

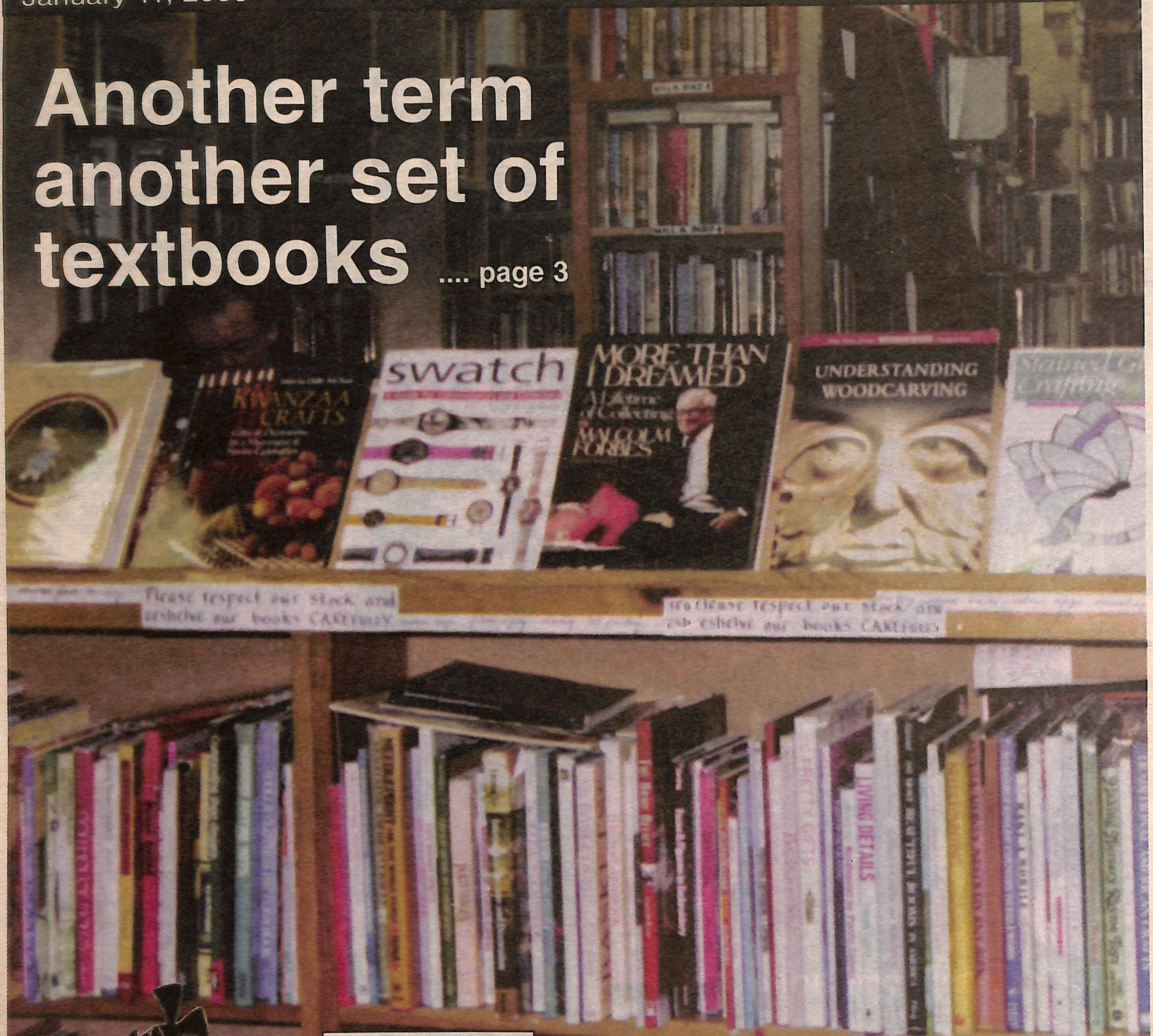
THE PICARO

January 11, 2000

Volume 35 Issue 7

www.picaro.ns.ca

Another term another set of textbooks page 3



Vinnie gets a makeover. The
pub renovations are complete.
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Shinerama campaign has
been completed and next
year's is already in the works.
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Women are a major influence
in today's music see where it
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MSVU STUDENTS' UNION PRESENTS

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THE PICARO

Volume 35 Issue 7

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

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**Please Recycle
this Newspaper**

Shopping for textbooks

By The Picaro Staff *Comparing prices could save you money*

With the new semester beginning, students have to start considering where they are going to purchase their books. Although most students are lead to believe that the university bookstore is the only place to find their books this is not true.

There are several options available to students who are looking to purchase books. The campus bookstore is only one of them. Other options include buying used books or going to retail bookstores, such as Chapters or local independent bookstores. Stores such as Chapters can offer lower prices on books because of the volume they carry. Also, if at Chapters your book is not on the shelf there is an ordering system available for customers. This system offers free home shipping and the option of paying through cash, debit or credit card. Some local independent bookstores also offer to order books for customers if it is available to them. Most books on the Chapters ordering system can be received within one to seven days.

Students are best to check prices before they purchase anything. Some books, such as A Guide to Old English can purchased at Chapters for \$29.95 when the university bookstore offers it for \$51.15. This is a difference of over 20 dollars. Jean McKay, manager of Mount Saint Vincent University's bookstore feels that there may be a pricing problem on

Chapters behalf. "It's possible that Chapters has not converted the price of some books from US funds," says McKay. In contrast, some books that are offered at the university bookstore are actually less expensive there than at a retail bookstore. Also, some books are only available to the university bookstore as they are text books designed specifically for certain courses. In this case students can go to other university bookstores to determine if their university offers the best price.

Students need to be aware that the university bookstore is not their only option. Many students spend hundreds of dollars on books each year. As 4th year Bachelor of Science student Joanna Cox states, "I normally spend about \$600 on textbooks each year. Any money I can save off of that would make a big difference." There are stores in the area that can offer the same books at better prices. The best thing to do is to plan ahead and make sure they check prices before purchasing anything. McKay would like to let people know that the university bookstore is there to help them get the best price. "If people have any questions about any of the books I will investigate our prices to make sure they are right according to the publishers recommendations." Done right, students can save a good deal of money.

Some facts to know

ISBN: International Standard Book Number. This number helps book retailers keep track of sales and inventory. When price checking it is the best reference to use as reference. Because each book has an individual, unique number the ISBN will narrow down a search to the exact title, author, edition and publication.

Chapter One Club Card and Avid Reader: These are discount cards offered by Chapters and Coles respectively. They give the bearer ten percent off of regularly priced books. The owner also receives a point for every dollar spent which goes towards rewards that can be used on anything in the store.

Chapters and other retail bookstores will accept returns as long as there is a receipt and the book is in resaleable condition.

Most university bookstores have a return limit of ten days in which books can be returned with the receipt.

Price Comparisons*

Just some examples of how varied prices can be found in different locations

Becoming a Master Manager

Off Campus \$61.50
Campus Bookstore \$61.50

Human Resource Management

Off Campus \$59.95
Campus Bookstore \$61.95

Mass Communication in Canada

Off Campus \$35.95
Campus Bookstore \$36.95

A Guide to Old English

Off Campus \$29.95
Campus Bookstore \$51.15

*All books listed are available in 1-7 day delivery from Chapters.

**So do you want to be an editor?
We'll show you how.... page 14**

University teachers and students demand increased federal funding

By Leslie Cheeseman

Mount Saint Vincent University professor Dr. Chris Ferns is very concerned with the lack of federal funding for universities in Nova Scotia. As president of the MSVU Faculty Association—and an active member of both the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) and the Association of Nova Scotia University Teachers (ANSUT)—he has spent much of the past year on a Canada-wide campaign to pressure the government to restore federal funding for universities and to introduce a fairer funding formula. "There is a national crisis in university funding," says Dr. Ferns. "There is a lack of core funding for education across Canada, but especially in Nova Scotia."

The investment in post-secondary education and research as a proportion of the Canadian economy is at its lowest level in thirty years. Between 1992 and 1998 funding to post-secondary education in the United States has increased by about 24%. In comparison, funding in Canada has decreased by approximately 1%. Funding for the colleges and universities in Nova Scotia, however, has decreased by more than 30%. The

effects of these cutbacks can be felt throughout the university community. Dr. Ferns says: "Today, in Nova Scotia, we are forced to operate with the lowest university funding, the lowest student funding, the highest tuition, and faculty salaries that are well below the national average."

This situation has placed an enormous debt load on the province's students. According to the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, students now entering their first year and relying on student assistance programs may owe an average of \$36, 672 upon graduation. A 1998 study by the group demonstrated that high debt is discouraging students from low-to-average income families from pursuing post-secondary education at all.

According to the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the targeted federal initiatives—such as the Millennium Scholarships, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, and the recent proposal for research chairs have not been effective in replacing the federal funds cut from education. One argument is that the

infrastructure of most universities in Nova Scotia does not support research projects. So, most of the federal funding for research chairs will be absorbed by the larger research centres outside the province and will only aid one of the twelve universities in Nova Scotia. CFS is demanding that the government restore transfer payments to Canadian universities and colleges by \$3.7 billion and invest \$1.2 million in a national system of grants to support post-secondary education. Groups such as CAUT and ANSUT would like to take this one step further with a revised funding formula. Currently, federal transfers for colleges and universities are distributed based on the population of the province. According to Dr. Ferns, Nova Scotia universities would receive approximately \$10 million more if the formula was not based on population, but on the number of students who are educated in the province.

"In Nova Scotia we do more than our share to educate the nation's students," he says. "Unfortunately, this is not taken into consideration."

Millennium scholarships: the check is in the mail

By Leslie Cheeseman

Nearly 2,900 of Nova Scotia's most needy post-secondary students will receive scholarships for the 1999-2000 from the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation.

The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation is an independent organization set up by an act of parliament to manage a \$2.5 billion education fund. Its mission is to broaden access to post-secondary education by reducing the growing indebtedness of students. The Foundation will continue

to grant scholarships to students all across Canada until 2010.

