

# THE PICARO

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<http://chebucto.ns.ca/Media/Picaro/>



CARRIE WARNER

Brennan is ready to play in the new Fountain Play Centre, that opened at the end of last term. See story on page 4.

## Strike?

### MSVU Faculty Contract Negotiations On-Going

BY SHERI L. SOMERVILLE

Full and part-time faculty members continue to negotiate the terms of their respective contracts. They have come to agreement on most of the items contained in their contracts except the issue of salaries.

Full-time faculty representatives have been meeting on a weekly basis with the university since October and will continue to meet throughout January and February until an agreement is reached.

"Not much has changed since before Christmas," said Dr. Chris Ferns, full-time faculty chief negotiator. "We are meeting on Monday to exchange salary proposals and I expect there will be a fairly large gap."

According to Ferns negotiations have been amicable so far. MSVU has not proposed any radical changes to the collective agreement. However, salaries at the Mount remain at about 10.7% below the regional average.

"The full-time faculty's workload has increased as a result of the non-replacement issue and members are substantially underpaid," said Ferns.

Part-time faculty negotiations have stalled on the issue of salary. Members have been offered a three year contract that would bring them from \$5000 up to \$5900 per full unit course taught by the end of the third year.

"This is unacceptable, we feel that this is our first contract and we've been dramatically underpaid in the past," said Michael Earle, secretary-treasure of CUPE local 3912. "We just want to be brought up to other universities in the maritime region."

Currently, part-time faculty at Memorial University receive

\$7200, while at the University of New Brunswick they receive \$7000. "We are going to hold on this and we can't see why they can't re-adjust," said Earle.

A strike vote will be held on February 18 or 19 for the part-time faculty members. A yes vote could result in a strike as early as March 4, 1998 if an agreement is not reached. "We would be willing to undergo binding arbitration if the university agrees, but I can't see that happening," said Earle.

Judith Woodsworth, vice-president academic for the Mount, also believes that negotiations have been very cordial. "We have complete agreement on a number of issues and some are ready to be signed off and just need re-wording," said Woodsworth. Woodsworth feels that the Mounts offer of \$5900 is fair, but the part-time faculty want \$7000.

"If we give that kind of an increase the money has got to come from somewhere. For example, tuition, and we don't like to see that," said Woodsworth. Enrollments at the Mount have decreased this year and advertising costs have also increased. "A lot of factors go into determining how much of an increase can be tabled. Also the funding formula is being introduced and the Mount will get zero of the proposed \$22 million, [from the new funding formula]" said Woodsworth. "We recognize what faculty members are required to do. We are trying to remain fair."

All parties maintain they wish to avoid a strike if possible. "Our first commitment is to the students," said Woodsworth. "Faculty and administration both realize this."

## What's inside...

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# MSVU WINTER CARNIVAL '98



**TGIF KITCHEN PARTY!!**

**MACKEEL**

Appearing at Vinnie's Pub on  
January 30th at 4pm.

**ADMISSION: \$5.00**

**Come Chill on the Hill**

**JANUARY 25 - 31st**

**Check posters for more upcoming carnival events!!**

**The R.E.A.L Choices Committee and  
Wellness Project '98 present . . .**



A Frank Discussion on SEX  
with Sue Johanson,  
A.K.A the Sex Lady.  
January 19th at 7pm,  
Auditorium A  
**FREE ADMISSION**



**N3B**

NATIONAL SPEAKERS BUREAU

Many have noticed the discrepancy in the Student Union handbook. Though one section of the handbook was correct the other misprinted the official start of classes. The Student Union and the Handbook Editor apologize for any inconvenience that the error might have caused.



News

The Picaro

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The Picaro is dedicated to informing, challenging and entertaining the students of MSVU, and to provide them with a forum to air their views.

The Picaro reserves the right to edit or reject any material, particularly material of libelous, racist, sexist, or homophobic nature. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Picaro or its editors.

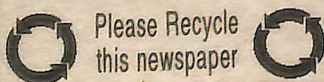
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Staff meetings of the Picaro are held every Monday and Wednesday at 2:00 pm.

The Picaro

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# NO GAIN FOR THE MOUNT NSCHE Releases New Funding Formula

BY MARK DARROW

The Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education (NSCHE) released a new proposal for the funding of Nova Scotia's Universities.

The proposal, released on January 2, details a \$22 Million increase in funding for universities. This proposed augment to funding is designed to alleviate the pressure on universities to cut back on programs and staff.

"Unfortunately it doesn't put us in a better position," remarked Rhonda Coleman, the Mount's Student Union President. "We're not receiving any more money, but we're not going to be cut anymore." The last funding formula proposed a \$1.3 million cut to Mount's operating budget.

"The schools that were supposed to 'win' haven't altered too much," said Coleman. "For the most part any school who was going to lose substantially has gained except for the Mount." Most of the province's schools, according to the formula, will receive increased funding. For the Mount, however, funding will remain the same.

"The Formula itself hasn't changed in any significant way," said Dr. Susan Clarke of the NSCHE. "Where the difference is that the Council (NSCHE) has come to the conclusion that we really need the extra \$22 Million to add to the base of universities." The funding

formula looked at several factors as guiding principles for the increased funding, not the least of which was the accessibility of university to students.

"The \$22 Million that's put back to the base is very helpful," Coleman said. "It's a healthy move on the part of the province to pad the base." Coleman feels that the government is becoming responsive to the needs of students, and that this gesture is an acknowledgement of a serious problem in education funding.

University	Unrestricted		Change	Percent Change
	Operating Grants (1997-1998)	Proposed Formula Funding		
Acadia University	\$17,682,144	\$20,183,501	\$2,501,357	14.1%
Atlantic School of Theology	\$670,028	\$758,814	\$88,786	13.3%
Dalhousie University	\$85,453,585	\$93,736,697	\$8,283,112	9.7%
Mount Saint Vincent University	\$12,037,935	\$12,037,935	\$0	0.0%
N.S. Agricultural College	\$3,240,899	\$4,258,204	\$1,017,305	31.4%
N.S. College of Art and Design	\$3,832,196	\$4,775,197	\$943,001	24.6%
Saint Mary's University	\$15,673,158	\$19,097,356	\$3,424,198	21.8%
Saint Francis Xavier University	\$12,685,945	\$16,816,499	\$4,130,554	32.6%
University College of Cape Breton	\$11,093,654	\$12,388,045	\$1,764,391	11.7%
University of King's College	\$2,040,323	\$2,854,876	\$814,553	39.9%
Université Sainte-Anne	\$2,545,193	\$2,736,280	\$191,087	7.5%
Province Total	\$166,955,060	\$189,643,404	\$23,158,344	13.6%

## Priest Happy at Mount

BY TAWNYA ZWICKER

Father Ken Keeler has been with the Mount Saint Vincent Motherhouse for the past five months. Hired as full-time Chaplain in September after spending the previous four summers as Interim Chaplain, Father Keeler was honest from the start about his past convictions.

In 1993, he pleaded guilty to a sexual assault on a young boy sixteen years prior in Ontario. Though he was sentenced to eight months, he served six weeks in prison and two years probation for the crime. The judge felt that Father Keeler was a very good candidate for rehabilitation, and reduced the sentence, adding that he must seek treatment. Pedophilia specialist, Dr. John Bradford of the Royal Ottawa Hospital led Father Keeler through his treatment of the problems that led to his abusive behavior.

"Since his conviction, he has received extensive treatment," Susan Corning, Director of Communications for the Sisters of Charity of Halifax said. "He is working in an environment supported by the psychiatrist."

"The Bishop, while he is not directly involved with the leadership of the Motherhouse, supports any decision they have made," John O'Donnell, Director of Administration for the Arch Diocese of

Halifax said. "The Bishop has a wide degree of discretion in assigning responsibilities, and in limiting the risk of a re-offense. Attempts would be made (in the case of pedophilia) to curtail any responsibilities toward young children."

Though Keeler has undergone treatment for his problems, he will never again be able to work in a parish. "It definitely is a stipulation of the church. He does not have a license to act as a parish priest here or elsewhere," said Corning. "He most likely never will have again." Despite this, Keeler said he is "happy in the environment he is working in and he enjoys working with the sisters. The job is conducive to his healing process." The Motherhouse posting was also recommended by Dr. Bradford, and allows Keeler to remain active as a priest, something that allows him to feel valuable after the conviction.

When Keeler was hired, his employers knew of his past conviction, and supported his efforts to change his life for the better. It was not until Keeler agreed to an interview with an Ottawa paper that he decided to tell people who did not know about his past.

"We are trying to imitate the attitudes and ways of Jesus, who forgave sinners, even

a repentant thief dying on a cross beside his," said an unnamed sister in the congregation. While Keeler's congregation and fellow staff were surprised to learn of his convictions, most have continued to be supportive of him. "It was good to see that a lot of staff came up and gave him a hug for having the courage to discuss openly something so scary from his past," said Corning.

The staff and congregation do stress the fact that while they are supportive of Father Keeler and his efforts to overcome his problems, they do not condone pedophilia or abusive behavior. "Father Keeler has paid for his crime and has received treatment. While we have great compassion for victims of abuse, we also have great compassion for a person who is seriously trying to change his life," said Sister Mary Louise Brink, Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Charity. Corning agrees by saying, "we do not condone these crimes but do respect the efforts of a person who is succeeding in getting his life back on track."

Corning also stated that she has read the original 1993 reports (about the case) and while, "it was definitely a breach of trust with the boys, there should be no concern at all with the women of the Mount."



## News



President Sheila Brown with Margaret Fountain at to opening of the new centre.

CARRIE WARNER

# Fountain Play Centre Unveiled at MSVU

BY CARRIE WARNER

In November, members of the Mount community bid farewell to the Parent Care Lounge and welcomed in The Fountain Play Centre.

The Centre, located in Rosaria 113, provides inexpensive child care for student parents on campus. It is run by director Patricia Carter in collaboration with the Student Union, and is staffed by volunteer students from various programs at MSVU.

The change in name for the Centre is due to a monetary donation from David and Margaret Fountain of Halifax. Margaret Fountain is a Board of Governors member at the Mount, as well as a former student, and wished to provide funds for an area of campus life. Upon seeing the Parent Care Lounge, it was decided the money would serve best by helping to provide a happy, safe environment for children of student parents.

The initial plan began taking shape late in the 1997 winter semester. Then director Tracey Cochrane was involved in the purchase of new furniture and supplies, and worked with the Student Union to keep the project developing, with Patricia Carter assuming this role for the 1997-98 school year. It wasn't until last semester, however, that the official opening of the Fountain Play Centre took place.

On Thursday, November 27,

1997, dozens of people from all facets of the university gathered in front of The Fountain Play Centre to hear speeches from student parent Erin Moore and Student Union President Rhonda Coleman. In her speech, Moore stated that her grades have increased dramatically due to the availability of child care on campus. She now has time to study while leaving her son with the volunteers whom she "trusts implicitly".

Further to their donation for supplies and furniture, the Fountains provided money to purchase T-shirts for all the children in the centre, and an additional sum for sweaters given to the parents and volunteers as a souvenir of the occasion. Volunteers generally work in the Centre two or more hours a week providing a safe and fun environment for children that includes coloring, trips to the gymnasium, reading books and making sure the children are kept happy and comfortable.

There are approximately fourteen children registered in the Fountain Play Centre for this semester. Carter is pleased so many parents are taking advantage of this program, and many of the parents have expressed their delight with The Centre and its volunteers. As usual however, more volunteers are always needed.



CARRIE WARNER

Jordan, Becky and Tyler getting a joy riding in just one of the many new toys.



## News



## MSVU Business Students Tie For Silver in National Competition

BY ALICIA DOYLE

A team of four undergraduate business students from Mount Saint Vincent University has tied for second place in the 1997 Canadian Direct Marketing Association (CDMA) Student Awards Competition.

The results were announced at the CDMA's annual black tie awards dinner held recently in Toronto, where the students were presented with an engraved sculpture. This year the CDMA introduced the new student category in its highly prestigious annual awards which is intended to honour excellence in direct mail advertising.

The CDMA dinner represents the largest national direct marketing event, with over 1,600 well known advertising agencies, suppliers and direct mail clients in attendance this year.

The Mount Bachelor of Business Administration students are Jessica Evans of Orleans, Ont., Cathy Pace of Halifax, Natasha Turnbull of Labrador City and Wendy Sims of Boutilier's Point.

"We are very excited about it and we even took out an advertisement in the Chronicle Herald to let everyone in Halifax know of the talented students

here at the Mount," Mount Saint Vincent University Academic Vice President Judith Woodsworth said. "The reason we are so proud is that these are bachelor students and all of the other people in the competition were MBA students and so it says a lot about the program we are offering here at the Mount."

Two teams of Master of Business Administration students from York University were the other winner, taking first place and second place tie with the Mount team. No bronze medal was awarded.

Fifteen teams from universities across Canada competed in the event. The students were asked to develop an original direct mail marketing strategy for a hypothetical personal home security product.

Team coach, Professor Karen Blotnick, a faculty member with the Department of Business and Tourism says the competition judges were extremely impressed with the presentations. "They were floored by the level of sophistication and detail in our students' marketing plan," said Blotnick. "It shows that our students can hold their own against the brightest and the best."

## Alumnae Award for Teaching

BY MATT BURNS

It is a little too early for Valentine's Day, but have any of us thought about our favourite professors lately. If you have not, it is about time.

The deadline for nominations for this year's Alumnae Award for Teaching is coming up - January 23, 1998 to be exact.

The award is given out each year along with a \$500 donation, made in the winner's name, to any one of three areas: the library, the Faculty Research Fund or the Scholarship Fund.

According to Tracy Tuttle, an alumnae officer at the Mount, the award used to be seen by many as a kind of a popularity contest. Over the past few years, however, things have changed. "The idea is to give every nominee equal consideration," she said.

Two important measures are in place to ensure the fair selection of the award winner. First, the awards committee is made up of 12 members: four students, four alumnae, and four faculty members. Tuttle stressed the involvement of students on this committee.

"If they are not playing a role, the process would not be valid. They are a critical part of it," she said.

Another important measure is the role of students in the evaluation process. Those in the nominee's classes, for instance, fill out surveys concerning aspects of their professor's teaching techniques. These surveys are used in helping to determine the winner.

In addition to the input of students in class, students on the committee play a big part in the selection process. They attend the lectures of nominees, analyze student surveys, and assist in interviewing the short list of candidates for the award.

Dr. Blye Frank, last year's winner, stressed the importance of balance when deciding between candidates. "I'm happy the committee consists of students, faculty, and alumnae," he said.

Dr. Frank also pointed out, however, that the award is more than just about winning. "I was both delighted and honoured that I was nominated for and won the award," he said.

Tuttle echoes this sentiment: "It allows the university to recognize the hardworking dedication of our many professors and their contribution to making the Mount what it is."

In order to nominate a candidate, pick up a nomination form in the Alumnae Office, Evaristus # 204. Students, alumnae, and faculty can nominate a professor so long as that person is not on sabbatical. You will have to get four other people to support your nomination. These signatures can be obtained from students who have attended the nominee's class as well as from faculty and alumnae.

In addition to the nomination form, the application requires you to write no more than 500 words on why your professor is an effective teacher. It is a short letter, and it might be tough if there is more than one good story to tell. Be selective.

### Have you got one of these?



presents  
the 24th Annual

## Business Society Dinner

with guest speaker

**Penny Mosher**

Senior Manager, Management Services BDC

**January 15, 1998**

Hotel Halifax - Baronet Ballroom 1990 Barrington St., Halifax

6:30 - 7:30 Reception - 7:30 - 9:00 pm Dinner

No... Why not the Business Society is selling them down in the link Monday to Friday. It is only \$25 for students and \$20 for Society Members



## Volunteers Needed!

The new Fountain Play Centre needs volunteers for information about this and many other volunteer experiences see page 25





## National News

## Students to take nation-wide action against student debt

BY RACHEL FUREY

SOURCE: ONTARIO BUREAU

TORONTO (CUP) — Tackling the student debt problem will be front and centre this month as students from St. John's to Victoria gear up for a national Day of Action. The protest is slated for Jan. 28 and will see students from across Canada participate in rallies, marches, workshops and other events in an effort to gain public support and to urge the federal government to develop a national strategy for dealing with student debt. The Day of Action is being organized by the Canadian Federation of Students and is part of the organization's long-term campaign in support of a system of national grants and denouncing come-contingent loan repayment schemes, which the Ontario government plans to implement in the fall.

Canada is one of only two industrialized nations which does not have a national system of student grants. By comparison, a \$3.5-billion increase in education funding was recently announced in the United States, with individual student grants increasing by \$300.

"We want to send a strong message to the government leading up to the federal budget that students will no longer tolerate government inaction on the issue of a publicly-funded system of post-secondary education," Brad Lavigne, national chair of the federation, said.

The average Canadian student's debt load currently sits at \$25,000. And student bankruptcies have almost tripled since 1993, rising to 12,000 in 1996 from 4,500. Lavigne says he hopes the Day of Action will lend credibility to the federation's previous lobbying efforts.

"Meetings with governments and our research has limited impact unless the governments believe our message has widespread support. National Days of Action help illustrate that widespread support," he said.

The federation has teamed up with several coalition partners to gain support for the national day of protest, including the National Union of Public and General Employees, which represents provincial government unions across the country and several private-sector unions. Members of the group are also experiencing tough times because of federal government cuts, says Larry Brown, the union's secretary-treasurer.

"[For us] it's job losses and program cuts. The details of the impact are different but the cause is the same — complete underfunding from the [federal] government," he said.

While the protest will target the federal government and push for positive student aid reforms in the upcoming federal budget announcement, university and college students are also targeting their provincial governments and they have come up with a number of innovative ways to try and force their governments to deal with the student debt problem. At several schools student leaders are planning to tabulate the total amount of debt shared by their entire student body and use these amounts to send a signal to governments and administrators about the "walls of debt" students will face upon graduation.

At Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, students are planning a teach-in Jan. 24 to raise awareness about globalization and the growing corporate presence in post-secondary education. Another teach-in is slated for Jan. 21 in Winnipeg.

In Saskatchewan, students will be focussing their protests against the Royal Bank, which has a monopoly on student loans in that province. And at Memorial University in Newfoundland, students are organizing an indoor rally-style "Cuts Carnival" featuring speakers, games, theatre and other activities centering around student debt issues.

Students in British Columbia have collected thousands of the Canada Student Loans Program's fridge magnets that tell students to "borrow wisely," and they plan to give them back to the government during a Day of Action march.

"You can sense the anger out there among students," Maura Parte, chairperson of the B.C. component of the federation, said. "You can sense that people feel there's a general attack on students because of youth unemployment, tuition fees, student debt."

Parte points to the recent APEC conference in Vancouver where, she says, the federal government displayed a lot of disrespect for students, as another source of student agitation on the West Coast.

"There's a lot of left over anger from [APEC]," she added.

## Massive tuition hikes in the works in Ontario

BY MEG MURPHY, SOURCE: THE VARSITY

TORONTO (CUP) — Ontario campuses are buzzing with activity as students plan everything from national protests to bureaucratic wrangling to prevent universities from ramming through massive fee increases next fall. The frenzy comes in the wake of a Dec. 15 tuition fee announcement courtesy of provincial finance minister Ernie Eves. Universities were given the go-ahead to hike tuition fees for professional and graduate programs as they see fit. They also have the option of increasing general tuition by 20 per cent over the next two years.

The latest tuition-fee leeway came in the provincial government's two-year budget announcement, which they claim increases funding to post-secondary education. But university administrators say a little number-crunching reveals a loss to university budgets over the next few years rather than the heralded gain.

Council of Ontario Universities chair and U of T president Robert Prichard says the net effect of Eves' announcement is a four per cent reduction in funding. "Mr. Eves' announcement makes a bad situation worse with respect to public funding," he said. Ontario languishes in last place among the provinces in funding for higher education.

Wayne Poirier, chair of the Ontario component of the Canadian Federation of Students, says the 400,000-strong student lobby group is planning a national day of protest on Jan. 28 opposing fee increases and calling for a national grant system rather than an income-related loan repayment plan. "I think we have moved beyond inaccessible post-secondary education," he said. "For lower-income families post-secondary education is not a reality and for middle-income families there are serious limitations. Now, for many of those families it won't even be an option."

Spokespeople from the Ministry of Education say they are currently consulting with universities and hashing out appropriate guidelines and specifics.

But Poirier says targeting the conditions may prove futile. He says the government has displayed a laissez-faire attitude toward qualifiers on government-okayed funds. "When the criteria is vague the institution can pretty much say or do anything that will make it appear they have met the needs. The bottom line is that they are disguising a tuition fee announcement in which the reality means students will see a 20 per cent increase over two years."

## UBC med prof admits assaulting secretary

BY DALIAH MERZABAN AND DOUGLAS QUAN  
SOURCE: THE UBYSSY

VANCOUVER (CUP) — A University of British Columbia medical professor is under investigation by the College of Physicians and Surgeons after pleading guilty to common assault. David Levitt, 64, was charged with sexual assault last spring after June Williamson, a secretary at his medical office, complained to police that he tried to kiss her and touch her breast. She also complained that at an office party he repeatedly propositioned her to have intercourse and often put his hand on her hip or shoulder. Although Levitt was charged with sexual assault he pleaded guilty Jan. 5 in B.C. Provincial Court to common assault. He was given a sentence of 18 months probation.

Williamson, 24, works for Alan Weiss, a physician who shares an office with Levitt. She says she is satisfied with Levitt's sentence. "I feel fine about it. I didn't want it to be majorly bad because it was a fairly minor thing in comparison to a lot of things that have happened [in society]. There's no animosity towards him at all," Williamson added. "It was just a stupid moment and he's got some problems. I just wanted to make sure that he got help. That was the big thing." Levitt is currently undergoing counselling.

