## THEPICARO

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November 15th, 2000

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## HARMLESS JOKE OR POINTED JAB?

### How Offensive can YOU Be?

In sider to facilitate the process, and for the benefit of those unaccustomed to the heady delights of giving offence, we offer the following model offensive message:

#### I think the

- a) Dean;
- b) AVP;
- c) URC;
- d) UAC;
- e) entire Department of Sociology;
- f) Academic Appeals Committee
- g) Colleague X;
- h) Administrator Y,

#### should be

- a) boiled in oil;
- b) shot at dawn;
- c) have their liver cut out with a butter knife;
- d) made to write out the Mission Statement 100 times;
  - e) forced to take English 1120;
  - f) forced to teach English 1120;
  - g) Other,

### because she/he/they are

- a) corrupt;
- b) incompetent;
- c) wholly devoid of essential interpersonal skills;
- d) lacking in personal hygiene;
- e) prone to megalomania;
- f) President of the Association;
- g) terminally obese;
  - h) a cannihal;
  - i) Other.

## What's inside....

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We're nuts about Vox Populi! page 10



Another thoughtprovoking installment of Man on the Mount page 13





## STUDENTS' UNION Calendar of Events



Where's the Party at?
It's at Vinnie's Pub every night in November.

Monday: Have Fun and Play Pool

Tuesday: Tall Tin Tuesday

Wednesday: Open Mike Night

Thursday: Pub Night

Friday: Movie Day & Free Popcorn

## Where are your Students' Union funds spent? The money is spent on YOU!

Students' Union support the Corner Store, Vinnie's Pub, Fountain Play Centre, Student Info. Desk, Frosh Week, Winter Carnival, Societies, Awards Night, Senate Affairs, Academic Issues, etc.

Students' Union Student Council Meetings are held every 2nd Friday in Union Chambers.

The next meeting is Friday, November 17 at 3pm.

Come and meet your representatives.

"Students helping Students"

Volume 36 Issue 6

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## The Writing is on the wall

## Anonymously posted survey mocks Academic Appeals Committee

By Jennifer Henderson

A small piece of paper is at the centre of a big mystery on campus. A survey cut out the Faculty Association newsletter was found taped inside an elevator in Evaristus. The multiple choice sidebar featured options that could be circled to form derogatory sentences about members of the university administration. On this copy, the answers were circled to form "I believe the Academic Appeals Committee should be made to write out the mission statement 100 times because they are incompetent." The Academic Appeals Committee, a body comprised of students, faculty and the registrar, meets to hear appeals on decisions of cheating plagiarism, grade assignment and other issues affecting a student's academic standing.

Dr. Marie Riley, head of the Public Relations department, dismisses the survey as a humorous in-joke among faculty members.

"The survey is taken out of context; it was part of a satiric article. The newsletter is very much tongue in cheek. It's sarcastic and not to be taken seriously."

Others aren't so quick to dismiss the survey. Students' Union's Academic Vice President Terri Roberts serves on the Academic Appeals Committee. She links the poster with a feeling of frustration among faculty members with a perceived leniency by the committee in cases of cheating and plagiarism.

"We've had meeting with some department heads. Members of the faculty have been expressing dissatisfaction about rulings all around."

While Roberts cannot comment on the number of successful appeals made since her term in office began in May, she estimates that the committee deals with approximately twelve appeals per year. She says that decisions by the committee are not made lightly.

"There have been cases when we've sat there, going back and forth for a couple of hours until we're sure of our decision. We don't have to rule by consensus but we usually do."

Some faculty members aren't denying a growing discontent with lax attitudes among students regarding cheating. Psychology professor Dr. Steven Perrott has never appeared before the Academic Appeals Committee but he can understand how fellow professors may feel.

"There is a feeling among a number of faculty that we make too many excuses. When students are called upon academic violations there is a culture that they can just yell and have everything turned around. This isn't just true of students but of society as a whole. If you yell enough you'll get your own way. Someone else is always to blame for your mistakes."

Perrott says that there is a gap between the standards that university faculty claims to hold and what they do in practice.

"There is a perception among some faculty members that if they take a hard line on an issue they won't receive support from administration, their union, or even politicians."

While Terri Roberts is sympathetic to the faculty's concerns, she's treating this incident as an indicator that the academic appeals process needs to be improved, especially for students.

