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MEAL PLAN GETS CAUTIOUS THUMBS UP

by Robert Batherson

When the Mount adopted a new meal plan and cafeteria structure in September, many students — especially in residence — were concerned with the changes. The meal plan switched to a debit card system, food prices increased and the Rosaria cafeteria adopted a food court set up.

For each meal, students on a meal plan would present their debit card, in reality a magnetic band on the back of their student identification card. The cashier deducts the cost of the meal from the cash amount remaining on the student's debit card.

January 1995: the concerns are still there. But students are happy with the reduced lineups, the variety of food and the flexibility of the plan.

"The old system was mechanical. You would get in line, have a choice between two meals and that was it," says Isabelle Roger, a fourth-year Public Relations student who uses the meal plan. "With the new system, the food court offers an incredible variety of food. Last year, we paid for two choices."

Roger, a member of the Mount's food service committee, is also in her fourth year living on campus. She believes the current meal plan addresses many student problems with the old plan.

"[With the old plan] there was the missed meal factor. People went away on weekends and didn't like paying for meals they weren't going to eat."

Some residence students who routinely eat at the Mount worry about the cost of each meal. They say there isn't enough money for regular meals on the debit cards.

"I've heard a couple of people complain about the cost," says Karen MacGillivray, a third-year Science student living in residence. "I find there's enough for me, though I don't eat breakfast, have a big lunch everyday and eat about 2-3 suppers a week."

Roger counters that students — if they budget properly — can afford regular meals under the plan. Backing up that claim is Assissi resident Sherri MacNeil. The second-year Arts

student knows a student who preferred the old plan because she could go back for seconds at no additional cost. This year, that student doesn't think she has enough money on her debit card.

MacNeil, on the other hand, expects to have money left on her debit card at the end of the

year.

"It gives people responsibility for budgeting," adds Roger.

Last year, MacNeil lived in Lourdes. With its full kitchen facilities, she opted out of the old meal plan. MacNeil is happy with the new plan.

"You have more of a

choice, a better choice than last year," concludes MacNeil.

MacGillivray points to other "intangibles" that make the new plan worthwhile.

"I don't do dishes, I don't get groceries and I don't make it [the meals]," she says. "I'm paying for a lot more than just food."



(Photo by Brian Kerrigan) Traci Scanlan and Brian Bradley admire a chess set entitled "Good vs. Evil" by student Shelia Jack. The work is part of exhibit by members of the Mount community that opened in the Art Gallery last week.

MACLEAN'S SURVEY FLAWED

by Andrea Bannister

The results are in — the Maclean's university ranking system is flawed and too costly says education officials.

"We still have some problems with it," said Dr. Averlyn Pedro, the Coordinator of Institutional Research at the Mount, as she flipped through the magazine's fourth annual university issue. Although the survey has improved, some aspects still penalize schools unfairly, she said. The Mount placed ninth in a field of 19 universities in the Primarily Undergraduate category this year.

"Maclean's doesn't take into account the mission of the university," said Pedro who compiled raw data from the Mount for

the survey. "We emphasize accessibility but are penalized for it. Maclean's is judging universities through the traditional mould. More and more universities are progressing from this, but Maclean's is not."

The Mount welcomes part-time students. The total student population of 3,602 includes 1,418 part-time students who generally take longer to complete a degree. But Maclean's considers only those who finish a degree within five years as graduates of a university.

Maclean's also gave the Mount a consistently low score in the finances category.

"Maclean's claims to be looking at this as an indication of

quality. Student services and administration do a lot with a small percentage of the total budget and that's penalized," said Pedro.

Linda Nichol, a Research Officer at Dalhousie, also expressed concern with Maclean's ranking system. Dalhousie placed sixth out of nine schools in the medical/doctoral category. According to Nichol, Maclean's refused to look at the Novanet library system when calculating the number of holdings per student. Novanet, which connects the libraries of nine Maritime institutions, allows students to take out books at other universities.

As well, Nichol is troubled by Maclean's measurement of students and faculty awards.

"Maclean's report on awards is not submitted by the school themselves. This year we responded with a list of awards, especially faculty awards that should be looked at."

The Education Editor of Maclean's, Victor Dwyer, defended the magazine's university issue. He compared the ranking system to the practice professors and teachers use to grade their students.

"It's only a ranking of 20 to 22 things. We tell the readers and the students who read it that you're only looking at that," he said. "That's all we're saying. We're not telling you where the best philosophy or biology course is."

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VINNIE'S PUB

Where the weekend starts on ~~Wednesday~~ *TUESDAY*



Kim Stockwood

In Concert

This ECMA multiple nominee is playing in Halifax but ...

... Only One Night - Tuesday, February 6th, and ...

... Only One Place - Vinnie's Pub, Mount Saint Vincent University

Presented by:



The Picaro
Volume 31 Issue 09

Coordinating Editor
Andrea Bannister

Managing Editor
Sarah Jeffrey

News Editor
Robin Boudreau

Layout Editor
Shelley Manderville

Graphics Editor
James Tilley

Arts & Entertainment Editor
Shawn Miner

CUP Editor
Ceri Young

Sports Editor
Helen Smith

Features Editor
Brian Kerrigan

Classifieds Editor
Andrew Clattenburg

Advertising Sales
Sarah Jeffrey/
James Tilley

Proof Reader
Sarah Jane Angevine

Distribution Manager
Brian Kerrigan

Contributors:

Marco Tejada, Carrie Warner,
Athletic & Recreation Dept., Kim
Merrill, Karen A MacGillivray,
Robert Batherson, Adria May,
Wanda Kontak, Angela Jarvis,
Jason Wingo, R. Hanes, David
Pound, Gin Hing Yee, Leanne
Mosher, Heather Grant,
and Tawyna Zwicker

The Picaro is dedicated to in-
forming, challenging, and enter-
taining the students of MSVU,
and to providing them with a
forum to air their views.

The Picaro reserves the right to
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are held every Tuesday at
noon.

The Picaro
Rosaria Hall Room 403
166 Bedford Highway
Halifax, NS
B3M 2J6
(902)445-3584
fax - (902)457-0444
email -
picarops@linden.msvu.ca

NEWS

ON FEB. 7TH WE PROTEST, BUT WHY?

by Karen A. MacGillivray
External V.P.

By now, you must have heard about the upcoming Pan-Canadian Day of Action, scheduled to take place next Wednesday. You have seen the posters, you have read the articles; but perhaps you still aren't sure why you should care.

Generally speaking, on Feb. 7th MSVU students will be protesting the federal government cutbacks to social programs. Naturally, the attention for the on-campus protest will be focused specifically on the implications these cuts will have on funding for Post Secondary Education (PSE).

The target of this protest are the cutbacks being introduced within a proposal called the Canadian Health and Social Transfer (CHST). The CHST means that instead of designating how much funding health, welfare, and PSE are each allotted, the federal government is giving it all to the provincial governments to distribute. Student representatives and social justice groups have reason to worry; not only does this threaten the stability of a national standard for education, but the amount being transferred to the provinces is getting smaller. We are already feeling the impact of social cutbacks in NS... no doubt you've heard of Rationalization?

The Canadian Federation of Students is advocating that there are alternatives to cutting social programs. One of the most enraging details of these cutbacks, they claim, is that they are not necessary. One must wonder however: why are politicians so bent on cutting public services? In their haste to slash the deficit, it is felt they may be overlooking

a few very important facts. According to a recent CFS report, between 1984 and 1993, \$105 billion tax dollars were lost due to reduced corporate tax revenue. And, at last count, Canada's corporations owed approximately \$40 billion in deferred taxes.

Perhaps you figure the Canadian economy has seen better days, and that we must nurture

Pacific made \$422 million in profits (1993), and paid no corporate income tax. But they did manage to receive a tax credit for \$5.7 million dollars

Some would argue that the days of an effective student protest are over. That is an extremely scary prospect. Consider if that were true, and let's be honest; how many of you MSVU students feel that the federal government has your best interests in mind? We must protest. We must protest to remind them that we are people, and that a quality higher education is a Canadian right.

Granted, protest methods can vary greatly; demonstrations have their place, and lobbying is still a useful way to get your point across. However, the MSVU protest on Feb. 7th will focus primarily on education and awareness. MSVU students can't be afraid to take a stand, and require knowledge to do so.

You can make your voice heard on Feb. 7th by picking up a post card in Seton lobby. On the back, write a note to your Minister of Finance; ask him what these cuts mean. Tell him how they are and will affect you and your family. Demand that he respond to your inquiries, after all: the only students who can afford to be apathetic right now are the ones who will be able to afford massive tuition fees in the years to come.

(All statistics available from Ontario Federation of Labour, The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, and the Canadian Federation of Students)

"Why are politicians so bent on cutting public services."

our corporations so that they may stay afloat and create new jobs. You might then argue that increasing tax-pressure on corporations is a bad idea in the long run, because the businesses might pack up and leave the country.

But what if you knew that Canadian banks made record profits last year (a billion dollars approx.) and still had to lay off 12,000 people? According to a CFS report, over the past 25 years corporate taxes have been decreasing while personal taxes have been increasing. And as for the corporations picking up and moving to greener pastures, that is not likely to happen. Consider this: the average G-7 country corporate contributions to public revenue is equal to 10% the gross domestic product (GDP); Canadian corporations contribute to 6% of the GDP. So, in fact, a slight increase in corporate taxes would mean that Canadian corporations would be paying pretty much the same taxes as if they were in the States, or the UK.

How much did you pay in taxes last year? Well. Canadian

CFS CALLS FOR ONE MORE DAY OF ACTION

(Source: McGill Daily, McGill University)

by Zachary Schwartz

MONTREAL (CUP) — Student organizations across Canada are gearing up for a national day of protest on Feb. 6 as impending budget cuts are hashed out by university administrations and faculties.

The protest, called a National Day of Action and organized by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), is to make sure students' voices are heard before federal Finance Minister Paul Martin's budget is released later next month, though just what action students will take is another matter.

The CFS suggested that the protest be targeted towards financial institutions, aiming to condemn their exploitative record-breaking profits in the midst of widespread government cuts.

There will be city-wide activities culminating in a rally in major cities across Canada, like treasure hunts intended to publicize the finances of big businesses in major cities.

But several conservative universities disagreed with this approach, preferring that the National Day of Action be less belligerent in tone.

Erik Paulsson, a student councillor at Concordia University, believes students should be going to greater lengths than just participating in the standard march.

Students should be shutting down the downtown core with human bodies and students handcuffing themselves to various institutions such as banks, he said.

"It is much more complicated than telling the government to stop cutting, because it goes beyond that," he added.

Concordia Student Union President Jonathan Carruthers recognizes the abundance of side issues that could potentially affect the approach that the CFS decides to take regarding the National Day of Action.

He insisted that ideological and nationalistic stances must be put aside and all parties must "concentrate on the fact that we're all against the cuts."

Concordia has formed an action committee to help formulate a plan of action and to mobilize student support. Carruthers himself is planning to visit various classrooms during the month to promote the event.

There are high hopes for this year's Day of Action based on last year's impressive turnout. CFS national chairperson Guy Caron claimed that last year's Jan. 25 National Day of Action was "the largest student demonstration in the country's history."

Media reports said last year's day of action involved up 70,000 students across Canada.

