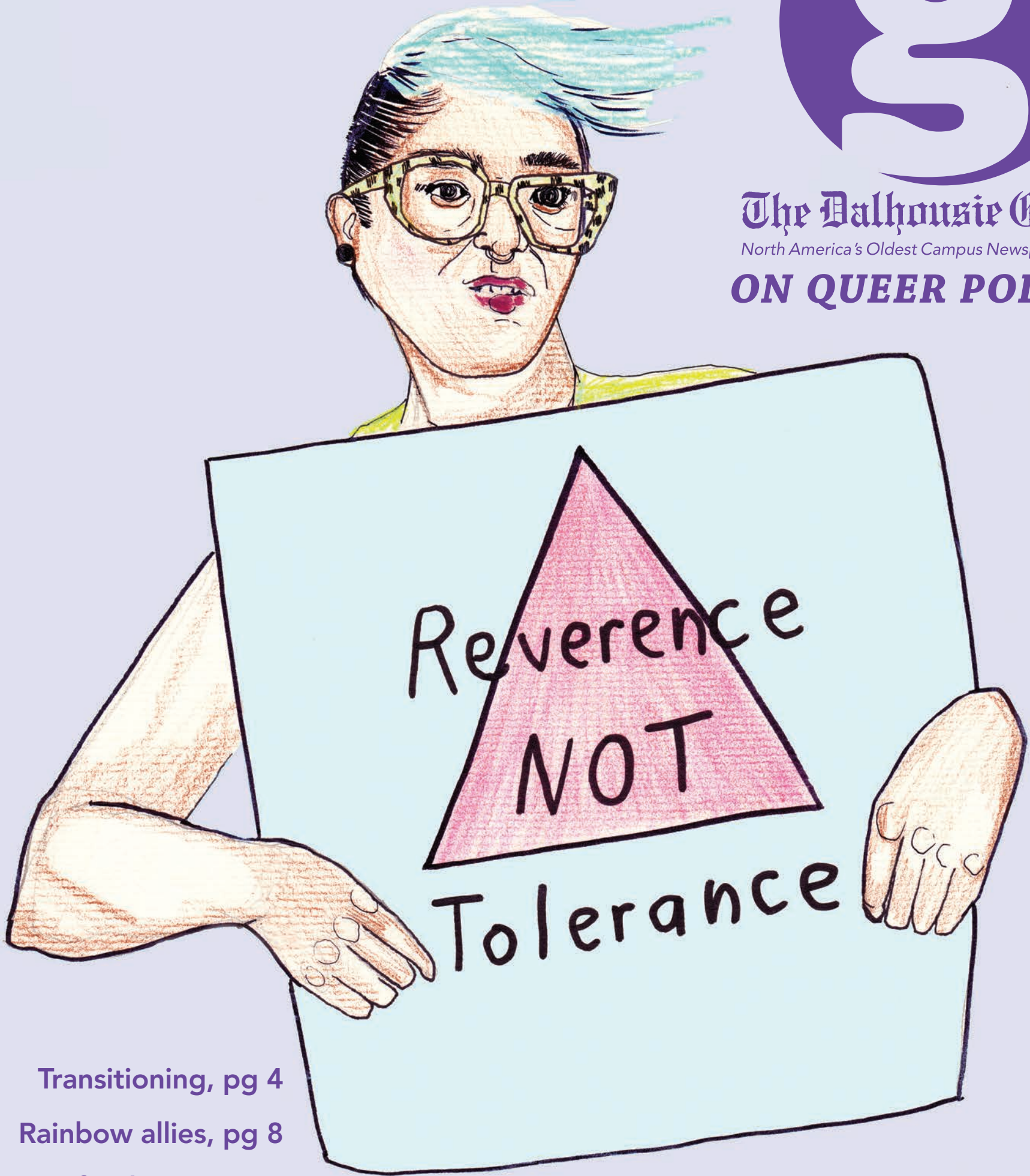




The Dalhousie Gazette
North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868
ON QUEER POLITICS



Transitioning, pg 4
Rainbow allies, pg 8
RENT fundraiser, pg 9

Illustration by Elise Boudreau Graham



October 20-22

GRAWOOD & DSU EVENTS · TIGER ATHLETICS · TAILGATE PARTY

dal.ca/homecoming

 **DALHOUSIE
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WEEKLY DISPATCH

Here is a list of upcoming events that you will want to mark your calendars for:

Brains for Change

Saturday, October 15

Brains for Change is getting into gear. Our first event of the year is all about getting your creative minds flowing. Come to connect with like minds and kindred spirits in the SUB. Visit www.DSU.ca/brainsforchange or contact Kayla Kurin at dsuvpi@dal.ca.

Elliot Brood at the Grawood

Thursday, October 20

For Homecoming, your DSU is pleased to introduce you to one of Canada's top alternative country rock bands, and certainly one of the best live performances out there.... Elliott Brood! Accompany opening acts will include SoHo Ghetto and Union Duke!

Early bird tickets are \$7.00 and will be available starting Oct 7th, at the Info desk in the SUB. \$2.00 from every ticket will go to the World Wildlife Fund!

This is a wet/dry event so you must be a Dal student, faculty, staff member, alumni or guest to attend.

Dal's Got Talent: Call for Auditions

October 21 – November 23

Everyone has a special talent; we want to know what yours is! Depending how awesome you are you could win the grand prize of \$1000.00! Visit www.DalsGotTalent.ca for more details.

Health Plan News

Want a chance to win an iPad 2? Just fill out a direct deposit form and submit it to the Health Plan office or register your TrackitBack sticker! Check out www.studentvip.ca/dsu for great free services just for being a student whether you are on or off of the plan!

Use Direct2U to avoid the blackout period. Contact us for more information at www.StudentVIP.ca/DSU/!

Society Fees and Audits

Society fees will be available beginning Oct 15th once societies have passed their audits, which are due by Oct 31st. Books can be submitted to the accounting office on the 2nd floor of the SUB.

Campus Copy

Are you in need of printing or binding services? For affordable prices, friendly staff and service while you wait, visit Campus Copy today on the lower level of the Student Union Building. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Other News

There will be \$8.00 Empire Theatre movie tickets available at the Info Desk in the SUB all year long. They are good for any night and any show. So it's cheap night for students all year long!

Stay connected with the DSU through Facebook & Twitter

Facebook: Group and Page – Dalhousie Student Union

Twitter: www.twitter.com/dalstudentunion

October 14 - October 20, 2011 •

The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

staff

Dylan Matthias, Editor-in-Chief
editor@dalgazette.com

Erica Eades, Copy/Arts Editor
copy@dalgazette.com

Katrina Pyne, News Editor
Torey Ellis, Assistant News Editor
news@dalgazette.com

Matthew Ritchie, Opinions Editor
opinions@dalgazette.com

Leslie Gallagher, Assistant Arts Editor
arts@dalgazette.com

Ian Froese, Sports Editor
sports@dalgazette.com

Angela Gzowski, Photo Editor
photo@dalgazette.com

Leilani Graham-Laidlaw, Online Editor
Rob Sangster-Poole, Assistant Online Editor
online@dalgazette.com

Jenna Harvie, Creative Editor
creative@dalgazette.com

Jonathan Rotsztain, Art Director
design@dalgazette.com

Ben McDade, Business Manager
business@dalgazette.com

contact us

www.dalgazette.com

The SUB, Room 312
6136 University Avenue
Halifax NS, B3H 4J2

Advertising Inquiries

Aaron Merchant, Ad Manager
902 449 7281

advertising@dalgazette.com

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, Overheard at Dal, 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 Streeter feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff.

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Koo-E Nami



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Why we won't publish homophobic ads

The mystery explained

Dylan Matthias
Editor-in-Chief

Ah, Twitter. There's a lot of *stuff* out there on Twitter. When you force people to condense their thoughts into 140 characters or less, the byproduct is an awful lot more being said. While that's good for communicating, it's not always good for clear communicating. Alas, the Twitterverse got the story of the homophobic ad and the *Gazette* quite wrong.

For the sake of clarity, here's what happened: Charles McVety, or the institution he's a part of, which represents Canadian "family values," sent a personalized press release to our copy editor, Erica Eades.

Unfortunately for McVety, Erica is our copy editor because she has a strong sense of what is libellous and unfit for publication. Being the conscientious person she is, she politely told McVety to never email her again. The *Gazette* applauds Erica for standing up for the paper and for journalistic integrity.

The same can't be said of the *National Post*, sadly. They received the ad, and while they're not sure how it happened (tsk, tsk), it made it all the way to their paper and out into the wider world. Cue the Twitterverse.

We didn't receive the ad--that's what Twitter initially got wrong--so we didn't really reject it. That said, Erica did the right thing, and we would have rejected it outright had any of our staff received it.

All of the ads in the *Gazette* are reviewed several times. First, the ad has to be sold by our ad manager,

Aaron Merchant. Our Business Manager Ben McDade usually has his eye on everything we sell and would catch any problems. Then the ad is laid out by our Art Director, Jonathan Rotsztain. The whole staff checks everything before the paper is put to bed, and then I check everything once more after that. So the silly stuff gets filtered.

In as long as I've been at the paper we haven't, to my knowledge, ever nixed an ad for decency reasons. We do reserve the right to do so, just so we can deal with stuff like this. Although we're a student paper, we are open to any and all advertisers and try to treat all our clients with the utmost respect. But we won't be taken advantage of, either.

It's also important to understand that all of our editors get a lot of press releases every day. Press releases are easily demonized as marketing muck, but they can be useful, too. Most organizations have a media department issuing releases, so they can be a good way to flag upcoming events and find opportunities to talk to people that might not have otherwise existed. They don't replace good, old fashioned digging though, and press releases always have an agenda.

The *Gazette* doesn't have a formal policy on press releases. We generally do appreciate getting them, but we act on only a very small percentage of what we receive. It stands to reason, though: if someone sends us something really awful, we'll block that person or organization.

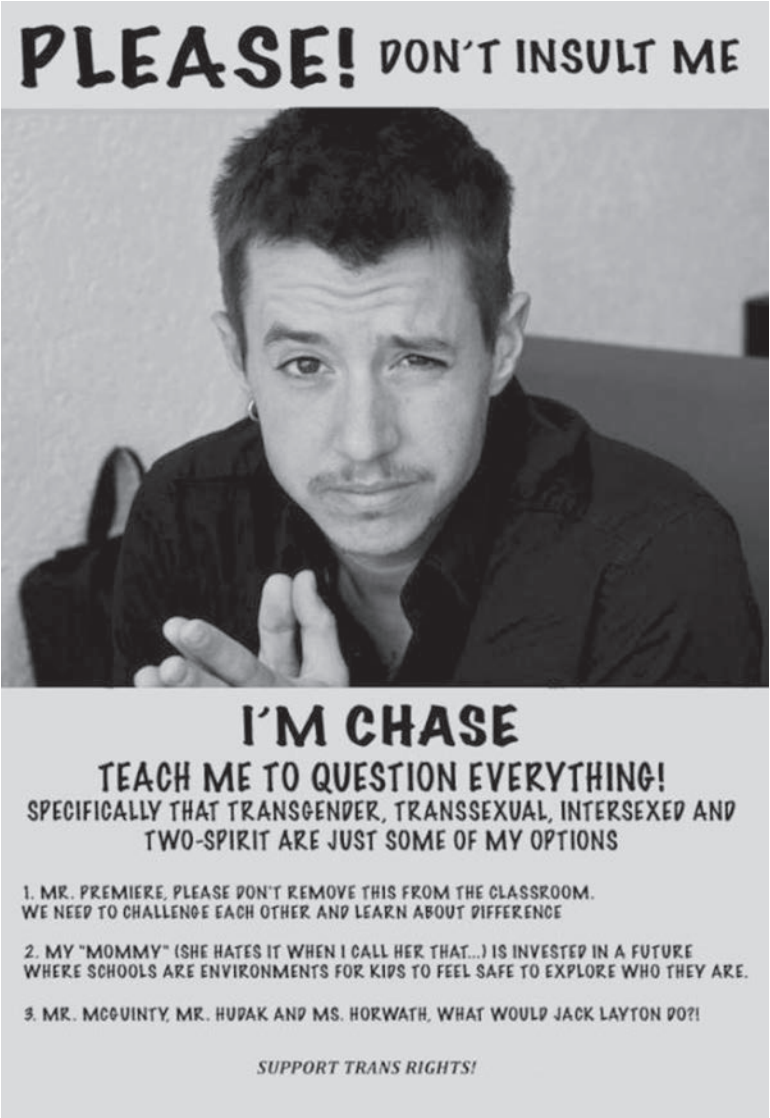
The *Gazette* is a student paper, first and foremost. We offer advertisers a solid student readership and

the best on-campus distribution. We try, when possible, to publish student ads, too, and we're working on ways to get society events on our website (anyone who knows of a good, high-powered Calendar-making plug-in for Wordpress could send us one of those nifty press releases). We may be students, but we're not naive. We know what our readers will and will not stand.

