considering everything going on at Dal," says Jacqueline Skiptunis, VP academic of the Dalhousie Arts and Social Sciences Society, "the services, the courses, the integrity of the university has been dying for years."

The makeshift graveyard had over 20 stones by the end of the rally and saw over 200 students stop by, making their own tombstones or offering their support.

The university has received a lot of attention for its library budget cuts, which resulted in decreased hours and acquisition power. Beyond the library, there have been other budget cuts across campus: departments are being shrunk to meet bottom lines, popular professors are leaving

because there is no job security, and international students are receiving fewer services for higher fees every year.

"We pay some of the highest tuition fees in the country but our quality of education is dropping," says Skiptunis. "If there is a correlation, it's failing. It is not working in our favor. I don't think education is being prioritized the way it should be."

"I've seen a lot of changes, especially in the past 10 years, that have really dramatically altered the university," says Marjorie Stone, who teaches English and Gender studies and has been at Dal for over 30 years. "The administrative ranks seem to have grown while the full-time and tenured faculty have been declining and not been replaced."

Dalhousie United has formed as a result, starting in 2012 when the university projected a \$16M budget deficit. The group has been gathering input to create a Student Bill of Rights which was available at the rally. Mem-

bers have been soliciting input from across campus for months to build the bill, which addresses rising costs and disproportionate budgets.

"I see students in my classes working 10, 15, 20 hours a week on top of four or five classes, so I think one of the things resting in peace, but not in peace, is investment in our young people," says Stone.

"Why does our society not believe in investing in our students?"

The bill is divided into three parts and is available on their website. The main priorities are rights to quality education, ability to participate in governance and a transparent and accountable university. The group has emailed copies to administrators, including President Richard Florizone. So far, the response has been good but there could always be more. ☹

NEWS BRIEF

Humans vs. Zombies

Nikki Jamieson
News Contributor

A giant game of tag between humans and zombies took over campus this week, the first of its kind at Dal.

"Zombies are really popular in pop culture right now, so it is something a lot of people have an interest in," says Bryn Karcha, the event's primary coordinator. "I just thought it would be fun to have people run around, firing Nerf guns at each other, to get people more active and engaged in the Dal community."

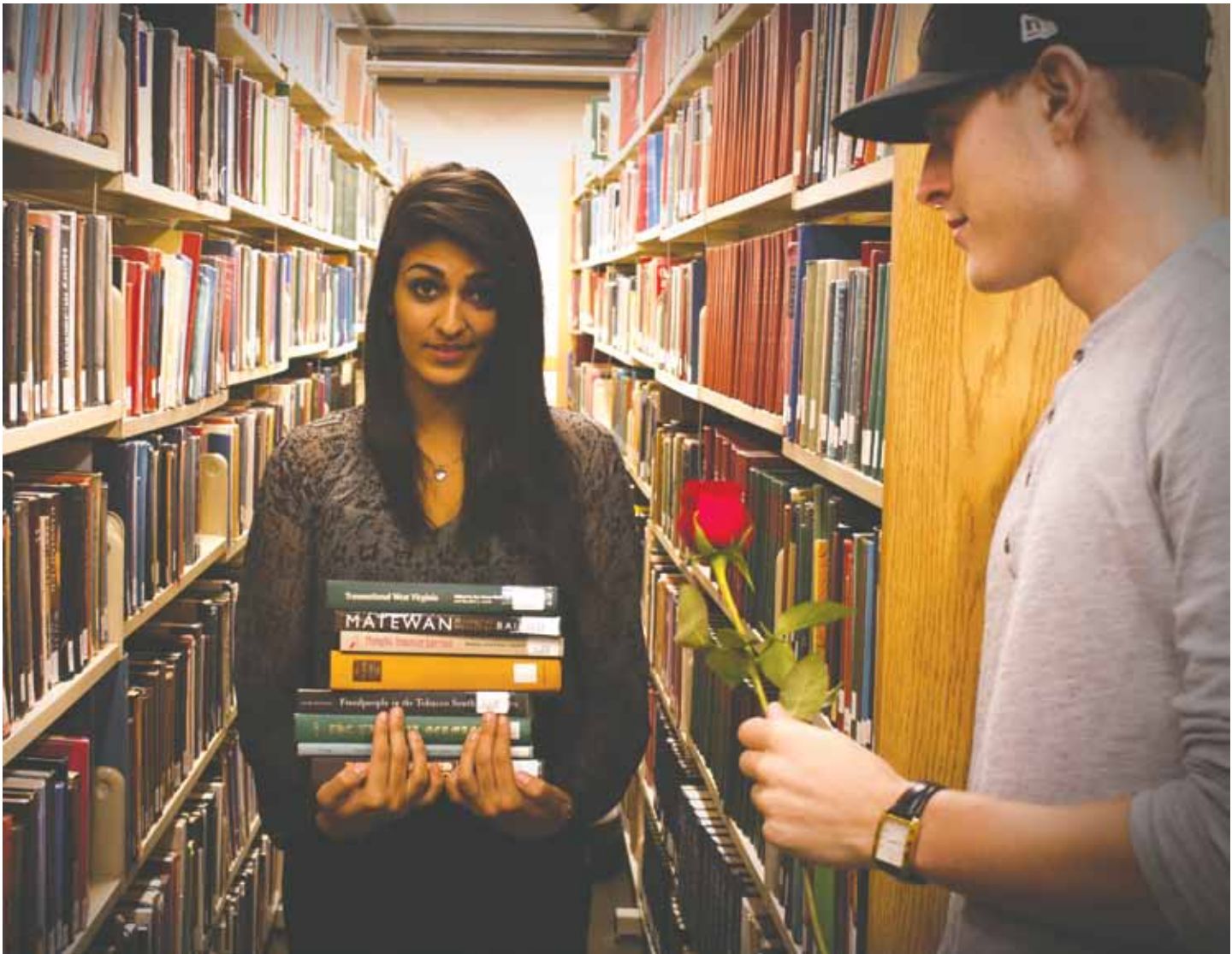
Contestants started off as humans, with one pre-determined zombie hidden among them. The zombie tagged people and the horde started growing. Humans defended themselves with Nerf guns and sock balls which stunned zombies for 15 minutes. Zombies needed to "feed," or tag someone, every 48 hours to avoid starvation.

Players were able to register as squads to bolster their chances of survival; one group was expected to play in kilts.

No results are included because the game was underway at the time of print. ☹



Love, life and university



How easily do you find love during university? ••• Photo by Gharrett Paon

On seeking relationships during school

Jackson Haime
Opinions Contributor

There are a lot of things I brought with me when I came to Dalhousie from Ottawa: a laptop, a copy of *The New Journalism*, an N64 and a girlfriend.

Three of those things have been a part of my life in the past 24

hours. *The New Journalism* took a break after the first year. Of these things, the live human being takes the most of my time (though she would argue it's my laptop) and hasn't been the easiest thing to manage over my time here.

The question this week was whether the university environment is conducive to dating. The

answer to that is a very solid no. University is a great environment to do a lot of things with the opposite (or same) sex, but long-term relationship hunting/maintenance isn't one of those things.

It can be done, obviously, but it is more of a balancing act than you would expect. Between classes, stress levels, new friends,

new hobbies, a job at Starbucks, a pathetic attempt at becoming a published author and housemates, there is a lot competing for your time in university. Sunday to Thursday night I am keeping up with classes, Friday and Saturday I am trying to forget the previous week. When do I have time to go on dates?

Being completely honest, my girlfriend and I hang out

as friends, with friends, more than anything else. As much as we would love to go out every week, there just isn't the time or the money to do so. As such we are left to pal around, and kiss when our friends aren't looking. We aren't spending our time on romantic rides through the canals of Venice for a lot of reasons, one of them being we are in Halifax.

Which brings me to my conclusion on this whole matter.

University isn't good for Hollywood romantics, but it's a fantastic setting for developing your relationships with people, even if you were in a relationship with them before. We don't have the time, money, or patience, to be a real 'couple' right now. We won't three years from now when she's getting her masters and I'm attempting to be a journalist.

“UNIVERSITY ISN'T GOOD FOR HOLLYWOOD ROMANTICS”

University spends a lot of its time trying to teach you how to survive on your own. For some people, it's the first time cooking, or cleaning, or both. For other people it's their first time trying to do homework without their parents nagging them from the corner. For me? It's been my first time cooking with another person, first time staying in because she's feeling sick and desperately needs tea at this moment. It's my first time having someone who is willing to watch the ENTIRE series of *Friends* just to introduce me to the show. It's also my first time learning that a relationship isn't just holding hands, dinner and a movie.

