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DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

NORTH AMERICA'S OLDEST CAMPUS NEWSPAPER *EST. 1868*



(PHOTO BY MORGANE EVANS, ONLINE AND VISUALS EDITOR)

Another year in the books

Welcome to the last issue of our publishing year

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR GOODBYE

In September 2018, sitting in the basement at the University of King's College, Kaila Jefferd-Moore introduced me to the *Dalhousie Gazette*. I was immediately hooked. When I started writing for the news section that October, the *Gazette* quickly became the number one priority in my life. And over the next four years, that never changed.

As a first-year, the *Gazette's* editors seemed liked giants to me. I always hoped I'd join their ranks, but was never confident it would happen. I say this without hyperbole, being the *Gazette's* editor-in-chief has been the greatest honour of my life.

It's only now, as I write my final editor's note, that I'm realizing how impactful my time at the paper will be on the rest of my life. The *Gazette* has taught me more than anything else in the world. It's difficult to say goodbye. I don't know if I'd ever be ready to. But with graduation looming, I have no choice.

Thank you to everyone who's contributed for us this year. The paper would be nothing without you. Thank you, Adam, Elizabeth, Mandy, Luke, Carleigh, Morgane, Alex, Allyson and Aoxiang. As a writer, I detest using the phrase 'I can't find the words.' But here, I feel it's fitting. As it's impossible for me to sum up how much I have appreciated your talent and dedication to our newspaper over the past year.

Thank you to our writers, staff and readers. I will love the *Dalhousie Gazette* forever.



Lane Harrison, Editor-in-chief

DOING BETTER: A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

I would like to thank everyone who attended the *Dalhousie Gazette's* 2022 Annual General Meeting on Monday, March 21, 2022. At the meeting, we made important changes to our constitution and introduced a new Board of Directors to lead the *Gazette* through some exciting changes coming in the year ahead.

At the AGM, concerns were raised about diversity and pay equity for staff and contributors at the *Gazette*.

We recognize these concerns, which is why this year we increased staff salaries, and updated contributor pay from \$10 to \$30. We also recognize that more can be done, which is why going forward we are making changes to our pay structure to reflect a fair and equitable wage for all employees.

We will also be seeking to engage contributors and help them develop their writing skills through our new *Staff Writer Program*, which will be introduced next year.

We are committed to looking for ways to make our team more diverse. We will continue to strive to engage diverse writers to ensure the *Gazette* publishes unique and high-quality content which is representative of the students we serve.

As students we are all here to learn, and we must always aim to do better.

Mitch Archibald (he/him),
Chair,
Dalhousie Gazette Board of Directors

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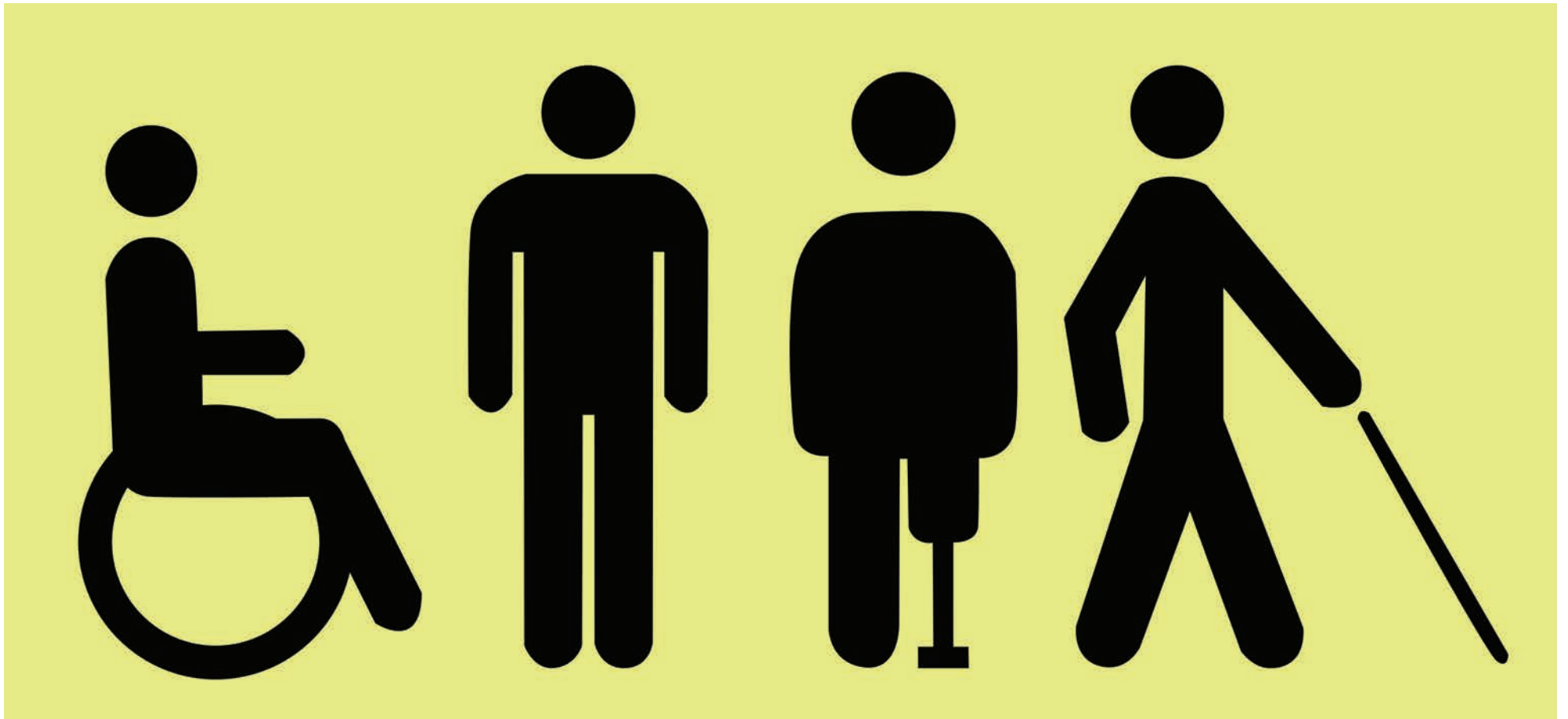
CORRECTION

In issue 154-13, a *Dalhousie Gazette* news article misspelled a source's name. The name Nour Ali was misspelled as Noura Li. The *Gazette* regrets the error and sincerely apologizes to Nour.

Student Accessibility Centre is understaffed and underfunded, report said

A report from the law students and Dal student advocacy societies said the centre needs more funding

BY MEG COLLINS AND ADAM INNISS, NEWS EDITOR



DESPITE THE LACK OF FUNDING, STUDENTS REPORT POSITIVE EXPERIENCES WITH THE SAC. (IMAGE BY MORGANE EVANS, ONLINE AND VISUALS EDITOR)

Dalhousie's student accessibility centre (SAC), located inside the Killam Library, is limited in their work by a small number of employees, according to a recent report from the Law Students Society and Dalhousie Student Advocacy Society.

"When I talk to other students and they say 'I put in [a request for] accommodations and didn't hear for six months' or 'nobody returned my email,' there is the flip side that [the SAC] has this giant workload," said newly-elected disabled students representative for the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) Meredith Brison-Brown.

The report, published March 8, investigated student accommodations and support within the law school.

"The University of Saskatchewan has 14 staff members, and the University of Victoria has 16 staff members in their respective accessibility centres. Their student populations are both just over 20,000 students, which is comparable to Dalhousie's student population. However, the Dalhousie student accessibility centre has just six student access advisors," reads the report.

The SAC

The student accessibility centre provides various academic accommodations for students with a range of disabilities in a way that avoids students having to directly confront professors.

Some of these accommodations include extended time for exam writing, use of assistive technology in exams, distraction-free environments for exam writing and stop-clock breaks.

To receive these accommodations, students submit a request form to the SAC along with other required documentation, depending on the nature of the accommodation. They also book an appointment with a student access advisor to review the request. The advisor then contacts the student's department to arrange the accommodations.

Student access advisors often maintain communication with these students to ensure their accommodations are being provided and check in about other accessibility-related concerns.

Lack of student access advisors

While the SAC has few staff, the number of student access advisors is even lower, according to the SAC. Their manager of student affairs, Jen Davis, said the staff includes only four full-time advisors, with two administrative staff, one manager and one director.

"It would be great if we could have more resources," said Davis in an interview with the *Dalhousie Gazette*.

One of the challenges caused by this small staff is wait times when applying for accommodations. According to the report, students have experienced "extremely lengthy wait times in receiving their intake appointment and in receiving confirmation of their accommodation."

Students reported having to contact professors directly for specific accommodations while waiting for a response from the SAC, which is prohibited.

Davis emphasized that meetings are confidential, and that the centre has extended its hours from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or 6 p.m. on some days. They are also still taking virtual appointments.

"For students who want to connect, there is no requirement to have a diagnosis to have a conver-

sation, to see what resources they can access," said Davis.

SAC valued despite small staff

The report surveyed disabled students about their experiences getting support and accommodations from both the law school itself and from the SAC.

"Students felt that the Student Accessibility Centre should receive more funding, but otherwise a majority of students had positive experiences at the SAC," read the report.

Brison-Brown said their own experiences with their accessibility advisor have been great.

"She responds quickly and with compassion, and I have been able to get my accommodation needs met through her," said Brison-Brown.

"The SAC advisors are incredibly empathetic and have created a very comfortable environment for students to bring forward accommodation requests. However, the SAC faces incredible challenges due to a lack of funding," the report reads.

DSU ousts VPSL Mazen Brisha

Brisha was removed from office in the final month of his term

BY ADAM INNISS, NEWS EDITOR AND LANE HARRISON, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



BRISHA'S REMOVAL HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE DSU ELECTION, THE DSU SAID. (PHOTO BY GEOFFREY HOWARD)

Editor's note: This story first appeared on the Dalhousie Gazette's website on March 15. It has been updated after the Gazette conducted interviews and research.

Mazen Brisha was removed from his position on DSU council Monday, March 14.

A motion proposed by the executive oversight committee passed with at least a two-thirds majority to remove Brisha from his role of vice-president (student life) for violating union by-laws.

Motion 11.1, which removed Brisha from office, stated he had failed to call a meeting of the student life committee, failed to adhere to mandates from the DSU executive oversight committee and has reported false information to council in various reports throughout his term.

Prior to the March 14 meeting, Brisha provided a written statement to councillors in response to the motion to remove him from office, which he also shared with the *Dalhousie Gazette*.

In it, Brisha said that removing him from of-

fice would open the union to "legal action for wrongful dismissal."