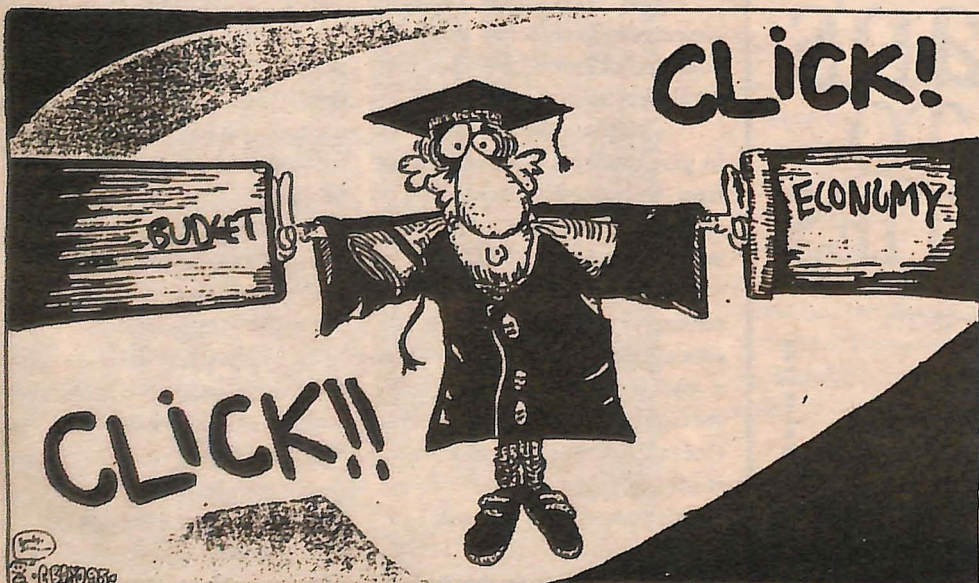
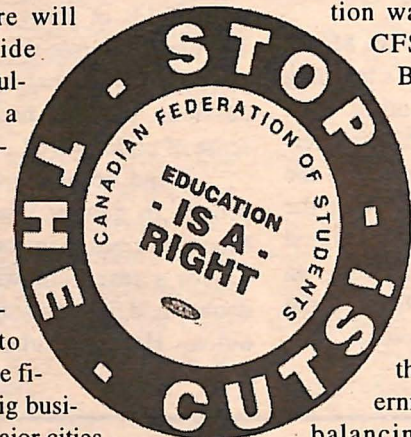
"Last year's participation was great," said CFS executive Brad Lavigne. "Hopefully we can better the numbers."

Like many student leaders, Lavigne is worried that the federal government's budget-balancing tactics are coming at the expense of education.

"We have to show students that there is great wealth in this country, and that it is not being taxed. The line that the government can't afford social spending on post-secondary education, health care, daycare, and employment (programs) is wrong."

It's not just that the cuts are bad — there are alternatives to cutting social programs to bring down the deficit," he said. "We want to show the government numbers and deliver a pre-budget message that no more cuts are necessary," said Lavigne.

Although most of the action to be taken in February has yet to be planned, an optimistic Lavigne described the event-to-be as part of an "ongoing campaign, building on last year's lobbying and Jan. 25."



CUP GRAPHIC C. Boyd, The Lance

Applaud Dr. Brook Taylor

by Wanda Kontak
Alumnae Office

Past, present and future students of the Mount's Dr. Brook Taylor, have a change in his field of study to thank for his teaching career. Taylor, 1995 recipient of the Alumnae Award for Teaching, actually began his undergraduate degree in philosophy.

After his first year of university, Taylor took a year away from school and worked on a kibbutz in Israel. Interestingly enough, most of his time away from Canada was spent thinking about his homeland. He realized then, he said, that he had not studied enough about Canada. And this caused him to change his major from philosophy to history.

After Taylor finished his undergraduate studies at the Scarborough campus of the University of Toronto, he pursued his graduate work in history there. He said he continued his education for two reasons: his academic standing and the support of his wife and family.

Taylor came to the Mount because in the mid 80's teaching positions weren't plentiful. And both he and his wife had an interest in living and working in the east. But since arriving at the Mount in 1986 to assume his first full time teaching position as an assistant professor, he said the Mount has become home.

Being a male professor at a predominantly female university was on his mind during his first few years of teaching. However, he's become so accustomed to the Mount's demographics that he regards this situation as normal. He said he's reminded of the unique nature of the Mount, when visiting other institutions.

Taylor is grateful to the Mount and its students for what they've taught him about teaching. He said he's come to the realization that professors must clarify their material and assignments in order to eliminate confusion and uncertainty. And the Mount has made him realize the importance of having an "open door policy." He said students should feel free to come to see him with their concerns and questions.

Taylor said he's proud of the history department graduates who've pursued graduate studies in that area and who've chosen other fields of study or work. The important role the Mount's played in the rationalization discussions, he said, has been a sense of pride as well.

And because of its approach to gender issues, the Mount ascribes an importance to Taylor's research, which he doubts he'd find at another institution. He's particularly inter-



Dr. Brook Taylor

ested in the cultural and written sides of history, and presently, historical issues in respect to masculinity. The latter is the subject of his current book which he'll finish during the next two years in Japan. He hopes it'll be of interest to the general public.

Taylor said he's proud of the Alumnae Award for Teaching, not only because he's been a recipient but because it focus's on the importance of teaching and that students can be involved in recognizing those who have contributed to their education.

If you feel one of your professors is worthy of the Alumnae Award for Teaching pick up a nomination form at the Alumnae Office or the Library. Please note that the deadline for nominations is February 2, 1996.

Maclean's Survey cont. from pg. 1

Pedro said useful information about the schools is obscured by the ranking system. "All in all, the quality of schools is similar in Canada. The difference between institutions in Canada has been exaggerated by scores in *Maclean's*."

But Dwyer disagrees. He believes universities here may not be as different as in the U.S., but the *Maclean's* rankings are "valid." "Universities can't tell you that they're all the same or presumably we could just have one big university and use say, Ottawa as a cookie cutter and make 20 of them and place them across the country."

Pedro and Nichol are also disturbed about the amount of time and money used to amass the information needed by *Maclean's*.

Pedro said, "For the amount of time we put into this there should be some remuneration. It's published for profit."

The university issue is *Maclean's* biggest seller; last year it sold over 60,000 copies on the newsstand.

"Universities spend a lot of money to make money for *Maclean's*," commented Nichol. Different departments at Dalhousie collect information which is then compiled by Nichol's office. The whole process takes approximately two months.

Nichol said several universities have asked *Maclean's* to provide national student awards or scholarships in exchange for the schools' time and effort. The magazine has refused.

Dwyer is satisfied that the rankings help students "make an educated decision instead of just a wild guess."

"I guess the alternative is to give students nothing and let them instinctively decide this is my number one choice and this is my number two," said Dwyer.

But the value of the rankings is questioned within the educational system. "I don't use it myself," said Maureen Coady, the Guidance Department Head at Queen Elizabeth High School. If students come in and ask me which university is the best, I say 'I don't know.' I don't rank schools, it depends on the student. I think that you can get a pretty

good undergraduate school degree anywhere in Canada." Coady said other factors such as the size of the university and tuition costs are more important for students to consider before choosing a school.

University officials too are questioning the survey's importance.

Since the ranking system started in 1991, several universities, such as the University of Manitoba, Universite Laval and Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) have refused to participate.

Peter Morris, the Manager of Memorial University News Service said his university will

boycott the issue as long as *Maclean's* uses the rankings system. MUN dropped out because

the "exercise pretended to be research but probably wouldn't pass muster in a second year Stats course."

"The bottomline with Memorial has been and continues to be that *Maclean's* survey is just as likely to misinform as it is to inform. The information they provide is suspect. It can't be replicated by social scientists because they don't have the hidden formula," said Morris.

But other universities remain in the survey despite misgivings.

"It's a considerable effort for a university to take part in the *Maclean's* survey," admitted Nichol. "But it's better for us to be there than not."

Morris explained MUN could afford to boycott the survey because as the only university in Newfoundland, it faces little competition from other schools. Other universities, he said, are not as lucky.

"Universities in Nova Scotia face more internal and external pressure in a massively competitive market. If you're not in *Maclean's*, it could hurt you," he said.

Pedro agreed. Moreover, she said remaining in the magazine's rankings will allow the Mount to help change the survey.

"I would like to have *Maclean's* look at the universities without ranking them," she said. "At the Mount, we think the student's satisfaction is the most important thing, not the rankings in the magazine. We would like *Maclean's* to look at that."

Maclean's Guide is Out

by Picaro staff

Not content with the tons o'money they make from the university issue, this month, *Maclean's* Guide to Universities hit the bookstands. A lot of it is the same stuff you read (or didn't read) in last fall's annual ranking issue. But this time you get to read a couple of pages about each school. A couple of Pic staffers went from store to store and checked out a few pages each time. Yep, that's all you need. Save the \$12.

It's interesting to read the facts and figures stuff. As you've probably noticed, the Mount male to female ratio is a little bit skewed compared to everyone else's (16 to 84). They also mention those crows that keep pol-

luting the walkway from Seton to Rosaria. Who needs salt to de-ice the walkway when you can get traction the natural way - with bird shit!

By the way, if you notice

lots of glowing references to campus newspapers in the "Campus Confidential" (aka What's Hot, What's Not), that's because the newspapers' staff wrote them! So

when you read that "Big Joe", the comic strip that runs twice a month in the Saint Mary's paper, The Journal is hot, remember the source.

THE Maclean's GUIDE TO UNIVERSITIES



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Once Temporary Faculty Offices Now Permanent

by Adria May

The faculty offices in Seton Annex at Mount Saint Vincent University were supposed to be a temporary structure until the E. Margaret Fulton Centre (EMF) was completed.

Lois Dyer Mann, vice-president of administration said, "the EMF Centre was designed to have five floors, but the funds we had available then were only sufficient enough to pay for the cost of constructing two floors."

The EMF Centre opened in 1989. Dyer Mann said the priorities at that time were for a new library, integrated with a computer centre, audio-visual centre and the DUET (Distance University Education via Technology) studios. The priorities were of such because of the link between these types of communications.

The temporary faculty offices in Seton Annex have been at the Mount for many years now.

Tex Barkhouse, manager of maintenance for the university said, "about 12 or 13 years ago the first part of the offices were built as a temporary structure. Three or four years later the others were added."

Today, Seton Annex contains over 30 faculty offices. As far as Barkhouse is aware, only the registrar's and the upstairs faculty offices were supposed to be temporary.

There are permanent fixtures in Seton Annex. Maintenance has been there since 1974, when it was first built. The daycare has been a permanent part of Seton Annex since 1976. Both remain there today.

Although the offices were only supposed to be temporary, they have become quite permanent. Barkhouse said a study of the campus was conducted several years ago of the primary building sites on the grounds. He said the location of Seton Annex was one of them.

Seton Annex is not wheelchair accessible to the top floor where the offices are located but the bottom floor is accessible. The building is wired for computers, has an alarm system and smoke detectors.

It's uncertain whether the additional floors will be built on top of the EMF Centre or what it would be used for. Dyer Mann said she couldn't speculate on what the priority would be for the new space's use. She said it would be important that faculty and students make the decision if it were a possibility.

"If there ever was to be a space created," Dyer Mann said, "there would have to be a planning exercise where the faculty and students would be consulted on what their priorities would be." She said, "before we begin to think of planning the EMF Centre, we'd have to have a commitment of funding to pay for the expansion."

The futures of EMF Centre and the offices of the Seton Annex remain uncertain. Meanwhile, the students will enjoy the information and communications resources at the EMF Centre and the members of faculty will continue to perform their duties at Seton Annex.

PROSTITUTE PROF BACK IN CLASSROOM

(Source: The Varsity, University of Toronto)

by Vanessa Benedek

TORONTO (CUP) — Controversial journalism professor Gerald

Hannon is back in the classroom.

Hannon was suspended from teaching duties by Ryerson Polytechnic University in November after revealing to the Toronto media that he worked part-time as a male prostitute.

Following the prostitution revelation, an investigation was launched into Hannon's be-

haviour.

On Dec. 20, Ryerson released the results of the investigation. It found Hannon guilty of violating the collective agreement. Consequently the university issued Hannon a letter of discipline, but it also said he was allowed to resume his teaching duties until his contract expires in May.