Madame Justice Godfrey, the judge presiding over Levitt's trial, told the court his record will be wiped clean of the matter if he meets the conditions of his probation. Levitt's lawyer, T.L. Robertson, says his client's sentence is appropriate. "He will be formally reprimanded, and that reprimand will be published to the media and to the profession, which is likely a great or greater punishment to him than the criminal consequences," he said.

Levitt could face further consequences for his actions. He will face a hearing before the College of Physicians and Surgeons, which oversees the activities of doctors in B.C., sometime over the next few weeks, according to David Vanandel, deputy registrar of the regulatory body. Vanandel says the College will decide whether to discipline Levitt, adding that possible avenues include ordering him to undertake counselling or suspending him from the College.

According to the court transcript, Levitt plans to continue his job at UBC and at his practice in order to support his two daughters, 15 and 17. This term he is teaching a class on clinical diagnosis at the university. University officials could not be reached to comment on whether Levitt will face any disciplinary action.



### Nova Scotia Community College

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**JANUARY 27, 1998**  
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**Canadian Federation  
of Students**

Since we don't need a proof reader why not be a writer instead? Drop by the office or just submit your first article to be published in a nationally recognized newspaper. (You know that there is probably one Mount Alumnae member in every province)



## Opinion

I guess it is true you can't believe everything you read...

*"What do you mean I missed first class?"*

Still for sale at the Student Union

JAMES TILLEY  
(handbook editor)

## Educating the Privileged

BY JANNE CLEVELAND  
STATUS OF WOMEN OFFICER

I have just come back from a presentation at the Motherhouse during which excerpts of the diary of Mary Dulhanty were read to an audience comprised mainly of Sisters of Charity. The diary, as some of you may remember, was presented to the University in October during Women's Herstory Month. Mary's diary of the year (1926-27) in which she was a student of the Mount Saint Vincent Academy is an invaluable tool for historians when looking at how young women in an academic setting have navigated through social and cultural expectations. The Sisters were delighted with the presentation, some of whom clearly remembered locations and events mentioned within the diary.

As I looked around the room I began to realize just how hard women have struggled to pursue educational and intellectual goals. I also realized that as far as we have come, there is still further to go. The cynic in me cannot help but wonder at the coincidental timing regarding the broadening of educational possibilities concurrent to the collapsing of viable financial resources available to students. All of us, regardless of gender, race, ability, and political beliefs should be very concerned about how we are going to afford to pay for the education we are currently receiving, not to mention how future generations will fare. We are quickly arriving at the place where education will once again become a privilege of the wealthy elite, not a right of all citizens. This is truly frightening, and has far reaching implications for each of us at MSVU.

It is time for students to take some responsibility for sending clear messages to Government at all levels. We can no longer take for granted that the social welfare network that has guaranteed many of us the right to be at this institution will continue to function. Massive cuts in spending to health care, education, and social programmes are continuing to sweep through the country at break neck speed. We can hope they will ease before it affects our ability to receive quality education, or we can take the opportunity to work within a collective to let those whose hands control the purse strings know how we feel.

On January 27th there will be a nation-wide student protest that will begin with a parade and end by presenting some demands to the various legislature, including our own. This is a golden opportunity for us to have our voices heard. Anyone requesting more information should speak ASAP to Timothea Gibb, or any member of the Student Union Executive. Times, locations, and descriptions of events will be posted. It is imperative that students take this action seriously. How can we expect Government to take our demands seriously if our own student body cannot be bothered to make it's voice heard? If you are not speaking for yourself, who is speaking for you? Call your Student Union for more information - 457- 6123.

## Instant Leprosy

BY GREG JACKSON

*"Some people believe the universe is made of hydrogen, because it's the most plentiful substance. I believe that the universe is made of stupidity, because it is even more plentiful"*

Frank Zappa, Composer

First, a small observation. Last year there was a touch of controversy here in our hallowed halls, when the PR society had a pub crawl...oops...cr..ah, I mean "downtown social". As PR people, they felt the necessity to treat the occasion with complete honesty and call it what it was: A Drunkfest. For some reason our student union got upset and announced that it is wrong of them to be promoting the consumption of alcohol. Well, let's just whip out page two of one of the latest issue of the Picaro, shall we? Why, what's it say under the student union heading? "DAQUIRI NIGHTS EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT!" then something about relaxation, television and drinking.

Hmmmmmm, you know, that sounds an awful lot like promoting the consumption of alcohol. Oh, but really, I've come to expect stupidity from the student union. What do they do again? Yeah, I can't remember either.

However, that's not the main reason I've taken time out of my busy schedule to plunk this out. Let's discuss page ten: Discussion about Feminism. The issue: the "Take Back the Night" march. Good enough. Hey, that's great. It's an important, serious issue that needs, judging by the answers of some students, to be talked about. However, it should also be talked about intelligently or run the risk of being trivialized. What am I talking about? Let's see, shall we? Ah yes, here it is:

"But why risk your life? I'm a realist. (!?)...Every woman should own a gun in this society - I do. I believe in trying to change things too, but in the mean time...."

"WHAT THE FUCK IS THAT?" Then I relaxed and had another delicious strawberry daiquiri. "It's not something to

get too upset about..." I thought. "Besides, Chandler's saying something witty and clever to Joey." But then there was this wonderful tidbit of insightfulness that just screams to me "DUH."

"I don't agree with guns, I really don't, but Karen is right on, she believes in them, and it is the only thing that will stop a man."

Well, that is the most stupid, absurd, ridiculous thing that I have ever had the displeasure, since I learned to read all those many years ago, of allowing to seep into my brain. If this is truly your belief, I can't help but feel terribly sorry for you people. Feeling the need to solve violence with more violence is like giving a drowning person a delicious strawberry daiquiri because they look thirsty; it's just plain stupid. Also, unless you've been living in a cave for the past fifteen years or have taken a serious blow to the skull by a heavy, blunt object, you'd be aware of the fun-tastic time our neighbors to the south (no, I don't mean Chester) are having with guns and folks doing what Judi, although

she doesn't agree with guns, and Karen are suggesting. Hey, whatever happened to a good, swift kick in the balls? You know what? I guarantee you that it still works, unless I didn't get a memo or something. Could you imagine the uproar that would have occurred if the quote was a man saying that about women? I shudder to think. There would be accusations and inquiries not seen since the Spanish Inquisition, riddled with cries of "patriarchal system" (oops, that's in there, the horror, the horror!) and "Mark Lepine!" Such a great double standard, but hey, it's just guy-shooting they're advocating, so that makes it okay.

Now, before I go for my eighth delicious strawberry daiquiri, I'd just like to remind people that the ability to write is a wonderful thing. Having the right to govern is a wonderful thing. Intellect is a wonderful thing, too. You know what's even better? Combining them. Look out folks, the universe just got two particles bigger.



## Opinion

## Dissecting the Beauty Myth

## EDITOR'S NOTES

BY CERI YOUNG

The "Beauty Myth" tells us that women should be petite and feminine and pretty and wear makeup and obsess about their weight. The "Beauty Myth" is wrong. The "Beauty Myth" has to be thrown out the window. Nobody believes in the "Beauty Myth" anymore. If I asked any woman at the Mount if she tried to conform to the "Beauty Myth" I'd probably get a resounding "No! Of course not."

Indeed, even commercials now show the Beauty Myth to be false. One good example is the commercial that has a group of men saying things like "I will not obsess about my dress size", and "I have my mother's thighs. I have to accept that". A female voice then asks viewers "Men don't worry about things like this. Why do we?" When I first saw the commercial I thought that it was a wonderful way of denying the fact that women have to be as skinny as a pencil. Times are changing, I thought.

But are they? I found the above commercial a little harder to swallow since I found out that it's Special K that is paying for the advertisement. Yes, the same people who brought you the "pinch-an-inch" test are now telling you that you shouldn't be too concerned about your weight. "Eat our healthy slimming cereal anyway."

Not that I'm denying that eating healthy is a good thing. Nor is exercising. But that's not what all this is about. This is about not being overly concerned about your looks, not worrying about weight to the point of skipping meals and constant diets. And while most people recognize that trying to conform to the Beauty Myth is pointless, how

many people actually don't care?

Example: I've never particularly cared about the whole fat/thin debate. Mostly, I'll admit, because I'm naturally thin. But I've always shrugged my shoulders and shook my head at my friends who tell me that they "have to lose a few pounds", because they gained five pounds (ack!) over Christmas, or some such. "Why worry about it?" I asked them. Up until, of course, someone in my family mentioned that I had gained some weight. I was crushed. How could I gain weight? I must have been eating too much, I determined. I would have to start exercising more. I would have to start eating less. I would...

And I'm not the only one. While most women will ask themselves "Why do we need to dress up and diet and primp and preen?", most will also conform to the standard without even thinking about it. Or worry because they don't. For most women, it's a reflex action because it's been so ingrained.

So what are we to do? We're sandwiched between the ingrained pressure to conform and the new pressure not to conform, and trying to root out this belief in a now-fictitious ideal. Even advertisers, like Special K, support the ideal seemingly without realizing it, even while attempting to destroy it. And quite frankly, I don't have a solution either, other than trying the best we can to change our ways of thinking and of acting. It's going to be a long, slow road to change, and we're only at the beginning of it.

The Beauty Myth is dead. Long live the Beauty Myth.

## What's Up With The Boys Club?

BY ANDREA BALDWIN

I'm writing in response to the article that appeared in the Nov. 24, 1997 issue of the Picaro about the Boys Club (TBC). When I first read about the Mount's newest society, TBC, I chuckled, but the more I thought about their ridiculous entrance requirements and what motivated TBC's creation, the more compelled I felt to respond by writing this letter. I'm concerned about the contributions TBC is making to negative stereotypes about masculinity. Modeling their structure on NASCAR, requiring members to answer manly-skill testing questions about pellet stoves, and meeting at Vinnies to drink beer begs the question, "What are these boys trying to prove?" All of this could be interpreted as a harmless spoof on masculinity, but instead frightens me when TBC's president trivializes the plight of many abuse survivors with remarks like, "There are no axe murderers amongst us."

It sounds like members of TBC are a little confused about the group's function. On one hand they describe themselves as a social group, but at the same time they claim to be making a "statement of solidarity," and to "support men and help them grow as individuals." Supposedly one of their concerns

is a lack of housing for men on campus. It will be interesting to see if the group pursues work in this area or continues to focus on beer and testosterone.

To me the formation of TBC reeks of the backlash against the feminist movement and its accomplishments. Todd Brayman, the group's president, indicated that one of the reasons TBC was formed was to give men a voice at the Mount. Brayman said he was frustrated that "Discussions about Feminism," a new regular Picaro feature focusing on women's issues, has not included a male perspective. I am part of the group who compiles this column. Every two weeks we select a question that relates to women's experiences — so far we've covered feminism, violence against women, marriage and the media's portrayal of women. We each ask a student or two for a candid response to the question and then have a discussion based on the responses we collect. Selected comments and excerpts from our discussion are then compiled and appear in an upcoming issue of the Picaro.

In response to Brayman's critic of "Discussions about Feminism," we have asked men for their opinion. While doing research for our first column I

asked a man what feminism meant to him. He responded by saying he wasn't comfortable answering the question. Later while doing research for our column dealing with violence against women, I asked a man for his opinion about the Take Back the Night March. Limited by our 750-word allowance, his comment didn't make it to press, not because it was from a man, but because it wasn't particularly different from some of the others collected. As a feminist group we are concerned with many of the factors that oppress women and men, and that stand in the way of equality. But as such, we are aware of the patriarchal system we live in that privileges men. To date "Discussions with Feminism," has presented women's perspectives in an attempt to create a kind of consciousness raising among women at the Mount. Members of the Boys Club have obviously misread our intentions. When we talk about violence against women, we are not pointing fingers at men and accusing them of being "axe murders," rather we are identifying a patriarchal society that breeds and fosters violence and cultivates women as victims of this violence.

## Letters

To the editor:

In response to Lana Larder's article, "There are no axe murderers amongst us", I would put these questions to Todd Brayman: "How do you know there are no axe murderers among you, and who do you think axe murderers, or for that matter any men who abuse women, are?" Perhaps you think these abusers of women are some sort of alien monsters beamed to earth from another planet or some strange and ugly creatures that crawl out of the blue lagoon. I do not know of any such creatures, but I do know of fathers, brothers, uncles, students and friends who do abuse women. In fact, in our society, more women are abused by fathers, husbands, lovers, relatives and friends than by random acts of violence. If violent acts were committed by two-headed monsters, women would be better off; at least they would know who to fear. It is an honorable thing to support the fellow members of your boys club, but your statements indicate a degree of ignorance and naivete that would benefit from some research into the area of violence against women. I might suggest: A. Kesselman et al. "Women: Images and Realities, A Multicultural Anthology." London: Mayfield Publishing Co.; 1995 Pp. 310-336, as a good place to start. Essays like "A Letter from a Battered Wife," "Violence in the Family", and "The Reality of Acquaintance Rape", make it quite clear who women have to fear.

Linda Davies

To the Editor :

Last month Dr. John McMurtry told an audience at the Dalhousie Law School of the atrocities visited by the government of Indonesia on its own citizens and on the inhabitants of the occupied state of East Timor. He further described the complicity - for all that it is forbidden under international law - of the Canadian government and various Canadian post-secondary institutions with this criminal regime. He detailed the struggle on his own campus at the University of Guelph where he sought to expose the links between Guelph and Indonesia. The byzantine machinations of the administration at Guelph prompted McMurtry to ask : "Has Indonesia come to rule here?" After the most recent word from the APEC summit in Vancouver - where Indonesia's President Suharto is a feted guest - the answer, for Canada, is clearly, YES.

The University of British Columbia is currently hosting a meeting of the APEC group. Faculty and students were not consulted about this and many have opted to protest both the administration's highhandedness and APEC itself. One form that these protests have taken is the writing of slogans on campus buildings using readily delible materials. Another form of action has been playing road hockey at the entrance to the UBC President's driveway. A number of people have been arrested for these innocuous activities and, what is more, offered release from jail on condition that they desist from protesting APEC! What of freedom of belief and expression?

APEC protesters invited individuals from other Asia-Pacific countries to participate in the parallel Peoples' Summit. However, a number of those invited - Dominador Resurreccion and Danilo Fabella of the Philippino cultural group Tambisan sa Sining; Nathanael Santiago, Secretary-General of BAYAN, a major Philippino labor union; Iswad Prasad Pandey, coordinator of ASEED Asia in Nepal - were denied visas by Canadian immigration authorities, despite having all their documents in order. By contrast, General Suharto - who, as MP Svend Robinson has observed, could be turned away or even detained under Canadian law - has been welcomed by the federal government.

Most sinister, though, was the arrest on Nov.24 of Jaggi Singh. Mr. Singh is one of the principal organizers of APEC Alert which, notably, was scheduled to conduct a mass action on Nov.25. Mr. Singh's crime? Assault (he used a bullhorn at too high a volume during a street protest!) Not only is the charge itself ludicrous but the alleged incident occurred two weeks ago - and yet Mr. Singh was not apprehended during the interregnum despite making daily public appearances during that time. The spurious nature of the charge in tandem with the timing of Mr. Singh's arrest makes it quite clear that this is an attempt to quash political dissent.

APEC has been much in the news of late; as, to a lesser extent, have the protests against the summit. What desperately needs to be addressed now, however, is the chilling counterattack being directed against the legitimate political expression embodied in the anti-APEC protest actions.

Antoni Wysocki

**Want to be heard? Letters to the Editor should be no more than 500 words in length. Please include your name and a copy of the letter both in print and on disk if possible. The next deadline for letters is January 26.**



## Features

# Discussions about Feminism

COMPILED BY ANDREA BALDWIN, HEATHER DONALD, JUDI GAVIN,  
LINDA DAVIES, KAREN HENNEBERRY & TERRI ROBERTS

"The first problem for all of us, men and women, is not to learn, but to unlearn." - Gloria Steinem

Our first discussion about feminism for the term is in response to Gloria Steinem's quote that appears above. Her words provoked the following comments within our group:

"Maybe the first thing we have to learn is that both men and women have many things to unlearn." - Heather

"It is when we learn to question and stop being a 'yes person' that our consciousness is raised and we realize there are problems with what we've been doing all along and with many of the accepted behaviours we have all been taught." - Andrea

"I didn't learn to question many of these things until I was almost 50. How can young people begin to realize that a lot of the crap they are fed is not right?" - Linda

"I don't think a lot of young people want to question the status quo because it challenges how they've become comfortable living." - Andrea

"There has to be some kind of irritation, like a piece of sand in an oyster, to provoke a different kind of thinking." - Terri

"And it comes with our experiences. All of a sudden it hits you; something wakes you up, like going to school does for many people." - Judi

But how do you influence someone, like an oppressive husband or employer, who doesn't want to give up his privilege?" - Karen

"Men certainly need to unlearn, but more importantly women need to unlearn so they can discover the knowledge and power needed to reject traditional, patriarchal terms and conditions." - Andrea

"Some young women get so wrapped up in romanticized notions of love and marriage that they really believe their relationship with their husband will be different. Some marriages are egalitarian partnerships, but most often those ideals seem to go out the window soon after the wedding." - Linda

"Sexism and oppression are more likely to creep into relationships when there are children. I think a lot of couples who are both working probably have more egalitarian partnerships, but as soon as the children are born, more times than not, the women become the primary caretaker and an unequal division of labour is created in the household. This is one area where unlearning needs to take place. Girls have to be taught from a very young age that the division of labour should be equal no matter what." - Heather

How can young women learn these things with our existing school system. If I had a child, I think I'd

be scared to send her to school." - Andrea

"That's why women's studies needs to be taught beginning in grade seven." - Judi

"I agree. But the problems with the education system start even earlier. In primary children are exposed to images like those of little boys riding tractors and girls washing dishes. So sending your kids to school is teaching them to buy into patriarchy." - Linda

They don't have to go to school for this to happen; they don't even have to go outside the door if you have a television, or if they play with other children." - Heather

"All you can do is create a child who will challenge their friends, authority and other things they are exposed to. You have to create a really strong and independent child." - Karen

"Since the education system is not likely to change, I do agree that women's studies needs to be taught to high school students." - Linda

"Do you think that's realistic. Will it ever really happen?" - Andrea

"Well, only then will people start to unlearn what they have internalized." - Judi

"I believe there is a curriculum now in place for teaching women's studies in Nova Scotia high schools, but no one is teaching it." - Terri

"Speaking about challenging and unlearning starting at the junior high level...I complained about the absence of women in the history courses taught at my nieces' junior high school in a letter to the principal. In response to my letter she asked my niece why I was concerned since I had no children at the school. As a woman she seemed very threatened by my questions." - Karen

"Do you think men think we are bitches for talking about this stuff and publishing it is the paper? Because as women we can change all we want, but we need men's ideas about women to change too. How are we ever going to accomplish this?" - Linda

"Women constitute 52 per cent of the population, so if we all speak up and take action, attitudes will change pretty damn quick." - Andrea

*The views expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the Picaro or its editors.*

# BANG

*Video killed the radio star and other atrocities*

BY GRANT MCDANIEL

But, oh, how wrong I was—thinking I liked Aerosmith and Leonard Cohen, Chili Peppers and, God forgive me, Dwight Yoakam. Not until I saw Much Music's Your Favorite Videos of All Time was I enlightened. Suddenly I became aware that the Back Street Boys, Hanson, Aqua and Our Lady Peace are the bands that I (and you, of course) like the best of all. I actually thought I disliked these acts, so I thank Much Music for informing me that I misinterpreted my own personal tastes.

The biggest (maybe the only) mistake that Much Music made was calling its show Your Favorite Videos of All Time. The name implies that everyone existing voted on selections ranging from Buddy Holly's classics to Weezer's Buddy Holly. Obviously this did not happen. Hanson scored twice in the top five as did the Back Street Boys, so it seems that the program really ought to have been called The Favorite Videos of Musically Malnourished Teen-age Girls. How long could Mmmm bop stand against, for instance, Led Zeppelin's Over the Hills and Far Away based on musical integrity? Robert Plant never alleged to be a sex symbol, so maybe the boys in Hanson should not allege to be musicians.

There is one thing I will admit. The best video of all time probably came out within the last five years thanks to this industry's nature. The coolness of video technology grows by the minute, which leads to the problem of bands relying on smoke and mirrors rather than good music. The Rolling Stones are probably the best band ever, but they were not making any serious videos until MTV came along. Jumpin' Jack Flash, American Pie, Heroes, Closing Time—most of these tunes simply do not have videos to go with them, so the songs simply can not compete against The Chemical Brother's work. Only the last song (1992) is from the era of million dollar videos, but its performer, Leonard Cohen, was too intent on making a great song to invest his efforts towards making a great video. Video really did kill the radio star.

In other music news, I heard that Sheryl Crow might be dating Micheal Douglas. Someone alert the Vatican—that is one of the catastrophes heralding the End in Revelation. Oh, God. The most appealing woman on the planet with Mike Douglas? Poor Sheryl, the love of my life. Poor little thing! Ouch, that is a strange pain in my chest, kind of like my heart is breaking in half. Oh, God. Life before eyes...t ell Momma I love es her. Getting r eal dark, too dar k to see. I feel I am kn-kn-knockingi ng on Heave n's door...

## Want to be a part of something important on campus?

Why not consider becoming a member of the Picaro's editorial staff for the 1998-99 academic year? If you are interested why not drop by the office now to see what it is really like? You could help out with the next issues to get some practical experience. Working for a student newspaper will look good on your resume, fill your portfolio and teach you valuable skills which can be applied to whatever field you go into. Near the end of the term we will be accepting applications for all positions. So if you have any questions we are located on the ground floor of Rosaria, near Vinnie's Pub or call us at 445-3584.

