

# NEXUS

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THE STUDENTS' NEWSPAPER OF MOUNT ST. VINCENT UNIVERSITY

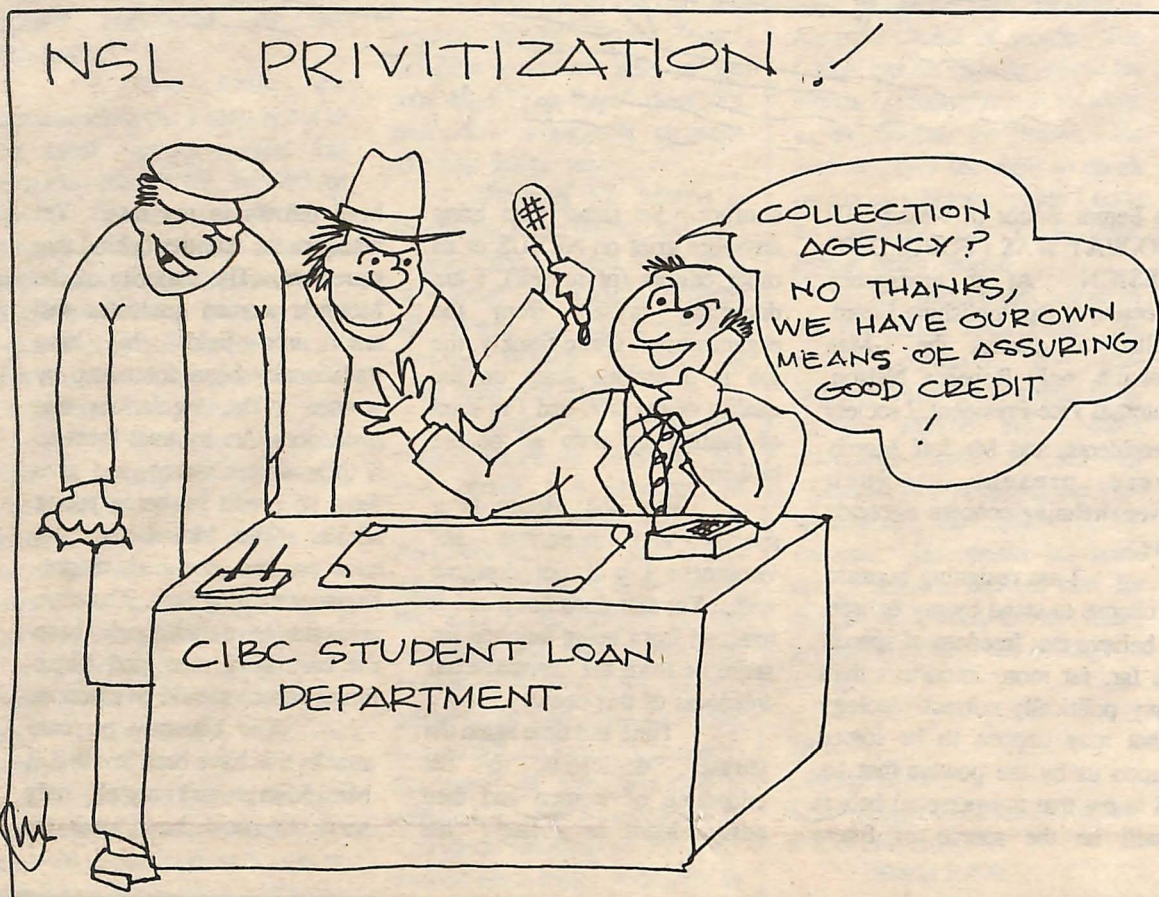
NEXUS  
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## ANOTHER BARRIER TO EDUCATION

In 1993 the Nova Scotia Provincial Liberal Government headed by our Minister of Education, the Honourable John MacEachern, implemented the privatization of the Nova Scotia Student Loan System. The privatization of NSSL has left many questions unanswered and many people have been refused loans already assessed and approved by the Education Department.

The negotiated contract between the bank (CIBC) and the provincial government contains clauses that will make obtaining provincial student loans more difficult. The most controversial of these clauses is the mandatory credit checks for applicants twenty-two years of age or older. CIBC is using the following definition for credit abuse:

"Credit bureau reports would only be obtained on students 22 years of age or older who are receiving a Nova Scotia Student Loan for the first time. A loan could be refused if the credit bureau report shows that in the previous three years, one of the following has taken place:  
\* student has had loans written off



- \* collateral has been repossessed
- \* loan has been referred to a collection agency
- \* chronic history of overdue accounts (at least three, overdue by three or more

months)  
This definition will be spelled out in very exact terms in the contract with the lender(s), leaving no room for interpretation."

To all 786 student

who were rejected for provincial loans in January have had their loans guaranteed by the provincial government for this term only. There have been reported cases of individuals who have been rejected whom

according to the credit bureau's definition should not have been. These include students who are under the age of twenty two or have had more than three years of history checked. Students should be notified by mail if their loan is rejected by CIBC.

The provincial government is now paying the banks a risk premium of 5% per person. According to SUNS an appeal process for those students who were rejected may be implemented, however, it is likely that this would involve the government paying an extra risk premium. The money needed to guarantee these students may have to come out of the remission program designed to give a credit break to student who borrow over \$6500.00 annually.

SUNS is now applying under the Freedom of Information Act to get a copy of the contract between the provincial government and CIBC. Other banks are still being asked if they want to join the contract as it currently stands.

MSVU's Student Union's

Cont'd on page 5.

## HARASSMENT; Not Now Or Ever!

By Lori-Anne Jones

It is a quiet assailant. Creeping up on the person before a word or defence can be strategically positioned. The act has been committed and once more the elusive, every agile harassment beast has claimed another victim.

Like everything, a person doesn't usually become aware of a situation until it happens to them or they become involved with a group that deals specifically with that issue. Both were true for me as I decided to sit on the Advisory Committee of the Status of Women and one of it's Sub-Committee's that is concerned specifically with establishing a policy on General Harassment. Unfortunately one out of every two women have been harassed either sexually or within the general context.

Incredibly dismaying statistics as you scan the room and realize that half of the women have collectively experienced the trauma of

helplessness and victimization.

Why in this day and age is this type of behaviour condoned? Many businesses and institutions are in the process of establishing policies defying harassment as well as opening channels to deal with actual situations.

This is a step forward but we have to take it farther. Collectively we have to adopt a preventive approach, to strongly discourage the opportunities that allow these acts to occur.

Sexual harassment can be as overt as physical contact or as vague as a derogatory comment. Such behaviour is a discriminatory assertion of power that is both unethical and unprofessional. Both isolated and serious of incidents erode the atmosphere of trust that is essential to a secure, safe working environment

If you feel that you are in such a situation, there are a couple of informal steps you

should undertake immediately:

1. Tell harasser to stop verbally or in writing.
2. Tell someone you trust.
3. Keeping a log or journal, record dates, time, place, and witnesses.
4. Report incident to the Union, supervisor or proper authorities.

If the harassment continues or you feel unsure of your experience the University has a Sexual Harassment Advisor on staff. Francine McIntyre sits on the Advisory Committee for the Status of Women and also chairs the afore mentioned Sub-committee. She can be reached at the Institute for the Study of Women are 457-6242.

Also you could contact your Ombudsperson, who presently is Jeff Ridgeway. All concerns and consultations are strictly confidential and

nothing will be done formally unless you make that decision.

Unfortunately, recognition of the initial overture is rare. Possibly the victim will try to rationalize her feelings, thinking that somehow she initiated it or deserved it. Usually she experiences an initial sense of disbelief that such a thing could happen to her and doubt in where her confidences should be placed.

Amazing, truly amazing. One of the best kept secrets ironically is shared by half the female population of our nation. The most important thing to remember is to trust your instincts.

If you feel uncomfortable about a person's comments or gestures or if you feel like you can't defend yourself for fear of losing your job, your probably being harassed and that's a crime. Only by having an opinion on this issue and voicing it loudly will we finally be able to stop the vicious cycle.

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# THE EDITOR

The past three weeks have been a tumultuous period characterized by a great deal of hysteria. I use this term fully aware of its connotations. It is, in fact, the only word I can think of to describe the fear and anger that was incited by the last J-Man column.

As evidenced by the letters I have received, a number of students were highly agitated by the use of the term "piss-flap" in the regularly featured column.

It was not the intention of the author or myself to knowingly or maliciously cause pain to any of the students on campus. For the genuine pain that resulted from the publishing of the article I am truly apologetic.

I am NOT, however, the slightest bit regretful for not preventing the use of the offending term. The intended meaning of the term was the piece of cloth that covers the zipper or button fly in a pair of pants, and is of military origin. The other editors believe that this incident has served to draw the line of acceptability for the content of the paper. With this I do not agree.

I do not believe the angry voices of the mob should determine the editorial policy of this paper. Because of this fundamental disagreement with the other editors, I am resigning

as Senior Editor of Nexus. IN NO WAY WAS I FORCED TO RESIGN. At an emergency meeting of the Publishing Board, called to discuss the J-Man column, only Rebecca Nelson, Internal Vice-President, 2 society Presidents, and Mr Jeff Morris were present. Such overwhelming concern astounds me.

I am resigning because I choose to stand by my beliefs. I believe that freedom of speech is far, far more important than any politically correct ideology that may happen to be forced upon us by the powers that be. I know that my personal beliefs will be the source of future

conflict. So rather than bring anymore grief on NEXUS or its other editors (or myself), I am divorcing myself from the organization. Quite frankly, the job is a serious drain on the quality of my life, and I'm tired of putting up with all of the bullshit.

That the Mount is a special and important environment I will not disagree with. Yet that does not make it immune from being targeted for satire or from the constitutional freedoms of this country.

Time and time again the phrase "dedicated to the education of women and their advancement in society," has

been thrown in my face. Yet what are the realities behind that statement. The majority of the Mount's women graduates will enter into fields that have traditionally been dominated by women. The regulations that residences live by treat them as if they were children, and give them no credit for being young adults. The Mount does not have pre-law, pre-med, or pre-engineering programs. These are areas that have traditionally been the bastion of men, and which more women should be entering.

The blatantly personal attacks that have been levelled at Mr. Morris and myself only serve to show how weak the

case against publishing the "term" really is. One wonders whether our supposed crime was the use of the offensive word or that we dared to use it at this university in such a public method.

It is not pleasant to have your personal reputation vilified by the uninformed, yet at this university and in society in general it is par for the course. How else do you explain the proliferation of magazines like FRANK.

I have been told by opponent and ally alike that I did a good job under impossible circumstances. I have also learned that an honest opponent is far more valuable than fair weather friends. Yet I am not sad to go, nor do I worry that the demagogues of political correctness will prevail. I will still write the occasional story, and I am certain that I will enjoy myself immensely doing so. I will take my leave of you now secure in the knowledge that I tried my best and have no regrets for anything I have done as Editor of NEXUS.