"The Millennium Scholarship program confirms Canada's willingness to invest in our country's young people, whom all Canadians regard as their greatest hope, and in knowledge, which is young Canadians' guarantee of future success," says Jean C. Monty, the Foundation's Chairman of the Board. The scholarships, which are valued between \$2,000 and \$3,500 represent an annual reinvestment of \$8,977,500 in the

future of post-secondary education in the province. However, in light of recent cuts to post-secondary education by the federal government, many see the scholarship program to be too little, too late. In a letter to provincial Finance Minister, Neil LeBlanc, CFS Nova Scotia National Representative Penny McCall Howard stated that recent federal initiatives, like the Millennium Scholarships, do very little to ease the debt load of the province's students. Only 16% of Nova Scotia students using

student assistance will even have access to a Millennium Scholarship. To be eligible students must be Canadian citizens, have completed 60% of a year of post-secondary study, be registered full time in a recognized post-secondary educational institution, display need and be eligible for financial assistance in their province or territory of residence. The scholarships will be distributed in proportion to the population of each territory and province in Canada as a whole.

Study questions the accountability of Nova Scotia's post-secondary institutions

By Leslie Cheeseman

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) have released "Missing Pieces: An Alternative Guide to Canadian Post-Secondary Education." The report ranks provinces' commitment to maintaining quality, equity, accessibility and accountability in their universities and colleges.

Nova Scotia, which ranks fairly high overall, received a very low grade in terms of the accountability between its public education institutions and the public that they serve. In an attempt to reveal the motives behind the restructuring of post-secondary education across Canada, researchers contacted Canadian students, activists, educators and researchers to determine. They tested this information against four criteria: quality, equity, accessibility and accountability—believed to most accurately reflect the ideal state of education in Canada.

Based on these themes, Nova Scotia shows the third highest commitment to post-secondary education among Canada's provinces. However, the province ranked very low in accountability—only Ontario, which received the lowest overall ranking, fared worse in this category.

The report states that public education institutions must remain accountable to the public, and not to outside bodies such as external governing boards or private corporations that are primarily responsible to their shareholders. There is definitely an increase in the amount of corporate presence on most campuses in Nova Scotia. With recent federal cuts to post-secondary education many universities and colleges are turning to corporations for funding. One need only visit the Sobeys Building at Saint Mary's University or walk through the Royal Bank Link at the Mount to see this firsthand.

Many people are concerned with the potential conflict of interest that comes with this increased corporate influence on campus. At a recent demonstration over government cuts to education in Montreal, McGill professor Louis Chauvin told a reporter: "I'm much more concerned with the involvement of corporations and how it affects our freedom of speech and our freedom of research." Indeed, it would be alarming to think that corporations could determine which programs receive funding and the curriculum of those programs.

But CCPA argues that corporations are preying on public education institutions, bribing them with "free" equipment, donations and services in return for unfettered access to students. It describes their efforts as clear manipulation of the student body, the classroom, and the education establishment itself. A

corporation's investment into a post-secondary institution is returned in free advertising, loyal customers and possibly even custom-made employees.

This leaves Nova Scotia's university community in a very difficult position. If the government is reducing its funding, and the university cannot accept corporate funding, then who will cover the cost of providing post-secondary education? Certainly not students—Nova Scotia's university students already pay the highest tuition fees in Canada.

The editors of the report, Denise Doherty-Delorme (CFS) and Erika Shaker (CCPA) say: "Rising tuition and other user fees, the elimination of programs that ensure accessibility to marginalized groups, and the increasing inequality between programs and institutions as a result of greater compliance with corporate sector demands, have resulted in a

fundamental shift in our educational institutions. Instead of facilitating democratic and social improvement, post-secondary education is fast becoming a tool of marketplace requirements."

It is hoped that their report will provide a basis for much-needed discussion and further analysis of post-secondary education in Canada. What's up with that??? News for the very common man, by the very lazy man Student assistance is considered a social program, yet banks are allowed to run student loan programs for profit. What's up with that? The only link on the Mount's web site that doesn't work is the one that leads to information for current students. What's up with that? After all the hype about Y2K, all that was really affected were admission prices on New Year's Eve. What's up with that?

A face lift for the pub

By Charity Baker

The next time Mount students walk into Vinnies they may be surprised by a few changes. Over the holiday break the pub has gone through a few minor renovations for presentation purposes. The display at the back of the bar has changed to make for a more attractive appearance and a better place to work.

Pub manager Craig Smith, explained that the changes were necessary to improve both the working environment for his staff and the appearance to the customers.

"Before the changes it was a mess behind the bar. It wasn't a friendly place to work," said Smith. Smith pointed out that the new setup will make the bar a more efficient area so that patrons can be served more quickly. The changes will make a better environment for everyone, staff and customers alike.

The new display makes more of a showcase of what the bar has to offer. Smith hopes that this makes it easier for customers to make decisions concerning drinks. "If the

customer can see what their options are, they can make easier and faster choices, which will speed up service for everyone."

Smith hopes to see more people in the pub this term. He feels that the pub should be a place where students feel welcome to come in and have a good time, even if it's not a pub night. He points out that the pub is paid for by students and the changes are made for them.

Pub hours

Monday and Tuesday
12pm-8pm

Wednesday and Friday
11am-11pm

Thursday
11am-2am

The totals are in!

By Terri Roberts, MSVU 1999 Shinerama Director

The Mount's first annual Shinerama Campaign was a great success. MSVU students had participated in Shinerama many years ago, but for some unknown reason the campaign fizzled out. This year, however, we came back, and what a great comeback it was.

The national and regional Shinerama committees were very pleased to see MSVU get involved with their cause. As a result we have been given many a "Thank You" in the national newsletter, the Shinerama Sun. Atlantic Regional Director, Shannon Archbold, who visited us on our Shine Day said in her national report, "What can I say, I was impressed. It was pouring rain but did that stop this gang?—NO! They found a way and kept the Shine in Shinerama. A big standing 'O' to MSVU."

The National Shinerama total has been calculated. The national goal was \$535,000, which was greatly exceeded. The final national total is (drum roll please) \$604,570.83! Our own goal of \$3000 was also reached, despite Hurricane Dennis.

Congratulations to Vanessa Turner and Tania Anthony who won prizes in the National Shinerific Draw. You see, taking the time to fill out those ballots really does pay off. Congratulations are also extended to the MSVU students who won prizes in our own campus draw.

There are many people on campus that I'd like to thank. Top marks go to the entire Frosh Crew. No one knew what Shinerama was, and the Frosh Crew talked it up for me so much that we had enough students shining to pull it off. The 1999 Frosh, you were great. Thanks also to Margaret Anne McIntosh and Dr. Sheila Brown who offered

up their shoes for the historical First Shine, and Randy Pinch, CF patient and spokesperson who also attended our kick-off. I'd also like to extend my personal thanks to The Picaro, Students' Union, Rhonda Simser, Joanne Linehan, Viola Selk, Mike Allen (our Shiny DJ), and Crista Stone. Without their extra help, Shinerama would not have happened at MSVU. And last, but certainly not least, "Thank You, Thank You, Thank You," to James Tilley. He designed our t-shirts, came out to bar blitzes, and generally kept me from yanking my hair out!

Let's all get together and do this again. I had a wonderful time, and if you come out in 2000, I will definitely check with the weather centre and make sure we don't have Shinerama during a hurricane again. Just remember that the money we raise, no matter what the amount, is saving lives.

Farewell: to money and other things

By Charity Baker

Money is one of the most important things in our society, and as such it needs to be treated with respect. If not, it can turn against us and teach us a lesson we may not soon forget. Such is the case with myself. I took money for granted because I never thought that I could truly get into trouble because of its charming demeanor. What follows here is a warning to myself and others. Hopefully I will take the time to read this and remind myself of what can happen when I let money get to me.

As a student, I have to make sure certain expenses get covered, the biggest of which is tuition. For my first two years I allowed the government to fund my education with the understanding that someday, in the FAR future I would have to give this money back. So the money came in, and when it was more than I needed, I spent it. In my second year the government decided that I had made enough money from working that I didn't need as much money as the previous year. Had I saved that money they would probably right, but I hadn't. Because of to this, I didn't have enough to cover tuition for five full units so I dropped courses. Finally in my third year, the government looked at the fact I had dropped courses and decided that once again they

had over-awarded me. This time however, it was more than a few dollars. After my over-award was deducted, the total I was to receive from the government was a negative number. A loan was out of the question. So, now it is January and I have not yet paid tuition. I wish I could say that tuition is my only financial problem, however it is not.

In my second year I came up with the brilliant idea of getting a credit card. Once it arrived I decided to save it "for emergencies." I had no idea how many "emergencies" I could find. The shoes that I just had to have, the immense amount of items I could buy off the internet. Within a short amount of time, I had run my card up to the limit. I got into the habit of paying off just enough so that I could use the card again. Now I am missing payments and am creating a bad credit rating that will follow me for the rest of my life.

There is one more major obstacle. This year I am only a part time student because I have to work as much as possible. This means that the government is now asking for their money back. The bank expects payments of nearly \$200 per month, which they are now taking directly from my account.



In a final disappointment, I am resigning from the position of Editor-in-Chief in order to work as much as possible. I am passing on the reins to try and get myself out of this mess.

I realize this editorial is not something that seems to relate to everyone, but I hope I can help some people avoid the problems I have put myself in. It is nothing brilliant, but to me it has meaning.

I've had a good time as Editor-in-Chief, and I hope to stay involved on the paper, and I hope others get involved too. This paper is something special, and the friends I have made here have really made university something to remember.

By Tyson White

Not in the news

Well, I was going to put my standard disclaimer here, but I came to the conclusion that most of what's in here is true. Or, at least, I believe it to be true. But just for continuity's sake: Warning: Entertainment purposes only... not to be taken as "fact"... have any complaints... happy to ignore.

Well, as far as media-hyped flops go, the coming of the millennium can be chalked up with such let-downs as Godzilla: The Movie, Right Said Fred, and Windows 95. The lights are still on, the

computers are still working and the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse were a first-class no-show.

Looking back on all those end-times, doom-saying prophets, I have to wonder: did they ever really think about what they were saying? Think about it. First of all, why would the world suddenly explode at the turn of the millennium after having been around for billions and billions of years?

Furthermore, even if the world did want to explode come 2000 AD, how would it know when 2000 was? And another thing, if we hadn't come to the realization that there are actually 365.25 days in the year, as opposed to the 365.0 that was believed prior, then the year 2000 would have happened 5-10 years ago!

I think what a lot of people didn't realize is that 1000 years ago, it's likely that all

these prophecies of doom were floating around about the turn of the first millennium too.

"The four horsemen are coming!"... "Hades will come to claim us all!"... "Are my horses Y1K compatible?"

