



MSVU

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Jargon



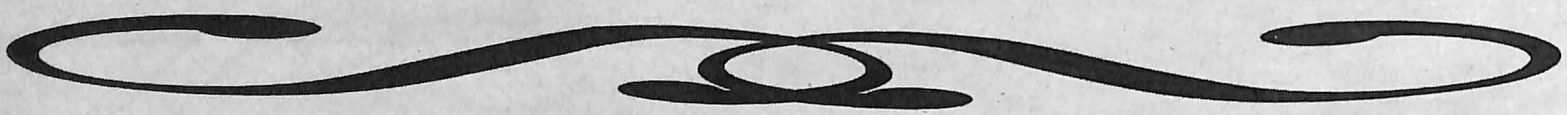
This Christmas let's find out
what the world's religions
are up to...

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THE UNION PAGE

The Students' Union would like to wish all Mount students the best of luck on their upcoming exams and would like to wish the Mount community a very Happy Holidays. We look forward to seeing you in 2003.



Coming in 2003

WINTER CARNIVAL **JANUARY 20 - 27, 2003**

Featuring: Annual Kumoniwannaleiya Hawaiian Party, Superbowl Sunday Pre-Game Football Game at the Meadows, Vinnie's Superbowl Sunday Party, Live Urban/Hip-Hop Concert With Klepto and Scratch Bastard, Snow Sculptures and more...!



Karaoke, St. Paddy's Day, Mr. Mount Competition, Wanderlust and Shakey Jake Live!, Beach Party, Retro Party, Everything You Couldn't Steal From A Bar Party, Pool Tournaments and More...!

VINNIE'S WELCOME BACK NEW YEAR'S PARTY: THURSDAY, JANUARY 9



Trying to make sense of all that Jargon

By: Andre Duchene

I know this is a little unorthodox but I'm going to use this space to talk a little bit about the paper and its goals.

First off I'd like to start off by inviting everyone that has ever opened a copy of Jargon to write in to us and tell us what you can't stand about us. If you're so inclined you can even write us to say what you do like.

Here's the deal, everyone that works for Jargon is completely new to journalism. We haven't the faintest idea what we're doing. The best we can do is guess at what people find intriguing and provocative. We need your help to make this a good paper that anyone can read. Yes, anyone. We are a Mount Saint Vincent University newspaper but we tailor ourselves to (at least try) be interesting to a general audience. The best way for us to know what you want to hear is for you to tell us. Don't hold back don't be bashful. Just flame us if you see something wrong.

Last month I wrote in my editorial that the media did a poor job of covering the GOLF War, and that we should expect the same from the media in its coverage of the Iraq crisis. Ten thousand newspapers distributed across Halifax, Dartmouth and Bedford, on every university campus and we only received one complaint. To Vance, I thank you. The GULF War did in fact have very little to do with green fees and driving ranges. I looked into it after your email. The irony of course is that I boobed, royally, in an article about carelessness in the media.

So yeah, if you notice that we've done things like spelled Gulf, GOLF, write in and tell us what irresponsible jerks we've been. If you think that devil's advocate is a completely useless idea for a column it's up to you to write in and tell us how it could be better, or how it should be dropped altogether. If the sex column is lame, too explicit or not provocative enough, write in and tell us and we'll do our best to

fix it.

This Christmas, as your gift to us, tell us why we are NO GOOD! In return we will do our best to be better in the future and give you a good paper.

If you really like us, or you really dislike us and you want to make a big difference in the way we do things, come on down and write for us.

Now that all that is said and done I will depart with the expected December cliché and wish all of you a happy, safe and relaxing holiday.

See you all in the New Year.

Andre

Merry Christmas From...

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Andre Duchene

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I GET COAL FOR CHRISTMAS?
THANKS! I WILL TELL THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT KRIS
CRINKLE DOES EXIST, LIKE
MANY OF YOU AND ME, AND
THAT SATAN CLAUS IS
WITH US OR AGAINST
US IN THE WAR
ON GREENHOUSES



Cartoon by Francis Mullins

After becoming pregnant with their true love, female Adelie penguins in Antarctica prostitute themselves to other males in exchange for rocks which they need to build their nests. Rocks are hard to find because horny males hoard them.



The Peer Helpers Program: A Great Way for Students to Gain Valuable Experience, Skills and Contacts While Studying at the Mount

By Anisa Tallman,

As a student who has worked in a variety of different areas around campus, I know how important it is to get to know the kinds of services available to us as students. And as a student in her fourth and graduating year, I know how important volunteer work is when applying for work or admission for further education. The Peer Helpers Program offered at the Mount is an excellent opportunity to do both. By volunteering for 2-5 hours a week in the Career Planning Center, the Library or the Health Clinic, students open themselves up to an enriching experience.

In the **Library**, students who need to sharpen their research skills can learn the ins and outs of a library system while also gaining valuable interpersonal skills. Those who

have already gained these skills as university students can use them to help others in a unique and meaningful way by sharing their knowledge of the different databases and internet resources available for inquiring minds.

In the **Career Planning Centre**, students can contribute in a number of ways and develop a well rounded set of skills. In learning their way around the centre, a volunteer gains a knowledge of the many resources and services available there, as well as learning many helpful hints about making their way in the job market. Students can help others in finding the right information in the centre. They can help our promotions assistant in developing ideas for how to raise students' awareness of the centres activities. They can also

help in numerous other ways that the centre meets the needs of Mount students. Volunteers can also join the Professional Career Development club and plan fundraisers, brown bag lunches with staff, organize guest speakers or attend scholarly conferences.

In the **Health Clinic** students can involve themselves in peer education. This area of the Peer Helpers Program offers a unique opportunity for students interested in education or in entering the healthcare system. Topics such as alcohol education, stress management, eating disorders, nutrition,

sexual assault, and violence, are examples of topics focussed on in the past but these can vary with the interests of the students. Topics can be presented using various outreach activities such as display boards, presentations, newsletters, and special events.

This volunteer program is an excellent opportunity for students of any discipline to gain valuable experience. I encourage students to contact Kim Beaton, Career Counsellor in Evaristus 218, or call her at 457-6323, for more information on how to become involved. The deadline is December 20 so apply now!

MOUNT STUDENT FINDS REFUGE AT NSCAD

By: Lara Sifton

"Let me out," a little voice inside me cries. That's the voice of creativity.

"Oh shut up and just go along with it," I say to myself. That's right, bottle up all your creative juices and don't let them seep out, that wouldn't be academically correct. At least it wouldn't be academically correct at the Mount. I have silenced that voice from within ever since I made the decision to come to this fine institution.

Don't get me wrong; my sarcasm isn't entirely bitter- I do love Public Relations- but I also love art and all things creative. I had to sacrifice my passion to come to this school. It's something I have regretted until now, my second year.

Soon after realizing that the Mount's idea of a minor in Fine Arts consisted of strictly theoretical courses in art history, music, drama, and film, I knew I had to take matters into my own hands.

I did some research and discovered that I could take all four of my half credit electives at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD).

The voice inside me jumped for joy. "Finally, I'm free!"

Photography is my saviour. It's given me the opportunity to gain new skills (somewhat related to PR), and explore a different career path. My experience at NSCAD has been a greatly rewarding one.

The people at NSCAD are unique, the teachers are one of a kind, and school morale is much more entertaining than the Mount's.

So if you're a student feeling lost and helpless in the Mount's purely academic and suffocating world, why not take the leap and explore the hundreds of courses offered at any one of the fine educational institutions in Halifax.

You've got nothing to lose but your incredibly sheltered and naïve Mount integrity.



What did Sook-Yin Lee find on the south shore of Nova Scotia?

Feed your curiosity.

Join Sook-Yin Lee, new host of DNTO, as she roots out pop culture and stories from the south shore, and have a few yuks with "The Yids in the Hall," December 7th on CBC Radio One.

DNTO - your weekend guide to modern culture.

**Definitely Not
The Opera**
Saturdays at 1 pm

90.5
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"Verbosity leads to unclear, inarticulate things." Thank you George W. Bush.



Increased Funding at Mount Saint Vincent

On November 14, Mount Saint Vincent was the proud recipient of a \$185,000 grant. The grant will be used to expand the Mount's early childhood education programs and make them more accessible.

"We know that the quality of care children receive is determined by the level of training and education their caregivers have. I'm very pleased the province has recognized training as a priority because this is the key to improving the system," says Dr. Mary Lyon, Mount Saint Vincent's Dean of Professional Studies.