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DEBT**

**NATIONAL  
GRANTS  
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Canadian Federation of Students



## Features

# Campus Quiz:

## Test Your Knowledge About The University You Call Home.

1. MANUS offers services only to:
  - a. Students over the age of 24
  - b. Adult learners returning to university
  - c. Anyone who needs help, despite age
  - d. All of the above
2. MANUS is a:
  - a. A Student Support Centre
  - b. An advocacy group
  - c. Student Government
  - d. A place where they keep the oxygen and support hose for the mature learners
  - e. A daycare centre
3. How much does it cost to get help from MANUS:
  - a. Forget it—You don't make that much
  - b. Your first born child
  - c. Two pints of blood
  - d. Free for the asking
4. Who at MANUS can help you:
  - a. Susan LeFort the executive director
  - b. The office staff
  - c. The Board of Directors
  - d. Anyone in the Student Support Centre
  - e. All of the above
5. Novanet is:
  - a. A resort on the south shore
  - b. A search engine for the internet
  - c. Library catalogue for the collections of all the metro university libraries plus UCCB and St. FX
  - d. A network
6. Which service is available at the library Reference Desk:
  - a. Library research appointments
  - b. Reference librarians to help students with research papers, projects and locating materials
  - c. Access to many CD-ROMs and databases
  - d. Access to the Internet using Netscape
  - e. All of the above
7. The Reserve Collection in the library consists of:
  - a. Material professors put on reserve for specific classes
  - b. File of materials on Lady Diana
  - c. MacLean's University surveys
  - d. Canadian Dietetic Association file
  - e. a & d
  - f. All of the above
8. Computers for student use are located in:
  - a. EMF 127c
  - b. Microbays in the library
  - c. Seton lab
  - d. None of the above
  - e. All of the above
9. Which service can you use to get any Novanet book or journal article delivered to the Mount library for \$2.00:
  - a. Interlibrary loan
  - b. Novanet Express
  - c. Document Delivery
  - d. None of the above
  - e. All of the above
10. Special collections available in the library are:
  - a. Largest history of women collection in eastern Canada
  - b. MacDonald collection of rare and first edition books
  - c. Mount Saint Vincent University archives
  - d. Lesbian pulp fiction collection
  - e. All of the above
11. Which one of the following Divisions is NOT part of the Department of Student Affairs:
  - a. Athletics/Recreation
  - b. Health Office
  - c. Student Union
  - d. Housing
12. The Office of the Dean of Student Affairs is responsible for which of the following
  - a. special needs students
  - b. course registration
  - c. exam/grade appeals
  - d. academic advising
13. Which one of the following positions is NOT represented in the Department of Student Affairs:
  - a. nurse/health educator
  - b. career counsellor
  - c. psychologist
  - d. security officer
14. The Office of the Dean of Student Affairs is the liaison for International Students. How many international students attend the Mount:
  - a. 35-39
  - b. 40-44
  - c. 45-49
  - d. 50+
15. The Chaplaincy at MSVU is
  - a. Ecumenical
  - b. Catholic
  - c. Protestant
  - d. All of the above
16. Which programs are offered this term by Campus Ministry:
  - a. How to Read the Bible
  - b. Pizza and Profundities
  - c. Joshua Judges Ruth
  - d. Delilah, Jezebel, Herodias and Mary Magdalene—wicked women or human beings?
  - e. b and d
17. The Writing Resource Centre provides the following services:
  - a. Correct answers for all your take home exams
  - b. Answers to all questions you may have about any assignments including what is correct parliamentary procedure, how to run a meeting according to Robert's Rules of Order and health standards for cooking chickens
  - c. Literary analysis of the texts you are reading
  - d. Interpretation of your assignments
  - e. None of the above
18. The Writing Resource Centre does NOT provide:
  - a. Answers about grammar, punctuation and documentation
  - b. Individual assistance with your writing assignments at any stage of the process
  - c. A service where you can drop off your paper and have it proofread and corrected
  - d. Workshops on planning, researching, referencing and revising your paper
  - e. Workshops to help improve your writing skills
19. The Writing Resource Centre services are available during the following hours:
  - a. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
  - b. 24 hours seven days a week including the summer
  - c. Monday and Wednesday, 1-5 p.m. September to April
  - d. Monday to Friday, 1-5 p.m.
  - e. Tuesday and Thursday, 9-5 p.m.
20. The Writing Resource Centre Coordinator is:
  - a. A student volunteer
  - b. Providing a compulsory community service as the result of a criminal conviction
  - c. A professional published writer
  - d. A part-time lecturer in the English department
  - e. c and d
21. In which office on campus can you get a lollipop, a bandaid and a warm welcome:
  - a. Maintenance shop
  - b. Versa food service
  - c. Health office, Assisi 2nd floor
22. Where on campus can you watch T.V. and read magazines while waiting to talk to a very friendly doctor:
  - a. A professor's office
  - b. The President's office
  - c. The Health office, Assisi 2nd floor
23. An ancient Chinese medical practice is performed on campus through the use of:
  - a. Fortune cookies for desert in the cafeteria
  - b. Acupuncture at the Physioclinic
  - c. Ginseng in recipes developed by the dietetics department
24. Where on campus can you receive therapeutic electrical shock:
  - a. Physical plant
  - b. Psychology department
  - c. The Physioclinic
25. The best method to relieve stress on campus is to:
  - a. Participate in a regular fitness program at the MSVU gym
  - b. Receive massage therapy at the Physioclinic
  - c. Speak with someone at the counseling office
  - d. All of the above
26. The Physioclinic is located:
  - a. At the Motherhouse
  - b. On the second floor of Assisi Hall
  - c. In the basement of Seton Academic Centre
27. The President of the Student Union is:
  - a. Susan Dumaresque
  - b. Rhonda Coleman
  - c. Charles Williams III
  - d. Brian MacLeod
28. The mascot of the university is:
  - a. Sister Serenity
  - b. The Mystics
  - c. Vinnie the Pooh
  - d. Vinnie the Crow
29. The Student Union is NOT responsible for which of the following activities or services.
  - a. Political lobbying.
  - b. Student loan information
  - c. Health Plan
  - d. Child care services
  - e. Photo Ids
30. Who among the following was NOT an MSVU student?
  - a. Mary Clancy
  - b. Anne Dereck
  - c. Mark Shultz
  - d. Sheila Brown
  - e. A and B
31. The word "Picaro" means:
  - a. A group who causes trouble with the government that rules over them
  - b. It is ancient latin for documents created with many different machines all powered by harnessed lightning
  - c. The best newspaper you will ever see
  - d. We have absolutely no idea and if anybody knows could they please tell us



## Features

## Sheila Brown Talks About Campus Life at the Mount

INTERVIEWED BY GAY DECKER

**Q.** Do you feel that campus life in general has changed since you attended university as an undergraduate? How is it the same or different?

**A.** Well, I attended university as an undergraduate 30 years ago in England, so of course the environment was rather different. I went to Cambridge University and was a member of one of three women's colleges. Most students lived in their own colleges but attended lectures and laboratories with students from across the University. The colleges organized our "supervisions" - weekly small group discussions on essay topics we had prepared. Consequently, university life for me revolved around both academic and social activities in my college plus the university-wide classes and the activities of university-wide clubs and societies. Also, one's social life was linked with other students who we met through classes, even though they might have lived in other colleges.

But, that said, I believe the fundamental university experience probably hasn't changed much. Attendance at lectures and labs, research in the library, the opportunity for small group discussion are the most important activities. Residence life and participation in clubs, sports, student governance still offer students excellent opportunities for fun, growth and fuller participation in the university experience. Certainly, for me, residence was great, and I made friendships that have lasted to this day. Residence rules were stricter because we were a women's college. Sports and recreation were popular - I swam for pleasure and played field hockey competitively. One of the biggest differences is that the student body we have at the Mount, and at universities in general, is much more diverse in terms of age, social backgrounds, life experiences, and marital status. For example, we had only one married student in our group and the rest of us were pretty much the same age and single. Also, although I lived in a women's college, Cambridge as a whole had almost reverse proportions from the Mount in terms of male students - over 80 percent and female.

**Q.** Have there been any particular changes that you view with regret?

**A.** University campuses are continually evolving so I don't tend to get nostalgic about what has gone. If I have a concern it is that so many students have to work as a matter of financial necessity and, while that often provides them with valuable experience, it prevents their participation in other activities they might really like to be involved in. For some students, the amount they have to work is very demanding on their time and physical energies and that can affect their studies too. I also wish we had more residences that reflected the different needs of our students and that is something we have considered in our strategic planning.

**Q.** What are the factors which contribute to a healthy, productive, campus experience? (i.e. what makes campus life a positive experience for students?)

**A.** Students attend university first and foremost to get an education, so the prime element of a productive campus experience is excellent teaching, the opportunity to develop intellectually, to be challenged to grow and to develop your abilities and skills, and to learn how to learn. But co-curricular activity is also important as part of that personal and professional growth. That can come through participation in residence life, in

student government or university government, in clubs and societies, in athletics and recreation, in volunteer work, in paid employment on or off the campus. All of these activities broaden a student's experience, bring her into contact with others, develop social and communication skills and can be very satisfying and enjoyable.

**Q.** How does the Mount foster a positive campus experience for its students?

**A.** By taking pride in the quality of the academic programs we offer, many of which are unique to the Mount or offered in a way distinctive to the Mount, and in the quality of our teaching. By seeking to be a university where all who work and study here can feel a sense of community. By maintaining residences, by providing students with on-campus work opportunities, by offering a variety of academic support and student services and by fostering a variety of co-curricular activities.

**Q.** Do you feel the Mount campus experience is unique and, if so, how?

**A.** Through its history and its mission, as an institution dedicated primarily to the education of women, the Mount offers an intellectual and social environment that is unique in Canada. We also have a quite diverse student body which means that students of different ages and backgrounds can experience and learn from each other. That opportunity for collaborative learning is very valuable.

As well, we have one of the most physically attractive campuses anywhere - it's a spectacular location overlooking the Bedford Basin, and the beautifully landscaped grounds, arboretum, the layout of the campus and the University's heritage, signs of which can be found throughout the campus, make it a pleasant place to work and study.

We offer our students a range of services and opportunities and, in fact, our students have access to some which other universities don't offer. We have excellent health and counselling services, career counselling, athletics/recreation facilities, study skills courses, a Writing Resource Centre, and a nationally recognized art gallery. We are very fortunate to have excellent facilities for children on campus. We have The Fountain Play Centre in Rosaria, where student parents can drop off their child while they attend classes, and the Child Study Centre, a first-class day care centre with some subsidized spaces which also serves as a wonderful facility where our students can observe and work with children. We have a library that consistently ranks in the top three among undergraduate universities in Canada for its current acquisitions. We value the importance of personalized education not just in classes of a size where you can get to know your professor and each other, but through access to personalized academic advising and the services I have just mentioned.

**Q.** In the past, Mount students have lamented a lack of school spirit on our campus. Would you agree with this and how do you think school spirit is linked to the quality of a student's campus experience?

**A.** It's hard to generalize about school spirit because it manifests itself in different ways among such a diverse population of students. Certainly, there's no lack of school spirit in the residence dinners, athletics events, and student-sponsored functions which I attend. Likewise, when I attend alumnae events or chat with individual alumnae, they all speak with

pride about their Mount experiences, their favourite professors, and the things they got up to while at university!

As I said, the Mount has a diverse body of students, some of whom attend part-time or have family and work commitments. Many of these students are very active in student government and societies. I also know of many distance students who are strong supporters of the Mount. So, each person defines her or his own relationship with the University according to their needs and aspirations.

**Q.** Macleans annual university rankings issue for 1997-98 placed MSVU twenty-first out of twenty three universities for alumnae support. What is your response to this ranking and how do you feel the quality of campus life is linked to alumnae support?

**A.** Mount alumnae are very supportive of the University and its students. Surveys of Mount graduates repeatedly indicate a strong interest in remaining active alumnae. Alumnae show their support for their alma mater by their leadership in recognizing good teaching through the Annual Alumnae Teaching Award, by the current efforts of the Alumnae Association to increase the numbers of scholarships and bursaries available for our students, by their personal support of scholarships, by their participation in careers evenings, student supervision in practica, coop and internship, by assisting us in new student recruitment, and in many other ways.

We don't approach our alumnae each year for financial contributions and haven't the last few years. However, we're launching a comprehensive alumnae phonathon this year, with student callers, and look forward to a successful campaign. In this way, alumnae will have regular contact with the University, the chance to speak with a current University student and the opportunity to make a financial contribution. We hope to target increasing scholarships and bursaries with those financial contributions. At the same time, there is the bonus that this approach will provide some additional student employment opportunities on campus.

A very positive development is the contribution the Student Alumnae Association makes on campus. The opportunities for involvement presented by the Association will undoubtedly help to develop greater loyalty among alumnae, because the alumnae role starts to develop while students are still on campus.

**Q.** Part of the Mount's strategic plan for 1997-98 states that "the Mount recognizes its diverse student body and responds to changing student trends through the mix of student services offered". Can you comment on what trends the Mount foresees in the next five years and how they might have an impact on the nature of the campus experience?

**A.** Blueprint, our strategic plan, identifies some key strategic directions for the Mount and sets out the goals and objectives that will guide us as we pursue



those directions over the next few years. These goals include responding to changing student needs. We have taken various initiatives in recent years that we are proud of.

**Q.** What student services is the Mount planning to implement to accommodate coming student trends?

**A.** Not too long ago, there was very little in the way of career planning services for students on campus, but it was recognized that there was a growing need for such services and resources. The Department of Student Affairs addressed this need through the creation and development of the Career Placement Centre. Their services have continued to expand, including the use of projects focussing on career education and the use of student staff.

The Mount has recently introduced an on-campus bursary employment program that recognizes students' financial needs along with their needs for work experience. That program has been quite successful and we intend to expand it. We have greatly enhanced our recreational facilities and equipment in recent years. Athletics and Recreation will continue to offer the types of programs that will be attractive to students and community users. We've also added a Physiotherapy Clinic to our Health Services and this has been well-received.

Our distance education offerings continue to expand, both in terms of the courses and the delivery options, to accommodate changing student needs and maintain the Mount's long-standing reputation for accessibility. We'd like to continue the trend we've implemented to make registration times and methods more flexible.

We'd like to look at different residence options for our students which would provide students not currently living on campus with the choice to do so. Recently we have been able to refurbish most of our residences. As well, we have worked at revising our rules and regulations. It has been a gradual process, but our intent is to pursue changing residence policies more aggressively in the coming year. We'd also like to enhance

*Continued on next page*



Features

# A Project of Possibilities:

Dr Blye Frank wins the 1997 Alumnae Award for Teaching.

BY ANITA DECOSTE, ALUMNAE OFFICE AND CERI YOUNG

Most students would agree that the teacher plays an integral role in the education of eager and open minds. Many students at the Mount are fortunate enough to be taught by educators who inspire, motivate and challenge them to seek a higher level of personal achievement and growth. Dr. Blye Frank, the recipient of the 1997 Alumnae Award for Teaching, is one such teacher.

Dr. Frank, a native of Windsor, Nova Scotia, is currently an associate professor in the Mount's education program. He holds, among others, a degree in Sociology/Psychology, a Bachelors and Masters of Education, all from Acadia, and obtained his PhD from Dalhousie.

"I have a passion for the world of ideas," he says of his reasons for becoming a professor. He adds that he wanted to work somewhere "where I could combine theoretical work, with teaching, with research."

Dr. Frank came to the Mount from Acadia, where he was a professor in the Sociology department. At the Mount he teaches, among other classes, a course entitled Schooling Gender and Sexuality. "I particularly wanted to work in the faculty of education and I wanted to be able to teach in the area of gender," he said of his reasons for coming to the Mount.

For Dr. Frank, learning is an on-going process. "In order to maintain competency as a good teacher, I feel I need to be involved in a continual process of self-reflection, self-evaluation, and, reflectivity in relation to my classroom practice; indeed, my life in general. Good teachers keep up," he explains.

He has certainly managed to keep up. In addition to teaching at the Mount, Dr. Frank coordinates the University's Graduate Program in Foundations, as well as the University's outreach Graduate Program in Literacy Education in Mississauga, Ontario. He has also authored numerous book chapters, articles and reviews, and is actively involved in research. He is world renowned for his work in education, gender and sexuality, and social and educational theory.

Some of his most recent work, a report on last year's riots at Cole Harbour High School in Dartmouth has gained a lot of media attention. "I wanted to present a piece of work that that was ethically sound and 'do-able'" he says of his work on the report. This was not the first time that he had done work of the kind. In 1994/95, he worked on a national study called the "Exemplary Schools Project", a study of several High Schools across Canada that were determined to be "successful". Asked if he would do it again, Dr. Frank is unsure. "It would depend on what the project was," he says, but is quick to add that "I certainly have a sincere interest in school-based research".

Part of what makes Dr. Frank so effective is his ability to make students reflect, examine and think critically, not only about teaching, but about life outside the classroom as well. He clearly has the respect and admiration of his students. "In Dr. Frank's class I found a teacher of truly exceptional qualities," says Maria Desjardins, a former student in one of his post-structuralism classes. "He created a learning space that was exciting, exacting and student centered," she continues. "His standards were as high as the energetic atmosphere for learning which he fostered. We were not afraid to challenge ourselves, each other and the



professor."

Dr. Frank says of winning the award that "receiving the Teaching Award is, indeed, a highlight of my teaching and academic career. I was delighted to have been nominated by the students and, then, to receive the award is a wonderful recognition of my teaching," he says.

Frank explains that for him, teaching "is a project of possibility, where my students find ways to improve the quality of their own lives through critical analysis, as well as struggle to improve the lives of those in their classes when they become teachers and in so doing in some small way create a more just environment for all of us."

Former student Dave Stocker aptly describes the effective learning atmosphere created by Dr. Frank for his students. Stocker explains, "I was happy to be in a class where 'the mark' was not the point: the personal growth and learning was entirely the point and Blye played a large part in facilitating this process."

Winning the Alumnae Award for Teaching is far from the end for Dr. Frank. Already he has plans to go to South Africa for the International Congress in Education in July, where he will be part of a panel on Gender and Education. He also will travel to Australia for an upcoming research appointment. In between, he will continue doing what he has proven he does best—teaching.

To nominate a professor for the 1998 Alumnae Award for Teaching, pick up a nomination form from the Alumnae Office, Room 204, Evaristus or at the library. Please note, the deadline for nominations is January 23, 1998 at 4 p.m. For more information, call Tracy Tuttle x.340.

# The Global Campus

Kelly Corday, a third year student talks about her home Bermuda

I am a third year international student from Bermuda currently completing a Bachelor of Business Administration with a concentration in Management. You all know Bermuda, I am sure. It is the island down in the Caribbean where we all live in huts along the beach, similar to the way Canadians live in igloos. But seriously...since there are probably as many misconceptions about Bermuda as there are about Canada, I will share a little about my island home.

Bermuda is an island about 650 miles off of Cape Hatteras, the Cardinas. It sits alone in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean with the Gulf Stream current to provide warm weather. It is not one of the Caribbean islands as many people think. Bermuda is approximately 21 miles long with a width of two miles at the widest point. It has a population of about 60,000. Bermuda remains a British colony although there have been futile attempts at independence. The islands two main sources of revenue are international business and tourism. Bermuda remains a popular location for business due to the tax haven it provides, although there are some hidden taxes to cover import duties. 450,000 people visit Bermuda every year.

Although visitors come year round, the peak months are between May through October which are the warmest. We have a hurricane season from June until November. Seeing the seasons changing was probably the most amazing and beautiful experience for me. Bermuda does not have four distinct seasons as Canada does.

Our winter months can be cold but generally remain in the high 60's and 70's. Hotels offer reduced rates if the temperature drops below 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

Beaching, boating, camping, soccer, fishing, scuba diving, and many other outdoor and water activities are popular on the island. Our beaches are known for their pink sand and clear blue ocean.

Bermuda imports most of its food supply. We do not have a fresh water supply so we catch rainwater on our roofs which run into tanks underneath our stone houses. Bermudian houses have white roofs and all have different brightly colored walls. My home is turquoise!

Bermuda's main city is Hamilton, and that is where you will find the main shops, restaurants, businesses and nightlife. Unlike Canadian malls, shops are located along the road. Bermuda does not allow franchises and so the local cafes and restaurants have a quaintness unique to our island.

Tourists will find themselves riding around the island's winding streets on mopeds. Due to overcrowding, cars can not be rented and there is a limit of one car per assessment number of each house. Motorbikes are a common form of transportation.

Christmas is celebrated much the same as in Canada except with sunshine instead of snow. New Year's is welcomed with great celebration and lots of split green pea soup. On Good Friday the sky surrounding the island is filled with brightly colored homemade kites. It is a tradition to fly kites made of colorful tissue paper. Bermudians enjoy fish cakes and hot cross buns. Bermuda day is celebrated on May 24th by many people attending the Bermuda Day Parade. CupMatch Holiday is the annual holiday consisting of a cricket match but with the two halves of the island, Somerset and Saint George's. Bermudians both attend the match and play crown and anchor gambling. Camping is also popular over this long weekend. Hoppin John, a mix of beans and rice, is a popular dish.

So, now that I have told you how wonderful my home is you may be wondering why I left it. Although there is a college in Bermuda, it offers only associate degrees. In order to further my education I had to go abroad. I chose Canada and the Maritimes in particular because education here is both closer and less expensive than in other countries. I like the smallness of MSVU and the feeling that I am not just a number. MSVU is also affiliated with my high school in Bermuda as both are rooted in catholic traditions.

It is hard to adjust to the many differences between Canada and Bermuda; however, I am enjoying my time here in Halifax. I am learning about a new country the best way—by being here.

Global Campus is a regular column in the Picaro. If you are interested in meeting the international students on campus, you are invited to attend the International Student Society meetings. Please call Kelly Corday, the ISS co-ordinator at 457-5300 for when and where.

Sheila Brown ... continued for previous page

access to computer facilities for our students by continuing to upgrade our labs and making it easier for students to use computers in the residences.