But even with the threat of global apocalypse, and Y2K, the parties and celebrations were second to none. With a smiley face of lights on the side of a bridge shooting fireworks, and a gigantic

lighted "2" with three huge Ferris-wheels, people everywhere were challenging anybody to try to ruin their fun. And that's what it's all about, right? A really cool excuse to party!

And to all of you that are inexplicably disappointed that nothing happened (and I know you're out there), remember: the millennium doesn't actually come until 2001.

"Chicken soup" philosophy doesn't work for the third world

By Bruce Ross

A common criticism of attempts to draw attention to the state of the third world is that it ignores the fact that corporations provide jobs to millions of people who would be otherwise starving to death. It is a true assumption, but a misleading one. Ever since the European hegemony was dismantled following the Second World War, many former colonies declared their independence. They had an enormous task ahead of them, looking to the future with hopes of building republican states and participating in the new world order. This did not happen. Everybody who has studied history to some degree knows of the assertion of the United States and the Soviet Union over these vulnerable countries. The U. S. S. R. dominated its client states with an iron fist, and so did the U. S. The difference is that the Soviet Union collapsed as a result of dissent by the people of its oppressive policies and massive financial problems. The United States however, did not.

Here, we enter the age of American hegemony. At this point in history, the world economy is dominated by the "developed" world,

which in turn is dominated by the government of the United States and its puppet master, the almighty transnational corporation. The third world is therefore at a standstill in terms of its own development. This is so because their land, labor and capital is being used for the interests of the distant, wealthy countries. The governments of these third world countries are generally violent, oppressive and totally undemocratic, and completely friendly to the interests of a country like Canada or the U. S. They often receive military funding and plenty of incentives from the first world to maintain a cheap labor pool, primarily because they themselves become wealthy from the venture. This then stagnates the opportunity for democracy to develop. This, however, does not mean that there have not been attempts by the people.

Take Central America for example. The seventies and eighties saw popular revolts and even the establishment of a social democratic state in Nicaragua. The U.S. increased its activity in supporting old regimes and successfully undermined many of

the reforms made by the people. The example of Nicaragua shows the benefits of how much success can be had by an elected government with its eye on improving the standard of living of its people. Land was seized from corporate control and used to grow food for its own people, health care was established, literacy raised dramatically and child deaths decreased. This did not last long. The U.S. armed and

financed the counter-revolutionary movement and successfully regained control over the country, killing thousands of people in the process and dismantling the developments made by the country's brief encounter with social democracy.

The immediate reaction of somebody who is conservative-minded is to use Cuba as an example of an independent-minded state's failure to live up to its promises. Well, the fact is, Cuba is a dictatorship, which is a strike against it. However, the suffering of its people has less to do with this fact than it does with the Helms-Burton law. This law states that any country that trades with

Cuba CANNOT trade with the United States. This law, which violates practically every multilateral trade rule book can almost exclusively be to blame for Cuba's economic strife. It may also contribute to the fact that Castro is reluctant to allow for a freer state, driven by the worry that once he opens up, Cuba will slip back into its former state before the revolution.

The point that is trying to be made here is that transnational dominance of the third world is precisely the reason why they cannot develop into free, democratic and sovereign states. As long as the fields, trees, mountains and factories of the third world are producing for the distant north exclusively, then there is nothing left for the people to feed themselves and advance their community's interest. They have no choice but to work for a system that gives them little room to "manifest" their own destiny, while we live in relative freedom. I am not advocating revolution through violence, but I do believe it is time to reflect upon the consequences of our freedom, for it is the only way we can truly preserve it and the world we live in.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Eating an Elephant

My friend once told me you can only eat an elephant one bite at a time.

The elephant is a justice system gone awry. I see, I hear, I read about victim's stories every day. Whether it's neighborhoods or businesses suffering the effects of the prostitution problem, drunk drivers wiping out innocent lives, drunks ending relationships with a bullet, home invasions, theft of property, the list is endless and it seems no one person is left untouched. We are all witnesses to the rights of the criminals being exercised. The time has come to advocate for the rights of victims and society at large. I am told change has to come at the federal level. No one is sure how to initiate these changes or even where to start. Well lets start somewhere. Let's start with me.

I want you to write to me and tell me your stories, your feelings, your opinions on this matter. You can't fax or e-mail me. I want bulk. I want ONE MILLION LETTERS. Send a copy of my letter to every area in Canada, to every town & city in every province to spread the word. I want one million letters piling up in my basement. Include two pennies with your letter. This money will go for myself and one other person to fly to Ottawa to deliver these letters. It will also help shipment fees.

I am not doing this for personal financial gain, so any money left over will go to charity. Tired of being a victim without rights?

Give me your two cents worth and we will consume the elephant starting with the very first bite. Write to: Jackie Muise, 3128 S.Blackburn Rd., Prince George, B.C. V2N 6C1

Jackie Muise
Prince George

To the editor:

Last edition I was very surprised to see a letter to the editor by Matte Stevenson which attempted to discredit an earlier Picaro editorial "Words." He claimed that it was more or less a personal "soap box" for the writer of the editorial, Rhonda Simser. I read the "Words" editorial myself and did not find it was geared toward the authors personal needs. Although the editorial contained a personal story, it only served to illustrate the main point. If read correctly, (which I doubt it was) the piece provided a good lesson. However, Mr. Stevenson did say "Cheers" at the end of his letter so perhaps he was half in the bag when he read it. (we have to give the guy credit right?)

Stevenson claimed he was representing friends in "the Halifax area student newspaper circle as well as other students" when he boasted that the article was 'tasteless' and 'universally unappealing.' My question here is that if there was so much concern over the article as Stevenson claims, why didn't the Picaro receive more letters or comments on it? More importantly, the term "universe" as in "universal" includes myself. By way of simple logic, he has told me I thought the article was unappealing. Funny guy! Maybe in Stevenson's mind he's the local rep for the circle of whoever, but he will never have

the taste or style to comment on my behalf as far as what is or isn't appealing. For someone who is apparently priding himself on knowledge of good writing and editing, his use of the term "universally unappealing" was quite an overstatement to say the least. Also, since he wrote the only letter about the article, his attempt to have the reader believe there was this sizable concern over the article was an overstatement as well.

Something else that Stevenson mentioned was that the Picaro is a 'student' funded newspaper. I have already displayed how his commentary didn't display thoughtful logic and here is yet another example. The Picaro is a student newspaper for the students by the students. The author of the "Words" article is a student at MSVU and as such, has paid a fee with tuition which contributes to the Picaro's publishing. All students on campus have a right to contribute to the paper since they pay for it. Therefore, the fact that the Picaro is "student funded" and the article was written by an MSVU student, only furthers to prove why the editorial deserved a place in publication - especially since it provided a good lesson. Stevenson should have considered that lesson before slamming the article.

Here is something else to consider: does Stevenson think that people wouldn't be pissed with him enough to stir the pot over his letter last issue? If he was so concerned about the Picaro after the problems in the past, then he wouldn't stir up any sh*t of his own. And he's telling everyone else they have a lot to learn - oh buddy.....check out a mirror near you! A private letter to the office would have been the proper route to take if he was concerned about controversy in the paper.

After reading Stevenson's letter he comes across to me, by way of his own condescending manner, as a "self-proclaimed" expert who didn't happen to like the article. Further, he merely expressed "opinions" rather than a thoughtful, intelligent argument which was properly presented and based on fact, which could then be assessed for its merit. This is just the type of thing that gives media a bad reputation and leaves the general public with half of the story - people who run off at the mouth with their opinions. In closing, I will ask everyone who reads this and other publications to be alert for articles based on "fact and proper argumentation" which provide the truth, and be able to distinguish them from articles filled with "opinion" and false witness. We don't need any more "Bullshit."

Mike Allen

What is spirituality?

By Martha Martin, Chaplain

According to Mother Jones magazine, (November/December 1997), "Spirituality is the new religion." For several years now I have been aware of the growing phenomenon that encourages words like "spirituality" and "meditation" instead of the words "God" or "prayer." It points to a growing movement in our society that separates spirituality from religious institutions. The incredible success in recent years of books like The Celestine Prophecy or the Chicken Soup for the Soul books point to a hunger in society, a need for folks to enter into a discourse that is deeper than that which usually accompanies them in their daily lives. Unfortunately, those of us who are still in some of the church's mainline denominations are finding that the institution is ill-prepared to address that hunger. Many former churchgoers have bad memories of rules and regulations, meaningless rituals, a judgemental and vengeful God, and mournful music. Sadly, they do not

necessarily think of the church as a spiritual place.

In the editor's column of Mother Jones, Jeffrey Klein justifies why the magazine decided to devote an entire issue to the topic of spirituality. He writes "To sense our place in a vast universe, some of whose principles (death, for example) lie fundamentally beyond our comprehension, doesn't mean we should cede control of our hearts and minds. A sense of humility can give birth to deep personal satisfaction and courage." Joseph Campbell, in The Power of Myth, points to common questions that human beings through history have asked themselves - questions such as "Who am I?", "Where did I come from?", "Where am I going?", "Why am I here?" These are questions that yearn for a deeper understanding of life, as Klein says, "... to sense our place in the universe...". Each culture answers these questions through its own story and myth, tradition and belief system.

Within the Student Affairs team, we try to support the body, mind and spirit of an individual. Just as your body needs exercise and nutrition, and your mind needs stimulation, study and knowledge, your spirit needs nurturing as well. Spirituality is the desire to pursue that part of you that is the hardest to define - it is the nurturing of your soul. This can be done through prayer, meditation, conversation, ritual, music, art, dance, poetry, creativity, and in a balance of individual and community activities.

In his editorial, Klein writes: "Balanced spirituality can provide vision in times of crisis by placating the ego and pulling for both strength and humility. In my own life, when repeatedly faced with the grave illness and subsequent death of those closest to me, I've found faith the most sustainable, healing resource. Personally, I'm grateful when I find faith in something larger than myself. This gratitude, I've noticed, generates optimism."

This term, the Chaplain's office offers an opportunity to come and explore matters of spirituality through a Video Series entitled "Everyday Spirituality". This is a series which profiles ordinary people who seek to reclaim and nurture the sacredness which can be found in everyday life. Throughout the series, Thomas Moore, bestselling author of Care of the Soul and Soulmates, reflects on how we can all gain greater satisfaction in our lives and come to a deeper knowledge of what it means to be human. Each session is approximately one hour, and includes video and discussion. Participants are also welcome to bring their lunch. Call Martha Martin, Chaplain, for more details. (457-6446; email Martha.Martin@MSVU.ca)

Begins Friday, January 21; 12:00 pm in Evaristus 219E (Writing Resource Room)

Just when things were starting to cool off...