What McVety and his organization sent us didn't pass the smell test. Our readers would have hated it and we would have hated publishing it. So we didn't. It's a pity the *National Post* didn't do the same thing. ☹

Editor's Note: *The Gazette would like to thank OpenFile.ca and Bethany Horne for picking up on this story, reporting it fully and completely, and for helping clarify it when Twitter got a hold of the story.*

Correction
In last week's article entitled "Funding cut for King's cornerstone," it was stated that the Diocese was cutting all of its funding to the King's College Chapel when in fact it's cutting 50 per cent. This weeks article entitled "Diocese explains funding cuts to King's Chapel" (page 5) reflects those changes.



Activists responded strongly to the homophobic ad through social media.
• • • Poster by Chase Joynt via Twitter


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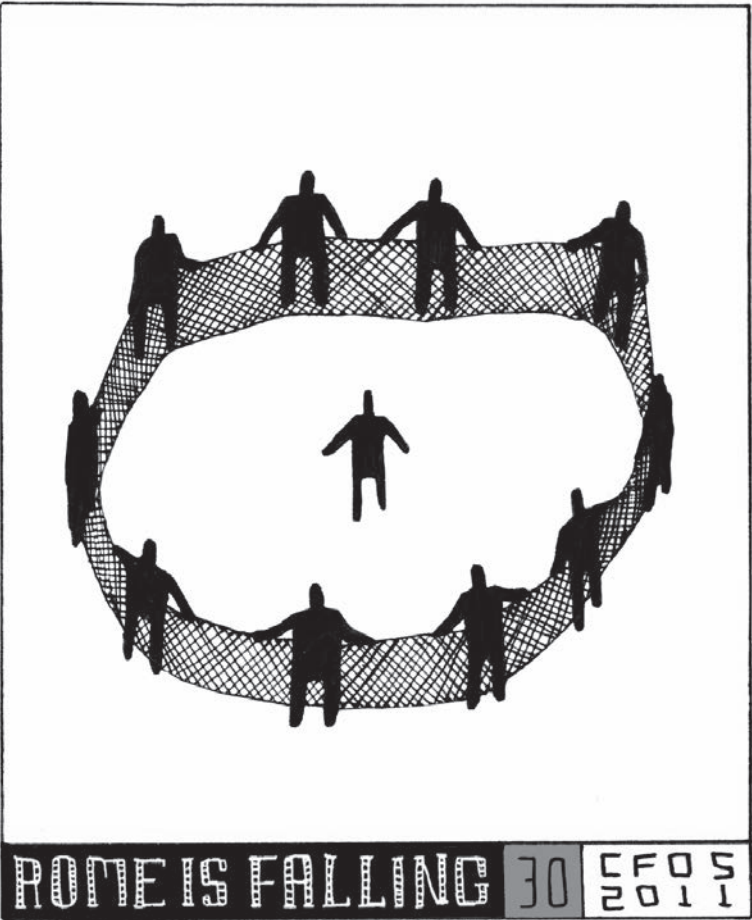
- students receive two LL.M. degrees upon successful completion: one from Haifa and one from uOttawa
- studies will be conducted in English, with the option to focus on law and technology or human rights
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*The Faculty of Law extends special thanks to the Gerald Schwartz and Heather Reisman Foundation for its generous support.

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Katrina Pyne News Editor

Changing sexes

A look into the life of a courageous trans individual



Adam Faber
News Contributor

Editors Note: *The names in this story have been changed in order to protect the employment and social well-being of the source, who is not actively out in Halifax.*

Sam sits in his living room with a friend from elementary school, playing with his new cat. When the two met, Sam was female and went by a different name. Now Sam is a man, and the fit is so natural you wouldn't give him a second look on the street.

He has taken a long journey through doctors' offices, surgeries and his own sense of self to get to where he is now.

"It's been a long 17 years. I kind of feel like an old man in a certain way," he says. He is not out as transgender publicly and fears repercussions from his job if he does come out. It is not illegal for a company to fire an employee over being transgender.

Sam feels strongly that gender isn't a question with only two answers. "It is factual that the gender binary exists: it's called female and male. It's also a fact that it's just not true. There isn't just one answer, biologically and socially. There is no such thing as a man who is 100 per cent manly or a woman who is 100 per cent feminine."

In 1990 Sam was born a girl, with six older brothers. "There was six boys and then me. Mom really wanted a girl, and she kept having babies until she had me. There was a sign at the community store down from my house that actually said on it 'Mary had a Girl!'" Sam didn't feel that girl was the right word, despite what was on the sign at the corner store. "I knew that technically, biologically, I was female. People told me that, but it didn't connect."

Sam never felt feminine, even from an early age. "I cut all my hair off when I was five (...) and my mom bought me a bikini a couple of days later," he says, laughing. "I was like, this is not working for me. I don't know if you understand, but this is not working."

As time went on Sam combed through books and crawled across

websites on dial-up Internet to find something to connect to. "I was always kind of a word nerd, and I looked through literature and I looked online when that came out. I searched for a word for myself, and for a while I was kind of like a tomboy."

Adopting and altering the name of someone he met, Sam began to redefine himself. "In grade three I created a different identity that I didn't know yet was male, but it definitely wasn't female. I never really went through an 'I could be a girl' thing."

After years of soul-searching, Sam reached out to his father first. "At 15 I came out to my father. I wrote down the definition from Wikipedia for transgendered and two-spirited on a crinkly piece of paper and just gave it to him (...) He said, 'So what?'" Not to say that there wasn't friction and misunderstanding. The medical system took some pushing to get testosterone treatments.

"I went to my family doctor who was really right-wing conservative. I tried to explain the situation to her and she was really not cool with it." Sam's doctor later agreed to sign the necessary paperwork, but left it to him to make the phone calls and find a referral.

"I found a doctor at the QE2 and I didn't know what to expect. I went to her and she gave me a prescription for testosterone. It was a very short, nervous visit and it was really weird and not what I expected. I felt really happy and awesome, and she didn't care that much. That time, and even talking with my family doctor, I've always felt like there was a medical disinterest. Trying to become educated on trans people when they don't already know is too much of a bother, so it's always really quick and uncomfortable."

"If you're calling to make a doctors' appointment because you have the flu, you can ask, 'Mom, what do I say?' You know what to expect because doctors see it all the time; but, when you're calling a Botox clinic about literally cutting your breasts off, it's scary."

Sam is quick to say that everyone's experience is different, and it's an intensely personal one.

"I'm just some dude. I think that's really important. There's nothing you can expect—there's no list of things that say 'now I know my kid is going to be trans'. There's no right way to do this, and there's no particularly easy way to do this."

"For me I went through a lot of shit, but it's worth it."

As confused as he was at times, people around him were as well. Sam suggests allowing time for everyone to adjust. "People will come through. Learning patience is important, and learning patience about your own body is really important. People aren't usually unhappy at you, they just really don't know what to do with themselves. My parents always loved me, but I thought they hated me for a really long time. They called me 'she,' [and] would hang up on my friends when they called asking for Sam—they were just scared and didn't know what was happening to their little girl. Through time, people come around. If you just stick to it, people know you are who you are, and that you're not going to change either way."

Sam speaks about his Catholic parents, the growing they did and the contributions they now make to the LGBTQ community. "My parents were really straight, and that was just kind of their life. It ended up there were three gay men in their family; they had a really, really hard time. They felt horrible. They thought they ruined lives and people were literally going to hell. They've stuck with the church, and facilitated family meetings of churchgoers who have contradicting values of homosexual or queer family members and the church. They get together and talk, and they're huge in the Antigonish pride community now, which is really amazing."

Sam says being comfortable with the pace is the hardest thing to learn in the process. "It took 10 years, and people expect these things to happen fast. If you're sure enough to say 'In 10 years, I'll be OK with this,' realize you're going to have to wait a long time and jump through a lot of hoops."

"I'm just some dude. I think that's really important."

"A different identity that I didn't know yet was male, but it definitely wasn't female."
... Photo by Pau Balite

LGBTQ news Briefs

Happy National Coming Out Day!
Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) communities and supporters celebrated National Coming Out Day (NCOD) on Oct. 11. The day is designed to initiate open discussion regarding LGBTQ people in the community. NCOD is celebrated on an international level

encouraging those who identify as queer to be open and confident with their sexuality.

Celebrated on the anniversary of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, NCOD started in 1988 by Robert Eichberg and gay politician Jean O'Leary.

Aids Coalition of NS using *RENT* production to fundraise
DGM Music Inc. opened their production of famed Broadway musical *RENT* on Oct. 13. The production will be running until Oct. 15 in the Spatz Theatre at Citadel High.

The Aids Coalition of Nova Scotia

(ACNS) is playing a major role in fundraising at the event, as well as organizing the awareness of HIV/AIDS at the production. ACNS will also provide opportunities for Haligonians to get involved in the community.

RENT is a rock opera following the lives of young artists living in New York City, with a theme of AIDS. For more information, check out our Arts section.

Takin' It to the Streets at NSRAP's Annual Fundraising Gala
Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project (NSRAP) is hosting their Annual Fundraising Gala called Takin' It to

the Streets on Oct. 22.

NSRAP will honour a member of Nova Scotia's LGBTQ community with the Darlene Young Community Hero Award. Following the cocktails, silent auction and three course meals, gay American singer-songwriter Matt Alber will be featured as the night's keynote speaker. A former member of the Grammy award winning classical men's ensemble "Chanticleer," Alber advocates for organizations that support LGBTQ homeless youth.

The gala starts at 6 p.m. and is being held at the Halifax Marriot Harbourfront. Tickets are being sold for \$125.

It's official! Reflections is moving
Pending liquor board approval, Reflections Cabaret will be moving from its current location on Sackville Street to the building that housed the old Marquee Club and the Paragon Theatre on Gottingen Street. They hope to relocate before Christmas.

This move is subject to the possibility of the current building eventually closing down or being renovated.

—Misha Noble-Hearle
News Contributor

Vandalism leaves King’s Chapel in the dust

The Chapel remains empty until week-long cleanup is finished

Olivia Schneider
News Contributor

Vandalism that occurred at the King’s Chapel Oct. 3 has not stopped the Chapel’s congregation from worshipping together. Until the Chapel is open again, services are being held in a blue tent outside the Chapel, and in The Pit, the King’s theatre.

As the Chapel worshippers gather outside in the cold blue tent, a snow-like layer of residue left from the extinguishers covers the Chapel floor, pews and holy icons, leaving an absurd look of peacefulness after a night of pure chaos.

Despite the extensive damage caused by the vandalism, the university’s Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Gary Thorne, does not want the Chapel locked up more than it is already. “If I had my way, it would be open more,” he says. “It belongs to all of the students and should be available whenever.”

Thorne says the damage will cost about \$13,000 to repair. Three fire extinguishers were emptied, starting at the front of the Chapel and moving through it in a way that he describes as “systematic” and “determined.” In addition, Thorne says items throughout the Chapel were broken because of “collateral damage.”