One of the goals of Blueprint is to attract more international students to the Mount, for the cultural and intellectual enrichment they bring to campus. There is an International Student representative on Student Council for the first time in several years; as well, the International Student Society has taken an active role in

sponsoring diverse events. A student liaison produces an International Student Newsletter on a regular basis. Enhanced international student advising, the possibility of language upgrading, and the opportunity for students to take part of their program, including co-op placements, in their home country would all be valuable. Student Affairs is also involved in upgrading their presence on the Internet with the intention of making it interactive and student friendly for distance students.

Q. What advice would you give to the Mount student who wants to get the most out of her or his campus experience?

A: Get involved! Get as much as possible out of your classroom learning experiences and get to know your fellow students and your professors. Walk the Freda Wales Trail, visit the Art Gallery, use the fitness facilities, run for office, join the Student Alumnae Association or a student society, write for The Picaro, volunteer for The

Fountain Play Centre, sign up for a team! Take in a lecture given by a visiting speaker, visit the Women's Studies Resource Centre in the Institute for the Study of Women. And walk up the hill to the Motherhouse where you can visit the Archives for a fascinating look at some highlights from our 125 years of history.

You won't have time to get involved with everything, but try to take advantage of whatever opportunities you can. The more you experience, the better.



# A QUESTION OF BALANCE

## CAMPUS LIFE THEN

BY DANA DONALD

What do the son of a Canadian National Railroad worker, a farm girl, and the daughter of a small-town family have in common?

Professors Rob Macdonald, Judith Scrimger, and Sandi Orser all chose a path different from their assigned destiny. This meant more than not doing shift work or manual labour. All three wanted to see the world with a different set of eyes. This meant understanding and appreciating different things than their parents did. In each of their families, Rob, Judith, and Sandi were the first members to go to university.

For Judith this meant pursuing a dream different from many of her friends. "I knew I didn't want to stay in Dunroon, Ontario get married, go to the hockey rink on Saturday nights and take my kids to the little leagues." The University of Guelph was a place for Judith to expand and alter her ideas about life. "I think it changed more my way of thinking about myself. There were people who helped me realize I did know something and I could think and analyze and have something worthwhile to say about this." She went on to study at Western University and also spent one semester studying at the University of London, England. "When I arrived at Victoria Station in the middle of morning rush hour, I had never been on a subway before. I would have never had the courage to do that if I hadn't gone to university." Growing up in an environment where hard physical labour was proof of your accomplishments meant that Judith would discover a new measure of achievement. "I spent an entire summer studying one piece of literature and learned that studying other people's ideas was a valid way to spend your time."

Learning to spend your time wisely was an important lesson for Sandi. Adjusting to residence life at Acadia University was hard for her. "I told everybody who would listen that I didn't think 10 p.m. curfews were fair. You weren't allowed to have a bath or shower before 8 a.m. So if your class started early you would go dirty, unless you'd done it early the night before." Throughout her university career, Sandi fought against procrastinating, but, like many students she pulled a few all nighters to get a paper finished on time. "I remember I just couldn't get a term paper together for philosophy. One night I set my typewriter on a board on my lap and I put on dark glasses and I just sat hoping that ideas would come to me. So much for being philosophical!" Coming up with creative term papers was always a challenge she was willing to take on. "I was taking a compulsory course in English bible. The topic was communication between God and

man so I called my paper Hotline from Heaven. Well, my professor wrote big red marks all over my paper—he didn't like that at all." University life was not all school work for Sandi and her friends. "In the evenings we'd go to the movie theatre—I remember seeing 'Everytime It Changed'. Sometimes we'd go to the Student Union Building and drink coffee and talk. I learned to play bridge, that was my big accomplishment!"

Rob also spent a lot of his first year learning to play bridge. As a chemistry student at the University of Manitoba, a lot of his time was spent in the lab, but he managed to squeeze in a few bridge lessons at the cafeteria. "I had 27 hours of classes a week plus labs." When he was not playing bridge or studying, Rob was making his views about rising tuition costs known. "In my second year they said the tuition was going up 15% to \$260. We went on strike. We said, 'They can not do this to us.'"

We marched three miles from the University to the Parliament buildings downtown with our pickets. It was great."

Good memories are an important part of Rob, Judith, and Sandi's university experience. For Rob, many important friendships developed with his classmates. "We went curling and bowling, we played darts and went to the pub. We even went on double dates together."

Residence life was the best and worst part of university for Judith. "There were things that were really wonderful: the friendships, and staying up late talking. At the same time, the worst part was the kind of mass living that could just drive you crazy."

For Sandi, meeting with friends in the Student Union Building to talk about the ideas from her courses and life in general was an important part of her years at Acadia.

University was a life altering experience for all three. For Judith, finding a balance between academic and 'real' life was important. "I remember coming home from university the first year and I went out on the tractor with my Dad. He was spreading fertilizer and I was babbling on about all the fantastic stuff I was doing and he reminded me that there was more than one kind of horse manure. That was really good advice."

Learning that life is not always fair was a poignant lesson for Sandi. After working hard to earn an A in the Anglo Saxon course, she found out she was not eligible for the scholarship given to the student earning the highest grade. "I couldn't have the scholarship because I was a woman. It was only \$25, so it wasn't the money." It was a bequest and the university hadn't bothered to update it. According to the rules, the recipient had to be male. "It was just one of those patriarchal things. I had a real problem with that."



Rob got a chance to see things from a heavenly perspective in his first year astronomy course. "As part of the course we had to work on our own, observing the stars at night. It was during one of those periods that I saw my first artificial satellite. This wasn't very long after Sputnik had gone up so I thought this was really kind of neat. I also saw something blow up, it was a huge fireball and I've never seen one since."

Be it by divine inspiration or just plain luck, all three seem happy that they chose to go on and teach other in the same atmosphere that shaped their lives. "I don't want to be anywhere else. I can't imagine another job where I'd be having this much fun," says Rob. For Sandi, university helped her sort out her career path. "By the time I finished I knew what I wanted to do and that's what I'm doing now—teaching, the thing I love most in the whole world."

Rob, Judith and Sandi all came from very different parts of the country but they were alike in their desire to expand their horizons and follow a path different from the many of their friends and family had chosen. Their decision to go to university meant hard work. But along with the hours of lectures and long nights came good friends, good memories, life lessons, and an opportunity to see the world in a new way.

**Poem by Sandi Orser:**  
(written as an MSVU undergraduate)  
At our first college meeting  
The curfews someone read.  
We groaned, but our shocked Dean  
Held up her hand and said,  
"Hush now, dearest children,  
Your ignorance I mourn.  
Break curfew; nine months later  
The baby will be born."

"We hope you'll make your residence  
your home away from home.  
But after 11:30, no one use that telephone.  
As for baths and showers,  
We've had a long debate,  
And if you're dirty at 11:30  
you can stay that way till eight."



BY MATT BURNS

Well folks, the holiday is over. Was Santa good to you all? More importantly, were you successfully able to dodge all those mind numbing questions from friends and family about what you were going to do with your future?

Everytime someone asked me a question like this I wished I had the ability to tell them all to SHOO! I mean, is this what they all think university is all about—setting yourself up for some career that may last only a few years before you become obsolete.

Well who can blame them? Between sleeping and catching up on the food I missed out on over the past four months, I took a look at the Maclean's university rankings for 1997. The statistics I found in the study were rather alarming and would cause any parent, I would imagine, to ask their kids what they will be able to do once they are done school.

One statistic really hit me. The average student debt load in Canada for four years of undergraduate education is \$25,000. That is 25,000 donuts or a new car. Combine this debt load with an increasing incidence of defaulting on loan repayment and you have a frightening situation.

So what are our beloved institutions seeking to do about this problem? Well, they know that government is running away like a scared dog so they have to look for funding elsewhere. That is right people: higher tuition and less funding for many of the programs universities have long held close to their hearts—the humanities.

With this kind of debt load, I figured students must be rethinking what they choose to study and what their bedtime to homework ratios ought to be. I was wrong, partially anyway.

It is true. Most students now recognize that they will always have to learn and stay marketable in a competitive job environment. In my wildest dreams I hoped my BA would launch me into a million different directions and that I would have the ability to choose whichever one I wanted. How wrong could I have been? Computer skills are essential along with a close shave, short hair, and a whole list of real world conformities. Does this mean we are embarking upon a Huxleyan Brave New World of regimentation? Absolutely not!

In the Maclean's survey, most academic opinion makers talked about adaptation. Schools will now focus on the

strengths they can market in the business world rather than ensuring a broad-based education. Fortunately, I found a refreshing quote. Ross Paul, president at Laurentian University in Kingston, Ontario said, "a university is more than about bottom lines...Any university that allows the numbers game to run its agenda is not deserving of the name."

Students do not want to be run by a numbers game either. The university experience is more than just about job training. It is about freedom. Freedom to experiment with courses, new people, and new experiences.

Oliver Kane is a second year film student at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. Since arriving at Queen's, he has discovered his love for all things a university has to offer. "I'm driven by

things both inside as well as outside the classroom," he said.

Outside of classes, Kane's life is pretty busy. He plays hockey twice a week. He is also starting his own one-hour weekly show on the campus radio station. In addition to this, Kane attends almost every

Queen's football game with friends from residence.

Despite this fun, he will be the first to admit that his grades are not at the top of the class, but he is getting there. "This was the first time I put together a to-do-list for my weeks activities and studying," he said. "I find I can't enjoy these activities without doing my work but I can't do my work without having fun."

Does this sound familiar? Many students across this land need some form of extracurricular activity to give studying a greater purpose. More specifically, people need to get to know each other on more than just a scholastic basis. Whether it be getting together to watch Beverly Hills 90210, or going out to support the school team, it all amounts to the same thing—getting to know yourself through others.

"Sure you're closer to a certain group," said Kane. "but I love knowing people from all different faculties and interests."

We all know however, that the line between fun and serious study has to be drawn somewhere. Sheri Somerville found out where to draw that line the hard way.

Somerville is a first year public relations student at Mount Saint Vincent University here in Halifax. This is not, however, her first university experience. She



first attended University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. She did not know where to draw the line at first.

"When it came down to choosing my major, I flipped a coin," Somerville said. After two years in a business program, she decided to call it quits. "I wasn't ready for it all," she said.

After spending time as a recruiter for a private postsecondary institution in New Brunswick, Somerville learned that a student has to have a balanced life. "Discipline has come through experience," she said, "and I don't have \$4,000 to mess around with."

So has university life changed from our parent's generation? As any typically diplomatic Canadian would say: it has and it has not. Financial realities mean a student is going to have to think seriously about what they want to study if they decide to come to university at all. If they come, future success will depend not only on what they do but how well they can do it.

On the other hand, we are not all that different from our predecessors. I mean, human beings are human beings. We all need to laugh, we all need to cry, but most importantly, we all need to grow. University tempts us to explore outside of the classroom, and so it should. University is, and hopefully will always be, about freedom.

But we must pay a price for freedom. As Kane and Somerville have pointed out, freedom is always a function of balance. If your working towards this, those nagging questions about your future might actually turn into helpful advice. Don't act like a slave and you won't be treated like one.





## Features

## ATHLETICS/RECREATION FITNESS Q&amp;A

**Q: HOW DO I GO FROM "COUCH POTATO" TO "REGULAR EXERCISER"?**

**A:** Changing to a healthier lifestyle isn't easy, but learning about the process of change can help you avoid some of the common pitfalls and hopefully motivate you to "get back on track". There are four basic stages of change, and you may spend several months (or longer) in a phase (or each phase) before exercising becomes second nature to you. Try not to be discouraged! There are always setbacks with change.

**PHASE ONE: DISORIENTATION.** Everyone exercising looks like they know what they are doing EXCEPT YOU! Don't worry, they didn't start out that way. Your feeling of being "out of it" is normal. Don't expect results overnight. Form reasonable goals that emphasize regular participation in an activity of YOUR CHOICE. Plan activities with others, it's easier to maintain your activities if you have support.

**PHASE TWO: EXPLORATION.** You're getting used to regular exercise but beware of becoming bored — try different classes or activities. Find out what motivates you to keep active so the program will continue to meet your needs. Talk to Instructors or Trainers, get fitness information from books, videotapes etc.

**PHASE THREE: REORIENTATION.** You finally feel confident about your ability to exercise. Take time to plan the time, activity and place of your exercise. Does it fit your schedule? Do you require babysitting service? This will make your exercise easier to maintain. Concentrate on technical aspects of your activity. Is your posture and technique correct? This will help you reach your goals and enhance your performance.

**PHASE FOUR: THE NEW YOU!** Congratulations! Exercise is now part of your life. For maintenance try eliminating the boredom factor — find out ways to improve and enhance your skills. Try a new activity, learning is fun for the body as well as the mind.

Got a question about fitness? Why not submit it to the Ath/Rec office for a response in the next PICARO?

The Winter Fitness Schedule begins on January 5, 1998. Try a one month Unlimited Fitness Membership for as low as \$20. New times and activities being offered - check the At/Rec. Bulletin Boards for information.

Want to begin an exercise program but not sure what to do? Contact the Ath/Rec office 457-6420 for a One-to-One program designed for you. Only \$10.

BY GINA WOOD

## Food for Thought

So, the holidays are over and we are all back with our noses to the grindstone. The only difference is that we are probably all a few pounds heavier due to the past weeks' "feastivities". I know by the waistband of my pants that I ate and drank more than I should have over the break, but this is the typical result after spending Christmas with family and friends.

So now we all ask ourselves the age-old question... "How do I lose those extra holiday pounds?" Fear not, Student Nutrition Services is here with tips to help get you back to your former shape!

First of all, exercise is a must (as if you did not know that already). So get out there and enjoy the winter weather. A brisk walk in the crisp air is an excellent daily activity that will get your blood pumping and your heart working to help your body burn off fat and calories. I also guarantee it will clear your head and make you feel great. Skiing, skating, and snowboarding are also amazing winter activities to help get you back on the fitness track, so take advantage of them while you can.

If you were one of the lucky ones to receive a gym membership for Christmas, then you are already on your way! The staff at fitness centres are all well-trained to design an exercise program just for you. They help you establish goals and keep you motivated so you can obtain them. Fitness trainers offer a valuable service so get to know the staff at your gym today.

But we also know exercise must be coupled with some dietary changes in order to help you feel and look your best! I would expect that mounds of turkey, dressing, gravy, chocolates, cake and cookies are not the norm for most people, so get back to healthy eating and leave all that fat behind! Fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, lean meats and low fat dairy products are your best bets for modifying your diet for the new year. As well, please remember water; it keeps your body properly hydrated, especially in the dry winter air that seems to

wreak havoc with most people's skin. Eight glasses of water daily will keep that healthy glow through the cold months. If you find all these changes a little overwhelming and feel you may need a little extra help, remember that SNS counsellors are always available so do not hesitate to make an appointment through the health office (second floor, Assisi Hall).

Here is a recipe for a hearty Leek and Potato soup I know you will enjoy. It is delicious, easy to make, and will do a great job of keeping you warm through the long cold winter! It can be served pureed or chunky-style, and sometimes cooked with half milk and half stock.

LEEK AND POTATO SOUP  
(makes 8 servings)

## INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 3 large leeks, trimmed and chopped
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 3 large potatoes, peeled and diced
- 5 cups vegetable stock
- pinch dried thyme
- 1/2 tsp. pepper
- salt to taste
- 1/4 cup fresh chives or green onions

## METHOD:

1. Heat oil in a large saucepan or Dutch oven. Add leeks and garlic. Cook gently for 5 to 7 minutes or until leeks wilt. Add potatoes and combine well.
2. Add stock and bring to a boil. Add thyme, pepper and salt. Reduce heat and simmer gently for 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender.
3. Puree soup in a food processor or blender.
4. Return soup to pot and heat thoroughly. Taste and adjust seasonings if necessary. Sprinkle with chives before serving. So if you think you need a little help in that area remember that SNS counsellors are always available so don't hesitate to make an appointment through the health office (second floor, Assisi Hall).

Answers to Campus Quiz  
from page 11

**1. answer: d.** All of the above, although MANUS offers specialized services to adult learners returning to university, we are also here to help any student who may need our help. No one is turned away whatever age.

**2. answer: a and b** Manus is a student support centre that offers daily support for students. We are also an active advocacy group in the fields of poverty and human rights. Manus will also offer one on one advocacy for the individual student. Contact us if you need help.

**3. answer: d** All you have to do is ask for help and we will do our best to see you get what you need. Most programs offered by MANUS are free of charge, or a small fee to cover the cost of materials. There is no membership fee to belong to MANUS, we are here to help you. We are not a club or a society.

**4. answer: e** all of the above. Most people

who regularly frequent the MANUS student support centre are usually more than willing to offer help to anyone who needs it. However if you need help at anytime and feel you can not approach the people in the lounge area you can feel free to come and ask the Executive Director or any other of the office staff. We will be happy to help you.

**5. Answer: c**

**6. Answer: e**

**7. Answer: f**

**8. Answer: e**

**9. Answer: e**

**10. Answer: e**

**11. Answer: c**

**12. Answer: a**

**13. Answer: d**

**14. Answer: c**

**15. Answer: d**

The Campus Ministry Office at MSVU exists to support spiritual needs of the University Community. It is an ecumenical Christian Ministry, which is supported by the University, and by the Roman Catholic, Anglican and United Churches of Canada. Participants from other denominations are welcome at Campus

Ministry sponsored events and programmes, as well as from other faith traditions.

**16. Answer: e**

Pizza and Profundities—monthly pizza in the Chapel followed by extremely profound discussions on hot topics.

Wicked Women or Human Beings—Four Wednesday lunch time sessions in the Chapel.

Call the Campus Ministry Office at 457-6446 for more information.

**17. Answer: e**

**18. Answer: c**

**19. Answer: c**

**20. Answer: e**

**21. Answer: c**

**22. Answer: c**

**23. Answer: b**

**24. Answer: c**

**25. Answer: d**

**26. Answer: b**

**27. Answer: b**

**28. Answer: b**

The sports teams are known as the Mystics; however, Vinnie the Pooh and Vinnie the Crow were both considered for mascots at one time.

**29. Answer: e**

**30. Answer: d**

**31. Answer: d**

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NOVA SCOTIA



## Features

# FOCUS ON PHYSIOTHERAPY

## *That Burning Sensation*

BY: KAREN DECKER B.SC.K., B.SC.P.T.,MCPA  
PHYSIOTHERAPIST, DIP SPORT PHYSIOTHERAPY

The life of a student or professor and anyone required to sit and work at a desk for extensive periods can result in nagging neck and back pain. When sitting in class for example or working at a desk, the sustained posture results in lack of circulation to the neck and upper back muscles which then become tired and fatigued. These muscles eventually become over stretched and weak and can result in POSTURAL PAIN SYNDROME. It is more commonly described as a burning sensation across the upper shoulder region or a dull ache in the lower back. Once this problem becomes significant the services of a physiotherapist are often called upon to alleviate the long standing imbalances that have lead to the problem. However, there are things you can do to help prevent this problem from occurring.

If you resemble the following seated posture, the "slumper" (see diagram A) you are bound to experience back, shoulder and neck discomfort eventually. This kind of posture can also lead to shoulder and arm pain and even pins and needles or tingling into the hands. Instead if you resemble the following "posture perfect" there will be less chance of discomfort. (see diagram B)

diagram A

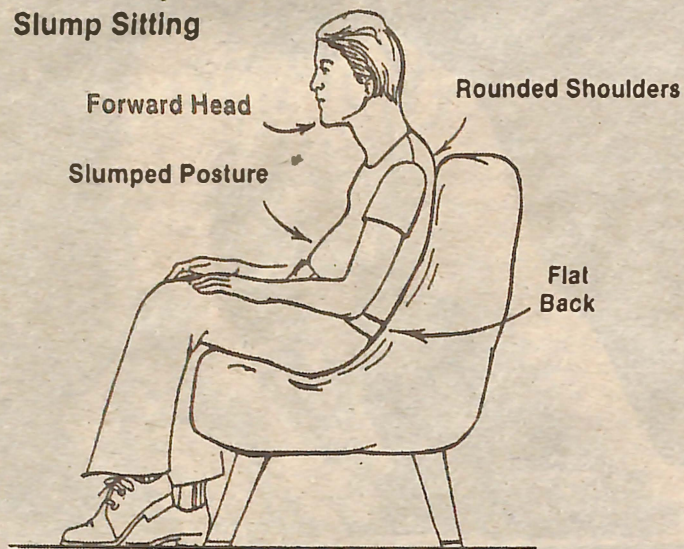
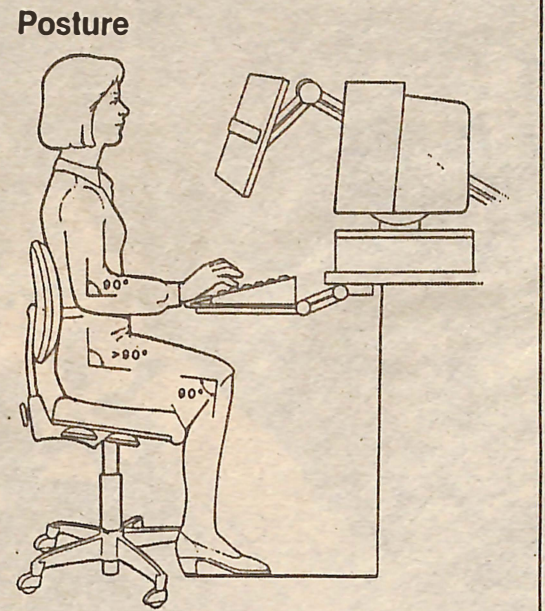


diagram B



### SELF HELP (Sitting):

#### Don't:

- Slump sit (shoulders rounded and head forward posture). Your lower back should be supported.
- Lean forward and downward to reach your work.
- Sit with neck forward or for long periods of time without getting up. Try to move around every twenty minutes.

#### Do:

- Sit close to your work and in a chair that is low and allows the placement of both feet flat on the floor or place books or a box under your feet.
- Sit with hips and knees at 90 degrees.
- Have a chair that supports your back in a slightly extended position. A towel or sweater/jacket can be placed against the chair to help support your lower back.
- Keep chin positioned over breast bone and shoulders pulled back over hips to help minimize postural strain.