By Melissa Melanson

The heat is on. Again.

Amidst the chaos of exams, end of year assignments and the quest for the best Christmas gifts, there was but one question on our minds: will the end ever come?

For most of us, the end did come—exams ended, assignments were passed in and you really can't go wrong with flannel pj's for Mummy. So why worry, right? Once all the excitement of Christmas had died down, the reality of not having 16 things due yesterday was quite a shock to the system. And it was weird.

Other students made the comment to me that this new found idleness was unnerving and a bit scary. Students oftentimes become accustomed to the go-go-go lifestyle and it eventually becomes the norm. When your gears are use to functioning at break-neck speed and they are suddenly shifted down to a slow pace, like abandoned train tracks gone rusty, they go dull with lack of use.

Do you find that you get stupid over Christmas? Maybe it's the abundance of food and drink and the constant cause to celebrate. But I think that your brain, like every other part of your body, needs exercise. It's

time to get back into training.

The first time that you start feeling the heat when you return from the break is when you register your courses. I know, it should have done earlier, but stuff happens. This is a little off topic, but when will we be able to pick up our marks and register on-line? The first year students must be confused about the fact that all their friends from other universities got their marks before they returned in January, and they were left saying, "I don't know what I got in Economics." Aren't we supposed to be leaders in distance education? I'm pretty sure we are.

Registering on-line would make the whole process so much easier. I mean, I look forward to seeing the smiling face behind the desk, but I really don't think that they look forward to seeing mine.

Once all this is dealt with, we'll all be able to settle back into our routine. It may be a bit chaotic, but its definitely stimulating. In no time, things will be heating up again. Last night, at Alfredo's, I had the szechuan suicide wings—I just couldn't resist. Gotta get the hot stuff.

So back to the grindstone we go. I'm happy to be back.

Political studies prof shines at the Mount

Dr. Michael MacMillan finalist for prestigious award

By Mandy Carmichael

The afternoon of December 17th, just after my final exam, I find myself seated across from Dr. Michael MacMillan of the Political Studies department. Dr. MacMillan has just been chosen as a finalist for the Harold Innis award, which is given in recognition of research and writing across Canada concerning the best social science publication. This honour was given to Dr. MacMillan in recognition of his book The Practice of Language Rights in Canada. This book is concerned with language rights in Canada as an issue of human rights, as well as the public policy surrounding those rights. It tackles such issues as the idea of federalism versus the individual and collective rights in Quebec from the 1960's to the present day.

When asked what first led Dr. MacMillan to a career in political studies he replied that he has always had an interest in the field and that with the help of some dynamic professors it seemed to be the right decision. As for his decision to become a professor, Dr. MacMillan says that it was a process in decision making and something that he really felt persuaded to do.

Dr. MacMillan did his undergraduate degree at the University of New Brunswick in his hometown of Fredericton. After his

undergraduate years, due to his high interest in the field as well as some funding opportunities, Dr. MacMillan made the decision to attend the University of Minnesota. "The move from my hometown of Fredericton to a campus that holds 80,000 people was a huge adjustment," commented MacMillan when asked about his experience in the Twin cities. He speaks affectionately about the city and the people of Minnesota, noting the similarities between them and the people of Halifax.

After his studies at the University of Minnesota were completed, Dr. MacMillan's decision to join the faculty at the Mount was relatively easy. Halifax was one of his top choices in terms of places to live and there was an opening at our university. Dr. MacMillan seems extremely happy with his decision to join Mount Saint Vincent. And happy he should be. Especially considering the recognition he has received for his research and writing, which took him ten years to complete. Sometime in the future he will be tackling another project having to do with the idea of the democratic process and language. But for now, with the term over and the glory of the award still casting it's light, it looks as though the future will be bright for Dr. MacMillan.

Horrorscopes: And the winner is.....

By Charity Baker

Well, here we are back again. Let's hope this year is a little better than the last, but I doubt it.

Aquarius: 1/20 to 2/18

Remember to keep your feet on the ground when your head's in the clouds. If times seem trying, take a break. Stress isn't necessary for you, so take it easy. And remember, life is meant for having fun, so get out there and enjoy.

Cancer: 6/22 to 7/23

So, the new year has come and the world didn't explode. Too bad for you, because by the end of this month you're going to wish it had.

Scorpio: 10/24 to 11/22

Who knows what's in store for you? Other than me of course. But, I'm still pretty mad that you still wanted a pony for Christmas after all I told you last time. If you're not going to listen, I'm not going to waste my time.

Sagittarius: 11/23 to 12/21

Make sure you tie your shoes! Button your coat! If your friends all jump off a bridge are you going too? I've decided that you could use another mother. From now on my advice will come in the form of nagging. And you better read it!

Aries: 3/21 to 4/19

Imagine all the world is out to get you. Now, imagine that no one wants anything to do with you. Now imagine horrible boils bursting on your skin. Now imagine failing at everything your whole life. Sad picture eh? Well now imagine me telling you to imagine everything the future holds.

Libra: 9/24 to 10/23

Ha ha ha ha. I can't believe that's going to happen to you! Ha ha ha. You have no idea how funny this is. In fact, even when it happens you'll have no idea, but you should be able to guess by all the people laughing at you. Maybe when you're older you'll be able to laugh about it. Probably not, but we'll still be laughing.

Virgo: 8/24 to 9/23

Hell, someone tells you that you can cry and you start blubbering like a fool. Things can't be that bad. I mean, if you cry this much over that, wait until you see what else is in store. That's gonna be pathetic. Get over it, baby.

Capricorn: 12/22 to 1/19

A friend once told me you can't have too many friends. I think a lot of the people you know would like to argue that. Can't you get the hints? When they have to tie you up and run away so you can't bother them it's a clear sign they want you out. Why don't you split before they do something drastic? I'd hate to see you die, but then, I just hate to see you.

Gemini: 5/22 to 6/21

You are the sign of the twin. This will become very clear after that truly annoying person starts acting like your shadow. It won't be long before you start to lose your mind. So before you do, consider this, I said that your the sign of the twin, which means you must be just like your new shadow. Now think of all the people that put up with you.

Leo: 7/24 to 8/23

You get nothing. No end of the world, no horrorscope, nothing. Great way to start the year, eh?

Pisces: 2/19 to 3/20

Some people have bad guts, and apparently you're one of them. Boy, did you make some bad decisions over the holiday. What were you thinking? I mean, there's stupid, and there's really stupid, and then there's you. So, if you think of it that way, you really deserve to be where you are. Try thinking with your head next time.

Taurus: 4/21 to 5/21

The song lyric thing is getting old. Plus, I just don't care enough about you to take the time to think of any. So, here's what your life is going to be like. First, it's gonna be kinda bad. then it will get a little better. Then you'll realize I'm lying and notice that it was never "kinda" bad. Then you'll finally understand that it is always horrible and nothing ever changes. Then you'll find out that's wrong too, because things can always get worse.

Please don't take these seriously. I don't take you seriously, so why should I write anything serious about you? Try laughing for once, and maybe you'll find that this is all just for fun. And then you'll realize I'm lying as the piano falls on your head.

Editor's Wanted
See page 14 for details

A vision for the future of Mount Saint Vincent University – Blueprint 2000

By Melissa Melanson

As the world enters the 21st century, Mount Saint Vincent University is looking to the future. Blueprint 2000 is the strategic plan of Mount Saint Vincent and the vehicle that will steer the university on its course for the beginning of the new millennium. To continue to grow and prosper, the university must know where they want to be in years to come, considering the future environment, opportunities and challenges, says Dr. Sheila Brown, President of Mount Saint Vincent University.

"Blueprint 2000", Dr. Brown explains, "sets a framework for the university's priorities. When making decisions for the university we must ask, 'is what we want to do, does it fit with Blueprint? Will it advance the goals of Blueprint?'"

The origins of Blueprint can be traced back to 1991 when Dr. Brown's predecessor began developing a strategic plan. It started as Blueprint '98 and was meant to take them from 1993-1998.

When Dr. Brown became president in '96, she reviewed the old plan and began work on Blueprint 2.

The new strategic plan, entitled Blueprint 2000, came about because of the many changes to the external environment, specifically funding cuts. Mount Saint Vincent was also faced with the rapid growth in technology and an increase in competition from other post-secondary institutions. "Given all the changes, it was time to make changes," says Dr. Brown.

After the Blueprint 2000 committee met, they went to the Senate for approval and then the Board of Governors. Student's Union President Margaret Ann McIntosh sat on the Blueprint committee to communicate the concerns of students. "I'm glad to say that my feedback was well received," says Macintosh.

One of the exciting aspects of Blueprint 2000 is the proposed change to the Mount's physical layout. Although the university cannot be sure when these changes will take place, "it's hard to predict because it depends on resources," says Dr. Brown, the Mount will most likely see some major changes to the campus in the next five years.

Anyone who has ever entered the elevator of the two-storey E.

Margaret Fulton Communications Centre knows that the building was designed to have five floors. Opened in the fall of 1989, the building provides facilities for the library, Distance Education, Computer services and the Audio-Visual Department. The new Blueprint would like to see the final three floors of the library completed, said Paul Reyno, director of the physical plant in a council meeting on October 7, 1999.

Reyno predicts that, should planning move along, construction will begin within five years.

"It would be hard

anywhere else, says Dr. Brown.

A strategic goal of Blueprint is to improve athletic facilities in the next five years. "I think we have very good recreational facilities," says Dr. Brown. "But the gym could use some work." There is always room for improvement. As evidence of how plans can change to meet the needs of the users, Dr. Brown explained that it was originally planned to have tennis courts on Rosaria.

The new athletics facilities could be put in the proposed multi-purpose building. This building could also be used to hold some of our centres, such as the Centre for Aging and the Centre for Women in Business.

User groups, Reyno explained, will be formed to determine how the buildings should be designed according to the needs of the end users.

Much more

provide education to women. Traditionally, women faced specific barriers to education and were often discouraged from university because of children or family responsibilities.

Today, both men and women are faced with the challenge of balancing work and family with their university education. To ensure that the Mount is accessible to those who work or have day-time responsibilities, Blueprint stresses the need to continue to offer night classes and the value of distance education.