Maybe university isn't the best place to be a romantic, but I think it teaches you an important lesson: there is never enough time to be a romantic. You just need to find it.

Who has the time?

Krista Alexander
Opinions Contributor

Admit it: growing up we all secretly thought we would meet a high school sweetheart and live happily ever after. Upon entering grade nine, and then barely surviving the next four years, we quickly realized this was not going to be the case and changed to a more realistic expectation: meeting our future partner in university. It seemed like a practical goal, based on the many stories we heard from the generation before us who usually met their husbands and wives during their time at university or college. But is this really the case?

Based on the amount of couples you see walking hand in hand around campus, you'd think university would be a mecca for anyone looking for a relationship. And yes, I've heard many stories

from friends who have received the hairy eyeball in the library or been the victim of some forced small talk on the bus. But typically these interactions do not amount to anything more than an awkward interaction and rarely end up in relationships. Many parents and members of the generation before us stress the importance of getting involved at university. They imply that meeting people ("maybe even a special someone...") is only possible if one joins as many clubs, teams, intramurals and societies as they can possibly fit into their schedule.

This is all well and good until students end up making themselves too busy to even look up as they run from classes to meetings, stopping only to grab a coffee at Second Cup or wolf down a sub. And to be honest, I don't exactly attract any positive looks while dashing from the McCain to the SUB while scarfing down a sandwich, blissfully unaware of the food on my face. When life becomes this hectic, who even has time to date?

I speak for my friends and myself when I say that lately I barely have time to think of anything between sleeping, eating and classes—and I'm only in the arts. If the opportunity for a relationship is not laid right in front of us students, it seems as though no one really has the energy to pursue one these days. It's easy to forget that love interests even exist beyond friend zones and group projects. Personally, the last time I was approached by someone of the male persuasion was last night in the library when a guy told me, "You're in here a lot... Probably too much." I'd take it to heart except it's entirely accurate.

Lately students barely have time to lift their heads, let alone make time for small talk that could eventually amount to any sort of significant interaction. So as much as dating in university seems to be the norm, many modern day students don't have the time to pursue relationships—or the desire to. ☹

Try outsourcing

Samantha Elmsley
Opinions Editor

I met my partner during one hazy Ontario summer, in Thunder Bay, of all places. Yes, even Thunder Bay is a mecca of love interests compared to Halifax during the school year.

"STARTING A RELATIONSHIP REQUIRES TIME"

There is absolutely no way I would ever meet anyone on my September to April schedule. Currently, I scurry around between classes, pulling my hair, and grabbing people at random to yell "Can you BELIEVE it's November?????" before setting off at a

sprint for my next meeting/class/appointment/study sesh. I barely have time to put in decent friend hours, let alone meet new people.

Theoretically, the odds of meeting someone at university should be astronomical. Thousands of young, sexually charged students on one campus, arranged into groups according to what fires them up (called "programs")? By this logic, everyone should meet their match within the first five seconds of starting university. But starting a relationship requires time and a certain amount of flexibility. You need the ability to stay up randomly until five in the morning, because you can't walk away from the amazing person you've just met. Personally, it's a miracle if I'm awake until 1 a.m. during the school year—my workload can't take that kind of setback.

University is a lesson in priorities. If you're really dedicated to finding a relationship over these four years, that's great—but it will cut in to your schedule. ☹

A picture of love

Josh Fraser
Opinions Contributor

The Dating Question is among the first questions Facebook will ask you. It is indeed a source of nervous tension in sexually charged rooms filled with lively people and fun substances. Some dear friends tell me they struggle to picture their existence outside the context of a partner with whom to exist. The muses of society have spoken, and the artists of the radio echo the strife, yearning, pain, and disconnection in intimate relationships.

To see people in angst, feeling incomplete and alone, carves slow, deep grooves into me. Yet what salve I could administer is only a token gesture, an affirmation that I truly cannot feel the conscious pain of another; my empathy will always fall short of true understanding. Instead, I offer a small counter-position.

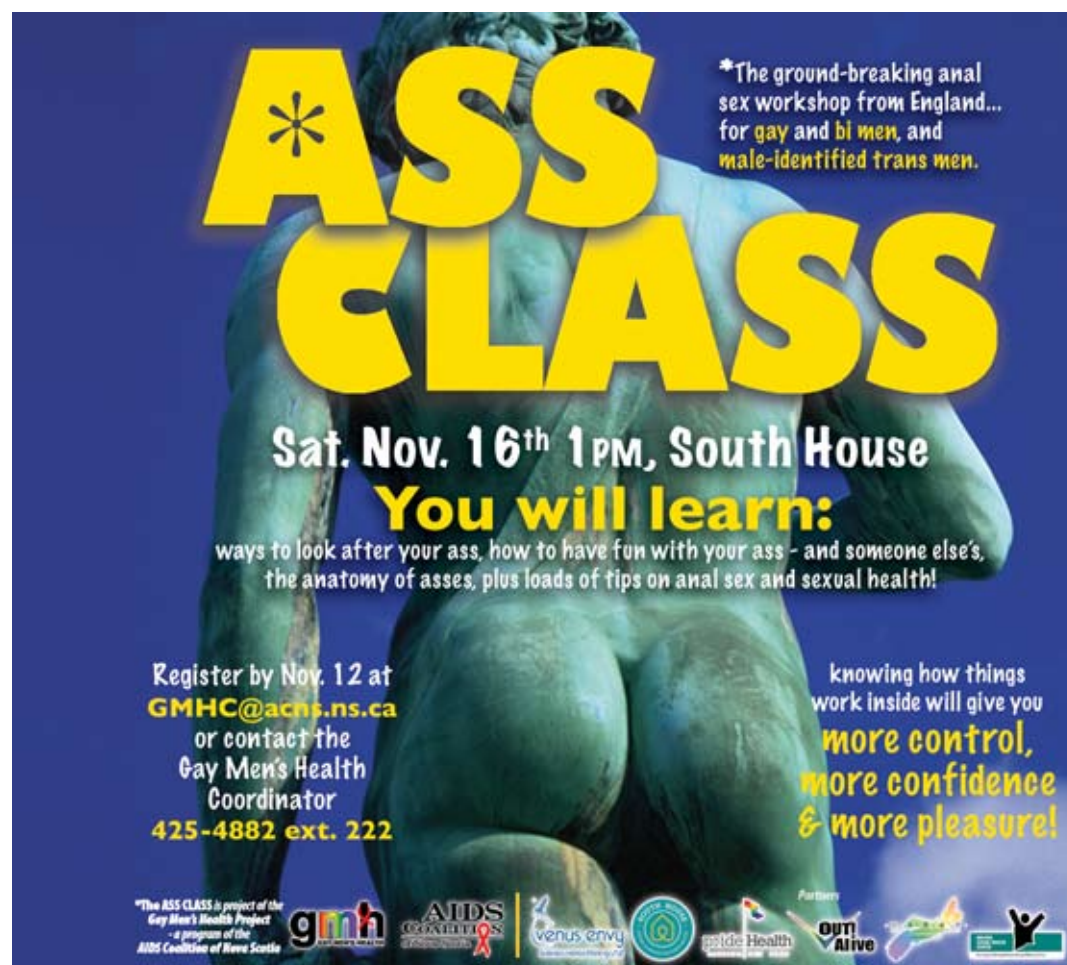
Consider the being that is you. Think about how it moves, what it thinks, what it eats. Meditate on the company it keeps, the words and gestures, the thoughts and actions it produces automatically, naturally. Gently wonder if these habits are true to the you that is beautiful, the you that is valuable

and irreplaceable. Soak up every quirk that is you, and taste the difference and uniqueness not of the quirks themselves, but of the blend of the aromas that give you your own voice.

Love is administered unto others with deliberation, self-love, worthiness, compassion, and above all vulnerability. This is the test of whether you give love, or earn it.

"CONSIDER THE BEING THAT IS YOU"

I am single because I seek no other to complete me, and though waiting can be lonely, I seek someone who instead arouses the deepest curiosity in me, an awesome affection of bottomless respect. I seek a partner, a companion, a loving critic who makes me take stock of my strengths and mend my shortcomings. Not 'the one,' nothing so stifling; I speak merely of a standard of partnership that looks not to social ritual, but to spiritual pragmatism for meaning. ☹



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What the media isn't telling us

There is more to Elsipogtog protests

Josh Fraser
Opinions Contributor

As a distant grim spectator of New Brunswick's recent environmental clashes, I sought the real story. It is not as though I disbelieve the reports made by mainstream media. However, when they looped video clips of pepper spray, violence, and angry mouths that shouted silently, the reporter reiterating the atmosphere of protest without meaningful detail, I knew there must be more to the story.