### SELF HELP (Walking):

For those who are required to stand for extended periods or who experience postural pain when walking the following tips can help prevent discomfort.

#### Don't:

- Wear high-heeled shoes, hard-heeled or platform shoes for long periods of time.
- Stand in one position for too long (more than 15 minutes)
- Stand with knees locked, stomach muscles relaxed and swayed back. (See diagram C)
- Stand bent forward at your waist with your work in a low position.

#### Do: (see diagram D)

- Put one foot up and change positions often when standing for long periods of time.
- Keep work at a comfortable height.
- Change positions frequently.
- Stand on a cushioned mat

### What to look for in a good ergonomic chair:

(see diagram E)

1. Hydraulic controls.
2. Seat back adjusts up and down.
3. Seat back tilts forward and backwards.
4. Seat pan tilts.
5. Caster easy roll base.
6. Seat back supports natural lumbar curve.
7. Seat high adjusts.
8. Water fall seat front (to decrease pressure on thigh).
9. Seat back and seat pan appropriate size for user.
10. Armrests to support elbow and shoulder region which can pull on neck and upper back muscles.

#### Next issue:

tips on preventing discomfort while using computers

diagram C

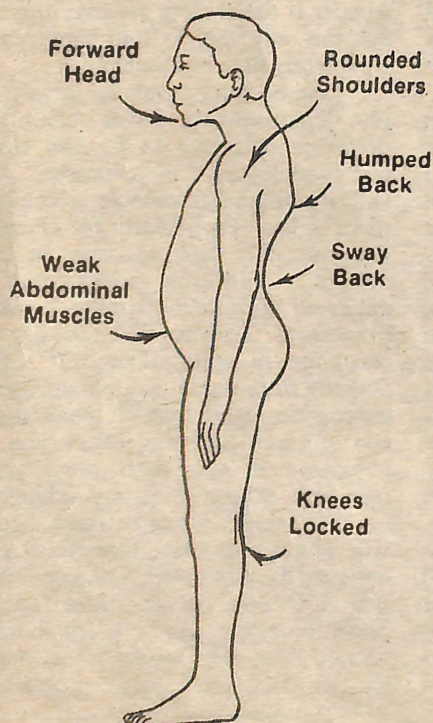


diagram D

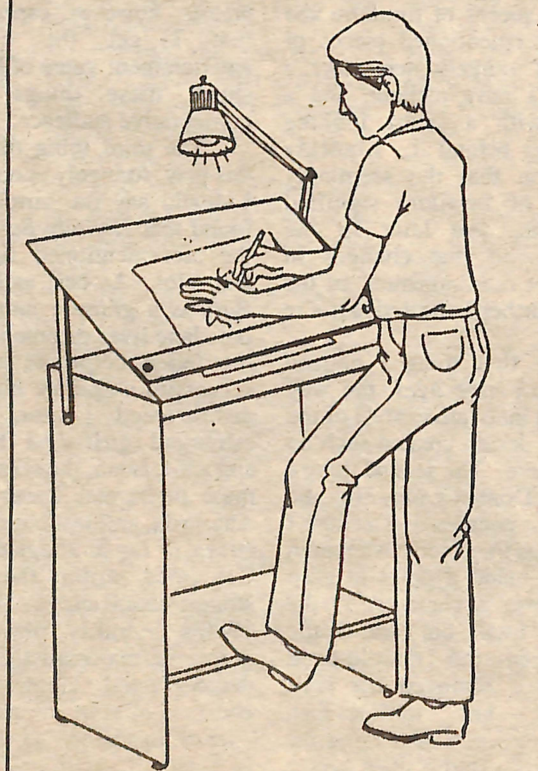
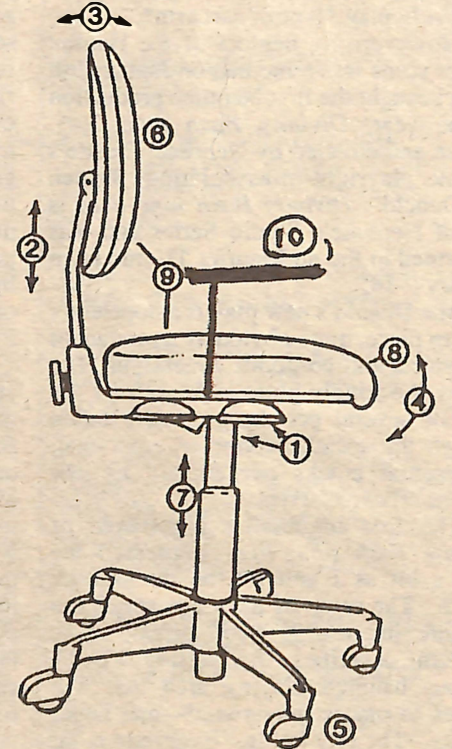


diagram E





## A&amp;E



# Divinity Bash nine lives

**A PAGAN Play** (*that's People Against Goodness And Normalcy*)

BY TIM BOUDREAU

I feel terrible to admit that, up until this point, I have not seen a play performed at the new Neptune Theatre since it opened back on October 3rd, 1997. Some arts reporter, huh? I suppose I was too busy writing other great pieces like "A Man and the Mount" to have time to go to some silly play \*hint of sarcasm\*.

However, my neglect of the Halifax theatre scene was remedied on January 9th when I caught the first Neptune production of the year, *Divinity Bash nine lives*, written and directed by Neptune Theatre's current playwright-in-association Bryden MacDonald. *Divinity Bash nine lives* is part of Neptune's Studio Series and was performed in the du Maurier Theatre from January 9-18.

MacDonald's new play is a hopelessly modern piece, quite obviously a product of our cynical anti-corporate generation. The play is shockingly blunt as it portrays the lives of several people who have fallen through the social, economic, emotional, and mental cracks perpetuated by our modern urban societies.

The first impression I garnered of *Divinity Bash nine lives* impressed me quite a bit as I entered the du Maurier theatre. The setup of the stage struck me as quite interesting, and surreal. The program describes the setting as "A vacuous haunted playing area that will take us to places in—around—and under the city. The city is big. Everyone is far from home." An adequate description of

the imaginative set from *Divinity Bash* but allow me, if you will, to elaborate on the description for I feel the set design was quite a significant element of the play's presentation. The lighting was almost stellar in a way; bluish white light bathed the stage, star like designs were projected across the various pieces of furniture and scenery. The aforementioned pieces of furniture included unlikely items like a rickety old bed, a ratty recliner, and a corporate desk with a smart looking leather chair sitting behind it. I quickly got the impression that the seemingly unrelated pieces of furniture signified different locations, and later in the performance I found that changes in lighting, and slight rearrangement of the on stage scenery further indicated shifts in locale.

That was the first thing I noticed about *Divinity Bash nine lives*, the way that the simple, yet innovative, style of the set decoration and design created such an unsettling atmosphere. The second thing I noticed about MacDonald's play was the unsettling attitude it contained. I'm sure I wasn't as shocked as the elderly woman in the audience who made a point to gasp indignantly whenever a character in the play said the word "fuck", but I was a little taken aback when the middle-aged character, Anastasia, removed her shirt onstage bearing her middle-aged nakedness for all to see. Considering the du Maurier theatre is a studio stage, which

means that the seats are quite close to the action, combined with the fact that I was sitting in the front row meant that I had a great view of Anastasia's sagging breasts. Needless to say *Divinity Bash nine lives* is a little bit on the raw side. I suppose I can deal with a few cursewords, and saggy breasts, however, especially if it means that I get the extra unexpected entertainment value of hearing the culture shock these things caused on the conservative audience.

The third thing that I noticed about this play, strangely enough, was the plot or I should say the virtual lack thereof. I found that *Divinity Bash* was more about the aforementioned raw attitude rather than plot. As best as I can tell, *Divinity Bash* is a glimpse into the complex and mundane lives of nine unique individuals: the fallen corporate shark, Albert, the successful corporate big shot, Marty, the disheartened janitor, Snake and his estranged girlfriend Myrna, the alien abductee, Liam, the shemale, Glorious, the male prostitute, Lamb and his mentor Anastasia, and last but not least the insane street mystic/bag lady Evangeline. Contained within the stories of these strange characters is some kind of twisted 1990's morality play. The evils of corporate/materialistic thinking are deconstructed, along with conventional concepts of love, attraction, sexuality, and overall normalcy. At the same time there is a sort of uncritical affirmation of any

sort of unconventional attitude ranging from underachieving, to belief in space aliens, to nonsensical insanity as a form of dealing with reality. Indeed the most content characters in *Divinity Bash* were the ones who ended up being stark raving mad by the end of the play. Not an incredibly positive message. One has to wonder if the society we live in is so bad that the only way to find happiness is to completely tune out mentally.

Despite some grievous lacking in the plot department there was certainly some good entertainment to be had from the quirky dialogue of the characters, and the skilful acting performances which brought them to life. Particularly the character of Glorious, the shemale, was an unusual delight. Glorious' sassy lines were delivered with such flaming panache by Francisco Trujillo I found myself chuckling in spite of myself. Overall *Divinity Bash* contained a bizarre sense of humour throughout which meant that if the odd subject matter was lost on you, which I believe it was with most audience members, at least it made you laugh.

So overall *Divinity Bash nine lives* was not a bad play, however lacking I believed the plot to be. Although I do hope that next time Bryden MacDonald sits down to write a play he keeps in mind the notion that one needs more than raw attitude, and shock value to make a play truly profound and interesting.



## A&amp;E

It is with a great deal of sadness and respect that I dedicate this film review to the memory of Kathleen Shannon, who died on January 9, 1998, while undergoing surgery for lung cancer in British Columbia. Kathleen was head of the National Film Board's Studio D for 22 years, at the time of her retirement in 1992 at the age of 57. During her time with Studio D, known as the women's studio at NFB, Kathleen oversaw the production of such works as *If You Love This Planet*, *Speaking Our Peace*, *To A Safer Place* and *Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives*. The recently released NFB production Kathleen Shannon on film, *feminism & other dreams...* will be shown during International Women's Week (March 8-13). In October of 1997 Mount Saint Vincent University was fortunate to have Kathleen Shannon accept an honorary doctorate for her extensive work in producing and supporting women's filmmaking. Also in 1997, it was estimated that 95% of all NFB films were produced and directed by men.

Kathleen Shannon will be sorely missed.

## Amistad- History or Hollywood?

BY JANNE CLEVELAND

In 1839, some 31 years after it had been declared illegal in the United States to import slaves from Africa, the Spanish slave ship, *La Amistad*, is discovered off the coast of Long Island. The African slaves have taken control, killing all but two of the Spanish crew in an opening sequence which takes place at night during a violent storm at sea. When the ship is discovered in American waters it is seized by the American navy, and the Africans are arrested for the murders of the crew. From this point on *Amistad* becomes a story of the indefatigable human spirit refusing to surrender. The film is based upon a true history for which producer Debbie Allen had been seeking support since 1984. So far, so good.

The opening is dark, brooding, and terrifying in its visual impact. The horrific brutality of the Africans during this sequence is rendered truly 'savage'. This is my first problem with the film. My cynical nature cannot help but be suspicious regarding the depiction of the barbaric, and in this film, the inarticulate savagery of the Africans. Granted there are certainly scenes in which the Africans are treated brutally by the Spanish - particularly in the scene in which a number of Africans, mostly women, are thrown overboard to drown - but these scenes are arguably not treated with nearly the degree of barbarity.

Interestingly the closing scene of the film is shot in full, warm sunlight, with the now calm and much more civilized Africans all wearing white or very light

colours. The juxtaposition of dark/light and evil/good is inescapable. It is also interesting to note that the characters portrayed as the truly evil slave traders are Spanish, not American. In American films foreigners are routinely the bad guys, and Spielberg makes this film no exception.

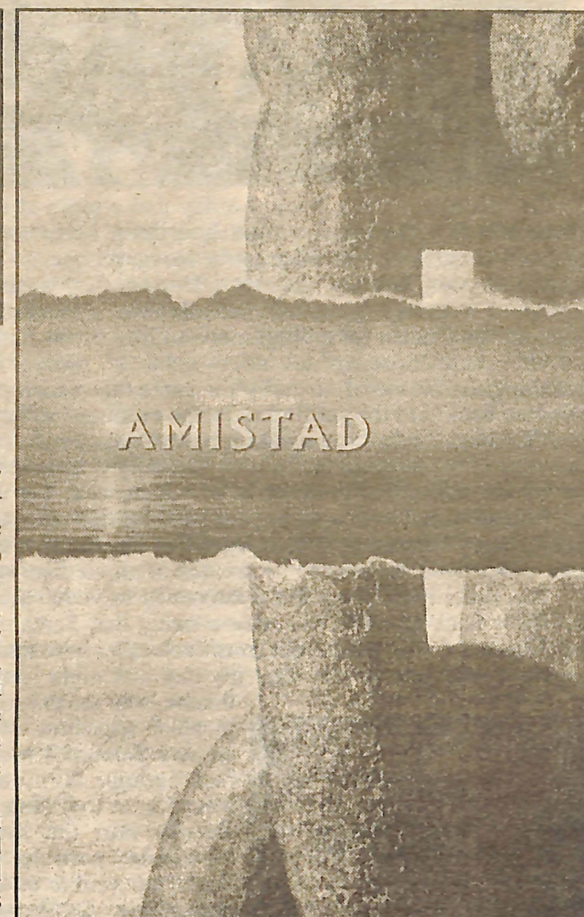
Another problem I have with the film is the absence of women, except as eroticized objects or bearing the badge of motherhood. The scene in which Africans are chained and thrown into the sea is where we see the majority of women slaves - all naked. There are no African women portrayed within this film as anything but victims. I do find it difficult to believe that there would be no African women who would resist their enslavement as valiantly as their brothers. The only other female figure mentioned in the film is Queen Isabella of Spain who is portrayed by Anna Paquin as an irresponsible 11 year old child. Although she was indeed 11 years old at the time, during this time period children (particularly those of royal birth) were generally expected to behave much more like miniature adults than children are in our culture.

One particularly troublesome aspect of this film is the characterization of the team of abolitionists. The characters of Lewis Tappan, Roger Baldwin, and of course ex-president John Quincy Adams are all historically factual - and white. The black abolitionist, Theodore Joadson, played by Morgan Freeman, is a composite of a black ex-slave abolitionist.

In the production notes issued by Dreamworks Pictures, producer Debbie Allen reveals that the character of Joadson is meant to represent historic figures like James Forten, David Walker, James Pennington, and Henry Highland Garnet - all black men. My question is why was it necessary to create a composite black figure, but allow the representation of historic white figures?

One final, and perhaps most important, criticism of *Amistad* is the manipulation of the lead character, the African known as Cinque, played by Djimon Hounsou. In the production notes I discovered that the African character's actual name had been Sengbe Pieh, which had been rendered as Cinque by the Spanish. Given that the Americans in the film continue to call him by the bastardized version of his name, I cannot help but wonder how much respect is rendered to his character. Naming is the one thing each of us, as agents of our own destinies, can rely on to attest to our personal freedom. Allowing Sengbe Pieh to continue to be called Cinque strikes me as lacking respect for him.

Is this film a visual feast? - of course. Spielberg had the money to expect no less. Is the stellar cast entrancing? - undoubtedly. Are the costumes, make-up and sets flawless enough to transport us back in time? - unquestionably. Is it



important for audiences in the present to be made aware of the historic brutality that the slave system in North America visited upon African cultures? - absolutely. Should you see this film? That is, of course, up to you. It is everything Mr. Spielberg wants you to want. It is polished, captivating, beautifully acted (which reminds me I didn't tell you about the over-abundance of homo-eroticism in the film), and leaves you with perfect closure. What can *Amistad*, the film, do for you? It can leave you entertained, and gaining something of a historical knowledge of the brutality of slavery. What can this film do for Mr. Spielberg? Make him lots of money.

## Our Lady Peace - Definitely Not Clumsy

BY SEAN F. HAMILTON

Halifax was rocked by one of Canada's most popular bands recently, Our Lady Peace. Appearing in 1994 with a great album entitled "Naveed", this band has been slowly but surely acquiring a following that showed through at their concert.

The show opened with one of my favourite bands, Everclear. This trio hailing from Portland, Oregon is definitely a treat to both see and hear live. During Everclear's performance we were opened to a few of their heavy punk-styled tunes: Heroin Girl & So much for the after glow. Yet, not everything was so hard. They slipped in an acoustic song: Strawberry, which on their second album: Sparkle and Fade, was an electric song. You could tell that rendition pleased both new and hard core fans. They finished off their 45 minutes set with the song that made them famous, Santa Monica. Stopping every so often to let the crowd shout the lyrics out. For my own taste Everclear's act was short and sweet.

Sporting 3 cd's, I would have been content to listen to them all night. But hey, it was Our Lady Peace that was headlining so maybe next time.

With an intermission that consisted of a Twilight Zone episode on a large screen over the stage, the crowd was eagerly anticipating the howling vocals and heavy guitar that Our Lady Peace was sure to provide. After about 30 minutes the band took the stage and started right off with their most recent single (from their album "Clumsy"), Automatic flowers. With the mood set a cheer erupted as they then proceeded to play "Superman's Dead", easily one of their best known songs due to the heavy play it received on our nations music station. Also slowing it down in its upbeat play list, Our Lady Peace delighted its audience with a totally new and acoustic version of "Julia". No concert is complete without at least one cover song, Our Lady Peace provided us with a great rendition of "Dear Prudence", a song by the masters themselves: The Beatles.

Throughout the concert the cheering never stopped and neither did the music, except when Maida took some time off to tell a story to his captivated audience.

Overall the concert was great. I had a blast and when Our Lady Peace or Everclear decide to come back I'll be in line for tickets. But!!!!!!!, I did find some problems with the concert, not in the music but with how the concert was held.

My main problem was the fact that security was incredibly tight. With at least twenty large men sporting yellow t-shirts that read "Security", you couldn't walk two rows without having your ticket checked to make sure that you were not somewhere you shouldn't be.

Next, upon entering the concert I was handed a sheet of paper that read off rules.

???RULES!??

This is a rock concert, there are not supposed to be rules, at least no publicized ones. Most rules were givens, but hey if someone wants to throw

something I don't think "The Throwing of any object is strictly prohibited" will stop them. One rule was constantly enforced by our gorilla-sized task force, "Please keep aisles clear - for your own safety." If the person on the edge of your row dared stray an inch out, some guy was there pushing them back in. In the words of Monty Python "You saw me being Repressed."

Thirdly, no mosh pit!! This means no crowd surfing, dang!

Lastly, if you were in university it was time for you to realize that perhaps you're getting old. With a quick scan of the crowd all you could see were MmmBop, plastic pants wearing Jr. High kids, I went through a midlife crisis right there. It's not a horrible thing, it made it very easy to see the band over the crowd. Yet, for those of us who have been Our Lady Peace fans from their 1994 debut we can always say "We always knew they were cool, today's youth is just catching up."

### Tonight's Concert:

We ask for your cooperation in making this event fun and safe.

• **Do NOT stand on your seat** for your safety as well as a courtesy to the person behind you.

• **Please keep aisles clear** - for your safety.

• **Smoking in designated smoking areas only** - Time Out Sports Bar & Mezzanine level area.

• **No alcoholic beverages allowed in seating areas.**

• **Your hand and ticket will be stamped when entering the floor.**

• **Re-admittance to the floor requires both a stamped hand and stamped ticket.** If you do not have both you will not be allowed onto the floor.

• **The throwing of any object into the audience, or onto the stage is strictly prohibited.**

Thank You



A&amp;E

# Day and Night at the Movies

*Scream 2 is nothing to scream about, but Titanic is virtually unsinkable*

BY: TIM BOUDREAU

On December 28th, I spent a day and a night at the movie theatre. During my eight hour long excursion I managed to catch two of the biggest movie releases to hit the screen this holiday season. During the daytime matinee I watched *Scream 2*, an obvious attempt by director Wes Craven (of a *Nightmare on Elm Street* fame, and of course *Scream*) to make a lot of money by recreating the movie of virtually the same title which put his name back into the spotlight. In the evening I saw the epic *Titanic*, created painstakingly by director James Cameron (*The Terminator*, *Aliens*, *The Abyss* to name a few of his successes) production of which went horribly past schedule, and with a whopping \$200 million price tag was not only heinously over budget, but has become the most expensive film ever to be created in movie history.

It is quite interesting that I happened to watch these two films back to back, the reason being that *Scream 2* and *Titanic* are vastly different from each other in so many ways I would have to say that my day and night at the



theatre was an exercise in polar opposites. On its own *Scream 2* was a bad enough film, but placed next to *Titanic* it shrinks into the most miniscule particle of horsecrap visible to the human eye. On the one hand *Scream 2* was an uninteresting ridiculous, and money grubbing attempt at film making. On the other much more substantial hand *Titanic* demonstrates human integrity both in its magnificent storytelling and in the actions of its director, James Cameron. *Titanic* is an example of how the

medium of film has the potential to entertain people in a way which moves them on significant level, and that making a killing at the box office is not the solitary goal of all movie makers. *Scream 2* epitomizes the predominant Hollywood mentality that movies exist not to make people think, nor to touch them, not even to entertain them, but rather to make them give you their money. Indeed, *Scream 2* and *Titanic* are like day and night.

I must say that the first time I watched *Scream 2* I enjoyed it quite a bit. Only problem is that the first time I saw this film it was just plain *Scream*. Permit me to say a few words about *Scream* which will explain why I enjoyed that particular film so much. For all intents and purposes *Scream* was not a full-fledged horror film. It looked like a horror film, sounded like a horror film, but there was something about *Scream* which made it stand apart from the horror genre. What made *Scream* unique was the fact that while the audience was seeing a movie which seemed like a horror film, a witty and quirky satirical attitude was being presented at the same time. So *Scream* was not really a horror film but a satire, a spoof of horror movies if you will. A movie which, on the surface, appeared to be a typical horror film was in actuality a subtle and effective satire of the horror genre. *Scream* was actually a scary and suspenseful horror movie as well so it was almost like getting two movies in one.