Another big barrier to students is the burden of financing their education. "This plan puts a lot of emphasis on scholarships and bursaries so that students will not be deterred from a university education because of finances," says Dr. Brown.

Accessibility, according to Student's Union President Margaret Ann McIntosh, means being available to students regardless of gender, age, geographic location or financial situation. "The Blueprint recognizes that we have a diverse population and the university wants to cater to them," says McIntosh.

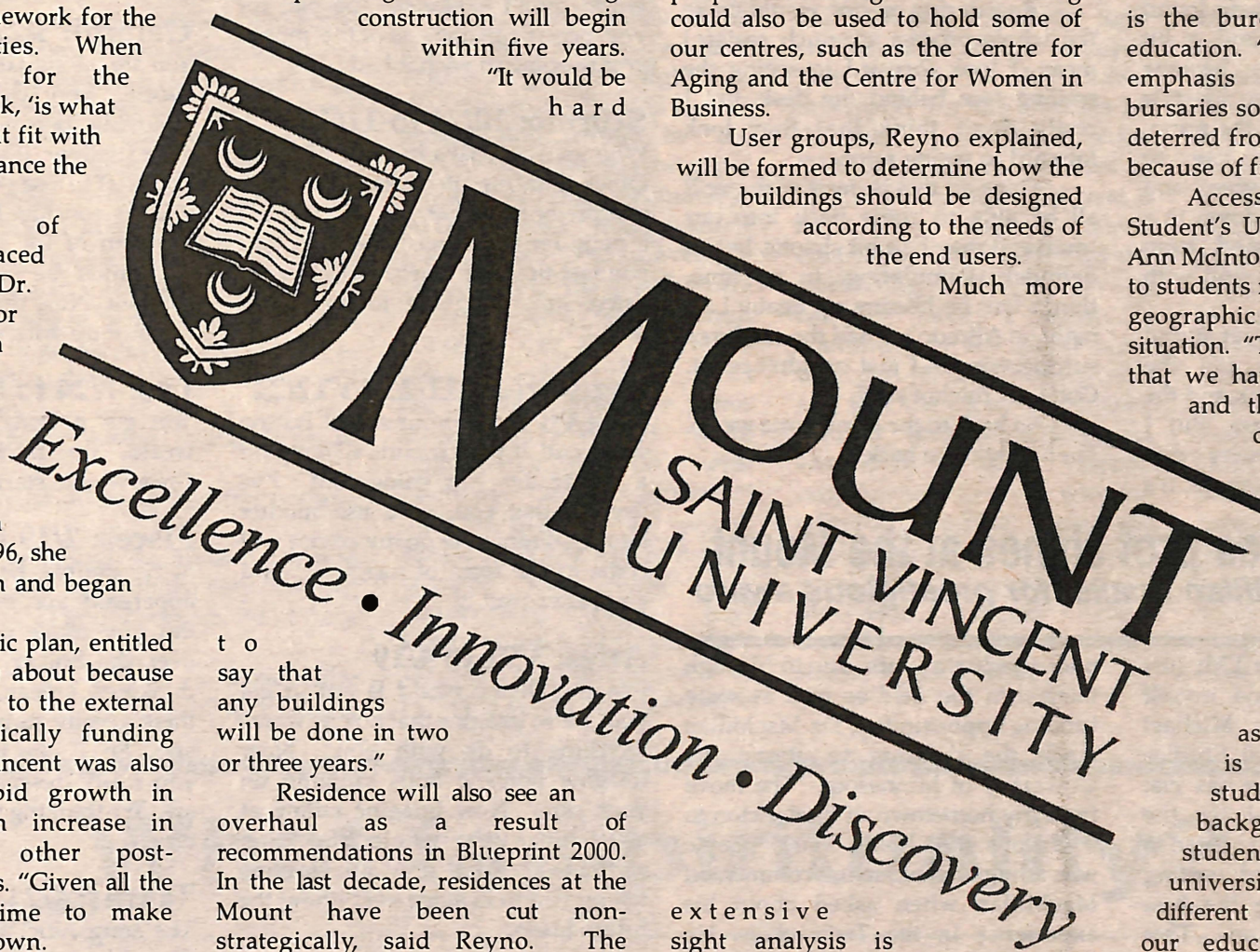
"Excellent students doesn't only mean academic excellence," says McIntosh, "but involvement as well."

McIntosh feels that as a women's university, it is important to attract students with different backgrounds. "International students bring a lot to the university." Meeting people of different cultures is a big part of our educations, say Macintosh. Removing the traditional barriers to education, especially for women, will be an on-going goal of Blueprint.

The Blueprint committee will constantly be monitoring their progress to see that they are on track—following blueprint. "A strategic plan, if you leave it on the shelf, is of no use," says Dr. Brown.

By projecting what we would like to be in the future, Blueprint will help the university work from concept to actual plan. "Here is the Mount and there is this vision. You get there in chunks," says Dr. Brown.

Blueprint 2000 will drive the university to where it wants to go, as it reaches closer to the goal of being the world leader in women's education. It will no doubt lead us to a very exciting destination.



t o say that any buildings will be done in two or three years."

Residence will also see an overhaul as a result of recommendations in Blueprint 2000. In the last decade, residences at the Mount have been cut non-strategically, said Reyno. The Motherhouse ceased to be a residence because the students who were housed there were cut off from the rest of the campus. The residence in the top floors of Evaristus were phased out to accommodate faculty. New residences will have to be developed to meet the increasing demand for on-campus housing.

The Blueprint committee would like to see the university purchase the buildings on College Road that are currently rented from the Sisters of Charity, says Dr. Brown. The buildings on this property could be torn down and used as temporary parking space and a longterm building site.

Another possibility might be to eliminate the Annex and try to use the property more effectively. Offices in the Annex are smaller than

extensive sight analysis is required to determine where future buildings and residences may go. It is important to the university to maintain the aesthetics of the campus. "We're not going to just start cutting down trees," says Dr. Brown.

"Nothing is set in stone, everything is up for discussion," said Reyno.

The university is a big part of the community of Rockingham. Many residents of the area see the university as a large source of facilities and employment, says Dr. Brown. "I think it's very important to be rooted in your community."

It is important to the university that its facilities are accessible to the public. The Mount has always prided itself as being accessible. Mount Saint Vincent was originally founded to

Editors Wanted: for various duties see page 14 for details

"Hello, my name is Andy and this is my movie review."



Man on the Moon

A Milo Forman film Universal Pictures

By Nicola Hanson

This movie should be seen if you are a Jim Carrey fan. This movie should be seen if you hate Jim Carrey. This movie should be seen if you are an Andy Kaufman fan and if you are not an Andy Kaufman fan. Man on the Moon is a movie that should be seen by all moviegoers. The performances by all of the actors and especially Jim Carrey are outstanding.

The movie starts where most movies begin, at the beginning. The Kaufman family was never quite sure what to do with their son. The boy obviously had a very different sense of humor and a flare for performing. On a stage at the Improvisation Comedy Club in 1971 marks the beginning of Kaufman's career with a variety of acts including one of his most famous impersonations of Elvis. In 1975 Andy lip-synched the Mighty Mouse theme on the debut of Saturday Night Live and became a household name. Kaufman had a flare for inflaming the audiences and he always left them wondering if what he was doing was for real. He spent six years wrestling women, which stirred the passions of many women-libbers.

In 1978, Andy began having the raunchy 'Tony Clifton' open his performances wherever he went. That same year Andy begrudgingly took a job on one of the most famous sitcoms ever, Taxi. He played the foreign mechanic Latka Gravas a character he developed in his earlier improvisational acts. One of Andy's last performances was at Carnegie Hall on April 22, 1979 and after the

performance, he took the entire audience out for milk and cookies. The complete irony of Kaufman's life was when the avid non-smoker developed Lung Cancer and with his reputation of practical jokes, most people including many of his family did not believe him at first. Andy died in May of 1984.

Jim Carrey takes on this persona to a point that you truly feel as though you are watching Andy Kaufman. His performance is Oscar caliber and I will be truly surprised he is not nominated for this roll. The supporting performances are excellent as well. Danny Devito and Courtney Love excel in their performances as Andy's manager and wife respectively. However, the truly note worthy performance, besides Carrey, belongs to former Saturday Night Live alumnus Paul Giamatti who plays Kaufman's long time friend and comedic partner Bob Zmuda.

If these are not convincing reasons to see Man on the Moon, the soundtrack, which is on Warner Records, is an excellent combination of musicians and original scores from the film. The Mighty Mouse theme begins the soundtrack (but of course), Angela (the theme from Taxi) and Tony Clifton's I Will Survive. The most overshadowing song is a new one for REM, The Great Beyond. The soundtrack would not complete without the song the inspired the title for the film REM's Man on the Moon.



WHO ARE WE?

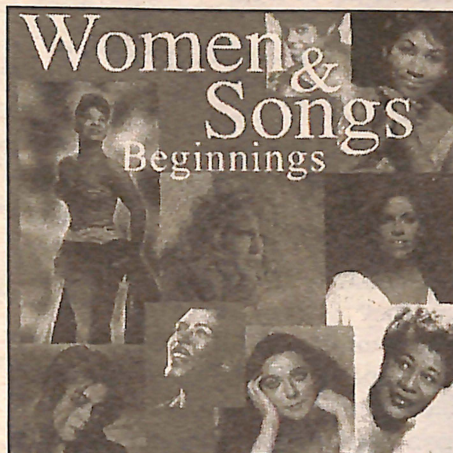
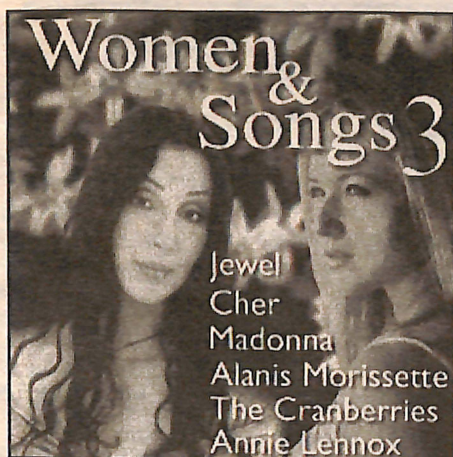
Guess the name of the band in the picture and win a vinyl copy of their new single and some other promotional trinkets courtesy of EMI Music Canada.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

The Band is: _____

Clip this out and drop it off at the Picaro to entre the draw!