I spoke with Jerry Cook, treasurer at Tax Action in Richibucto, NB, near the Elsipogtog First Nation. Rural residents themselves, Jerry and his wife distributed food and coffee to the protesters after work as a gesture of solidarity during the days of standoff. Our conversation really took off when I asked him about Miles Howe, a reporter for Halifax Media Co-Op who was arrested

the day the injunction was served. Howe wrote passionately from the protester perspective, and while his possible bias should make the reader wary, Cook's perspective lends more plausibility to the controversial tales.

Consider the following plot elements. In serving a legal injunction to the two camps of protesters, the warriors were intimidated by para-RCMP with unholstered automatic weapons. Many were placed under physical restraints and herded to the police station, including non-mainstream journalists and some of their equipment. At some point, five unattended and seemingly unlocked police vehicles were torched, and a line of para-RCMP officers flanked by canine units in military camouflage herded the second camp of protesters, mostly women and elders, and trapped them on the road with their back to the torched cars. The testing equipment that was penned-in

by the protesters vanished before noon from a lot near the warriors' camp.

The incident at Elsipogtog First Nation was manifest of the tortured relationship between industry and environment, but it was reported as a battle of wills between RCMP soldiers and a civilian minority. Several worrying actions were carried out: journalists were arrested, diversions were created, unseen agendas were carried out, violence was perpetrated, and the whole incident was cast as a power struggle between the New Brunswick government and a First Nations community without giving adequate voice to community members like Cook who express parallel disapproval at the risks of shale gas exploration and extraction. Yet we see little meaningful discussion in media, and what little there is serves only to inoculate our anger as the would-be crisis passes to infamy.

This has become characteristic of news in general: the act of having to constantly sell the story not only tempts contrived political neutrality at the cost of accuracy,



Community members express similar concerns with fracking: this isn't just a battle between the government and Elsipogtog First Nation.

• • • Photo by Josh Fraser

but turns reporters into magpies who are trained to seek footage first and observe with their mind and senses. We need more from journalism than an impartial catalogue of our public image over time; we need to be meaningfully informed of the actions of the parties in conflict and the moral issues that arise.

It is not easy to make ethical content meaningful or relevant, yet it does not follow that we should reduce our political realities to normal, seismic departures

from the cocoon of our current social order. It is nothing short of dangerous to pass off this breach of social values as a mutual and anomalous violence when it is clear that the agenda of the government put a Texan energy company and a few pricey machines ahead of human life and suffering. The first sign of social trouble is the death of informative political media, and I worry that we'll fail to diagnose our disinformation before it becomes impossible to fix. ☹

Identity crisis

Library budget cuts question our university status

Samantha Elmsley
Opinions Editor

Last week, I wrote a letter to the president expressing my outrage at the major cuts being made to Dalhousie library budgets, which is having an immediate and major effect on acquisitions. This week, the first effects of this freeze are being felt, with the list of journals dropped from Dal libraries posted on their website.

The list is huge—ten pages' worth of resources have been dropped from our libraries. As the notice on the website states, in some cases only one form of access has been dropped, meaning the print version may have been cut and the online retained. Exactly which form it is has not yet been made clear on the list. Dal medievalists are, I'm sure, waiting with bated breath to find out whether they've been blessed with at least one medium of access to *Studies in the age of Chaucer*. Dal sociology profs and students probably have nothing better to do than wait, with the major resource SocIndex chopped as well. In what can only be described as an act of meta-irony, the *Canadian journal of library and information science* has been dropped, too. These are

but a few of many resources biting the dust.

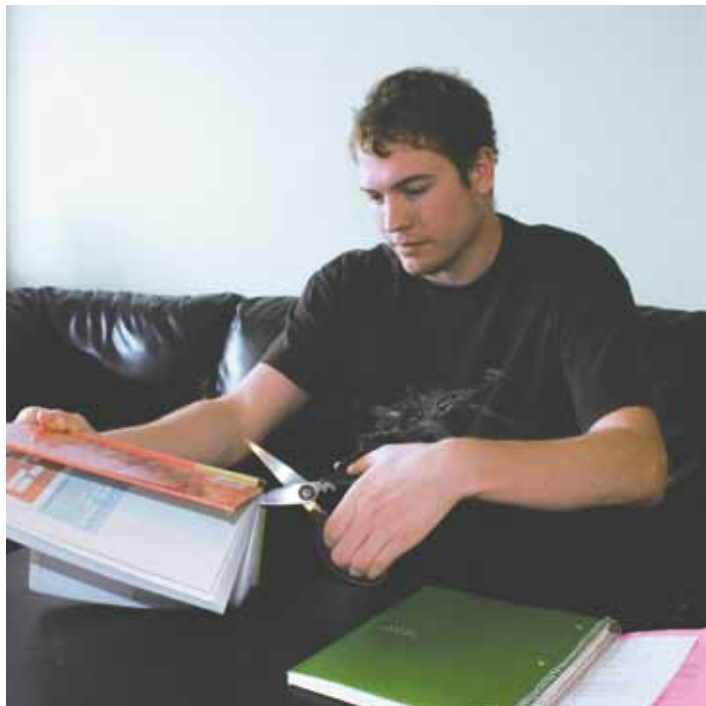
So: we *can* build new expansions, but we *can't* afford basic academic resources. I don't know about you, fellow Dalhousians, but I'm experiencing some identity crisis here. Is Dal a money-making machine, or a university?

Lately, Dal seems to privilege growth over learning at every turn. In another great letter to the president, Ben Wedge drew a connection between Dal's aggressive push to grow the student population to 18,000 in the short term, and our abominably low retention rates (82 per cent in 2009). To my mind, losing 18 per cent of our students should be a major red flag in regards to our quality of education—but this is beside the point if we only want their money. Similarly, while a fancy new SUB may be a great means of attracting new students, \$10 million could be put to better use by funding basic educational resources—like journals.

Dal also privileges expansion in the very fabric of its departmental budgeting. Under the Enrolment Related Budget Adjustment (ERBA) policy, faculties are rewarded *with money* for registering more students, and pun-

ished, *also using money*, if their enrollment drops. This means that faculty budgets are directly affected by how much they manage to grow their student population. Obviously, cutting a faculty's budget is going to affect the quality and amount of courses they are able to offer if pushed far enough. If there isn't enough budget to go around, it seems likely that larger classes (which accommodate more students and bring in more money) will be privileged over smaller, more specialized ones. With less choice and bigger class sizes, it's not a stretch to imagine that FASS students won't be as eager to sign up for these classes. This instigates a punishing downward spiral—all in the name of promoting growth.

Of course, like any other institution, Dal needs to remain fiscally viable. Putting millions of dollars into building, while underfunding departments and their resources, is not the way to accomplish that. Without sufficient means to learn about and contribute to academic scholarship, we are not a learning institution. Let's put the brakes on this growth and refund our libraries—before calling ourselves Dalhousie University constitutes false advertising. ☹



Are we a corporation, or a university? • • • Photo by Amanda Rolfe



Going Nowhere and back

Author and MLIS student Mark Black on musical memoirs and the punk heart of libraries

Zoe Doucette
Assistant Arts Editor

In 2012, Mark Black's first book *NoMeansNo: Going Nowhere* was released as a part of Invisible Publishing's Bibliophonic music series. The non-fiction book is part chronicle of genre-defining B.C punk band NoMeansNo, and part fan memoir of Black and his brother's teenage punk years in Cape Breton.

Black, 35, is currently a student in Dalhousie's Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) program. The *Gazette* spoke with Black about his experiences writing the book, Nova Scotia punk culture and his upcoming projects.

"They were basically nerds who played weird, misanthropic punk rock," Black said of NoMeansNo, formed in 1979 by brothers Rob and John Wright.

"YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE SOMETHING TO PUSH BACK AGAINST"

"They're a band I admired and liked, and I always saw that there was not a complete narrative about them. I don't attempt to tell that in the book, like 'the history of band.' I could kind of see parallels in the fact that they're from Victoria, and that's an island and that I grew up on Cape Breton Island, in that [NoMeansNo are] brothers, and in my own relationship with my brother."