In an interview with the *Gazette*, Brisha said he intends to follow through with a lawsuit. "What I plan is a lawsuit, probably a small courts lawsuit, since I don't have the financial power that the union has. I would ask for compensation."

Brisha also refutes the oversight committee's findings that he failed to call a meeting of the student life committee. He said he called one in July, one in September and one in October. He said he tried to call more meetings but said they didn't hit quorum.

In regards to the oversight committee's charge that Brisha reported false information to council, he wrote, "I have never intentionally attempted to mislead the council or provide false information in reports." He said there is also a lack of evidence that proves he "falsified information" in his reports.

"However, it would be untruthful of me to claim that all reports submitted by [sic] during my term have been perfect," he said in the state-

ment.

Brisha said he would send the documents submitted to the oversight committee to the *Gazette*. He said they did not indicate any wrongdoing. As of March 23, Brisha has not sent these documents. When asked to provide the documents while being interviewed by the *Gazette*, Brisha said he could not find the emails on his phone and would send them at a later time.

Brisha calls removal amid election a 'smear campaign'

Despite the fact that this took place during the DSU election for which Brisha was a presidential candidate, council chair Jamie Samson said during the meeting that Brisha's removal had nothing to do with the election. The chair said councillors are not to discuss the election at all during council meetings, including during in-camera sessions.

In an interview with the *Gazette*, Brisha said he believes his removal was timed with the election. "The motion that was discussed on March

14, to me, is a clear targeted attack against me with the intention of influencing voters. And I see it as an intentional, deliberate smear campaign."

In an email statement to the *Gazette*, outgoing union vice-president (academic and external) Frey Verth addressed Brisha's claims about a 'smear campaign.'

"There is no sustained 'Deep DSU' or some form of conspiratorial linking [sic]. Your average student union is a mix of benchwarming CV chasers, idealists and advocates, elderly grumps and labour reps," wrote Verth.

The timing of Brisha's removal coincided with the election because disciplinary action against councillors must be brought forward 14 days before it is voted on. After spending time reviewing evidence, the oversight committee provided a notice of disciplinary action to council on Feb. 28.

Brisha lost the presidential election to Aparna Mohan.

The timeline of Brisha's removal

The executive oversight committee, whose role is to monitor the actions of the DSU president and vice presidents, conducts annual performance evaluations of DSU executive members, which began in December 2021.

In late January, the committee submitted their findings to council.

"The committee is concerned about several issues regarding the conduct of the VPSL this term," the report said. The committee said it was "unclear what exactly his mental health initiatives have accomplished." Additionally, Brisha did not engage the disabled students representative in his work on these initiatives, the report said.

"His other main area of work this semester was on food insecurity, but it quickly became clear to the committee that exactly what he accomplished needs to be scrutinized," the committee wrote.

At that time, the committee proposed a series of recommendations regarding their concerns, including one that would determine whether Brisha "misled union members as to the work he undertook on [food insecurity]."

"Far more transparency is needed on the work he allegedly completed," the report said. The recommendations included a request for detailed documentation that demonstrated Brisha's goals and outcomes regarding his work on mental health and wellness.

The committee requested all documentation related to Brisha's work on food insecurity, to "determine what work the VPSL accomplished." A motion to implement the report's recommendations was passed in January.

In his written response to council, Brisha said removing him from office would "suspend the mental health forum for the rest of term." He otherwise does not mention his work on mental health or food insecurity initiatives throughout the year. It is unclear whether the forum will in fact be suspended due to the VPSL vacancy.

According to the VPSL performance evaluation, Brisha submitted 59 documents in response to the oversight committee's requests. The committee said these documents indicated a lack of work on various projects.

Brisha said he would send these 59 documents to the *Gazette*, claiming they did not indicate any wrongdoing. As of March 24, Brisha has not sent these documents.

In an update in mid-February, the committee said an unspecified number of these 59 documents were duplicates. Two of the documents submitted in relation to food insecurity were unable to be opened, as they contained "unreadable content," according to the committee.

The committee was not satisfied with what was provided and requested additional documentation by Feb. 25.

The oversight committee motioned to have Brisha removed from office during council on Feb. 28. After an in-camera discussion, Brisha was given more time to submit evidence of his work.

On March 14, the motion to remove him passed.

In his written statement, Brisha said the motion to remove him was excessive.

"I find it extraordinarily unreasonable that no other disciplinary actions were discussed or tabled first," he said. "To launch a first motion in the form of removal is excessive, unempathetic and bordering on abusive."

Manager said Brisha didn't work with food bank

In an interview with the *Gazette*, Brisha said the documents which could not be opened by the oversight committee proved his work on food security.

They contained information relating to interviews with students and people at the food bank. "It was mostly just going around the food bank when people were going and having a conversation with them," said Brisha.

The *Gazette* reached out to the food bank to find confirmation of these interviews or conversations, and to confirm Brisha's presence at the food bank in general.

In an email response, food bank manager Micha Davies-Cole wrote, "Mazen Brisha has not worked directly in any capacity with the DSU Food Bank ... he has not worked on site at the food bank nor has he engaged myself, the Food Bank manager, in any other forms of work or off-site communication."

Davies-Cole said they spoke to Brisha once, on the morning of March 14, to ask about the in-

terviews Brisha said he had done in his report to council. Davies-Cole said Brisha told them he sent an email to students in residence about the food bank, but wasn't told much else.

"I have no information on who was surveyed, what was asked, or any responses, as none of this was done in connection with the DSU Food Bank."

Brisha's anti-union Instagram post

On the evening of March 17, three days after his removal, Brisha made a post on his DSU election campaign instagram account.

In the post, Brisha addressed what he called "the dark side of the DSU." He again called the motion to remove him a "shocking smear campaign launched against me by certain members of the DSU."

In the instagram post, Brisha wrote he was targeted because of certain views he has about the DSU, writing "I think the DSU is ineffective, fails to address students' issues, and if no improvements are made it should be abolished."

Brisha believes he was targeted because of some perspectives he had on DSU operations. "I've openly criticized the DSU multiple times, even saying that if it's not improved, it should be abolished. I've openly considered turning the union into an association working with Dalhousie."

Incoming DSU president Aparna Mohan commented on the Instagram post, writing "I truly am really sorry you've had the experiences you've had. Ultimately, the Union is what WE put into and invest into it and we have larger battles to be fought with the declining social mobility of university graduates and value proposition of a university education."

VPAE Verth said that if a student life VP wants to make radical changes to the DSU they should focus and increasing student participation. "Just get 250 students or so to show up for and AGM. There you go. Woo! Radical change."

Alleged lack of student life committee meetings

The oversight committee submitted an implementation plan for its January recommendations to council on Feb. 7. In it, the oversight committee said it had requested documentation proving accessibility was discussed during a student life committee meeting.

In a Feb. 17 update, the committee said Brisha submitted one document in response to this specific request: a screenshot of an undated email from the Dal ASL society requesting marketing support for a conference. The update also said, "we note that the student life committee has not met during the 2021-22 term thus far."

According to DSU bylaw 5.8.f., the VPSL must attend all committees of which they are a member. Brisha is the chair of the student life committee.

In his written statement to councillors on March 14, Brisha denied the allegation that he had not called a student life committee meeting.

"[Student life committee] meeting dates were as follows [sic] July 21st, 2021, September 23rd, 2021, and October 20th, 2021," Brisha wrote.

In an interview, Brisha said he called more than just these three meetings. But he said they did not hit quorum. "I have never said that I called only those three. These are the three that hit quorum. One of the main struggles of the VPSL is committee engagement."

In his written statement to council, he wrote "I have submitted a collection of [student life committee] meeting agendas and minutes as well as corroborating evidence of correspondence between myself and [student life committee] members that highlights me calling meetings."

Brisha did not include the evidence in the statement. He instead included a screenshot of an email he sent to the council chair containing attachments of student life committee minutes.

"This documentation was submitted to the DSU chair prior to council but was not circulated under the discretion of the chair," Brisha wrote in his statement.

Brisha said he would send these documents to the *Gazette* as well, but did not do so prior to publication.

What happened at council

Most of the discussion to pass motion 11.1 removing Brisha took place in-camera, meaning the *Gazette* did not have access. But prior to the in-camera session, Brisha moved to change the agenda.

He motioned at the beginning of the meeting to strike item 11.1. He said the basis of it was invalid due to his calling of student life committee meetings.

Vice-president (academic and external) Verth responded to this in the chat. They said there were other reasons the oversight committee wanted to pass the motion including "general absenteeism."

At that point, council chair said the agenda could not be altered and the motion to pass the agenda went through.

After an in-camera session lasting almost 90 minutes, that largely excluded Brisha, council held an anonymous vote requiring a two-thirds majority to remove him.

The motion passed, and Brisha immediately moved for it to be reconsidered. He said new information had become available, but he did not elaborate on this new information.

In an interview, he said this new information included word documents. "Most of the submissions were all PDF documents. I wanted to submit word documents as well. And then some of the new information was also based in correspondence with certain members of the council as well as my intent to resign from the position."

Council chair said this wasn't acceptable, Brisha said it would only take a moment. At that point, a five-minute recess was called to clarify if this reconsideration would be possible.

During the recess, council chair consulted with the union's policy and governance coordinator Levi Clarkson. Chair said reconsideration would not be possible unless someone from the oversight committee voted for it.

Brisha then tried to motivate anyone on oversight to reconsider the motion but was also told this is not allowed by the council chair. The chair then consulted with the DSU's lawyer to confirm it could not be reconsidered. The lawyer confirmed the decision.

Despite Brisha's efforts, item 11.1 passed, meaning he would have to leave his office by 4 p.m. Friday, March 18. Then, Brisha turned on his camera to announce an immediate resignation in protest.

"I will not be waiting until the 18th, I'll be resigning with immediate effect. Stepping down from any and all responsibility of my position, as an illustration of the unjust procedures of the union and its inability to uphold its bylaws and its promise to students," he said.

The meeting adjourned shortly after.

A lawyer's take on a potential lawsuit

Brisha said he has no intention of challenging the recent DSU election results, but he told the *Gazette* he plans to sue the DSU, likely on the grounds of wrongful dismissal.

"It's more about the message I'm sending across. I'm not in a hurry to sue," said Brisha.

Verth said that any lawsuit against the student union would lead to wasting student fees on legal defence — diverting money away from helping students.

"We have finite resources, how much time we can spend dealing with particularly litigious individuals definitely needs to be cut to a minimum," said Verth in an interview.

The *Gazette* spoke to lawyer Liam McHugh-Russell, an assistant professor in the Schulich School of Law who specializes in-part in labour and employment law, to see if Brisha has a case given information provided publicly by the DSU and by Brisha.