The grant is part of a \$66 million fund that was set aside by the federal government to improve early childhood development programs in the province over the next five years. A total of \$1 million was handed out, by Nova Scotia's Department of Community Services, to seven institutions that train in early childhood education. The Mount received the largest portion of the funding. The money will be used to fund several initiatives in the university's Child and Youth Study degree program.

"The funding received this year will enable us to develop more of our courses for distance learning. In the next few years, we will make the entire degree program available through the internet and video learning. This will make early childhood education more accessible and make it easier for people already working in the field to upgrade their education," says Lyon.

The Mount will also be expanding its professional development programs by offering more training seminars and conferences for people already working in the profession. In addition, the Mount is developing a special certificate program in leadership and management for people working in the administration of early childhood education program, family resource centers and parenting programs.

Mount Saint Vincent University is the only university in Atlantic Canada to offer undergraduate and master's degrees in early childhood education. The Mount also has a full-service day care on campus that serves as a training and research facility for students and professionals.

What was found was that bomb scares, although uncommon at the Mount, are quite common by and large. Probably less than 1% of all bomb scares actually result in finding a bomb. The percentage of arrests that accompany bomb scares is similarly low.

The percentage of those scares that materialize into real situations is so low that institutions are not required to conduct evacuations or even contact the police in the event of a threat. It is suggested that institutions have their own search protocol in place. The police are called in merely provide assistance in the search.

When asked about the instigations for bomb threats Sgt. Spicer said that the reasons are so varied that a generalization is not possible. Hollett contributed that a number of major tests and examinations were underway at the time of the call.

Following completion of the search, those students that were forced to leave behind essential or important items such as medication or car keys were allowed to re-enter first.



Student Research Opportunities Norah Stephen Oncology Scholar Awards

The Norah Stephen Oncology Scholar Awards are funded by *Cancer Care Nova Scotia* to foster an interest in the field of oncology (cancer), among undergraduate and graduate students in Nova Scotia.

A total of ten awards will be granted each spring. Five awards will be dedicated to cancer-related research projects including, but not limited to, basic science, cancer informatics, epidemiology, outcomes and/or sociobehavioural research. The remaining five awards will be dedicated to clinical training/experience projects. Each award, worth \$5000, covers stipend support for the student for a maximum of 14 weeks.

Interested candidates and their supervisors are invited to complete an application, outlining the project or practical experience directly related to the study of cancer, and submit it to CCNS with the required attachments on or before Friday, February 14, 2003.

Applications are available by contacting Christine Lockett by phone at 902-473-3851 or by email at christine.lockett@ccns.nshealth.ca

Applications may be mailed or faxed to:

NOVA SCOTIA
Health

Cancer Care Nova Scotia
1278 Tower Road, Bethune 543
Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9
Phone: 902-473-3851 Fax: 902-473-4631

Bomb Scare at MSVU

By Andre Duchene

On November 18th, at around 11:00 am, an anonymous caller informed Mount security of a supposed bomb that had been planted in Seton, the main academic building.

Glen Hollett, chief of security at the Mount was quick to begin evacuation of the building. Fifteen minutes later the Halifax Regional Police had been contacted and requested on scene.

The immediacy of the evacuation was such that students were forced to leave belongings behind.

A total of 4 units, each with 1 to 2 officers were deployed to the Mount. Two K-9, search dog units were amongst those dispatched. The search took a total of 1 hour 45 minutes. Nothing was found.

Jargon conducted a telephone interview with Sgt. Spicer of the Halifax Regional Police Department about the nature of bomb scares.

Get a head start on the job market before you graduate!

Portfolio Development
EDUC 2100 (Half Unit).

Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:30pm
January 7 - April 1

Create your own career and skill portfolio, highlighting your past learning achievements both formal and informal. The focus of the course will be on developing your academic and career goals. Your learning strengths and learning gaps will be identified and you will create your own learning plan. This course is open to all undergraduate students and counts as a free elective in most programs. It also provides a first step for mature students who are interested in applying for Prior Learning Assessment Recognition.

Contact the Deans' Office immediately for written permission as space is limited. Seton 302 (902) 457-6324.

Questions? Please Contact Admissions (902) 457-6128 or Distance Learning and Continuing Education (902) 457-6511.

When a reporter asked Mr. Chrétien about the RCMP's use of pepper spray on a peaceful protest, he replied, "Pepper? I put that on my plate."



Religions

By Seela Amaratunga and Andre Duchene

Ah Christmas time...

It's a time of joy and of giving. It's a time of forgiveness. We receive Christmas catalogs. Shops and malls all decorate their storefronts with waterpaint murals on their windows. Images of snowmen, candy-canes, and of course, good ol' Santa, wearing none other than the clothing commissioned to him by Coke in the 1930s. What many of us forget though is that it's also a time of religious celebration. There are manglers left and right. Plastic angels, with neon bulbs stuffed in their translucent bellies, trespass on our lawns and so on. More than that, it is a Christian celebration. The problem with that is that we are not a Christian population. True, many of us are Christians. True, out of respect for the Christian day of Sabbath the government still will not permit Sunday shopping even though this is discrimination on the basis of religion to those shopkeepers unwilling to close that are of a non-Christian faith. We are still not universally Christians though. So what are those (we) non-Christians up to?

Shinto- In Japan the primary religion is Shinto. It's interesting how seldom that word is heard given that there are around 100 million Shintoists in Japan alone. In Japan the only other comparable religious following is that of the Buddhist. The Buddhist and the Shinto harmonize easily with one another and many Japanese adhere to both beliefs.

Shinto's name is derived from "Shin Tao" or the "Way of the Gods". Shinto is a polytheistic religion. This is not totally accurate though. Shinto does accept the existence of deities but they are simply described as extraordinary beings and cannot be likened to the Gods of monotheistic religions. They refer to these deities as Kami.

Followers of Shintoism regard human life and human nature in essence as sacred. Shintoism has "Four Affirmations": 1. Tradition and the family, 2. Love of nature, 3. Physical cleanliness and 4. "Matsuri" meaning the worship of the Kami and ancestral spirits. The desire for peace is also a central necessity.

Over the holidays we might not find Shintoists celebrating too much. They will be partying along side of us on New Year's. Shinto followers celebrate Shogatsu or New Year from January 1-3. National

Founding Day, February 11th, is celebrated nationwide in Japan and is a secular tradition.

Shintoists believe in finding a harmony between human necessity and the preservation and respect of nature. It's difficult to find an accurate number of Shinto followers worldwide since many of them living in Japan are also adherents to Buddhism. Estimates vary from 50 million to 115 million. The 1991 Canadian Census recorded 445 Shintoists in Canada.

Christianity- During ancient times, well before the birth of Christ, the period of the winter solstice through to the middle of winter was a time of celebration. It was the time in which ale and wine were ready to drink after the late summer and fall harvest. In Northern Europe, the celebration symbolized the turning point from the dark days of winter to the brighter days of an ensuing spring.

The Romans had their very own celebration during this time in honour of the gods of agriculture, Saturn and of the unconquerable sun, Mithra. In fact, on December 25, many Romans celebrated the symbolic birthday of Mithra- thought to be one of the most sacred of all Roman celebrations.

For several centuries following the Life of Christ, the major Christian event was Easter, signifying Christ's death and resurrection. Interestingly, the Bible does not make reference to the specific date in which Christ was born. Thus, the birth of Christ was not initially celebrated. Eventually, as Christianity spread and flourished, leaders of the church decided that the birth of Christ was also meritorious of a celebration. The Pope of the day, Julius I, declared that December 25th was to be occasion, most likely in coordination with historical Roman celebrations.

The Christmas celebrations took on similar forms across Europe in the Middle Ages. There was time spent in church and time spent in drunken merriment. An interesting tradition that became a commonplace Christmas ritual was the crowning of a "lord of misrule"- usually a beggar or peasant who exchanged roles with the upper class and ate like a king for a day.

Of course, since the Middle Ages, Christmas all over the world has changed and evolved. In 19th century North America, Christmas was seen as a time in which parents were justified in lavishly adorning their children with wonderful gifts

and fine food. Spoiling children during this time period was generally frowned upon but Christmas provided a special justification for it. Perhaps one of the reasons why gift giving caught on and has continued until today.

Judaism- Judaism happens to be one of the oldest living religions. There are many interpretations of Judaism but in essence it includes beliefs, a worldview and a way of life called Halacha. The Torah is fundamental text of Judaism.