In *Going Nowhere*, Black writes about discovering NoMeansNo through his older brother, who moved to Nelson, B.C. from economically depressed Cape Breton

in 1998.

"He was just into anything that was really extreme," Black says of his brother's teenage musical taste.

"A lot of thrash metal, this band called DRI...anything that was sort of offensive that you could acquire in Cape Breton, he would have. So, my brother would have all of these mixtapes laying around and I would steal them. At one point half of my record collection belonged to him. It's stuff that I inherited from him after he moved away."

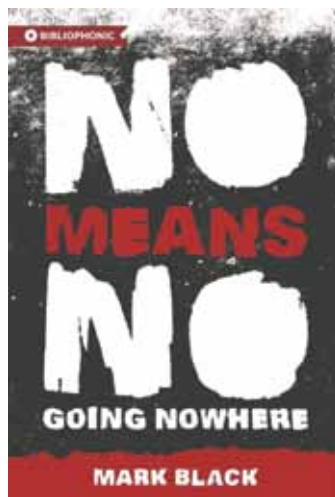
Black doesn't see punk as the thriving cultural movement it once was, but the ethos that inspired him as a teenager still informs his life.

"I look at it as just a filter, how I look at things," Black says.

"With school or work, when I think about libraries, I think about libraries as probably the most punk place to work, because it levels the playing field. Everyone's opinion matters, access to information matters, everyone's input matters. I think that's probably the best way to look at punk."

Black is currently working on a history of Maritime punk that will likely be, in true punk spirit, a short run self-release, "like a limited press LP." Punk and D.I.Y cultures had (and for some, still have) a rich following in the Maritimes due to geographic isolation and post-industrial economic downturn, Black notes.

"The Maritimes are kind of a dreary place, and there's nothing for you to do. There's nothing, right? If any place is the antithesis of Reaganomics or preppy culture from the 80s, it's the Maritimes. In small towns with rednecks, either you're a redneck, or you push against that. People had to put on their own shows... You have kids doing shows in the edge of the world and mimicking things that they see coming out of L.A. or wherever in interesting



Book cover. ••• Press image

ways...Halifax seemed like New York to me... Café Ole [a long-running all-ages club popular in the 90s] was kind of a mythical place."

Black sees punk as an outlet for the social problems and dead-end economic situations facing the kids he grew up with on his home island of Cape Breton.

"You've got to have something to push back against. With C.B, you're dealing with kids who are isolated. They know that they're not going to get a job when they grow up. They've seen their parents get laid off and frustrated. You're almost written off, in a lot of ways. You're a teenager full of angst and you want to listen to something loud that says something to you." ☎

Intro to NoMeansNo
Mark Black suggests five definitive NoMeansNo tracks

*Two lips, two lungs
and one tongue*

Dad

The end of all things

The world wasn't built in a day

Sex mad



Mixed-media oddity. ••• Press image

Beyond the [kloi' st r] Halifax film screens internationally

Eleanor Davidson
Arts Contributor

Local filmmaker John Hillis' documentary *[kloi' st r]* was recently screened at the Uppsala Short Film Festival in Sweden, highlighting the growing presence of Nova Scotian artists abroad.

Hillis describes his film as a "rumination on how I came to be where I am," and notes that the nature of his 12-minute documentary is far from usual.

"It's structured as a search for definitions, and is focused through my experiences with cloisters in large urban centres," he says.

The title's phonetic spelling of the word 'cloister' serves as an interpretive tool for the audience, with a dictionary page listing various definitions of the word introducing each section of the film.

Much of the film was shot at the Cloister Annex at New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art. This live action footage combines with elements of digital animation, and the two are blended together throughout the documentary.

Despite the New York setting of large parts of the film, Hillis' connection with Nova Scotia is clear. An animated shot of the Halifax skyline features as a promotional still for the documentary, and Hillis notes the remarkable nature of the film community of his home province.

"One of the wonderful things about the industry in Nova Scotia is the generosity. They will give and give to independent projects."

Although the supportive industry at home has provided Hillis with a wide range of resources and familiar contacts, he also stresses the importance of breaking into the international industry.

"I was first screened internationally in 2001. I met filmmakers from around the world, saw work dramatically different from what is being made here, and was able to compare the process with filmmakers from many different regions and cultures," he says.

This international exposure also helps to relieve some of the financial pressures of making small, independent films. Although the film industry is often viewed as one where money is of little concern, Hillis indicates that the realities of independent filmmaking are very different.

He notes that the budget with which he works is often very small, yet exposure at festivals such as Uppsala has helped him to find solutions to this concern.

"I loved working on a larger set with a full crew, (but) I just felt I'd asked too often for them to work for free. Travelling to film festivals helped me to see how to make films with less dependency on freebies from others," Hillis says.

As Hillis's work continues to receive attention both in Canada and internationally, he is beginning a variety of new projects. Similar to *[kloi' st r]*, these will combine many different elements of multimedia, allowing his very specific topics to go beyond the traditional boundaries of film. ☎

NSCAD in conflict over closing of student gallery

Seeds Gallery to close next March

Eleanor Davidson
Arts Contributor

The long brown brick building that sits at 1099 Marginal Street in Halifax is to be closed on March 31, 2014. The words “Seeds Gallery” are printed in large white letters on a black sign above the entrance. The interior of the building contains jewelry, pottery and other pieces of art created by students at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. White letters printed on the translucent door read “The Shop for Students and Alumni.” It is ironic, then, that there was minimal consultation with students and alumni in regards to the closing of the Seeds Gallery.

Seeds Gallery was opened by the NSCAD students’ union, but was taken over by the university in 2007 in an attempt to optimize the space. On Sept. 28, the NSCAD board of governors voted in favor of closing the non-profit student and alumni art gallery.

Daniel O’Brien, president of

NSCAD, sent out an email on Oct. 30 stating that a meeting was to be held on Nov. 5 regarding “requests for ideas on the sale of student art.” However, many students, including the NSCAD students’ union, remain skeptical even in light of this effort made by administration to open up a dialogue between the board of governors and artists at NSCAD.

“WITHOUT THE INPUT OF THE NSCAD STUDENT BODY”

Marena Thomson, a NSCAD student, stated that, “They [administration] make decisions on their own.”

The pervading sentiment amongst students is that this



NSCAD’s doomed student gallery will close its doors next March. ••• Photo by Jasspreet Sahib

meeting is too little, too late.

Caleb Hung, vice president academic of the NSCAD students’ union, says that, “All of this information has been talked about on the administrative level and not really been talked about in general with all the other stakeholders.”

Due to administrative policies, the only students allowed in board meetings are the student

president and the vice president of finance. As a result, the closing of the gallery was made without the input of the NSCAD student body.

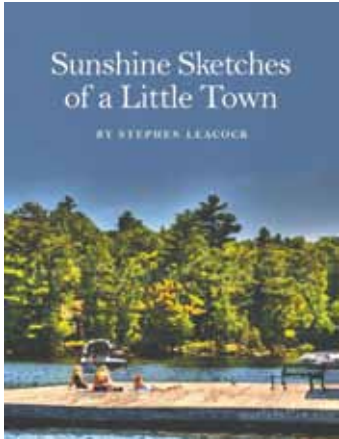
Hung says that, “In order to receive grants from The Canada Council of the Arts, you have to have at least a required amount of experience from gallery shows.”

The Seeds Gallery coming to a close will result in fewer oppor-

tunities for students to get grants and further their success in the art industry.

Students are growing increasingly impatient with administration over this lost opportunity. It seems as though no alternative will prove to be as beneficial to students and alumni as the Seeds Gallery, which according to Thomson is the “only gallery of its kind here.” ☹

A joy to hold New edition of *Sunshine Sketches* a testimony to the p-book



Isn’t this beautiful? ••• Press image

Samantha Elmsley
Opinions Editor

Another day, another fabulous p-book (that’s publisher-speak for “printed book”) proving the continuing relevance of print medium releases on the Canadian literary market. Readers, this is one for the book(shelve)s.

Over 100 years after its first publication in 1912, Stephen Leacock’s *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town* should still be required reading for anyone growing up in small-town Ontario. Bitingly satirical, witty and hilarious, Leacock’s portrait of life in fic-

tional Mariposa showcases the social relations and stock characters consistent with many small towns. As Leacock himself argues in his introduction, if you’ve lived in one small Canadian community, you are naturally equipped with a general sense of what the others are like. Whether or not we accept this as true, this satire makes for hilarious reading.