McHugh-Russell said a case like this hinges heavily on the DSU's employment terms with their executive. He said typically, a wrongful dismissal case relates to things like notice periods before dismissal. "If you're not given a notice or you're not paid between the notice period and termination, then you can bring a claim for wrongful dismissal to the labour relations board of Nova Scotia."

McHugh-Russell said Brisha's March 14 resignation could affect a wrongful dismissal claim. "For someone that's been in a position less than a year, they can't really expect more than a month of notice ... in such a circumstance, if an employee resigns during the notice period, then that ends the employer's responsibility to continue paying them during the notice period and in a typical employee-employer relationship there's not much there for a lawsuit."

McHugh-Russell said if there was anything unjust or abusive about the process to remove Brisha, then Brisha could find grounds to sue. But McHugh-Russell said more information would be needed surrounding accusations of an unjust process before he could definitively say if there could be a case.

Why lifting COVID restrictions doesn't have to change your mindset To mask or unmask?

BY MILES ANDERSON

Mask mandates and COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted in Nova Scotia. But for many, myself included, nothing will change in day-to-day life.

Two years and we have finally come to some sort of an end to this horror movie of a pandemic we call COVID-19 – even if the pandemic is still very much in existence around the globe. Mask mandates and social distancing restrictions are now being lifted across Canada, and in Nova Scotia they were lifted on March 21.

While this is a huge relief for many, it creates a dilemma for others.

I want to feel comfortable walking into the Atlantic Superstore on Quinpool Road without a mask. I also want to feel confident if I choose to walk in with a mask on.

I want my fellow Haligonians to respect my choices for personal health and safety.

Although we don't need a mask to shop as of late, we also don't know everyone's health concerns or why they may choose to stay masked up.

There are many reasons why some people might not toss away their three-layered cover ups right away. It could be age or protecting a loved one, but it also could be for personal comfort. And that's okay.

Not everyone is going to be able to move on from a two-year health disaster overnight and get back to living everyday routines like we did in 2019. Time has always been key in returning to what we once called normal, and I'm in no rush.

If it's not broke don't fix it

If wearing a mask protects me from sickness aside from COVID-19, why change what works so well? Now, that may be an argumentative statement for some, and everyone is welcome to their own angle. Overall, however, we need to respect one another's decisions regardless of government bylaws and mandate shifts.

I assumed when this day came that I'd feel more enthusiastic than I do. When your life revolves around one thing (COVID-19) and suddenly your actions differ from the people you see and the stores you support, it's hard to remember what you did before masks were part of your everyday look.

I think this pandemic has lasted much longer than we expected and it will likely take just as long to feel comfortable in our old shoes again – if the virus doesn't force us to mask-up again first.



WHETHER YOU WANT TO THROW IT IN THE TRASH OR KEEP IT OVER YOUR NOSE, THE CHOICE TO MASK SHOULD BE RESPECTED IN NOVA SCOTIA. (PHOTO BY MORGANE EVANS, ONLINE AND VISUALS EDITOR)

Going into public with a mask on might be the reality for many people as restrictions adjust and we try to go back to the good old days. I believe there needs to be a middle ground in Nova Scotia that allows for both views: Those who are ready to move on and those who aren't quite there yet.

This feels like a full circle moment

I was in the lineup for Home Depot back in March 2020. Although it wasn't manda-

tory yet, many people in line had some form of facial covering. I still couldn't get past the fact that this was becoming normal. That was the first time I walked into a store with a mask on and noticed the negative looks I was getting from people I didn't know.

Then, the judgement, the fear and the overall nerves seemed to overtake people's brains. Here we are more than two years later. Now, I'm looking at people who choose not to wear a mask like they're out of their minds. It's surreal how time changes us all.

At the end of the day, there doesn't need to be a rhyme or reason for the masking choice you make when you leave your house. I feel confident in wearing my mask at work, to school and into a mall. Not only for myself but for the respect of my peers, and for what they may have endured during this two-year span.

I enjoy taking a second to reflect on how I've ended up where I am today through positive and negative challenges.

We can't change the past, but as society changes, we can all move forward from here.

Defining the modern foodie movement

There's no one way to be a foodie

BY MANDY KING, OPINIONS EDITOR

Food is a source of nourishment, but it's more than that. It evokes memories, provides comfort and offers outlets for creativity. The foodie movement isn't singular, it means different things to different people. In short, there's no right way to be a foodie.

The term foodie was founded in a 1980 restaurant review in *New York Magazine* by writer Gael Greene. It began as a term to define food lovers with a refined palate, but it's grown to encompass a wide range of meanings.

Social media plays a big role in the evolution of foodie terminology. Platforms like Instagram are flooded with images of fine dining, home cooking, cake decorating and other photo-worthy food moments. This opens doors to the "every-person" to become an authority on food and get involved.

What is a foodie in 2022?

Being a foodie means something different to everyone. For students, it might mean finding delicious food at student prices. Dal student, Kara Hawker, published "The Ultimate Student Guide to Eating and Drinking at Dalhousie University" on *Spoon University* in 2016 with this exact sentiment in mind.

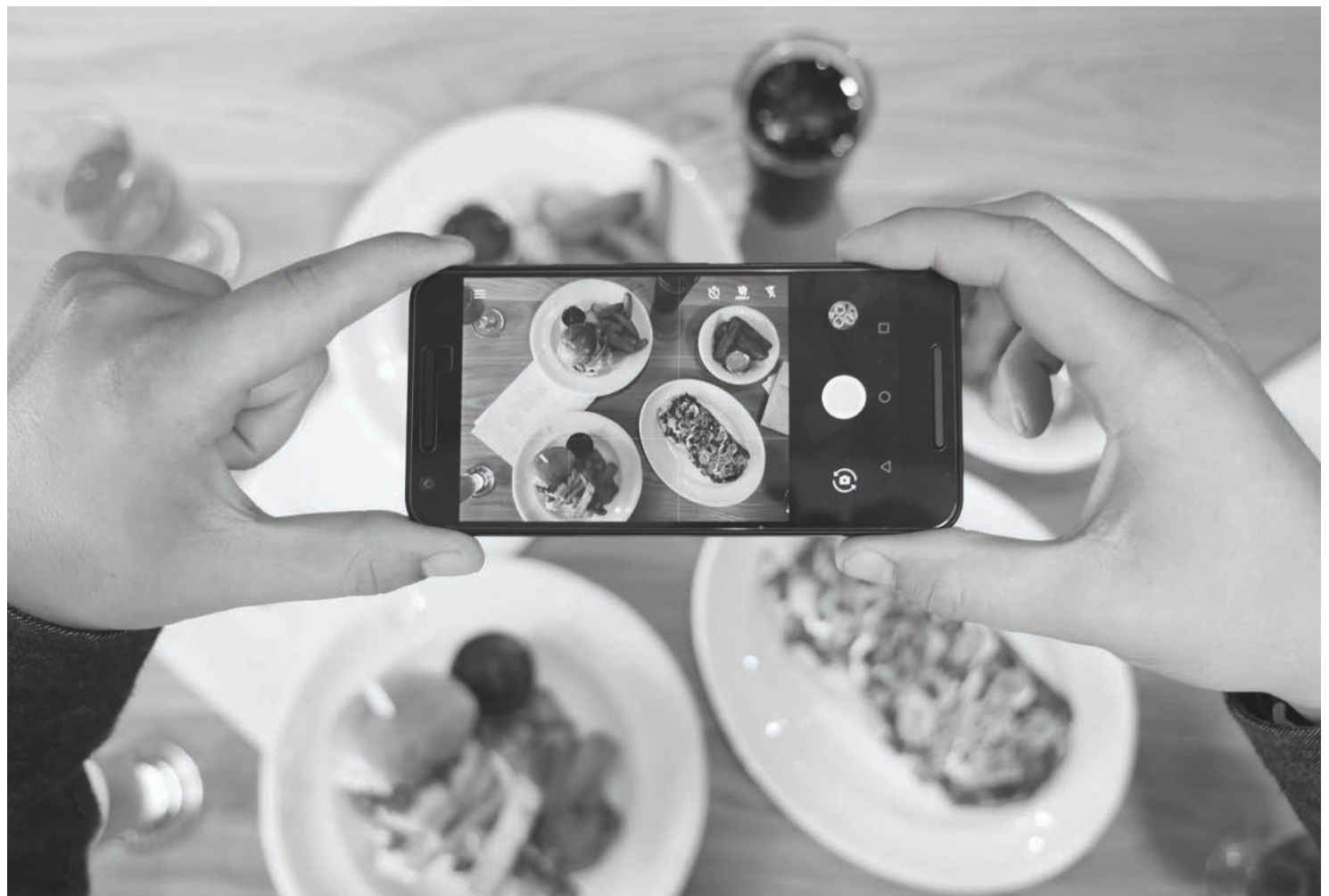
For the *Dalhousie Gazette* contributor, Josh Neufeldt, food-love equates to dumpling night with his Mom. More specifically, the comforting Szechuan noodle dish, Dan Dan Mian. (Which you can make yourself at home with help from Neufeldt's recipe. Find his article, "The love language of food," on our website).

According to Daphne Ewing-Chow of Forbes, being a foodie is thinking critically about the food we eat, the ethics of food, and sustainability of food, while being intentional in what we eat.

For me, being a foodie is being open to new things and making food an experience. This is harder than it sounds.

My version of foodie life

I'm a picky eater. Okay, that's putting it mildly. I don't like a lot of common ingredients, including cheese, mayonnaise, ketchup, and avocado. This means standard student fare like poutine, nachos and



STEPPING OUTSIDE YOUR FOOD COMFORT ZONE CAN BE A GAME CHANGER. (PHOTO FROM UNSPLASH)

Caesar salad are off my shopping list.

My family comes from two small communities in Newfoundland called Placentia and Fox Harbour. We're a fish, meat, and potatoes kind of people. It wasn't until my adult years that I began trying foods you wouldn't traditionally see at a scoff of Jigg's dinner.

I fell in love with Japanese cuisine first. Surprisingly, I wasn't a sushi lover right away. It took me a few years and a lot of practice with chop sticks before I gave into the trendy bite sized meal. I am, however, a sucker for tempura vegetables, thick bouncy udon noodles,

and yakisoba.

For a long time, my favorite place for Japanese eats was Fujiyama restaurant on Blowers Street. Now, my go-to is Sushi Jet on South Park Street.