"This may mean that my position (on the committee) may have to be rewritten from an adjudicator to an advocate for students. I don't want the appeals committee to turn into a courtroom but that may be the only way to make the process fair."

Roberts believes that establishing clearer guidelines on cheating and plagiarism will benefit both faculty and students in the long run.

## Letting it all hang out

MSVU prepares to comply with Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

By Jennifer Henderson

Want to find out the results of your lab partner's student discipline hearing? How about getting the scoop on what your favorite professor earns? On November 23, The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act comes into effect at the Mount. Previously confidential information will be accessible to the public.

"Anybody can request anything. But that doesn't mean you'll get it," warns Michelle Landreville, executive assistant to President Dr. Sheila Brown.

While Landreville believes that it will be simply a "curiosity thing" for most people, The Freedom of Information Act does raise certain concerns for professors and students. The posting of grades, either alphabetically or by student number, will no longer be allowed. The university hopes to rectify this by implementing a system whereby students can check their grades online using a secure PIN number.

However, Dr. Chris Ferns, head of

the Mount's Faculty Association predicts that posted marks won't be the only troublesome situation professors will run into.

"Say I leave essays in the department secretary's office for pick up. What's to stop a student from going through the pile and looking at everyone's marks when they pick their essay up? Now professors will have to put the papers in a sealed envelope," he says.

Ferns admits that the Act will create more work for faculty but ultimately he agrees with its purpose.

"As far as faculty is concerned it creates an awful lot more bureaucracy. But if universities are public institutions than their information should be available to the public."

Should students fear that their private academic records could now become public knowledge without consent? According to Michelle Landreville, there is no need for paranoia.

"You'll always be notified of requests for information. When someone requests information concerning you, you will be sent a third party release that must be signed before the information is released. You can choose not to sign a release. The person who made the request will be notified of this. The issue could potentially be appealed as far as the Nova Scotia Supreme Court."

Landreville believes that the average student won't notice a change in university's functioning on November 23. However, she does expect the media will take notice because information on individual professors' salaries will be available. Halifax's Frank Magazine was unprepared to comment on policy issues but did indicate they would be "taking advantage" of The Freedom of Information Act and Protection of Privacy Act. The act was created in 1998 but has only recently expanded to include hospitals and universities.

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## "Sometimes your passion will take you places."

The Premier of Bermuda sits downs with The Picaro

By Jacquie May

On October 22, the Fall Convocation graduates here at MSVU were privileged to hear a convocation address by the Honorable Jennifer Smith, Premier of Bermuda, and witness her receive an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Premier Smith is well known for her outstanding work for literacy, education, the advancement of the arts in Bermuda, her status as a role model among women, and many accomplishments. Since entering politics, she has been the first female elected premier of Bermuda, the first leader of a Bermuda Progressive Labour Party Government, and the first Progressive Labour Party Minister of Education.

While visiting Nova Scotia, Premier Smith generously consented to an interview with the Picaro at her Halifax hotel. I was delighted to talk with her about women and politics, her vision for literacy in her country, as well as some of her interest and activities.

Q: Madame Premier, with such a groundbreaking political career, you must have encountered many obstacles - especially as a woman breaking into politics in the early 1970's. How did your interest in politics begin?

A: I am an artist by profession, and by gift. My concern at the time was cultural. I felt there was a lack of emphasis on the arts, and that the focus was wrongly on sports. Sports were considered the universal international across boundaries, but I saw the arts as the true universal language.

Q: In the beginning, what did you hope to accomplish?

A: When I began, there were no statues, no public art, no governmental endorsement of artists. I wanted to change that. (Although Premier Smith wouldn't take credit for all these changes, Bermuda now enjoys a National Gallery, and the government has a Department of Culture.)

O: Can you tell me about some of the obstacles you encountered along the

A: At first I was treated like a little girl; expected to make the coffee, take the minutes. I said repeatedly, "I don't make coffee." I had to approach. these things with a positive mindset.

I chose to see them as a challenge, not an obstacle. Sometimes [this situation] makes you lean too much the other way.

Q: Are they still relevant today?

A: The male expectations in business - like a dowdy, three-piece suit - I don't ascribe to any of that. You have to establish your own standards in your own time.

are writing for a newspaper - instead of, for example, being a novelist - you are writing for the general public. You become conscious of learning to write for everyone. Then, when you are writing speeches, you don't show off your vocabulary, you make your point succinctly, and use easily understood ideas. In a word, "simplicity."