McClelland and Stewart has recently published a new edition of *Sunshine Sketches*, augmented by illustrations from Guelph-based Canadian artist Seth. This book is tangible proof that the physical novel is still relevant as a medium for telling stories. Without infringing on Leacock’s classic narrative, Seth pencils in a contemporary flavor, engaging in a dialogue between the text and its illustrations.

This dialogue is set up at the very beginning of the book with a

framing illustration: we see a tiny farming community gain roads, then cars, and eventually be obliterated completely by the presence of a steam engine train roaring across the landscape. Without adding anything to the original text, Seth sets the reader immediately to thinking about the impact of growth (technologically and demographically speaking) on the Ontarian landscape—an issue that certainly resonates with contemporary car culture. (I’m looking at you, Rob Ford).

These illustrations lend a physicality to the book that simply cannot be accomplished in a digital medium. The gold paper on the cover of the book, the hard line you can trace your hand over between the different materials, the way we lose one of the members of “the Whirlwind campaign” in the fold of a too-tight spine on pages 112-113, renders the experi-

ence of reading this book a physical one. This edition revivifies a century-old story, and it would not have the same effect on-screen.

I’m not saying e-books should be chucked out entirely. Screen reading, whether e-books or online, makes information widely and democratically available—though one could argue that libraries do the same thing. In any case, e-books are here and we have to work with them. However, in the same way that e-books can do things that physical texts cannot, we must remember that the reverse is also true. One is not a substitute for the other. Don’t burn your bookcase just yet. ☹

Improv yourself

Learning to act out with a local improv company

Sabina Wex
Staff Contributor

Make 'em Ups' co-owner and founder Owen Stanford wants to ensure that anyone can engage with his improv company.

Make 'em Ups performs improv shows, as well as offers classes, which welcome players of all levels.

"I just want it to be the most inclusive here [in Nova Scotia], make it accessible for everyone," says Stanford, who manages the group's artistic direction.

All the classes are based on games. The eight week beginner-level class starts with games to get participants comfortable around one another, and in subsequent weeks focuses on impulsive thinking, basic staging techniques, character development and story and narrative.

"It's just about being comfortable and teaching people to make different choices," Stanford said.

Managing director Brian MacQuarrie proposed incorporating

a mental health aspect into the classes. The classes promote confidence building and help members overcome fears. "If it helps someone who's not maybe happy, then all the better," Stanford said.

Throughout high school, Stanford read, saw and learned as much as he could about improv. He has been involved with the Canadian Improv Games (CIG), an improv competition for high school students, since being in high school himself. He eventually became a trainer, and is now regional director for the Nova Scotia tournament.

"Hearing that I've changed a high school student's life just from playing games with them, or encouraging them to make a silly face, [is something] you can't buy," Stanford said.

Stanford eventually found himself working with a Toronto improv group, Bad Dog Theatre. Make 'em Ups' inclusive mission is inspired by Bad Dog's inclusive environment, where artistic director Julie Dumais Osborne made time for everyone involved and



Learn to settle into a new skin through improv. ••• Photo by Chris Parent

ensured they received stage time.

Make 'em Ups also focuses on displaying the different sides of improv. Produced with Oasis Pub, the company hosts a competition night every second and fourth Friday, appropriate for the sports bar environment. Their short-form improv nights every Sunday at the Company House allow for lots of audience involvement.

The Make 'em Ups crew also use games to work on their techniques and train a quick-thinking

mindset. For example, when they did a radio play for the Bus Stop Theatre's Nocturne event, they had to improvise sounds and language appropriate for their location without being too obvious.

"It's working on how to get that impulse out naturally while still remembering to get all your information out," Stanford said.

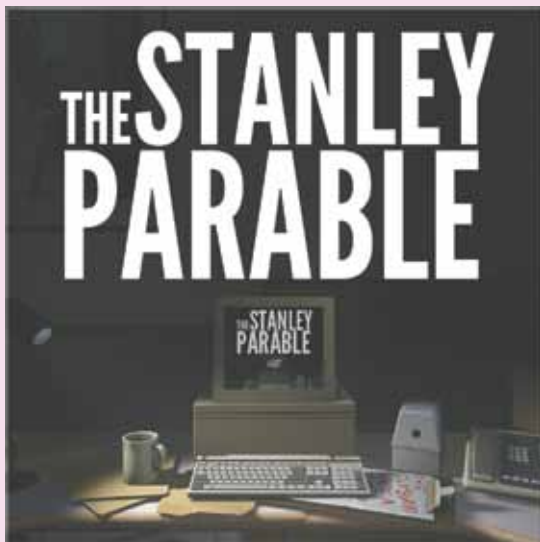
Upcoming performances in November and December at the Bus Stop Theatre allow each of the 13 members of the Make 'em

Ups crew to perform his or her own sketch.

Crew members are allowed to work with other improv companies, which Stanford said isn't always true of other improv groups. He merely requests that the Make 'em Ups crew receive an invite to the show.

"It's just the joy, we're just having fun," Stanford said. "And why not share that with everyone?"

Why aren't you playing: The Stanley Parable



Games within games (within games). ••• Press image

Vaughn Pearson
Staff Contributor

I once thought of myself as rather clever. I had managed to get myself on top of one of the desks in the office area just outside Stanley's cubicle. The narrator had just introduced the game for the billionth time. But not this time, no! I had climbed a chair, mounted a desk, and vaulted a cubicle divider, in a game that has no jump function. Now, the window was within reach. I climbed through. Finally! I had escaped the never-ending cycle that is *The Stanley Parable*. I had cheated the game. I had, in essence, beaten it the only way that could truly be considered victory.

As it turns out, I am not that clever.

"At first Stanley assumed he'd broken the map," said the distinctly British narrator, as I stood in the void of white space beyond the window, "until he heard this narration

and realized it was part of the games design all along. He then praised the game for its insightful and witty commentary into the nature of video game structure and its examination of structural narrative tropes."

"AN EXPERIMENT IN NARRATIVE"

Ultimately, that's what this game is all about. It acts as an examination of narrative, in both video games and in general media.

Presented with a narrator dictating your actions, game-defining choices come into play and your actions can either correspond with or defy the narrator. There are a good dozen endings to be discovered in the winding, shifting, physics-defying halls of Stanley's office

building, each more bizarre and thought provoking than the last.

The narrator is as much a character as you are, with endings having him kill you, forcibly restart the game when you defy him too much, or even one where you gradually drive him into a state of depression. All the while, *The Stanley Parable* aims to make you think. You're laughing while you do so, as the game is terribly witty, but there will be moments where you genuinely will want to stop and ponder the philosophical implications of what you are doing.

The Stanley Parable is an experiment in narrative. Is Stanley a hero, a villain, or another cog in the machine? That's for you to decide... or perhaps you have no choice at all.

If you'd like to find out for yourself, or simply wish to have your brain picked by a questionably neurotic narrator, *The Stanley Parable* is available on PC through Steam for \$15.

that
three-letter
word

To fuck or not to fuck

Joelline Girouard
Sex Columnist

Alright. It's time for a confession. I used to read Cosmo. Every month. I even had a subscription once (they call it a guilty pleasure for a reason). That in itself isn't so bad—Cosmo is a super sex-positive publication, and they always have at least one important and hard-hitting feature. But then there's the stuff that makes my gut fold in on itself—stuff like step-by-step instructions on how to train your boyfriend (!!!) or...the "three-date-rule."

I'm sure you've heard of the "rule" at least once. You know the one—that adage that claims a woman should never ever, cross

her heart and hope to die, have sex with a man before the third date. The very notion of this idea is preposterous. And by that, I mean the idea of this rule. I honestly don't even understand it.

How many dates should you wait before having sex with someone, then? As many or as few as you want. I've known I wanted to have sex with someone less than 10 minutes after meeting them. Other times, it could be sometime during the second date. It really depends. Like everything else related to the wonderful world of sex, it's really an each-to-their-own kind of thing.

Before diving into the dating scene—especially in a university town like Halifax—it's good to get a ballpark idea of how you feel about timelines when it comes to dating/sex. Some people set a strict rule for themselves, such as never sleeping with someone on the very first date (I've found I stick to this one, for no particular reason). Others take a case-by-case approach, preferring not to make up their mind until the date is happening.

In a university environment, though, it's easy to become influenced by your peers. Often times,



Sex before the third date? It's all up to you. ••• Photo by Bryn Karcha

any peer pressure isn't even intentional; if a lot of people are doing something, it's normal to wonder if you're weird for not doing it, too.