This year, the celebration of Hanukkah falls on the eight days between November 29th and December 7th. Each evening, a Hanukkah candle is lit on the menorah, an eight-candled candelabra. It is a time for families to get together and enjoy special Hanukkah foods and games. Hanukkah is a celebration of religious freedom and commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem after the Maccabees military victory over the Greek Syrians.

Islam- Islam has five basic duties that every Muslim must perform, known as the Five Pillars of Islam: 1. Shahadah meaning the declaration of faith. 2. Salah meaning the five daily declaration of prayers. 3. Zakah, a welfare contribution. 4. Sawm, the fasting during Ramadan. 5. Hajj, pilgrimage to Mecca.

In Arabic, the word Islam translates into submission and obedience. Submission means the complete acceptance of the word of Allah. Obedience is the willingness to practice the teachings of Allah. Allah brings peace. It is for this reason that Islam also translates to peace in Arabic.

The Koran is the fundamental text of Islam. Interpretations vary from believer to believer and considering the controversy that enshrouds its interpretation, very little will be said about its meaning. What is important is that Islam is the following of the teachings of Allah to arrive at peace.

East Asia- In China we find three central religions: Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism. Like Shintoism, these religions are more like life-philosophies than the Western model of religion. The focus is on the readily accessible world, how we should interpret it and how we should participate within it. The emphasis in these religions is on proper conduct rather than the adoption and admission of certain beliefs.

Taoism- Taoism, roughly translated, the

Way, was founded by Lao-Tse. There is some disagreement as to the identity of Lao-Tse. Some venerate him as a mythical figure while others accept that he was a mundane being but the founder nonetheless. He is credited as having written the Tao-Te-Ching, the book of Taoism.

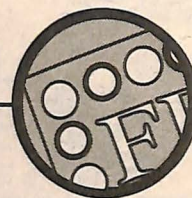
Tao is the ultimate entity. The Taoists do not accept a personified God. Rather they except that this entity that is everything. To become enlightened is to make a conscious union with the Tao. The Three Jewels to be sought in Taoism are compassion, moderation and humility. Taoists follow the art of "wu wei." This is similar to letting be what will be. Theirs is not to interfere with the river but merely to travel with it.

For more information on Taoism Jeff Rasmussen's Tao Te Ching website: http://www.symynet.com/tao_te_ching/

Buddhism- Buddhism, another of the three central religions in China, has also become quite wide spread here in North America. It is the teaching of nothingness. It is the Middle Way. One common misconception is that Buddhist practice condones suffering. This is not true but there is some merit in that belief. Buddhists are known to say that life is suffering. Herein we find the roots of this misconception. What is, in fact, meant by this is that unenlightened life is suffering.

The Buddhists believe that nothing is permanent and is in some fashion empty. By allowing ourselves to crave that which is impermanent we doom ourselves to disappointment. By accepting the emptiness of all we defeat this craving and permit ourselves to be content. The self is seen as equally empty. We mustn't even allow ourselves to become attached to the self. Everything is empty, and while this may sound like a disappointment, it is this quasi nihilism that allows for us to truly be content.

And there you have it! Obviously this is all very basic and general to the point of being insulting to those well versed in the said religions. Hopefully this hasn't offended anyone. If you want to expand your base of basic religious knowledge even further you may want to look into Sikh and Confucianism. All that said and done: Merry Christmas to all and to all, let's at least forget about our differences over the holidays and find unity in the fact that all of us, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity, will be equally immobilized by the indiscriminant Nova Scotian winter weather. Oh yeah, and good night!



Ten Thousand Ways to be A Peaceful Consumer

By: Jen Gillespie

She sits on the moist earth with her legs folded beneath. Her small fingers glide across a hand-held screen as the thin fibers of hyacinth form a smooth, even sheet of paper. Drying, cutting and bleaching are the next steps, creating a unique paper from the weed that once choked the waterways of Bangladesh.

Bella Roy is a 25-year old single mother who was "abandoned by her husband shortly after the birth of her son." Roy is employed by Biborton with 84 other women enabling them to better themselves and earn a living often to support their families. Biborton paper products are available at Ten Thousand Villages, Park Lane Mall in Halifax.

"Ten Thousand Villages works with artisans (from Third World countries) who would otherwise be unemployed or under-employed." With pride and passion, two paid staff members and several volunteers help Kate Taylor arrange items inside the Maritime's only permanent location for Ten Thousand Villages. Taylor has been manager of this eclectic store since its opening four years ago. She speaks about the store, the items, and their crafters as if she is a part of something special. She is.

Upward of 50% of the stock at Ten Thousand Vilalges comes from India,

Vietnam and Bagladesh. Boxes, soapstone, paper products, and ceramics come from these countries to Halifax via the buying office in New Hamburg, Ontario. These are only a fraction of the items available through Ten Thousand Villages fair trade program.

"Fair trade is an alternative approach to conventional international trade." Ten Thousand Villages is proud to be a member of the International Federation for Alternative Trade (IFAT). Fair trade, for this company, focuses on improving and maintaining the livelihood of its 120 artisan groups in 30 countries. In keeping with their mission statement, Ten Thousand Villages purchases handcrafts from over 60,000 artisans.

The office in Ontario ships items to the stores every four to six weeks. When orders are placed with the artisans, Ten Thousand Villages ensures artisans and groups do not bear the cost burden of supplies for the orders. Fifty percent of the total cost of the order is sent to the representative group upon ordering where it is distributed among the producers responsible for the items. This fifty percent helps in buying raw materials needed for production and paying wages to the artisans.

Ten Thousand Villages believes very

strongly in this aspect of their work. The business also takes responsibility for all product once it leaves the shore of the supplying country. Any cost incurred by damage, lost product or any other cost is absorbed 100% by Ten Thousand Villages and not one cent is charged back to the artisan. The remaining 50% of the money owed is sent by Ten Thousand Villages once the products have left shore for new North American homes.

Ten Thousand Villages is ready for the Christmas season all year long. Ornaments, nativity scenes and streamers are regular items on their shelves. Many ideas for the season are available under \$20.00. The most popular items for students, according to Taylor, continue to be the palm leaf star valances and of course, the toys. Paper products, like those made by Bella Roy, such as stationary, envelopes, and note pads are great gift giving ideas.

If you find yourself wandering the streets of downtown Halifax, Ten Thousand Villages will be opened extended hours for this holiday season. The store is located in the mall on Sping Garden Road and is a natural stimulant for the senses. Soothing music and soft scents from far away lands fill the air as you enter. Your eyes dance around the colors and shapes of objects as you hold the smooth stone dangling from a necklace made in Peru. Bags of fair trade coffee, cocoa and chocolates awaken your taste buds. Drop in and visit from 9:30am to 9:30pm Monday to Saturday. And when you pick up your treasure, ask a Ten Thousand Villages employee - every item has an incredible story.



Write For US!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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In ancient Rome it was considered a sign of leadership to be born with a crooked nose.



Local Band Feature: Wanderlust

By: Lara Sifton

Stepping over patch cables, guitar stands, an Oland Export box and a full wardrobe of laundry, Jargon writer Lara Sifton squeezes into a cluttered room that is accommodating far more artefacts than many would expect. On any other day of the week, this is Jeff Pittman's residence room; Tonight is Thursday, and it's a jam space for Mount-based band Wanderlust.

The band:

Jeff Pittman- vocals, acoustic guitar and mandolin
Gary Foley- vocals, electric guitar and mandolin
David Scholten- vocals and bass
Thomas Kirkham- drums

The interview:

Jargon: How'd you get your name? What's it mean?

Jeff: I like to tell people that it is what it sounds like; Wanderlust literally means the lust to wander, the want to move around and be free. I think Dave came up with it.

Jargon: When did the band form?

Dave: In January of this year, Jeff and I got together to show each other songs that we had written and we sort of clicked.

Jeff: I found it was much by coincidence. I met Gary in a Drama class and found out he was the old front man from The Impalas. At the same time, I was nagging Dave to jam. Got them both together, and we had *Wanderlust*.

Dave: Thomas joined the band a few months ago to add some rhythm to the mix.

Jargon: Where are you from?

Dave: Jeff and Gary are both from Newfoundland, Thomas is from PEI and I'm a mainlander from Ontario.

Jeff: Yeah, Dave has his "town that isn't even really a town", Thomas has made it clear that Tignish is the biggest "hick town in all of PEI", and myself and Gary live on opposite sides of Placentia Bay.

Jargon: Describe your music.

Gary: I'd say rock with a traditional feel to it.

Dave: I think Gary brings the rock influence; Jeff brings the Newfoundland folk influence. I'm not sure what I bring. It's always easier to categorize other people, I guess. Perhaps I bring some funk and some smart-pop type stuff. Thomas brings the beat.