IAN DAVID COWAN

## THE GREAT J-MAN CONTROVERSY

### AGAINST

Dear "Editor",

I have just read your latest pathetic attempt at a university newspaper, and I strongly feel that I should write in my concerns. Until now, I have opted to ignore my rage and disgust in hopes that you will just go away.

The last straw has been the January 19 issue of Morris Muses. Morris' constant reaching for banal controversy has gone too far. Up until this, I had tolerated Morris Muses, not because I agreed with anything he said, or found his incessant blathering in any way amusing, but because I had felt so profoundly sorry for him. After all, I see Jeff as just another small person suffering from a mouth that is disproportionate to his tiny stature. Poor, little, tiny Jeff.

So small has Jeff become, that in his latest column he addresses his readers "For any of you spoiled rotten little piss-flaps..." In case you didn't know (which I doubt), the term "piss-flaps" is a derogatory, violent reference to the female genitalia. He goes on in his bilious verbal vomit to demean women in a number of other ways, from belittling the title "flight attendant" to denigrating female Tim Horton's

employees. This, "editor," is verbal violence against women, and it must stop NOW.

I do not feel that, in a university where women comprise 85 percent of the student body, that a newspaper whose regular staff is comprised two thirds by men is at all representative of the Mount population. I further object to deviants such as Jeff Morris having a platform for his anti-female sentiments. I have worked in the "real world" before coming back to school, and can attest first hand that violence and sexual harassment against women is alive and kicking. I do not have to endure, let alone finance this in my school newspaper.

NEXUS is showing us that it is not "The Students' Newspaper of Mount St. Vincent University," but in fact, just another opportunity created by caricatures like Jeff Morris to get in another dig at women.

Opposed to most forms of regulated censorship, I usually just practice my own form of censorship, which is not to patronize that which I abhor. However, since MY student fees are financing such crap, I can stay silent no longer.

If NEXUS is to remain the only funded newspaper at MSVU, with articles and staff so

above reproach, I propose that students reading this letter, who are just as disgusted as I am with Nexus, should demand next semester that the percentage of their student fees allotted for Nexus be withheld. Students should have the right to choose whether their student fees go toward Nexus, if it is not the paper of their choice, and particularly if the content is offensive to them.

- Elizabeth Smith

p.s. I'm still waiting for the scoop on the theft at Vinnie's? Is your "news" editor too busy getting beers for the boys?

p.s.s. Should you muster the courage to print this, I suspect the little guy will insult me in his column. Well Jeff, go ahead. I'm bigger than you; I can take it.

# News editor's note: In response to your "...too busy getting beers for the boys"....I do not drink and, as a woman, it is not my "responsibility" to wait on any man, or woman. When asked about the theft at Vinnie's, Scott MacKay said that there had been no theft. If this is not a satisfactory answer I would be pleased to have printed any investigative and substantiated report that you want to submit to us here at the NEXUS concerning this alleged theft. We

will not print unsubstantiated rumour or innuendo as this leaves our paper open to legal prosecution.



In Defence of an Outraged Response

Yes, outrage and disgust, again, was my initial reaction to Mr. Morris' column. Yet very quickly the rational side of my brain gained control and reminded me that was exactly the response he wanted and that he and his column were not worth the wasted adrenaline. Yet I feel a responsibility to take time out of my busy schedule to respond and to bring this to a level to which it belongs. Unfortunately, every campus nation-wide has an insufferable english major, whose bloated

ego fuels their pursuit of self attributed superiority and feels driven to share it with the entire student population. Well, Mr. Morris, SAVE IT. In all your efforts to extol your incredibly above average qualities, all that is evident is your shallowness and true lack of vision, genius, or social insight. We are rocketing towards the year 200, young man, and I find it very dismaying that you ardently cling to such archaic attitudes, values and opinions, setting you in an isolated subclass all your own. WAKE UP! Yes, every one has the right to their opinions and are free to argue them ad homonym or in Mr. Morris's case, ad femminym, yet my concern lies with the fact that he is habitually given a public forum to air such attitudes, giving them a false authority.

Interestingly enough gauging the

## VOTE



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## AGAINST

male response, from the few I have talked to, have said basically, "What's your problem? He's just doing what he's always done." Yet they female response runs something like, "That slug, he..." and the rest I won't repeat because he would use it as proof of feminine irrationality. Most though, found it distressing, and personally dedicated to the higher education of women would allow this young man's column to go unchecked. I know that job usually falls to the editor, but obviously he has overlooked his responsibility concerning Mr. Morris's submissions. One could be very nasty and pose the question is it because of their friendship? Or perhaps that they are both men? Both deserve reflection. In any case, the bottom line, for me personally, is that the substance of Mr. Morris's column and one's previous have fundamentally contributed to the perpetuation of the victim cycle. Though it sounds like I am taking this too seriously, negative attitudes about women or men on the basis of factors beyond their control, gender, race or creed are completely unacceptable, whether Mr. Morris means it or not.

After everything has been said, all I can feel for Mr. Morris is pity for his considerable lack of character and backbone, as it takes only a sad, hollow, lonely man to criticize, attack and defile. I know that just by writing a response I am exposing myself to abuse, but I think it is necessary, though painful, to confront the problem, and stand as an example that this sort of behaviour should not be encouraged. Everyone should have the opportunity to voice their opinions without fear of a personal slander. So you know who I am, I am not afraid to sign my name and feel confident that I have written this response with the underlying support of others who feel as I do.

Lori-Anne Jones

Dear Mr. Cowan;

Correct me if I am wrong, but is not Mount Saint Vincent University an institution dedicated to the education of women? Furthermore, does Nexus not have in its mission statement an expression of sensitivity towards women? Knowing that these two statements are true, please explain to me why Nexus continually illustrates verbal abuse via the J-man, towards the female population of the university.

I have heard the argument that the J-man is not to be taken seriously, and his remarks are to be viewed as merely humorous. Well, if anyone considers such language and connotations humorous or inoffensive, they have a very warped sense of humour. I do not know whether to blame the Jerk-man, the editor or the Nexus Publishing board. All I can do is express my anger, frustration and lack of comprehension that people still think this way. I do not "crave abuse," I do not enjoy being referred to as one on the many "pissflaps" and I certainly do not want to "win a date" with such a pig. Jerk-man, you make me cringe.

I do not believe the column by Jeff Morris should be allowed to continue, in Nexus or any other publication. Women of Mount Saint Vincent University should not have to be subject to such backwards and crude material, and we do not have to if you make the right decision to cancel the column.

Sincerely,  
Sara Napier

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Dear NEXUS Editor:

The Morris Muses feature in the January 19, 1994 issue of NEXUS is offensive as it incites hatred toward women, and has no place in the student newspaper of a university who's mission statement specifically

insists that "Mount Saint Vincent University is concerned primarily with the education of women". (MSVU 1993-94 Calendar, page 9)

In his January 19, 1994 column Mr. Morris characteristics Mount students who went south for the Christmas holidays as "a bunch of spoiled rotten little piss-flaps." The word piss-flaps is synonymous with the word cunt, which can only refer to the women of this institution. Mr. Morris' attempt to encode the women hating term "cunt" behind a sophmoric little-known term like "piss-flaps" does not make his misogynist message any less dangerous.

Perhaps Mr. Morris is trying to achieve no-holds-barred in-your-face Howard Stern style of writing. Then again, perhaps Mr. Morris just has a problem viewing women as anything other than piss-flaps.

This is one woman who cannot afford to overlook the real power and meaning of words like piss-flaps and cunt. Furthermore, I will not accept any characterization of women in the student newspaper of my University that has perpetuating women's second class citizen status as its first premise. That second class status only exists in the minds of men like that a vehicle (i.e., their own column in a student newspaper) for their twisted ideas lends credibility to those ideas.

For the record, I don't crave abuse-no woman does. Keep that in mind the next time Mr. Morris submits a piece of garbage like his last offering. Better yet, maybe our student newspaper should use the space on the features page for the musings of someone a little more reflective of the student body.

Remember, 85 percent of the students at this University are women, (not piss-flaps/cunts) just tuition paying, student union fee paying women.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ms. C.A. Tyndall

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## IN FAVOUR...

Dear Editor:

I have always been taught that it is wrong to judge a person on their values or beliefs before listening to their reasoning. It would seem that I am one of the few people on this campus who has received this education. People at Mount Saint Vincent University have been judging a man because of his poor choice of words. The J-Man has his right to choose his words, his thoughts and his ideas in any manner he pleases. He also deserves the right to speak on his own behalf, which I hope he does, on this whole issue before being judged.

I understand some of the frustration some people are having, however, this pre-judging is really the wrong thing to do. Maybe the J-Man's intentions were to stir up emotions and let people see how widespread the apathy is on campus. He speaks his mind and I have to defend him for that because there are not many people who have the courage to do so.

Sincerely,  
Tammy Myers  
A non-judgmental female student  
at this university.

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Dear NEXUS readers and contributors,

I want the J-man to continue to contribute to the NEXUS, you know that tired little school newspaper that we whip together at our "Mount". I read the Nexus and truthfully didn't care too much for its content until I was introduced by some friends to Morris' Muses and that infamous man that calls himself J-man. Look, let's talk turkey...I like the J-man as do many other people (who I might add should do right by him and write in with some support). You can't censor Mr. J. Here is my secret to letting the J-man continue to write his column.

1. If you don't like it don't read it!
2. Lighten up!
3. And anyone who was offended about the "piss-flap" crack...get therapy...you are obviously forgetting how many times you've called a fellow homosapien a "dickhead." Tsk Tsk...equality works both ways ladies.

To conclude I would like to say that our J-man is talented, the insults just roll off the guy's tongue and I'd sell my soul to obtain such a talent. I guess I'm trying to say to hell with politically correct and hail J-man...well hail is a pretty strong word so scratch the hail bit (the guy is no saint he's just great for a laugh) and I'll leave you with the thought that freedom of speech is being suppressed by such narrow minds so open up your minds...then maybe you can learn to shut your mouths.

\*Note: by "shut your mouths" I mean be more content with things of as little importance as Morris' Muses... I certainly do not mean shut up about the more important issues like AIDS, rape etc...you complainers should use your ink for those issues over ol'J's attitude anyhow.