The main difference between educators and myself was that I

spoke the language of the common

people. When I began meeting with

educators [as the Minister of

Education], it took two or three

they

meetings before I understood these

because

convocation address discussed the problem of illiteracy. You have received recognition for many "firsts" and your original contributions with regard to other problems and opportunities that you care about. Can you describe some of your goals surrounding literacy?

Premier,

"educationalese."

Madame

A: As the Minister of Education, I that education realized fundamental to progress. Literacy is fundamental to education. I found that Bermudans weren't getting this literacy education from an early age. Beginning in that role, I began to put an emphasis on literacy, and different teaching styles to correct this.

Q: What do you see as some of the main obstacles?

A: We began the National Literacy Initiative. It will be a country-wide literacy survey, our first benchmark ... continued on page 5

The male expectations in business - like a dowdy, three-piece suit - I don't ascribe to any of that. You have to establish your own standards in your own time.

people,

Q: Is there any woman leader in particular throughout history who has inspired you politically, and

A: My mentor was a female politician in the 60's [in Bermuda] who broke all the barriers in a men's arena. She shaped the mold for those who came after. In Bermuda, women have always played a large part in the development society. It was not that great a challenge. There is also my mother. I was brought up to think I could do anything.

Mount Saint Q: Vincent has a public relations program, and I know that you have had both public relations journalism experience. Did those occupations teach you anything in particular that has helped you in your political career?

A: In journalism you get to meet people you might not get to meet otherwise: business people, leaders - and you get an insight into what has made them successful.

Also, when you



The Honourable Jennifer Smith, premier of Bermuda

for literacy standards that we can use in lieu of anecdotal evidence.

We want to raise the profile of the initiative in the news to a number of stakeholders, such as governments, banks and schools. It is important to do a lot of publicity around the survey so that people do not feel fearful about getting involved in it.

Q: Mount Saint Vincent University has long recognized the value of bringing international students together to learn from one another. There are nearly 60 students from Bermuda attending Mount Saint Vincent University currently. What Bermudan values or ideas would you like their Canadian friends at school to learn from them?

A: What we bring is larger than us. You have to deal with your problems head-on. In larger countries you can move to another county, another city. In Bermuda, you learn early on to face up to problems. You learn early on not to burn bridges, and it makes you a different kind of person. You think, "I may deal with this person again." Your human relationships are on a humane level.

**Q:** Is there anything that you would like students from your country to bring back from Canada as young people building the future of Bermuda?

A: (Laughs) No, I just want them to come back. Come back prepared to serve in their country, fired up in their minds and imaginations.

Q: Your biography lists your many personal activities, and many of them are related to the arts. On the other hand, your professional activities seem to be very diverse, ranging from things like debate, zoology & biology, literacy & education . . . is there any common thread or philosophy that

links any of them and makes them important to you?

A: If you're an artist, you appreciate beauty whether it is natural beauty, or man-made like architecture . . . you understand balance. All that is a part of what I bring to politics . . . that sense of the aesthetic.

Q: What advice would you offer to young women interested in a political career?

Determine where you stand, where your philosophy is. I am a believer in working from the bottom up. To establish a foundation crucial to success, understand how politics works. Get involved on a grass-roots - neighborhood schools, basis government. municipal something that is important to you. For me, it was education and culture. For you, it could be environment, or families. I set out to be an artist and ended up in politics. Sometimes, your passion will take you places.

Premier Smith's passion has taken her to many awards ceremonies. She is the recipient of Outstanding Woman in Journalism (1972), Miss Peace Bermuda (1973), one of the Bermuda Jaycees Two Outstanding Young (1975), Outstanding Community Achievement Award by Richard Allen AME Church (1981), Ambitious Associates Role Model Award (1992), Black Family Productions Inaugural Black Achievement Award (1992), and a Citation for Significant Accomplishments from the late Pennsylvania State Rep. David P. Richardson (1993). Most recently, Premier Smith was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia.



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these things with a positive nundset.

## Nova Scotia considers more oil and gas exploration

By Jonathan Keen, The Gazette HALIFAX (CUP) – The organization that regulates oil and gas development off the coast of Nova Scotia is deciding whether to lease resource rights for several more parcels of ocean crust to bidding companies.

The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum board (CNSOPB) would give companies who lease offshore areas the right to develop natural gas resources.