This is not the only act of vandalism at a church this year. In August, vandals used a chainsaw to damage sign’s at St. Gabriel Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church in Hammonds Plains, according to a story in the Halifax Metro.

Staff and students in the King’s community have reacted mainly with confusion about the possible motive for the vandalism, Thorne says. “They find it hard to put themselves in the mind of someone who would want to damage a Chapel like this. It’s open to everyone and every denomination.”

The investigation of the incident is ongoing and Const. Brian Palmeter, the Halifax Regional Police spokesperson, says no charges have been laid. He agrees there is no obvious motive. “It’s what I refer to as a senseless act,” he says. “It’s an unfortunate

reminder that people will break into just about anywhere.”

The challenge of maintaining the balance between Chapel security and availability is not unique to King’s. The Reverend Andrea Budgey is the Chaplain at the University of Toronto’s Trinity College Chapel. She says their Chapel has also suffered vandalism. “There’s a certain amount of risk we have to take,” she says, “in order to make sure [the Chapel] is open to all students.”

“*Let us bear one another burdens as becometh friends.*”

Although it has not been confirmed that alcohol was involved with the King’s Chapel vandalism, Budgey says from her experience it may have been a factor. Trinity College Chapel experienced problems with sign stealing during their orientation week. “It was likely a combination of alcohol and initiation,” she says. “It’s wonderful what most of a 2-4 will do for you in terms of alcohol-induced courage.”

The clean up of the King’s Chapel is expected to take about a week; however, the Chapel remains untouched at the time of print. A professional cleaning crew is needed, because the discharged fire extinguishers contain chemicals that require special handling.

Thorne says the first service in The Pit, held on Oct. 6, was wonderful. He says a lot of hard work by a group of 20 students went into the set-up. “They did it simply because adoration and contemplation is a part of their lives.”

In a letter released to the King’s community, Thorne signed off with the words, “Let us bear one another burdens as becometh friends.”



A fine residue left by the extinguishers coats the chapel floor, pews and Holy Icons.
• • • Photo by Jesse Blackwood

Diocese explains funding cuts to King’s Chapel

Olivia Schneider
News Contributor

Bishop Sue Moxley of the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island says the Diocese has no intention to end the Chaplain’s position at King’s. However, beginning in January, the Diocese will be contributing 50 per cent less funding. She says the reduction in funding is not a reaction to how the Diocese values the King’s Chaplaincy, but rather a reflection of the Diocese’s own budget problems.

“Some people expect churches to magically have a big pot of money,” she says. But the Anglican Diocese’s operation budget is made up of contributions from churches in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Each church contributes 19 per cent

of their finances. This allows the Diocese to fund chapels like those on campuses or hospitals.

“*They have the benefit of having a Chaplain, but they don’t contribute financially.*”

“But when parishes have the squeeze on their own funding, they don’t have that much money to give,”

Moxley says.

Moxley says that there have been many discussions about where King’s can compensate for the lack of funding from the Diocese. She says alumni donations will be a possible source. In addition, Moxley thinks the university could be of some help. “They have the benefit of having a Chaplain,” she says, “but they don’t contribute financially.” She also says that it is unusual to have a full-time Chaplain on a university campus.

Moxley is a member of the Board of Governors at King’s and says she understands how complicated the financial situation is at universities. “This is not out of ignorance,” she says, “We want to keep [the Chaplaincy].”



• • • The Seal of the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

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of chloroform and held it to her mouth. Watching them roll out of consciousness was always a delight, and she finally ceased to squirm— that aggravating action would have only ruined his prize. After a few

King of Shambhala visits Halifax

Buddhist group gathering at Dal

Daniel Boltinsky
News Contributor

Kneeling piously on prayer mats, about 100 people chant harmoniously as a gong chimes thrice. With heads bowed towards a provisional shrine, the participants are not just meditating, but learning how to become better leaders.

The king of Shambhala, Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche, attended the gathering. Students and Haligonians alike came to partake in the ceremonies.

Held from Oct. 3 to 6 on the second floor of the SUB, the Kampala Governance Gathering brought together individuals interested in studying Shambhala—a type of Buddhism—for the purpose of enhancing their leadership abilities.

Shambhala adds its own twist to the essential Buddhist perspective that a person's nature is egoless and compassionate. Practitioners believe that human nature is inherently good, and focuses heavily on an aspiration to make one's society peaceful and genuinely good.

Michael Nuschke, a Halifax financial adviser who was at the conference, explains that the goal of Shambhala is to "help people connect with what we call their basic goodness, and also how that principle can be used to inspire and enlighten society."

Halifax became a world center for the practice in 1986 when the King of Shambhala at the time, Trungpa Rinpoche, moved the international headquarters here from Colorado.

When he relocated, a large number of his disciples followed. Now, in addition to having their headquarters on Tower Road, there is also a Shambhala school (going from the primary grades through high school) on Gottingen Street.

Keenan Brown's parents were among the followers of Trungpa Rinpoche when he relocated from Colorado. He is now a leader in the Halifax community, and explains the goals of the conference. "We rouse the confidence and courage to work with our life in a way that we can inspire people to their true nature and create a good society," he says.

He explains that the event should also instill a sense of forward vision in the participants. While these skills may help business leaders such as Nuschke, Brown estimates that there are also about a dozen college and university students at the conference.

Among participants arriving from overseas was Sophie Maclaren, who flew in from Germany. Back home, she leads meditation retreats for people in their 20s and 30s, and believes that Shambhala activities teach very practical communication skills.

"It means genuinely listening to another human being without planning what you're going to say or thinking about something completely different," she says. "Essentially genuinely connecting with someone and speaking from your heart."

However, Maclaren says she is taking something greater from the conference than just communication: inspiration. "Inspiration that there are a lot of people who are really interested in doing something beneficial for the world, and that there are tools and paths to help them do that." ☸



Shambhala teaches meditation and leadership. • • •
Photo by Nat Sakunworarat via publicdomainpictures.net



Bankside

Scurrying like bugs and dope fiends,
virile enough for a throat to cut.
Lunging, darting,
wriggling crowd.

A cenotaph of civility,
"I thought you had him this weekend Paul."
Shift blame like bags in hands.
"Free up those claws for trinkets, kids!"

Locusts, sick on gorged fields,
writhing ripples of foam at the mouth.

Engorged wraiths spewing billowing sheets of bills,
blowing in the wind,
snorting up all the good blow,
jagged and terse
"We thought you was cool man,"
a face full of veins and teeth.

—Nick Laughter

Miss Mary

Nurse draws a bath,
The faucet salivates
With excitement—
Its basin gurgles
And rumbles
Hunggrily

'Ms. Mary,' says Nurse,
'It's time for your soak.'

The old woman places
Jewelry, her history,
In a bowl beside her.
And steps carefully into
The tub's digestive
Juices.

Nurse pulls a paper curtain
Around Ms. Mary,
And leaves.

She submerges herself,
Shrivels.

Epsom salts settle
Into creases,
Into softening wax crevices.

Pulpy layers separate and
curdle.

Her grey hair,
Floats beside her
With bits of scalp
Still attached.

Her nail beds let go
And her toes curl under.

Nurse returns,
Unplugs the drain
And the tub eagerly
Digests Ms Mary.

—Taylor LaPorte



The Master, His Cat, and His Conquest

The first leaf had fallen and Spencer found himself pouncing on it like prey. If he lifted his head to the right, he could hear his master from the window, rising and falling from the waterbed. It sounded like his stomach after eating one too many fish treats. Maybe it was time for him to go inside and join the celebrating; the motions were teasing him. He crawled in through the window screen. His master looked down and smoothed the folds of his outfit: another empty evening, he never allowed himself to become that famil-

iar. Why had he decided to wear stiff shirts with their hard buttons, and just remove his boxers, resembling nothing so much as that cliché nightmare, you forgot to wear your pants. Maybe no one had noticed.

As he turned to brush her loose hairs from his pillow, she caught his reflection in the window Spencer had come in from; he was removing the trace of her. Why had she even come to this bedroom? "That's the last time I'll sleep with you," she said. But her words were lost in the eruption of his ego behind him. "Who's there?" she

called.

Spencer moved out from the windowsill. "Cat," she said, quietly enough that only Spencer could hear her. "What is your name?" Then, all of a sudden Spencer batted at her gesture and ran back out the window. He only cared for his master, he thought, not for his conquests. But she was earnest, which made him realize how similar he was to her; they both wanted to make the master feel better. He wanted to apologize.

—Cassie Guinan

Submit your Micro-Fiction, Poetry & Feedback to
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DalGazette.com Website Top 5

1. Dawgfather tackles city council
Dawgfather, Opinions
2. Vandalism at King's College Chapel
Katrina Pyne, News
3. Tigers crumble against AUS red shirts
Henry Whitfield, Sports
4. Into it and not into him
Mina Atia, Opinions
5. Women's volleyball owns 2 - 2 exhibition record
Kristie Smith, Sports





Hate speech on ice

The NHL needs to man up and reduce derogatory language in its league

Daniel Bergman

Opinions Contributor

The decree is out. The National Hockey League has decided: Cheap shots are in this year.

Just so there's no confusion, we're not talking about blindside hits to the head here. The league has – commendably, albeit belatedly – come to the realization that concussions are a nasty business, especially when they happen to sideline its most marketable player. No, the cheap shot in question occurred about a week before this year's NHL campaign was set to begin, during a preseason game between the Philadelphia Flyers and New York Rangers, when cameras caught Flyers left winger Wayne Simmonds uttering a homophobic slur.

We've all heard the word before. As far as words go, it's an ugly one, because it singles out and implicitly denigrates a whole section of the population based on something as arbitrary as sexual orientation. In this case, it was directed at Rangers' forward Sean Avery, who is a vocal supporter of gay rights and was active in the successful campaign to legalize gay marriage in the state of New York. Simmonds, ironically enough, is a member of a minority himself, being of African-Canadian descent. He was at the centre of a different preseason controversy three weeks

ago when a fan in London, Ontario, threw a banana at him – a tasteless and offensive jab at the colour of his skin. Then, Simmonds achieved something rather remarkable: In one week, he transformed himself from a victim of prejudice, to prejudice's poster boy.

Perhaps the most surprising element of this sad story is the league's reaction to Simmonds' behaviour. While the league issued a statement in the wake of the incident asserting that Simmonds' use of such a derogatory term was “absolutely unacceptable,” they declined to take any kind of disciplinary action. Their reason: Simmonds denied having said anything offensive and they just couldn't figure out who to believe, despite the fact that, as the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) notes in their press release on the matter, “It is abundantly clear from video footage that an instance of anti-gay bias occurred.”

GLAAD's acting president, Mike Thompson, also correctly points out that the National Basketball Association, when faced with a similar incident involving star player Kobe Bryant, fined the responsible party for his irresponsible behaviour. The only difference is Bryant publicly apologized almost immediately, making it easier for the league to justify punishment. However, just because Simmonds did

not feel like owning up to his words does not mean the league gets to abdicate the responsibility of holding him to account. Even a simple fine would have meant something; losing \$50,000 won't hurt a pro athlete very much, but it sends a strong signal to the rest of the world about the place of hate speech in sports.

By failing to take any action at all, the NHL missed a tremendous rebranding opportunity. For quite some time the league has been a breeding ground for antiquated, hyper-masculine social mores. This is a sport that still relies on fighting – honest to goodness hand-to-hand combat on skates – as a means of boosting attendance and allowing players to prove their manhood. It also promotes an environment in which former team executives are given Saturday night pulpits to bemoan the “pansy-fication” of the game, and where standing up for a teammate is paramount – even if that teammate has just put an opponent in the hospital with a vicious hit.

For once, however, this most reactionary of sports leagues had a chance to shrug off its past and become a progressive voice for change. Swift and unequivocal punishment would have made it clear to the next generation of NHL stars that it is simply not acceptable to taunt someone based on sexual orientation. Instead,



It's not everyday someone is as vulgar as Sean Avery.