Kelly Caines

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Dear Editor,

I just wanted to get in my two cents worth about this so-called newspaper scandal -- I say "so-called" because I am genuinely disappointed that once again, in the quest for political correctness, too many people have lost sight of one of the most important of all Canadian rights -- the freedom of speech. Yes, how bland; I'm using the oldest defense in the book -- or should I say, (of late) the most employed defense in the book? I find it very discouraging that in a country that (supposedly) promotes vocal liberty, writers, reporters, professors and many

GRADUATION  
Family Room

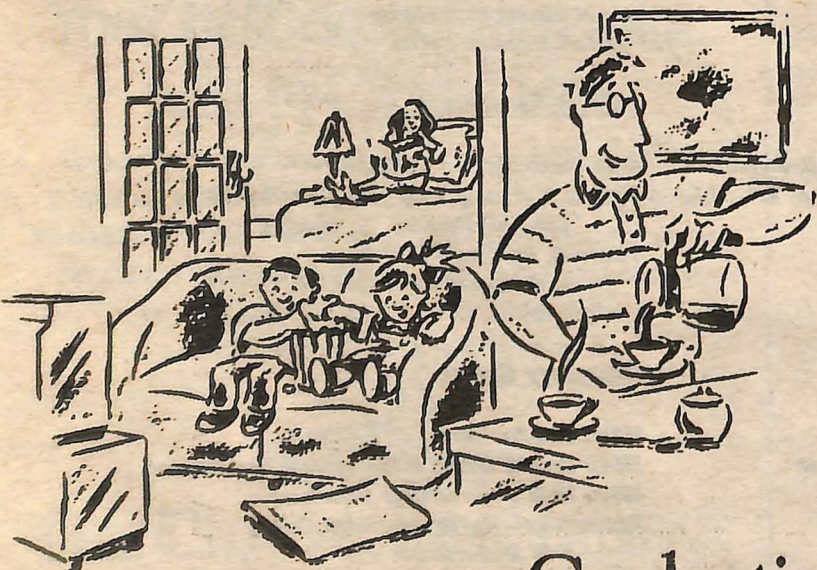
IS YOUR FAMILY COMING TO HALIFAX FOR YOUR GRADUATION? CAMBRIDGE SUITES GIVES YOU SOMETHING YOU WON'T FIND IN A TYPICAL HOTEL ROOM FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY! For the cost of an ordinary hotel room, stay in a beautiful suite complete with microwave, fridge, coffeemaker, dishes, even free popcorn. Plus, Free Continental Breakfast for everyone, Free Parking† and a perfect downtown location!

  
CAMBRIDGE  
SUITES  
HOTEL

Graduation Family Special \$75\*

Book your Family Room today by calling 420-0555 or 1-800-565-1263

\*per room, per night plus taxes, double or family occupancy. No charge for children under 18. Subject to availability. †Parking availability may be limited.





# LETTERS ETC.

others are constantly oppressed by the ever present and limiting confines of "not offending the wrong people". When you censor people in this way, you are basically saying that they don't have a right to their own opinion! It has come to the point where it is almost impossible to comment on any controversial topic, for the simplest reason that it involves disagreeing with some people. (What's the deal with that?!). This is a particularly sad situation because it involves a *humour column* (one that's located on the same page as the cartoons for crying out loud!) So, maybe you don't find it funny but, hey...I happen to love the Stooges and my mother hates them, and we get along quite spiffy. What I'm emphasizing here people is that J-man actually does have a right to say what he wishes; and whether you agree with him or not has no effect on his individual freedom. I'm not saying you have to like him, and you don't have to eat lunch with him -- come to think of it you don't even have to acknowledge his existence if he repulses you so completely. Just don't DON'T READ HIS ARTICLE!!! Avoid it, stomp on it, burn it, or wipe your butt with it, who cares! But it's about time for us to start accepting the fact that all people do not think alike, and we aren't always going to agree when it comes to the way in which one voices one's opinions, nor in what one's opinions are. Not referring to the J-man in any way, if some moron wishes to make himself look pathetically stupid by revealing his twisted and useless views on something, why not let him? He's only degrading himself. My point is he has an equal access to the freedoms of speech that you do, so where you don't have to listen to his opinions, neither does he have to listen to yours. now, before I take off, I'd like to say that I did not find Mr. Morris' article to be offensive in any way; on the contrary I thought it was rather humorous.

With much concern,  
Karen A. MacGillivray

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Dear Sir/Madame,

I am writing you in regards to the rumoured cancelation of the J-Man's column. First of all let me state that my initial reaction to the column was not a good one. I personally take offense to the column in question. After considerable debate with my friends, however, I have come to realize the far reaching effects of your decision to pull the column. No matter how offensive, the J-Man has the right to publish his column. Its called freedom of speech. We exercise our own freedom of

speech to speak out against it or for it. Freedom of speech does not just include all that is politically correct. It is a safe guard against the oppression of ideas. University is a place that must encourage the freedom of thought, not place limits. To limit our thoughts to all that is politically correct would be disastrous. I need not remind you that the very women who founded this University were not politically correct either. At the time it was politically correct for women to stay at home, having babies, rather than founding institutions for higher learning. People will always take offense at things. It is up to those who are offended to speak out and defend themselves, to enlighten those who offend. That's how real change comes about, not through oppression.

Michelle Arnold.

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To the Editor of the Nexus:

I am writing in response to the fervour I have witnessed on this campus recently. The excitement came about because of an article in your paper entitled "Morris Muses". I have been reading the school newspaper regularly and I enjoy the humour that Mr. Morris presents. Recently I engaged in a discussion with a group of female students of this school in which the general consensus was that the J-Man is a needed piece in a school that is anal retentive in it's sensitivity to issues. After attending the debates and hearing the issue raised to the candidates, I realised that the last article had caused some waves so I endeavoured to reread it in an attempt to find what was so offensive. Imagine my surprise when I discovered that it was a word. A word, I might add, that was not even used in an sexist connotation. As a male student, this truly upsets me. I do not believe that if J-Man had used the word foreskin or dickhead there would even be a letter sent. I don't know if the article will be cancelled as a result of all this crying and screaming but I sincerely hope that it is not. The newspaper needs some humour and some mirth. If your really mad at the J-Man, ask him to tone down or attempt to be more sensitive to issues. If you insist that he be thrown off the paper then you are no better than Pravda censors that choose why they want someone to read. Respect his right of expression please, you may be in a position someday when you need a second chance and what comes around will almost surely go around.

Alex Beckett  
First year BA

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## VALENTINES DAY

Saint Valentines Day conjures up for me images of love personified by three very special people in my life my financee and her two beautiful children. A day dedicated to love is a wonderful thing although I personally believe that one should dedicate a lifetime to loving the people in your life as I have done. The origins of Saint Valentines Day are murky however research has revealed that the day is associated with two Christian martyrs and the Roman festival of Lupercalia. Whatever the origins of Saint Valentines Day the day has become one dedicated to courtship and romance. This is the day that one should make a extra special effort at showing your love for that someone special in your life. The exchange of cards, the giving of flowers or candy seems to be the way in which many people have choosen to express their love. But reality says that many of us don't have the extra \$50 bucks needed to purchase these items. So here are a few examples of some low cost to no cost things that you the poor student can do for the one you love that will show your love for them.

1. Get up early on Valentines Day Morning and make breakfast in bed for your loved one (Please remember to cut the toast into a heart shape).
2. Secretly slip a love poem into their pillow, books, lunch, shower, pocket, etc...
3. Rush home from school before they get home make a gourmet meal slip into something appropriate and ship

pick up some massage oil and give your special someone a full body massage.  
5. Run them a hot bubble bath, light some candles, put on some soft music and wash their back while telling them how much you apreciate them being in your life.  
What ever you choose to do remember this Valentines Day is for lovers, friends,



- the kids (if appliciable) off to the neighbours and enjoy each other.  
4. If you got five bucks or so stop off at the body shop and

family or that lonely person you see sitting by themselves why not show how much you care for the people around you.

### MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY'S 2ND ANNUAL GERONTOLOGY "CAREER NIGHT" and THE SCSC SISTERS CONCERNED FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

present

#### HEALTH CARE ISSUES: PRESENT AND FUTURE CONCERNS

EMPLOYMENT OF GERONTOLOGY GRADUATES  
THE ROLE OF HEALTH CARE FOR THE ELDERLY

Tuesday, March 1, 1994, 7:00 P.M.  
Cardinal Cushing Auditorium  
Mount Saint Vincent Motherhouse  
150 Bedford Highway, Halifax

##### Guest Speakers

The Hon. Dr. Ronald D. Stewart, M.D. -Nova Scotia Minister of Health  
Deborah A. Vandewater, R.N., M.N. -Director of Nursing, Long Term Care, Psychiatry,  
Camp Hill Hospital  
Lloyd Brown -President, Northwood Care Inc.  
& Northwood Home Care Ltd.

##### Honorary Guests

Dr. Sheila Brown -MSVU Vice-President  
Dr. Rosemarie Sampson -MSVU Dean of Human & Professional Development  
Dr. George Gasek -MSVU Chair of Gerontology Department  
Sister Doris Schoner -Administrator, Mother Berchmans Centre,  
MSV Motherhouse

OPEN FORUM

FREE ADMISSION

REFRESHMENTS



# LETTERS

## THE GREAT CAFETERIA DEBATE

[Eds. Note: This story was published in NEXUS last semester. We reprint it here so that our readers may refresh their memories and so that the following letter would seem more relevant.]

### GOURMET DINING - NOT!

What makes the Rosaria cafeteria so appealing to residence students? Well, I will let you in on a little secret ... IT'S NOT THE FOOD! I have recently had the "pleasure" of sampling at least a portion of the dishes offered (or is that forced upon?) students.

The sad part is that some students are required to pay exorbitant amounts of money for food that is, at times, unrecognizable, if not inedible. But don't get me wrong; I am sure that there are many delicious dishes created that are suitable for consumption. My complaint, however, lies within the realm of reality - the simple things, as small as they may be, that would yield a significant change in attitudes toward cafeteria dining.

For instance, WASH the utensils! It is absolutely disgusting (to the point of losing one's appetite, if not their previous meal) to have to sort through the cutlery to find ones

that are not caked with the remnants of the last meal. Yuck!

Coffee should taste freshly brewed, not like it was made last week. Clean out the machines daily. It may be a hassle, but those students who drink coffee deserve something that at least resembles the beverage indicated on the outside of the machine. If the machine does get cleaned daily then maybe a change in coffee brands is in order.

Eggs! What can I say about eggs? First of all, boiled eggs do not have GREEN yokes! If they do, then they have been boiled too long. A slight adjustment in your timing methods appears to be required. Secondly, fried eggs sunny-side up. Of course the yokes should be runny, but the white portion of the egg should not. That usually means that it is raw and therefore needs to be cooked a tad longer. Use a lid to cover the eggs to help cook the top.

Lettuce! Last time I checked, crisp lettuce is more appropriate for salads than the limp greenery you have sitting in your salad bar. Perhaps between meals the lettuce could be put back in a cool place and changed a little more often.