However Shannen Gowans and Hal Whitehead – two marine biologists at Dalhousie University who have done extensive studies on bottlenose whales in two of the bidding areas called the Gully – are concerned about oil and gas development off the coast of Nova Scotia.

"The difficulty is that we don't know an awful lot about the things that are very important," said Gowans.

"Not only are there the bottlenose whales, but an incredible diversity of whales and dolphins in the Gully. I think we're up to fifteen different species Ö which is extremely high for this area."

There's no information on how oil and gas exploration and

development affect these species, she added.

"Noise is one of the big things we're concerned about because these animals are very acoustic," Gowans said. "If you put a lot of background noise can they still hear their prey?" She said previous studies on whale behavior have shown certain whales routinely veer away from oil rigs at ranges of three to 11 kilometers.

Exploration for oil and gas in the Atlantic began in the 1970s, but it is only during the 1990s that offshore natural gas resources started being exploited.

Barbara Pike, CNSOPB's environmental co-ordinator, would not comment on whether or not oil and gas bids had been made or accepted in a board meeting held on Nov. 1, but said a public statement will be released soon.

Two of the bid areas, parcels six and eight, are within 20 kilometers of what has been dubbed the Gully, the largest underwater canyon on the Scotian Shelf, part of the continental shelf lying off Nova Scotia's coast.

In 1998 the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) deemed the Gully an "Area of Interest" and a candidate to become a Marine Protected Area, restricting activities in the area. The project is still under review.

The CNSOPB has not allowed oil exploration or development in the area as of yet.

"There's no way that [CNSOPB] would ever issue a call for bids on a parcel that was within an area that has been determined to be or is being considered to be a protected area," said Pike.

Concern over parcels six and eight was raised in a CNSOPB environmental assessment.

"These parcels are near the core area of use by whales in the Gully," reads the report. "The panel reviewing the Sable Offshore Energy Project expressed concern regarding potential encroachment on the Gully by offshore oil and gas developments. It also suggested that further study of the Gully and adjacent areas should be carried out."

The report also stresses that knowledge of the Scotian Shelf ecosystem "has many gaps and detailed information is lacking in many areas, especially noncommercial species and deep water habitats."

However, Pike repeated CNSOPB's Environmental Effects

Monitoring Program report.

"The data generated from observations of marine mammals and seabirds made by trained observers provided no evidence of avoidance or attraction to the project by these [marine mammals] animals."

Both Gowans and Pike agree on one thing – there is no conclusive proof as to whether noise is a problem.

"The difficulty is in how you interpret these unknowns," said Gowans. "Do you interpret these unknowns to mean 'we may as well go ahead and do it'Ö or do you interpret it as 'we don't know when there could be a potential harmful effect, therefore we shouldn't do it until we know how we should look into it and slowly increase the level of work."

Barbara says that the CNSOPB does "as much as we can do under the legislation," when it comes to environmental assessment. Although there are no legislated regulations on rejecting proposals for seismic work and exploration drilling, "there are very firm guidelines."

"The oil companies will tell you they're really tough," she says. "Environmentalist will say 'no it's not tough enough.'"

## CFS releases election report card

By David Leibl, Central Bureau Chief, Central Bureau

WINNIPEG (CUP) – The Canadian Federation of Students, a national student lobby organization, says the two parties leading in election polls don't make the grade when it comes to post-secondary education policy. According to the organization's recent "report card" on education, the Canadian Alliance and Liberal platforms fail to adequately address the needs of students and universities.

The Liberals managed to pass with a "D." The Alliance was assigned an "F."

"We had no choice but to fail the Alliance," said the organization's national chairperson Michael Conlon. "The party says it has a new vision for a new century, but in a 23-page platform, the Alliance includes only two short paragraphs on education."

Conlon says the party has been vague and reluctant to commit to any real funding program for higher education. He says CFS members are worried an Alliance government would even siphon money away

from an already under-funded system.

"They're promising \$125 billion in tax cuts, and depending on whose numbers you believe, they've got an eight to \$15-million shortfall. They've promised not to cut health care, so that doesn't leave a lot else to cut. We're worried post-secondary education is going to be the target of their cuts," Conlon said.

Even more distressing, he says, is the Alliance's proposal to replace the Canada Student Loans Program with an income-contingent loan repayment plan (ICR). Although paying back loans relative to post-graduate earnings may sound good in theory, Conlon insists ICR programs would end up costing students more.