Faithful to the sequel format, the creators of *Scream 2* have attempted to recapture the horror/satire movie that was pulled off so well the first time, but in the attempt fail miserably. *Scream 2* comes off as a lame horror movie, as well as a half-assed satire. In essence *Scream 2* is only half the movie its predecessor was making it a sequel in the most definitive sense of the word.

First of all, whereas the original *Scream* was, as I have said, suspenseful, this time around director Wes Craven seems to have forgotten what suspense is. Merely having your killer jump out at the hapless victim from

behind something while making a really loud noise is not enough to make a movie suspenseful. It was far too easy to tell when somebody was going to get pounced on, and when they were not. You just knew any character left alone for more than five seconds was going to meet an untimely demise. Combined with this is the fact that shortly before the killer strikes everything would get really quiet so you just knew that any second the killer was going to pop out and break the silence while making a loud noise that was supposed to scare the shit out of everybody. I suppose if I were a deer, or some other less intelligent being, I would probably be frightened by a movie full of loud noises, but unfortunately I am a human being and loud noises, although startling as they may be, are just not very scary.

Perhaps these things could be overlooked if the killer at least displayed a little bit of imagination in his vile acts, but alas such is not the case. Whenever the killer did snatch a victim, which we could see coming from a mile away anyway, all he did was stab him or her a few times then move on. Since the body count is quite high in *Scream 2* the number of times I saw a victim get grabbed and stabbed became so incredibly repetitive that it quickly became quite boring.

Now all of these elements which make *Scream 2* such a bad horror movie are supposed to be okay because ultimately, like the first *Scream* movie, *Scream 2* is supposed to be a satire. Just like *Scream* poked fun at the horror movie genre, *Scream 2* is supposed to be poking fun at sequels. I assume anyway that *Scream 2* is supposed to be a satire on sequels due to the fact that there is a short five minute conversation within the movie about how sequels suck. However, the first *Scream* ended up being an effective satire because it was consistent in its satirical elements, *Scream 2* on the other hand makes a brief allusion to the fact that it is supposed to be a spoof but then quickly reverts to the uninteresting horror movie sequel format. In other words *Scream* effectively poked fun at horror films by being a spoof wrapped up in a horror movie plot but *Scream 2* never reaches the same level of satirical goodness and simply portrays how bad sequels can be by itself being a bad sequel.

When I first heard about *Titanic* I was sure that what we had on our hands was yet another addition to the long slew of disaster movies that Hollywood has tried to fool us into believing are entertaining. Then I saw a trailer for the movie, and with images of Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet hanging off the end of a sinking *Titanic* whilst digitally rendered people tumbled into the icy waters below I became even more sure that *Titanic* was going to be the next big disaster movie. Then I remember hearing that not only was *Titanic* a movie about a sinking ship, it was also supposed to be a love story between DiCaprio and Winslet's characters. I had this movie pegged: another incredibly loud disaster movie whose only redeeming quality is that the special effects look amazing, which also happens to contain a cheesy and uninteresting love story to boot. Needless to say I was not terribly looking forward to *Titanic*. However, after having seen the movie I must say, and let me stress the fact that in no way am I exaggerating, that never, ever, in my years of watching, reviewing, and writing about movies have I been so mistaken in my initial expectations of a movie. *Titanic* is so much more than the typical disaster movie that I wouldn't even want to place it in the same category with the likes of, say, *Twister*. Cameron's amazing epic is an example to all other movie makers in Hollywood of how one goes about making a film that is meant to entertain its audience.

It's hard to say exactly why I loved this film so much. The fact that we all know about the fate of the *Titanic*, and therefore what the end of the movie would be like, means that there is very little suspense in this movie. Also the love story that I mentioned earlier is not incredibly unique or original in anyway. Despite these two little elements of the plot, I still must say that *Titanic* was one of the most significantly moving and cathartic films I have ever seen. Never have I watched a movie that touched me so deeply, nor one which elicited such an emotional response. I must

say that what really moved me about this movie was, first of all, the incredible attention to detail Cameron has taken in recreating the *Titanic* disaster, and the realistic human element which it contains.

This human element I have mentioned is really the most significant part of *Titanic*, and one which truly classifies it as being more than just another disaster film. Interestingly enough most disaster movies I have seen have neglected to involve some kind of human element. What I mean by this is that for movies which feature mass destruction, and multiple deaths they rarely seem to elicit any sort of sorrow for the victims. For example, even though *Twister* was a movie dealing with a natural phenomenon which kills thousands of people each year it was little more than an action movie with good special effects which elicited more of a "wow aren't tornadoes cool" response rather than any feelings of remorse for the victims of this particular natural disaster.

Where disaster films have failed in the past *Titanic* succeeds greatly in this gripping, and

frighteningly accurate portrayal of the *Titanic* going down. More impressive than the stunning visuals of the sinking ship is the skillful rendition of the mental turmoil the doomed passengers of the ship must have surely suffered. Few of us are unaware of the conditions that the passengers, especially the third class ones, suffered as the great ship sank but to see it actualized on screen makes the reality of the tragedy come into focus with screaming clarity.

While we are on the topic it must be mentioned that the visual imagery used to recreate the sinking of the *Titanic* were absolutely breath taking. The special effects used to create the illusion were flawless, and looked amazing but when it came right down to it the special effects were secondary to the story in a way that special effects should be. Instead of using special effects to make the sinking of *Titanic* look really cool what we see is how horrible it must have been to be on the sinking *Titanic* using special effects. I hope that other movie makers are paying attention because James Cameron truly has demonstrated effectively how special effects should be utilised as a useful tool rather than as the main attraction of the film.

The acting within *Titanic* also deserves honorable mention. It is surely the performances of DiCaprio and Winslet which breathes life into the otherwise uninteresting nature of the love story contained in *Titanic*. There is a certain dynamic between the star crossed lovers that is captivating and it is created by the phenomenal performances of these two young talented actors. Good acting performances are seen throughout *Titanic*, even in the bit part characters, making the souls aboard the doomed ship seem like real people.

I wish I had more good things to say about *Titanic* because I do not feel like I have gotten across to you how amazing this movie is. And it is not just myself either who has been greatly impressed with this film, I'm sure you have heard that at the new Bayer's Lake cinema that every showing of the film has been sold out since *Titanic* opened back on December 19th. For once I can understand what all the hype is about, *Titanic* is a fantastic movie and people just can't get enough of it. There were those who feared that *Titanic* might suffer the same fate as another watery movie which also happened to go horribly over budget, and over schedule (I'm thinking *Waterworld* here). However, unlike Costners epic flop one can see why exactly *Titanic* needed



More on next page

# S C R E A M

... It Has Begun Again

A JAMES CAMERON FILM  

# TITANIC



A&amp;E

# "My Name is Bond, James Bond"

BY JAMES TILLEY

With a name like James, where can you go wrong. *Tomorrow Never Dies* is the 18th installment of the James Bond movie series. Starring Pierce Bronson, for the second time in the role of the gun toting super suave British super spy. Bronson was going to star in previous Bond movies (around the time of Timothy Dalton) but his contract with the Remington Steele would not allow it. For interest sake, that old Remington Steele show is still on one of those new cable channels (54 in halifax I think), you should check it out.

His nemesis isn't a communist superpower or crazy bald mad doctor with a white cat or even someone with really sharp metal teeth. The bad guy is some Media tycoon and Bill Gates wannabe. That's right, the most vile and evil man in society is Elliot Carver, played by Jonathan Pryce, who runs a multi-billion dollar company which has everything from computers, newspapers, televisions, and satellites. We all knew that the end of the world would be brought on by a business person. But why does he do all this evil bad stuff? Not for money; not for fame; not for glory: but for ratings. He is such an American.

Michelle Yeoh, a veteran to the Asian action movies, is Wai Lin a member of China's secret service. Unlike the traditional Bond female lead, Yeoh's character doesn't have an "oh, save me" attitude. She is there to kick some serious ass. This however adds a Hong Kong Action Theatre touch to the movie with the seemingly impossible and over dramatic fight scenes. Some people loved this aspect of the film and other didn't think that it was needed, my attitude is that Bond is all about the impossible and the over dramatic so why shouldn't the fighting be?

Wai Lin isn't the only strong female role. M, the leader of the British secret

service, has been played by a male actor from the beginning right up to Gloden Eye. When Dame Judi Dench starred in *Golden Eye*, a line in *Tomorrow Never Dies*, even draws attention to it. At one point a decision has to be made, M has to work with a group of stuffy British naval officers, who probably are not used to a woman being in such a position of power. One of the makes a comment like: "Maybe you don't have the 'balls' for this job M." Her only response being "At least that means I don't have to think with them."

The other predominant female, or as the advertisements would make you think, was Paris Carver played by Teri Hatcher. The character is Bond's former lover, and the current wife of the evil bad guy. Every poster, trailer and television commercial always had her as one of the larger and seemingly important characters. I will ruin this part and say that her role, though partially important, is very short. She dies before the movie is barely one quarter finished. I guess it pays to have famous (well sort of famous) television stars on the payroll just to promote the movie.

Then there are famous people who are really promoted with the movie who just make it really cool. One such person is Vincent Schiavelli who plays Dr. Kaufman, and excellent marksman and assassin hired by Carter to kill James Bond. Does the name not sound familiar? He is a character actor, he was in movies like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Batman Returns* but most would remember his roll as the disturbed ghost in the subway from the movie *Ghost*.

And then there is Desmond Llewelyn, another unfamiliar name, but not for the hard core James Bond fan. He plays Q, the man who gives Bond all of his wonderful gadgets, weapons and other super spy stuff. This is Llewelyn's 16th time playing Q, and 16 out of 18 that damn good batting

average if you ask me. He does the same old Q routine, bond is getting some new toys while the scientists are experimenting with others in the background.

This bond isn't exactly what you might remember if you liked the old Sean Connery versions. The 90's version of the Bond saga has infinitely better special effects which are probably equally more expensive. Old bond special effects included things like a small box that attached to your belt which allowed you to be contacted by others (pager) and a telephone attached to your dash board so you could talk to others from your car (cellular car phone). Wow, I guess really life does emulate the fictional world of the imagination.

If you had to describe *Tomorrow Never Dies* in one word, it would be **EXPLOSIVE**. There were insanely large amounts of explosions, crashes and destruction, but that is typical of current movies and it does fit very well with the Bond mentality. He had a few neat gadgets this time around, many of which he didn't really use, but hey who is counting. We have got a lighter that is a grenade, a watch which has a small explosive device, The ultimate cellular phone, and matching BMW car. Now this is no ordinary car. This "rental" from Q, has rockets, machine guns, industrial strength jacks (little spiky things which sit on the ground and pierce people tires), bullet proof doors, sledge hammer proof glass (but not grenade proof), a 50,000 volt anti theft device, a thumb scan safe and remote steering from the cell phone.

This brings me to one part about the movie which urked me greatly. I was sitting in the theatre waiting for the movie to start, so I decided to flip through one of the *Tribune* magazines. Following the article on *Tomorrow Never Dies*, there was

a full page ad for Omega watches (minus the explosive), which he wore in the movie and predominantly showed everyone the symbol. Then there was a page or two for Smirnoff's including instructions to making a shaken but not stirred Vodka martini. And conveniently enough Bronson was drinking shots of Vodka (not a Martini GASP) with the label of the bottle always facing towards camera. This was followed by the BMW advertisement and one for the Ericsson cell phone as well as one for the soundtrack and probably the web site and the video game not to mention the kitchen sink!

I am all for the odd coca-cola classic sign in the background or a fast food chain or cereal box giving away cheap plastic toys with movie characters. But come on, the blatant plugs for products in *Tomorrow Never Dies* is just ridiculous and just plain silly, but also very Hollywood.

Anyway enough ranting back to the review... The movie itself was very good, and if you like Bond this might be the best yet. But you would probably enjoy it even if you have never heard of James Bond (which you all have now that you read this article) the movie would still be worth seeing on the big screen. But you have to remember it is an action/ adventure movie so do not go for the deep ad meaningful subplot built upon subplot, or realistic accurate details.

Character development is irrelevant because it's Bond (enough said.) There are no real devastating plot twists, because it is Bond. And it is a very predictable ending mainly because it is Bond. Every single one of you should go see this movie just because it is Bond, James Bond.



Continued from previous page

movie which also happened to go horribly over budget, and over schedule (I'm thinking *Waterworld* here). However, unlike Costners epic flop one can see why exactly *Titanic* needed to take more time and money to make than expected, simply because movies that are so incredible are not cheap to make.

So why, you may ask, am I comparing these two movies together in

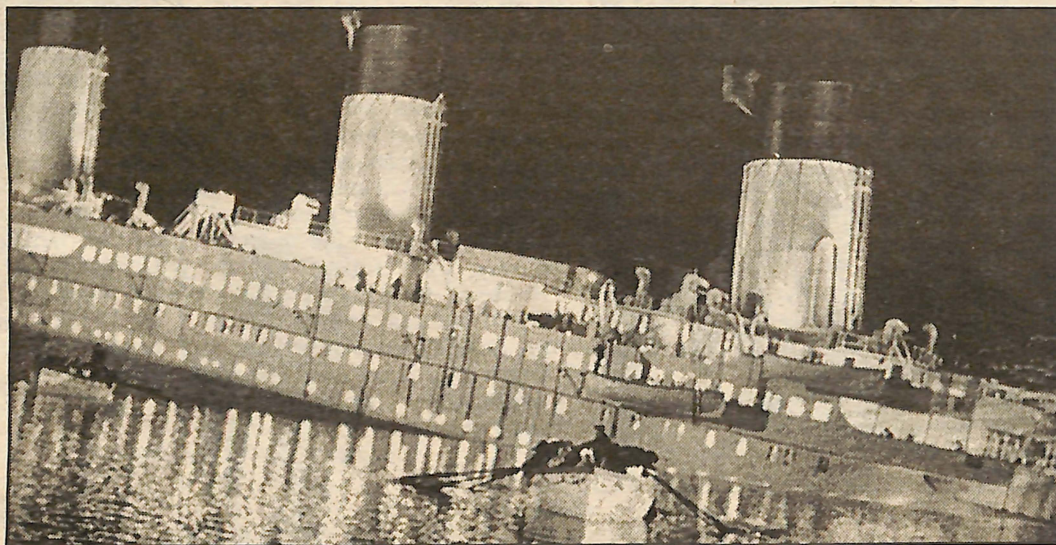
the same review. One may feel that I am comparing apples and oranges by placing *Scream 2* and *Titanic* back to back. In a way that is what I am doing. I admit that *Scream 2* and *Titanic* are movies on two entirely different levels and that one really cannot compare them to each other. However there is an important point which I wish to make by comparing these two vastly different movies together. There is one all-encompassing element that movies, at least the ones coming out of Hollywood, all seem to share. This shared element being that, no matter the subject matter or genre, all movies ultimately have making a lot of money at the box office as one of their end goals. Let me say that making money at the box office is not a bad thing, nor is it a new development in the arts world. Artists have always created their works, at least in part, in order for them to make a living; nothing wrong with that. However, lately one has to admit that the movies being ejaculated from many Hollywood studios these days seem to serve the sole purpose of making a lot of money. There is not a great emphasis on the amount of entertainment value a movie contains as long as, it seems, people can be fooled into paying to see it. Providing movie makers can persuade people to give them their money it seems that how good the movie is in entertainment terms is irrelevant.

In my eyes this is the exact mentality taken by director Wes Craven in creating a horrible film like *Scream 2*. The only conclusion I can draw from watching *Scream 2* is that somebody, whether it was Craven himself, or a Hollywood executive using Craven as a puppet, realised that a lot more money could be made off of the success of *Scream* by making a sequel. So in typical Hollywood fashion, less than a year after the release of the original film, a poor excuse for a movie is released bearing the famous name that will make money merely because it contains the "Scream" title. This is the only reason I can think of that explains why *Scream 2* is such a poorly made movie. If Craven was really concerned with the entertainment value of his second *Scream* movie I cannot understand why he would make such a pathetic effort. The answer is that *Scream 2* is not about entertainment, its about making money.

Every so often a film maker comes along who seems to be more concerned with the final greatness of the movie rather than merely with the amount of money the film will make. This sort of film maker is a true artist who creates significant films of real entertainment value, not just monetary value. When I read that director James Cameron was dedicated to making *Titanic* the best movie it could be no matter how much time or money it took to do so, and that subsequently Cameron even waved his own salary in order to finish his grand film, I was lead to believe that Cameron is a film maker with a great deal of

integrity.

In watching *Scream 2* and *Titanic* back to back I was able to see quite clearly two very different driving forces behind Hollywood movie productions. I personally am quite tired of seeing movies like *Scream 2*, created by film makers like Wes Craven who are blatantly exploiting their talents (or lack thereof) in order to weasel us out of our hard earned cash. I hope that in the future Hollywood movie makers will behave more like James Cameron and create quality films which do what movies are first and foremost supposed to do: entertain.





## Wish upon a falling star ...

*Stardust (Parts 2 and 3)*  
Written by Neil Gaiman,  
Art by Charles Vess Vertigo,  
DC Comics, \$8.50

BY CERI YOUNG

"Hankety Pankety  
Boy in a blanket, he's  
Off on a goose-chase to  
Look for a star"

As some may remember, the end of Part 1 of Neil Gaiman's *Stardust* left Tristran Thorn, unknowing child of a fairy/human union, heading off into the woods of Faerie to find a falling star that he has promised to one Victoria Forester in exchange for a kiss. As Part 2 begins, we find that Tristran is not the only person looking for the star. The Seven Lords of Stormhold (3 living and 4 dead) and a witch-queen are also on the hunt.

Tristran has had the good fortune to fall in with a little furry creature (Charmed?) that knows his father. When Tristran helps the furry fellow (and himself) out of a tight situation, the creature decides to help Tristran find his star, and survive in Faerie.

Part 3 follows the adventures of Tristran and the Star together, as they

travel through Faerie, trying to return to the village of Wall. On the way they meet a unicorn and a lion, a helpful tree, one of the Lords of Stormhold, and the witch-queen.

Gaiman writes in a very engaging, fairy tale style that draws the reader into the book, but keeps from being childish. From the moment I picked up each part of the story until the moment that I put it down, I was absorbed. They are a light, fun read and as enjoyable on the second time through as they are on the first. The story balances horror and humor well, making the reader laugh in the most unlikely places.

In both parts of the story, Gaiman keeps the wonder and danger of Faerie alive both for Tristran Thorn, and for the reader. There is always a new adventure waiting around the corner, a new character, a new occurrence that seems strange to us, but fits in with the world which Gaiman has created. I

enjoyed Part 2 in particular, because of the characters that it introduces. I am continually surprised at how Gaiman comes up with characters and situations, and fits them into a story together seamlessly and effortlessly. Or, at least, it seems effortless. The Seven Lords of Stormhold are my particular favourites, with their constant scheming and casual attitude toward everything except gaining the throne of Stormhold.

Charles Vess' artwork fits in well with the fairy tale aspect of the story. The pictures are drawn as if for a book of fairy tales, in a semi-cartoonish fashion, colourful, but with muted tones. The layout of the book adds to the storybook feel, with pictures and text merging as if in a children's book. The art is anything but childish, however. Almost any of the artwork would not look amiss hanging on my wall. (In fact, prints of all four *Stardust* covers will go on sale in the end of January).

I would offer criticism of the book itself if I could think of any, but I can't. I do want to extend some words of caution, however. While *Stardust* is written in a fairy tale style, it is not a book for children because it contains blood and nudity. That said, it is very little blood, and even less nudity, but it is there.

My only problem with the *Stardust* series is that, at \$8.50 a pop, the books have put quite a dent in my bank account. The fourth issue will cost even more, because it is longer than the rest. One pays the price for cardboard covers and full-colour art. However, speaking as a fan of Neil Gaiman's writing (and in my honest opinion, everyone in their right mind IS a fan of his writing), the books are well worth the money.



A&E

## Underdeveloped Underpainter

*The Underpainter*  
Written by Jane Urquhart  
McClelland & Stewart \$29.99

BY TIM BOUDREAU

The Governor General award is one of the most prestigious honours a Canadian writer can receive. With such high praise being offered, one would naturally expect that any book garnering such an award would quite obviously be an exceptional example of Canadian Fiction. After having read Jane Urquhart's new novel *The Underpainter*, which earned her a Governor General award for 1997 I must say that the above statement is not necessarily the case. I cannot understand why a publisher would even consider printing this book in the first place, and I certainly cannot comprehend why *The Underpainter* was deemed worthy of the highest praise possible for a Canadian work of fiction.

Perhaps my expectations were raised a little bit too high considering I did not think to read this book until after I had heard that it won the GG award. This seemed to me to be a logical enough course of action; I wanted to read *The Underpainter* to see what the hype was all about. I expected Urquhart's novel to leap off the page at me with the sheer brilliance of its literary mastery. I found myself, however, bored terribly with *The Underpainter's* uninteresting, and virtually underdeveloped character's from the beginning and the feeling remained consistent throughout the entire read. To have underdeveloped characters within an award winning novel, to me, seems to suggest a heinous flaw in the award selection process.

The main underdeveloped persona in the novel is the cold hearted artist, Austin. Austin's main purpose in *The Underpainter* is to treat all the people he comes into contact with apathy and condescension. The pretentious artist is particularly distant towards the soft-hearted, and hopelessly emotional Sara, who poses for many of Austin's paintings. Apparently, according to this novel, it is an evil thing to try and imprison "real" things within the medium of art, which is what Austin does throughout the entire book, until he becomes a bitter and cynical old man whom nobody will ever love. I wonder if Urquhart would mind at all if I told her that she is also attempting to imprison "real" things in the medium of her own art form. However, Austin's cold imprisonment of the world, especially of Sara, in his paintings is merely a manifestation of the cold and distant attitude he takes towards the outside world. Ultimately Austin never manages to remove himself from his apathetic coldness despite the efforts of the poor warm hearted Sara to make him feel "real" emotions. The fact that it takes an entire 350-page novel to show us how Austin never really manages to change at all I find to be incredibly annoying.