When I met my husband, my scope of food broadened further. He's from Vancouver, and one of his favorite things to do on a weekend afternoon was head to Chinatown. We don't have a Chinatown here in Halifax, but we do have plenty of authentic Chinese cuisine, and I'm not ashamed to say, I'm obsessed.

For baked goods, Kee Heong Cantonese

Bakery & Dim Sum on Granville Street offers creamy egg tarts and pineapple buns, or Bo Lo Bao.

Red Asian Fusion Restaurant on South Park Street is a great authentic eatery for Thai, Malaysian and regional Chinese food. Order ahead for their barbecue duck, you won't regret it.

Whether by country or ingredient, learning to be open to new experiences in food has changed the way I eat. Does this make me a foodie? I think so.

Being a foodie isn't about how well your meal photographs for Instagram. It isn't about how expensive the ingredients were to source. It's about falling in love with food and finding new ways to explore food, creating memories with food and feeling good about the food we put into our bodies.

For me, being a foodie is being open to new things and making food an experience. This is harder than it sounds.

On good luck charms

The key to keeping a positive mindset

BY JESSICA LIM

With exams and final essays on the horizon, good luck charms help keep our mindset positive when we need it most. Good luck charms remind us to believe in ourselves.

My personal good luck charms are crystals. I have a chunk of aquamarine crystal I take on planes, for example. It's a protective stone, especially while travelling over water, so it's perfect for trips.

For tests and exams, I use two types of crystals as good luck charms.

The first is amethyst, which I have two of. Amethyst is thought to be one of the most effective healing crystals, counteracting negative energies. It's also believed to calm and soothe.

The second is chevron amethyst, of which I also have two of. Chevron amethyst is amethyst combined with quartz, and it offers strong and focused energy to repel negativity.

Two other crystals in my good luck charm collection are tiger's eye and rose quartz. For me, tiger's eye is a great crystal for exams. It helps me overcome fear and boosts my determination. It's also meant to encourage growth, expand creativity and help people try new things.

Rose quartz is a crystal for reassurance and calmness, helping with emotional balance and accepting change. It also helps me sleep by preventing nightmares and providing good dreams. Rose quartz strengthens empathy and sensitivity. I have multiple rose quartz stones, as I'm a very emotional person and struggle with balancing my emotions and accepting change.

Famous and well-known good luck charms

For some people, good luck charms are the objects that come to mind because they're so well-known for their lucky qualities.

Arguably the most famous good luck charm is the four-leaf clover.

True four-leaf clovers are a genetic mutation of the white clover plant, and they're rare. They only occur around one in 10,000 plants. So, finding one is pretty lucky.

The trick to find out if a clover is a true four-leaf is to look at the size of the leaflets. True four-leaf clovers have one leaflet smaller than the others.

Dice are also famous good luck charms. They began as a World War II tradition. Fighter pilots started bringing gambling items, such as dice and cards, aboard missions for good luck. Now we even see fuzzy dice hanging from rearview mirrors in cars.

Sometimes the luck of an object depends on where you're from. Ladybugs are known to bring good luck in many countries. In German, the word for ladybug translates to "lucky bug."



A GOOD LUCK CHARM COULD BE THE KEY TO YOUR SUCCESSFUL EXAM SEASON. (IMAGE BY MORGANE EVANS, ONLINE AND VISUALS EDITOR)

Some cultures believe letting a ladybug stay on you after it lands will improve luck. Some believe the deeper red in colour a ladybug is and the more spots it has, the more luck it'll bring. There's a twist to this charm, however, as killing a ladybug might bring bad luck.

Another well-known lucky charm I subscribe to is the dreamcatcher. There are many origin stories for dreamcatchers, including those leading back to the Ojibwa culture. It is thought that they capture bad dreams in their webs and let the good dreams go through. Dreamcatchers are a personal favourite good luck charm of mine. I've struggled with nightmares since I was little, and they've gotten worse in recent years. I find dreamcatchers help reduce my nightmares, both in frequency and in severity.

Religion also plays a strong role in how some of us view symbols of luck. One example of this is statues and medallions of Saint Christopher. Commonly associated with travellers, my family has a personal connection to Saint Christopher good luck charms.

When my dad was growing up, his mom gave him and his siblings each a cross with Saint Christopher on it to protect them on their travels.

No matter which charm you choose, the luck in your charm likely comes from within.

Good luck charms encourage positive thinking

I associate good luck charms with positivity.

Keeping a positive mindset in life is important, especially during exams. I think good luck charms also ground us.

Mindset matters. Something which highlights this point is the act of manifestation. Manifestation is taking a thought or belief and making it happen. Not all manifestation is intentional and both negative and positive thoughts are reflected through manifestation.

Good luck charms give us faith. Sometimes they're the voice we need to hear saying, "I believe in you, you can do this." They may not be for everyone, but I definitely feel more confident, calm and grounded when I have my good luck charms with me.

Snape's no hero

And will someone please cast a Scourgify charm on his hair?

BY VEENA ERASMUS

Severus Snape has often been pegged a hero of the Harry Potter series, but is he really the anti-hero Potter needs, or simply a guy who developed a God-complex from having no control in life? I'm thinking the latter.

The Harry Potter series has influenced generations, and its author, J.K. Rowling, has been acclaimed a genius. Though, recently, Rowling has been criticized by fans and public figures for her transphobic comments.

One of the characters who makes this series so great is potion's master Severus Snape. He's also a character that Rowling tries to convince us is a misunderstood "good guy." Sadly, we never really got much exposition on Snape until *The Half Blood Prince*, the series' sixth installment.

There is one scene in *The Order of the Phoenix*, where Potter watches a scene regarding Snape unfold in Albus Dumbledore's pensieve, but that just makes Potter's father look like a bully. We also get snippets about Snape's mother through a *Daily Prophet* article, when Hermione does research on Harry's mysterious potions benefactor.

Up until the end of the sixth book, the only character traits Rowling successfully establishes are that Snape is grim, unkind, severely traumatized and in desperate need of a haircut.

Even with Snape's revelation to Harry that he is indeed the titular prince, readers are left with a bit of confusion. Is he really the man who's been secretly helping Dumbledore and Potter? Or is he just glad about having some semblance of control in his life?

We're not all Snape enthusiasts

When my younger brother first finished the series, he was all over Snape for sacrificing his life for Harry to discover the truth about Dumbledore. I was too, at first.

My brother said to me, as he finished *The Deathly Hallows*, that Snape was never taught to love or be a friend by his parents. That really struck a chord. I thought he was right. In the last two books, readers get to see Snape's life from start (the day he met Lily Evans) to end and we all become privy to the awful trauma Snape suffered at the hands of his parents and the Marauders. Not to mention the manipulation Snape suffered at the hands of Dumbledore.

Snape was clearly written as a victim – A victim who let his trauma rule his life because of the abuse he suffered. However, the question to ask is, does this make him an anti-hero good guy or does his trauma fuel a God-complex?

I don't believe that Snape is a hero in any sense



WE'RE NOT ALL SNAPE ENTHUSIASTS. (PHOTO BY LANE HARRISON)

of the word.

Although many of the things that hurt Snape were far beyond his control, it doesn't excuse inflicting abuse on others.

According to Rowling, Snape was the only member of staff at Hogwarts that knew what Dumbledore was planning for Potter. Rowling's pathetic attempt at a redemption arc – which starts in the first book and is messy at best – doesn't quite fulfill the anti-hero trope.

Anti-heroes are meant to be somewhat likable with developing traits that make them more human to a general audience. Snape saves Potter a few times, begrudgingly, but as we learn through *The Deathly Hallows*, his sudden turn to herodotom isn't because he's grown as a person, it's because he always loved Evans, Potter's mother.

The God-complex

It's understandable to me that Snape may not enjoy seeing Potter at Hogwarts, since Harry's father was Snape's biggest bully throughout his youth. But that doesn't excuse his treatment of Potter and his friends.

In fact, I think it rather suggests these are signs

that Snape developed something of a God-complex after joining the Death Eaters.

Prior to this, he had little to no control in his life.

As we see in Potter's trip through Snape's memories, Snape was likely suffering mental health issues, exacerbated when he attended Hogwarts. With bullying at school, a crap home-life and constantly being the butt of the Marauders' jokes, Snape must have felt completely without control.

Then, Rowling throws control at him when he joins the Death Eaters. Now, Snape is the one doing the hurting (a classic anti-hero arc).

This isn't enough to exonerate him.

Snape spends most of his spotlight chapters near the end of the series complaining about how unfairly he was treated and how badly he wanted to help Evans but couldn't.

He never really does anything about these emotions. He simply expects someone else to fix his mistakes. Out of the Death Eaters and back at Hogwarts under Dumbledore, Snape's only form of control over his life is traumatizing students through his authoritative position as head of Slytherin.

Snape is a whiner at best

Rowling never realizes Snape as an anti-hero because she wrote him as obsessive and whiney. Both traits which, understandably, stem from his traumatic life. However, in my opinion, it only makes Snape seem to be on the stalker-y side of things where Potter's mom is concerned.

I'm not saying he was a full-on stalker, but based on characterization, I'm not sure Evans wouldn't slap a restraining order on him if they'd been muggles.

Snape was never in control in his life. He had to find that control somehow, destructively, or otherwise.

Snape's abusive behaviors aside, I don't believe he deserved what he got in the end.

The only way for a person like Snape to heal is to give a little kindness to themselves. Snape could have been a great anti-hero if Rowling didn't write him as a shell of a man stuck in the past.

I don't hate Snape. Instead, my heart hurts for him. Maybe that's where he charms so many others.

Which bat is the best bat?

We all have a favourite Batman, here's mine

BY MANDY KING, OPINIONS EDITOR

With *The Batman* making a killing in cinemas, many DC Comics lovers find themselves comparing Batman actors. Which bat is the best bat? I think it depends on what Batman means to you.

There have been many a Batman in film through the years, starting with Adam West in the 1966 film, *Batman*. West wasn't the first caped crusader to appear on television, but he was the first to star in a live action feature film, alongside Burt Ward as Robin.

West's Batman brought all the lighthearted childhood comics to life, complete with sound effect graphics like, "Bam," "Pow" and "Smack." His subdued attire of full-bodied leotard and mask are laughable compared to today's superhero suit standards. But for his time, West's Batman was exactly what the world needed.

Now, we've got a "vampire" bat, as *Twilight* star Robert Pattinson joins the list of men who have donned the bat suit in 2022's *The Batman*. And he knocked it out of the park. Pattinson's Batman gives us masked Sherlock homes in an Alfred Hitchcock film vibe, and it works. Drawing on a

more cerebral version of the bat, although there's still plenty of butt kicking, Pattinson has proved himself an asset to Gotham.