Thomas: Oh yeah.

Jargon: Do you write your own songs? Cover others?

Gary: We do a combination of both. We all contribute to the song-writing element.

Dave: So far we've mostly played covers with a few of Jeff's and a few of my original tunes. We've started to get some of Gary's stuff on the go, so you should hear some Gary Foley originals at the next show. Thomas has written four operas but none of us can sing them so you won't hear those.

Jeff: With regards to covers, I think there's certain responsibilities that all bands have to think about in their early stages. We play some tunes that we don't even practice, just out of the urge to give people what they want. They're the sing-along, universal tunes that everyone, everywhere knows. But before and after those tunes, there's a need to give people something new that they might appreciate- something fresh- be it your own, or someone else's.

Jargon: Who are your influences?

Jeff: I got lots of 'em. I think Steve Earle has taught me that no one is obligated to do particular kinds of music. You can do whatever you're in the mood for. Gordie Lightfoot has taught me what it means to be melodic. More so, I've learned from Dave, Gary, Thomas, and other buddies along the way.

Thomas: Carter Beauford, Bob Marley.

Gary: Greg Keeler, Paul McCartney.

Dave: Old Dave Matthews stuff, Jeff Buckley, Fiona Apple, Ben Harper.

Jargon: Do you plan on cutting an album? If yes, any idea when?

Dave: Hopefully within a year. Money and

time will decide I guess.

Jeff: With the means we have right now, it's money, time and hard drive space.

Jargon: Where can we hear you play?

Dave: So far we've been pretty lazy in the gig-hunting department. We have played at Vinnie's Pub a few times because it is easy and they ask us. We have recorded a few demo songs. If anyone gets a real hankerin' for a Wanderlust tune, just email us at "wanderlustmusic@canada.com" and we'll hook you up.

Jargon: What are your goals? Personal and Professional?

Thomas: To do this professionally for the rest of my life.

Jeff: to get a rock star hairdo.

Dave: I am going to record an album at some point. It would be great to be mildly popular for a while and get to do the whole touring thing. Otherwise, I'm planning on being in school for the next few decades to become a clinical psychologist.

Jargon: Where do you want to be in 10 years?

Dave: Rehab after 9 years of rock stardom.

Thomas: In a foreign country or on top of a mountain.

Jeff: Maybe both?

Thomas: True dat.

Jargon: Is the Band a full time commitment? What else do you do?

Dave: We have been forced to be pretty slack with the band because we are all busy people. School and jobs take up a lot of time.

Thomas: More time could easily be spent with the band because it's so much fun when we get together and jam.

Jeff: Maybe the biggest full time commitment is having all our gear in our little places.

Jargon: What do you guys do for fun?

Wanderlust: We play in a band.

Jargon: Ever had any conflicts of musical interest?

Dave: We have had some tempo issues stemming from our different upbringings. I think Newfies are really quick strummers. *Jeff:* Thomas feels the need to bring in slapstick comedy at shows... I'm not so sure of it.

Jargon: What would make you kick someone out of your band?

Dave: Poor oral hygiene. Bad breath.

Thomas: Not showing up for a show.

Jeff: Some people say that guys in your band are like girlfriends. I dunno. Some people let their girlfriends get away with more than others. I guess this is much the same.

Jargon: Do you have any groupies yet?

Dave: Well, so far we've been paying people to act like fans. But, the money is running out. So, unless we hit another bank, I guess we'll find out if we have any real fans.

Jargon: If you could have any musician join your band, who would it be? Why?

Gary: No one, we're perfect.

Jeff: Jody!

Dave: Hell, Donald Trump. Make him play kazoo or something. It's all about the connections...

Thomas: We're actually in the process of recruiting some Go-Gos.

Jargon: Have you ever had to make personal sacrifices for the band?

Dave: Carrying gear around.

Jeff: Getting out of bed to carry gear around.

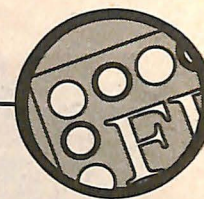
Thomas: Safety. Having to balance on a stage the size of a sandbox, sitting on a milk crate.

Jargon: How do you manage your time?

Jeff: Dave has this tiny, little book. Carries it around with him everywhere. Little pen, too.

Dave: I lost my little pen.

Jeff: Really? Oh no! Well, I still have my reminders stuck on my mirror with sticky-



Interpreting the Climate Change Debate

By: Francis Mullins

The Ancient Greeks had a dual concept of hubris and nemesis. If you go too far in pursuit of power, desire too much wealth, are too violent or ambitious, divine retribution will follow, as a reminder that insolence of mortals will not be tolerated by the Gods. If you would like to see nemesis in action, you could take a look at the dysfunctional lives of your favorite celebrities, or you could just take a deep breath... and

try not to get asthma. Hubris was not confined to social relations for the Greeks, for they also believed that an avenging nemesis would befall those who had a hubristic lack of respect for Nature. All it takes is to pay attention to the weather to realize that our collective global nemesis is at hand.

There are those who doubt this "climate change theory", and for good reason. If there is such a thing as Global Warming, and if it is caused by the use of fossil fuels,

and if it has effects such as rising sea levels, extreme heat waves, the spread of malaria and West Nile Virus, more frequent droughts, hurricanes, tornadoes and floods, then governments might make it harder for everyone to use the gas, oil and coal that is making these people so much money, and the federal government might stop subsidizing the conventional energy sector to the tune of \$250 million per year. The response of the business sector has been to harp on the uncertainty in scientific predictions of global warming, and to threaten that meeting Kyoto's targets will cost jobs and harm the economy. With their well oiled and well funded lobbying apparatus they have managed to cloud the debate enough to prevent a consensus on the need to take action.

So, in order to clear the fog a little, here is what science has proven beyond dispute about climate change.

1. It is getting warmer.

The mean temperature of the Earth is about 15°C, which is the peak temperature for periods between ice ages. During the last ice age, 10,000 years ago, the world was 10°C. Despite the large temperature variation in local areas, from day to night and the seasonal cycle, a small change in the overall global temperature can make a big difference. In the 1000 year period before 1900, there was a variation of global temperature within the range of 1/5°C, with a slight cooling trend over that time. In the past 100 years, there has been a sustained increase of the average global temperature that is unprecedented in its rapidity.

2. The concentration of Carbon Dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere has increased as a result of human activities.

Human activities now produce twice the amount of atmospheric carbon as the earth's flora can absorb. It would take a large tree one year to absorb the amount of carbon produced by burning four litres of gasoline. There is now 30% more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as before the industrial revolution, and the record of carbon dioxide trapped in Antarctic ice shows that this is higher than any time in the past 400,000 years, the span of four ice ages. Coal produces the most carbon dioxide for the amount of energy it releases, followed by petroleum and natural gas. Carbon dioxide causes 60% of global warming.

Methane, a more potent greenhouse gas, is produced in dumps and landfills, released from storage in thawing permafrost as a result of global warming, and generated by cattle and other ruminants. Other significant contributors to global warming are industrial fertilizers and CFCs, which also deplete the ozone layer.

3. There is a relationship between the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and global temperature.

This is where the uncertainties really begin to appear in the research. While the Antarctic records show that carbon dioxide levels have had a direct relationship with global temperature, the actual mechanisms of this relationship have not been conclusively worked out. This is primarily because science is based on observation and verification, and nothing like this has happened before. In addition, prediction of the changes our climate will experience is also based on human response to global warming - will we continue to increase our use of fossil fuels, reduce them moderately or gradually eliminate them altogether? A variety of mathematical models have been created to quantify the exchanges of the climate between the atmosphere, the ocean, vegetation and sea ice. They take into account the factors that affect temperature, which are natural variability, sun variability, volcanic activity, greenhouse gases and sulphate aerosols. The models are verified by comparing them to climate data from past years, and then projected into the future.

Over the next 100 years, these models predict a 2-3°C increase in Canada during the summer months, and a 4-7°C increase for most of the country in the winter. This difference is because snow and ice reflects most of the sun's heat away. As global warming causes it to melt, these areas absorb more heat from the sun on top of increased air temperature. The far north and Hudson Bay may see the temperature rise over 8°C. The Earth has not been so warm in 20 million years, since before human existence.

We are only seeing the beginning of climate change. Even if we were able to immediately halt all emissions of greenhouse gases, current air pollution will continue to warm the planet. However, the sooner we take decisive action, the more options we will have open to us in the future. Kyoto is only a first step, as it aims only at stabilization of greenhouse gas emissions. The only known way out of this mess is to eliminate our society's dependence on fossil fuels. The sooner we get started, the more gradually we will be able to do it, and the more options we will have available.