••• Photo by Bruce Bennett, Getty Images

the league predictably chose the safe path of non-intervention, reinforcing stereotypes about hockey culture that many fans – this writer included – wish would disappear.

So who is most at fault here? Is it Simmonds, the league, or the culture that surrounds both? In a way, it doesn't matter. The slur used by Simmonds is a relic of a bygone era, meaning the league is in danger of becoming irrelevant if it remains

unresponsive.

Sure, the league wants to maintain its tough, masculine image – we get it. But that's not incompatible with change. Executives and players, from Chairman Gary Bettman on down, must be brave and take a stand against hurtful and dangerous language.

Or, to put it in terms a league official would understand: It's time to act like men. ☹

Cutting into scissoring

The truth about the world of tribadism



This dotted line isn't that popular to cut.

••• Image by Jonathan Rotsztain

Ellen Taylor

Sex Columnist

Scissoring, or tribadism, is the sexual act often considered to be the main form in which lesbian or queer women have sex. It is the act of pressing or rubbing each other's vaginas together by sliding between each other's legs, thus making a pseudo-scissor shape.

We see it in the copious amounts of lesbian porn actually made for straight dudes, heck, even *The Real L Word* brought back scissoring in season two (not that I watch that show, or anything). So it seems to be the consensus—scissoring is the way that all those who enjoy bumping uglies do “it.”

Really? The idea of scissoring to me always seems a little bit funny. My question is: who are all these queer women scissoring all day and every day? Is it just a myth that is perpetuated by the mainstream to understand lesbian desire without the presence of a penis (how else can you have sex if there isn't direct genital contact all the time)? Or is it the way that some queer gals get off with their partners without having to take turns?

“It just sounds like a whole lot of awkward positioning and effort.”

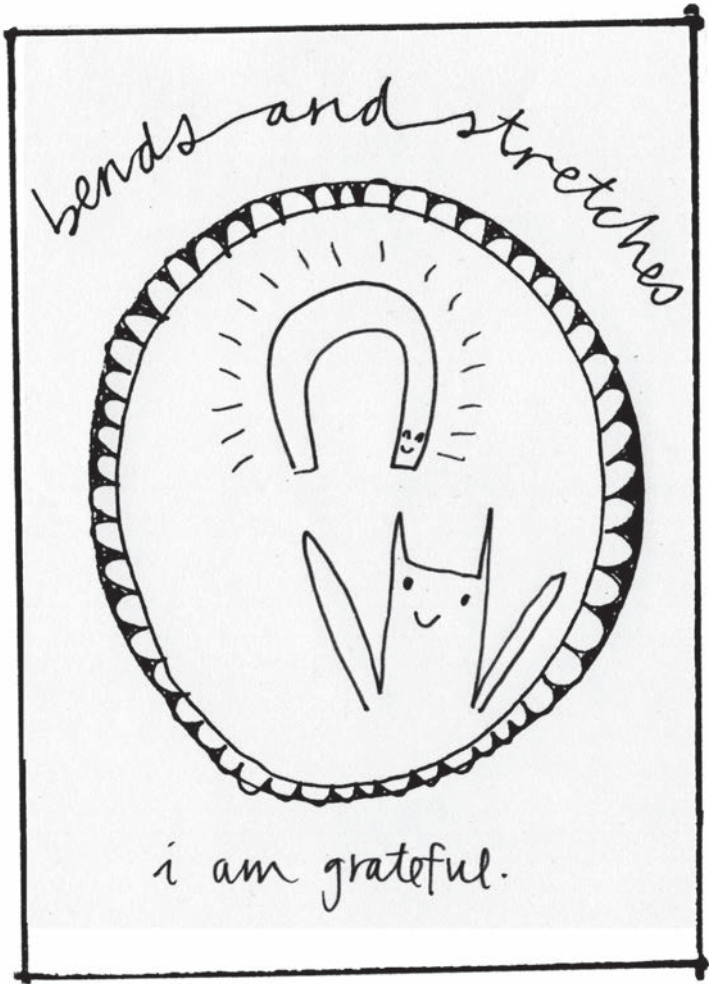
I knew the answer to my own experience, which was a resounding ‘no I do not scissor’, but I thought I'd ask around to get a better sense of how people feel about this act.

My research was pretty shameful—I read some blogs, talked to all my awesome queer friends, and posted the question on Facebook (which started a pretty great thread of comments). The conclusion? Yes, most of the people I talked to have scissored. But this myth is not busted, folks!

Most of the feedback I received was that while most had tried scissoring, or do it from time to time, it wasn't actually as popular to do as it seemed to be to talk about. Most said that they had tried it, but in the words of one anonymous responder, “It's more awkward than enjoyable for sure.” Another commenter mentioned suggesting scissoring to her partner while in the middle of things, which caused an outright giggle breakdown.

OK, so scissoring happens, but is awkward and funny? So what's the big deal? It seems, yet again, that the media's representation of lesbian/queer sexuality is slightly shaded with heterosexual expectations of how sex is supposed to be (you know, P in V kinda stuff). *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* says that tribadism is “typical of standard heterosexual mystification of what lesbians are and what they do, beginning with any attempt to use bodies for pleasure rather than for reproduction.” It seems to be hard for some people to imagine same-sex desire without the presence of a penis, or at least *some* kind of junk-on-junk contact.

That being said, it's not that scissoring is necessarily bad, it just sounds like a whole lot of awkward positioning and effort to get either person off. But, like one of my respondents mentioned, “I don't see why scissoring would do NOTHING for you (...) Come on, it's still rubbing. It's SOME form of stimulation.” And isn't that the truth. ☹



PIN-UP

Wearing a rainbow pin is about more than just stating your orientation

Kristie Smith
Opinions Contributor

First, let me say that I'm not gay—even though I wear a rainbow pin on my book bag. This idea is easy for my gay friends to understand, but less so for my heterosexual friends.

This may seem like a funny way to start my explanation, but it's really the root of the issue. I have a fairly large rainbow pin that I wear on my book bag. A friend gave it to me after a DalOut/King's LGBT event. Ever since, it has been on the bottom left corner of my book bag, and has been a surprising conversation point.

So try to imagine my face when someone beside me on the bus asks—out of nowhere—if I'm gay. I answer “no,” and ask why they would ask that. They point to the pin with a confused look on their face.

“Why would I have to be gay to support gay rights?” I ask.

They shrug, with no real argument at hand. “But aren't you afraid you'll mislead someone?”

Yes, someone said that to me. I would have laughed at this person, but I was too surprised. Someone legitimately asked me if I was concerned that I might lead a gay person

to think that I am a gay, and thus confuse them. I was baffled.

Do I have to have served in Afghanistan to support my troops? Do I need to have lost a friend or family member to cancer to run for a cure? No. So why should I have to explain my wearing of a pin that supports gay rights?

“Homosexuality isn't about having sex, it's about being free to love who you will.”

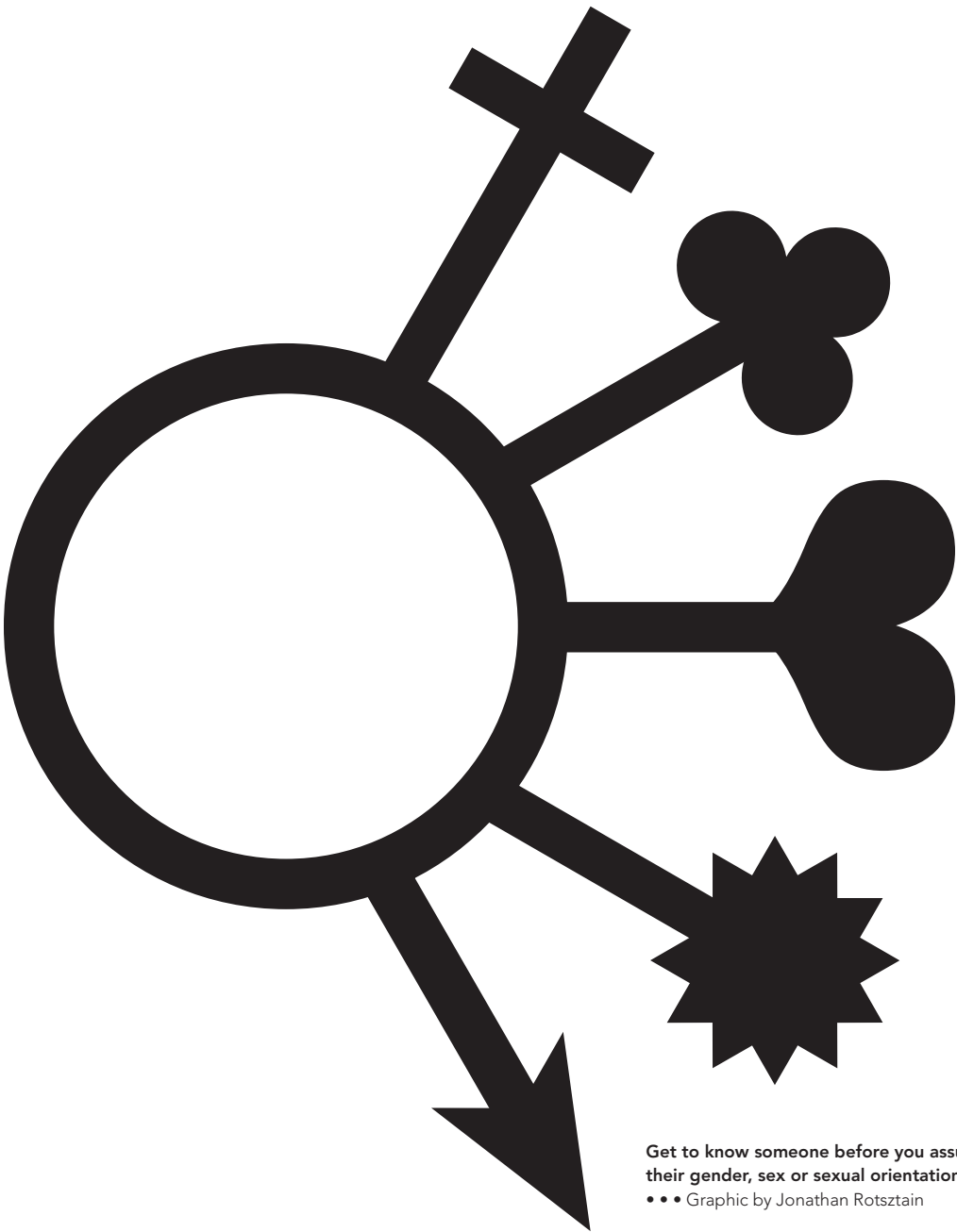
Someone wise once said to me that homosexuality isn't about having sex, it's about being free to love who you will. How could I not support this? That's why I wear my pin, proudly, despite the dumb questions I get because of it. ☹



You don't have to be LGBTQ to show your support. ••• Photo by Angela Gzowski

Talking about Trans

Breaking barriers and getting to know trans individuals



Get to know someone before you assume their gender, sex or sexual orientation.
••• Graphic by Jonathan Rotsztein

Hayley Gray
Sex Columnist

Author's note: *When I use the term “trans”, I mean anyone identifying with a term starting in trans, such as transsexual, transgender, transitioning, etc. When I use the term “cis”, I mean people born into the gender they identify with.*

When we see trans individuals in the media, they are often portrayed as hyper-sexualized and de-humanized people. We hear off-colour jokes about trans sex workers, or about a cisgendered person being horrified when they realize that the person they find themselves attracted to is trans.

Good Magazine senior editor Cord Jefferson puts it bluntly: “The first time I openly laughed at a transgendered person I was 12 years old (...) I was seeing *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*.” If you're not familiar with the movie, there's a scene where Ventura realizes he has kissed a trans person, and he proceeds to vomit violently. The media portrays trans people as sneaky, shocking, sexual and nauseating; no wonder trans individuals face so much stigma. As a society we lack positive representations of trans folks.