CUPE local 3904, the union representing part-time instructors at

Ryerson, has filed a grievance against the second ruling and the disciplinary letter.

This is the second grievance filed by the union regarding the Hannon case. The union and Hannon filed a grievance back in November following his original suspension.

John Miller, chair of Ryerson's School of Journalism says he is glad Hannon is back teaching.

"We are happy that Gerald Hannon is back in class and we hope to

get on with the business we are in, which is teaching journalism," he said.

ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES FACE PROGRAM CUTS

Source: The Athenaeum, The Muse, Atlantic Bureau

ST. JOHN'S (ARCUP)—In the face of federal budget cuts, universities in Canada's poorest region are faced with the elimination of academic programs and downsizing of departments.

At Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, it appears that the arts are at the largest risk. Acadia President Kelvin Ogilvie suggested that Music and Drama could be downgraded and would no longer be official academic programs.

This possible course of action is a direct result to the decrease in funding to post-secondary education from the federal government.

At MUN it is science which appears to be at the most risk. Physics and Chemistry experience high enrolment for first and second year courses because they are prerequisites for other programs but enrolment falls off in later years.

The post-secondary

schools in Halifax have already begun to find a solution to government cut backs with the formation of a "super university", but Acadia and MUN do not have that luxury.

Other smaller schools in the region have the same problem. UCCB, UPEI, STFX are the only universities in their immediate area so they don't have the option of sharing programs with other schools.

UNIVERSITIES TARGET ASIAN-PACIFIC STUDENTS FOR CANADIAN SCHOOLS

(Source: The Carillon, University of Regina, Ottawa Bureau)

by Craig Saunders and Carey Frey

REGINA (CUP) — Wanted: Asian-Pacific students with bags of money to bank-roll Canada's post-secondary education system.

That's the message top university administrators are spreading as they travel half way across the world this month to recruit international students, and meet with high-ranking government officials.

The 11 college and university delegations are accompanying the Prime Minister, Premiers, and business leaders to Asia-Pacific as part of the "Team Canada"

trade mission.

In the next two weeks, Team Canada will open a new Canadian education centre in Jakarta, Indonesia, as well as in Bangkok, Thailand. The centres will distribute information on universities and recruit potential students interested in studying in Canada.

Charles Larabie, an official with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, says that new foreign students will pump significant amounts of money into the Canadian economy, and that promot-

ing Canada's educational institutions is one of the main objectives of the trade mission.

The mission has been well received by post-secondary institutions who are scrambling to find new sources of revenue at a time when government cutbacks are crippling university budgets.



Breakfast Television's Mark Schultz participated in the Mock Jail last week during Winter Carnival

OPINION

Editorial

16 to 84? No surprise!

Take a look at the Maclean's Guide to Universities under the "Facts and Figures" column. We have a male to female ratio of 16 to 84. No surprise to any of us, I'm sure. But for some reason, other people seem to read a lot more into those two numbers. These numbers aren't surprising to them, just scary.

Over the past week, a couple of people seem to have made assumptions because of those two numbers. One guy, an acquaintance of a mutual friend called the Picaro a "lesbian rag." And closer to home, one Pic staffer's brother announced that she must be a lesbian because everyone knows that women at the Mount are lesbians. Hello?? Is there some secret meaning to those numbers that I just don't get? Is 16 to 84 a code for "all women that attend this school are turned on by other women"?

Why is the Mount automatically pegged and categorized this way simply because a lot of women are enrolled here? It's very silly. Look at it the other way. Do we assume that the Super Bowl team members are attracted to men because why else would they want to play football with only men? So why can't a group of women going to school just be a group of women going to school? What is the problem?

These sweeping generalizations really piss me off. Here's another one. I'm sure you've all heard that the Mount is also a hotbed of radical feminists. Well, they are not in my classes. If you mean there are people that believe that women are equal to men, sure, I'd say everyone in my classes fits that bill. But the term "radical feminists" doesn't apply to the fairly conservative views at the Mount.

Recently I learned of a man, a graduate of the Mount, who says he felt like a "rapist on parole" on this campus. He says women here are being taught to hate men. Two things - I don't think so - and grow up. I can understand that men may feel a little awkward here and that it is strange to be in the minority. But most of the men I know regard this a challenge - an example of the cliché, "walk in someone else's shoes." And if they feel that strongly, they can attend another university. Men walk into this place knowing that women make up the majority, it shouldn't be surprising or scary.

I've been at this school for two and half years. Sure, it's different than the other university I used to attend. In both good and bad ways, but I never really considered the male to female ratio as an impediment to my learning. I certainly don't think people here are trying brainwash women students into hating men.

You never know though, someone might be reading this and think "Ah-ha! But the editor of the paper would be a radical feminist and a lesbian!" If that's true, maybe you should call and tell my ex-boyfriends. Talk about surprise!

Andrea Bannister



What freebies?

Dear Editor,

For Christmas I was going to give my folks what they've been asking for since October - a graduation picture in my Mount

Saint Vincent Hood and colours. My sister and I had both graduated from other universities but from the same program at the Mount. We thought a picture of the two of us, with academic garb, would make a good gift. I had to get the hoods from the Mount because the photographer didn't have any - he has hoods for most of the universities but not my program.

I walked into the Housing office, academic garb headquarters, and inquired about the hoods. I was informed only one rental was available for me - ob-

scure program I guessed - and that it would cost ten dollars with a twenty dollar deposit. The ten dollar cost was for cleaning - I was assured that this was a bargain as cleaning each hood cost more than ten dollars - expensive cleaners. I wasn't planning to wear the hood eating spaghetti and blue berry pie. I'd have to fork out thirty dollars for an academic hood that I thought I'd earned the right to wear.

When I rent a few movies I sometimes get a booklet of coupons and a little packet of microwave popcorn - good deal. I figured my sister and I spent approximately \$8,400 at the Mount. I had to pay \$50.00 to graduate in October even though I couldn't go to the convocation - I guess that was to pay for the fancy calligraphy on my degree and to help pay the electric bill that day. Go to most retail or service companies and drop \$8,400 and see what freebies they throw in. Maybe an academic hood?

I understand that universities are in financial distress and they need to be cost effective and efficient. I was more than happy to pay for the services I received while at the Mount - I never had a problem with rising costs. On my degree it states that I have been admitted to the degree with all the rights and privileges pertaining to that degree. Remember if you want to exercise one of the rights - it'll cost you \$30. After all the money invested at the Mount by my sister and I, they refused us a simple gesture of good faith and pride. My sister and I went back to the photographer and were photographed wearing our other university's colours. We earned the right to wear them and didn't have to pay. The photos turned out great.

D. & S. McKeage

LAST WEEK



THIS WEEK



Out of a possible 3600 students, The turn out for the events were less than great.

Health Plan Woes

Dear Editor,

I am writing because I am extremely disappointed in a recent decision by the executive of the MSVU Student Union. In short, I have been told that I have to pay almost \$170 because the Student Union screwed up.

The \$170 is for the student health plan fees. Because I am covered by both my mother's and father's health plans, I filled out a form to waive the fees in early August. I was given two copies of the form, a pink copy, for myself and a yellow copy. The yellow copy, I was told, was to be taken to the insurance office. I took the form home and sent it to the company that my insurance policy is with.

Imagine my surprise when, after receiving no notice that the \$170 had been taken off my account, I went to see Financial Services. Then I was told that THEY were supposed to receive the yellow copy of my form, not the insurance office. I explained what had happened and was sent to the Student Union offices to plead my case. Assuming that, since Student Union got a copy of the form I wouldn't have a health card, I figured it would be no problem. However, Financial Services makes the list of who is and isn't on the health plan and since they didn't have a copy of my form, I am on the health plan.

I explained my situation to the Student Union, and was told that they would review it. I was called shortly after and told that the health plan would not be waived. I appealed the decision to the Student Union Executive. I just found out that I will indeed have to pay the fees anyway.

The person who signed my form insists that he told me to take the form to the BUSINESS office, and not the insurance office. And, since it's the

word of a lowly student like myself against a member of the Student Union Executive, the word of the Student Union wins out. (And I'm not only saying this because I think it, this is what I was told by the Student Union President.) I have to pay.

Now, I don't know about the rest of the students in this university, but if someone told me to take a form to the Business Office, I would say "where?" and, of course, be told that the Business Office is Financial Services. Then, I would have taken the form there.

Another problem that I have is that the person who signed my form can't possibly remember what he told me on a given day, because he signed dozens of other forms. However, because the people signing health plan waiver forms took a course on how to fill them out, they KNOW that they said BUSINESS OFFICE every single time. Barring none. They can't have said a wrong word, not even once. I must have misinterpreted what they said.

Of course, I did go through this health plan waiver thing last year. So, of course, I should have KNOWN, no matter what I was told, that the form should go to Financial Services. I would have taken it there myself. The thing is, I don't remember taking the yellow copy of the form to Financial Services two years ago. In fact, I've taken so many forms to Financial Services I can't possibly remember them all. What I DO remember, however, is what happened with my health plan this year and that was that I was NOT told to take the form to Financial Services.

So, in the end, I'm being forced to pay \$170 for a health plan that I don't want, don't need and can't afford. And it's because the Student Union can't admit when they've made a mistake.

Ceri Young
2nd Year Arts

FEATURES



THE ROCKAWAY

by Leanne Mosher

My eating experience at *The Rockaway* was exceptionally pleasant. I have never had such a comfortable, calm, relaxing and enjoyable meal. The time just soared by and before we knew it, we had spent two hours there! It was like we were the only customers there because we sat in a booth with a very high back, however, open tables are also available. The atmosphere is simply incredible. A big plus is that the non-smoking section is directly inside the front door and it is in a separate room from the smoking section. The lighting is dim but you can still see your food, thanks to a little brass lamp at each table. The furniture is done in mahogany wood with wine and hunter green cushioning. There are a few fireplaces throughout *The Rockaway*, and lots of window seating is available. Our waiter was excellent. The background music adds to the atmosphere and completes that feeling of relaxation.

The menu has a wide variety of dishes including chicken, seafood, pasta, pizza, appetizers, and desserts; along with a kid's menu (under 10), and a vast wine

list. The 'chicken soup like you never tasted before' was delicious. There is something on the menu for everyone; from the fancy (salmon fillet) to the simple (club house sandwich). We didn't know which dessert would taste the best, so we each ordered a different one and then we sampled them all - and all of them were delicious (lemon cheesecake, Raspberry Kuchen and chocolate concoction). The vote was unanimous - the Raspberry Kuchen was the best dessert on the list (a piece of homemade pound cake with vanilla ice-cream, raspberry puree and whipped cream).

The only real problem I encountered was that the restaurant does not have an outside sign (but they assured me that they are working on it - seems that their free standing sign did not meet the local by-laws). I was glad that I had called ahead to ask their location or I would never have found it. They stated that they were located across from Atlantic Gardens on the Bedford Highway. Naturally I couldn't find the place at first because there was no sign so I parked in the lot across from the Garden centre and then went looking. It seems like more accurate directions would be that they are directly across the street from 'Barnard's Funeral Home' but I can understand why they prefer 'across from Atlantic Gardens'.

Be nice to yourself and take some time to enjoy one of their delicious meals. They are located at 1225 Bedford Highway (832-1644) and the number 80 transit bus stops right outside their door.

The Mystery of the Bus-stop

by Heather Grant

Since becoming a residence student here at the Mount, I've been faced with many new joys. The joy of waking up at three o'clock in the morning because someone in the residence decides to sing all the verses of any chosen song at the top of her lungs outside my door. The joy of assuming that what I'm eating won't kill me, not knowing for sure. The joy of being attacked by the killer dust bunnies under my bed because a broom can never be found in the broom closet. The joy of running around on a Thursday night to find an RA to give me a sign-in slip for the weekend and the joy of forgetting to get that slip and trying to sneak in ... Oh wait, that wasn't me; it must have been something I saw on TV. No one would ever do that here. Anyway, greatest among these joys is the tremendous passion I have developed for taking the bus.