Continued on page 12



Continued from page 8

tack.

Gary: On your hand, man.

Jeff: Yeah, look. I'm supposed to be some where else right now.

Jargon: What does your mom think of all this?

Thomas: "Don't do all the things rock stars do."

Jeff: She's pretty into it- loves hearing what we do.

Dave: My mom thinks it is great, but she doesn't know about our new song. The new song really encapsulates our whole band experience to date.

Jeff: It's called "Just ^&%#in' Around"

Jargon: If you could rid the world of any musician who would it be?

Thomas: Britney Spears.

Gary: Phil Collins.

Jeff: Half of the ones I hear today.

Dave: There was a period in the eighties that produced a lot of music that was a detriment to the world. I try to forget the names of the culprits; they know who they are! *W*



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Kyoto...

Continued from page 9

If we wait too long, in denial of what we are facing or foolishly believing that there is a technological quick fix for this problem, then the social upheavals that catastrophic events cause may prevent any collective action at all.

Next Issue: How We Can Ratify Kyoto Without Going Broke.

In response to increasingly frequent discussions about the significance of the Kyoto accord one of our reporters, Kieran Gibbs, decided to find out what Mount students had to say. Here's what some of them said:



Taylor- I definitely believe in Climate Change. Anyone who says it isn't happening, like the Canadian Alliance, is deluding themselves and probably has other interests.

Monica- I do believe in it. I think it's bad and we have to do something about it NOW.

Heidi- I believe in it. I don't feel like anyone's doing enough to stop it and that makes it hard to be sympathetic.

Scott- Obviously it's something we have to be worried about and we have to act now.

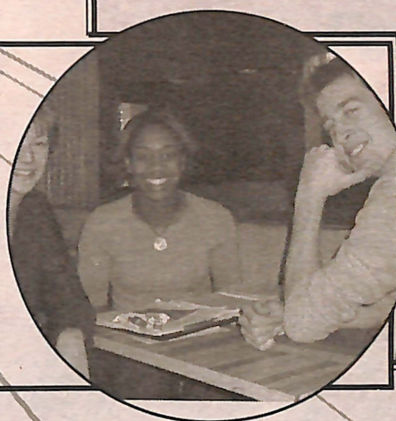


Ghaith- It is a danger but it's not something that we have to be worried about right now. It won't be real problem for another few hundred years.

Teresa- I definitely believe in it and I think that we should definitely ratify Kyoto. We can't reverse the impact that climate change has already had but we can control how much further the problem goes.



Gina- I don't think that climate change is a threat that we have to worry about.



Kiryl- It is a threat but I am not too concerned about it right now. More research should be put into alternative sources of energy. We will have to do this if we want to or not as we will soon be out of non-renewable resources.

Matthew.- Yes, I think it is a threat. Signing Kyoto is a good idea, I live beside a river and I don't want to drown.



Erin- I'm not that familiar with the issue. I think there are a lot of misconceptions about it, but I do think there should be preventative measures taken.



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Art Gallery Celebrates 28th Annual Mount Community

By: Andrea Newell

At noon on November 28th, standing outside the Sacateria, the muffled beat of a drum, a few guitar chords, and "test... 1,2,3" painted the air. Along with other students, I was lured downstairs to see where all the murmur was coming from. Drawing closer to the art gallery, voices of people chatting and the smell of coffee led me inside.

It was the opening reception for the 28th Annual Mount Community Show. My common thoughts of an art gallery was of a quiet place where you can hear a pin drop. Although this can be true at the Mount, it was not the case today. It was a time to celebrate! This show was dedicated specifically to recognize the artistic achievements of members of our university community.

Entering the gallery was a dynamic show in itself. My eyes wandered first to the walls plastered with pictures, then to the centre of the room to freestanding artwork, then to the musicians tuning up, then to people setting up a slide projector, and finally to the refreshment table. The art gallery was definitely the place to be!

The reception began with a poetry reading by Eleonore Schönmaier. Slides of landscape images lit up the room as she recited poetry, including some of her own work. Most of what she writes is in "relationship to the land," she said. She also had black and white photographs on display.

Following the readings, the band "Paul Zwicker and Friends of the Family," struck up a chorus. They entertained with songs including "Pretty Woman" and "Love Potion Number Nine," while guests toured at their leisure. The music added colour to the event, as I recognized professors who bopped their heads to the music.

Behind the band was a large section filled by The Canadian Studies Society. Entitled "Images of Canada Through the Eyes of a Child," it displayed pictures of different regions of our country drawn by children.

In the centre of the room there was a large pile of books, stacked in the shape of a vase. It was created in such a way that it was hollow in the centre and the books overlapped so you could see clearly through to the academic texts. This untitled piece was created by Renato Vitic and Hollie Knoll.

Also, photographs arranged by Renato Vitic entitled "Document" covered a section of wall space. It was a collection of colour photographs of body limbs, scars, and piercings. Although my description of it may not seem all that appealing, it was intriguing. It was almost like a guessing game to figure out what the picture was of, and then read its caption.

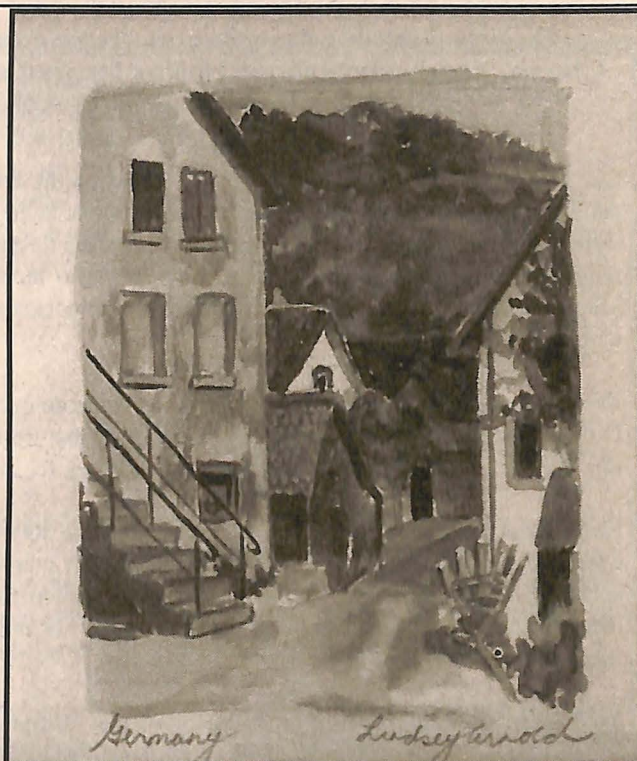
A final freestanding zentry caught my attention. It was a life-size Miss Piggy. Made by Laura Karis Allen with paper maché, Miss Piggy was trimmed in a wedding gown, complete with a veil and red shoes.



Photo By Lare Sifton
"Statue"

After viewing the pieces of art work, and strolling around for a second time, I marveled at the success of the show. I am amazed at the wonderful talent of the students, faculty and community members of the Mount. The show is open until December 14th and admission is free.

So when you need a study break, stop by the art gallery in Seton and see the show for yourself!



Watercolor By Linsay Arnold
"Germany"

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Questions? Please Contact Admissions (902) 457-6128 or Distance Learning and Continuing Education (902) 457-6511.

**Cheap, trendy shopping in Halifax for your special someone over the holidays**

By: Vivienne Mata

Don't you just love December? With Christmas on the horizon, students are busier than ever cramming for exams, while at the same time trying to finish their holiday shopping. As I prepared for this article, I realized that shopping not only takes time, but also money. I don't know about you, but Christmas is not easy on the pocketbook, especially as a student.

I've found some great places in Halifax to get some unique gifts on a budget. Not only do these stores carry funky items that would surprise any gift receiver, but they're also cheap, which is key for me at least.

Halifax has some really exceptional stores. You'll be able to shop for everyone on your list, from your best friend to your grandma. After speaking to the owners I have compiled some of the more unique gift ideas in the city. These stores are great for whatever the trend- the usual or the unusual gift.

Wildflower Clothing Inc. is a great little store just off Spring Garden, at 5553 Clyde Street. It carries some of the most fashionable jewelry in town. Andrea Waines' line of silver necklaces and bracelets have personalized messages for your friends, with inspiring quotes in a 3-D bar format like: "Keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground." Prices range from \$15- \$55, and students get a 10% discount when they show their student card.