The bottom line is, everyone is different. If you and your date both want to have sex with each other on the first date, well, that's your business. Similarly, if you're

a person who prefers to wait—whether it be a few more dates or a few more months—it's all about what makes you most comfortable. ☺

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Men’s soccer leave playoffs empty handed Tigers win marathon against Axemen, lose to SMU in semis

Graeme Benjamin
Staff Contributor
.....

After defeating the Acadia Axemen in a game that lasted nearly three hours, the Tigers were unable to get past the Saint Mary’s Huskies in the semifinals of the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) men’s soccer championships on Nov. 2.

Dalhousie entered the tournament ranked third in the AUS. The Tigers and the Huskies had identical records entering the tournament, but due to the Huskies winning more head-to-head matches, the Tigers were forced to play in the quarterfinals against Acadia.

Axemen forward Matthew Berigan opened the scoring in the 12th minute. However, AUS first-team all star and recent Sport Chek Men’s Premier National Championship winner Bezick Evraire restored the tie in the 32nd minute off a penalty kick. The kick also resulted in a straight red card given to fourth-year Axemen striker Erik Merchant.

Both teams had several quality scoring opportunities throughout

the second half and extra time, but outstanding efforts by Dal keeper Jason Ross and Acadia keeper Eric McGarry, combined with unpredictable ball movements due to the windy weather, took the game to a rare shootout.

Dal quickly discovered their shootout prowess as they scored on all four attempts. Tigers captain Nathan Rogers, Jack Schembri, Zach Mbolekwa and Evraire each found the back of the net and advanced their team to the semifinals with the 2-1 win.

“We were happy to get the result even though it went to a shootout,” says Dal head coach Pat Nearing. “I thought we had enough chances so that we should have won the game in overtime but we felt pretty good after that.”

However, the Tigers did not escape the match unscathed. Four of Dal’s starters, including Rogers and frequent goal scorer Tyler Lewars were out with injury for the SMU match. Also, the Tigers had to play the well-rested Huskies, who they have struggled against this season, the day following their three-hour marathon match.

Nearing says the injuries the



Mark Hagen (15) and the Tigers couldn't hold off the Huskies. • • • Photo by Nick Pearce via AUS

Tigers sustained against the Axemen contributed to the results of the semifinal game.

“We had to make some major adjustments in how we set up,” he says. “We played a back three instead of a back four and sort of played a 3-4-3.”

The match against SMU went quite differently than the previous day. The Huskies jumped out to an early lead when Saint Mary’s striker Robert Rawlings got one past Ross. Schembri put the Tigers back in the game in the 19th min-

ute, but a goal from Rodrigo De Carvalho and two from William Kennedy for the Huskies was too much for the Tigers to make a comeback as they were downed 4-1.

The semifinal game marked the third time the Huskies have beaten the Tigers this season, and this fifth year in a row that the Tigers have walked away without a title.

The first-ranked UNB Varsity-Reds went on to win their first AUS title since 2006, beating the

Huskies 3-0 the following day. UNB and Saint Mary’s will both compete in the CIS championships in Fredericton on Nov. 7.

Nearing, who just completed his 16th year as head coach of the Tigers, remains optimistic about the team he has going into the 2014 season. With only two Tigers graduating this year, skipper Rogers and Jordan Mannix, he says the team’s dynamic will not likely change. 🐾

THE TICKER: HOCKEY

By Daniel Bergman
The two Tigers teams have a total of one win this season. • • • Photo by Chris Parent

On-ice struggles continue

A disappointing weekend for Tigers hockey ended on a redeeming note, as Dalhousie’s women’s team overcame a two-goal deficit to secure a 2-2 tie against UPEI on Saturday, Nov. 2. Forwards **Courtney Sheedy** and **Elena Tsitouras** scored for the Tigers, helping the team bounce back from the previous night’s 3-2 loss to Moncton’s Aigles Bleues. The Dalhousie men also suffered

defeat over the weekend, falling 5-4 to St. FX on Friday, Nov.1. A rematch between the 2-3 X-Men and the winless 0-5-1 Tigers is set for Wednesday, Nov. 6. 🐾



Threepeat chance cut short for women's soccer

Tigers fall to Acadia in semifinals



Henry Whitfield
Staff Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers women's soccer team failed to make it three in a row at the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) championships in Moncton.

In a tough semifinal matchup with Acadia on Nov. 2, the Tigers failed to make their chances count and were eliminated after a goal by Meghan Earle in the first half of extra time.

With the Tigers vying for a third straight AUS banner hopes were high heading into the weekend, but the underdog Axewomen started the game strong and created trouble for the defending champions for the full 90 minutes, plus 30 minutes of extra time.

Early on in the game the Axewomen's Talisa Silzer caused havoc down the right side of the field, opening up the game and creating a number of scoring chances in the opening stages of the match. Silzer linked up with Meghan Earle early on and they were unlucky not to open the scoring, thwarted by some last ditch defending by the Tigers.

Scoreless at the half way mark, it was Acadia who would finally break through in the 57th minute. Kathleen Ross, on as a substitute at half, smashed in a free-kick from 35 yards out and after a healthy deflection off the wall, the ball ended up in the back of the net for a 1-0 Acadia lead.

The goal was deserved as the Axewomen enjoyed long periods of pressure throughout the game, but it looked to finally awaken the Tigers.

“ACADIA CAME OUT BRIGHTER IN THE EXTRA 30 MINUTES”

After a brief injury stoppage, a tactical change saw the Tigers move into a more offensive formation, sitting with just three defenders at the back, and the change created the positive ball movement the team had been lacking.

A ball in from Joanna Blodgett

was controlled well by forward Eunie Kim, who back heeled a pass right onto the foot of Victoria Parkinson. Parkinson finished the play with an emphatic strike into the far corner of the net, bringing the Tigers level with 10 minutes to play.

Regulation ended with the score still tied at one, sending the Tigers and Axewomen into extra time. Acadia came out brighter in the extra 30 minutes and finally found a breakthrough, with Meghan Earle finding space behind the Tigers defender and chipping over keeper Taryn McKenna.

Earle's goal would prove the difference, with Dal unable to test the Acadia back line, sending the Tigers home and ending their reign as champions.

In the finals on Nov. 3, the Cape Breton Capers secured their 7th Championship Banner in 11 years with a 3 - 0 win over the Axewomen. AUS MVP Karolyn Blain scored twice in the win. The Capers will represent the AUS at the Canada Interuniversity Sport (CIS) finals from Nov. 7-10 in Toronto. ☎

Dal's reign came to an end against a feisty Acadia side.

• • • Photo by Eric Cederberg

Willem, 22
Halifax
• classical musician
• interests include the arts, medicine and farming

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It was another hard-hitting instalment of the Dal-King's rivalry on Nov. 3. ••• Photo by Alice Hebb

Dal wins rugby rematches

Club tops Acadia, King's to win Nova Scotia crown

Moe Elgayar
Sports Contributor
•••••

On Nov. 3 Dalhousie and King's College went head-to-head for the second year in a row in the Nova Scotia Rugby Union University Division 2 final.

King's opened the scoring as scrumhalf Tristan Keyes took the

penalty restart quickly, racing to the outside and offloading to lock Sam Campbell for the try, but fly-half Liam Hollett was unable to convert, keeping the score at 5-0.

Penalties and turnovers were critical, and the cold and rainy conditions made securing possession difficult. "It's hard to play when the ball is covered in mud," says Dal scrumhalf Mack

Long. "It was really physical [out there.]"

Dal was hoping to notch their second win in two days, as their Division 1 side defeated Acadia the previous day in Wolfville. The team came out of the halftime break with a sense of urgency, capitalizing on a King's knock-on as Robin Johnstone scored to even the tally at five.

Returning from suspension, fly-half Jake Exton managed to get the conversion to give Dalhousie the lead.

"Dal and King's is always a big game," says Exton, who missed two matches due to a red card. "We played them last year in the finals and we lost. This year we said it's not going to happen again."

King's would bring the ball inside Dal's 22-metre line, but the defense remained resilient, keeping the match close. With seven minutes left to go, King's

managed to get the ball over the line, but the referee and touch judge intervened, disallowing the try.

This gave Dalhousie the push they needed as they counter-attacked quickly, with Chadrick Wicks scoring the go-ahead try for a 12-5 lead.

"It is just kind of a matter of inches," says King's coach Rory MacLellan. "We got the ball over the line, we thought we put it down, but it went the other way. That is just the way it goes sometimes."