This is part of the reason it can be complicated for trans people to figure their own stuff out. Often trans individuals have developed complicated relationships with things such as their name, their clothes, their government ID and the bathrooms they choose to frequent. They also often have complicated relationships with romance, hooking up, dating and flirting.

Because of these things, it's hard to know how to chat with a trans person, and more specifically, how to flirt. Should you mention you think their stubble is cute? That you like their strong shoulders? Will that make them feel uncomfortable?

Whether you are interested in dating a trans person, or would just like to feel more comfortable chatting with the one you sit next to in class, here are a few thoughts on breaking barriers.

Questions are great, but wait on the ones relating to their trans identity until you know them a little better

There are a thousand things to ask a person you're interested in without needing to talk about their gender. Which classes are you taking? Do you like sports? Where did you get your bike? Would you like a drink? Just because you might feel comfortable talking about the shape of your bits, it doesn't mean everyone is. Get to know someone and you'll soon find you know where their barriers are.

“It” is not a pronoun, it's an insult

If you are confused which gender to call someone, call them by their first name, or use the pronoun “they.” Trans individuals also go by a collection of pronouns, including “ze” or “hir,” but no one will get on your case about the use of “they”(with the exception of your English prof).

Don't Assume

Don't assume gender, sex or sexual orientation. There are queer trans men and trans women; there are individuals who don't want to pick a gender or orientation; there are individuals figuring their stuff out who might be interested in or confused about many genders and sexualities. Don't assume. As my mom says, “It makes an ass out of you and me.” We've been raised in a gender binary world and we're rather nosey. When there are individuals breaking that binary, it immediately spurs a collection of questions: Why? How? When? As my friend Shay says, “We're all special fucking snowflakes.” Everyone's different. Sometimes we're proud of our differences, and sometimes we're ashamed. Sometimes we're just tired of everybody asking us about them. So be kind, be careful, look at body language and listen to cues. If someone's uncomfortable with your inquiry, change the subject. There are a million things to talk about besides sex or gender. ☹



L-R: Allie MacDonald, Kat Smith, and Georgie Brown. Everyone is bringing their own interpretation and own talent to it. ••• Photo by Angela Gzowski

RENT: the rock-opera with a message

Spatz Theatre hosts Broadway hit

Kristie Smith
Arts Contributor

How do you measure a year – 525,600 minutes -- when you're dealing with AIDS? The hit Broadway musical *RENT* suggests you measure it in love, a notion shared by DMG Music Inc.'s cast of the same show. In a joint effort with the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, the young cast brings to the stage a show that, while respectful of its original performance, brings unique, original versions of the characters to talk about a disease that is still prevalent and contentious in society today.

"It's a topic that needs to be discussed," said Allie MacDonald, cast as Mark Cohen, one of the few characters in the show who doesn't suffer from AIDS.

"I know people with HIV/AIDS (...) They're not closed off; they want to talk about it, and they want people to become aware."

For those of you who have never heard of *RENT*, it's the story of a group of poor New York artists, striving to survive financially and physically as several struggle with AIDS. Its relevance to young adults is undeniable, also tackling themes of interracial dating and homosexuality. They fall in love, they lose a friend, and ultimately they figure out what it means to truly make the most of the moments they have together.

Roger Davis, Mark's best friend and struggling musician, is played by Georgie Brown, who couldn't praise

the cast enough for their original spins on the characters:

"Pretty well none of the ensemble are trying to mimic the originals. We want to pay tribute and respect the originals, but everyone is bringing their own interpretation and own talent to it."

The cast features several Dalhousie students including Matthew Béasant, Alyssa McCarthy, Jeremy Dutcher, Michael Hart, Meghan Jamieson, Taylor Long, and Kat Mackin-Smith.

"We've found a cast that've really brought the characters to life," added MacDonald, "They put themselves into the characters in more ways than I could possibly imagine. I look at our Mimi, and think she could very well be Mimi, if Mimi had lived without AIDS. She's so much like her!"

The show promises to be emotional, high energy, and full of great musical numbers. Described by many as a rock opera, DMG Music Inc. and the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia bring *RENT* to the stage in an effort to inform its audience while fundraising for AIDS relief.

The show opens Oct. 13 at 8 p.m. at The Spatz Theatre on 1855 Trollope St, and will be showing at the same time for the next two nights. Tickets are \$29.50 for students and can be purchased at ticketatlantic.com.



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The good, the bad and the fabulous

TV's hits and misses in LGBTQ representation

Chelsea Redmond
Arts Contributor

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The struggle for LGBTQ representation on TV has been a long one, spanning almost four decades. Today's programs have made great strides, but we are by no means perfect. Some TV shows do a great job, some fall short, while some just bypass the community altogether. Here are the best and worst representations of the LGBTQ community on current TV.

The Worst: Kurt from *Glee*
Kurt Hummel from FOX's *Glee*: Let me start by saying that I love *Glee*. I'm a total Gleek. Sometimes I burst into song hoping the show will become my life. But the way that Kurt is represented is just horrendous. I understand they are trying to speak to the thousands of LGBTQ youth struggling with their own identities, but Kurt is so one dimensional he does more harm than good.

Kurt-central storylines are always about him being the gay kid. Never does he struggle with academics or his mother's death; he is an outcast because he's gay, bullied because he's gay, transfers schools because he was harassed about being gay, gets turned down for a role because he's gay—notice a trend here? Even when Kurt was given the opportunity to represent himself as more than that, he chose to go with pink posters covered in rainbows and unicorns because that's "who he is." All he is, is the flamboyant gay kid, not the intelligent, sensitive, funny and talented young man we get a few glimpses of here and there in other peoples' storylines. Kurt teaches young LGBTQers that their identity revolves around their

sexuality. They're no longer the baseball player who happens to be gay, they're the gay baseball player; no longer the ballerina who happens to like boys and girls, they're the bisexual ballerina. Kurt should be preaching that sexuality is only one small facet of someone's identity, not the defining feature.

Runner up: Jack from *Will and Grace*

The Best: Mitch and Cam from *Modern Family*
Mitch and Cam from ABC's *Modern Family*: One unit of this hilarious family, Mitch and Cam represent a cohesive family unit struggling with issues that face heterosexual and homosexual couples alike. They're not just the gay couple (although those stories do present themselves), they're the couple with a new baby, learning to be parents, adjusting to going back to work. They look for babysitters, deal with in-laws and have stresses at work—all story lines that apply to a vast audience.

That's not to say that they glaze over their sexualities altogether; Cam's flamboyant attitude and manner of dress is the butt of many jokes, but it is not the central focus. Their gay-centric stories are handled with grace and rationality and never make a scene. When Mitch is confronted by his dad's insecurity, they speak like adults and the issue is resolved in a touching and brief scene. Cam and Mitch represent a caring family, showing the viewers that just because they are a gay couple, does not mean they represent a threat in any way to the American family.

Runner up: Lloyd from *Entourage*

.....

"Kurt should be preaching that sexuality is only one small facet of someone's identity, not the defining feature."

.....

XXXX *Glee* XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.
... Photo by Angela Gzowski

Would
you like a
trench to go
with that
weather?

Trenches are more
in style than ever
before

Rose Behar
Fashion Columnist

.....

The trench coat has long been one of the sexiest items of outerwear in existence. From Audrey Hepburn to Emma Watson, it bestows a classy glamour upon the wearer, making a depressing rainy evening in to an opportunity to sing in the rain.

Watch any old movie circa the '50s or '60s and you'll understand the romance associated with the garment, originally created as uniform for officers of the First World War.

This season, they're back, and back with passion, as Burberry's sleek new take jumps off the shelves of high-end department stores everywhere.

We here in dear old stormy Halifax actually have an advantage in joining the trench lines—a rainy port city is the coat's natural habitat.

Ladies, rather than wait for your cab outside in a shrug and mini-dress, hugging your other scantily clad friends for warmth, throw your knee-length trench over your outfit and revel in being the warmest and most sensible person around, without sacrificing style.

And really, don't be embarrassed to shed your trench and ask for a safe storage place upon your arrival. It's Halifax. It's very, very cold sometimes. We really don't have the luxury to go without a solid jacket.

Of course, the trench isn't only for evening wear! The versatile coat can easily be transformed into charming day wear with the help of blue jeans, your favourite leather boots and a cute knit beanie.

So where to go to find this delightful multi-use item?

H&M can offer you a belt-tied, brushed-fabric version for \$70, and, in a much higher price range, BCBG sells a bevy of different fashion-forward options, from wide double-breasted at \$350, to leopard-print at \$524.

American Eagle joins in on the fun with a fur-trimmed trench at the mid-range price of \$136.

Still, those first-hand examples could be considered a little expensive, especially for those on a budget. Does this mean no sexy trench for the poor student eating lima beans in her north end apartment?

Never! Many of the best trenches can be found for much less than first-hand retail price at vintage boutiques or bigger second-hand chains such as Frenchy's or Value Village.

Another good tip: take an expedition to Bayer's Lake, otherwise known as outlet store heaven. A friend recently scored a trench from Gap's outlet store, originally tagged at over \$100, for only around \$80.

With bargains like that, there's no excuse not to join the trench revolution.

The Productivity Hack

How to stay on top of your work, while still having fun

Manage your time and stop drowning in work.

... Illustration by Frits Ahlefeldt via HikingArtist.com

Rachel Eades
DIY Columnist

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Thanksgiving has come and gone, and that means, miraculously, you're already halfway through the fall term. It also means midterm tests and assignments are going to start piling up, meaning productivity and good study habits are more essential than ever to stay on top of your workload without pulling too many all-nighters.

But productivity can be easiersaid than done. Temptations like Facebook, blogs, YouTube, Skype, or your procrastination vice of choice become more appealing than ever when you have something more important and less exciting to do, like finishing a paper or studying for an exam.

Which leaves you with three options.

1) Vow that your New Year's resolution will be to swear off Facebook, stop procrastinating, and start getting your work done EARLY! Yes! I

can do this! Successfully pull this off for about three days, cave, and spend the next three days wasting your waking hours online while your paper sits unfinished. End up pulling an all-nighter the night before it's due and kicking yourself the whole time, promising that NEXT time, you'll get your work done early, damn it!

2) After some serious self-reflection, acknowledge that you don't have the willpower to stop procrastinating and simply accept that all-nighters are a necessary evil.

3) Learn a genuinely effective productivity hack that achieves a happy medium of being productive and enjoying your internet vices, without requiring willpower of steel.

Number three likely sounds most appealing, right? So here's the trick. It's called the 30-10 Productivity Hack, and although you may scoff at its simplicity, it has been proven effective for about 90 per cent of the people who use it (based on my highly informal survey of my friends and family who I've recommended this to). The other 10 per cent are out of luck. I first discovered this trick on the blog Zen Habits (zenhabits.net) and it changed my academic life.

Here's what you do:

Figure out where you spend most of your time when you should be working. For a lot of us, that's on Facebook. It can also be spent browsing blogs, chatting on Skype, reading

the news, watching videos on YouTube, you get the gist.

Now, set a timer for 30 minutes. If you don't have a stopwatch, there's no shortage of online timers available. A basic, straightforward option is online-stopwatch.com. Now do your work for the full 30 minutes that the timer runs for. No Facebook, no blogs, no chatting, just work.

When the timer goes off, reset it for 10 minutes. Now you're in reward time. For the next 10 minutes, you can browse Facebook or watch YouTube videos to your heart's content. But when your timer goes off after 10 minutes, reset for 30 minutes and get back to work. Repeat this process 30-10, 30-10, until your work is done.

I know this sounds too good to be true, but it really does work for most people. The promise of a tangible reward (10 minutes of free time) in the immediate future (never more than 30 minutes away) is a far more powerful motivator than more long-term or vague rewards that are further into the future (for example, not having to stay up all night finishing this paper next week). Knowing you have sanctioned time to procrastinate every 30 minutes makes the 30 minutes in between highly productive and distraction-free, meaning your paper gets done, on time, no sleep deprivation required. Don't knock it 'til you've tried it!

Good luck with midterms!