If any of you have ever heard the song "Waiting for the Bus" by the Violent Femmes, then you might begin to understand why so many of us "residence girls" look forward to taking the bus as much as we would for a root canal or a three hour economics lecture. It's not that we mind the ride itself or the fact that

it takes us so long to get anywhere - the problem is the shelterless bus stop at the end of Seton Road.

Bus schedules can be a handy thing when you want to catch bus from any stop

anywhere else in the world;

however, our bus stop plays by its own set of

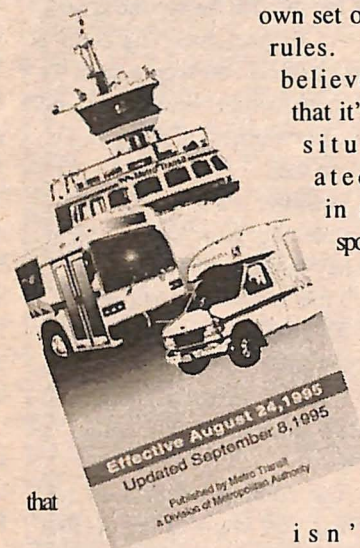
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Metro Transit
Rider's Guide



that

gov-

There, time simply does not exist. If the bus was scheduled to arrive at Kearney Lake Road at 7:42 and you arrived at Seton Road stop (which, for those of you with vehicles, is a few stops after Kearney Lake Road) at 7:30, you would have, by divine intervention of both luck and nature, missed the bus you wanted

to take and any other bus that would take you within five km of your destination.

Another mystery of our bus stop is weather. If it was 10°C when you left Assisi Hall, it would be at least -10°C at the bottom of the hill. There, it is always raining, snowing, hailing or any other "ing" that has to do with bad weather.

There are several conclusions a person could come up with when faced with this unnatural phenomenon: 1) the weather everywhere else in the city is just as bad as it is at the bottom of Seton Road, it's just that the Mount is protected from bad weather by some supernatural guardian (perhaps in the form of a crow) 2) We are just really, really unlucky. This is the most popular conclusion, especially when the two mysteries of the bus stop team up and you're stuck in a blizzard waiting for a bus that isn't going to come. (It's an even better feeling when the bus drives right by you while you're stuck in a "sudden" rain shower.)

You're probably wondering why we even use the Seton Road bus stop at all. I only have one thing left to say: if you had to "hike the hill" as often as we do, you'd want to walk the shortest distance possible too.

FITNESS AND NUTRITIONAL TIPS

It is estimated that most people need twice as much fibre as they are getting. That amount should be 25-30 grams of fibre a day.

The darker the green in lettuce, the higher the content of Vitamin A and C. Spinach is higher in nutrients than lettuce, particularly Vitamin A and C, iron and fibre. The healthier approach to fibre is to go for a balance of different types of foods.

Try eating:

- more fruits and vegetables including the skin and peel when practical
- more whole grain breads and cereals
- more legumes - dried beans, peas and lentils

Where Do I start? I want to exercise!

Beginning an exercise program can be a confusing and sometimes difficult process. The first question you should ask yourself is

"Why am I doing this?"

Perhaps you want to lose weight, manage stress more effectively, improve your overall health, or increase your muscular strength. Your motivation for exercising will in large part determine the type of exercise program you embark on.

For example if your goal is weight control you should start

with an aerobic program such as running, walking or cycling for a minimum of 30 minutes every other day. This will increase your metabolic rate and burn calories.

In addition you will want to discuss safe nutritional changes and choices with a dietician.

If you are interested in gaining muscular strength, consult with one of our trainers about a simple strength conditioning program.

If you need assistance in determining the best program to meet your goals, consider consulting with one of the Ath/Rec Department certified Fitness Professionals. Call 457-4563 or drop into the Ath/rec Office in Rosaria



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Disk Space is Running Low...

by Ceri Young

Most of you have seen the warning as you log on to the computer. Linden is running out of disk space. Computer Services tells us that this is mostly because people have too many undeleted mail messages.

You've read all your mail, you say? Yes, but unless you've deleted your old messages, they're still on your account, taking up lots and lots of space. So how do you delete them?

Well, if you've never used the program called Goldmail before, now is the time. Instead of typing vmail at the prompt, just type mail.

Once you're in Goldmail, you'll have to open up your mail drawer. Just hit enter on the line that says MAIL. This will open the drawer to show you all of the mail messages you have that you haven't deleted. (And if you've never deleted messages before, there's going to be a heck of a lot.)

Cursor down to all of the messages that you want to delete, and on each one, hit the PF4 key. ***If you hit enter, you're going to start reading all of your messages over again. If this happens, you can get back to the main screen by hitting the PF1 key and then Q. This will Quit you out of reading your messages.***

When you're deleting messages, they won't disappear.

They'll just say <deleted> next to them. They won't actually disappear until you exit the program. When you want to exit the program, hit G and then E. You'll be returned to your \$ prompt.

If you want to play around in Goldmail and see how it works, the commands are at the top of the screen. To open up the menus, just type in the underlined letter on the word at the top the screen.

If you want to keep a bunch of mail messages from the same person the best thing to do is to put the messages in a folder. To do this:

1. Press the space bar on each of the messages to "select" them. (They will appear highlighted)
2. Type M and then M (again)
3. Enter the name of the folder you want to move the messages to. (Your friend's name will work fine) Then hit enter on "ok".
4. The computer will then ask you if you want to create this folder, because it doesn't already exist. Just hit "okay" and all of the messages will be moved. (If the folder already exists, you won't have to do this step.)

To check how much space you've saved, once you leave the program type Show Quota at the \$ prompt (\$Show quota). It's a good idea to keep the number of blocks you've used around 1000. Then if you don't check your mail for a while, it won't overflow.

If you have any questions about this column, or anything you think I should cover in future columns, e-mail me at PICAROPS with the subject of Internet. Old copies of this column are available at the Picaro office.

Nowhere but now

by Marco Tejada

Cave. Living.

Politicians advise the rich to spend it now because "you can't take it with you." The poor are taught "try and make the most of what you got." But you got nothing - only curious habits in a life devoid of material distractions. And nobody had less than our ancestors who lived in the caves of Avignon, France. Incidentally, the same hands that crushed bone and slaughtered beasts also breathed life into immortal scenes of the hunt. These people were alive, because they had only the moment, themselves and nothing else to rely on. I imagine them bloated, victorious, howling their pleasure as their urine, like their art, arcs over and beyond one moment forever into the next. My heroes...

But a thousand years of society has left the masses pre-occupied and forgetful of former freedoms. Last weekend at *The Seahorse*, I'm relieving myself (loudly) when the guy at the next urinal says to me, "They have shots for that, you know?"

"I know," I told him, "they have shots for everything, just like cowards have excuses and the US has a different nuke for each day of the year, you know?" I guess he did because he shut-up, zipped-up and made tracks. Some people can't handle raw honesty. They prefer truth quartered and cooked by the crowd. But there is no such thing as an honest crowd. Just many defective knives and not so much fire.

I ended up in the Dome that night. I'm not there ten minutes when this guy leans over, "blah blah, blah he's a fag," he shouts and points to some guy in front, with a head like a deformed testicle.

"What?" I leaned in closer. "I can't hear you man!"

"Blah, blah blah," he says, "he's a fag." And he points to the guy again. I shrug, nod ok. Half-sack struggles off his stool, squeezes his face near mine.

"What're you saying?" he slurs.

"Your buddy tells me you're a fag."

"WHAT!?"

"Yeah." So what? I didn't make much of it.

He did. He growled, pawed at my collar but was too wasted to pose a threat.

"Don't be stupid," I said,

and knocked his arm away. A bouncer saw this, stepped between us and sent Mr. Testosterone upstairs. It was over in seconds.

"What was that all about?" his friend asked.

"You tell me," I said. "He's pretty sensitive about being a fag."

"What? HE'S NO FAG!"

"That's what you told me!"

"No! I said, 'If he don't get any skin tonight, then he's a fag!'"

"Oh! I thought-"

"I Liked him better when I thought he was gay and not such an asshole"

"No man! See, my bud and I already got our skank! He don't got none so we came here!"

No wonder his friend was so upset. I liked him better when I thought he was gay, and not such an asshole.

The first time someone called me a fag I had no idea what it meant. So I asked my older brother. "If anyone calls you a fag," he advised me, "you tell them, 'I am a fag - a Female Ass

Grabber!'"

And it worked! At least until high-school, where they had other ideas of what "fag" stood for. You could say a lot of things about the boys at boys-only St. Charles but 1. You never insulted their mother, and 2. You never questioned their sexuality. If you did it meant trouble.

I never understood the fuss. I mean, I'm as much an expert on homos as I am on heteros, which isn't saying much. I know what I like but I don't think about why too much. It's like anything else; feels good to howl when I piss? I do it without thinking. As far as what goes for other people - who cares? Some folks think homos are sick, inhuman, abnormal...but I feel the same way about politicians and those vermin continue to gorge off us. They have a shrew's appetite and a lab-animal's sense of survival. It figures, considering they're the architects of this rat-maze called society.

I know my heroes, the shags at Avignon, didn't worry about sexual politics, politics or other forms of mind-screwing bullshit. But then again, those cats were busy making it happen. Today it seems, most are only good at making it complicated...

**PICARO'S THOUGHT
OF THE WEEK:
"DON'T WAIT FOR A CRISIS
TO DISCOVER
WHAT IS IMPORTANT IN
YOUR LIFE"**



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FEATURES

the Flip Side

TWO TAKES ON WOMEN'S FASHION

Women and Fashion

by Angela Jarvis

Let me start by saying that I have not and will not buy any article of clothing only because it is in fashion. I know what some of you are thinking, a woman not interested in fashion? Amazing! Not really! I never said I wasn't interested in fashion only that I would never buy anything just because it was in fashion. Let me explain. Take a moment and look around you. What are most of the people around wearing? Probably jeans, right? For most university students jeans are in fashion. However, if you were to turn on Fashion Television (FT) I'm sure you would see the models wearing jeans. Mind you, I'm sure will never see a Mount student wearing their idea of woman's fashion either.

Getting back on topic, fashion around the Mount doesn't just include jeans. Remember in September, some of the female students had blue and pink hair. I have no idea where this idea came from but it seemed for weeks no matter where you turned you passed a group of girls all sporting unusual hair colours. Like most fashions, just as soon as you become accustomed to it, it disappears without a trace. This is one reason I have never really gotten into fashion. Except for jeans, most styles are here one week and gone the next. Besides the fact that fashions seem to change so quickly, they also don't look good on everyone.

Very few people can pull off most of today's looks. Take, for example, the outfit most young girls are wearing - the high socks, miniskirt, belly button tops and the tiny backpacks. Only the tiniest of girls can pull this look off nicely. I find that women's fashions are only made for a select few - those that are just the right height, and for most of today's fashions, under weight. I don't find that today's fashions are made for average women. They are made for the models (who, for the most part, extremely underweight) who display them in fashion magazines that you love; however, when you try it on in a department store, it doesn't do a thing for you. It's so maddening that I usually leave the outfit in the store and go back to my trusted jeans; besides, next week there'll be a new magazine and a new fashion in style.

The Glorious Virtue of "Sickdum".

by Jason Wingo

A great poet, I believe, once uttered to an ailing aristocrat in his definitive wisdom that the status of being sick is next to godliness itself in one form or another. To tell you all the truth, I think that I've simply been drinking too much Buckley's mixture over the past few days for my own good... and more importantly, for this dispatch, here, today, in this century!