"Refereeing was a little frazzled," added Long. "Seemed like a lot of team decisions, but it is hard to control those kinds of games."

With the final three blows of the whistle, redemption for last year's losses was complete and Dal players rushed the field in celebration.

"To have two teams both win Nova Scotia championships is huge," says Dal coach Ellis Gray. "We were never out of it, and I am really proud of the way they played."

Gray would go on to praise Exton, who is in his final year. "[He] played very well in the fly-half position, really led the boys well today and got them fired up."

Both Division 1 and 2 sides move on to the Maritime championships next weekend. "We judge a season by the number of trophies you have at the end and I am proud that we have two already," says Gray.

"I'm really proud of the effort my guys gave," says MacLellan, a former King's player who came back to coach this season. "When you come out of a finals knowing you wouldn't change a thing about the way you played, you can definitely hold your heads high." 🐾

THE TICKER: MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

By Daniel Bergman
Dal leaves the Rock with back-to-back straight set wins.
••• Photo by Chris Parent

Tigers beat MUN to extend winning streak

The Dalhousie's men's volleyball team capitalized on an early-season excursion to St. John's, stretching their record to a spotless 5-0 by earning two convincing straight-set victories over Memorial University. The game on Saturday, Nov. 2 provided a showcase for the Tigers' balanced attack, as four players earned five

points or more. Outside hitter **Kristen O'Brien** led the way with nine kills, while rookie **Matthew Donovan** registered seven. During the next day's rematch, libero **Logan Baillie** turned in an impressive defensive performance, contributing nine digs as his team defeated the Sea-Hawks 25-19, 25-12 and 26-16. 🐾




THE TICKER: SWIMMING


By Daniel Bergman
Tigers swimmers made a big splash in Wolfville, finishing first again. • • • Photo by Kit Moran

Tigers challenge records, win trophy


The Dalhousie men's and women's swim teams combined to win their second meet in as many attempts, capturing the Jack Scholz Memorial Trophy on a wintry weekend in Wolfville. Led by strong performances by **David Sharpe**, **Joe Ur** and **Chris Reith**, the men managed to fend off a stiff challenge from second-place Acadia during the Nov. 2 session, eventually pulling away from their rivals over the course of the next day. The women enjoyed another dominant outing, beat-

ing the second-place Mount Allison Mounties by 103 points. **Rachel Shin** came close to matching a CIS standard in the 400-metre individual medley winning her race in 5:02.07 (the CIS standard is 5:01.99). The Tigers will look to bring this momentum home in time for the Dalhousie Invitational, scheduled for Nov. 16-17. 





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Notable Novembeards

Benjamin Blum

Beard Aficionado since 2002

.....
The *Dalhousie Gazette*, being the prestigious institution it is, strives to be original. Since I did a "Movember in the Majors" piece last year, here's a new portman-teau for you: Novembeard.

Trends have come and gone, but in every era beards in some shape or form have always made the

cut. From prophets and pirates to lumberjacks and ZZ Top, you can always spot a hirsute hero in a crowd.

Mo' bros don't be disheartened: most beards are incomplete without a moustache (with the exception of Honest Abe). So with that bureaucratic snafu taken care of, join the campaign for men's health awareness and look at some of the most beloved beards in sports. **9**

Honourable Mention: James Harden

In a nod to the Shock Top beer logo, the Rockets guard augments his prolific beard with a Mohawk. Baller move.



10. The 1980s New York Islanders

The ones who started the playoff beard tradition. These furry four-peaters won the Cup consecutively to open the decade, and started the phenomenon that turns NHLers into Teen Wolves every spring.

7. Sébastien Chabal French national rugby team

Reminiscent of Hanna-Barbera cartoon Captain Caveman, this rugby player had opponents screaming "Heavens to Murgatroyd!"

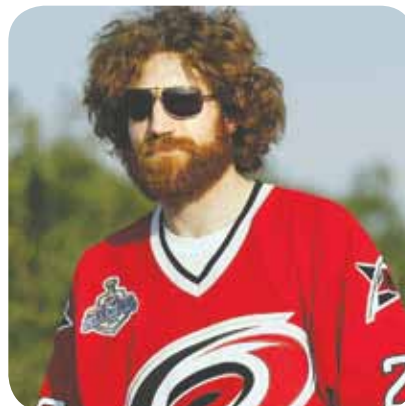


6. MLB Relievers

Bruce Sutter got the trend going in the early 80s, but Brian Wilson's "Fear the Beard" campaign in 2010 showed that the most reliable relievers often go unshaved. For further proof, see Goose Gossage and Rollie Fingers of moustache lore.

5. Mike Commodore, Carolina Hurricanes

Where does his curly hair end and his beard begin? Same goes for Commodore's 'Mini-Me' Scott Hartnell.



4. Brett Keisel, Pittsburgh Steelers

Opposing linemen in the league Cowher in fear from this steel curtain of fearsome follicles. He doesn't even need a facemask for his helmet.



3. Lanny McDonald, Calgary Flames

Ranked second in last year's moustache poll, the 1989 Stanley Cup final saw his fiery 'stache burst into a five-alarm beard.

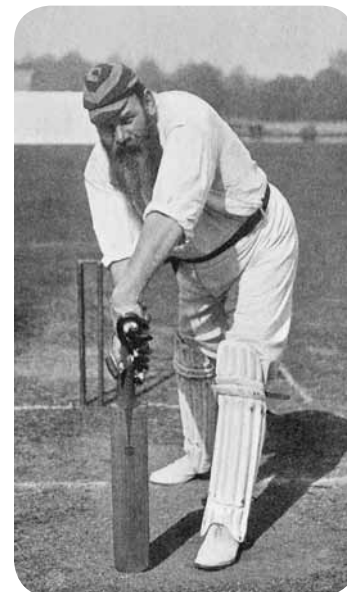


2. The 2013 Boston Red Sox

Spearheaded by Jonny "Ironsides" Gomes and Mike "Papa Smurf" Napoli, this band of bearded BoSox went from worst to first, bringing home the hardware and flashing back to 2004's scruffy centre fielder Johnny Damon.

1. W.G. Grace

Holy hirsute hairdo, Batsman! This pioneering cricketer's career predated the creation of Gillette, and it certainly showed.



Visit ca.movember.com for more information about how you can get involved.

9. Sócrates, Brazilian national soccer team

Not to be mistaken for the Greek philosopher, who also had a beard... wait, now I'm confused.



8. Bald bros

Athletes like Tim Howard, Kevin Youkilis and Pero Antić (pictured) prove the efficacy of the 'top down convertible' look. Get it? It's funny because they're bald up top and bearded below.



STREETEER

By Jesse Ward and Chris Parent

What makes you a great date?



"I'm a good conversationalist."

Raeesa Lalani
5th-year Arts



"My outgoing personality."

Christian Santini
1st-year Arts



"I'm easygoing."

Genevieve Darling
3rd-year Arts



"Me."

Zain Cheema
4th-year Bachelor of Management



"I have some good ideas for some fun stuff."

Cameron Brice
1st-year Arts



"My cheesy jokes."

Tommy Lieu
4th-year Biology

sudoku

	2						1	6
1							4	
5			9			7		
		8			3			9
		2		1				
	3		5	9				
	6					4		2
			7					1
	4		3		8			

EVENTS@DAL

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FRIDAY, NOV. 8

Fall 2013 East Coast Student Leadership Conference. Visit www.eastcoaststudentleaders.ca for more details.

Buddhist Retreat in Halifax. Nov. 8-11. Join for all or part of the weekend. Dalhousie Multifaith Centre, 1321 Edward Street. Free but donations to offset costs are welcome.

Architecture Travelling Exhibition, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. in Medjuck Architecture Building, Exhibition Room

SATURDAY, NOV. 9

Women's basketball: Dalhousie vs. UNB, 2 p.m. at the Dalplex

Men's basketball: Dalhousie vs. UNB, 4 p.m. at the Dalplex

Film screening: Red Light Green Light, a human trafficking documentary, at Ondaatje Hall in the McCain Building. 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Women's volleyball: Dalhousie vs. Cape Breton, 7 p.m. at the Dalplex

MONDAY, NOV. 11

Remembrance Day Ceremony, 11 a.m. at Point Pleasant Park

TUESDAY, NOV. 12

Study day - no classes. Many university buildings open at 8 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 13

Find Your Inner Zen, a month of mindfulness, rest and relaxation. Visit the Wellness Room in the SUB every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this month at 10 a.m.