STREETER

If you could be someone of the opposite gender—who and why?

by Jonathan Rotsztain and Pau Balite



"Condoleezza Rice: to slap George W. Bush in his mouth"

Evan Price
DSU VP Finance



"Ryan Gosling: he's beautiful"

Lindsay Carney
1st-year kinesiology



"Jack Kerouac: he was free"

Anna Bishop
2nd-year environmental science



"Sir Edmund Hillary: he was the first guy to climb Everest"

Shawna Jesin
3rd-year science



"Toni Morrison: she's an amazing author and activist"

Elad Dvash
Tel Aviv University



"Katy Perry: she knows how to have a good Friday night"

Deves Matwawana
1st-year arts



"Sean White: he's the best snowboarder in the world"

Jessica Twohig
1st-year nursing



"Serena Williams: she's a great tennis player and very wealthy"

Brandon Drake
1st-year science



"Mantracker (Terry Grant): to hunt people down"

Alanna Fowler
1st-year arts



"Alana Fowler: because I want to be Mantracker too"

Zack Miller
4th-year computer science

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Professors:

Ortho Prof: "Shit balls, thats an orthodontic term."

Religion Prof about religious scriptures:

"The difficult thing about some of these texts is that sometimes they are challenging."

Prof: We could argue that an orgasm is the ultimate point of satiation.

Student: Says you.

Students:

Girl: I haven't changed my sheets yet this year.

Guy: But, haven't you ever perioded in your bed?

Girl: What, no!

Guy: Isn't that how girls know they're on their period?

"I had to go to a class at King's the other day. As soon as I walked on campus I felt like I was in the dead poets society."



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Life as a radio host

A behind the scenes look into community radio

Mathew Holden
Music Columnist

Do you like Nickleback? Britney Spears? The Spice Girls? What else do young people listen to these days—Ricky Martin? If so, CKDU, and community radio in general, are not for you. But if you're tired of hearing the same songs over and over (there's only so much Ricky Martin you can take in a day), then why not switch the dial over to CKDU 88.1FM? Or better yet, why not host a show of your own?

Hosting a weekly radio show is easier than you would expect. The rules are pretty simple; the equipment is easy to use; the people, both staff and volunteers are dedicated and friendly.

When I started at Dalhousie last year, I already planned on being part of CKDU. A few years earlier I had a show on CFRE, the University of Toronto at Mississauga radio station. In Mississauga, the station was really only one room and the broadcast booth. The setup was simple because the station's power was low and could only broadcast to the campus. Everyone else had to listen online.

That's where I started. They were really relaxed; I showed up one day and they told me to shadow the DJ who was on air at the time. An hour later I was ready, apparently, and the next day I was hosting my very own show.

My show was called *Dig on this: the radio show where I play the music I want you to hear and then tell you why to like it*. It was sloppy, the pro-

duction quality was low, and it was all mine.

When starting out at CKDU, I found that while some things were the same, there were many new elements I had to adapt to.

My training, while still only one day, was much more extensive. I learned how to use turntables, CD players, computer archives and even the tape decks. I learned about recording levels and mixing boards. I learned what I can and can't play, what I can and can't say, and when to say it. And that was it. I was good to go once again.

New station, new show, new format. I wanted to start from scratch and I did. *Dig on this* was dead, and *Needle vs Groove* was born. And that was all thanks to one section of the station that called to me: the vinyl room. For me, this is the holy grail. It really has to be seen to be appreciated. Floor to ceiling on four walls, as well as an island in the middle sporting another four racks, the vinyl room is the place to be at CKDU.

And that is how I make my show: I play records. Usually records that I have never seen or heard before. While this format keeps the show fresh and surprising, it also keeps the music unpredictable. Luckily, I have a system for choosing the music I play, and it all comes down to three basic factors.


The first is the album cover and band name. It really does say a lot about what the music will sound like. As a very general rule, bands that start with the word "the" are more likely to be heavier rock groups than

bands with long, or poetic names.

The second is the label. Most labels, especially smaller ones, sign bands of a specific sound. While it's not always the case, a quick look to see who is putting the music out will usually help me know what it might sound like.

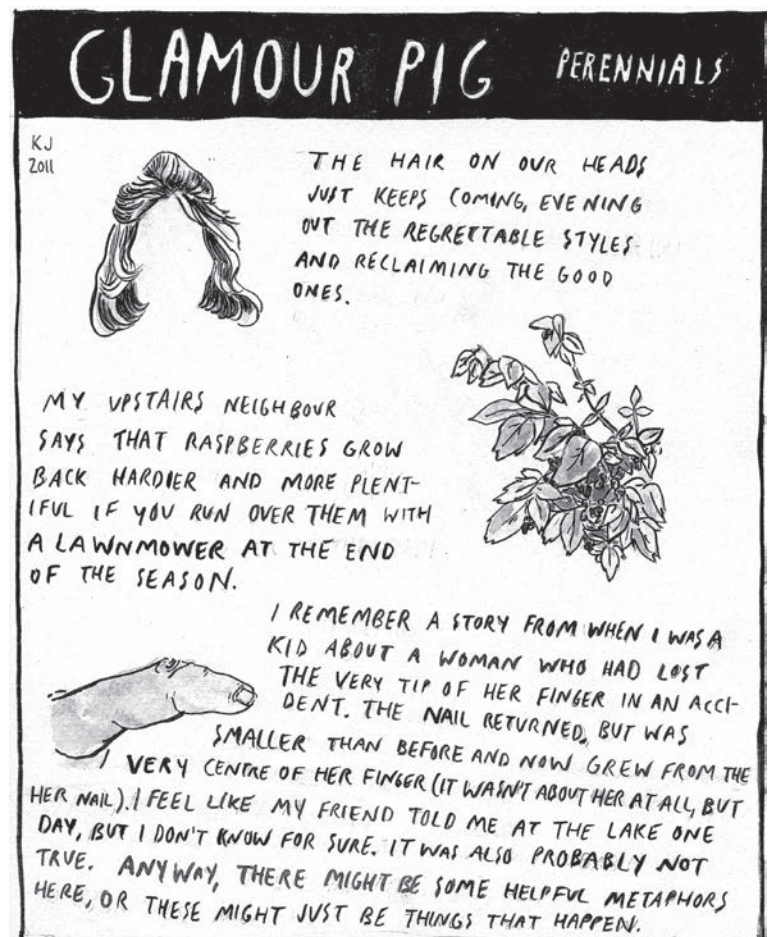
The third is the year it was released. Music trends make the date a record was sold a solid way to narrow down the sound once more. 1970-1976: soft rock. 1977-1982: punk/heavy rock. 1982-1987: soft electro-rock. 1988-1992: hair metal. 1991-1994: grunge/punk rock, and so on. It's not an exact science, but using these very loose guidelines has enabled me to pick out some great music in a pinch.

Really, that's what my show, and community radio, are all about—playing music that the listeners wouldn't get to hear anywhere else. In fact, it's a rule. Nothing that is or has been played on commercial radio can be played on a community radio station. It's all about the alternative. The voice of the other guy. The music of the local bands, the obscure bands, the ones who are trying, and the ones who tried and failed. Community radio gives them a voice.

And CKDU can give you a voice, too. Check out CKDU.ca to find out just how easy it is to get on the radio. 

Fellow CKDU host Zack Shave minds the mixing board.

... Photo by Angela Gzowski



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tunes review

Laura Marling

A Creature I Don't Know

Amanda Joy Saoud
Arts Contributor

This eclectic album draws you in with its airy, acoustic sounds and the light, fluttering voice of Laura Marling. Released on Sept. 12, *A Creature I Don't Know* uses very few instruments—mainly the acoustic guitar and the occasional percussion—but it's Marling's carefree voice that makes her music so unique and inviting. Whether it's soft guitar playing a low, serene note, or the lively, Celtic feel, Marling proves her musical talent covers a wide spectrum.

A great element of her songs are the lyrics. Each song seems to be comprised of handpicked lyrics that not only tell a meaningful (sometimes too deep) story, but that blend within the music. Also, the fact that she writes her own lyrics adds to the fact that she truly invested a good chunk of time into this album. As you listen to

each song, you are able to grow with the story she creates in her songs.

Her unique voice is also worth listening to. In this record, Marling used her wide range of pitch, tone and volume. In her song "Don't Ask Me Why," her voice creates a somber atmosphere as opposed to the song "All My Rage," where her voice creates a lighter, more sarcastic atmosphere (and boy can she hit those high notes!).

If you're looking for some new music, you should check out *A Creature I Don't Know*. Whether you're looking for quiet music as you lazily gaze outside at the changing leaves while you're sipping on some tea, looking to listen to some deep lyrics to inspire you as you're writing a paper (like I'm doing now), or even a good toe tapper that will spark up some highland dancing—your ears will thank you. ☺

sudoku

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



IN THE NAVY

Experiences of LGBTQ mariners brought to light at Maritime Museum

Karin Murray-Bergquist
Arts Contributor

The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic's current special exhibition, *Hello Sailor! Gay life on the ocean wave*, is an important and varied look at the history of homosexuality on the ocean, on board both military and civilian vessels.

The exhibit explores British and Canadian stories and combines the original exhibit from the Merseyside Museum in Liverpool with a Canadian component developed originally for the Maritime Museum. It is co-curator by Jo Stanley, who curated the exhibit in its initial incarnation, and Dan Conlin, who is in charge of the Canadian portion.

The exhibit is by equal measure entertaining, touching and sobering, as it details both the tolerance many gay sailors found on board, and the much less accepting treatment they experienced ashore. Personal stories and video interviews give further glimpses of this: one sailor describes how he might never have come out at all had he not gone to sea, and another recalls how he met his partner and eventual common-law husband.

While the physical artifacts from the British exhibit have not been brought across the Atlantic, the digital art was reproduced for its Halifax incarnation, and the text translated into French in order to present the information in both official languages.

On the British side, the flamboyant camp culture that developed in the 1950s, with the stewards who worked on luxury cruise liners, is explored and celebrated. While it was not a time noted for its openness, that decade saw the start of what became a major part of cruise ship culture:

gay stewards would both serve and entertain passengers, and were much more readily accepted on board ship than they would have been ashore. Popular musicals, and gay parodies thereof, were performed, the gay language of Polari was developed and the ships became known as a sort of "gay heaven" long before there was much acceptance ashore.

.....

"One sailor describes how he might never have come out at all had he not gone to sea."

.....

The Canadian section describes "the good, the bad and the boring"—all sides of the LGBTQ mariner experience. Attitudes such as "sailor first" have in recent times grown more prevalent, emphasizing that the sexual orientation of any crew member is irrelevant compared to their ability as a mariner. However, systemic discrimination for many years forced sailors to hide their identities or risk dismissal, and one personal account from a Canadian naval officer includes his dismissal after a file was compiled on his personal life which led to suspicion on his sexuality.

The five personal accounts in the Canadian component are drawn

from a range of sailors, including one woman, a male-to-female transsexual, an African-Nova Scotian man, a Mi'kmaq man and a man discharged from the navy for his sexuality, offering many different perspectives through their stories. The accounts were collected for the exhibit during its development through face-to-face interviews.

Lunn states that the comments *Hello Sailor!* has drawn have been "mostly extremely complimentary" and that "members of the LGBT community have been most supportive," adding that the interviewees who shared their stories were extremely generous in offering their assistance. The exhibit's subject is a history that is rarely observed, except perhaps peripherally; the truth of the various facets of queer life at sea that this exhibit presents are not often truly explored in depth. This is the first exhibit of its kind to appear in a maritime museum in North America, and it has sparked much discussion, something that Lunn believes is important in a museum exhibit.

The exploration of this hidden history has led to the creation of a unique, fascinating exhibit, which tells stories that are not often heard. ☺

Hello Sailor! will be on display at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic until Nov. 27.