Being sick is not a glorious sacrifice for one's own being or for anything else in this manner; it just plain sucks! My lonesome journey into the pitiful realm for which I now sadly find myself dates back to a wickedly inauspicious Sunday afternoon in early January. It was on this truly evil day that again in my infinite

wisdom as a Gringo that I thought that I was some sort of immune god creature... incapable of being susceptible to mortal wears and frailties. This moronic reflection on my part led me to where I now find myself...STUPID MAN, STUPID SICK!

I was to partake in the manly ritual of the pigskin. Sweat. Male hormonal manhood. Football, sweet nectar of the gods - football. With fleeting thoughts of Marino, Montana and a large 12" meatball sub from Subway I strove to become the ultimate player of the gridiron. My life was moving to plethoric levels, while at the same time my insides were beginning to feel the aftermath of an

afternoon of frosty -14 degree temperatures and persistent bombardments of their outside counterparts being rudely thrown onto the cold hard floor of reality...wet slushy mucky grass of death!

As I picked up the remnants of my body, I at once felt satisfied that I did indeed play as the others did, but also the kind of feeling you get when you do something evil (which is good) but know that the swift hand of justice was about to weigh it's heavy hand upon you, sucker.

I arrived home that

Drunk and Stupid in a Skirt

by Cman.

Women have the best variety when it comes to clothes. Of course, all the high end stuff doesn't accommodate most women's bodies, or budgets. And their fashion is a fickle thing, with a fickle appetite. And a lot of women take it so seriously. It turns expression from symphony to strategy, delight to defense. You get the idea. Anyways, here's my in and out-of-body experience with women's clothing.

A church on Windsor St. was giving away clothes to the needy and I needed a skirt and Lo and Behold. There it was: A miracle.

I wore it to a party that night. My friend K and I walked there from his bachelor on Beech. The skirt wore marvelous in the July heat; airy but secure. It batted in swayed like midnight eyelashes on my thighs.

On the way some drivers honked, others cat-called through lowered windows. No problem. I didn't feel like a fool, freak, or victim. I was a brown guy in a black skirt going to a party. It's only actors who forget lines, and stumble. And since I didn't have underwear on beneath the skirt, I couldn't afford to stumble.

The only person with the imagination to speak with me at the party turned out to be from England. She held my skirt and tittered, "Oh, you look simply smashing." She grabbed my hands and we did a little circle dance in the middle of the kitchen as bear chilled in the crisper and knife tips blinked neon orange in K's hands.

The Brit wouldn't leave me alone. I wanted her to leave me alone. I wanted to drink. I wanted to fuck. What I did was dance some more; London Bridge is Falling Down. She left, but returned instantly - with others. I was surrounded.

"Oh look, he's wearing combat boots and a matching leather jacket!" "He makes me hot."

"I love his tight little ass." I took a seat at the table, legs spread wide. K was somewhere else. The episode felt like a scene from the women's lavatory. Or show-and-tell hell. I drank more. Drinking wouldn't be a solution if only people stopped causing me problems. I caught myself regretting the skirt purchase and it pissed me off. No one sets my mood, especially because of how I decide to dress. If clothes make the man, then what about women? Do they really have more choice in fashion? Who's to blame, producer or consumer? I was confused, my anger was unfocused. It was too big.

Fuck it, I decided. I'll trash them all - the blond with the goo-goo eyes, the redhead, the hippie and Queen Elizabeth of course. Yes. It'd be easy since I hate the royal family and all they stand for. But my hands were busy, stupid with beer, so I did nothing but drink and muse some more. The girls eventually left me alone. It got dark.

I can't remember what happened for the rest of that night. Or what happened to the skirt. K won't tell me. All I remember is flashes of him looming over me on South Park, wishing to god I'd worn underwear.

duplicating my pathetic fable.

For the rest of what will surely be a truly unfortunate state that I will be in, I take solace in knowing that at least there are a few treasured things in this universe for which I can find happiness in: 1. Cheese Whiz 2. alcohol 3. Baywatch 4. reruns of Seinfeld (for my witty repartee) 5. Gringos.

So, fellow Gringos, I hope that this small instalment will push you to take steps to avoid this putrid situation in the future.

evening to partake in another interesting endeavour of sports craziness..basketball. Two hours of sweaty, lanky bodies crashing their body odour-ridden carcasses into me at alarming frequency. Even though this sounds like the cure for an upcoming puke-filled week of chaotic and perverted hell, it really isn't...believe me. As I sit here at this computer terminal writing this autobiography so that perhaps one day after they find my twisted remains somewhere under this table, my tale will sway adventure seekers from

DREAM WEAVER

It is a dark, cloudy autumn night, and a teasing wind blows through your hair. Long shadows stretch briefly across the sidewalk in front of you, only to disappear again in the brightness of the racing moon.

The only sound is the dry rustling of leaves against the concrete and the quick patter of your own footsteps.

You pause in front of one of the buildings on this street, and you immediately know you have found what you were looking for. An array of coloured masks is on display in the window, staring up at you blankly like so many cool strangers. Also on show is a crystal decanter and two wine glasses filled with a red liquid, a deck of tarot cards laid out in prophetic patterns, and a wooden stake and mallet, lying innocently on a shelf. Curiouser and curiouser... You peer in vain through the glass into unyielding darkness. You can see the token glow of candlelight and a few black figures moving back and forth, but little else. The muted sounds of music and voices rapt in conversation reaches your ears from in-

sound of electric guitars, with the singer's metallic voice weaving in and out. A man with long hair tied back in a velvet ribbon stands close by you. He is wearing a dark cloak and coloured glasses, and he is flipping through an assortment of cassettes and CDs. He slips one quietly into the machine, and the room is abruptly flooded with classical, period music. He turns around and, noticing you, smiles over the round gold rims, bowing low.

With your eyes adjusting to the light, you can see people sitting at tables, drinking coffee and whispering to each other over candles, or from behind curled fingers. A young woman dressed in velvet the colour of red wine perches restlessly on one of the couches at the back of the room. Her dark hair is piled on top of her head so that a luxurious cascade of curls tumbles down to her

toward you and takes your hands, a mischievous smile curling on his lips. "My dear," he says quietly, kissing your hand and guiding you into the room, "I've been expecting you..."

"I sell people their dreams," says Roderick MacKinnon simply, grinding out a cigarette and leaning back to reflect on this statement, "I'm a dream-seller." He is still wearing the three-corner hat. It is one o'clock on a Thursday afternoon, quite possibly the most unromantic time of the day one can imagine, and the mood here is decidedly different in broad daylight. Alice in Chains is on the stereo. Jack is behind the counter, putting away the newly-washed coffee cups. A handful of people are playing Rage and Sonic the Hedgehog. We go downstairs, where it is quieter, and he tells me about The Crimson Moon.

"It's a social club for people who play The Masquerade, or any game. I used to have twenty and thirty people at my apartment every weekend, drinking my coffee, eating my food, and playing my games. I figured, if there are twenty people interested, there are a hundred people interested - they just don't know it yet."

Vampire: The Masquerade is a role-playing game, an improv game, where people create a character, put clothes on it, and act it out. They act out a vampire persona. We have four or five narrators who guide them through it, and storytellers working night and day, thinking up ideas of things to do."

The game was developed by a company called White Wolf, and is played in different cities around the world. Rod shares his thoughts on the appeal of the vampire to young people: "It's the concept of immortality. Power. You can do things that are just not humanly possible. And the seduction. The seduction of the vampire." I ask him why people seem to enjoy live role-playing games, and he frowns thoughtfully. "Because you spend all day being you, and it's not always fun being just you - sometimes it's nice to be some-

Dartmouth by Night

by Jill McDonald



one else for a while."

For the players who are less interested in vampires, there are also Werewolf, Mage, and Fae characters mingling in the club by night. "Anything that's deemed supernatural can become a character," Rod says. The purpose of making up such characters? "People are made conscious of different things about themselves. A vampire character lets you discover the human in you, and the beast in you."

With such a large number of young players involved, the ongoing plotline of the game has been deliberately steered toward such real issues as AIDS, death, and drug abuse. The topics are subtly introduced to make members aware of their own vulnerability, and mortality. Rod admits, though, that the players didn't always react as well as he would have liked. "They react too slowly, too late, on things like this."

Very concerned with the influence of younger members, there are also rules forbidding drugs, alcohol, and violence in the club, which are strictly enforced. I ask how the members are kept under control, and Rod grins and replies, "We beat

them." But he is serious when I ask the penalty for breaking one of these rules. "Banishment. Get out of my empire."

And what do the neighbouring businesses and locals think of the club? "That we're a cult," Rod smiles, "that's a big misconception because we have so many people dressed in black." His reaction? "I laugh. It's funny." Indeed, upon mustering up the courage to actually enter The Crimson Moon, and to ask what it is about, curious strangers and concerned parents alike walk away satisfied.

Running a business seven days a week, and remaining open for at least twelve hours a day might be trying on anyone, and I ask Rod if he enjoys his work. He answers immediately, with no hesitation, "I love what I do. I could never, ever ask for anything else."

And, now that he has established himself in Dartmouth, what are his plans for The Crimson Moon? "I want to get bigger. I would like to eventually have The Crimson Moon go worldwide, to have a place in every city. I want to control the world." He grins. "Yeah, world domination. Definitely."



side. You stand hesitantly in front of the door, but the wind is cold, and, really, your interest has been sparked. Taking a deep breath, you push the door open and step inside.

The air is warm, and smells vaguely of incense as the door wheezes shut behind you. The music playing on the stereo is something familiar, with a pounding beat and the grating

shoulders. She darts her bright, feverish eyes at you over a fan of black lace, and, without warning, suddenly bursts into song.

You take an uncertain step backwards, ready to leave, when a young man, devilishly handsome, steps out of the shadows. He wears a three-corner hat on his forehead, a loose white shirt with lace at the collar, and a long black coat. He extends his arms



Realizing Racism with Gideon's Blues

by Ceri Young

Racism is a problem that is constantly on the news and in the papers. It is so often talked about, that some people no longer even listen to the reports. Also, some people feel that racism isn't a problem in a small town like Halifax. However, *Gideon's Blues* makes its audience take notice of what can and does happen in Halifax.

Gideon's Blues was performed at the Sir James Dunn Theatre, from January 9 - 14. It was written by George Boyd and directed by Richard Donat.

Gideon's Blues is a drama about a man named Gideon who works as a janitor, that being the only available job to him because he is black. When he loses his job, he is forced to sell drugs in order to take care of his family.

The play's source of unity was the theme of racism in today's world and how it effects people. It illustrated the vicious cycle of racism and what can happen to someone who tries to break that cycle. This, in itself, is a very heavy theme, but the audience was so caught up in the characters and their struggle that the play kept from being mes-

sage-heavy.

The most outstanding character in the play would have to have been Momma Lou, played by Jackie Richardson. Through her narration of the play, Momma Lou's suffering seems real. Her voice breaks as she speaks. The audience was moved by her pain and felt it with her as they watched the downfall of her only son.

Another well-acted part was that of Baye, played by Karen Robinson. She introduced a note of humour into the play with her exaggerated mannerisms and voice. Nevertheless, her "street talk" seemed real. It was

hard to believe that she was playing a role.

The character of



Cherlene, Gideon's wife, was disappointing. Played by Camille Jones-Adams, the part called for more feeling and abandon instead of the restrained way it was played. At times it was obvious that the lines were being recited. They sounded almost mechanical.

On the opposite end of the scale, however, was Gideon himself, played by Troy Adams. If anything, this part was played with too much emotion. The changes in Gideon after his entry into the drug trade were shocking, even frightening, but a little too sudden. One almost wondered if Adams was playing the same quiet, sane character that was Gideon only

moments before.

The props in the play were very few, but effectively used. Gideon's apartment was sparsely furnished - with very old-looking furniture. Momma Lou's bedroom was small, like most apartment bedrooms, with only room for a bed, a chest and a small

dresser. The street corner was especially interesting, featuring a Chronicle-Herald paper box, and a real (or very real-looking) street lamp, that stretched far over the heads of both the audience and the actors.