Women & Songs 3 / Women & Songs Beginnings

Warner Music

By Nicola Hanson

This incredibly successful series came out with two more volumes this Christmas season. Women & Songs 3 is the third volume and has songs from popular songs such as Alanis Morissette's Thank U, Madonna's Frozen, Cher's Believe, Jewel's Hands. There are eighteen songs in all and other artists include: Sheryl Crow, Sarah McLachlan, Melanie Doane, Jann Arden, Kim Stockwood, Natalie Merchant, Natalie MacMaster, Faith Hill and others.

This is another excellent CD full of the songs that help made 1999

finish up the decade which is known to many as the decade for women in music.

Women & Songs Beginnings is a double CD set full of outstanding women spanning the last six decades of music. The first CD has Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington, Aretha Franklin, Petula Clark, Patsy Cline and a personal favorite Dusty Springfield's (who dies in 1999, Son of Preacher Man which was revived on the Pulp Fiction soundtrack a few years ago. Another favorite, Bobbie Gentry's Ode to Billy Joe, Jackie DeShannon, Gladys Knight, Mary

Wells, Carly Simon, Janis Joplin and what chronicle of the women in music would be complete without Ella Fitzgerald.

The second Cd contains such hits as, I Feel the Earth Move by Carole King, Etta James's At Last, Ruth Brown's So Long and Dolly Parton's original version of I Will Always Love You. Other artists include Dionne Warwick, The Supremes, Linda Ronstadt, Judy Collins and Judy Garland. There are many more great songs on these CDs for hours of entertainment.

Natalie Merchant

live in concert new york city, june 13, 1999

Warner Music

By Nicola Hanson

Ever since the first time I heard the 10,000 Maniacs I have loved Natalie Merchant's voice. Her unique tones have led to an amazing career both with and without the 10,000 Maniacs.

This CD is a compilation of songs from Tigerlily, her debut solo album like Wonder, San Andreas Fault, Carnival, and Seven Years. The title song from her second solo CD, Ophelia. The song from Blind Man's Zoo, a 10,000 Maniacs album is a

favorite of mine, Dust Bowl. Merchant covers two songs on this CD that simply must be heard, Neil Young's After the Gold Rush, and David Bowie's Space Oddity.

Once you hear one Natalie Merchant song you will be swayed, this live CD is a wonderful compilation of her work thus far.

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Orthoptics is the clinical science of ocular motility and binocular vision, and related disorders of the eyes. An Orthoptist is an allied health professional who works with ophthalmologists, (eye physicians and surgeons) analyzing and treating patients unable to use both eyes together because of an eye muscle or sensory abnormality. An Ophthalmic Medical Technologist assists the ophthalmologist with a wide range of diagnostic tests and procedures requiring a great deal of technical expertise.

In July 2000, the IWK Grace Health Centre will commence an accredited twenty-four (24) month training program leading to a Certificate of Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology. Applications are now being accepted from individuals holding a baccalaureate degree with courses in any of the following areas: psychology, physiology, biology, anatomy, physics, statistics, research methodology. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field will be considered an asset. Candidates should possess good communication skills, sound judgement, emotional maturity and a demonstrated ability to relate well to small children and to adults.

Financial assistance may be available to qualified students.

Deadline for application is February 28, 2000

For further information regarding a challenging, interesting and rewarding career in the health care field, please write:

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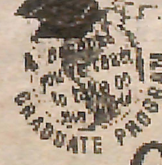
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Juba'lee



A Celebration of Black Culture in Nova Scotia

On Saturday January 22, 2000 at 8P.M. at the Halifax Metro Centre the spotlight will be on the rich cultural heritage of Nova Scotia's Black Community as part of Halifax and Dartmouth's 250th anniversaries and the dawning of a new millennium....

Presented in the round, accompanied by Symphony Nova Scotia.

Featuring:

Afro Musica
Hallelujah Praise Choir
Alfred Bright
Jackie Richardson
Anne Marie Woods
Jeremiah Sparks
Anthony Sherwood
Jeri Brown
Bucky Adams
Linda Carvery
The Carson Downey Band
Measha Bruggersgosman
Dutch Robinson

Muzzy and the Rhythm Network
Eddie, Joe & Hubba Parris
The Nova Scotia Mass Choir
The Fraser family
The Sparks family
The Williams Family
Shane Colley
The Freedom Jazz Band
Suzie Gangoo
Four the Moment
Walter Borden
The Gospel Heirs

With tributes to Portia White, Duke Ellington and Martin Luther King

This event includes the best of the best of Nova Scotian talent. Jeremiah Sparks is the musical director for Juba'lee. Sparks began his musical career at the age of six and since that time has become a powerful force in Nova Scotia's music scene.

Symphony Nova Scotia is the only fully professional symphony orchestra east of Quebec City. Founded in 1983 its mandate is to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Nova Scotia and beyond, through high quality, professionally performed orchestra music. Now entering its 17th season, Symphony Nova Scotia is a maritime cultural treasure.

Other easily recognizable names in Nova Scotian music performing at Juba'lee are The Nova Scotia Mass Choir, Four the Moment, Bucky Adams and the Gospel Heirs. This is an event that should not be missed!

Fantasia 2000

By Charity Baker

In 1940 the Disney Company released an experimental animated feature that merged music and visual art in a symphony of breathtaking scenes. This was Fantasia, Walt Disney's greatest dream, and his biggest flop. Fantasia was intended to be a work in progress, so that every viewing would be unique. Unfortunately, despite rave reviews from the critics, the movie was a failure at the box office. Without a solid storyline and very little dialogue it failed with the children, which makes up most of Disney's audience. The result was a poor profit which lead to the decision to put Fantasia on the shelf. Disney's dream was scrapped, until now.

On January 1st, 2000, Disney released Fantasia 2000, the realization of Walt's dream. This new production of the classic would use the same ideas and ideals to produce another movement in Disney's opus. Once again, this Fantasia combines wonders in music and animation to

create over an hour of breathtaking experiences. Fantasia and Fantasia 2000 do what few other animated features can, they attack both the eyes and the ears with equal intensity. Fantasia 2000 has been released to Imax, which makes this bombardment of sight and sound even more amazing. The images are larger than life and the sound makes you feel as if you are sitting beside the performers. Putting Fantasia 2000 on Imax was a brilliant idea.

While the concept of Fantasia and Fantasia 2000 are the same, that is where the similarities end. Fantasia 2000 greets the audience with seven new scenes plus the everlasting classic, The Sorcerer's Apprentice. The seven new scenes use the latest in animation technology, which creates in some scenes an eerie likeness and in others a surrealism that shocks the audience. It is easy to see the remarkable difference between the animation of this Fantasia and its

MacIsaac Rants and Raves in Halifax on New Year's Eve

By Nicola Hanson

Ashley MacIsaac's record company Loggerhead Records will not drop him from their roster despite their disapproval of his actions at "The Underground" in Halifax on New Year's Eve.

MacIsaac was pulled off the stage shortly after 1am after hurling racial slurs and obscenities at the crowd attending the New Year's Eve rave.

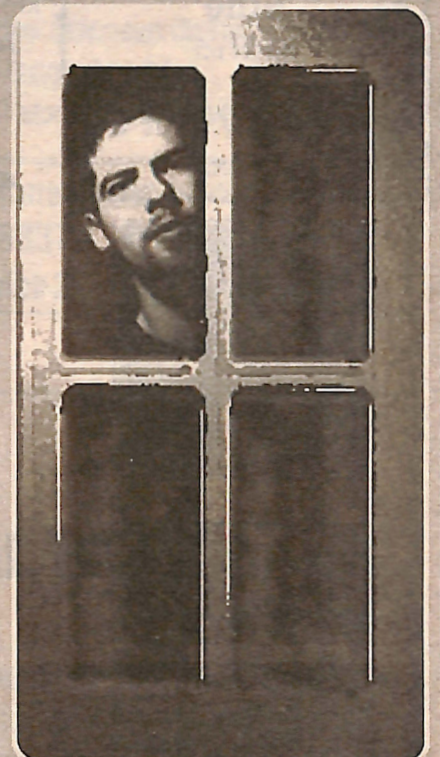
Loggerhead Records made a statement concerning his performance. "We are offended by Ashley's recent behavior. Loggerhead does not support or condone it in any way," said Loggerhead President Andrew McCain, "we signed Ashley for one reason only, his musical talent. Loggerhead Records Inc is involved in Mr. MacIsaac's career only to the extent of selling his records. Our Management, staff and roster of bands wish to completely disassociate ourselves from his behavior."

MacIsaac responded to this statement the next day. He told a reporter at the Toronto Sun, he is "disgusted" at the public criticism from Loggerhead executives and he no longer wants to do business with them.

Loggerhead vice-president Paul Church said that there are no immediate plans to release MacIsaac from his contract. They are hoping he "straightens up and flies right."

Meanwhile, MacIsaac is scheduled to perform at several clubs across Canada, and many promoters have good reason to be nervous. MacIsaac is slated to perform at the Marquee Club later this month, which so far, has not been canceled.

Many Canadians have posted their feeling about MacIsaac's New Year's Eve performance at his Web site, <http://ashley-macisaac.com>. The postings ranged from mild to offensive, and the majority were non-supportive. One posting read, "Looks like you got a lot of explaining to do, buddy boy. By the way, a new lyric that you will soon need: 'you want fries with that.'"" Another read, "you pathetic excuse for a Cape Breton embarrassment us all." One of the few positive remarks was, "a little bit of publicity goes a long way and a whole lot more people know about you now. You win some and lose some, but I think in the end you will gain. Keep on speaking your mind and if they don't like it #@## them."



predecessor. The Sorcerer's Apprentice hasn't been changed and the minute differences are amazing. If you consider that The Sorcerer's Apprentice was first released in 1940 with the original Fantasia you can see just how much has changed in the animation field over 60 short years.

It is impossible to compare Fantasia 2000 to its beginnings, they are the proverbial apples and oranges. The same company created the two movies but they are completely different. I love Fantasia 2000 for its innovative use of the highest animation technology out there. The scenes are amazing and I doubt I will see anything else this year that will hold my interest so strongly. But I also love the original Fantasia for its own innovation. I also miss the dancing mushrooms and Night of Bald Mountain. I think the best way to experience this amazing symphony is to see both of them together. Consider the original

Fantasia as the first movement and Fantasia 2000 as the second movement, and then hope that the symphony has more movements in store.