One of the light-hearted crew drag shows of the early 1960s. ••• Photo courtesy of Southampton City Council and National Museums Liverpool



Preview: The new boys in town

Women's rivals both replacing a Jordan at the helm

Adam Faber
Sports Contributor

The two head coaches of varsity women's hockey in Halifax are set to face off against one another Wednesday, Oct. 19, and each are in their first year calling the shots. For Dalhousie and Saint Mary's, the two new bench bosses each have their own share of past turbulence.

Over at Dal, Sean Fraser has stepped up his involvement with the Tigers, rising to the top slot after spending six seasons in a support position. While Fraser has only signed a one-year contract as head coach, he is thinking long-term.

"We could be losing up to nine

players next year, so we want to prepare for any growing pains." Fraser is pleased his team has done well in the past, but says he is looking for better. "We were sitting at about .500. I'm looking to improve that record this year." He described his past experience with the team as his main advantage in transitioning to the new role.

The Tigers finished fourth in the regular season last year. They had a 1 - 1 record at the AUS championships.

Fraser's promotion this April comes in the wake of the team choosing to not renew the contract of previous head coach Lesley Jordan at the end of last season. She was on a one-year contract as well.

A press release detailing Fraser's appointment describes his position as 'interim head coach,' leaving the question open as to whether he will remain in the position next year.

At Saint Mary's, Chris Larade has also recently been hired as the head coach. He arrives to pick up a team that many thought was dead last spring. In March, the Saint Mary's women's hockey team had their funding cut entirely by the school's athletics department, citing budget concerns, benching the team and riling students and alumni alike. The public outcry resulted in a protest rally, which only added to the national media coverage the team's axing was receiving. During the resulting back-

lash, however, SMU secured a large sponsorship to save the team. It was during that period of uncertainty that Ryerson University scooped up the team's former coach Lisa Jordan, twin sister of Dal's Lesley.

Adding to the challenge of leading a new team, Larade explains it wasn't just staff that drifted away from the team during the upheaval: "I'd say we lost probably five players, between recruits and players leaving from what happened."

Not that he's pessimistic, mind you. Larade feels it is all a building experience.

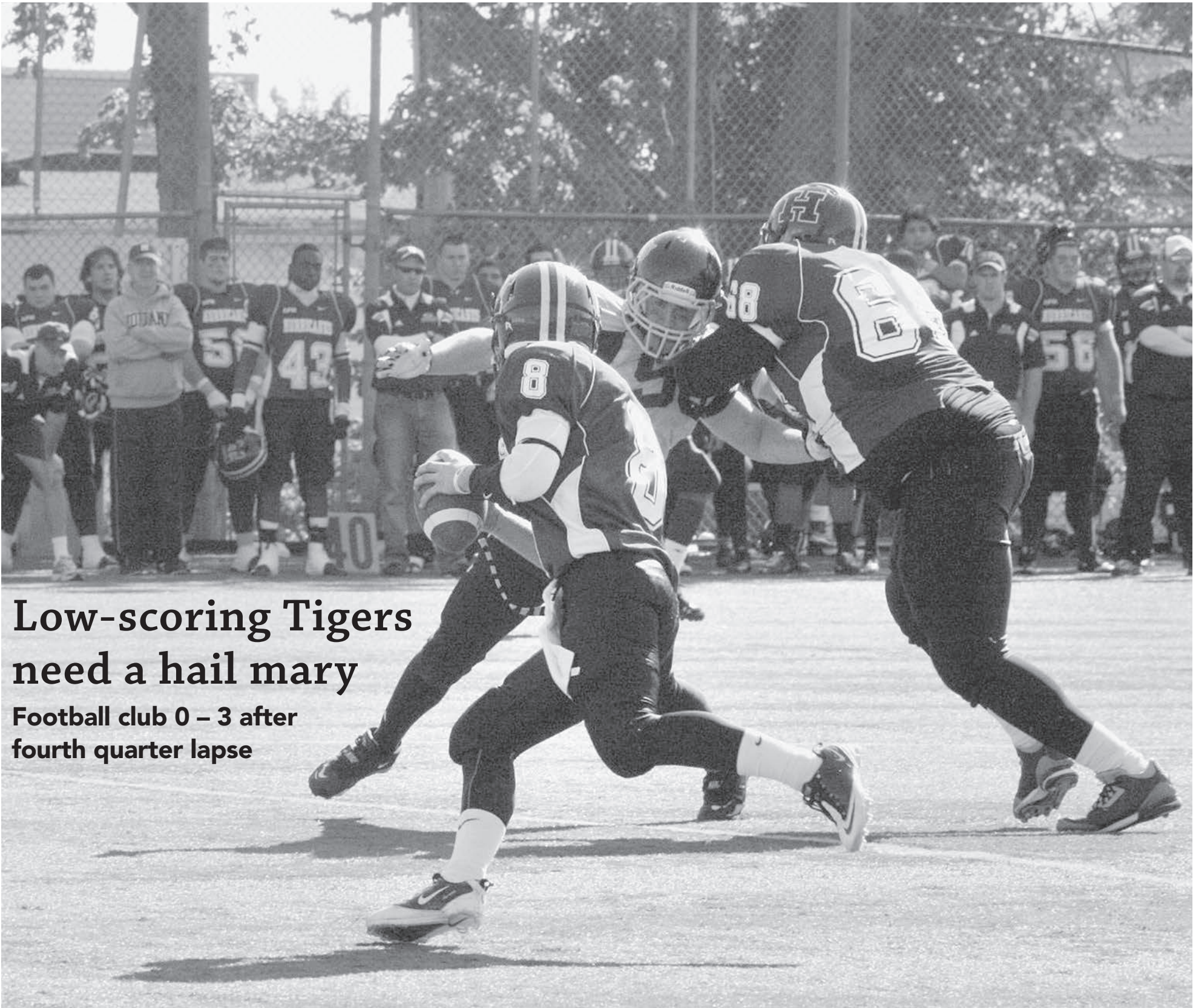
"I'd say what doesn't kill you only makes you stronger."

The last game between the two

teams has presumably left the Tigers with the leg up. The Tigers dominated the Sept. 27 exhibition match, winning 8 - 1.

The upcoming faceoff between the two teams on Wednesday, Oct. 19 will be Saint Mary's home opener. It takes place at 7 p.m. at SMU Alumni Arena. Dal's first home game occurs Sunday, Oct. 23 at 2 p.m. against St. Thomas. It will be the Tigers third game of the season.

Meet hockey coaches (L-R) Chris Larade Sean Fraser. ••• Photos by Adam Faber



Low-scoring Tigers need a hail mary

Football club 0 – 3 after fourth quarter lapse

Ian Froese
Sports Editor

With only four touchdowns and two extra points to show for themselves in three games, the Dalhousie Football Club did not have much to write home about on Thanksgiving weekend.

Dal's winless streak extended to three games last Saturday afternoon at Wickwire Field after they turned a one-point deficit after the half into a 28 – 7 collapse against the Holland College Hurricanes.

The Hurricanes, who won the previous outing 16 – 13 on Sept. 24, sit atop the AFL with a 3 – 0 record.

Tigers head coach Mike Tanner didn't mince words in describing his disappointment.

"I mean, I hope the kids are frustrated too because I haven't lost three games in a row in my entire life," he said. Tanner, a well-regarded coach in the city, was the first recipient of the NFL/CFL High School Coach of the Year award in 1999.

The Tigers looked poised to put up a fight as they entered halftime, profiting on a 25-yard passing play to Steven Fox in the final drive of the frame,

closing the deficit to 8 – 7.

"I was concerned," said Hurricanes head coach Mark MacDougall. "You give up a score on the last play of the half to basically tie it, and I was wondering how we would react to it. They're young kids, something bad happens like that and the sky is falling, so I didn't really know how that would work out in the second half."

MacDougall had little to worry about as his first-place team chugged along, holding the Tigers off the board. The Hurricanes scored in the last second of the third quarter and added two further touchdowns in the fourth.

It's a collapse Tanner has seen before.

"It's funny. We've been in every game this year until the fourth quarter and then all of a sudden we don't get that execution, we don't get that sustained drive and we don't get a break here or there," explained the bench boss. "It's just a snowball effect. Once it gets going bad, it stays bad and we're having a hard time changing that."

Consistent with a fourth-quarter crash for the Tigers this season is the quarterback carousel. Once again,

Tanner gave both Brendan Festeryga and Scott Seamone playing time in the losing effort; an exception in this Thanksgiving game is that only two quarterbacks got on the field rather than three.

.....

"I hope the kids are frustrated too because I haven't lost three games in a row in my entire life."

.....

"I'm trying to find a guy that's going to be able to lead us and right now I haven't been able to do that," Tanner said. "We're just sort of spinning our wheels. I need one of them to step up and hopefully by this time next week somebody will."

Seamone played for most of the game. He was in relief shortly after

the Hurricanes got their first touchdown midway through the opening frame after tight end Leslie Green took a short pass from quarterback Nick Hunsley for a gorgeous 28-yard run, streaking past several Dal defenders. Festeryga reentered late in the disappointing fourth quarter.

Dal had some commendable drives to begin the second half but could not make a dent on the scoreboard. It got worse later in the game as the Tigers' inexperienced defence began to show itself. Robbie Tufts caught a wide open touchdown with 0.6 seconds left in the third quarter to make the contest 14 – 7. The final 15 minutes was all Dave Clark. He ran in two majors in a matters of minutes.

Clark's two touchdowns contributed to 146 yards on 16 carries on the afternoon. The Tigers' stat sheet was less impressive. Greg Pelly ran for 61 yards on 11 carries and Scott Seamone was three for eight with his throws, collecting only 43 yards.

Winless in their opening contests to a combined 77 – 26, Tanner explains it's up to his team to change thing around.

"[These losses] are a great learning experience, a great character builder,

but, I mean, how are they going to come out next week? Are they going to mope around and feel sorry for themselves and quit or are they going to button the bonnet up a little tighter and play football?"

"My general consensus is that the guys are going to show up and play hard," said Tanner. "I don't question that."

The Tigers are opposite UNB Fredericton on Saturday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. The Red Bombers then head to Wickwire on Oct. 22 for the homecoming game. Tickets for the Lobster Tailgate party are still available.

Holland College quarterback Nick Hunsley was in control as his Hurricanes remaom undefeated.

... Photo by Alice Hebb



Rookie setters finish the job

Ian Froese
Sports Editor

Two Dalhousie rookies went through a baptism by fire in their first ever university game last Sunday, playing what might be the most integral position in volleyball. It was a game they won't soon forget.

With established starting setter Angus Rhuland nursing a dislocated shoulder and last season's backup Justin Kilb leaving the team due to concussion issues, the stage was set for an opening at setter. Rookie Robbie Johnson, with a little assistance from fellow first-year William Bremner, took on the task commendably, able to lead his elder teammates to a tight 3 - 2 victory against the Univer-

sity of British Columbia at the Dalplex for the squad's first preseason game of the year.

Johnson admitted he was taken aback when learning he would get some quality court time in his first game as a Tiger.

"I was kind of expecting maybe two years down the road I would see some starting time, but coming in right from the start? [Tigers head coach] Dan's prepared me for this right from the start, I guess, when I found out about Angus. He said, 'Yeah, you're going to start a lot more than you're thinking,'" recalled Johnson, smiling.

The vacancy at setter will be short-lived, however, as Rhuland, along with veteran middle Daniel You, tending a broken thumb, are expected

to return to the lineup in a number of weeks. You will likely not return for the Quebec interlock tournament at the end of the month.

Dal head coach Dan Ota was pleased with his team's victory against a Canada West club, especially considering the fresh talent he had setting.

"I thought that Robbie Johnson did a really good job. You could tell he was a little nervous at times," said Ota, "but I thought once he got comfortable out there he distributed the ball really well and he was pretty good for most of the match."

The Tigers were down 2 - 1 after the third set and looked the part during the mistake-laden frame, featuring many unforced errors from serves


sailing beyond the court to botched kills. Dal couldn't bounce back as the set progressed, falling 25 - 14. The team's outlook looked bleak at that instance of the match.