The costumes are worth mention as well. In the beginning, Gideon has no real suit, but as his money increases, his outfits become more flashy. Baye's shiny-black skin-tight prostitute's garb was appropriately overdone. Momma Lou's Mardi Gras costume was very impressive, but simple as well. A black dress with brightly-coloured woven belts that flew around as she walked, and a plastic skull mask looked like much more than it actually was.

The characters and staging of the play almost made the audience forget about the very dark message. However, we left the theatre with the feeling that a great injustice had been done to Gideon and that things should not have turned out as they did. Furthermore, it reminded the audience of the social evil, racism and how it effects real people, and why it must not be tolerated.

Shoe Shop Reading a Hit

by Carrie Warner

Just to clarify any misconceptions, *The Economy Shoe Shop* does not sell shoes. Far from it! In fact, this intimate bar in downtown Halifax provided the perfect setting for an up-and-coming actor/writer to perform some of his favourite work.

Chris Shore is an interesting man, with a colourful background. He has had extensive theatre training, and has worked as assistant director on some plays performed at Neptune Theatre here in Halifax. On January 23, he read from the first of *The Stratford Stories* at *The Shoe Shop*.

The evening began around "8:30ish" (which turned out to be more like 9:00) with our "charming host" Carol Sinclair. She provided some background information about Mr. Shore, and included her own vocal rendition of "Am I Blue". She welcomed everyone to the eighth performance in what they call *The Shoe String Series*, and then gave the

floor to Mr. Shore.

The story he read was a description of a struggling young actor's both deepest desire and worst fear - auditioning for a part in *The Stratford Festival*. Through grand gestures, changes in voice, and excellent animation of the text, he enabled the audience to be right there on stage with him, and to feel his fear and frustrations as nothing went as planned. The fifteen-minute performance was followed by an eruption of applause from the crowd who had filled the cozy space.

Ms. Sinclair then thanked everyone involved in the behind-the-scenes work, and encouraged everyone to come back the following Tuesday to hear the next scheduled author. As I left, I knew that I would be there to hear him. For anyone who enjoys good pieces of writing and likes seeing it brought to life, *The Shoe String Series* is a must. See you there next week, 8:30ish.

The Symphony Explodes

by Tawnya Zwicker

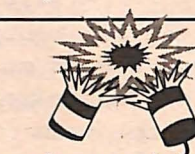
Thursday, Feb. 29, at 7 p.m. the biggest explosion Halifax has experienced since 1917 will occur at the Halifax Metro Centre. Symphony Nova Scotia will blow Halifax away with a stunning spectacle.

The Symphony Explosion, an idea created as a fundraiser for SNS, will be a concert which includes sixteen performers. Some artists scheduled to appear are big picture, Natalie MacMaster, Rawlin's Cross, The Irish Descendants, and Dutchie Mason. The symphony will provide background sound for the artists, as well as perform excerpts from Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. There's going to be a variety of music, appealing to every taste, in the event which will be about three hours long.

Tickets are on sale now at the Halifax Metro Centre box office (phone 451-1221) and they range in price from five to thirty dollars. "We've tried to make it affordable for everyone", said a SNS spokesperson. Corporate

sponsors helped to make this affordability possible.

The Symphony Explosion promises to be an evening of fun



and entertainment for every budget and musical taste. Halifax should certainly be looking forward to this blast.

Interested in becoming a teacher?

Attend an
Information Session on
Mount Saint Vincent University's
Bachelor of Education programs
-- Elementary and Secondary

Monday, February 5, 1996
at 4:00 pm
in Auditorium D
Seton Academic Centre

All welcome!

Mount Saint Vincent University



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ERIC'S TRIP - PURPLE BLUE

(Sub Pop)



Moncton's own Eric's Trip are back with a new album produced by Bob Weston. If you don't know who Eric's Trip are, then you probably don't follow the local music scene. They are often tied into the Halifax indie scene that includes the likes of Sloan, Jale, Thrush Hermit, Superfriends, Hardship Post and many other up and coming bands. My personal favourites of the scene, Eric's Trip did not let me down on the new album.

Possibly one of their best releases to date, *Purple Blue* has everything that makes this band

great. The production sounds better than before, but this does not mean they lost the raw sound that is so characteristic of them, just check out "Spaceship Opening". Another favourite "Alone and Annoyed" features guitarist Chris Thompson on vocals. The fact that more than one member contributes to the song - writing and vocals makes for a very diverse and interesting album. Sure these guys write great pop songs, but there is so much more to Eric's Trip than your average power pop band. Leaning more to the experimental side of pop, more in tune with Sonic Youth than say the pure pop of Sloan or Superfriendz, they seem to show much more depth and creativity. Whether you're already a fan or just discovering them I would definitely recommend this album.

by David Pound

Cyndi Lauper Twelve Deadly Cyns



Though released a while ago and largely ignored commercially,

Twelve Deadly Cyns anthologizes some of the best sounds pop music has/had to offer. Ranging from the soaringly kinky vocals on Cyndi Lauper's "Blue Angel" release to the re-mix of "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun", the melodic, catchy tunes, by the spunky-funky, multi-hued haired, sometimes wrestling manager are accessible on many levels. Whether you want to relax and be soothed or crank up the volume and dance the night away, any number of Cyns will be appropriate and successful.

Though once destined to eclipse Madonna, Lauper has not had such cult success. However, though Lauper's body of work is less volminous than her one-time rival, Lauper nonetheless continues to inspire and enchant world weary listeners who identify immediately with intelligent, yet fun lyrics and songs that continue to shape who we are. A classic an-

them now finding renaissance in dance bars across the land and particularly in GLBQ bars, "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" is a song that many people remember fondly from younger, more carefree days. However, Lauper's slower songs are also intensely meaningful. "Time After Time" and "True Colors" are ballads which withstand the test of time and deserve to be heard more frequently. "That's What I Think", from Lauper's *Hat Full of Stars* release, with its innovative use of a recorder and a strong beat, relive the fun and quirkiness that are Cyndi. Initially, I was saddened that the succession of late of "Greatest Hits" collections containing songs that I remember from my childhood meant that I was getting old. *Twelve Deadly Cyns* dispels this myth and replaces it with the future joy of being able to re-hear happy memories with a new ear, fond recollections, and a very broad smile.

by Shawn Miner

The Amps Pacer



What's the deal with the Deals? The minute I put the CD on I said.

"Wow, this has got to be one of the Deal sisters, this sounds just like The Breeders". According to the liner notes, Presto!, Kim Deal is an Amp. That explains the sound. Now, on to the difficult part, explaining the sound to you. Anyone familiar with The Breeders? That Last Splash CD, released about two years ago, was the first time the two sisters Kim and Kelly worked together. That was one of those purchases where you hear one song on Much, so you roll the dice and hope the whole work holds up...in the case of Last Splash, it was all wet.

So, what do The Amps sound like? Well, they sound like

Generacion X. No, not the "...never achieve what my parents had, giving up on life, mass market my childhood memories to me, thanks a lot Douglas Copeland", generation of which I'm supposed to be a part. I'm talking about the Generation X that gave Billy Idol his start. That analogy too old? Well, I could fall into the trap of saying The Amps sound like The GoGo's crossed with Nirvana, just because the lead singer is a woman and the harmony is structured the same. But I'm not going to do that, oops...nevermind.

Well, on to the actual CD. It's crap! Very elementary musicianship, which might be why the liner notes don't say who's responsible for what. The timing of the release couldn't have been worse either. This basic klinky bubble-gum grunge might have held up on a hot summer's day, after a few beers.

by Brian Kerrigan

Various Artists Massive Dance Hits

Hot hits, great mixes, and original artists combine to make this release one of the best dance mixes to come down the pike in a long time. It has a high proportion of songs that are familiar, progressive and guaranteed to turn you into one of those marsupials who inhabit the world that is Electric Circus. Billy Ray Martin embraces "Your Loving Arms" and Everything But Girl is "Missing" the acoustic sound on this high energy compilation disc. However, there are a few surprises. Pearl, the artist formerly known as Janet Henry remixes "Never Ending Story" (ooh, how cute)

"Beatles - A Tribute" Dancing on Abbey Road



Dancing on Abbey Road was not quite what I had anticipated when I

agreed to review it. It is a mish-mash of Beatles Classics that are broken up and reconstituted into four, ten-minute medleys. All the familiar Beatles sounds are included and you can find your favourite tunes.

Once you listen to the CD a couple of times it grows on you. If you need a quick Beatles fix, *Dancing on Abbey Road* is the CD for you.

by Andrew Clattenburg



into a full tilt, no synths barred, dancified, floor jammer.

It's actually quite beautiful. Songs by artists such as Moby, Captain Hollywood, and Snow are also included on this CD. However, there are a few duds, one of which is a song by producers who jumped on the "Macarena made a bucket of money, let's do something, anything, as long as it could possibly be considered Spanish" bandwagon. The junk is hard to ignore as it is usually mixed between a couple of really good songs. But, this is why CD players have a Program feature. Enjoy the party, dudes.

by Shawn Miner

Next Deadline is
February 7th!

Literary Aspirations?
The Picaro wants you to wax poetic.
Please drop your poetry submissions - less than 200 words - off at the nifty new Picaro office 1st floor Rosaria.
(or wherever you can find us!)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

When I Was in Heat...

by Carrie Warner

Heat brings together some of the biggest names in Hollywood. Al Pacino, Val Kilmer and Robert DeNiro grace the screen with their presence for a three-hour ride through the minds of a group of gangsters, as well as the cop who is out to get them.

The movie opens with a rather violent robbery of a security truck full of money. There is the usual blood and guts, shoot 'em up stuff that really doesn't make the audience want to warm up to the guys! But as the characters develop throughout the movie, the audience sees their tender sides and private lives. Ashley Judd stars as Val Kilmer's romantic interest in the flick, and plays her part very well.

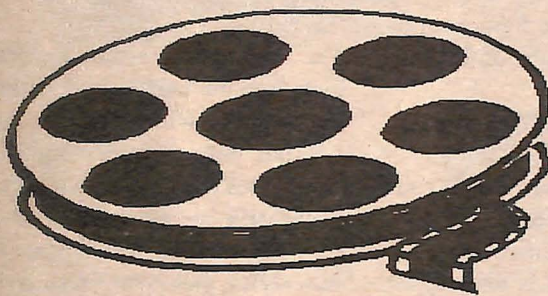
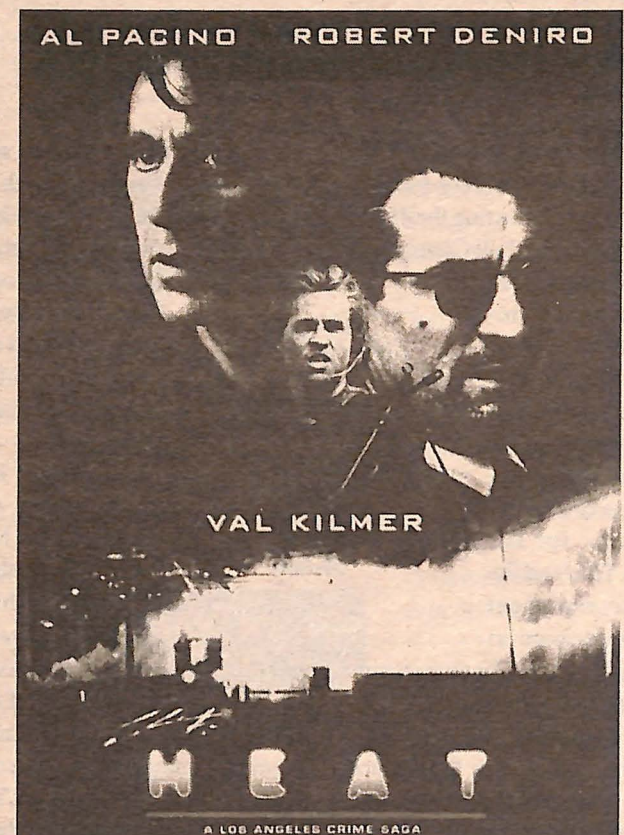
Robert DeNiro's character is a troubled loner. He lives in a huge house, but has no furniture. He lives by the rule that he has to be ready to leave at the drop of a hat, when "the heat" is closing in on him. However, he later recognizes the fact that he actually does need somebody to love. He makes a few mistakes in judgment regarding his girlfriend, and he finally makes a difficult choice.