Biscuit General Store, at 1661 Argyle Street has great gift ideas for under \$20. It carries hip candles ranging in price and size. The biggest, a 3-wick, sells for \$32 and comes in every scent you can imagine from white chocolate to cucumber melon...yummy! They also carry the trendiest cookbooks from White Cap Publishing, ranging from French cuisine to Thai cooking. Priced at \$4.95 each, these books are a steal! Another hot item featured at Biscuit is their Mini-Fondue Kit. It's a must for every kitchen at \$6.95! And let's not forget their Taschen Books, priced at \$14, these books have photographs on every topic from 20th century art to pop culture.... every coffee table needs one!

At 1545 Grafton Street, the Black Market Boutique has the coolest line of wool hats, slippers, and mittens handmade in Nepal. They come in a variety of colors and sizes. I particularly love the slippers and at \$9, they're attractive to any student shopper! Black Market's Star Mobiles, on sale now for only \$6.50, are a great idea for both your dorm room and your parents' living room. My favorite is the small star that extends into bigger stars.

These stores offer a fun alternative to your typical mall shopping experience. You can avoid those large crowds and find some great gifts while you're at it.

Happy shopping!

CD Reviews...**Nathan Wiley CD Review**

By: Lara Sifton

This much-too-mellow-for-his-age PEI native croons his sedating tunes on his breakthrough album, *Bottom Dollar*. Wiley is the recent Atlantic winner of CBC Radio's Big Break contest. With influences like Nick Lowe, Tom Waits and Louis Armstrong, Wiley's sounds have been described as "earthy, moody, sincere, honest, catchy, timeless, groove heavy and mature" -or in other words- just plain depressing. His tunes are catchy but

lack personality, much like his stage presence. Having the misfortune of seeing him open for Sarah Harmer at her final Halifax date, Wiley put on a less than impressive performance. Without even an introduction, the melancholy Wiley started up a slow set that droned on uninterrupted. The crowd was fast asleep before

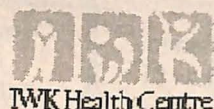


Harmer even hit the stage. If Wiley hopes to target a market of a similar age group, he needs to lose his grandpa band mates and find some youthful and significantly less corny musicians to back up his sultry tunes.

Ben Kweller CD Review

By: Lara Sifton

Ben Kweller's solo debut, *Sha Sha*, plays like a poppy-mix of acoustic home recordings, combining sounds from the likes of Ben Folds Five, Weezer and Elliott Smith. Kweller, 20, is no newcomer to the music scene. By 1996, his band Radish had already signed a major-label record deal. Radish managed to score a top 40 hit in the U.K. and a world tour before breaking up in 1999. Since the split, Kweller's successes include gigs with artists like Evan Dando, Juliana Hatfield and the Eels. Currently you can find him opening for the Strokes on their world tour. His songs don't exactly scream maturity; in fact they're pretty much one-dimensional, with the exception of "In Other Words" and "Lizzy." But if you're into a good toe tapping and head bopping album, there's no need to look any further. It's already been found.



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The program involves 7.5 class credits, two extended practica and a thesis in an area of vision research. Students are permitted to exit the program after two years (prior to completing a Master's thesis) with a Graduate Diploma in Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology.

Applications for the M.Sc (Clinical Vision Science) program beginning in September 2003 are now being accepted. Applicants must hold a four-year bachelor's degree with a minimum B average (GPA 3.0), with a least one undergraduate class in human anatomy and/or physiology, and a class in experimental psychology with a laboratory component. Exceptional students may be accepted without these prerequisites on the condition that they are fulfilled either prior to or concurrent with the program. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field is considered an asset.

Students whose native language is not English must demonstrate the ability to participate in a graduate program conducted in English prior to acceptance into the program. The minimum acceptable score on the TOEFL test is 580 for the written test and 237 for the computer test.

Financial assistance may be available to qualified students.

Deadline for applications is March 1, 2002.

Further information is available from our website www.dal.ca/cvts or by contacting
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devil's advocate

Well hello again boys and girls. Before I proceed into my usual diatribe there is an issue that must be addressed. Someone criticized me, Smug, for writing this column with an alias. As much as I encourage criticism and, for that matter as much as I gratefully accept outright profanity directed my way, this particular comment merits an explanation.

Quite frankly, the reason why the column is written anonymously is that the author is of little or no consequence. The objective of the column is to spark debate. The author need not even subscribe to the ideas defended. All that is important is that you, the reader, be enticed to think about the issue and hopefully respond. There is potential for this column to host debates on VERY controversial material. The author is a mere distraction, it is the issue at hand that is of importance.

DA is supposed to be a battlefield of greatest justifications. If you are inspired to think about the material, even if only because it irks you, the column has served its purpose. If you must direct your objections directly to the author than you've been given the pen name Smug to direct your aggressions at.

So that, in a nutshell, is why the article is

Terrorists are not

By: Smug

I don't actually have any room to put up any real debate this issue, so I'll keep the topic simple and clear and I'll just put it to the reader to deal with it.

We are perpetually baraged by this sweeping term "terrorist" today. It has become a word of no meaning, but only of weight in that it carries with it a sentiment of us and them, the good guys and the terrorists. What I put to you is that the terrorist no longer exists. It is war. So long as you are a citizen of a government involved in a violent conflict, retaliation directed at you, the public, must not carry with it an association with terrorism. These "terrorists" are the little guys. They are combatants that are ill-equipped to face their adversaries headlong. The alternative then, is to strike through their adversary's people. We have a choice, either everyone is a terrorist, or there are no terrorists, only warriors.

written with an alias. Many of you probably find this cheesy. To you I reply TOO BAD! If the only defense you can muster is to flame the author directly than you have very little of worth to say anyway!

Without further delay, let's get to the column.

Last Issue I expressed my distaste for those whiny little punks that never shut up about tuition raises. My central argument was that the state of affairs for the student living on a student loan had been blown considerably out of proportion.

Smug,

I read the article titled "Are we here to learn or to whine" in the November issue of Jargon. I don't know where to start.

Based on the author's argument, the author believes in being a silent voter, which may be likened to a pawn. Regarding the government's student loan policies and tuition prices, it appears that the author also believes in saying thank you to the bully when he gives you a band-aid after beating you up.

Furthermore, just because you're living on double the amount of money, doesn't you

have a lot of money. According to the author's calculations, \$18 000 is a lot of money. It might be a lot of money for some one living at home, with their parents, getting free food and without a car. If you want to move out of adolescence, I say set your sights a little higher.

Jonathan Hall

Dear _____,

I have just read your article in "Jargon" and have no idea where you got your statistics on student loans, but they don't correspond with any loans I've heard about, and I know people with loans from BC, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, PEI and Ontario.

I am currently a NSCAD student planning to go to teacher's college and I will explain to you how my Ontario student loan works to show you exactly how far off you are. The maximum amount of funding available is \$9000. Tuition costs \$5000, supplies cost between \$1200 and \$1500. There, even if I spend the minimum, I'm already down to \$2800. Rent for 8 months is \$3100. So, as you see, I'm already minus \$300 and I haven't even added food, electricity, phone, bus pass or the costs of going home to see my family for the holidays (about \$400)

into this.

Now when I graduate, I have 6 months before I have to begin paying my loan back and I'm being charged interest that entire time. I will be paying back my loan for about 15 years. I have never heard of the government holding off interest payments until you make more than \$2000 a month.

In order to pay for school at the moment I have a part-time job and my parents have to help me out as well. And yes, maybe it is possible to save \$2000 or more over the summer, but only if you're living at home with your parents paying your room and board for you, and not if you're working at Nova Scotia minimum wage.

I am not, as you say, suggesting that people with student loans are "victims", but I think it's obvious that students with loans have it a little tougher than those whose parents are covering the expenses. I suggest before you go trashing a large percentage of the student population, you get your facts straight. And at least have the guts to sign your name, "Smug", if you're so convinced that you know what you're talking about.

Sincerely,

Andrea Hughes



Sex: The Mound

Dear Nat:

So like, if I go to a night club to go dancing and to try and hook up with a girl for the express purpose of getting laid, and I bring condoms along in my jacket because I don't trust the cheapo ones in the vending machines at the bar, and the mission is successful and we go back to her place...Is it a turn off for her when she discovers that I brought the things along and my going home with her might possibly have nothing to do with how I feel about her or my estimation of her worth as a person because I just wanted to get laid and she was the one who was gullible enough to go home with me, or is it seen as being responsible for being "safety-conscious" and respecting her (and my) right to safe sex? This is a puzzler for me-on the one hand I want to be safe; I want an STD like I want a hole in the head; but on the other hand it looks sort of sleazy when guys carry around condoms wherever they go, you know? What's your take on the matter?