Pattinson's Batman is fantastic, but he's not MY Batman.

My family's taste in bats

For my Mom, West is the first bat she thinks of. Born in the late '60s, she watched West's Batman on television reruns and found his version of the dark knight charming.

For my sister, Megan, an avid bat fan, her favourite isn't from a live action film at all. Rather, she's partial to Kevin Conroy, who voiced the hero on *Batman: The Animated Series*. Her reasoning is that Conroy's Batman was kind, and the hero has lost much of that kindness in modern takes.

For me, Batman is Christian Bale. Together, he and Christopher Nolan took the Batman origin story to an entirely new level in *Batman Begins*. Bale's version of the bat isn't as dark and twisty as Keaton's partnership with Tim Burton made the earlier caped crusader. But he's certainly miles

apart from West's witty Batman and Robin repartee from the 1960s.

Why Christian Bale is the Batman

Like my mom's fondness of West, Bale could be my go-to bat because of timing. *Batman Begins* came out in 2005, with *The Dark Knight* in 2008 and *The Dark Knight Rises* in 2012. These were prime movie-watching years for me, and I remember seeing these films in cinema.

It's more than timing alone through.

Bale's Batman included all the best villains. From Cillian Murphy's Scarecrow and Liam Neeson's Ra's Al Gul to later trilogy villains such as Heath Ledger's Joker. While I admit that

Anne Hathaway's Catwoman isn't my favourite, and Jack Nicholson's Joker from 1989 gave Ledger a run for his money, Bale is my Batman.

Bale's Batman introduced some of the best supporting characters in Gotham. Let's be real, there's no better Alfred

Pennyworth than Michael Caine.

The Bale Batman trilogy also creates layers of the hero.

There have always been a few who compare Batman and Ironman. As heroes go, these are two dudes with no superpowers (although Stark does have an arc reactor imbedded in his chest), plenty of money, and all the best toys. Bale's bat really amped up this comparison by bringing in Morgan Freeman as Lucius Fox, Wayne Enterprises CEO and Wayne's personal armor tech.

Give a bat a chance

Whether you're a fan of Val Kilmer's nipple suit, George Clooney's face off with Arnold Schwarzenegger's Freeze, or Ben Affleck's brief stint in *Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice* and *Justice League*, there's something unique about every Batman.

For me, Bale holds a special, dark knight place in my heart. But who knows, it's early days with Pattinson, and I love a man who looks good in glitter.

As Bale's Bruce Wayne says in *Batman Begins*, "A guy who dresses up like a bat, clearly has issues."

BATMAN MASK GUIDE THINGS TO CONSIDER



- only speaks in sound effects



- forgets all passwords



- that one meme



- still gets lost in batcave



- can't park batmobile



- mid-life crisis



- Robert Pattinson

ILLUSTRATION BY DAN BLAIS

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Feeling Our-shelves: With Lili and Reanna

Eve Babitz: author, artist, Taurus, girlboss

BY LILI SCHWARTZ AND REANNA DRUXERMAN

For the last issue of the 2021-2022 school year, we talk about one of our favourite authors — Eve Babitz. We discuss her early life, summarize two of her books and explain why we love these books so much.

Early life

Babitz was born in Hollywood in 1943 and recently passed away in December of 2021. Her mother was an artist and her father was a violinist, meaning she was surrounded by art, music and other forms of culture from a young age.

During her youth, Babitz frequented the famous West Hollywood nightclub — the Troubadour — meeting all sorts of characters (famous and ordinary alike), forming connections and associations with people in the art, music, film and publishing industries. During her early career in the 1960s, she designed cover art for several rock bands, going on to write essays and short stories for various magazines.

Over the course of her life, Babitz wrote eight books, but two of her most well-known books that we'll cover here, *Sex & Rage: Advice to Young Ladies Eager for a Good Time* and *Black Swans*, were published in 1979 and 1993 respectively.

Sex & Rage

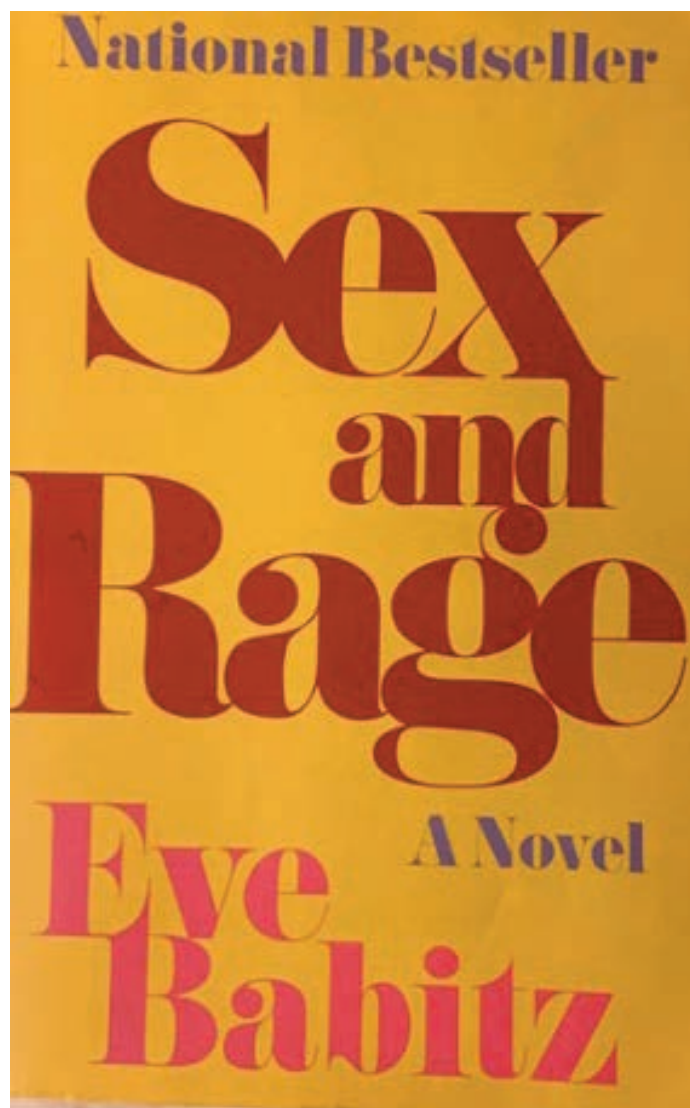
Babitz's 1979 novel, *Sex & Rage* tells the story of Jacaranda Leven, a Los Angeles native who spends the majority of her free time in the ocean or painting surfboards.

Set in the 1960s, Jacaranda struggles through her 20s, trying to find her purpose and abusing alcohol to pass time. At 28 years old, Jacaranda starts a new life for herself in New York, where she's followed by lessons and people from her past life.

If the title itself isn't enough to convince you to read it, we guarantee that *Sex & Rage* is as good as it sounds.

As a work of fiction based on Babitz's life, the protagonist, Jacaranda, is based on Babitz and the experiences she had when she was a young woman.

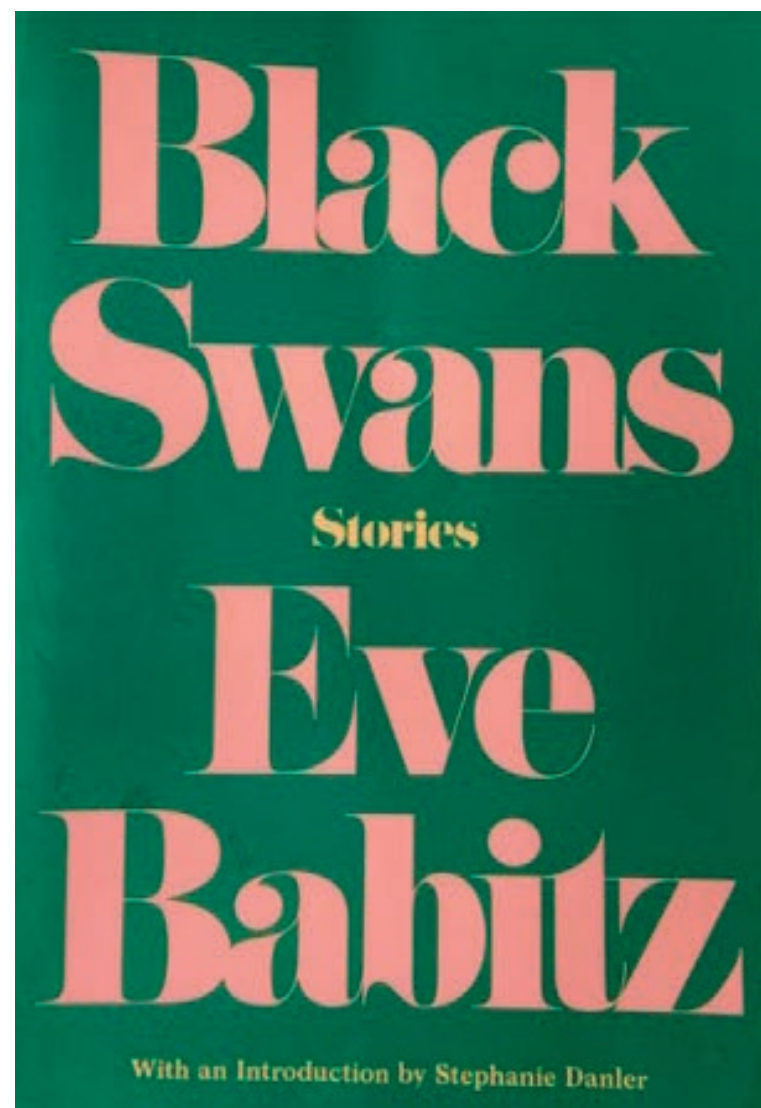
Jacaranda is a talented surfer, artist and writer, but also suffers from alcoholism. The character's actions and behaviours are extremely dysfunctional. But as frustrating as



this can be for the reader at times, her flaws make her endearing and her screw-ups make her relatable. Besides the characters, we love *Sex & Rage* because of its setting and Babitz's writing style.

Set in 1960s Los Angeles, the decade and the location provide extra appeal to the storyline. Babitz's writing style is one that could make even the most boring subject matter fascinating. If you like Joan Didion, you will like Eve Babitz.

**“If you like Joan Didion,
you will like Eve
Babitz.”**



EVE BABITZ REVEALS A MORE PERSONAL SIDE AFTER ACHIEVING SOBRIETY IN *BLACK SWANS*. (PHOTOS BY LILI SCHWARTZ)

Black Swans

Black Swans is a collection of nine short stories based in the 1980s and 1990s Los Angeles, each narrated by the author. Although

each of the stories stand alone, the book has a progression that builds on each story as it follows.