Al Pacino plays a sarcastic cop who is trying to get into the head of his nemesis, DeNiro, in order to catch him before the next robbery. Pacino also has a troubled private life, involving a third problematic marriage and a step-daughter with troubles of her own.

Val Kilmer and Ashley Judd don't have a perfect relationship either. She pleads and begs for him to stop involving himself in the crime scene, but he continues doing it because he gets himself in debt, and needs the money to pay it off.

The last twenty minutes of the movie serve as the resolution. They tie up the loose ends, and after a climactic gun fight, show where the remaining characters are headed.

The only thing I didn't like about this movie was the length. It could have easily been put into a 2 1/2 hour time frame. I wasn't bored at any point, but I really would have loved it if all the action had been a little more compact.



REEL REVIEWS

Mr. Holland's Opus

by James Tilley

Last weekend I was admittedly forced into watching Mr. Holland's Opus. My father and my younger sister, who are both very musical people, really wanted to see the movie. I, on the other hand, am not in any way shape or form musically adept at anything. So I really did not want to go to a movie about a music teacher. I was not actually forced into attending but it was strongly suggested that I go so I figured, "Hey why not" - my dad was pay-

ing for it anyway. After watching it, I did like the movie.

Richard Dreyfuss dazzles with his musical talent in the leading role. Mr. Holland is a thirty year old musician who takes up teaching at recently renamed John F. Kennedy High School in 1965. Teaching was not what he expected, the administration was being difficult, the students were learning only one thing in his class, "How to sleep with their eyes open..." (sound familiar) and the school orchestra sounded more like nails scraping down a chalk board than mu-

sic. The solution was to give his students a love for music by using the one that the V Principal spiced ... P and Roll.

The story continues through the years of teaching and tackles some problems that he must deal with. This continues right until 1995 when Mr. Holland is forced to retire due to funding cuts as the first

programs to be slashed are the Music, Drama and Fine Art programs (sounds really familiar).

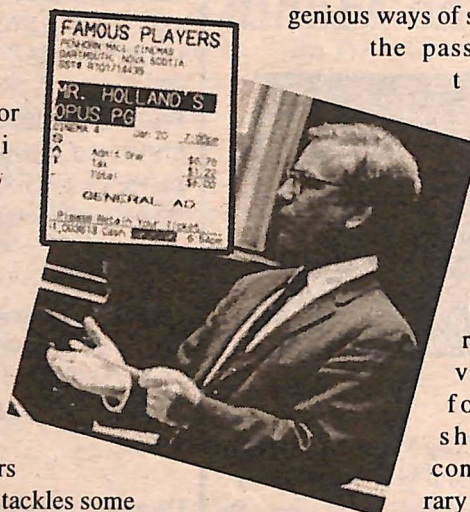
The Opus has many ingenious ways of showing the passage of time.

One such example was the use of real-life video footage showing contemporary events.

Time is portrayed by visual clues and references. Also, make-up was used to great advantage to

detail the passage of time, unfortunately some aged less gracefully than others. Everything from the cars to hairstyles to clothing evolved slowly as the years passed by. Mr. Holland's classroom technology changes from an old turntable, an ancient piano, and a stack of records to compact discs and a keyboard hooked up to a Macintosh computer.

This movie is an excellent movie for everyone to enjoy. It portrays the struggle of one person and his life long passion for music. Along the way there is both comedy and tragedy, a mixture of light and dark. The ending is a very emotional, but Mr. Holland's Opus is essential watching for anyone who enjoys music.



BLUE RODEO ROCKS THE MCINNIS ROOM

by R. Haines

Whenever I hear Blue Rodeo is in town, I'm there. I've been a fan for years, seen a lot of shows and they haven't let me down yet. Saturday, January, 20 was no exception.

The McInnes Room was crowded, but it didn't look like the show sold out (unlike the other four shows in Halifax). One of the things I love about Blue Rodeo is the diversity of the crowds they attract. They get anything from older guys with

big cowboy hats to younger ones with lots of earrings.

While I'm no stranger to Blue Rodeo and their music, I am new to the Maritimes. But the opening band, Great Big Sea, has just about got me sold on Maritime music. They were excellent, their energy was just amazing. They played REM's "It's the End of the World" (only they dubbed it the "Feeling Fine" song) and actually sped it up!

Blue Rodeo hit the stage

and they were, as always, amazing. The band looked so comfortable with each other and psyched to play. Greg Keelor took the lead vocals a lot of the time, which is fine with me. Although everyone in Blue Rodeo is a great musician, I think he's the backbone of the entire band.

Blue Rodeo played with a terrific amount of energy, their songs ranging from "Diamond Mine" to some great new songs from their new album Nowhere to Here. I love their music. They combine elements from country to rock to make a unique sound. The songs from their new album

didn't let me down. Blue Rodeo is known for its extended improvised jams. They let their musical talent shine through in a natural mix of sounds.

If you missed the chance to see Blue Rodeo this time, make sure you're there the next time they come to Halifax. No wonder they sold out four shows.



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LARGE HAMBURGER
Buy any large Hamburger and regular or large Fries and get a second same large Hamburger free!



FREE
LARGE HAMBURGER
Buy any large Hamburger and regular or large Fries and get a second same large Hamburger free!

SPORTS

ACAA Basketball Championships

Mount Saint Vincent University Athletics is very pleased and happy to be hosting the 1995-96 ACAA Basketball Championships February 24 & 25 in Rosaria Gymnasium.

The top four women's teams and the top four men's teams will be competing in the championships for the ACAA Title and the right to represent the conference at CCAA National Championships in Montreal.

Presently the women's basketball team is in third place with 8 wins and four losses and looking very strong in the last stretch of league play. Only the top four teams will go to playoffs so the upcoming games are very important for the team to stay in the top four.



The men's team has sole possession of first place with 12 and 1 loss. They are currently ranked fifth in the country and are expected to continue their winning way and defend their conference title in their own gym.

The Mount has represented the ACAA at National Basketball Championships in previous years and this year's teams are both in the hunt for the banner and the right compete at CCAA Finals. Women's play starts Saturday February 24 at 2pm and 4pm. The Men continue at 6pm and 8pm. On Sunday the top two women's teams play for the championship at 1pm and the men's top two teams follow at 3pm.

Pepsi Athletes of the Month



Melissa Stevens

This month we are happy to announce the Pepsi Athletes of the Month are Melissa Stevens and Craig Miller members of the Mystic Basketball teams.

Melissa is a third year BCYS student and Co-captain of the women's team. She is a team leader in the true sense of the word and leads by example. In a recent game against UNBSJ Melissa scored a career high 27 points.



Craig Miller

Craig Miller is competing in his fourth year with the Mystics completing his Business Diploma. Craig returned last year from a serious leg injury and plays very big at the post position consistently hauling down rebounds and capitalizing on the offensive boards.

Congratulations to Melissa and Craig our Pepsi Athletes of the Month.

Mystics Volleyball Update
by Gin Hing Yee

Pepsi Athletes of the Month Mount Saint Vincent's volleyball team current record is 9-4, third in the ACAA conference. The team had convincing wins against NSAC (2), St. Thomas (2), NSTC, King's (2), and TUNS (2). The only teams that the Mount has not beaten are Ste. Anne and UNBSJ which both one and two respectfully in the conference. The last time the Mount played the number one rank Ste. Anne was on Saturday, January 13. The match was very close and went into a 5th. game which the team lost by the scores of 15-13, 14-16, 15-9, 10-15, 15-13. The player of the game for this match was Heather MacIssac. The Mount team will be looking for revenge on Saturday, February, 10. The team captain, Angie Garner says "we have the skills to beat them, and our team has been coming together for the last few weeks and be ready for them for Ste. Anne." The team would like to see as many fans at the game on Saturday.

Tuesday, January 16
MSVU def. KINGS
15-11, 15-3, 15-7

Wednesday, January 17
MSVU def. NSAC
14-16, 15-8, 15-8, 15-12, 15-6
Player of the game - Tanya Diamond

Wednesday, January 24
MSVU def. KINGS
15-12, 15-1, 15-8
Player of the game - Nicole Dakin

Upcoming Matches
Friday, February 2, NSAC @ MSVU, 7 pm;
Wednesday February 7, MSVU @ NSTC, 7 pm;
Saturday February 10, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm;
Sunday February, 11 STU @ MSVU, 11 am;
Thursday February 15 KINGS @ MSVU, 6 pm.

Current Standings

Ste Anne 16-0, UNBSJ 12-0, MSVU 9-4, NSTC 6-7, St. Thomas 5-9, NSAC 4-7, TUNS 1-12, KINGS 0-13.

MSVU CAMPUS RECREATION UPDATE:

TGIF MOOSEHEAD VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT AND PIZZA PARTY

-Friday, February 2, 3:15-5:00pm. Rosaria Gym

-Any group of 6-8 students may enter a team. Smaller groups and individuals may register at the Ath/Rec Office and will be teamed up with other players. Teams must have at least 3 females on the court at any given time, more are allowed.

-Two divisions: a) Recreational Division (for teams who are coming to play for their 1st or 2nd time and are interested in playing others with similar experience on a "just for fun" basis) and b) competitive divisions (for those who play on a regular basis and enjoy a competitive game).

-\$3/player includes pizza.

-Team registration forms can be picked-up at the Athletic/Recreation Office

MSVU 3RD ANNUAL MARTOCK SKI TRIP

-Wednesday, January 31, Caritas Day, no classes today!

The Mount's Third Annual Martock Ski Trip is once again scheduled for Caritas Day. School's out, there's snow on the hills, the conditions are great, and the price is the lowest you can possibly get. What more do you need? Free lessons; transportation; equipment? Well all this is available with these fantastic packages.

Costs are:

Package #1: Lift ticket and lesson
\$11.00

Package #2: Lift ticket and rental & lesson
\$20.00

Package #3: Lift ticket, lesson, & bus \$21.00

Package #4: Lift ticket, rental, lesson and bus: \$30.00

All tickets must be purchased at the Athletic/Recreation office. For those travelling by bus, they must meet at the Rosaria main doors at 9:30am. The bus leaves at 9:45am. The bus will be back at Rosaria at 5:00pm. Everyone travelling on their own must meet the group at 10:45am at the Martock ski rental desk.

MOUNT SPIRIT BAND

-Wednesday, February 7, 12:30-1:00pm, Vinnies Pub. 1st Meet-

ing Calling all students, faculty, and staff who might be interested in starting a university band. Whether you are an active musician or someone who has not played in a long long time, come to this meeting. The main agenda will be to see who is interested, and who needs instruments. The group is also looking for an individual who has band experience and may like to help coordinate the group. In addition, the group is also looking for used instruments. So bring your lunch and come see what is happening. For more information contact Joanne Burns-Therault at the Athletic/Recreation office or call 457-6369.

CIRA STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM LEVEL 2

-Thursday, February 8, 3:30-5:00pm.

This workshop gives an in depth look into the leader in all of us. Participants will become more familiar with their own leadership styles. They will also learn to identify the strengths in others. Topics will include leadership styles, group dynamics, and motivation. Each student will receive a certificate upon completion of the workshop. Cost is \$5.00/person and includes pizza. For more information contact Joanne Burns-Therault at the Ath/Rec Office or call 457-6369.