These are just a few of the items I sampled during my two

trips to the cafeteria. I have, however, heard many other stories that make me question the value of the Mount's meal plan. You know you have a problem when ice cream becomes a staple food because students are disgusted with the alternatives.

Finally, to those of you who work at preparing the cafeteria food and are offended at my comments I would like to say, frankly, too bad. The way I see it, if you went to a restaurant and received similar food and service I question whether or not you would you feel an overpowering urge to not pay the bill. And if that were the case, would you be a repeat customer? I THINK NOT!

Jeff Benson

■■■■■■■■■■

Mr. Editor:

This letter is in regards to an article by Jeff Benson entitled, "Gourmet Dining--Not!" which appeared in the fourth issue of your paper. The article is biased and incorrect; it fails to tell the entire truth--something we are sure you, as editor, would never be associated with.

First of all, the article fails to report any factual information--where is the research? Assumptions were made--and as you know, don't

assume it makes an ASS of U and ME!

Generalities were made and no specific incidents (with dates and concrete details) were cited.

Mr. Benson, your two trips to the Cafeteria left you with negative feelings. We would like to mention the positive contributions (which we have witnessed in our 28 combined years on the meal plan) that Versa Food Services made to its patrons--the residents who "pay exorbitant amounts of money." For example, residents can order birthday cakes for each other, residents are given weekly "special theme nights," and during special occasions, such as Halloween, Christmas and exam week, residents receive special snacks outside of the normal cafeteria hours. These incidents are just a few examples where the staff of Versa go out of their way for us, yet your article dwelled on the negative.

Mr Benson, we would like to explain to the channels you should follow when you have complaints or suggestions. If you are going to nominate yourself the residents' spokesperson, please follow the required channels of communication when voicing your complaints.

For future reference, we would like to inform you that

there is a committee of residents, including your own Residence Representative for the Student Union, who meet bi-weekly to voice comments, concerns or suggestions to Versa Food Services.

We would be happy to inform you of the next meeting date and time (which will be after Christmas) should you wish to voice these concerns to the Versa Food Services' manager, Umberto Catalano.

We would be very interested in your suggestions--which we may add failed to be clearly stated--to the complaints you raised in your article.

We eagerly await your input and involvement in our Food Committee.

Sincerely,

Kim Merrill,  
Food Committee Chair,  
Assisi Hall

Housing Staff,  
Assisi & Evaristus Halls

Sheri Moore,  
Student Union  
Residence  
Representative,  
Evaristus Hall

[Eds. Note: That Mr. Benson's story appeared as a news article, is the fault of the paper. He had submitted a letter to the editor, and it was laid out in the wrong place. Our apologies.]

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

External Vice President, Jeff Benson, has circulated a petition around campus for the purpose of attaining signatures from the student population and faculty. This petition is to be sent to the Honourable John MacEachern and to other party education critics. In conjunction with the petition, a form letter detailing our view of the current student aid situation and acceptable solutions has also been created.

Jeff Benson recently attended a meeting with Kathleen Thompson (Director of Student Aid), Reg Clayton (education bureaucrat responsible for negotiating the deal with CIBC), and Doug Noss (Director of Financial Services, Department of Education) about what is happening regarding Nova Scotia student loans and the CIBC. Kathleen Thompson is currently putting together a profile of who was rejected and for what reasons.

Student may call Equifax (credit bureau) located in Montreal to check their credit history. The number is 1-800-465-7166. MSVU's Student Union encourages students who are having problems with their NSSL to bring their claims to the Student Union office on the Fourth floor of Rosaria. If you have any questions or comments contact Jeff Benson, External Vice President of Student Union, or talk to your council representative.

## ATTENTION ALL HUMAN ECOLOGY STUDENTS

Orders Will Be Taken For  
HUMAN ECOLOGY PROFESSIONAL RINGS  
And  
H.E.S.A. Sweatshirts  
And Canvas Totebags  
In Rosaria At The Following Times:

MONDAY, MARCH 7: 1:30 - 3:30  
TUESDAY, MARCH 8: 1:30 - 3:30  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2: 10 - 2  
THURSDAY, MARCH 3: 9 - 12

### PRICES:

10Kt. Rings - \$56.80      Sweatshirts - \$25.00  
14Kt. Rings - \$68.80      Totebags - \$11.00



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# ELECTION '94

The following are outlines for the executive positions on MSVU Student Council as stated in the Constitution, and the candidates running for each position:

The **PRESIDENT** shall:

- be a liaison officer between the Union and the University
- be responsible for ensuring Executive members have all necessary information for Executive Committee meetings
- be a member of the senate
- be a member of the Board of Governors
- preside at all meetings of the Union and the Council
- be a co-signer with the Union Treasurer of all Union finances
- be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Student Council
- be responsible for writing an annual report to be presented at the Annual General Meeting
- be the Chair for the Pub Management
- be responsible for staff
- media spokesperson

## Presidential Candidate SONIA BAILLON



If someone had told me during my first semester of university that I would be running for President of the Student Union, I probably would have quoted a line from Jim Morrison laughed in an evil tone and walked away. I'm no longer interested in walking away.

By the end of my first year, I decided to see what made this place tick -- so I ran for Public Relations Rep. (Using Jim Morrison as a catalyst for my campaign) Surprisingly enough Student Council was something that I liked -- but I needed a greater challenge, and more involvement in my new interest. So with a little help from Leonardo Da Vinci, I became Internal Vice-president. That's where you find me now.

Now - as elections roll around again I find myself campaigning for the position of President -- the ultimate challenge.

We have seen a year of fluctuation. We've been tagged as being "financially challenged, but I do not look upon the

Union, our student body, as a hopeless entity by any means. In fact, our difficulties have given the place a whole new dynamic. Just look at how many people have offered their candidacy in this election. Apathetic -- I think not.

This year has been a big learning year for me. Without which I would not even consider taking over the job of Student Union President.

I'm not a very average person. I've been told on a number of occasions that I am "unique". I like that. I always try to approach situations in an innovative manner. I believe that creativity, perspective and action are the launching pads to success.

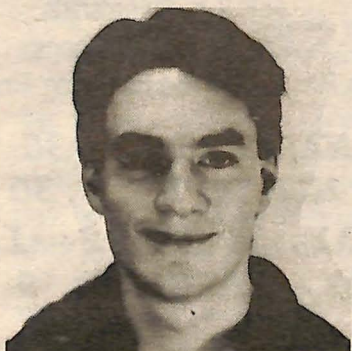
Success, however, for us as students can only be achieved by taking on the major student issues. For too long now this student union has been looking inward at the messy details. It's time to look outward. We need to be dealing more intimately with issues like tuition, student loans and rationalization. As Internal Vice-President I have seen the inner workings of the university community, and can also see that we need to place an internal emphasis on finances, student services, entertainment and student accessibility to both services and buildings. But foremost, we need to focus on the big picture rather than look so deeply inward that we forget there is an outside world.

Although the student union has some very serious issues to deal with through the course of a year, I believe that with the right approach politics can be fun. Without some fun what happens to school spirit and to the approachability of our elected representatives? Really, communication is the key to any good relationship and that's something we need to work at.

I've got a lot of good ideas and enough vision to see them through. I'd like to do more than just communicate my thoughts to you -- I'd like to make things happen. I hope you will give me the chance to do this.

So on the 15th and 16th I urge you to vote, and I also urge you to consider what you are voting for.

## Presidential Candidate JOE STROLZ



Accountability, accessibility and financial responsibility -- these are traits that define a student union that serves the

students. Sadly, our present council has none of these.

Our student council is accountable to no one -- not even themselves. For example, they have three separate constitutions, all of which have been used at one time throughout the year for the sake of damage control. A constitution should protect the students, not the Council Executive.

Let's talk accessibility. Sure those Sunday afternoon council meeting are fun (and seeing as no students are around, also convenient), but if elected I plan to change that -- more open forums -- more open discussions -- more accessible meeting hours and places.

As for financial responsibility... Student Union has a multi- thousand dollar debt carried over from five years ago and they only found out about it this Christmas? Give me a break. It's either one of two things: they really are that dumb, or they think you are.

Show them you're smarter than they think. On February 15 and 16, send council one message they can't ignore...

...Vote **JOE STROLZ** for President.

The **EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT** shall:

- assist the President of the Union in the performance of her/his duties and shall act for the President if her/his absence extends beyond a two week period; she/he however, shall not have the signing power of the President
- Constitution Committee; the function of this committee shall be defined by regulations
- submit a report and evaluation of what she/he did during the year by January 1 and March 31
- be responsible for other duties as designated by the Council of the Union
- Chair of Alcohol Awareness Committee

## Executive Vice- President Candidate REBECCA NELSON



Bringing my experience to a new Student's Council means recognizing, and drawing upon, the beneficial experiences I have encountered in my previous two years as an elected member of Council.

This past year has been a challenge for Student's Council. Fortunately this year's Council, as last year's council was able to

do, has not contributed to the current Student Union deficit. In fact, significant plans have been designed to boost the Student Union's financial position in the up-coming year. To strengthen the Student's organization and the voice of their concerns.

Being an intricate part of these plans, and with new ideas of my own, I feel I am the best candidate to see those plans through as your **EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT** on Student's Council. My detailed knowledge of the Student Union activities, and present position, are crucial to the future success of the Student Union of Mount Saint Vincent University.

My master plan includes; internal restructuring, increased accountability, capital funds (possibly a Student Union Alumni), improving present student services, and better communications between students and administrative decisions made by the university regarding tuition, rationalization, and many other issues.

I intend to look out for your best interests as I have been for the past year as your Academic Vice President. My experience with our university administration, my communication with students, and my rapport with people in general will help to provide a *United Union*, effectively bringing you the best representation possible.

Student Union is here to serve you. With your input changes can be made to make your educational career more profitable and successful. Get everything you can out of Student Union. Vote February 15th and 16th, vote for Rebecca Nelson as your next Executive Vice President. My experience... your voice... Our future.

## Executive Vice- President Candidate SHERI MOORE



The executive vice-president is the administrative support of the president. They chair such committees as the Constitution, Selections and CHOICE (alcohol awareness), in addition to various other administrative committees not chaired by the president.

The executive vice-president plays a unique role on Council that requires an individual with experience in chairing and facilitating meetings; planning and programming events;

communicating and expressing students' views to the proper authorities and individuals. We need someone who possess these qualities.

As a third year public relations student and a resident assistant (housing staff) for two years, much like you, I understand the necessary qualities required for the executive vice-president position. We need an enthusiastic leader who is willing to learn and open to innovative and creative ideas.

We need to improve student union - making it accessible to students, creating a comfortable atmosphere to express ideas and making council more effective and visibly active in student issues.