First of all, a horny guy going to a night club for the express purpose of getting laid is a little repulsive, or in other words a "turn off". But let's not forget that it's not just a guy thing, women set out to get laid too! I felt a little stumped by this question, all I could think of was "it is SLEAZY to go OUT to get LAID. Where's the passion, the friendship, the self-respect, the connection?"

So I asked my friend Doug, and he said: "It's better to have a condom and not need one, than to need one and NOT have one." Thanks Doug for your simple wisdom. Yes, Everyone has a right to safe sex, but it is a decision.

In a lustful panic, the question always arises "Do you have a condom?" It would be

somewhat disappointing if there wasn't a condom readily available in your jacket pocket. But yet, it would give room for a more profound consideration of what

sex means. Maybe a reconsideration of what sex means to you is what you need instead of a pack of condoms in your pocket.

email your questions or comments to:

themound@hotmail.com



By Kieran Gibbs



Aries- More than any of the other of the zodiac signs now is the time for you to curb your impulsive buying habits. Truthfully in the end what you buy does not matter, because Santa's little elves are planning a revolt this year and everything under a tree resembling a Christmas gift will be stolen. You can see this as a challenge to your originality Aries, a natural trait of yours. I ask you this; what else can you do that does not require buying, buying, buying? I'm sure the smouldering fire that is inherent in you is already cooking up some fresh ideas.



Taurus- Uh-oh. You're materialistic nature is about to take a harsh beating this month dear Taurus, as will those deep fears regarding the security of your possessions. You will find some of your greatest fears turning into reality, that is, one minute all the stuff is there and suddenly it has all been taken away by the elves during their so-called revolution. However, it will also be a time to show the world the great determination that lives deep inside of you. If you want to enjoy your holiday season, nothing, not even the lack of material possessions can bring you down.



Gemini- If you hadn't been out socializing so much lately you probably could have caught Santa's sneaky little "helpers" stealing those wonderful presents you had so thoughtfully acquired for your loved ones. However, what is done is done and being the jack of all trades that you are the loss of your pre-bought presents does not have to be an end in itself. Just remember to tap into your versatile self Gemini, and you will find it relatively easy to adapt to the new situation at hand.



Cancer- Although you are the master of your domestic domain, and some would argue a slave to it, you will find that the pointy eared trouble makers will find a way around you somehow and thus like everyone else, you will lose everything. You often tend to get rather emotional Cancer, but this event may push you over the edge for a short period of time. Remember that it is the tradition, and not the consumption, that appeals to you so much about the holidays.



Leo- It's just like you to see the good in every bad situation, Leo. You're optimistic nature is an inspiration to all the other whiners this holiday season. While most others become bitter towards the elves for revolting against Santa-the-tyrant, you keep your head on straight and realize the perfect opportunity this provides to have the limelight shone on you. In fact, with Santa and his pesky elves out of the picture you will revel in being the centre of attention.



Virgo- There is no reason to believe clinging on to your precious routine will be of any help to you over the holidays. The alignment of the planets, and your moon descending into Uranus, denotes uncontrollable events that will force you to let go, Virgo, for once you will have to just let go. Literally you will be forced to let go of everything the little elves wish to claim for themselves, as they have decided that no more will they provide for everyone else and get nothing back for themselves. You can take this lesson metaphorically as well; What have you been clinging on to that you just must let go of Virgo? I have suggested that now is the time to discard your smelly old routine, maybe you can take it from there.



Libra- You were certainly thinking when your natural advocacy skills came shining through and demanded a contract between you and all of the holiday meta-spirits. Luckily this has safeguarded you from being robbed silly by the Santa's elves, but unfortunately this may retard your spiritual development somewhat. You are a naturally fair minded individual Libra, so perhaps you should first take the elf's reasoning for their revolution into consideration before denying them your possessions. Just don't let your usual indecisiveness be the winner this holiday season and act on what you know to be right.



Scorpio- You're investigative skills are going to come in handy this month. Most likely it will be you who cracks the mystery of who stole everything over the holidays, and for once you can be sure that people will feel indebted to your natural tendency for being a sleuth. In order to receive this gratitude among your peers however, you're going to have to practice humbleness. This may sound like an impossible endeavour to you Scorpio, but if you manage it everything will fall into place to create a wonderfully memorable holiday season.



Sagittarius- This month is the perfect time for your inner freedom loving self to release itself. Not only is it the time where just about every religion finds a reason to celebrate, but it is also a time when schools will be closing for at least a weeks, jobs are giving their employees more time off of work than usual and this year for the first time all people will be freed of the meaningless possession that keep them locked in their invisible chains. You may be the only one of the zodiac creatures that has this understanding dear Sag. Leave it to you to be insightful enough to realize how lucky we are to be robbed blind by the little creatures.



Capricorn- Be sure to listen to your inner voice this month Capricorn. It usually tells you to hold back from making that purchase that you know you don't really need, and if you listen to it during the holiday season it will save you a lot of money. Everybody will lose everything this month Capricorn, so really what's the point stocking up on useless stuff when you're just going to lose it all anyway. Instead you will be better off this month putting your self-disciplined tendencies to work, this is what will be truly good for you this month.



Aquarius- You had befriended those nice little elves a long time ago didn't you Aquarius. You can't believe that they could be such terrible criminals as to rob all of Santa's clients can you? Or can you? Think about it Aquarius, who was it that sat for hours listening to their plight and the cruelty they suffered of Santa-the-tyrant? And who was it that borrowed the Che Guevara books from the library to give inspiration to the poor helpless elves? It was you Aquarius, and like it or not it was your humanitarian tendencies that causes the chaos to unfold in the month of December. But try not to be too hard on yourself because if you continue to do things based on your inclinations for fairness, things will work themselves out and be even better than they were before.



Pisces- The month of December will be a perfect time for you to find an outlet for creative expression dear Pisces. You thrive on chaos and disorder and that's exactly what you're going to find this month. You don't care too much about the things that the elves steal, however you have to be careful that you don't go crazy, as you have a tendency of being a little too receptive to others' emotions. This year the holiday season will be ripe for you to project a characteristic that you have long kept dormant inside you. That is, instead of being caring and loving it is about time for you to join the elves and be detached and nasty.

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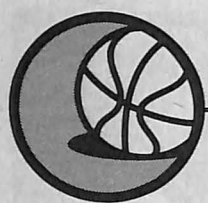
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Interview with Drew Dunphy

By: Matthew Garland

Many athletes and competitors are never given the credit they worked so hard for, simply because the sport of their choice is not of interest to the rest of the industry.

At Mount Saint Vincent a lot of hype is put on the basketball, soccer and volleyball teams. Although it is much deserved, the school and the students are forgetting to acknowledge the unsung sport at the school, the badminton team.

Recently I had a chance to catch up with Drew Dunphy, who is one of the members of the school's badminton club.

The second year English major started playing badminton when he just started Junior High School. Dunphy went with his older brother to one of his practices, this is where he had his first taste of the sport and loved it from the start.

The Millwood High School native worked hard all through Junior High and High School and as the years past Dunphy turned

into one of the games outstanding players at the High School level.

Dunphy played doubles through most of his career and it has created quite a respectable resume. In Grade 10 he was the schools rookie of the year, Grade 11 he receive the Most Improved Player award, and in Grade 12 he capped off his High School awards with the schools Most Valuable Player award. He also earned a trip to the provincials in his senior year at Millwood, where he and his partner displayed their talents, but unfortunately they were edged out by the competition.

As his performance and confidence evolved, he had the choice to either keep playing doubles or move to the singles category. When he reached the University level he decided it was time to go on his own and play singles.

Surprisingly he did not control the opposition like he did in High School. He found the performance at the University level was much harder than he had

anticipated. Dunphy summed up the University competition in one word, "hard". He feels his competitors have more time to practice and they use this time wisely. Like any sport you are going to play, you need to have dedication; if it is not there it can be assured you will be behind the others. He also feels the coaching is much better than when he was in High School, the coaches expect more of the athletes, which causes them to drive much harder to put forward a solid performance.

Although he did not dominate his opponents when he arrived at university, he still managed to keep up with them. In his first year on the team he feels he did okay, holding a respectable 2-3 record in the club's tournaments. Despite the intensity of the competitors he still manages to block out the troubles he encounters and just enjoy the game.