Tuba Masterclass with Mark Bonang, 5:30 p.m. in the Arts Centre, Room 409. (\$15/\$10 for students and seniors)

Chamber Series II: Brahms Fest, 7 p.m. in the Peggy Corkum Music Room (\$15 students)

Arts Documentaries: Eames: The Architect and the Painter, 8 p.m. in the Dalhousie Art Gallery

THURSDAY, NOV. 14

ESL Workshop: Focus on Academic Vocabulary, 4:30-7 p.m. in Mona Campbell Building, Room 2109 (\$20)

The Alex Fountain Memorial Lecture: Michael Ondaatje. 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall at the University of King's College.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

Fundraiser: World Vision 30 Hour Famine. Main headquarters at Room 316 in the SUB. Begins at noon and ends the next day at 6 p.m. Contact christine.rankin@dal.ca to get involved.

Development Depression, society social gathering put on by International Development Education and Awareness Society. Grad House at 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Lecture: Nova Scotia Provincial Politics, by Halifax- Chebucto MLA Howard Epstein, 3-4:30 p.m. in Henry Hicks, Political Science Lounge

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

Zumba fundraiser, hosted by Dalhousie Children's Wish Society. 2-4 p.m. at the Dalplex.

submit listings to events@dalgazette.com



I saw on a newscast one day
that **EDIE IZZARD** was coming this way.
I freaked out a lot,
told some kids he was hot.
Now I've got tickets this Sunday.



HOO-HAW
BASED ON A TRUE STORY

The comic strip consists of four panels arranged in a 2x2 grid. The title 'HOO-HAW' is written in a stylized, hand-drawn font at the top, with 'BASED ON A TRUE STORY' written below it. The first panel shows a man in blue overalls bending over to pick a carrot from a field. The second panel is a close-up of the man's face as he eats the carrot. The third panel shows the man walking away, looking satisfied. The fourth panel shows a skeleton lying on the ground in the field.

WANNA WATCH ANOTHER EPISODE?

SURE!

WANNA WATCH ANOTHER EPISODE?

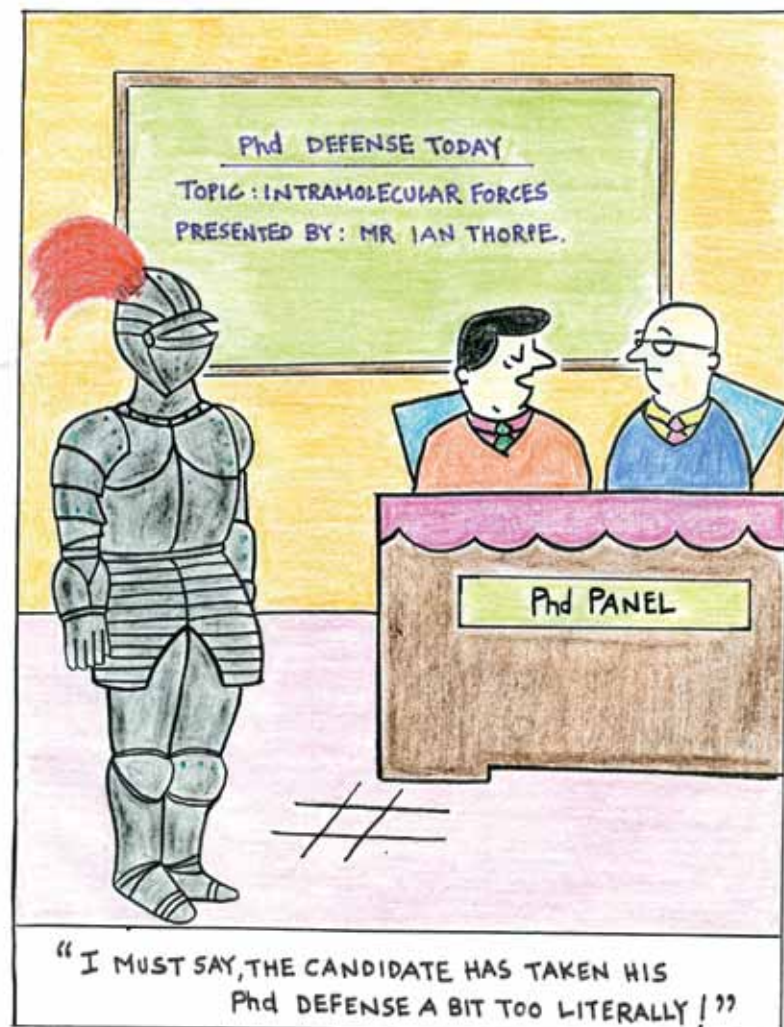
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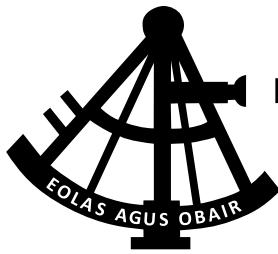
ADVENTURES IN SERVITUDE

BY CAITLIN MCGUIRE

2011

Jocular Impulse by Aniruddha Waje





THE SEXTANT

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Simone Lemieux
5th Year Mechanical

You GoEngGirl!

Addressing gender disparity in engineering

Something is wrong with the way we teach young children about engineering; only 17% of students enrolled in engineering are female. Women in Engineering (WiE) societies at universities across Canada are addressing this outrageous disparity by hosting GoEngGirl!, an event that promotes gender equality within the engineering discipline.

Considering the embarrassingly low percentage of women in engineering programs, and the

even lower percentage in the workforce, I am eager to take part in this event. As a senior engineering student, I am more than happy to donate one day of my time for this event, knowing that maybe just one more girl will consider engineering as a viable career. Girls deserve to know more about engineering, and speaking from experience, engineering needs more women. Unfortunately, many people still don't see why it's important to have more women in engineering.

Women make up 50% of the population but only about 10.5% of registered professional engineers. This disparity leads to all sorts of problems and inequalities: not enough stalls in the women's restroom at the movie theatre or seatbelts that don't fit women because they haven't taken breasts into consideration.

Engineers are involved in the design and implementation of almost everything: from bridges,

roads, and sewer systems to fridges, computers, and cell phones – the list is never-ending. Women are users of these products and services, just as much as men, and if we continue to be excluded from the design, then we will continue to be excluded from the product.

The Dal chapter of WiE will be hosting GoEngGirl! on November 16. Attendance is free for girls from grades 9 to 12. 🍷



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Jillian Withers
5th Year Industrial

Interviews with Industry

Industrial Engineer Andrew Chan shares his professional experience

Andrew Chan is an Industrial Engineer with the IWK Health Centre who has been a professional engineer for ten years and has worked in many industries including manufacturing, food and beverage and mail processing.

What technologies have most impacted your industry over the course of your career?

A few technologies have changed the work of Industrial Engineers over the years. Some computer programs have provided opportunities a pen and paper never offered, for example Arena and other simulation and modeling software. More than any other technology, the Smartphone has revolutionized the way business is done. Clipboards and pencils have been replaced by Smartphones,

including Blackberrys, which allow for real-time data collection and instant communication. Even processes themselves have changed vastly over the last few years since the prevalence of the LEAN methodology has become more accepted.

Which certifications and skills have become most relevant and valuable in your discipline?

Industrial Engineers should have one certification no matter what their career aspirations, and that certification is Lean 6 Sigma! Not only does Lean 6 Sigma provide the tools to organize information and priorities, but it also offers an analytical and systematic methodology for solving problems. This is a methodology that has value

for any discipline of engineering that involves system improvement and finding solutions to problems. Another designation which has gained some interest lately is a PMP (Project Management Professional) which would also be useful to have.

What are your thoughts on frequent position changes – does it breed well rounded or inexperienced employees?

Many engineers know when they complete their schooling that they may be required to change jobs often. Because Industrial Engineering is about methodology versus specific knowledge, changing jobs, even across different industries will create a more well-rounded engineer who will be able to better adapt to different types of people and processes.

Any additional tips for soon to graduate engineers?

It is extremely important to be confident and able to clearly communicate. Cover letters are important in illustrating these qualities, and should include enough information to hook the interviewer's interest and no more. The same can be said for a resume. Don't include items unless they pertain to your work or future goals: for example, including an "interests" or "hobbies" section. Depending on what is written, it can deter the interviewer or will put them in a position to make judgments before having met the candidate. 🍷

Note: the last Interview with Industry was provided by Sean Craig, Mechanical. We apologize for our mistake.

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