I hope you will see me in the role, as executive vice-president, as a leader who has the ability to initiate change. In order to evolve, we must be open to new ways of achieving goals and taking action.

I am such a leader. We can make a difference. I want to prove to you that Student Council is effective and useful. A true leader has vision. They respect and empower their constituents with the information they deserve. Honesty and integrity are a prerequisite for any council member. Good luck to all those who are running for positions. I remind you to vote. It only takes a few minutes but you can make a difference! I encourage you to get involved.

# VOTE



Feb 15 & 16

The **INTERNAL VICE-PRESIDENT** shall:

- be chairperson of the Elections Committee, the function of this committee shall be defined by regulations
- shall be an honorary member of the societies, clubs, and organizations chartered by Union
- act as a liaison between the Student Council and such societies, clubs, and organizations under their jurisdiction of the Union as may exist on campus
- be responsible for gathering year end reports from those societies, clubs and organizations as per the constitution
- submit a report and evaluation of what she/he did during the year by January 1 and March 31
- be responsible for other duties as designated by the Council of the Union
- Student Union fundraising



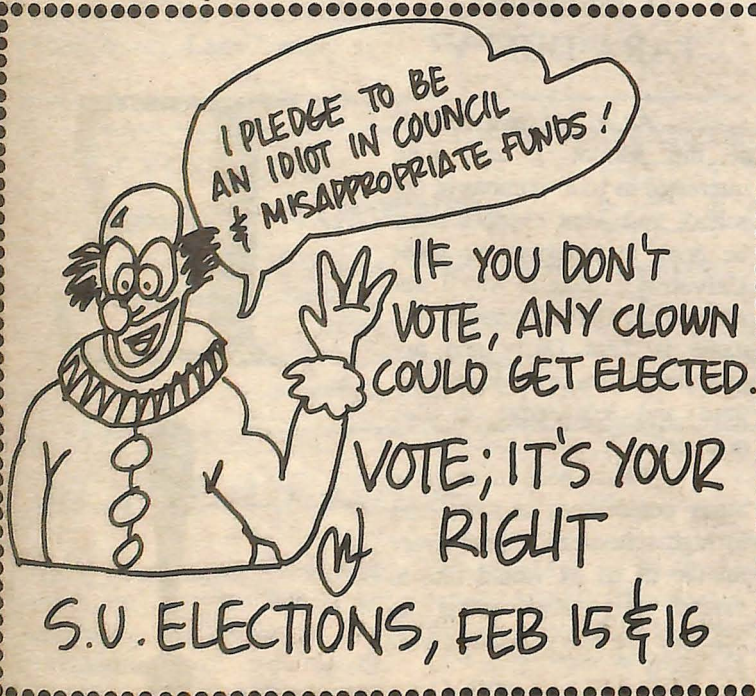
## ELECTION '94

Internal Vice-  
President  
Candidate  
ANGELA HILL

"Student Union needs new ideas, crativity and imagination." As INTERNAL VICE-PRESIDENT one of my chief duties will be communicating with societies. I'll be in a position to help societies come-up with new and creative ways to recruit members and get people involved. The INTERNAL VICE-PRESIDENT's responsibilities also include fund raising and organizing charity events for the SU. With my active imagination I'll create events and activities to try. My experience on the Tourism and Hospitality Management Society Executive has given me lots of ideas and ample opportunity to test out new and innovative approaches to otherwise ordinary events. As INTERNAL VICE-PRESIDENT I'll put those ideas to work for you.

Internal  
Vice-President  
Candidate  
SHERRY  
PENDLEBURY

Hello everybody! My name is Sherry Pendlebury and I am running for the position of Internal Vice-President for the 1994/95 academic year.



I want to use my business experience, organizational skills and experience as Arts Representative to improve inter-school communication and fund raising. My other goals include working with all of the societies and organizations to help raise funds, organize events and advertise these events. I will work to improve the communication between the Student Union and the students and improve the availability of financial reports, monthly reports and minutes from all council meetings to the students.

I am available to answer questions or take suggestions. I want to hear your opinions and ideas so that I can represent you, the students, to the best of my ability.

I would like to strongly encourage everyone to come out and vote on February 15 and 16. I am looking forward to meeting you!

The EXTERNAL VICE-PRESIDENT shall:

- act as a liaison officer between the Union and the Student Unions of other universities and educational institutions

- be chairman of the External Affairs Committee and any representative committees from outside student organizations as required through membership of these outside student organizations.

- be responsible for the dissemination of external issues to the student

- actively participate in provincial, regional, and national student organizations in such a way as to benefit the members of the Union

- be at least a third or fourth year student in good academic standing: the Academic Vice-President will normally be appointed by the Council to be a member of the Senate

- normally be appointed Chairperson of the Awards

## Banquet Committee

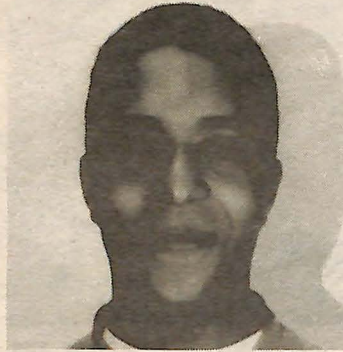
- submit a report and evaluation of what she/he did during the year by January 1 and March 31
- be responsible for other duties as designated by the Council of the Union

External Vice-  
President  
Candidate  
DAWN YOCHOFF

Hello, my name is Dawn Yochoff. I am running for the position of External V.P. I am a first year student here at MSVU and have spent my year watching it's politics. Although I have not been directly involved in this year's council, I feel that I would bring a wealth of leadership knowledge to the Student Union.

The campaign is almost over now. You've seen a lot of posters and are probably tired of seeing my face everywhere. That's the way it should be. The job of External V.P. is to act as a liasion officer to other post-secondary institutions and to community organizations. The interactions between universities on a municipal, provincial and national level is imperative. We need to learn from each other and build on the other's knowledge. A good External V.P. will become a strong voice in the community. It is important that MSVU is not overlooked because we are not in downtown Halifax. You need a person who will make people sit up and take notice. It is also important for the External V.P. to lend an open ear to the students they represent. If elected I would be more than happy to listen to your suggestions, ideas and complaints on any issue. This is not the sole purpose of my job. The Ombudsperson is the voice on council which voices the views of the average student. However, I have no problem listening to your concerns if you feel you would rather speak to me. Any issue important to you is important to me. I would also like to hear some input as to the direction you would like the External V.P. to take. If elected I will be representing YOU and cannot do that without knowing where you, the students of MSVU, stand on the issues. My time will be your time. I will make a better link between my office and the student at large. Together we can strive for a better MSVU.

IT'S THE DAWN OF A NEW YEAR!

External Vice-  
President  
Candidate  
TODD JACKSON

I do not think it is the job of a politician at any level to tell you what you want. You know what you want. You should be able to tell your student council what you want and their job should be to get it for you in the best way that they can. Too often candidates do not know the difference or are just full of promises. Talk without action is just talk. Vote for someone who will listen and is not afraid to "rock the boat". Vote Todd Jackson for External V.P.

The ACADEMIC VICE-PRESIDENT shall:

- promote student participation in academic matters, act as a resource person and ensure the academic welfare of the members of the Union

- be at least a third or fourth year student in good academic standing: the Academic Vice-President will normally be appointed by Council to be a member of the Senate
- normally be appointed Chairperson of the Awards Banquet Committee

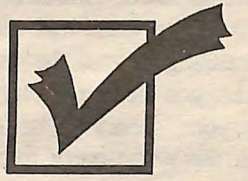
Academic Vice-  
President  
Candidate  
RICHARD SMITH

The mandate of the Academic Vice-President is to "promote student participation in academic matters, act as a resource person, and ensure the academic welfare of the members of the union."

The role, then, is and should remain, primarily non-political. I don't want this position to change Student Union procedures. I want to ensure that you, as a student at this university, get a fair return on your investment.

If you have problems with a course, a professor, or University policy, come to me. If you need a resource or assistance and don't know where to get it, come to me. Even if you're just discouraged and need advice or someone to talk to, you can

VOTE



Feb 15 &amp; 16

come to me.

My door will always be open. Even when not in the office, I can be reached. I will be accessible, to some degree, 24 hours a day. You can contact me on the computer at RSMITH@LINDEN or RSMITH@IMD, or leave me voice mail at 445-3996, mailbox # 3087. I guarantee a prompt reply.

In conclusion, I ask you to vote, and to encourage others to vote. The two minutes it takes could be the most important of your entire year.

I don't want to change the world, I just want to see you get a fair deal.

Academic Vice-  
President  
Candidate  
LORI-ANNE JONES

After spending a year on council as the representative for the Human Ecology students of the Mount, I feel I have gained enough experience, through my participation on various committees and through the organization of a number of fundraising events, that I am ready and willing to move into an executive position.

As a non-traditional student, returning to university after a six year absence I realize the crucial importance of pursuing an education in hope of securing one's future financial status. In those six years I seemed to have more jobs than fingers. Not because of any difficulties, the name of the nineties game is flexibility and that's what I was. I managed restaurants, organizing functions for over 250 people, including the actual cooking of the meal. I've taken care of people's children and mixed drinks, in costume, while giving a whale watching tour. I think through these positions I've acquired enough character to last me a life time. The one constant that followed me through all the jobs was professionalism. The honest work ethic, diplomacy (how to get 125 bikers to unhandcuff my



# ELECTION '94

staff from a stair case, without making them angry), tolerance, tact, and patience, patience, and more patience. I know how hard it is to be a student and how frustrating it can be at times when you need something and everyone seems to be sending you down the party line to the next department.

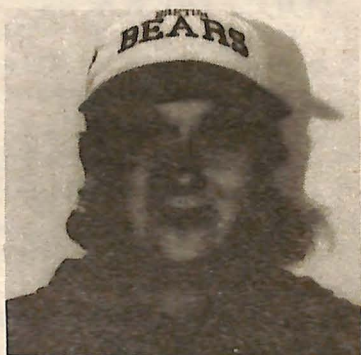
As the Academic V.P., if you elect me, it is your opinion to approach me and let me find the answers for you. As your representative, I will serve as a liaison between you and the administration. I am dedicated to keeping these channels of communication open and operating positively. I feel very confident about my ability to accomplish this task. If I can navigate the subways of Paris, I most certainly find my way among the committees, sub-committees and administrative departments of our University.

I like the Mount very much and think it has a great deal to offer, from both an academic perspective as well as from a professional level.

Within the student council itself, I would like to see a number of things happen over the next year, whether I get into office or not. It is imperative to restructure and outline, in obsessive detail, the responsibilities of everyone on the team, including the support staff. There must be a check and balance system established that will promote accountability. Yes lots of rotten things have happened in the past and as horrible as some of them were, the future council must be dedicated to establishing a set of guidelines that ensure such liberties will not be taken again. I think this can be established through redesigning the constitution and creating a set of by-laws, with out loop-holes, that are based on sound business ethics.