At the risk of sounding like a defensive man at the Mount I found Urquhart's depiction of male characters, as opposed to female, to be particularly disappointing. Ultimately the men and women in the book are placed against each other as polar opposites. On the one hand we have the men who are detached, and unable to express,

understand, or feel any real emotion. On the other hand we have the women who (you guessed it) are the source of true human emotion, and would be happy if those big dumb men would just put down their barriers and embrace their feminine sides. Men are the creators of artifice who embrace the constructed and unnatural. The women are associated with nature, and running with the wolves and all that warm fuzzy hoopla.

I realize that I have spent this entire review harping about the inadequacies of Urquhart's characterization skills, however I would write a bit more about a plot, or a theme if I felt that there was much of either of those things to discuss. Concerning the plot, I have already related most of it to you: Austin is a cold artist, he paints (and exploits for sex, I almost forgot to mention that wonderful bit of information) the noble Sara who valiantly tries to turn him into a better woman, but Austin is ultimately too much of a man for his own good. Theme? Message? Point? I can't tell you anything about that, I'm still wondering why this book was even written in the first place.

To sum up I must reassert my utter disappointment with this book, and the fact that somebody thought it was worthy of being read let alone being honoured. I'm left with a burning desire to read some of the other contenders for the 1997 GG award to find out if there was really no other work of fiction worthy of getting the award or if the selection committee was on drugs when they made their final decision. If you feel the need to fill your head with stereotypical garbage which serves the purpose of widening the gender gap, then by all means pick up a copy of *The Underpainter*. If perhaps you think your 30 bucks might be better spent on a pez dispenser, and a year supply of yummy pez then you might consider passing this one by.





A&E

Hackers 2 - Various

BY JAMES TILLEY

Hackers, a movie that has the potential to be one of the "cult" classics of the nineties, is now close to three years old. And the movie has never actually been released for sale to consumers, despite this they decided to release a second CD this one with the description: "Music From and Inspired by the Original Motion Picture 'HACKERS'"

It is a great CD. Many artists from the first cd are featured in this new compilation album. Some bands include: Prodigy, Leftfield, Orbital, Underworld and even David Bowie.

The style of music is very similar to the original soundtrack. There is a variety of sounds following an electronic/techno style of music. Each song has a good beat making you want to get up and dance or at least tap your foot. It is very conducive to the working environment because it makes you want to move and get things done faster.

If you enjoyed the movie or the first soundtrack the Hacker 2 CD would make an excellent addition to your collection. So shop around and you could probably find it for under \$15.

So in the endless world of movie soundtrack albums the Hackers 2 is probably one of the better ones that I have heard.

Big Shiny Tunes 2 - Various

BY CARRIE WARNER

Given the success of Much Music's first Big Shiny Tunes, it was only a matter of time before we saw a sequel. Big Shiny Tunes 2 includes almost every worthy song that was released in 1997. The good news is that there are no tunes by the Spice Girls anywhere on this disc!

The CD includes both hard rock and dance tracks, reaching to the far end of each spectrum. The first tune is "Breathe" by Prodigy, who certainly made their mark on the music world last year. From there the CD offers songs from Blur, Marilyn Manson, Bran Van 3000, Radiohead, Bush, The Chemical Brothers and more. The only female presence on the disc is Holly McNarland who made an impressive debut last year. That she is the only female is a bit disappointing, given the success of Sarah McLachlan's Lilith fair tour this summer. With all the great female artists who released albums during 1997, there should have been oodles of songs by women.

Also included on this compilation are "Walkin' on the Sun" by Smash Mouth, and "Fly" by Sugar Ray. Both of these songs were released around the same time, but were played to death by local radio stations. It's nice to have them on the CD, but now everyone is sick of them.

All in all, Big Shiny Tunes 2 is a good package of songs that sums up 1997. Canadians Wide Mouth Mason make an appearance, as do more established bands like Collective Soul and Stone Temple Pilots. If you're into popular music, definitely pick it up.

THE 18TH LETTER - RAKIM

BY GLENN HARRINGTON

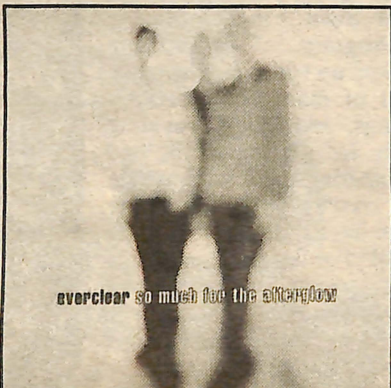
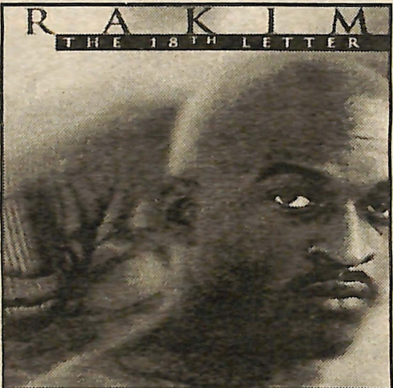
Rakim is back. Considered as the greatest MC of all time "The R" returns from a five year hiatus. When asked, "What are you giving them [Hiphop fans] back?" He answers, "Skills!"

With four previous albums under his title (with Eric B), Rakim's voice, vocabulary, tone and knowledge is the ideal notion of what MC (mic controller) means. Rakim's production on The 18th Letter is not done by DJ Eric B. Eric spun on the four albums the two previously released. According to Rakim they basically went separate ways after their fourth album.

The big song pushed as a hit from the album (Guess Who's Back) is not a good example of Rakim. "Remember That", "The Saga Begins" and "When I'm Flowin'" are examples of something positive compared to the status of Hiphop today. With production done by DJ's like Premier and Pete Rock, Rakim has solid material in which to rhyme on.

Rakim does not swear once in any song on this album. As his rhymes are extremely tight he could be accused of going too commercial because of the emphasis on a hit single. For a fan of Rakim it's an extension of something that existed back in the day... skills!

CD REVIEWS



The Sounds of Titanic - James Horner

BY TIM BOUDREAU

Like all great epic films, Titanic contains a dramatic musical score that accompanies the on screen action. A soundtrack as effective as Titanic's serves the purpose of adding a great deal more emotional power to the movie then would have otherwise existed. The question arises, however, "is the music from this film really meant to be heard on its own, or is its only purpose to be as part of the movie's presentation?" To this question I must respond simply that not only does the soundtrack from Titanic, composed by James Horner, function well on its own as a beautiful musical score, it demands to be listened to on its own.

If the name James Horner sounds unfamiliar it is probably because the composers for film soundtracks are often not given the credit they so often deserve. The other magnificent piece of work Horner wrote within the past few years was the dramatic score for Mel Gibson's Braveheart; also an amazing soundtrack.

As I initially searched for this soundtrack in the music stores I found, to my chagrin, that most music stores were completely sold out. The predominant reason being, of course, that the popularity of the movie has transferred over to the soundtrack and people are buying it because it has the Titanic name. However there is another reason this CD is selling fast. After watching the film Titanic I found myself wanting to relive the fantastic experience at home, and since the movie is not out on video yet, the next best choice is to get the CD.

The music on the Titanic soundtrack is as gripping and emotionally moving as the movie. As he did in the Braveheart soundtrack, Horner has used a lot of sombre, sorrowful sounds using bag pipes in the Titanic soundtrack along with more triumphant music interspersed throughout which mirrors the grandeur of the great ship. The soundtrack is predominantly an instrumental CD, but it does also have the love theme from Titanic "My Heart Will Go On" performed by Celine Dion.

So if you saw Titanic and need something to sustain you until you see it for the 4th or 5th time, the Titanic soundtrack is more then adequate to tide you over.

The Best of David Bowie 1969/1974

BY DAVID POUND

David Bowie has been making music since the 60's and has constantly changed his style, both musically and visually. Although Bowie is best known for his 80's releases such as "Let's Dance" It's his early 70's material that I believe to be his best work. That's why I was pleased to receive this greatest hits package. It covers 1969 to 1974 and contains most of my favourite Bowie songs. The classic "Space Oddity" as well as "Ziggy Stardust" and many more classics from one of David's most innovative periods are included.

With bands such as Spacehog showing a definite early Bowie influence and bands like Stone Temple Pilots and Nirvana covering his songs, their still seems to be interest in these songs thirty years later. If you are a David Bowie fan already, then you will already have these songs, but if you are just being introduced to his music, this is a great package to find out why so many musicians cite him as an inspiration.

So Much For The Afterglow - Everclear

BY DAVID POUND

I was never much of a fan of Everclear. Sure their last release had the infectious single Santa Monica, but all in all I found the last album rather boring. Well I was pleasantly surprised with their new release, "So much for the Afterglow". It's a little more experimental in sound and has a little more depth then Everclear's previous work.

One thing that separates Everclear from many other power pop bands is their lyrics. There's a raw honesty to Art's lyrics that adds to the songs and this shines though in such as songs as "Father of Mine", where Art talks of his father leaving him at 10 years old and "Why I don't believe in God".

Everclear's strength lies in their ability to write simple, yet catchy pop songs and they deliver on "So much for the afterglow". So if your a fan or just want an album filled with good catchy songs, then this album shouldn't disappoint.



## Classifieds

## CAREER

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## SUMMER POSTIONS

**For application forms, contact names and numbers, or any further information, please visit the Career Placement Centre, Evaristus Room 217/218.**

Applications are still available for the Federal Summer Work Experience Program (FSWEP). Deadlines for some positions are fast approaching so pick up an application and send it in soon. You can also apply on-line.

Maritime Life Assurance Company Actuarial Position Deadline is January 19, 1998.

Oasis Nature Day Camps is now accepting applications for Camp Coordinators. Positions are available in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ottawa. The application deadline is March 20, 1998.

Student Loan Employment Program Applications for Summer 1998 are now

available. Students must be undergraduate university students, recipients of a Nova Scotia Student Loan for the 1997/98 year, plan to return to full time studies in the fall and have little or no career related experience. For more information, visit Evaristus Room 217/218.

The Nova Scotia Department of Economic Development and Tourism is presently accepting applications for casual (summer) employment for the 1998 summer season. Job descriptions and application forms are available for these summer positions at the Career Placement Centre. Various positions are available at the Pines Resort in Digby, Keltic Lodge in Ingonish Beach and Liscombe Lodge in Liscombe Mills. Various staffing positions for Visitor Information Centres located across Nova Scotia and in Portland, Maine are available, as well as Store Clerk positions at the Literature Distribution Centre in Halifax and Vehicle

Enumerator positions at Tidnish and Caribou. Application deadline is January 31, 1998.

Applications being accepted once again this term for various positions through the MSVU Student Bursary Application Program. Applications and more information are available in the Career Placement Centre.

Applications are now being accepted for Supernumery Special Constables through the R.C.M.P. A resume and application form must be returned to the Career Placement Centre before Tuesday, March 3, 1998.

The Halifax Citadel Regimental Association is now accepting applications for Military Interpreters, Park Attendants and Park Interpreters. A resume and application form must be received or postmarked by January 30, 1998 at 17h00.

### Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A. Visas Arranged

Lakeside Residential  
Girls Camp in Maine

**Counselors.** Combined child care/teaching. Gymnastics, tennis, swim, sail, canoe, water ski, arts (including stained glass, sewing, jewelry, wood, photo), dance, music, theater, archery, wilderness trips, field sports, equestrian. Visas available to all qualified applicants.

**Service workers.** Maintenance, driver, office, kitchen. Visas restricted to students enrolled in university for fall '98.

Non-smokers. June 22 to Aug 27.  
Send resume (C.V.): Kippewa, Box 340, Westwood, Massachusetts 02090-0340 U.S.A.  
kippewa@tiac.net; voice (781) 762-8291; fax (781) 255-7167.

## NETWORKING - FINDING THE 'HIDDEN' JOB MARKET

In today's economy, tapping into the job market is becoming increasingly more challenging. Many people compete for the same positions, making it necessary for you to have an edge over your competition. Finding a job is becoming more complex than simply searching the "Help Wanted" Ads in the local newspapers. 80 % of jobs are not posted in any newspaper, and it is becoming more important to develop the skills needed to tap into this hidden job market.

One method of obtaining information about employment is networking. You may hear this phrase often, but may be wondering, "what exactly is networking", "how do I network" or "how do I make networking work for me?" Networking, taken from the Career Options 1997/98 edition is defined as using people you know, both on a personal level (e.g. family and friends) and a professional level (e.g. co-workers, fellow members of organizations and associations), as a source of information and support for anything, including employment.

When looking for employment, you should develop a list of networking contacts and keep the communication lines open with these people. Tell them when you are looking for a job and what kind of job you are looking for. They may hear of something that may interest you and relay the information back to you, or they may even tell someone else who may be interested in getting your resume, possibly even hiring you for a position within their company.

You should continually work on building your networking contacts. It is possible to do this in various ways. One example of this is through volunteering. This may give you the chance to meet people in a particular area of interest as well as give you some experience for your resume. As well, job shadowing is another way to meet people in a particular field, and may also give you exposure to a particular type of job, helping you to test the waters to see if you are really interested in working in that area.

A more formal type of networking strategy is an information interview. By

contacting a person in a particular field and arranging a meeting with them, you may be able to get some valuable information while at the same time, expand your networking contacts. Be sure to prepare ahead of time, even prepare a list of questions that you can take with you to ask your interviewee. Remember to be professional and courteous, and you may learn a great deal from this type of networking strategy.

As well, you may network by joining associations or organizations, joining a job finding club, attending seminars, or events such as career fairs, or conferences. Always be prepared with your list of questions, and as well, be prepared to answer questions put forward by potential employers and potential networking contacts.

In any case, the key to successful networking is to be prepared, be professional and have a goal in mind. Know what you hope to accomplish by networking, what kinds of people you hope to meet, and what employment opportunities you hope will arise from your networking. Keep track of all your networking contacts, even take notes at your meetings and keep abreast on their current undertakings. Make sure you keep up your relationship with your contacts and follow up on correspondence. This means following up on all leads give. Whether something pans out or not, remember to thank those who helped you and provided you with information.

The Professional Development Career Club and The Student Alumni Association are taking part in a second annual Mount Saint Vincent Student Mentorship Program. This program matches a student up with a person in the student's field of interest and sets up several meetings, and while providing the opportunity for job shadowing and information gathering. The student then can maintain contact with his or her mentor and use the mentor as a valuable networking tool. For information on this program, networking or any other question you may have, contact the Career Placement Centre, Evaristus Room 217/218, or phone 457-6272.

ALUMNAE AWARD  
FOR TEACHING

To nominate a professor for the 1998 Alumnae Award for Teaching, pick up a nomination form from the Alumnae Office, Room 204, Evaristus or at the library. Please note, the deadline for nominations is Jan 23, 1998. For more information, call Tracy Tuttle.

ROOMMATE  
WANTED

Non-smoker, non-drug user to share a 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath apartment with friendly woman and two cats! Available immediately. \$350/mo with heat & hot water included. If interested, please call 443-1701.

## CAREER TIP #1

## Networking is a Two-Way Street

To be a effective networker, there needs to be a reciprocal relationship between you and the contact. You should express a genuine interest in the person's work, ask how you might be able to help them achieve their goals. By doing so, you are showing that you are just as valuable to them as they are to you.

## THE 24TH ANNUAL BUSINESS SOCIETY DINNER

## What is the Dinner?

Coordinated by the MSVU Student Union Business Society, the annual Business Society Dinner is our way of promoting networking opportunities among current and future professionals. It benefits both organizations and students.

To professionals, the evening serves as a chance to develop and maintain partnerships. To students, it is an opportunity to begin their partnerships.

If you choose to attend the dinner, get ready for a small reception, fine dining, a wonderful guest speaker, and lots of interesting people.

## Who is the Guest Speaker?

As a university that supports women in business, we are extremely pleased to present Penny Mosher, Senior Manager, Management Services - BDC, as the guest speaker of this special event.

She has proven through her outstanding achievements that all individuals can be success in professional careers. A few of her achievements include: Recipient of the 1996 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards. Category: Supporter of

Entrepreneurship, Past President of the Association of Atlantic Women Business Owners, Board of Directors for Women Business Owners of Canada, Member of the Royal Bank of Canada's Women Entrepreneurs Advisory Board

## When and Where?

The dinner will take place of February 5th, 1998, in the Baronet Ballroom of Hotel Halifax (1990 Barrington St., Halifax).

## Agenda:

Reception: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Dinner: 7:30 pm

Theme: Entrepreneurship

## Prices:

Business Society Members \$20

Mount Students \$25

Faculty/Administration/Alumnae \$35

Businesses \$45

Each table will seat a combination of students, professionals, faculty and alumnae for a total of eight per table.

To purchase tickets or for more information, please call: 489-0030



## Classifieds

## VOLUNTEER PAGE

Volunteering is a great way to gain practical experience while contributing to our community. The Volunteer Resource Centre matches people interested in volunteer work with non-profit agencies looking for help. Listed below is a sample of the current available opportunities. For more information, please call their office at 423-1368.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS**

Looking to sharpen your administrative skills? The Volunteer Resource Centre is looking for Administrative Assistants to help out. Duties include telephone answering and providing information, greeting and assisting visitors, scheduling appointments, and other general office duties. You should be a "people person" and office experience is an asset. Training is provided for this excellent chance to learn about the volunteering community and after 6 months with us, you'll receive a letter of reference.

**ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH EXCHANGE**

Want to see the world? make a friend with someone from elsewhere? The Nova Scotia office of a Canadian agency is looking for participants in an environmental youth exchange. You would host a participant from St. Lucia for a period of two months while working together on environmental projects. You'd then begin a three-month work placement in St. Lucia with an environmental agency or government department. Expenses are covered and pocket money provided. Hard-working youths ages 21-24 who are open to a cultural exchange opportunity are desired.

**COORDINATORS**

The Nova Scotia office of a Canadian agency are looking for Coordinators for their Nepal exchange program. The Coordinator would communicate directly with the Nepal representative and with those planning to participate

in the exchange, either leaving for, or arriving from, Nepal. Experience in program planning and administration is a must, as is strong organization and communication skills. You must also have visited Nepal and/or have a strong background in the culture and in developmental issues.

**MARCH BREAK PROGRAM DEMONSTRATORS**

A Halifax agency is looking for March Break Program Demonstrators to help out with museum activities. You'd have the chance to perform a variety of fun activities, from greeting visitors to helping with live baby animals! A basic familiarity with the natural history (rocks, plants) of the province would be an asset. Knowledge of French would also be helpful but not necessary. What is necessary is the ability to work with people, including noisy, excited children, and a willingness to learn something new! Training is provided for this short-term commitment.

**VOLUNTEER PROJECT COORDINATORS**

Attention public relations people and other eager volunteers. We want you to get in on helping out with a very important community event that's happening soon. Volunteer Action day, a one-day event matching volunteers with special projects, needs 1-2 Work Project Coordinator to help make it happen. You would work alongside an experienced volunteer, evaluating work project submittals, matching volunteer to project, organizing project donations, etc. Good communication skills, reliability, and experience in contracting are preferred assets. It's an excellent chance to gain experience in project planning and contracting. It's also a great opportunity to meet a wide variety of people. Plans get underway in January and the event takes place in April.

**PROGRAM ASSISTANT**

Your time and life experiences are

needed by young people in our community. A youth agency is looking for a Program Assistant. Your duties would include assisting with and supervising their programs, and helping to organize a "youth committee" to represent the club. An outgoing personality, organizational skills, and versatile abilities would be an asset for this excellent resume-builder. A long-term commitment with evening hours.

**SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM LEADERS**

A Dartmouth branch of this agency is looking for Special Needs Program Leaders. You would work one-on-one with an elementary school child with special needs, helping them to develop social and developmental skills using agency programs. This opportunity would provide excellent special teaching/social work/counselling experience in working with children.

**BUILDING CONTRACTORS**

Building contractors, we need you! Your construction expertise is required for a one-day event this spring when volunteers will work on special projects for a number of agencies throughout Metro. In partnership with a contractor who has participated in this event in the past, you would determine labor and material requirements for projects, provide estimates, and attend bi-weekly meetings. An organized manner, good communication skills and access to a vehicle are required. A great opportunity to meet and learn from others while helping with many worthwhile community projects.

**TICKET SELLER**

An agency based in Halifax and Bedford/Sackville is looking for people to help out with their upcoming annual car raffle. You would sell raffle tickets at places like malls and hockey games. This is a great chance for those with a friendly personality and flexible schedule to get out there and meet people while serving a good

cause. And don't forget there's a top ticket seller's prize.

**EVENT COORDINATOR**

Help get an upcoming event off the ground. A Halifax cultural exchange agency is looking for organized "people persons" to serve as event coordinators for a fund-raiser. You'll get the chance to work with a national organization and gain experience in fund-raising and organization. An excellent resume-building experience.

**REGIONAL PROJECT COORDINATOR**

A Halifax cultural exchange agency is looking for a regional project coordinator to provide support to fundraising events taking place within Atlantic Canada. This is a chance for those already experienced in strategic planning, fundraising or communications to work with a group which promotes a sustainable world by providing international exchange opportunities.

**ADMINISTRATIVE WORKER**

Here's a chance to lend your administrative skills to a busy, but not hectic office environment. If you work well with the public, are a good learner and can carry out tasks independently, give this a try. All training is provided and you'll get a valuable opportunity to familiarize yourself with this agency's issues and goals. A reference is provided after six months of volunteering.