READING WEEK
FEBRUARY 17-25

School is closed but students, faculty and staff who will be in town, will be pleased to know that it is business as usual at the Athletic/Recreation Office. This is a great opportunity to participate in the variety of intramurals offered throughout the week; as well, fitness classes are on and the weight room will remain open. In addition the Mount will be hosting the NSCAA Provincial Basketball Championships. The Annual Beat The Blues Barbecue is on and "Mabel" will be their to entertain us. If you haven't had a chance to meet Mabel then you must plan on joining her for lunch.

Kempt Rd. Location Only

Free Large
Hamburger

Buy a Harvey's Hamburger, Double Burger or Superburger (bacon & cheese extra) and regular or large order of French Fries and receive the second same Hamburger free. (Not available on Junior Burger.)

Present coupon before ordering. Offer valid at participating restaurants. Not valid on delivery or with any other offer. Coupon has no cash value.

Taxes extra.
Expires
February 18, 1996.

Free Large
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Buy a Harvey's Hamburger, Double Burger or Superburger (bacon & cheese extra) and regular or large order of French Fries and receive the second same Hamburger free. (Not available on Junior Burger.)

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Taxes extra.
Expires
February 18, 1996.



BASKETBALL HOME GAMES

Tues Jan 31 TUNS at MSVU 6 & 8pm *Boster Night
Sat Feb 10 STU at MSVU 6 & 8 pm
Sun Feb 11 MTA at MSVU 2 & 4pm

CLASSIFIEDS

SOCIETY NEWS

MARS will be holding a 70's dance in Vinnies on February 1st. \$2 for MSVU students and \$3 for everyone else. Remember other societies are from Earth, but we are from Mars.

Une nuit de pizza et de bowling le 2 Fevrier. 7H30 Pizza Delight (Rockingham Ridge) 9h Bowlarama (centre d'achats Bayer's road). Pizza a moitie prix, \$3 pour tout la soiree pour plus de renseignements, contactee Crista Stone 457-9966 ou Larry Steele 457-6113.

The Science Society will be holding a bake sale on 2nd floor Roseria on Jan. 29. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Any Dutch People Around? We are organizing an evening out with Dutch people between the ages of 19 and 35. Do you speak Dutch? Or know anyone who does? We'd love to hear from you! Please call Walter at 423-5342 or Lisa at 492-9238 or e-mail: W - Vanden@bass.stmarys.ca

The Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia is holding An Old Fashioned Spelling Bee on March 22 at St Mary's University. The Spelling Bee is open to elementary and junior high school students. Tickets are \$20 dollars for admission with all proceeds to go to the education and awareness programs of The Schizophrenia Society.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

L'Arche Cape Breton has openings for live-in volunteer assistants with mentally challenged adults. Situated near the village of Whycocomagh, L'Arche is a community where approximately 45 people live in family size homes. Each year, volunteers from Cape Breton and around the world come to help and to learn from the community life. It's a great experience and looks great on your resume.

Volunteers receive free room and board and a monthly allowance. There is also an International program where you may live and work in any of the more than 100 L'Arche communities worldwide.

Looking for a challenge? Call 902-756-3162 or write L'Arche Cape Breton Whycocomagh N.S. BOE 3MO.

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Make up to \$25-\$45+ per hour teaching basic conversational English abroad. Japan, Taiwan, and S. Korea. Many employers provide room & board + other benefits. No teaching background or Asian languages required. Open to all majors. For more information call:

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CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

To all the writers of the Mount. The Women's Committee, in association with the English Society, is asking for submissions for the 2nd annual collection of poetry, prose or short stories to commemorate International Women's Week. (March 4-8). We ask that only women submit their work, (sorry guys), and that the piece exemplify themes of women and their experiences. Those pieces chosen will be bounded and on sale, for a nominal price, during the International Women's Week. Any profit above the printing costs will be donated to Adsum House.

All submissions must be received by Feb. 20 as we have to leave time to type in submissions as well as send it to the printer. Please send your piece to the Student Union, care of Lori Anne Jones 457-6123 for more information.

UNIVERSITY EVENTS

MSVU Intramurals presents Volleyball. Tuesdays 4:00pm-5:30pm, Thursdays 7:00pm-8:45pm. Netball will be on Thursdays from 3-4pm. Students and Members get in Free!

MSVU Campus Recreation presents Martock Ski Trip on Wednesday January 31, 1996 from 9:45am-5:00pm. There are several packages available. The bus leaves Rosaria Centre Front Doors at 9:45am SHARP! The bus will return to MSVU by

5:00pm. Buy your tickets by Tuesday January 30, 1996 from the Athletics/Recreation Office, Rosaria Centre. From more information call 457-6420.

MISCELLANEOUS

I would like to say thank-you to the kind samaritan who found my black leather glove with red lining on January 24, 1996. -S. Miner

I would like to wish Angela Jarvis a happy birthday.

CAREER CORNER

Part-Time:

Youth Experience Program
Employment & Immigration Canada

Personnel Psychologist Sponsorship Program
Canadian Awards Program

Full-Time:

Management Trainee Program
Public Service Commission of Canada

Teachers
The Kativik School Board
Nunavik (Arctic Quebec)

Management Trainee Information Systems
Murphy Associates
Montreal

Summer:

Various:
Province of New Brunswick

Various:
Bayshore Inn
Waterton Lakes National Park
Alberta

Environmental Leadership Program. Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps Costa Rica and Newfoundland/Labrador

Various:

The Abilities Foundation of Nova Scotia
Halifax, Camp Tidnish

Various

Consumer Impact Marketing
Atlantic Areas
Various
Moraine Lake
Lake Louise, Alberta

Various

Ooskipukwa
Edmonton, Alberta

4-H Summer Assistants

4-H Summer, NS Department of Human Resources
Truro, NS

Public Relation/Promotions Officer

Milk Maritime Inc.
Moncton, NB

*** Please be sure to check the job board located outside Evaristus room 231 for more information concerning deadlines and application procedures.

Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A.

Visas Arranged

Child care/teaching at lakeside residential girls camp in Maine. Senior staff, counselors, administration. Fine arts & crafts, music, dance, theater, swim, sail, water ski, canoe, gymnastics, tennis, archery, team sports, wilderness trips, horses, newspaper, many other activities; office, maintenance, kitchen, nurse. Sense of fun, love of children, desire to give of yourself essential. June 16 to August 22. Non-smokers. Kippewa, Box 307, Westwood, MA 02090-0307 U.S.A.; call Eastern Standard Time (617) 762-8291 or fax any time (617) 255-7167.

JOB SURFING THE INTERNET!

by Kim Merrill, Career Placement Assistant, Student Affairs

Faced with both the challenges of an increasingly competitive workplace and with new information technology, students today must not only possess marketable skills but also the knowledge of how to put these skills to work for them. With all the talk about new and improved communications, there is one word that inevitably comes to everyone's mind, the "Internet".

The Internet is a valuable tool in career development. It is an excellent way to develop and maintain a network of professional and personal contacts. It is useful for finding information on a multitude of topics of interest, including educational, career and employment opportunities, labour market trends, and salaries.

The National Graduate Registry (NGR) is one example of new information available on the Internet. The aim of this résumé database is to improve access to labour market information for post-secondary students and graduates. These students are offered the opportunity to file a standardized résumé of their education, skills, experience and aspirations with the NGR. Students input their own résumés, which are stored in a central Internet-searchable database for up to three years after graduation. The NGR provides anonymous résumés to employers worldwide, based on matches between the job skill requirements of employers and the skills of job candidates as presented in the résumés registered in the system. Both employers and candidates remain anonymous until an interested employer wants to follow-up on a particular résumé. A verification process also confirms the completeness and validity of statements on students résumés.

Students can avoid user fees by registering with the NGR over the next few months. The NGR is accessed through Netscape under the <http://schoolnet.2carleton.ca/NGR> address. If you are eager to search the most futuristic career-planning tool, tap in to one of the following Career-Planning Web Sites:

Career-Related Links <http://www.careermag.com/careermag/links.html>

The World of Work Directory <http://www.globalx.net/hrd/intdir/index.html> (English) http://www.globalx.net/hrd/intdir/index_f.html (French)

The Internet is a new technology that is reshaping today's job market and reinventing the ways that people and jobs meet. Although traditional job search techniques are still effective, students need to explore and consider new techniques to remain informed and up-to-date on current trends. Don't miss out!

For more information on new and exciting job search Internet possibilities, contact the MSVU Career Placement Centre at 457-6567 or stop by Evaristus 231.

THE BACK PAGE

Talent At It's Best

The 4th annual MYSTIC BLUE REVIEW is being held this Saturday, February 3 starting at 8pm. You will witness the annual debut of the craziest "talent theatre"

to ever hit our stage. The talent will amaze you as well as amuse you. Being a part of the audience gives you the best role of all.

It's a chance to sit back, relax and take up your

favourite spot at VINNIES! Award winning acts range from vocal entertainment to funky dance scenes, not to mention skits that will really floor you. Stars include Mount

Athletic teams and your student peers, all working to make this fundraiser a great success.

We're inviting each and everyone of you to the entertainment party of the year. So don't miss the fun, the laughs and the good tunes too! Tickets can be bought ahead of time at the Athletic/Recreation Office in Rosaria Centre.

SOCIETY PROFILE

The Professional Development Career Club is a new society at MSVU. The intent of this society is to bring a group of diverse people from different disciplines within MSVU and make these students more career-oriented.

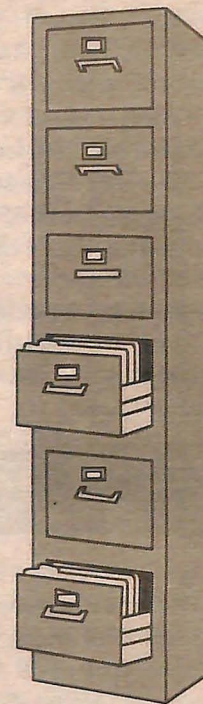
The society works together with the Career Placement Centre, Student Affairs to promote career related events such as Canada Career Week, forums, and the importance of career education.

The Professional Development Career Club played a major role in organizing Career Night '95, developing the society newsletter entitled "The Job Journal" and coordinating a number of fund-raising activities during the fall semester.

The society has a number of workshops planned for the month of March. Society presidents are asked to encourage their members to take part in one of the eight modules being offered. Whether you're a first year student or a potential graduate, career planning is an essential tool to a successful job search.

Students in the Professional Development Career Club also have the opportunity to become volunteers in the Career Resource Room and can submit their résumé and fill out an application at the Career Placement Centre, Evaristus 231 no later than March 29, 1996.

The Professional Development Career Club invites all students wishing to become a member of the society to stop by the next meeting on Wednesday February 7 at 12:30 p.m. in Evaristus 231.



What is Caritus Day?

Pic Staff

This Wednesday is Caritus Day, an annual holiday celebrated by the Mount that's not just another day off, but deserves recognition and an understanding of its meaning.

Caritus means "charity."

Sister Martha Westwater said that most universities have a Founder's Day. But "instead of having a Sisters of Charity Day, we have Caritus Day," she said, "in hopes that people would try to do at least some volunteer work or something, to show love of their fellow human beings."

Joanne Burns-Therriault, recreation officer for Athletics and Recreation, reminds us of the fire that burned down most of the Mount's campus in 1951. It was Mount Saint Vincent College at the time.

She said the people in the community were a tremendous help. As the residences and classrooms were lost, the people in the neighborhood supplied the girls places to stay and spaces for teaching.

"Caritus Day," Burns-Therriault said, "is a day to do caring acts for the community in return for the help they received during their crisis."

In return for their help and support and to continue the tradition, we are all encouraged to go out and help in our community.

"Without the help of others," Westwater said, "we wouldn't have been able to build it (campus) back up."



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Wed - Sun until 3:30am.



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