I'd like to leave you with some thoughtful words that have always inspired me, "Study hard, think quietly, talk gently, and act frankly". This phrase, for me, embodies the university experience. Please take time to vote, be concerned, after all it's you we want to represent.

## Arts Representative Candidate SUE HARRIS



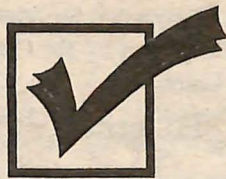
Sue Harris, a first year arts student, is running for the position of Arts Representative. She is presently a Board of Governors representative and is looking forward to supporting Arts Students' best interests with Student Union next fall.

## Science Representative KAREN MACGILLIVRAY



HI! I'm Karen MacGillivray, and I'm running for Science representative. Its going to be a fierce and competitive election this year, but I'm up to the challenge! Actually, considering that my desired position is uncontested, I'd like to think that you, my fellow science students, would consider me as Science Rep, not only because I possess great enthusiasm, or have such an aim-to-please attitude, but also because it is your right to have someone representing you on student council; and it is your right to have a voice in all the important decisions that are made at the Mount. For these reasons alone, there is only one conclusion: you need representation. And one way to get it is by voting Yes! on election day. Hope to see you at the polls!

# VOTE



Feb 15 & 16

## Board of Governors Full-Time Student Representative TRENDAL M. BOLIVAR



Hello, I'm Trendal B. A 4th yr Tourism and Hospitality Management student, currently holding the Student Union position of Full-Time Senate Rep. I am seeking your support for Full-Time Board of Governors Rep. Why?... for two reasons; to further our education of the workings of the university and to voice our views and interests as a student body.

I feel confident that I have a good understanding of what has been going on here at the Mount. This is a result of my involvement in a variety of committees and elected positions: President of BTHM society, two terms as BTHM Rep., one term as Senate Rep., Planning and Hiring Committee, External Affairs Committee on Student Council, University Presidential Committee on Access, Co-Chair of Mount Aids Committee, CHOICE Committee, SUNS University Campus Assessment Committee. I hold and have held various Executive Board positions in non-academic areas, in both profit and non-profit organizations, such as Treasurer of SAANS..., but enough of my resume.

I like getting involved to better understand and utilize the resources available allowing me to achieve my objectives. As a member of the Board of Governors, my objective is to provide the student body with a better understanding of what is going on so that your concerns are voiced and addressed. This is accomplished by my open door policy, even though my door is a mailbox in Student Union Offices, your direct feedback is essential and greatly appreciated. I look forward to your support.

## Board Of Governors Full-Time Student Representative KOFO GILL



I have been involved in student affairs activities during my course of full-time study at the Mount. I would like to continue to be involved, but in a more meaningful way, on the Mount Saint Vincent University Board of Governors as your student representative, raising your perspective in all transactions as the Mount steers through these uncertain financial times.

As a student, I am aware of not only the good education I am receiving in this small and caring environment, but of the services, and opportunities for growth and involvement in a number of activities, that are contributing to my rounded academic development. These provisions are taking place in a situation that is financially challenging. The headlines of the article in the February 4th edition of the Mail-Star on the financial outlook for universities confirm this challenging state of financial affairs. As a result, students need and alert and responsive representative who can bring their perspective and input to the Board when financial issues arise and plans are made.

My commitment to the values of a good education, and ability to get things done and come up with innovative ideas will serve all students well if you elect me to serve on the board. I urge you to support me with your vote to represent full-time students during the next year on the Board of Governors.

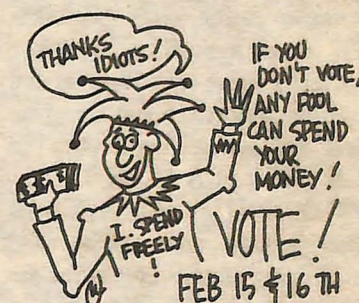
## Ombudsperson Candidate TARA DUFFY

As a first year student at the Mount I am quite interested in your opinions of the school and what changes must be done to improve our great University! This is why I am running for Ombudsperson! My name is Tara Duffy and my promise to you is to devote my time and knowledge to this position.

I have been involved in many committees and societies in high school and loved every minute of it! I would like to extend this involvement to MSVU. So don't forget to vote for me!!!

## Co-Operative Education Representative RIAN BOUTILIER

The ever present, effervescent Rian Boutilier is here to represent Co-operative Education Students on council for September to December 1994. past experience as PR representative 93-94 has given me the background experience needed to be an effective council member. I look forward to working with the CO-OP offices, council and fellow CO-OP students and hope to revive the CO-OP society.



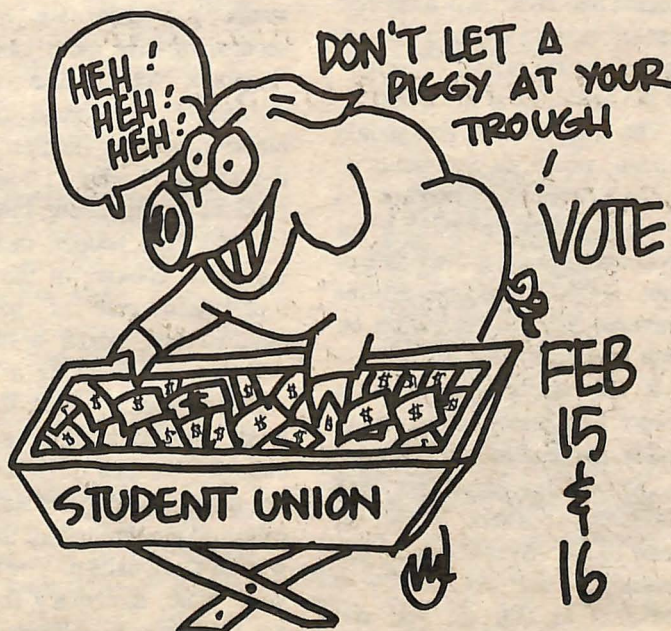
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# BLACK HISTORY

The NEXUS is a proud supporter of BLACK HISTORY MONTH. The history of Blacks in Nova Scotia can be traced back to as early as 1605 to Matthew deCosta, a former black slave who was reported to be living at Port Royal, the site of the earliest European settlement in Canada. For nearly four centuries black women, and their families have made their home in Nova Scotia some by choice others against their will. These people faced hardships and discrimination in order to establish themselves in the harsh new world of Canada. Today, descendants of early black settlers can be found through out Nova Scotia. In communities like Hammonds Plains, Tracadie, Sunnyville, Yarmouth, Weymouth Falls, Granville Ferry, Kentville, The Prestons, Sydney, Antigonish, Springhill, and many more. The descendants of the black settlers of Nova Scotia continue to contribute to our Nova Scotia mosaic.

February is Black history month. Here is a short list of some of the events honouring the heritage of Blacks in North America. For a more complete list of events please call 421-6987.

Tuesday 15, 7:00 p.m.  
**Black Children's Books: 10 Years of Change.**  
Sponsored by the North Branch Library, Children's Literature Round Table - North Branch Library

Wednesday 16, 7:00 p.m.  
**Black Educators Association and the Community.**  
Sponsored by the Black Educators Association- North Branch Library

Thursday 17, 8:00 p.m.  
**Historic Black Sites.**  
Sponsored by Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia and the Public Archives of Nova Scotia - Nova Scotia Museum

Friday 18, 7:00 p.m.  
**Black Women That Have Made a Difference.**  
Sponsored by the Preston, Cherrybrook, Lake Loon,

Westphal and area chapter of the Congress of Black Women - Black Cultural Centre

Friday 19, 6:00 p.m.  
**Black History Month Gala Dinner And Dance.**  
Sponsored by the Black History Month Association - Sheraton Hotel  
Cost - BHM members \$25.00  
- non - members \$30.00  
- Dance only \$15.00

Tuesday 22, 2:30 p.m.  
**Storytelling.** Sponsored by the North Branch Library - North Branch Library

Wednesday 23, 7:00 p.m.  
**"Waiting to Exhale": Black Women/Women of African Descent**  
- Social and Discussion.  
Sponsored by the Ad Hoc Black Women's Group - North Branch Library

Thursday 24, 7:30 p.m.  
**The Origins of Africville with Irvine Carvery.**  
Sponsored by The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society - North Branch Library

Friday 25, 8:00 p.m.  
**50's/60's Dance**  
Sponsored by the Black Educators Association - Grawood Lounge, Dalhousie  
University Cost: \$5.00

Saturday 26, 6:30 p.m.  
**African Nite.** Sponsored by the African Students Association - Saint Mary's University, Multipurpose Room L230

Sunday 27, 7:00 p.m.  
**New African Media National Film Festival.** Sponsored by the Black Cultural Centre/International Education Centre, North Branch Library - Burke Education Building and Theatre B, Saint Mary's University

Monday 28  
**Black Nova Scotian History.**  
Pictorial and book display celebrating the rich history of Black Nova Scotians - North Branch Library

## AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

By Todd Jackson

What is the definition of affirmative action? According to the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, affirmative action is the "remedy for systemic discrimination against members of racial minorities, persons with disabilities, women, and First Nations people." The purpose of this program is to "promote equality in the workplace in such areas as hiring, training, and apprenticeship, promotion, compensation, transfer, layoff, termination and goalsetting." The definition and purpose were topics covered in the booklet **TAKE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION** which is available from the commission.

The goal of this program is to increase the participation of minorities in the workplace. This is an admirable goal and being a member of a minority myself, I see nothing wrong and everything right with this objective. I do have a few problems with the way this

program is implemented. I do not question the goals, just the means. Should there also be a concentrated effort to change the education system in cooperation with affirmative action? After all that is a major cause of discrimination is it not?

I was offered a job in an affirmative action program. The pay was very good for a summer job. I was not going to turn it down because my being Black had something to do with getting the job. If you had the opportunity to get a high paying job you would have taken it right? I took the job.

I did not receive any kind of training besides the little bit I learned on the job. So there I was, in a highly visible position with no training and a member of a minority group. There were many times when I did not know the simplest things and I felt like I did not deserve the job, so did some of the clients. A steady paycheck eased my guilt and after a while I got used to my job and received more responsibilities. Not a good start

but I had a decent ending.

At the other end of the spectrum we have johnny come lately Preston Manning and the others who talk about equality for all. People like him scream about equal rights for all Canadians but where were they twenty years ago? What is their record on speaking out against discrimination for other people especially members of minorities? It is about time people like Mr. Manning woke up and spoke out against discrimination.