**VICTIM SERVICE WORKERS**

Your ability to provide emotional support and help is urgently needed. A Halifax agency is looking for mature individuals to serve as victim service workers. You would be someone with excellent interpersonal and writing skills, and computer proficiency. You would provide support, practical assistance, and referral services to victims of intimate partner abuse. An excellent opportunity for those pursuing human/social service work. Intensive,

**BUILDING BRIDGE TO FRIENDSHIPS**

Are you looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity? The Canadian Mental Health Association, Halifax Branch, requires volunteers for their one-to-one social support program - Building Bridges. If you have good interpersonal skills, some leisure time to share and the ability to demonstrate a respectful appreciation of people - please call 455-5445 for more information.

**QEII VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Be a Volunteer! Talents to share? Time on your hands? Meet new people and enjoy new experiences by volunteering at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. We have about 140 programs from which to choose.

To join our team, please call the department of Volunteer Services at 473-5420 for an appointment to see our program book. Positions are available now.

**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S READING SUPPORT PROGRAM**

Do you enjoy the company of children, love reading, and are more than 18 years old? Become a Reading Support volunteer at the Halifax Regional Library! - Volunteers are urgently needed to help children overcome reading difficulties and develop a love of books. Each volunteer receives ongoing training and support. If you would like to volunteer for one hour a week, or enroll your child in this program, call Dorothy at the Captain William Spry Library at 490-5734, or Lana at the Halifax North Library at 490-5723.

**More Volunteers Needed**

The new Fountain Play Centre is looking for more volunteers to help look after the ever increasing number of children. If you have a few spare hours. Why not volunteer and help out your fellow classmates. For information contact Patricia at the Student Union

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Are you interested in volunteering some of your time on a project dealing with the issue of EATING DISORDERS and young women and men who live in residences in metro and surrounding area universities?

We are looking for students or professionals interested in this issue to sit on our advisory group, which meets once every 6 weeks, to oversee the project.

This 6 month project entitled THE UNIVERSITY RESIDENCE EATING DISORDERS SUPPORT WORKSHOP is sponsored by the Dalhousie University Housing and Conference Services and is funded by the Community Health Promotion Fund.

If you are interested, please contact Melanie Bower-Allan @ 469-2768.

**Child & Youth Study Society**

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held on Monday January 26 from 9 am-4 pm on the 2nd floor of Rosaria Centre. The Book Fair will also be held on Friday, January 30 from 9 am-4 pm in the Seton Lobby.

Raffle tickets are being sold at various times and locations throughout campus for a chance to win a pair of tickets to see Bryan Adams on February 8th.

A reminder to everyone in Child & Youth Studies to watch our bulletin boards for notices regarding clothing orders and upcoming events.



# Calendar of Events

## Monday, January 19th

Jan 19-23, Condomania  
The Wellness Project

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-time  
Intramural Program Rosaria Gym

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting  
Rosaria Centre, Room 114

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor  
Soccer Rosaria Gym Free for  
students & gym members

7:00 pm, Talk Sex with Sue  
Johanson: A frank discussion on  
sex; Seton Academic Centre,  
Auditorium A Free Admission

7:00 pm, Christian Meditation  
Mount St. Vincent Motherhouse,  
inquire at main entrance

## Tuesday, January 20th

9:00-5:00 pm, St. John's  
Ambulance Emergency 1st Aid  
with CPR; Register at Rosaria  
Gym or call 457-6420; Cost:  
Mount Comm. \$40; Others \$45

12:00 pm, MSVU Saints Band  
Practice Don MacNeil Room,  
4th Floor Rosaria Centre

12:00 pm, Lunch & Learn  
Lecture Series; Topic:  
Participation and Community  
Development; Alderney Gate  
Public Library, 60 Alderney  
Drive, Dartmouth

2:30-4:30 pm, Afternoon Alpha  
Meeting; Sponsored by the  
Mount Christian Fellowship;  
Evaristus Hall, Room 108

7:00 pm, Monthly Breast Cancer  
Meeting; Guest Speaker:  
Dr. Oscar Wong, Topic:  
Accupuncture The Nova Scotia  
Cancer Centre, Dickson  
Building 5820 University  
Avenue, Halifax

## Wednesday, January 21st

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-time  
Intramural Program Rosaria Gym

2:00 pm, History Society  
Meeting; Seton Academic  
Centre, Room 552

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting  
Rosaria Centre, Room 114

2:00 pm, MARS-Mount  
Alternative Recreation Society  
Meeting Vinnie's Pub, Rosaria

2:00-3:00 pm, Nurture Group  
Meeting Sponsored by the  
Mount Christian Fellowship  
Seton A. Centre, Room 504

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor  
Soccer Rosaria Gym Free for  
students & gym members

4:00 pm, Writing Workshop  
Topic: Using Sources:  
documentation and quotations  
Evaristus 219E, Call 457-6567  
to register

7:30 pm, Women's Volleyball  
Game NSAC @ MSVU

6:30 pm, Women's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ NSAC

8:30 pm, Men's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ NSAC

## Thursday, January 22nd

12:00 pm, Spring 1998 Grad  
Class General Meeting Seton  
Academic Centre, Auditorium A;  
A meeting to discuss event ideas  
and hold executive voting

12:00-1:00 pm, Nurture Group  
Meeting Sponsored by the  
Mount Christian Fellowship  
Seton A. Centre, Room 504

8:00 pm-2:00 am, Battle of the  
Bands Hosted by the  
Athletic/Recreation Society  
Vinnie's Pub, Rosaria Centre

## Friday, January 23rd

Deadline to nominate a professor  
for the 1998 Alumnae Award for  
Teaching

12:00 pm, Student Alumnae  
Association Meeting Evaristus  
Hall, Room 108

3:00 pm, Student Council  
Meeting; Rosaria Centre, Room  
106

3:30-5:00 pm, Student  
Leadership Workshop;  
Athletics/Recreation Department

4:00-6:00 pm, Grad Students  
Reception & Seminar; Topic:  
Sample Research Projects;  
Faculty Lounge, Seton  
Academic Centre Room 406

Jan 23-24, Tourism Overnight  
The Old Orchard Inn; 1 Night  
Stay, 3 Buffet Meals & Lots of  
Fun; Contact Andrea @ 429-  
3045 or Danielle @ 457-5306

## Saturday, January 24th

3:00-5:00 pm, Indoor Soccer  
Tournament; Teams of 6-9  
Players; \$2.00 per player  
Rosaria Gym

3:00 pm, Women's Volleyball  
Game MSVU @ STU

5:00 pm, Women's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ STU

7:00 pm, Men's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ STU

## Sunday, January 25th

Jan 25-31, MSVU Winter  
Carnival: Come Chill on the Hill

10:00 am, Badminton Game  
MSVU @ NSAC

12:00 pm, Women's Volleyball  
Game MSVU @ UNB

12:00 pm, Women's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ UNBSJ

2:00 pm, Men's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ UNBSJ

3:00-5:00 pm, Music Readings  
JOSHUA; All readings take  
place in Room 121 of Dalhousie  
Arts Centre; Free for Students

## Monday, January 26th

Picaro deadline for submissions  
(Issue #9)

9-5pm, Scholastic Book Fair  
Child & Youth Study Society  
2nd Floor, Rosaria Centre  
12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-time  
Intramural Program Rosaria Gym

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting  
Rosaria Centre, Room 114

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor  
Soccer Rosaria Gym; Free for  
students & gym members

7:00 pm, Christian Meditation  
Mount St. Vincent Motherhouse,  
inquire at main entrance

## Tuesday, January 27th

12:00 pm, MSVU Saints Band  
Practice Don MacNeil Room,  
4th Floor Rosaria Centre

12:00 pm, Lunch & Learn  
Lecture Series; Topic: Primary  
Health Care; Alderney Gate  
Public Library, 60 Alderney  
Drive, Dartmouth

12:30 pm, International  
Women's Day Event - Planning  
Meeting; Dalhousie Women's  
Centre, 1229 LeMarchant St,  
Halifax; Entrance at rear of  
building

2:30-4:30 pm, Afternoon Alpha  
Meeting; Sponsored by the  
Mount Christian Fellowship  
Evaristus Hall, Room 108

## Wednesday, January 28th

Caritas Day - No classes

Martock Ski Trip; Contact the  
Ath/Rec at 457-6420

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-time  
Intramural Program Rosaria Gym

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor  
Soccer Rosaria Gym Free for  
students & gym members

4:00 pm, Writing Workshop  
Topic: Writing better sentences.  
Evaristus 219E, Call 457-6567  
to register

7:00 pm, Women's Volleyball  
Game Kings @ MSVU

## Thursday, January 29th

12:00-1:00 pm, Nurture Group  
Meeting Sponsored by the  
Mount Christian Fellowship  
Seton A. Centre, Room 504

## Friday, January 30th

Last day to pay second term fees

Jan 30-Feb 8, CKDU-FM's  
annual Funding Drive;  
To pledge your support to  
CKDU, call 49HAPPY

15th Annual MSVU Girls High  
school Basketball Tournament

12:00 pm, Student Alumnae  
Association Meeting  
Evaristus Hall, Room 108

8:00 pm, Sun Room Reading  
Series Reader: Marilyn  
Bowering The Sun Room - The  
Oaks, St. Mary's University

## Saturday, January 31st

15th Annual MSVU Girls High  
school Basketball Tournament

9:00-5:00 pm, Scholastic Book  
Fair Child & Youth Study  
Society Seton Lobby

2:00-5:00 pm, Workshop  
Jewelry Artist - Pamela Ritchie  
Art Gallery - Seton Academic  
Centre Free Admission

## Sunday, February 1st

Black History Month

3:00 pm, Volleyball Game  
UNBSJ @ MSVU

11:00 am, Women's Basketball  
Game UNBSJ @ MSVU

1:00 pm, Men's Basketball  
Game UNBSJ @ MSVU

## Monday, February 2nd

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-time  
Intramural Program Rosaria Gym

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting  
Rosaria Centre, Room 114

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor  
Soccer Rosaria Gym Free for  
students & gym members

7:00 pm, Christian Meditation  
Mount St. Vincent Motherhouse,  
inquire at main entrance

## Tuesday, February 3rd

12:00 pm, MSVU Saints Band  
Practice Don MacNeil Room,  
4th Floor Rosaria Centre

12:00 pm, Lunch & Learn  
Lecture Series; Topic:  
Community Oriented vs.  
Community Based Health Care  
Alderney Gate Public Library,  
60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth

2:30-4:30 pm, Afternoon Alpha  
Meeting; Sponsored by the  
Mount Christian Fellowship  
Evaristus Hall, Room 108

## Wednesday, February 4th

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-time  
Intramural Program Rosaria Gym

2:00 pm, History Society  
Meeting SAC, Room 552

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting  
Rosaria Centre, Room 114

2:00 pm, MARS-Mount  
Alternative Recreation Society  
Meeting Vinnie's Pub, Rosaria

2:00-3:00 pm, Nurture Group  
Meeting; Sponsored by the  
Mount Christian Fellowship  
Seton A. Centre, Room 504

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor  
Soccer Rosaria Gym Free for  
students & gym members

4:00 pm, Writing Workshop  
Topic: Choosing the best words  
Evaristus 219E, Call 457-6567  
to register

6:00 pm, Women's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ Kings

8:00 pm, Men's Basketball  
Game MSVU @ Kings

## Thursday, February 5th

12:00-1:00 pm, Nurture Group  
Meeting Sponsored by the Mount  
Christian Fellowship Seton  
Academic Centre, Room 504

6:30 pm, Business Society  
Dinner Guest Speaker: Penny  
Mosher Hotel Halifax, Baronet  
Ballroom

## Friday, February 6

12:00 pm, Student Alumnae  
Association Meeting Evaristus  
Hall, Room 108

3:00 pm, Student Council  
Meeting Rosaria, Room 106

3:15-5:00 pm, Recreational  
Volleyball Tournament Rosaria

8:00 pm, Grand Opening of  
Matt's Place, a new downtown  
Coffee House; St. Matthew's  
United Church (Barrington at  
Spring Garden); The inaugural  
concert will feature John Allan  
Cameron & The David  
Carmichael Band; Tickets are  
\$12; \$10 for Students; Proceeds  
for the NS Youth Help Line

## Saturday, February 7

9:30 am, Badminton Game  
MSVU @ UNBSJ

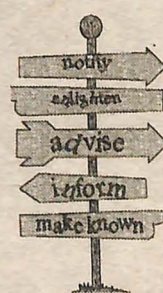
1:00 pm, Women's Basketball  
Game MTA @ MSVU

3:00 pm, Men's Basketball  
Game MTA @ MSVU

8:00 pm, St. Cecilia Concert  
Series; St. Andrews Church,  
6036 Coburg Road; Call 494-  
3820 for tickets; Cost \$25 & \$22

### BEST HOTELS LOWEST PRICES

All SPRINGBREAK Locations.  
Daytona, Orlando, Miami \$89 up.  
Cancun, Jamaica, Bahamas etc.  
Depart New York, Boston, etc.  
\$559 CDN up. Register your group  
and/or be our Campus Rep.  
Inter-campus Programs  
800-828-7015 or  
[www.icpt.com](http://www.icpt.com)



TRYING TO GET THE  
WORD OUT?



Let everyone know about  
upcoming events by advertising  
in the classified section of  
THE PICARO



SPORTS

Upcoming Varsity Games

BASKETBALL

January 21st MSVU at NSAC: women 6:30pm, men 8:30pm  
January 24th MSVU at STU: women 5pm, men 7pm  
January 25th MSVU at UNBSJ: women 12pm, men 2pm  
January 28th MSVU at KINGS: women 6pm, men 8pm  
February 1st UNBSJ at MSVU: women 1pm, men 11am

VOLLEYBALL

January 21st NSAC at MSVU: 7:30pm  
January 24th MSVU at STU: 3pm  
January 25th MSVU at UNBSJ: 12pm  
January 28th KINGS at MSVU: 7pm  
February 1st UNBSJ at MSVU: 3pm

BADMINTON

January 25th MSVU at NSAC: 10am

Women's Basketball Team starts on a winning note

BY MELANIE GAGNON

The women's basketball team beat DalTech by a score of 59 to 27 on January 11th. The team has 7 wins and 1 loss since the beginning of their season. Their almost undefeated record has been as a result of their strong defensive play. The team goal last semester was to have a record of 5-2 which they surpassed by being 6-1 before the christmas break. The head coach, Angie Mcleod and the team

has set a new goal which is to be undefeated(14-0) this semester. This will be accomplished by being the best defensive team in the conference. The team hopes to be in the playoff and go on from there. Their next game is on Wednesday January 21 against NSAC, the next home game is on February 1st at 1pm were they will be hosting UNBSJ.

Men's basketball suffers second loss

BY MELANIE GAGNON

On the afternoon of January 11th, the men's basketball team played without two of its starters which lead to a 76-69 lost against DalTech. As it stands now the team is in a three way tie with MTA and STU who have ten points each. There are always "great expectations" on the team to beat the competition because of its reputation it has established during the past five years. These expectations have been put on a young team with seven first year players and for the team to be as successful as last year "it will take hard

work" mentions head coach Rick Plato. He also mentions that rebuilding is a major concern this year and that the team needs to play as a unit and not as individuals. The team needs to do a better job of rebounding and to be consistent at all times. The teams goal is to be first in the conference by the end of the season and be in the playoff but "1st place is going to be tough"says head coach Rick Plato. The teams next game is on Wednesday January 21 at NSAC, the next home game is on Sunday February 1st.

Women's Volleyball

BY MELANIE GAGNON

The women's volleyball team is in a rebuilding stage this year as nine out of it's twelve players are in their first year with the team. This young team has improved over the season and are making smarter decisions on the court. Jackie Coyle, the head coach of the women's volleyball team found that

the biggest challenge at the beginning of the season was "to find out where the new players would most benefit the team position-wise". She also mentions that the season is going well and is pleased with the teams performance. The teams next home game is on Wednesday January 21st.

Badminton tournament held at the Mount

BY MELANIE GAGNON

On January 9th and 10th the Mount hosted it's first badminton tournament of the year. This tournament was optional but many mystics participated and did quite well. In men's singles Chris White finished second overall in the A division

and Kevin Letourneau finished second in the B division. Our mixed doubles team consisting of Chris White and Grace Kinney finished third respectively in the A division where there was tough competition.

Badminton team is progressing

BY MELANIE GAGNON

The badminton team is looking to make progress in their next three tournaments before the finals which will be held on February 21 at the Mount. The teams goal is to win mixed doubles and to move up in

women's doubles and in men's singles says head coach Mike Hingston. The teams next tournament will be held on January 25th at NSAC.

Mystic's Varsity Standings (as of Jan 11)

Women's Basketball Conference Standings

RANK	TEAM	MP	MW	ML	POINTS
1	MTA	9	8	1	16
2	MSVU	8	7	1	14
3	King's	9	6	3	12
4	STU	9	5	4	10
5	NSAC	9	4	5	8
6	UNBSJ	7	3	4	6
7	NACC	10	1	9	2
8	DalTech	7	0	7	0

Scorboard of Past Games

November 26th: NSCC 37 at MSVU 68  
November 29th: STU 61 at MSVU 76  
November 30th: STU 48 at MSVU 88  
January 11th: MSVU 59 at DalTech 27

Men's Basketball Conference Standings

RANK	TEAM	MP	MW	ML	POINTS
1	MTA	7	5	2	10
2	MSVU	7	5	2	10
3	STU	7	5	2	10
4	DalTech	6	3	3	6
5	King's	8	3	5	6
6	NSAC	7	3	4	6
7	UNBSJ	6	0	6	0

Scorboard of Past Games

November 29th: STU 70 at MSVU 79  
November 30th: STU 62 at MSVU 8  
January 11th: MSVU 69 at DalTech 76

Badminton Conference Standings

(1st tournament, Nov. 15, 97)

	NSAC	MSVU	USA	MTA	UNBSJ
Men's singles	3	1	5	7	10
Women's singles	7	1	3	5	10
Men's doubles	10	1	3	5	7
Women's doubles	1	5	3	10	7
Mixeddoubles	1	10	3	7	5
Total points	22	18	17	34	39

Overall Standings

1. UNBSJ 2. MTA 3. NSAC 4. MSVU 5. USA

Women's Volleyball Conference Standings

RANK	TEAM	MP	MW	ML
1	UStAnne	8	8	0
2	STU	9	8	1
3	King's	7	5	2
4	NSAC	8	4	4
5	MSVU	8	1	7
6	NACC	5	0	5
6	UNBSJ	6	0	6

Scorboard of Past Games

November 29th: MSVU lost 3-1 against STU  
November 30th: MSVU lost 3-2 against STU  
January 11th: MSVU lost 3-0 against USt.Anne



versa

## Rosaria Food Court, Rosaria Centre

*What we have to offer!*

### Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday

Breakfast- 7:30 am - 9:00 am

Lunch- 11:15 am - 1:15 pm

Dinner- 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm

limited services 7:30 am - 6:30 pm

Saturday - Sunday

Brunch- 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Dinner 4:45 pm - 6:00 pm

limited services 11:00 am - 6:15 pm

**Theme Nights:** Every Wednesday is designated as a theme night featuring various cuisines. All major Holidays and Special days are celebrated, watch for our flyers around campus announcing dates.

**Traditional Sunday Dinner:** Sunday night is special with the Traditional Sunday Dinner at the Rosaria Food Court.

**Display Cooking:** Lunch Tuesdays and Thursdays: *Allegro Pasta*;  
Lunch Wednesdays: *Stir Fry*

**Wraps Bar:** The newest food trend! Check weekly menu outside Rosaria Food Court for details.

**Vegetarian Entrees:** At least one vegetarian meal is presented during every meal break.

**Nutritional Counselling:** Check out our Dietician Website at [dietitian@versa.ca](mailto:dietitian@versa.ca)

## Special Event Catering

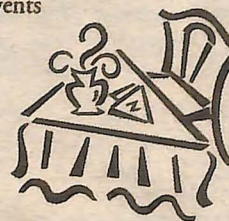
MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY

Corporate Events

Receptions

Weddings

Anniversaries



The conference/catering offices at Mount Saint Vincent University will assist you in all aspects of arranging your special event.

Our services are tailor-made to your requirements and budget and we welcome your enquiry and visit.

Conference Office  
(902) 457-6364

Versa Classic Fare Catering  
(902) 457-6253

## Sacateria, Seton Academic Centre

### Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 am - 7:00 pm

Grill 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Friday: 7:30 am - 3:00 pm

Saturday - Sunday: Closed

Our quick stop food service will see a new grill menu with the introduction of "wraps" and a new salad bar concept "Fresh Tossed" at the beginning of the second semester.

*Check out our new drink sensation*  
- FROZEN DELIGHTS - Try one!

# Winter Carnival '98

*Come Chill On The Hill!*

Starting Sunday January 25 through to Saturday January 31

### Sunday

Tail gate Superbowl Party in Vinnie's Pub 2-11pm  
With Pub Food supplied by Versa

### Monday

Games Room Night 7-10pm  
(Pool Tournament - \$4 per team, winner takes all)

### Tuesday

"Day of Action" march to protest education cuts  
(call Student Union for times and more information)  
Movies at Empire Bedford 6-10 pm

### Wednesday

Caritas Day - no classes  
Ath./Rec. Ski Trip 9am - 5pm  
Sisters of Charity Movie and Information Session  
(Faculty Lounge 12-2pm)  
Polar Bear Swim  
(Contact Allison Druhan, Internal VP for sponsor sheets)  
Hot Chocolate and Donuts provided by Versa  
Wednesday Pub Night

### Thursday

Hawaii "O" & Retro "80's" Night at Vinnie's  
9pm - 2am (\$1 admission)

### Friday

A "MSVU Kitchen Party" at Vinnie's  
Pub with guests "MACKHEEL"  
(show starts around 4:30pm so get your seats early)

### Saturday

Pre-Olympic Games Warm-up/Movies  
Outside will be tobogganning, snowball fights and more.  
Movie pick and place will be announced during the week.