There is one final note to make when writing about this movie. Like Fantasia, this movie does not cater to a younger audience. The children who were in the theatre seemed bored and not half as impressed as their parents. So if you want to see Fantasia 2000, leave the kids at home. Although, the best memory I may bring from my viewing was the tiny child voice that yelled out, "Bambi!" as the hero of the Firebird Suite came on the screen.

So, I highly recommend Fantasia 2000 to everyone, (other than children). I think it's probably the best thing Disney has produced in a long time. 60 years was a long time to wait, but it was well worth it.

HMV VIBES

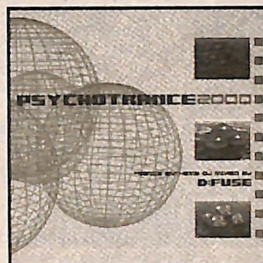


TOP FIVE CLUB HITS

- 1 Get Get Down**
Paul Johnson
- 2 Sun is Shinning**
Bob Marley vs.
Funkstar De Luxe
- 3 Five Fathoms**
Everything But The Girl
- 4 Blue**
Eiffel 65
- 5 Everybody Get Up**
Capriccio



ANOTHER WAY
Paul van Dyk
Mute Records
MIKE'S RATING: 10.0



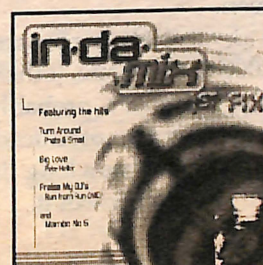
PSYCHOTRANCE 2000
Moonshine Music
MIKE'S RATING: 9.0



SUN IS SHINING
Bob Marley VS. Funkstar De Luxe
Attic Records
MIKE'S RATING: 8.8



AK 2000
Moonshine Music
MIKE'S RATING: 8.0



IN -DA- MIX 1ST FIX
Oasis Entertainment
MIKE'S RATING 7.8

Happy New Year everyone! The computers didn't crash and bombs didn't go off, but 2000 has arrived in style by bringing us something truly spectacular. It is none other than Paul van Dyk's brand new single "Another Way." Many of you have heard his work in silent form by way of his numerous remixes such as "Blue Skies," "Run to You" and "Bring My Family Back." Others have enjoyed his own creations such as "Words" and "For An Angel." There aren't many artists who are able to stick to one style and continually generate songs that don't all sound the same but, Paul van Dyk can take one base line and create a dozen masterpieces that aren't even remotely similar. It is this kind of performance that

earned him DJ Magazine's "Producer of The Year" award for 1999 along with much deserved praise: "Paul van Dyk has produced some of the most beautiful and highly acclaimed electronic music in the world since his debut 'Thousand Words'" - DJ Magazine. What better way to end the millennium than with the greatest electronic composer of all time leaving a permanent mark on the industry. Well, maybe there is "Another Way" and that is having the 1900's end and 2000 begin with a new "PvD" single which will climb it's way up the import charts. At any rate, for those of you who are seeking to explore the world of Underground, (a more sophisticated form of music that isn't played to death on

the radio) Paul van Dyk will set a good benchmark for you to compare other artists to - if they compare at all.

For those of you who are more into the mainstream club music, Eiffel 65 has a brand new release out there to rock the house called "Move Your Body." This song is very promising and may replace "Blue" as one of the most popular songs in the weeks ahead. Real McCoy has a new single out there also, and for those Disco fanatics, Boney M has finally released their new album "Boney M 2000" which has all of their past claim to fame hits remixed with more modern base lines and effects. So

there you have it, the news on the latest releases for 2000 - take it or leave it. I wish you all well in your studies as you return to school for the second term. Don't forget the Xrated hypnotist, Tony, Lee, he will be at the New Palace on Thursday January 13th. Till next time, keep on jammin'.

- THE ICE MAN.



By Mike "The Ice Man" Allen

The New Palace

KLUB KUTZ MIKE'S MILLENNIUM MIX DOWN

There are few artists in the world who can rival Paul van Dyk and his latest single "Another Way" demonstrates, once again, why he is on top. It is a beautiful song filled with soft harmony, gentle fades and an awesome build before the song explodes for the final moments. If the original version isn't enough, there are 3 more mixes to explore: the extended version, an incredible trance version, and a third mix featuring van Dyk's specialty of switching the base under the song from a tame breakbeat to a mainstream club beat. Genius level creativity combined with mastery of technical skill is what you get with any Paul van Dyk release and this one is no exception to the rule. This single is recommended for your collection with utmost regard.

Moonshine Music is making a name for itself as being the label that is behind Underground Music 100%. They have a seemingly endless number of compilations out there including this awesome edition to the family. Psychotrance 2000 takes you into the world of creative dance music and beyond as the songs flow in a rollercoaster ride of gentle melody and hard-core house beats. Good tracks to listen to are 'Meltdown' by The Project, and the explosive 'Groveline' by Blockster. This is one of the best compilations out there right now and would be a good edition to any music library.

Here is a new edition to the world of Disco House which has found its way into nightclubs all over and topped the Canadian dance charts in mid December. The legend of Bob Marley lives on in this modern mix of one of his past hits. 'Sun Is Shining' is a song which doesn't conform to regular DH that fails have staying power. Instead, it is a relatively timeless song that doesn't wear out after a few listens. Although the original song gets full marks for its creativity, the remixes on this CD single are unsuccessful in changing the song from its roots as they only differ in length. It is suggested that you sample this single before buying it if you're in search of creative remixes.

Drum and Base is a form of Underground music that divides any crowd - people either love it or hate it. Regardless of taste, this album has to get full marks on creativity as it features an amazingly broad spectrum of technical work. It begins with some light and flowing songs before diving into the hard-core heart of Drum and Base with a kind of funk that isn't understandable to every ear. If you dig the technical world of drum and base then there is no better album to start the year off with than this one. Visit HMV on Spring Garden Rd to purchase this and other Drum and Base releases.

In-Da-Mix is an album geared toward the mainstream dance crowd featuring such acts as the Black And White Brothers, SM Traxx, Temperance, Da Klub Kings, and the Vengaboys. The flow of the songs is good as the compilation is beatmixed to simulate a Saturday night Downtown.. If you have been meaning to buy some of the top songs of '99 but didn't get around to it, then this album will deliver the hits your looking for.

Millennium Survey Results: The Best and Worst of 1990s

Your Best

Movie:

Forrest Gump
Austin Powers 1&2
Pulp Fiction
Good Will Hunting
Pretty Woman

Actress:

Julia Roberts
Meg Ryan
Cameron Diaz
Gweneth Paltrow
Jodie Foster

Actor:

Tom Hanks
Brad Pitt
Kevin Spacey
Nicholas Cage
Mike Myers

TV Show:

Friends
Party of Five
DeGrassi Jr High
The Cosby Show
X-files

Talk Show:

Rosie O'Donnell
Oprah
David Letterman
Politically Incorrect
Jerry Springer

Song:

Will You Remember
Me - Sarah McLachlan
It Ain't Over Till Its
Over - Lenny Kravitz
Losing My Religion
- REM
Crash - Dave
Matthews Band
Wide Open Spaces
- Dixie Chicks

Album:

Tuesday Night Music
Club - Sheryl Crow
Tragically Hip
- (any album)
One Chord to
Another - Sloan
Fumbling Toward
Ecstasy - Sarah
McLachlan
Guns n' Roses
- (any album)

Band:

Blue Rodeo
Tragically Hip
Dave Matthews Band
Matthew Good Band
Red Hot Chili Peppers

Your Worst

Movie:

Even Cowgirls get
the Blues
Waterworld
The Postman
Love and Death on
Long Island
Pokémon: the movie

Actress:

Pamela Anderson Lee
Jennifer Love Hewitt
Heather Locklear
Clair Danes
Jennifer Lopez

Actor:

Leonardo DiCaprio
Keanu Reeves
Rob Lowe
Robert Downey Jr.
Schwarzenegger

TV Show:

Melrose Place
Married With Children
Full House
Baywatch
Family Matters

Talk Show:

Jerry Springer
Jenny Jones
Oprah
Ricky Lake
Dini Petty

Song:

The Heart Will Go
On - Celine Dion
(Theme From Titanic)
Achy Breaky Heart
- Billy Ray Cyrus
Macerana
Bitch - Meredith
Brooks
Rico Suave - Gerardo

Album:

Step By Step - New
Kids on the Block
Spice World - Spice
Girls
Hangin' Tough - New
Kids on the Block
Millennium
- Backstreet Boys
Middle of Nowhere
- Hanson

Band:

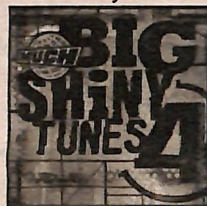
Backstreet Boys
New Kids on the Block
Spice Girls
Milli Vanilli
Kriss Kross

Media Saturated Event:

Death of Princess Diana
OJ
Y2K
Aliens (anything to do with)
Bill and Monica

What will you remember most from the 1990's?

Columbine High School
Death of Princess Diana
Viagra
War - Kosovo (and all of Yugoslavia)
..... Persian Gulf
Swiss Air 111
University/DEBT



Voyage de découverte
dans le monde de l'enseignement
INVITATION À UNE JOURNÉE PORTE-OUVERTE



Toutes les dépenses seront défrayées par l'Université Sainte-Anne

Où ?

UNIVERSITÉ
SAINT-ANNE
Pointe-de-l'Église, N.-É.



Quand ?

Les 17 et 18 février 2000
Départ de l'Hôtel Lord Nelson
le 17 février à 14h00
Arrivée à l'Université
Sainte-Anne à 17h00
Banquet et soirée
Chambre en résidence



Qui est invité.e ?

Les étudiant.e.s bilingues qui
s'intéressent à devenir
enseignant.e en français.
Toutes les disciplines sont
admissibles.

le 18 février

- Rencontre avec le directeur, les professeur.e.s et les étudiant.e.s du département des Sciences de l'éducation
- Repas du midi
- Retour à Halifax vers 14h00

Pour vous inscrire, téléphonez sans frais au
1-888-338-8337
avant le 11 février 2000

L'ARCHE THE UNIVERSITY OF THE HEART

L'Arche Cape Breton is a community for men and women who are mentally challenged and those who share life with them. We are a community committed to equality, solidarity, and simplicity, and since we began in 1983, hundreds of people have come to share this way of life with us.