When minorities spoke out against discrimination, the politicians gave us affirmative action. What kind of plan is this? When will there be developed a long-term program to replace the short-term affirmative action program. Discrimination is a serious problem and short-term solutions fail to address this program in a meaningful manner. Slavery in Canada lasted for almost 150 years, will it take that long for affirmative action to get us to the "level playing field?"

## BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

February 14 is Valentine's Day. It's usually the day when you do something special for your significant other. However, this Valentine's Day you can give someone a special gift--the Gift of Life.

The Red Cross will be holding a Blood Donor Clinic Monday, Feb. 14 in the Multipurpose room in Rosaria. Clinic times are 2-4 pm and 6:30-8:30 pm. So there's plenty of time to gather up your courage and your friends to get out and give blood.

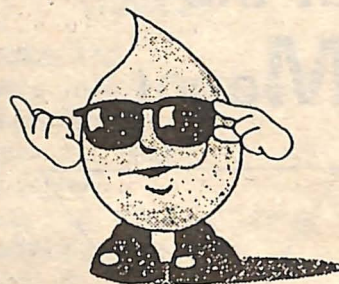
A few changes are in effect for this clinic. All donors will be given a pamphlet on HIV and related concerns. Donors

will be asked to read a sentence to the nurse to show they understand the questionnaire. The Clinic staff will take the donor's blood pressure and temperature. The minimum iron level for women is now the same as for men, which just means some women who are normally eligible will be unable

to give blood this time.

These new procedures will only take a few minutes, but they help keep the blood supply safe. Donating blood is as easy as ever. Just don't forget to bring your ID along!

Remember -- on Valentine's Day, don't be heartless, give a pint!



## THE 1994 MSVU SOCIETY CHALLENGE IN SUPPORT OF THE CANADIAN PARAPLEGIC ASSOCIATION

FOR INFO CALL SHERRY PENDLEBURY AT 883-8032.

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 16TH

ENTRANCE FEE \$2.00 PER PERSON

TIME: 4 - 7PM

TRICYCLE RACE.

POTATOE SACK RACE.

RELAY RACE

AND MUCH MUCH MORE.

THREE LEGGED RACE.  
OBSTACLE COURSE



### EXCELLENT EXTRA INCOME NOW!

ENVELOPE STUFFING — \$600 - \$800 every week  
Free Details: SASE to  
International Inc.  
1375 Coney Island Ave.  
Brooklyn, New York 11230



### 30 HOUR FAMINE

The 30 Hour Famine will be held March 4th and 5th this is an opportunity for people to take responsibility and help benefit impoverished communities across

the globe. The sponsor sheets will be available at the Student Union office, Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 2 to 3 pm or call Lori-Anne Jones at 457-7409 for more information.



# PINK TRIANGLE DAY

## HISTORY OF THE TRIANGLE

During World War Two, the Nazi government used a series of symbols to mark groups of people they felt were threatening the perfect human race. Most people are familiar with the Star of David that Jewish people were forced to wear upon their sleeves.

Gay people were also subjected to Nazi hatred. Gay women were forced to wear black triangles; gay men, pink.

After the war, gay soldiers returning from Europe brought the pink triangle home with them. In the United States, it became a popular symbol of newly formed groups fighting the oppression of gay people.

In the late 1980's, gay groups in the U.S. decided to pay tribute to the pink triangle and its transition from a symbol of Nazi horror to its evolution

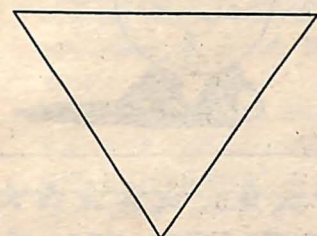
as a sign of gay pride. February 14th was declared Pink Triangle Day.

The 14th is a logical choice. The Nazis had a tradition of being especially cruel to gays in the prison camps on St. Valentine's Day to show their contempt of gay practices which fell outside the heterosexual "norm."

On the 14th, consider one of the following suggestions. Gay people, take a moment to reflect upon the importance of the triangles as symbols of the accomplishments of gay people everywhere.

Straight people, think of the prejudices you may hold against gay people and decide if they are valid or even wise to keep. Then, when you see your gay friends, remember it isn't Valentine's Day for everyone.

## Bisexual Lesbian Gay Committee at the Mount



The BLG Committee is a support, social and activist group for lesbians, bisexuals and gays in the university community. It was first organised in 1992. Though not a student society, it will seek full society status eventually. Its chief mandate is to serve the needs of the lesbian, bisexual and gay community. But it is open to all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation.

The BLG Committee provides:

- ♦ a supportive environment for those coming out, exploring their sexuality or have questions about sexuality.
- ♦ an opportunity to meet other lesbians, bisexuals or gays.

During the academic year, members meet every second Thursday at 3:00 p.m. in Room 507 of Seton Academic Centre (SAC).

- ♦ discuss issues of concern to the university community, especially those affecting the lesbian, bisexual and gay community on campus.

## EATING DISORDER

VICTIMS SUPPORT GROUP STARTING

**FREE**  
INFORMATION  
MEETING  
MONDAY  
FEBRUARY 21ST  
4PM COMPLETELY  
CONFIDENTIAL,  
PHONE  
423-8085

NO OBLIGATION,  
NS EATING  
DISORDER  
SUPPORT AGENCY  
6156  
QUINPOOL RD,  
SUITE 201

## HETEROSEXUAL QUESTIONNAIRE

Just how straight are you, anyways?

- 1) What do you think caused your heterosexuality?
- 2) When and how did you first decide you were heterosexual?
- 3) Is it possible your heterosexuality is just a phase you may grow out of?
- 4) Is it possible your heterosexuality stems from a neurotic fear of others of the same sex?
- 5) If you've never slept with a person of the same sex, is it possible that all you need is a good gay lover?
- 6) To whom have you disclosed your heterosexual tendencies?  
How did they react?
- 7) Why do you heterosexuals feel compelled to seduce others into your lifestyle?

- 8) Why do you insist on flaunting your heterosexuality?  
Can't you just be what you are and keep it quiet?

- 9) Would you want your children to be heterosexual knowing the problems they would face?

- 10) A disproportionate majority of child molesters are heterosexuals. Do you consider it safe to expose your children to heterosexual teachers?

- 11) Even with all the societal support marriage receives, the divorce rate is spiralling. Why are there so few stable relationships among heterosexuals?

- 12) Why do heterosexuals place so much emphasis on sex?

- 13) Considering the menace of overpopulation, how could the human race survive if everyone were heterosexual like you?

- 14) Could you trust a heterosexual therapist to be objective?

Don't you fear they might be inclined to influence you in the direction of their own leanings?

- 15) How can you become a whole person if you limit yourself to compulsive, exclusive heterosexuality and fail to develop your natural, healthy homosexual potential?

- 16) There seem to be very few happy heterosexuals. Techniques have been developed which enable you to change if you really want to. Have you considered aversion therapy?

## "ACE'S SUCCESS"

The chair of the Association of Collegiate Entrepreneurs (ACE) attributes the association's success during its first year on campus to active and dedicated committee members.

"We could never have done all of this if we didn't have such enthusiastic and energetic people on our committee," said Deborah Grabmann, the Business Administration co-operative student who formed the ACE committee at Mount Saint Vincent University. ACE is intended to encourage students to consider entrepreneurship as a possibility during university or after graduation.

Six committee members, Tracey Beck, Debbie Douglas, James Pourier, Steve Brown, Kelly Smith and Grabmann travelled to Toronto to participate in the National Youth Conference. The conference is an annual sponsored by ACE Canada which brings chapter members from Canada, the United States, Japan and Mexico together to seek new business ideas.

"We had the opportunity to listen to real life stories; how entrepreneurs started from nothing and worked their way up. It gave me hope that there is an opportunity to start my own business and be successful," said Grabmann.

Association activities centred around raising funds to help send the members to the conference. An auction on October 26, 1993, raised \$1040. About 60 local companies donated items including weekends for two at the Ramada and Holiday Inns, a dinner for

two at the Delta Barrington and a baseball autographed by Roger Clemens of the Red Sox.

"We couldn't have done it without the support," said Grabmann. "I would also like to thank the people who donated their time and effort including professor Ellen Farrell." Members of the association also held a bake and cake sale and raffled items left over from the auction. Members sold tickets for a tuition draw and a Cole Harbour hockey game from which they received a percentage of the profits.



Lois Stevenson, Director of Entrepreneurship at ACOA where Grabmann served a work-term last summer, encouraged her to start the committee. She has always been interested in owning her own business.

"I think entrepreneurship is a fantastic opportunity. It gives people the opportunity to broaden their horizons and to think of supporting themselves, especially with the recession and the

economy the way it is," said Grabmann. She would like to see more courses in entrepreneurship offered in university and high schools.

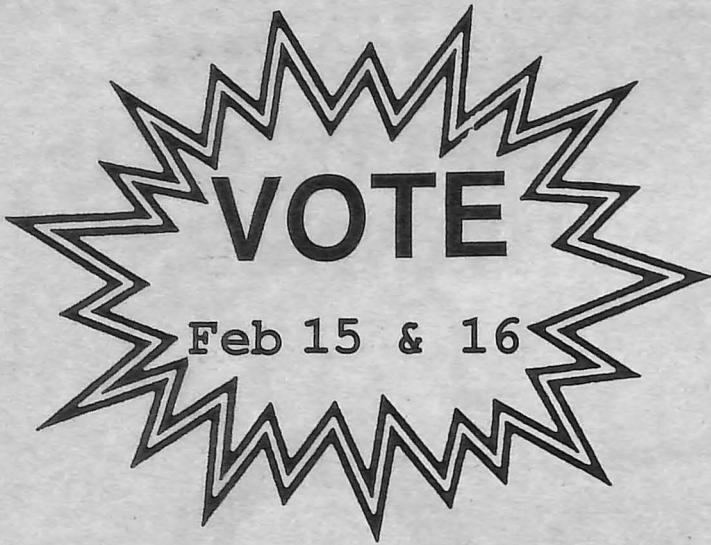
"I would like to see a business plan for last year university students," she said. "The best plan would be judged and the creator would receive a monetary award to help them get started with their new business venture."

The ACE Committee, in conjunction with the Business Society and the Conference Committee, is planning an entrepreneurial conference for March. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

The Association of Collegiate Entrepreneurs held an auction October 26, 1993 to raise funds to help send six committee members to a national conference in Toronto. Back, from left is Denise Dube, committee member, Steven Brown, committee member, Saul Flecke, auctioneer and Debbie Douglas, executive committee member. Front, from left is Deborah Grabmann, chair of the committee, Kofo Gill, executive committee member and James Pourier, committee member.



# SPORTS



## MYSTICS INTO PLAYOFFS

By Sports Editor  
Steve M. Gekara

The Mystics Women's Basketball team is trying to make playoffs as they currently sit in fourth place. Only the top four teams will proceed to NSCAA Championships to be held March 5 & 6 at Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Truro.