The topics of the short stories range from jealousy to Babitz's obsession with tango, with each story showing Babitz's unique perspective on the world.

Although short stories are not typically our favourite genre to read, Babitz completely changed the game with *Black Swans*. Her works are technically fiction, however it is clear how significantly her own life inspired the events and characters within her storytelling. Babitz's cool and self-assured prose is evidently the most alluring aspect of her writing.

The two stories that particularly stand out to us are “Jealousy” and “Tangoland;” once we read them, they made the entire novel a five-star read. We enjoyed how this book differs from the rest of her works. Babitz shows a passionate and focused side of her, which had remained hidden before she became sober.

The best of the best in the music world

Top hits of the past semester

BY DARSİ AVERY-RUSSELL

The end of the winter semester is fast approaching. This semester has had its many highs and lows for us all.

Whether this is because of ever-looming midterms or missing out on those limited number of gym appointments. Through it all, one of the only things that kept me in good spirits has been music.

Over the course of this semester, so many great singles and albums have been released. With the end of the semester on its way, I thought this would be the perfect time to highlight some of the great musical art that has been put out for us to enjoy.

Single: *Open The Window* by Rex Orange County feat. Tyler, The Creator (Released March 9, 2022)

As a Tyler, The Creator fan, I find that any record he touches turns to gold.

This collaboration is certainly one that did not disappoint. From the soothing sounds of Rex Orange County to Tyler's catchy bars, perfection is not an over exaggeration.

This is a great tune to roll down your windows to when driving around on a nice spring day. The lyrics, "Stuck here and I never seem to get away, but I'll hang on," are a perfect encapsulation of what this semester has meant to some.

Single: *Nail Tech* by Jack Harlow (Released Feb. 18, 2022)

This is the first single from Jack Harlow in 2022. It was recently announced in Rolling-Stone that his next album, titled *Come Home The Kids Miss You*, is set to be released on May 6. With the album's first single already amassing over 39 million streams on Spotify, it is easy to see that fans are looking forward to his upcoming release.

This song really embodies a person with immense confidence, and I plan on using that energy to get through finals at the end of this semester. I am counting down the days until May 6.

Single: *I'm Tired* by Labrinth & Zendaya (Released Feb. 28, 2022)

If you are familiar with the hit HBO show *Eu-*

phoria, then you are most likely familiar with this song as well.

This song delivers a gut-wrenching performance from Labrinth along with Zendaya, the show's leading actress.

Labrinth composed the score for both the first and second season of *Euphoria*. This song first appeared in season two, episode four. This song's title perfectly describes how I feel this semester. Late in the song, Zendaya pulls out one of the most angelic voices I have ever heard. Is there anything she cannot do?

Album: *Little Dance* by Neon Dreams (Released Feb. 25, 2022)

This album is the locally-based alt-pop duo's latest release. This duo consists of Frank Cadillac and Adrian Morris, who are based in Halifax. According to an article written on Indie88FM, this song was inspired by a situation where Cadillac came face-to-face with a shark.

The melody of this song screams summer, which is what we are all looking forward to right now. They are currently set to start touring in April. They are also set to play at the Nova Scotia Summer Fest in August.

Album: *Love Sux* by Avril Lavigne (Released Feb. 25, 2022)

Avril Lavigne returns to the music game with her latest album *Love Sux*. Her previous album was released in 2019.

The nostalgia hits as soon as her music comes on. For me, at least, as screaming *Complicated* at the top of my lungs was a personality trait. It seems as if the punk queen is back and here to stay.

With features from current pop/punk favourites Machine Gun Kelly and Blackbear, it seems like the perfect collaboration.

After a three-year break, hearing her again is a joy to many of her fans.

Album: *Dawn F.M* by The Weeknd (Released Jan. 7, 2022)

Since the release of his hit album *After Hours*, it was hard to imagine that the Weeknd could top it. But this album seemed to triumph all expectations. In his new album, the Weeknd seems to follow a common theme of heartbreak and guilt.

WinterSemesterMusic

DarsiA:)

50min

Enhance

Add songs

OPEN A WINDOW (feat. Tyler,...)

Rex Orange County, Tyler, The Creator

FIND ALL THE BEST SONGS OF THE SEMESTER ON THIS SPOTIFY PLAYLIST. (IMAGE BY DARSİ AVERY)

If you'd like to go through a rollercoaster of emotions, put this album on and let it take you through the ride.

The album is structured like a radio station with Jim Carrey as our host; its uniqueness makes it stand out amongst his past successes.

Album: *Off Pressure* by Armanie (Released March 20, 2022)

Armanie is an East African rapper that is cur-

rently based in Halifax. This is his debut album.

With under a thousand streams on his songs on Spotify, he is still an up-and-coming rapper who has the potential to go big.

With beats throughout the album that sound as if they were produced by Kanye, the professionalism shines through.

The rich tones of Armanie's voice throughout this album are sure to get you hooked.

\$23 million investment is a 'game changer' for Nova Scotia film industry

Local actors share their thoughts on the investment

BY MARIA COLLINS

In the back corner of Uncommon Grounds, actress Amelia Cornick's eyes fill with tears; she struggles to put her feelings into words. For the first time ever, she can imagine a life for herself in Nova Scotia doing what she loves most.

She is not alone. Workers in the film industry were overjoyed on March 8, 2022, when Premier Tim Houston announced \$23 million in funding.

Game changer

According to a press release, the funding will be broken up into two investments: \$15 million will go towards a new Nova Scotia Content Creator Fund that will support local film and television creators. The other \$8 million will be invested in a soundstage to increase the industry's capacity and create a space for filmmakers to produce content year-round. A soundstage is a soundproof building used to produce film and television content.

Cornick says a soundstage plays a huge role in developing the Nova Scotia film industry.

"That's a game changer, because it opens the door to year-round filming [and] it broadens the possibilities for what can come here."

Cornick says Nova Scotia will see more and more local talent surfacing with the help of the Nova Scotia Content Creator Fund.

"Having local funding here for our creators is a huge show of support," she says.

Backlash

Despite the excitement radiating from within the film industry, some concerned citizens do not share this excitement. Cornick says many people believe the money should be spent on more pressing matters, such as the housing crisis. However, she wants to help others understand the importance of this investment.

"Whatever is being put into the film industry, through this investment, is going back into the community."

According to the press release, in 2021-22, the film industry contributed about \$180 million to Nova Scotia's economy, up from \$78 million in 2019-20 and \$91 million in 2020-21.

"This is affecting the entire community, the entire province and it's an insane economy boost," says Cornick.



THE NEW PROGRAM WILL ALLOW NOVA SCOTIA TO HAVE ITS OWN SOUND STAGE FOR YEAR-ROUND FILMING. (PHOTO COURTESY OF BONNIE RUSSELL)

A bright future

Toronto and Vancouver dominate the Canadian film industry. Cornick says after the 2015 tax slash, actors and filmmakers never thought Nova Scotia would be able to keep up.

Similar to Cornick, actress Bonnie Russell knew she would have to move to Toronto if she wanted to further her career. Now, Russell sees potential in Nova Scotia and believes that it could easily measure up to larger industries with this proper funding.

"I could stay here and I don't have to worry about picking everything up and leaving," she says.

"That changes my five-year plan entirely."

Cornick, who was dreading the idea of leaving her friends and family behind, is equally as ambitious for Nova Scotia.

She and her friends started "bawling crying" when they heard the news of the government's investment, she says.

"We have a better possibility of pursuing our dream careers from the comfort of home. There's more opportunity. There's less pressure to have to leave to go to bigger markets," she says.

"It's not fun when you have to say goodbye to your friends."

The appeal to filmmakers

From picturesque rural scenery to the bustling city life of Halifax, Nova Scotia offers many attractive settings for filmmakers, all while being surrounded by the ocean.

However, Russell says its beautiful scenery is not the only reason the province is so appealing to filmmakers.

"There's just a ton of really excited and passionate people," she says.

"Because of how small the industry is [in Halifax] right now, everyone kind of has to know a lot of skills in film and TV in order to get jobs."

The benefit of the pandemic

Cornick says much of the film industry's growing success is thanks to its tireless effort during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nova Scotian talent and crew rose to the challenge of creating content while adhering to the COVID-19 restrictions. This allowed the province to host productions while other locations couldn't.

"That's what was necessary at the time and those precautions allowed us to stay open, which was a game changer because it really caught the attention of bigger productions, bigger companies," she says.

Cornick says the work put in during the pandemic "opened the door" for the Nova Scotia film industry and paved the way for this new funding.

"It was a huge challenge, but I really, really think the people around here rose to that challenge."

Dal women's soccer personnel take part in CONCACAF U-20 tournament

Cindy Tye's Canada qualifies for U-20 World Cup next year, while Inari Moore scores for Guyana

BY LAURA SAAD HOSSNE



CINDY TYE AND TEAM CANADA BOOKED THEIR TICKET TO THE 2022 WOMEN'S U-20 WORLD CUP IN COSTA RICA WITH A THIRD-PLACE FINISH IN THE TOURNAMENT. TYE IS CROUCHING TO THE RIGHT OF THE CANADA FLAG IN THE FRONT ROW. (CANADA WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM)

Dalhousie University Tigers women's soccer coach Cindy Tye and midfielder Inari Moore had the honour of taking part in the 2022 CONCACAF Women's Under-20 Championship in the Dominican Republic, which took place from Feb. 25 to March 12.

The tournament was supposed to be held in 2021 but was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. It resumed this year, featuring the best from the North and Central American regions, as well as Caribbean nations.

Tye is the Canadian national team's U-20 head coach.

"It was a long couple of years for all athletes," Tye said. "I was with the [U-17s] in 2019 and, after a couple years away and understanding that we missed an opportunity at the [2021 U-17] World Cup with the 17s because of COVID, staying with the same group of kids and trying to get them across the line for the 20s was something that I wanted, to support them."

Tye said, "I mean, this is a group that would have missed out on the Under-17 qualifying and a [U-17] World Cup. So, they missed a whole cycle."

COVID-19 also affected the team during the

training this year. But fortunately, the team managed to work through these setbacks.

"Of the 20 kids that had arrived, a couple were impacted by COVID during camp. But we were able to keep everybody safe and well during the tournament and we feel fortunate for that," Tye said.

Inari Moore represented Guyana in the tournament and scored a goal in their last game against Haiti.

Guyana ended up being eliminated in the round of 16 of the championship, but Moore still found the experience a positive one.

"It was really cool to see different styles of play," she said. "I think in the AUS [Atlantic University Sport] you're used to a type of soccer that I didn't see at the tournament, so there was a lot of learning how different teams play."