"We talked about it in between sets and tried to make the adjustments that we could and not let the points of the past bring us down. We tried to look toward the future and forget about each and every point we lose, just move on to the next one," said middle Angus Campbell. "We made less errors in the fourth."

Game scores were 28 - 26, 21 - 25, 14 - 25, 25 - 22 and 15 - 13.

The men's volleyball team had much to be encouraged about on Thanksgiving Monday as they once again held off the pesky Thunder-

birds on home court, also winning that contest in five sets, 3 - 2.

The Tigers took the first frame before returning to victories in the fourth and fifth set. The scores were 25 - 20, 17 - 25, 23 - 25, 25 - 21 and 15 - 11. 

The black and gold head to Quebec for their first interlock tournament of the year at the end of the month. Season opener is Nov. 11 against the defending champion UNB Varsity Reds.

Kenneth Rauwerda slips the ball past a pair of UBC Hackers. Robbie Johnson, in the black, is pictured in the far left.

••• Photo by Pau Balite

Creighton enters game to pilot SMU win

Huskies quarterback controversy might be brewing

Armaan Ahluwalia
Sports Contributor

There may be a quarterback controversy brewing at Saint Mary's after Jack Creighton came off the bench and posted a strong relief performance in a win against the St. FX X-Men.

In the midst of a 40 - 16 victory on an unusually cold Friday night at Huskies Stadium, struggling rookie Jessie Mills, starter for the team's opening five games, was pulled early in favour of Creighton, a former star pivot who quit the team last fall after learning he would be benched for a

second consecutive game.

The victory secured a playoff berth for the Huskies and cemented their first place status in the league.

Mills was in the match early, turning a great first drive into a two-yard run to open the scoring. Apart from the early touchdown, there was not much to talk about offensively as both sides were hard-pressed to get on the board. Mills was pulled in the second quarter in favour of Creighton, who threw for 263 yards and three touchdowns in relief.

On the other side of the ball, Jahmari Bennett was knocked out of the game from a hit to the head after only

throwing two passes. The X-Men then resorted to backup Cory Wensley, who has played in each game this season. Wensley had a respectable outing, completing 15 of 32 passes for 227 yards, but found it difficult to move the ball against a physical SMU defence.


Entering halftime the Huskies had a 19 - 6 lead and were looking comfortable after a 75-yard touchdown by Jahmeek Taylor. Following the break, the Huskies got their usual second half offence going, which exploded for 17 points in the third quarter alone. They scored four points in the fourth to close the result.

The lone bright spot for the X-Men was Jordan Catterall. He pulled in six catches totalling 118 yards and one touchdown.

Craig Leger continued his dominance as the fifth-year displayed why he is one of the best rushers in the league, going for 155 yards on 18 carries for an average of 8.4 yards per possession. Taylor also stood out for the Huskies, finishing with two touchdowns and 106 yards receiving. He had 20 yards rushing and 34 yards on punt returns.

Brett Lauther was solid again for the Huskies as he went three for four on field goals and managed to pin the

X-Men deep throughout the night with numerous good punts.

Saint Mary's may have a 5 - 0 record this season depending whether they get a favourable result from the University of Montreal's appeal on a match the Carabins may have to forfeit. The X are 1 - 4. 

The Huskies and X-Men will face each other once again Saturday, Oct. 15 at 2 p.m. as they head to Antigonish. The game is on EastLink TV.

PRETTY IN PINK

Local rugby players were tickled pink and looked the part too last Saturday at Dressed 4 Rugby, a first-year fundraiser for Breast Cancer Action Nova Scotia at Wanderer's Field. Hundreds came out to watch the colourful 'beauty contest' and then the game, which Team White won 46 – 24 against Team Pink. Over \$13,000 was raised for the breast cancer support group. ••• Photo by Karyn Boehmer



TIGER TONING EXERCISING OUTSIDE A TIGER'S USUAL HABITAT

Send your fitness-related questions to cghebb@dal.ca and check back in the Gazette weekly to see if your question gets answered



You don't need to be a speed skater to take advantage of the Canada Games Oval.
••• Photo by Pau Balite

Colin Hebb
Health Columnist
.....
I am new to the city and would like to explore some off-campus fitness options. Are there any hidden gems I should take advantage of?
—New to Hali

Halifax is full of recreational opportunities and lots of excuses to get active off-campus. In fact, it's impossible to do them all justice in a weekly column, so I will highlight only a few standouts.

Before I do that, New to Hali, it's important to mention that organized activities and making use of local recreational facilities are a fantastic way to move yourself out of a sedentary lifestyle without much effort. The fun and social aspects of organized activities distracts from the anxiety of "getting active."

For those of you who may be worried about your athletic ability, keep in mind everyone has those anxieties. My advice would be to take a friend and, at least, give it a test drive. The majority of the time you will find the pressure at these fun, recreational clubs is fairly low and that a good time is typically had by all.

Here are a few great offerings:

Halifax Sport and Social Club
Probably the most recognizable off-campus recreational group, the Halifax Sport and Social Club is a community of active-seeking individuals

out to have a good time while keeping happy and healthy bodies. The majority of their programs are offered in the fall and winter with a selection of summer leagues as well.

They offer about 15 different sports from floor hockey and dodgeball to even inner tube water polo. I know a few people who have taken advantage of the HSSC's variety of recreational offerings and they have all had a great experience. Not only did they enjoy the activities, but they made a lot of great friends along the way. Just have a look at the pictures on their website to see for yourself at halifaxsport.ca.

Curling clubs
Nova Scotia has no shortage of curling clubs and typically you are not far from one wherever you live in the HRM. There are three on the peninsula, one in Dartmouth and various others scattered around the county and province.

Curling clubs offer anybody interested the chance to participate in a social sport doable at all fitness levels. Plus, you are even getting some exercise.

Be cautious though on how many "social beers" you down before or while playing as this could easily negate the wellness benefits of this activity—and may cause a few slips and falls on the ice.

The Oval
If you are new to the city, you may not be aware of the huge outcry of support which took place last winter when it came time to decide whether

the Canada Games Oval should become a permanent fixture in the Halifax Commons. Luckily, the supporters prevailed and we will see the return of this huge outdoor skating track when the water freezes.

There are many skating opportunities around Halifax in arenas—even the Metro Centre has designated public skating times—but for a unique outdoor experience, you should definitely visit the oval at least once this winter.

Queer-focused clubs
As a tie-in to this week's *Gazette* theme, it seems like a good opportunity to mention a couple of Halifax's queer-focused sports leagues.

Getting underway for another season this fall is Loose Ends Halifax Curling. Based out of the Mayflower Curling Club, this group meets for games on Sunday evenings and encourages members to socialize with fellow teams as an opportunity to meet fellow curlers from the queer community. More details can be found at looseends.ca.

During the summer months, the East Coast Rainbow Softball Association offers recreational softball for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered members, along with supportive straight allies. This group, which can be found online at ecrsa.ca, also helps organize the Halifamous Dykes vs. Divas softball game, which kicks off Pride Week every July. 



Ryer is made for running

Women's cross-country captain seeks CIS acclaim

Hit the ground running. ••• Photo by Pau Balite

Paula Sanderson
Sports Contributor

Ashley Ryer had her first race in eighth grade.

"I just did it for fun, but I started to get more competitive in my grade 12 year and it went from there," she says. "Once you get in that environment, it's addicting. You start to love it and it's so much fun. It takes over."

Ryer is now captain of Dalhousie's women's cross-country team.

Currently taking a masters in health administration at Dal, Ryer previously graduated from Saint Mary's where she came in 10th at nationals in her third year and was also team captain.

Now at Dal for her second cam-

paign, this is Ryer's last year of eligibility at the university level and she wants to make it count. After an injury left her with just three days of training before nationals last season, Ryer managed to place 44th. This year she aims once again for a top 10 finish.

Ryer says a full training season will be a big help as she fights for a strong result at nationals.

"I just want to give it. I want to put 100 percent of my time into it," she says. "I want to focus on being injury-free."

Ryer also notes the importance of the mental game.

"I think that's what separates a really good athlete physically from a good athlete that is at a different

level: it's the mental toughness," she says. "You can train, train, train until you're blue in the face, but there is really that mental component to it."

For Ryer, the start of the race is most challenging.

"You have so much energy and once the gun goes off you're like, 'OK, got to go.' It's about keeping yourself calm," she says. "That really sets the tone. If you go out fast, you're done. You really have to be conservative and once that point hits it's about getting in the groove and just keep going."

At the end of the race, Ryer is always relieved. "Everyone just accomplished something," she says. "Before the race I'm really quiet; afterwards you can't shut me up!"

Ryer also runs for Dal's track and

field team and explains the two sports are very distinct. There are no excuses for bad times in track.

"For cross-country it's easy to say the conditions were bad or it was raining or that hill was huge," she says. "For track the conditions are always the same. The length of the track is always the same."

As team captain for the women's cross-country team, Ryer is looking out not just for herself, but her teammates.

"I want to make sure all their needs are being addressed, but also remain their teammate," she says. "I don't want to feel like their mother. I want them to be able to come to me with issues they have, but also be someone to kind of get them excited and

pumped up for a race."

The team aspect of cross-country is a big part of why Ryer loves it.

"We are always seeing each other. It's so important that we have those good relationships," she says, mentioning the team watches movies together on Fridays. "I don't think we would function as well as we do if we didn't have those connections and bonds."

Another way the team spends time with each other is through yoga, a cross-training activity Ryer is an advocate of. She enjoys how calm it is.

"Running is so high energy and you have to be on your game, where in yoga you can relax." ☯

GET INVOLVED, GET ACTIVE AND LIVE WELL @DAL!

Dalhousie University's Department of Athletics and Recreational Services offers Dal students plenty of opportunities to get active, meet up with friends, show your competitive spirit and take your mind off the books! You can also head to Dalplex with your student ID and unwind while staying healthy.

FRIDAY October 14

W Basketball Subway Tournament @ 4/6pm

Swimming Dal Alumni Challenge @ 6:30pm

Get AMPED with the Tigers t-shirt giveaway!
M HOCKEY HOME OPENER vs. STU @ 7pm

M Basketball vs. McGill @ 8pm

Free for Dal students!

SATURDAY October 15

Cross Country Meet @ 12/12:45pm (Point Pleasant Park)

Soccer vs. StFX @ 1/3:15pm

Swimming Dal Relay Meet @ 3pm

W Basketball Subway Tournament @ 4/6pm

M Hockey vs. UdeM @ 7pm

M Basketball vs. UQAM @ 8pm

Free for Dal students!

SUNDAY October 16

W Basketball Subway Tournament @ 10am/12pm

Free for Dal students!



MONDAY October 17

Get a great deal on cardio at Dalplex! **Dal students can add it to their memberships** for only \$140 + hst for 8 months!



TUESDAY October 18

Curious about climbing? Try an Intro To Top Rope Belay course tonight for only \$10! 6:30-8pm @ the Rock Court (Dalplex).

Note: pre-registration required at least 24 hrs in advance

WEDNESDAY October 19



Connect online with **Dalplex and the Dal Tigers** on Facebook & Twitter!

THURSDAY October 20

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The Dalhousie Gazette CONTRIBUTOR'S MEETINGS

MONDAYS, 5:30PM
ROOM 312, The SUB



WEEKEND ACTION!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Women's Basketball SUBWAY Tournament, 4pm/6pm (Exh)
Swimming Dal Alumni Challenge, 6:30pm (Exh)
MEN'S HOCKEY Home Opener vs St. Thomas, 7pm
Men's Basketball vs McGill, 8pm (Exh)



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Cross Country Invitational Meet, 12/12:45pm (Point Pleasant Park)
Soccer vs StFX, 1/3:15pm
Swimming Dal Relay Meet, 3pm (Exh)
Women's Basketball SUBWAY Tournament, 4pm/6pm (Exh)
Men's Hockey vs Moncton, 7pm
Men's Basketball vs UQAM, 8pm (Exh)



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Women's Basketball SUBWAY Tournament, 10am/12pm (Exh)



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