" This is the first year we have had eight women's teams competing for the banner." says Head Coach Patsy Pyke. " It's been a very exciting season thus far but it makes it a lot tougher to make the final four." With Mount Allison University and St Thomas University joining two years ago and UNB Saint John campus joining the NSCAA this year, the increase in the numbers increases the competitiveness of the conference as a whole. " Right now as we sit in fourth place with 8 wins and 8 losses. This is our first time ranked in the top four this year. Staying in fourth place depends on the outcome of our remaining games as well as the results of the games fifth place University of Kings College has left to play." Pyke says. " We are really right in the thick of things. There is no one out there who will blow us away, but on any given day anybody can beat anybody else.. The next home games for the Mount are to be played on the weekend of February 12 and 13th. The Mystics host STU 6pm February 12 and Mount Allison 1pm on the 13th.

The men's team is presently in second place in behind STU with 8 wins and 5 losses. They have scrambled their way to the top and with 5 games remaining to play, would like to take over first place for the playoffs. Last year the men's team captured the NSCAA crown, travelled to Saskatchewan to play in the CCAA Nationals and came away with the bronze medal. With only four returning players this would be quite a feat for them to accomplish

The Women's Volleyball team is in the hunt for their twelfth NSCAA title in thirteen years. The NSCAA Championships will be played February 19 in Truro at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. The top four teams in the Volleyball League will advance to the CCAA Nationals to be played this year in Calgary, Alberta. The team has been in first place throughout the season and are currently in second place behind Universite Sainte Anne who by virtue of more games played have taken over first place. The Mystics have played a lot of tournaments and exhibition games during the season against high calibre teams to help prepare them for the calibre of volleyball they will come up against at the National level. The combination of seven veterans and only four rookies makes the team a well rounded group who individually bring with them different levels of experience. They are optimistic and confident going into playoffs that they will do the job they need to do to go to Calgary.

## DIETS DON'T WORK !

To achieve permanent weight loss you need to change your eating habits - permanently - as well as partaking in regular physical activity. Athletics/Recreation is now offering group and individual nutritional counselling sessions for as little as \$7.00. Colleen Wright is a registered dietician. Call for more information 457-6563.

# VOTE



Feb 15 & 16

### NOVA SCOTIA COLLEGES ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

#### BASKETBALL STANDINGS

##### Women's Basketball

PLACE	TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	PTS
1	NSTC	13	2	26
2	MT A	11	3	24
3	STU	12	3	24
4	MSVU	8	8	16
5	KINGS	8	8	16
6	NSAC	4	13	8
7	TUNS	4	13	8
8	UNBSJ	4	14	8

##### Men's Basketball

PLACE	TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	PTS
1	STU	9	6	18
2	MSVU	8	5	16
3	NSAC	8	6	16
4	KINGS	7	6	14
5	MT A	6	6	12
6	NSTC	5	7	10
7	TUNS	3	10	6

##### Women's Volleyball

PLACE	TEAM	MATCHES WON	MATCHES LOST
1	STE A	17	5
2	MSVU	16	2
3	STU	12	6
4	NSTC	11	10
5	NSAC	8	14
6	TUNS	5	15
7	KINGS	1	18

## MYSTICS BLUE REVIEW

The second annual Mystics Blue Review was held Saturday February 5 in Vinnies Pub. This annual event is a fundraiser for the Mount Athletics Department and a chance for the university to sample some of the talent floating around the campus. There was everything from scottish dancing, piano solo, duets, team skits and lots and lots of prizes. Audrey Norman a former member of the women's soccer and basketball teams and now Assistant Coach Women's Basketball and her crew did a terrific job of recruiting acts, prizes and organizing the event. Special thanks go to MC's Nicole Dakin ( Mystics Volleyball ) and David Brien ( Mystics Basketball ) to volunteers Kara MacNeil, Sandra Webb, Joeline Conrad and Linda Shovellor ( Mystics Volleyball ) for all their efforts in support of the Blue Review. A special thanks goes out to all the members of the university community who contributed by attending or by providing the entertainment. If you missed it don't worry, it will be back by popular demand next year.

## MSVU SPRINGBREAK CAMP

Children 5-11  
Games, crafts, movies and off-campus field trips  
Camp 1: March 11  
Fee:\$20day  
Camp 2: March 14-18  
Fee:\$80/week or \$20/day  
Camp 3: March 21  
Fee:\$20/day  
Register at the MSVU Athletic/Recreation Office,Rosaria Centre 457-6420

# BOOSTER NIGHT

## WED FEB 16

# NSTC AT MSVU

## 6PM AND 8PM

LAST HOME GAME OF THE SEASON  
LAST CHANCE TO WIN SOME PRIZES  
AND SHOOT FOR THE LOOT !  
CHEER OUR TEAMS ON TO VICTORY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5:30-7:30	12:00-2:00	12:00-1:30	12:00-1:30	12:00-1:30	12:00-1:00
Men's Basketball	Co-ed Badminton	Co-ed Badminton	Co-ed Badminton	Co-ed Badminton	Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee
7:30-9:30	8:00-11:00	3:00-4:00	3:00-4:00	1:00-3:00	
Co-ed Volleyball	Co-ed Badminton	Co-ed Soccer	Co-ed Rugby	Co-ed Basketball	

### YOGA CLASS

Tuesdays  
6:30-8:00pm  
March 1 runs for 6 weeks  
Sign-up at the MSVU Athletic/Recreation Office  
457-6420

### INTRAMURALS:

Drop down to Rosaria Gym and join in. New participants are always welcome and no sign-up is required. Intramurals are free for Mount students and Ath/Rec members, all others may play for only \$3:50 drop-in,so come and bring a friend!  
No experience required!



# FEATURE

## MORRIS MUSES ABOUT MORRIS MUSES

I think that it is time I spoke out in my own defense and in the defense of freedom of speech, thought and expression. First, however, I should like to issue a sincere apology to the students, faculty and others of this institution that I have offended with my use of a certain word that I do not choose to repeat at this time. Having said that, I think that there needs to be some serious clarifying of facts in this case.

The column I write, Morris Muses, was conceived of with one goal in mind; ending student apathy by incitement of emotion. Well, I would like to say that there is evidence that such apathy has been abandoned and replaced by some serious interest. This interest, however, has been expressed in ways that I vehemently disapprove of. Of those that wrote letters to the newspaper, none addressed their letters to me but chose to vent their frustrations on the Nexus' editor Ian Cowan. Hearsay began to run rampant about my friendship with Ian affecting his methods of editing. Let me say, in print, that Mr. Cowan read my column thoroughly and, in the interest of freedom of speech and expression, allowed it to be published. Ian Cowan is of the highest integrity and has done nothing except serve the Nexus' in the most fair and honest way

possible.

The next step that my complainants took was to approach the Ombudsperson. Naturally that is a ideal step to take when the person you would like to address has ignored or patronized you. As the author of the column and the person entirely responsible, I would think that these people would wish to speak to me and hear what I had to say. Not so, absolutely nobody came to me personally to ask how I felt or what my feelings were on this issue. Following their experiences with the ombudsman, some students went ahead to drop off copies of my article and their letters to the sexual harassment office on this campus although no complaint has been officially registered at the time of this writing.

So what am I to think? I believe, as I have always practised, that if I have a problem with someone I address that person directly. I believe that there are two sides to every story and I am thankful that I have enough integrity to give a person a voice to express that opinion to me directly. Instead of persecuting me without knowing who I am or denigrating my character without knowing what I look like, why not speak to me and voice your concerns. You might find that I

will hear your concerns and, even if I do not agree, I will give you a voice and apologize for any angst I have caused. But this group of people did not wish to meet me or understand me but chose to judge and persecute my character based solely on the voice of a fictitious character I created. That is a weak and pale method of criticism. How much respect would the people of this school give me if I wished to persecute Stephen King, the American horror author, based on the voice or actions of a character he created. I think most of you would call me a crackpot and urge me to seek counselling. The character J-Man is fiction and he, in no way, reflects my feeling.

Let's talk about freedom then. Inasmuch as I express concern for the grief my use of a specific word has caused, I deeply resent anyone telling me how to think. Is not the issues of freedom of expression a concern of the female population of this school. Do you wish for me to tell that I am offended by a politically correct word that you use? On the contrary, because you feel that the word is important, you will defend it. Moreover, how about if I trashed the word and then did not give you a voice to defend your feelings? I am sure that you regard me as a hopeless ignoramus. How would like me to come up to you in the halls for using that word and call you a pig or a woman hater or a promoter and publisher of hate literature toward women? How would you like to be called a nazi and a fascist? In the past weeks, I have been called all of these things and worse. Well, to my detractors who were offended and upset, if you had spoken to me personally or made an attempt to get to know me, you would know that I am none of those things. Instead you chose to dictate what I can say and think and I bitterly resent the attempt. I emphasize the word attempt because although the column "Morris Muses" has been cancelled, by myself, I will continue to write for this paper, I will continue to express my feelings and opinions and I will fight for my freedom of expression. If you disagree with me, feel free to speak to me. If you wish to persecute me there are many fine terrorist organisations that are looking for volunteers. I suggest you apply.

- JMAN!



## C 100 FM UNPLUGGED "WINNERS"



AS SEEN ON BREAKFAST TELEVISION, LUNCH TELEVISION, AND 2 THE MAXX.

APPEARING:

COPPER PENNY	- FEB 17,18,19.
VINNIES PUB	- MARCH 4.
JENNY'S PLACE	- MARCH 5.
MY APARTMENT	- MARCH 7-12.

## PARASKATE '94

The Canadian Paraplegic Association (Nova Scotia) is pleased to present Paraskate '94. This is the third year in Nova Scotia for this team pledge fund raising event. CPA(NS) has set the goal of \$100,000.00. These funds will enable CPA to serve the increasing numbers of Nova

skating activities and events will be offered and everyone is eligible for terrific prizes and awards.

Over the next two months MSVU's Paraskate team will be holding various fund raisers including bake sales, 50/50 draws, a society challenge and a



Scotians who have spinal injuries and disease.

Mount Saint Vincent University is proud to enter a team of twenty members for the second year. Paraskate '94 will take place on March 19 at the Halifax Forum from 9:00AM to 5:00PM. Everyone is welcome to come and skate. Various

benefit concert. Donations can be made either through pledges or in donation bins located in the Sacateria, the Corner Store and Vinnie's Pub. Please help to support your team!

For further information contact Sherry Pendlebury in the Student Union office. More volunteers are always welcome.

## H.E.S.A GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, March 9th, 12:15 to 1:00,

In Evaristus 320.

**PLEASE ATTEND - ALL ARE WELCOME**