World Cup berth for Canada

Canada's team was one of the top competitors expected to participate in the championship, alongside Mexico and the United States. The top three finishers in the tournament would qualify for the 2022 FIFA Women's Under-20

World Cup. That tournament is scheduled for this August in Costa Rica.

The United States finished in first place, Mexico in second and Canada in third. The Canadians snagged the final CONCACAF spot in the World Cup after defeating Puerto Rico in the bronze medal game.

"We were hoping to qualify after our semifinal, but we were beaten out by Mexico," Tye said. "The kids were pretty disappointed by that. They felt they wanted to go through that way, but regardless they bounced back and won the bronze and they're feeling really good after that part."

With Tye and Moore both at the tournament, the Dal coach of five seasons said the Tigers can gain a lot from the national experience.

"I really appreciate being here at Dalhousie and the support they've given me through this, and now coming back to try to make us better," Tye said.

Busy but memorable experience

Besides practicing against different styles of play, Moore had to adapt quickly to the playing



INARI MOORE (RIGHT) COMPETED FOR GUYANA AT THE 2022 CONCACAF WOMEN'S UNDER-20 CHAMPIONSHIPS. ALTHOUGH HER TEAM WAS ELIMINATED IN THE ROUND OF 16, THE DALHOUSIE TIGERS MIDFIELDER SCORED A GOAL IN THE LAST GAME. (SUBMITTED BY INARI MOORE)

style of her own team.

"There are camps we do in Toronto and in Guyana. So, you do get to know your players," Moore said. "But we do have to mesh really quickly because you don't get to play with the girls across international borders."

Another challenge Moore had to face was the fact that the tournament happened in the middle of the semester.

"I got a little bit lucky because reading week was one of the weeks I was down there," Moore said. "A lot of the time I actually couldn't get back to the hotel before deadlines, but I talked to my professors before and after, so that was actually really good and I'm caught up now."

Moore enjoyed the busy atmosphere and being immersed in the sport despite the difficulties of playing during classes.

"Our schedule was really, really crazy," she said. "But everyone was very present, which is something we sometimes don't have here. The girls had so much passion and willingness. They were so eager to play soccer. I really love that energy. I think we do have some of that here at Dal, but I'd like to bring some of that back too."

Back in the pond

Dal rowing society back in competition during pandemic, but entire program in process of full return

BY TIGER CUMMING



MOST ROWING TEAM MEMBERS ARE RELATIVELY NEW TO THE SPORT. (DALHOUSIE ROWING CLUB)

After competing in the first season since COVID-19, the Dalhousie University Rowing Club has its eyes set on re-establishing old programs that have yet to return since the pandemic began.

The competitive team wrapped up its season last November and is now preparing for the upcoming summer season. Members will race for their clubs in Halifax and elsewhere in the country.

"We're back in the weight room," said varsity program coach Andrew Todd. "We're cross-training and we spend a lot of time training on the machines"

The competitive rowing season for Dalhousie is short, consisting of just two months in the fall. Regattas take place on most weekends, and training during the week. This structure means the rowing society is in the weight room for up to six months out of the year.

This offseason looks different than in years past, however, as the society is without its usual class of novice rowers.

In past years, the novice program provided a path for athletes with limited or no rowing experience to try the sport, train and compete. However, the program was paused after COVID-19 halted last year's spring season.

This coming fall, the rowing society hopes to reintroduce the novice program.

"Hopefully, we'll have something up and running this fall," Todd said. "Normally what would happen is that during the first week of classes the team would be recruiting."

In the past, new recruits would spend the fall season with the team in the novice program, learning the sport and getting a feel for rowing. Later, they become more integrated with the rest of the team during winter training through off-season activities and workouts, before hitting the water in the next fall as competitive rowers.

In addition to being an opportunity for athletes to learn a new sport, novice rowing programs also produce lots of varsity rowing talent.

"For most, if not all university programs in Canada, the novice program is actually a huge feeder for their varsity program," said Todd. "I started rowing as a novice in university having

never rowed before. A number of my teammates hadn't either."

New sport for most

Compared to other sports, rowers tend to be introduced to the sport later in life.

"Most people start rowing in university, it's a very late starting sport," team co-captain Becca Henderson said. "That's why it's so important to have our novice program up and running again."

Many introductory programs contribute significantly to some of the most accomplished rowing programs in the country. "As much as the goal is to increase awareness and involvement in rowing, it's also to try and develop athletes that will hopefully be able to contribute top-level performances at competitions in subsequent years," Todd said.

Many new recruits are former high school athletes who are looking for an outlet to train and compete at a high level again, something that rowing provides quickly without too steep of a

learning curve.

"Rowing is a pretty simple sport," said Todd. "The more work you're willing to put into it, the more you're going to get out of it."

In addition to being a competitive outlet for new and experienced rowers, the rowing society provides a sense of camaraderie that some athletes find themselves missing after their career comes to an end.

"The Dal rowing team is a really welcoming environment," said Henderson. "I remember when I joined, I was very nervous and everybody was so nice and like so much fun."

Co-captain Chloe Cyr agreed with Henderson's observation.

"Rowing is definitely a sport where if you have rowing together, you are going to have other things together as well," she said.

The club is discussing how to relaunch the novice program with Mic Mac Rowing Club in Dartmouth, and hopefully, novice rowing programs will be an option for Dalhousie students looking for an athletic and social outlet in the fall.



THE DALHOUSIE ROWING CLUB RETURNED TO ACTION THIS PAST FALL. WELL, THE VARSITY PORTION OF THE PROGRAM IS. WHILE A LOT OF THE MEMBERS ARE BACK IN THE BOATS, THE PROGRAMS YET TO BE RUNNING AGAIN AT 100 PER CENT. (DALHOUSIE ROWING CLUB)

Tigers back on top

Dal men's basketball come from behind in second straight match to capture AUS title

BY MILES ANDERSON

The Dalhousie University Tigers men's basketball team captured the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) banner for the third year in a row with a triumphant win over the University of Prince Edward Island Panthers.

This is the team's third straight title, and sixth in the past seven seasons.

The Tigers managed to catch their rhythm on both ends of the floor in the fourth quarter, en route to an 84-78 win in the game that mattered most.

"We recognized what we had to do, and we stayed with what we planned to do," said Tigers head coach and four-time AUS coach of the year, Rick Plato. "Out of the six [titles] that we won, there was only one time that we were ahead the whole time. We get down and we play hard. The way we play defensively grinds and wears teams down."

With the 2020-2021 AUS season being scrapped due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this win felt surreal for many players on the team.

It was especially powerful for some. The win was the last time some Tigers will get the chance to suit up in the black and gold for AUS play.

"It is unbelievable. I am really happy we could win it in my last season [of eligibility]," said tournament all-star Alex Carson. Tigers stars Shamar Burrows and championship MVP Kevan Veinot are also leaving the team following the season.

"In the back of my mind, I thought, 'This could be my last game.' But being able to actually win it with this great group of guys, I am just really happy," Carson said.

Another comeback

The Tigers were clawing back the whole match, as they trailed from early in the first quarter.

UPEI guard Glen Cox went off for 26 first-half points, which carried his team to a 14-point lead heading into the locker room at the half. He hit 13 shots out of 19 attempts in the game and shot two of three from three-point range.

Although the Panthers ultimately fell short of their final goal, they led for most of the game with tournament all-star Elijah Miller leading the team in rebounds (five) and assists (four), as well as scoring 13 points. He scored at least 34 points in each of the two games preceding their showdown with Dal.

"We are going to use this loss as fuel to the fire. We have a lot of room to grow, and we are going to come back next year and make a run at it again," said UPEI head coach Darrell Glenn.

The Tigers had a spread-out box score with



THE DALHOUSIE TIGERS CAPTURED YET ANOTHER AUS MEN'S BASKETBALL BANNER, BEATING THE UPEI PANTHERS 84-78 IN THE FINAL ON MARCH 20. (JOE THOMSON)



SHAMAR BURROWS AND DAL COACH RICK PLATO CELEBRATE THE WIN, THEIR THIRD AUS BANNER WON TOGETHER. BURROWS HAD A CAREER TOURNAMENT, AVERAGING 16.5 POINTS IN HIS FINAL TWO GAMES. (JOE THOMSON)

four players hitting double-digit points. But it was Shamar Burrows who came out in flames to start the second half. He notched a double-double with 19 points and 13 rebounds, seven of those points coming late in the final 10 minutes when the team needed it most.

"Coming out of the locker room, we were down 14 and some of us had 20 minutes left in our university careers," said Burrows. "We knew that if we wanted to make the next step to play in the national championship, we would have to come out and fight."

MVP performance

Also with 19 points was Veinot, who gathered nine assists, six rebounds and two steals of his

own. Veinot struggled to find his groove offensively in the first half, but he was dancing by the third quarter. Nine of his points came in those 15 minutes.

"I think the fact we didn't have a season last year made it feel better," said Veinot of the win, his third AUS crown. "And everyone likes a good comeback story. It was a great way to win."

The momentum shifted into Tigers territory around the start of the fourth quarter. The nearly 5,000 fans in attendance erupted at the Scotiabank Centre when Veinot powered through for an Earth-shattering slam dunk, giving the Tigers the lead for the remainder of the game.

This is now the eighth AUS title win in pro-



KEEVAN VEINOT CAPTURED HIS THIRD AUS TITLE WITH DAL AND SECOND TOURNAMENT MVP IN STYLE. NOT ONLY DID HE AVERAGE 23.3 POINTS PER GAME OVER THE TOURNAMENT, BUT HE TOOK OVER WHEN HIS TEAM NEEDED HIM TO. (JOE THOMSON)

gram history, the fourth-most of any team all-time in the conference.

The Tigers remain well behind the Acadia University Axemen's record of 17 championships. But since 2014, they've failed to win the championship only twice: the University of New Brunswick Reds' win in 2018 and the COVID-19 season in 2021.

The Tigers continue to stay locked in and are now looking ahead in hopes of sealing their first national championship title. They play at the 2022 U Sports men's basketball championships from April 1-3 in Edmonton.

"We are going to go celebrate our championship win right now, but come tomorrow we are refocusing," Veinot said. "We have to win three more games and we will take it from there."

Fresh start in the water

Longtime AUS star Noah Mascoll-Gomes making the most of debut season at Dal

BY LUKE DYMENT, SPORTS EDITOR

It's been a heck of a transition for Noah Mascoll-Gomes, a new addition to the Dalhousie University Tigers swimming team.