The club will be without one of last year's best competitors, Mark Chaisson. It's never good to lose one of your top players, but it has opened up the door for many of the players this year. The loss enables players like Drew Dunphy to get more opportunities to display his talent. This year the club

has a team of eight (four females and four males).

On top of going to school full time, working, and playing badminton, Dunphy has also found time to coach the sport he loves. He has been coaching at his former High School for about three years and is enjoying every minute of it. Dunphy decided to coach at Millwood because he wanted to stay around the game, pass down some advice to the younger kids and hopefully get more people involved in the game so it can earn more respect.

When asked what he would say to others who do not play the sport or don't look as highly upon it, Dunphy replied "play it for fun". He understands it is not going to be a career and he accepts it. Just enjoy the sport and all it has to offer is his advice to the doubters.

Maybe sports are heading in the wrong direction. Perhaps more people need to have the attitude of Drew Dunphy and simply play the game for the game and not for the fame.

The Life of A Professional Athlete

By: Matthew Garland

Growing up every kid who plays sports dreams about making it to the pros. To some it is a fantasy but to the others with exceptional abilities this dream becomes a reality. Only the most elite athletes get the opportunities to play professional sports.

Nothing in the sports industry is given out easy by any means; these young kids strive for everything they achieve. They train, study, sweat, bleed, whatever it takes to be the best, but once they do reach that next level, do their lives change?

The athlete's lives change drastically once they reach the professional level. There is a completely different world out there when you are in the public eye. Things get blown out of proportion a great deal when you become a sports superstar. You have certain quotas you have to meet, there is a certain way you should dress, act, talk, those around you monitor everything you do. Should it really be like this, do all of these athletes ask to have this role in the media?

None of the athletes ask for this role, it is

automatically given to them. Some of the players out there are magnificent role models for the kids, but there is always going to be the "Bad Boys" of the sport. Basketball has its Rodman, football has its Moss, this attitude they portray is not acceptable on the court, the field or any where in the industry. When they are in the game they have to keep their heads, they have to realize they are being watched by millions of people of different age all across the world. This should be a crucial understanding in their contracts, but the leagues fail to acknowledge it. Once they step outside of the guidelines laid out for them they should be punished. The league is well aware of the problem, but they have become so blinded by the talents of the athlete that they fail to accept there discipline problems.

What people do on the court/field should determine how the public views them, although this is quite difficult to do. What they do away from their jobs should not effect how they are viewed by society, to a certain extent. Some cases are much more severe than others, and depending on the

reasoning behind the act and the severity of the act the view of the person should not be changed. Everyone has problems and everyone makes mistakes, but if you make a mistake in the world they live in it is going to come back to haunt you for a long time.

Age is also another key component when considering the role of the athlete. Some of these kids being recruited are coming right out of High School signing multi-million dollar contracts. Players as young as 18 years are in the game, so how is one kid expected to have all this weight on their shoulders. These youngsters often do represent an excellent role model, because they are so young and talented, showing you can reach the goals ahead of the others if you try hard enough. Even though this is a good point, it should not be the responsibility of one child to guide another child.

Although the life of a celebrity/athlete in the public is sometimes hard it also has its added bonuses. Special treatment is given to the athletes and the celebrities just because they are famous, especially when it comes to law. Recently Minnesota Vikings wide-receiver Randy Moss hit a police officer with his car. The officer was direct-

ing traffic when Moss failed to obey the rules and hit the officer with his car. He drove down the road for approximately 50 feet and then stopped. Moss was charged on two measly misdemeanor charges. If this were your ordinary citizen who hit the cop, it can be assured they would have received much more than the slap on the wrist.

Just because these people are famous does not mean they have the right to be exempt from the rest of society. In judicial situations punishment should be given adequately to everyone, no matter who they are or what they do. Making millions of dollars a year is a dream many people hope comes true, so the fortunate people who are making this should not let it go to their heads and take advantage of it.

This article was not intended to imply that all athletes are bad people or that they are greedy and should be punished, because there is a great deal of people out there who accept their roles in life and do what they were meant to do. This was simply showing how the times are changing; the talent is getting better, the age of this talent is younger, money is more of a factor, famous people are getting free rides, and the games are no longer all about the fans.

"If we don't succeed, we run the risk of failure." - George W. Bush.



Happy Holidays from the societies of MSVU!

History Society

The history society would like to remind all students that we will offer help for writing history exams. Students can make an appointment by email or phone. The society wishes everyone an enjoyable Christmas

and an eventful new year.

Seton Academic Centre, Rm 552
(902) 457-6775 history.society@msvu.ca
www.msvu.ca/history/HistorySociety.htm

Canadian Studies Society

The boxes are out and the food keeps rolling in! The University food drive is well under way! We still have a ways to go to reach our goal of 2002 food items. Please bring in your donations of non-perishable food items to any society office, the library, the student information desk at Rosaria, or

any other place across campus where you see a decorated box. The food drive ends on December 12th. Tammy Milbury, the event coordinator can be contacted by phone: 457-6463 or by email: tammy.milbury@msvu.ca

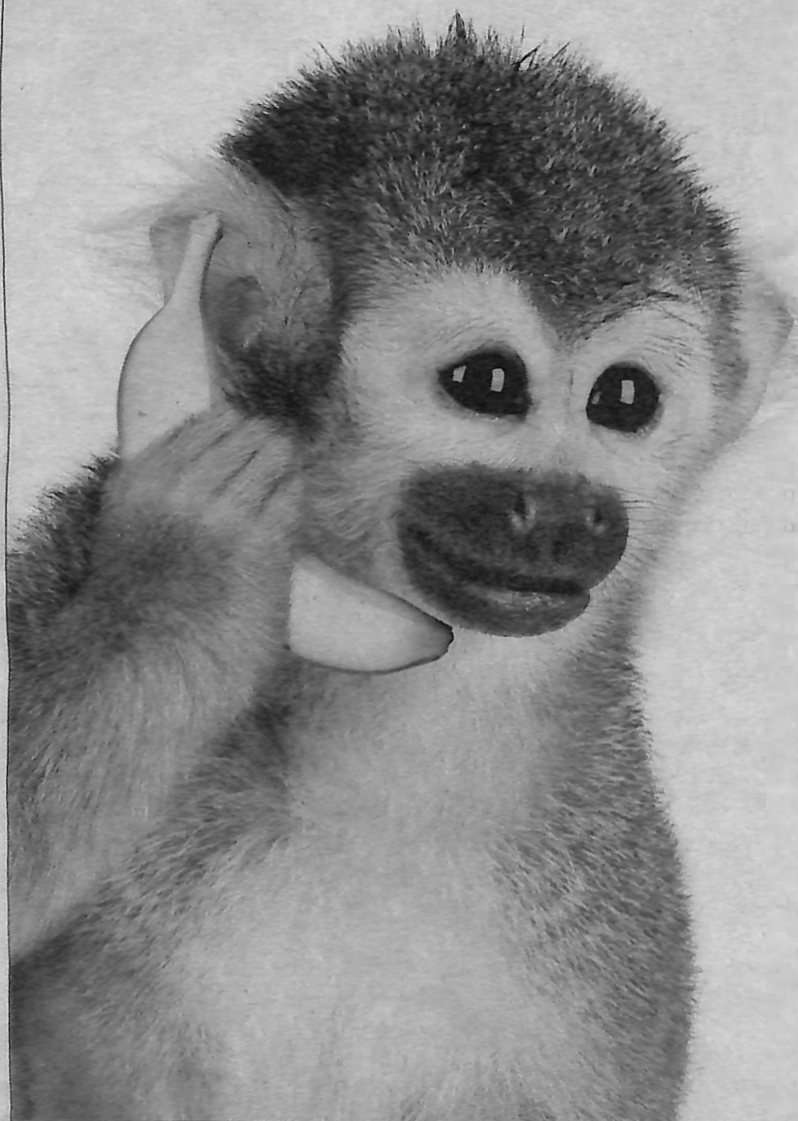
Global Village Society

The Mount Saint Vincent Global Village Society is formed for the purpose of discussing today's world issues. We give students and guests an outlet in which to express and develop opinions, thoughts and

emotions regarding the state of the global village. Meetings are held in the Crow's Nest attached to the Corner Store in the Rosaria Student Center. We are not a debating club: we join together to recognize the world and how it affects us.

For more information on the Global Village, e-mail msvuglobalvillage@hotmail.com. You will be added to our e-mail list and notified of meetings. We welcome all comments and suggestions. Discussion topics will be decided on by a group majority. Think off campus and prepare yourself for the global village.

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