We have welcomed many volunteers from Cape Breton, and from the UK, France, Austria, Germany, Granada, India, the United States and all over Canada. The experience in L'Arche has not only changed the way we see people with disabilities. It has changed the way we see the world.

We are always accepting applications from energetic, open-minded, and committed people. We provide room and board plus a monthly stipend, and will consider covering your student loan payments. There are even programs available for people interested in volunteering overseas, as there are over 100 L'Arche communities throughout the world.

Not sure what your are doing? Why not consider volunteering with L'Arche? Contact us for an information package.

L'Arche Cape Breton
Whycocomagh, NS B0E 3M0
Ph: (902)756-3162 Fax: (902)756-3381
E-mail <larchecb@atcon.com>
WEB SITE <www.phk.auracom.com/~larchecb>

Winners of Big Shiny Tunes 4 courtesy of EMI Music Canada

Corrine MacLaren	Janine Amoro
Laura Walsh	Fionna Milligan
Erin Bennett	Elizabeth Sencabaugh

MOUNT COMMUNITY

CPRS GEMSTONE AWARD

The deadline for applications is February 15, 1999. Mail entries to: CPRS, P.O. Box 1544, Halifax, NS, B3J 2Y3

Vinnies 1st Pub Night

of the New Year is on Thursday.

Alumnae Award for Teaching

students, faculty, staff and alumnae are invited to nominate members of the current faculty. Nomination forms are available in the Alumnae Office. Evaristus Hall, Room 229. the completed form must be signed by 5 individuals and accompanied by a 500 word (or less) description of why this candidate is an excellent teacher. **Deadline: Friday, Jan 21, 2000 @ 5pm**

Use the PICARO Classifieds to purchase and sell used textbooks. Send all listings to Classifieds c/o THE PICARO.

Notice: All societies wishing to have their events posted in Classifieds may contact Wendy Walters @ the PICARO on or by Wednesday before each issue.

METRO COMMUNITY

Be a Blood Donor ("Its in you to give")

Most people who have reached the age of 17 may give blood safely every two months.

NEXT CLINIC:

Monday, January 17:
Barrington Passage (Lions Club Hall)
5:00-8:00 PM

Discovery Center Raffle

Tickets are \$5 each and proceeds will go to support the Discovery Centre's education programs and exhibits. For more information call, 492-4422
Draw Date is February 14, 1999
Great prizes to be won!

Use the PICARO Classifieds to find subletters or sublets for your apartments. This is a great opportunity for those in co-op programs or those looking to move in/out in April. Start early!

Potty Talk and other stall tales

It looks like Potty talk is dying. This is a small amount, because as long as we keep receiving stuff, we'll keep it alive.

Pic:

You like us, you really like us!

-Gazette

Stood up Girl:

I'll make it up to ya babe

-The Silver Bullet Man

Finch:

Do you want to borrow my lip balm?

-Persistent provoker

Scruffy dog boy:

They invented this cool thing while you were sleeping, it's called shaving.
-propagandra mcnasty

Copy "chickenhead" girl:

clean the crap out of your ears.

-Sick of repeating myself

Ice Man:

Nothing like pushing the deadline.

-Shaggy

Juanita:

How's life without the beotchies?

-Shaggy

Pic editors:

Hope you had a great holiday, but where the hell are you now?

-concerned

Cheeseman:

Can't wait to spend the semester with you!

-copy girl

Southern:

Watermelon's for wussies.

-Comfort

Cheeseman:

Southern uses the word wussies.

-solid

Elephant lover:

Elvis loves to fly, and the passion still lives on.

-us

Dancin' Queen:

I think the ones with the pockets will work for you.

-Shoppin' queen

supertallchick:

writing you cuz no one else will

-always looking out for the little person

copy and layout:

do you too think you're ee cummings or something?

-UPPER CASE LOVER

Potty Talk rules: because some things are just too nasty for the stalls...

1. All submissions must include the sender's name and student number. Neither will be published, nor will this information be released to other people.

2. No positive identifications will be published, ie: no first and last names together, no room numbers and no student ids.

3. This is an open communication area, but the submission must remain in good taste. The definition of good taste is entirely up to the person in charge, so it might be kinda wack.

4. Submissions can be dropped off at the Picaro office, or at the Info Desk.

5. Remember to flush when you're finished!

We have issues.... We need staff!

The following positions including the big Editor-In Chief position. Features Editor, Sports Editor, Photo Editor, CUP Editor and Distribution Manager.

Come join the Picaro Team.

Drop of a resume and cover letter to the Picaro Office by Friday January 14.
(room 114 Rosaria Students Center)

If you have any questions don't hesitate to call. 457-6386 or drop by.

Canadian teams fail at Pan-Am chess championships

Source: CUP President
By Tariq Hassan-Gordon

TORONTO (CUP) - College teams from the United States stole the show at the 1999 Pan-American Intercollegiate Chess Championships held December 26-29 in downtown Toronto.

The team competition was won by defending champions the University of Maryland Baltimore County. The University of Texas was second and the University of California-Berkeley came third.

The University of Toronto chess club hosted the tournament and fielded six teams. U of T's top A team, ranked second over all going into the tournament, failed to make it into the top 10.

The poor performance was a disappointment for Chris Chu, the tournament organizer, who is also a member of U of T's chess club.

"This is the hard luck story of the tournament," he said.

With Yan Teplitsky, an

international master who is ranked number three in Canada, the U of T team was hoping to win the tournament. The last time Toronto won the tournament was in 1982.

But despite the poor overall performance for the U of T team, Teplitsky, who was the second strongest player in the tournament, tied for first in the individual scores division.

Teplitsky said the team was hoping to do much better, but admitted "the team under performed because we didn't have much practice before [the tournament]."

He also pointed to the fact that in the U.S. many of the top schools have scholarship programs to recruit top high school chess players to their institutions.

The lack of university administrative support for university chess was a sore point for other Canadian players.

Dave Jackson, the lead player for the University of Western Ontario, said that some UWO players on the team were forced to sleep on the hotel floor because of lack of funding.

"Eight hours of mental exertion takes a lot out of you, it would be nice to have a bed to sleep in," he said.

The top three Canadian teams in the tournament were: Queen's University who ranked seventh, U of T who finished 11th and the University of Western Ontario who came in at 13.

Thirty-one teams competed in the university tournament, 11 from Canada, 19 from the United States and one from Peru.

Started in 1945, the annual Pan-American Chess Championships is considered the most important university chess event in the North and South America.

Chris Chu, tournament organizer, describes the tournament

as "the world series of college chess."

Each player has two hours to make 40 moves, once the time control is met they have another hour to finish the game.

"Chess is the best mind game that exists," said tournament organizer Chu.

According to Chu, the Pan-Am tournament is important for promoting chess to students.

"People who are exposed to chess see an improvement with their school development," he said.

Campus Intramurals Winter 2000

Coed Volleyball
Thursday: 7:30-9:30 pm

Badminton
Monday - Friday: 12:(noon) - 1:30 pm
Tuesday: 8:00 - 10:30 pm

Basketball
Tuesday & Thursday: 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Indoor Soccer
Mondays: 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Varsity News Home Games Schedule

Women's Volleyball
Sunday, January 15 vs. Kings @ 6:30 pm
Saturday, January 29 vs. UNBSJ @ 8 pm
Saturday, February 5 vs. U STE A @ 2 pm
Sunday, February 6 vs. U Ste A @ 12 pm
Wednesday, February 9 vs. KINGS @ 6 pm
Wednesday, February 16 vs. NSAC @ 6 pm

Women's Basketball
Friday, January 14 vs. DALTECH @ 6 pm
Sunday, January 16 vs. MTA @ 1 pm
Sunday January 30 vs. UNBSJ @ 12 pm
Wednesday, February 2 vs. KINGS @ 6 pm
Friday, February 25 vs. NSAC @ 6 pm

Men's Basketball
Friday, January 14 vs. DALTECH @ 8 pm
Sunday, January 16 vs. MTA @ 3 pm
Sunday January 30 vs. UNBSJ @ 2 pm
Wednesday, February 2 vs. KINGS @ 8 pm
Friday, February 25 vs. NSAC @ 8 pm

Coed Badminton
Sunday, February 13 @ 9:30 am
ACAA Championships
Saturday & Sunday, February 19 & 20

Campus Recreation News Special Events

Beach Party...
Wednesday, January 19
9:00 pm - 1:00 am
Vinnie's Pub
\$2 Admission

Fantasia 2000
Join Ath/Rec for a screening of Disney's new IMAX movie
Sunday, January 23 @ 2:00 pm
\$6 admission (that is \$4 less than regular price)
Must purchase tickets at Ath/Rec by Friday January 21 @ 4:00 pm

Moosehead Residence Volleyball Challenge
Wednesday, January 26 @ 8 - 10 pm
\$2 admission - Pizza & Prizes
see Ath/Rec for details.

Martock Ski Trip
Sunday, January 30
downhill, snow boarding cross-country and skating. Free lessons.
Price varies according to package purchased.
Buses leave 9:00 am
spots must be booked by Saturday, January 29 @ 4:30 pm
for info contact Ath/Re

General Ath/Rec Information

You can contact the Ath/Rec Department. They are located in Rosaria Student Centre. You can call them @ 457-6420

Student Membership Information

Full-Time Students
Cost: FREE
Includes: access to the Weight Room, Intramurals, use of the gymnasium - during open gym hours, and great discounted rates on all fitness classes and most of the instructional programs.

Part-Time Students
Cost: \$15
Includes: all of the benefits of a full-time student. Expires April 15, 2000



Create Your Own Summer Job!

Undergraduates

Do you

- have a student loan?
- want to work in your field of study this summer?
- and live at home?

Apply to the Student Loan Employment Program

If you're returning to university full time in September 2000, this program allows you to approach a not-for-profit organization and offer your career-related job skills.

The program pays your wages and helps you save for tuition. You can live at home and gain job experience specific to your field of study.

Deadline: February 12, 2000

More information and applications are available from your university's placement office or on the Internet at www.gov.ns.ca/ecor/infocent/nr toll-free 1-800-424-5418.

NOVA SCOTIA
Economic Development



492-7500

Bring this ad to a participating location and save \$10 per day when you rent a compact through luxury size car.

Visit us at
www.budgethalifax.com

*Expires March 31, 2000. Certain conditions apply.

Budget
Car and Truck Rental