Mascoll-Gomes is already an Atlantic University Sport (AUS) mainstay. He not only swam for the Mount Allison University Mounties for two years but captured conference freestyle wins in both 2019 and 2020. Joining Dal in time for the 2021-2022 season, he used the COVID-19 break to train and reflect, as there was no season.

But thanks to a hot start to the season and individual wins in every AUS meet, Mascoll-Gomes helped lead the Dal men to their first AUS banner since 2019.

He was named the AUS male swimmer of the year prior to the championships. In what has been a strange season, he said winning the individual honour was the most surprising.

"Normally, the AUS gives out awards at a banquet. But I found out from a notification from Instagram," Mascoll-Gomes said of the honour. He's no stranger to receiving awards the more "normal" way. He won the same award in 2020 and was honoured as the AUS men's rookie of the year the season before.

But he feels just as good about this year's accomplishment.

"I feel like I was able to make the most of my opportunities this season," Mascoll-Gomes said. "I wanted to make sure I didn't take anything for granted given I had just spent a whole year not racing. I wanted to make the most of every opportunity and give 100 per cent. It didn't even matter what the results were."

Joining a winning team

Historically, Dal swimming is all about what the results are. The women's swimming team just captured their 20th straight AUS banner in the most recent championships.

They were led by the AUS swimmer of the year on the women's side: Reagan Crowell. The *Dalhousie Gazette* contacted Crowell about the honour, but she was unavailable for an interview due to preparations for the U Sports championships.

As for the men's team, their banner on March 13 pushed their winning streak to one year. It's hardly even a streak, but one the team is excited to get going again.



NOAH MASCOLL-GOMES HAD NO TROUBLE INTEGRATING BACK INTO THE POOL IN HIS FIRST SEASON WITH THE DALHOUSIE TIGERS, CLAIMING THE AUS SWIMMER OF THE YEAR HONOUR FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT SEASON. (NICK PEARCE)

They had a 21-year streak going until 2020, when the Acadia University Axemen beat out the Tigers at the conference championships.

Mascoll-Gomes is new to the Dal-Acadia rivalry but got caught up in it quickly.

"It is contagious. The first thing some of my teammates said when I joined [Dal] was, 'We've got to get that banner back.' That's the first thing they said at my first practice," he laughed. "It's something that's been on our minds the entire season. I'm happy we were able to use that rivalry in a healthy way."

Dal used that motivation to build up steam early and often. They took both the men's and women's titles at every individual meet in the conference this season. For Mascoll-Gomes, he said he started to hit his stride at the Amby Legere Invitational at the University of

New Brunswick.

"Once you get the momentum going, it's hard for it to stop," he said. "It was the second meet of the season and I felt training was going well. I felt the times posted there, not just for myself but the team as a whole, was a good checkpoint for what we were about to do."

Relax and reset

As mentioned, Mascoll-Gomes didn't compete at all from the end of the 2019-2020 season until the current season began. The time off allowed him to reflect on his swimming career. He came out of it more engaged in the sport than ever.

"I took a lot of time off. I felt that was a good time for me to evaluate who I was as a person outside of swimming," he said. "It also made me realize I had a passion for this sport. And I did because

I had that eagerness to get back into the water.

"I feel that was a big learning experience for me. The main takeaway was that the mind is a lot stronger than the body."

Competing in freestyle races of different distances and the 4x200-metre team relay, Mascoll-Gomes is going to have as busy of a U Sports tournament as he had an AUS season. He qualified for several of those competitions nationally throughout the season.

Now, in his first national meet with his new team, Mascoll-Gomes is out to prove the Tigers are one of the best programs in the country.

"I feel like I'm in the best shape of my university career," he said. "Hopefully, I secure spots in some 'A' finals. Once you make the finals, anything can happen at that point."

THE DALHOUSIE MACKEREL

DALHOUSIE'S SATIRICAL NEWSPAPER

EST. 2021

Student Recreates Series Of Traps From “Home Alone” To Protect Secret Campus Washroom

BY ALEC MARTIN



IMAGE BY SAM CUTCLIFFE

Over the course of her eight years as an undergrad at DAL, the most important thing Heather Long learned was how to protect her secret campus washroom.

The traps were discovered last week when a first-year student was injured while trying to access one of the washrooms in the basement of the Chase building. Upon opening the door an iron flung down from the ceiling and struck them in the forehead.

DAL Health said the student was relatively okay as the iron was not preheated, but they are recovering from a minor concussion. The student—who wishes to stay anonymous—told *The Mackerel* that they “just wanted to take a shit,” and did not expect to be assaulted by a Rube Goldberg machine.

“All is fair in love and war,” says Long in response to the incident. “That has been my spot for the past six years and I’m not about to let some first year walk in and take that away from me.”

This is not the first time that one of Long’s traps has been discovered. At the beginning of the year, another student pissed themselves after being shot in the groin with an airsoft gun trying to access the same washroom.

Self-Proclaimed Girlboss Actually Just Woman Who’s Over Committed Herself

BY MIRA MACNEILL

Local influencer Rachel Gagnon has been making waves in the local LinkedIn community for her achievements. She is a full time management student, an MLM essential oil saleswoman, and she has ten thousand followers on instagram.

Despite her seeming success, rumours have been spreading alleging that she is not, in fact, a girlboss, and instead just a people pleaser who is incapable of saying no.

The Mackerel received copies of private communications between Gagnon and an anonymous friend, which reveal that some aspects of her fame is a lie. In a message from February 17th she admitted to purchasing followers, and on the 26th she admitted she is actually very stressed out about the fact that “nobody believes in holistic medicine”.

The anonymous source also admitted that they live with Gagnon and despite her numerous posts about their medical benefits, their living room is filled with unsold boxes of essential oils.

When reached for comment, Gagnon did not respond. The same day she posted on her instagram story that she was “in meetings all day” and “making money moves”. These statements could not be verified.

Fountain School Of Performing Arts Announces For Credit Co-op At Oasis Karaoke

BY EMILY FRANK

Many students find themselves drawn to Dalhousie due to its many prestigious co-op programs. While faculties such as commerce and engineering boast highly established and diverse co-op opportunities, others get left behind, especially in non-stem fields.

The Fountain School of Performing Arts has continually sought out new and innovative ways to improve the level of education

provided to its students, and recently has decided to launch a trial co-op offering for its Bachelor of Musicology.

The faculty finds itself lucky in that one of the premier destinations for arts and performance can be found just down the road from its main Studley Campus: Oasis Pub.

Thursday night karaoke has long been lauded as a breeding ground for raw tal-

ent, creativity and collaboration— a market that can now be tapped into by up and coming Dalhousie artists.

“The passion witnessed in Oasis karaoke performances are truly awe-inspiring,” said the director of the fountain school, Bill Davis. “Just being in the presence of those performers... I know it will make our students more raw and soulful artists”.



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EST. 2021

Dalhousie Animal Science Prof Resigns Amid Allegations Of Affair With The Dal Tiger

BY JOE THOMSON



IMAGE BY SAM CUTCLIFFE

Students of Greg Fury's mammalian physiology course will have to finish out the semester with a new face leading the class.

Fury announced over the weekend that he will be resigning from his position as rumours about his relationship with The Dal Tiger continue to mount.

"At this time, I believe it is most important that I focus on my wife and our children," said Fury at a press conference Tuesday evening.

Leaving the podium in a rush, Fury neglected to turn off his microphone. Shortly after, loud growls and purrs were heard throughout the building's sound system.

The Mackerel managed to contact one of Fury's students, Denise Dennis, who provided the following statement: "Oh yeah, that guy is definitely fucking The Dal Tiger. At least once a class he would get a phone call from 'Domino's' and would always answer it, 'Hey sexy, how's my fluffy daddy?'"

The Dal Tiger has denied any involvement with Fury.

"I've never seen that very handsome and tender man in my life. I did hear his wife is a real bitch though," said The Dal Tiger.

The Mackerel will continue to update this story as it develops.

Second Year Commerce Student Called 'Easy' For Having Over 500 LinkedIn Connections

BY JUSTIN FIELD

Everybody remembers their first LinkedIn connection. Some start making connections well before university, while other late bloomers don't even think about starting their profile until third or fourth year.

Emily Wynaught recently became all the gossip in second year commerce after revealing to her peers that she had over 500 LinkedIn connections.

Students were baffled as to how her number was so high at only 19 years old. "It's crazy. I'll usually wait until at least the fifth or sixth email before sending a request to connect," commented Hillary Dickory, a fourth year commerce student. "It's a big step forward in a relationship. I know some people that won't even connect until having worked with the person for at least a year," she continued. "I've been well connected since high school," said Wynaught. "Every project, every meeting—I always just find someone I want to connect with," she explained. "My high school chemistry teacher, Mr. Douglas, was my first," she continued.

"Clearly she gets around," commented Adam McAdams, a peer of Wynaught. "I'm not one to judge what other people pursue. But making that many connections... she's just giving herself up too easily," he continued.

The Mackerel found McAdams's LinkedIn profile, which has been active for four years, and has zero connections.

"I'm just holding out for someone special," explained McAdams.

Deep Saini Unable To Hear Divest Dal Representatives At Board Meeting Over Sound Of Oil Rig Drilling In President's Office

BY SAM CUTCLIFFE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Divest Dal, a Dalhousie student society, has its sights set on pressuring the university to liquidate its endowment holdings in fossil fuel giants, investing instead in more environmentally friendly companies.

Last month, representatives from Divest Dal attended an online Teams meeting of Dalhousie's board of directors, in hopes of making ground on their so-far-ignored calls to action. Board members clearly took no interest in Divest Dal representatives, instead spending the meeting voting on jersey designs for their upcoming 'ExxonMobil Softball Tournament™'. When representatives of Divest Dal were finally given the time to speak, an ear splitting rumble was heard, continuing for the remainder of the meeting.

While Divest Dal representatives were very confused, board members were reportedly grinning from ear to ear. It soon became apparent that the oil rig situated in the back of Deep Saini's office had begun actively drilling, creating far too much noise for anyone to be heard over the machine's endless drone.



IMAGE BY SAM CUTCLIFFE

As a result, Divest Dal members moved to the Teams chat in an attempt to have their demands heard. Ignoring them completely, "Listen to that baby purr!" was sent by one board member in reference to the rig. "Pipeline! Pipeline! Pipeline!" said another.

"What the hell is happening?" said one of the Divest Dal members as the meeting descended into chaos. The remark was met by

the meeting moderator reminding the student to watch their language.

"Kick them the fuck out Deep!" added a board member.

The President's Office has released a statement, saying that Divest Dal's demandments are far too crude, and will need to be refined before their ideas can be entertained by the board.



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