"This is a scheme we mobilized over 100,000 students in 1995 to defeat," he said. "It simply is a more expensive way to fund education. It's not about providing student aid, it's about a new funding mechanism that downloads all the costs to students."

ould even siphon money away

The CFS says the Liberals have little more to offer.

"The third Red Book validates everything they've done over the last three years," Conlon said. "We're really disturbed by this move to provide social policy through tax credits. It's just a bizarre way to do business."

The CFS claims tax cuts won't help lower-income families who want their children to attend college or university.

"The reality is that participation rates have slowed to a standstill among lower-income Canadians," Conlon said. "These tax credits will do absolutely nothing to address the problem of huge tuition fees, skyrocketing student debt and declining accessibility for those who need the skills the most."

The Tories fared a bit better than the Liberals, earning a "C" grade from the CFS. Conlon said Conservative leader Joe Clark seems ready to commit money for education in the Canadian Health and Social Transfer that the provinces receive from Ottawa.

"[The Conservatives] are consistent with their message to restore funding for the CHST for all programs, not just health care. That would make a real difference in the operating budgets in our colleges and universities."

The New Democrats received the highest grade from the Federation – a "B."

The CFS says the NDP "rightly links cuts in federal transfer payments to rising tuition and student debt levels" and seems ready to implement a debt-reduction strategy.

The party has also proposed a national grants program – something the CFS has long demanded.

Still, Conlon says the NDP has an unrealistic sense of the amount of money needed to rebuild postsecondary education programs in Canada.

"We only gave them a 'B' because they haven't provided enough specifics and they're a bit low on their estimates on what it would take to lower tuition fees. They talk about investing \$2.6 billion. We estimate it would take \$3.7 billion to actually address the shortfall that started in 1993."

## Alliance's first gay candidate speaks out

says Day is "changing" his attitude towards homosexuals

By David Mader and Andrea Huncar, The McGill Daily and The Link, The McGill Daily

MONTREAL (CUP) – Stockwell Day's attitude toward homosexuality is changing according to Stéphane Prud'homme, the Canadian Alliance's first gay candidate.

"In the last ten years [Day] has changed," said Prud'homme, a communications consultant who is running in the riding of Laurier-Sainte-Marie.

"He wasn't very open in Alberta, but he's changing. He wants to know and understand what I'm living."

Prud'homme's nomination has drawn considerable attention because Alliance leader Stockwell Day has in the past made comments that many have perceived to be anti-gay.

Day, a Christian fundamentalist, as a cabinet minister in Alberta was opposed to the extension of marriage and other rights to same-sex couples.

But Prud'homme is confident that both his leader and his party are ready to accept his sexual orientation.

Prud'homme said popular perception of Day as a homophobe is without base.

"It's mostly the activists...They think they represent the community. They don't. The community is more open than them," he said.

Previously, Prud'homme worried about the Canadian Alliance leader's views, but Day's track record no longer worries him.

"Day told me he is okay with my sexual orientation," said the political newcomer who will face stiff competition in his riding from Bloc Québecois leader Gilles Duceppe.

In fact, Prud'homme says that that Day's allegedly homophobic remarks have been overblown by the

Prud'homme goes as far as to argue media reports that Day has said that he would use the Notwithstanding Clause should the Supreme Court ever legalize gay marriage, are false.

Prud'homme also admits that his party still has a ways to go in terms of accepting gays and gay rights. But he believes that his role is important in expanding the minds of his peers in the party.

"I have to open the mind of the Alliance," Prud'homme said.

The nomination of an openly gay Alliance candidate has provoked mixed reactions from the homosexual community.

While some members of this community feel that Prud'homme's affiliation with anti-gay parties like the Alliance represents a betrayal, others applaud the increase of gay participation in the Canadian political process.

Yshia Wallace, social coordinator of Queer McGill, feels that having a gay person run for federal office is good, no matter what party he or she is running for.

"The more visibility that gay people have, the better," she said.

Wallace agrees that the greater gay community might be more open to right-wing political platforms than many people think. She said that because many people aren't familiar with the Alliance, the nomination of a gay man could result in a perceptionshift

"For sure it could cause reaction and reconsideration [among gays and lesbians]," she said. She also points to reaction to Day in the gay community as evidence of a reassessment.

"Day has become a bit of a gay idol, almost...because he's young, and he's a lot more good looking than Preston Manning."

Wallace warns, however, that a "beautiful face" does not mean that Alliance policy will be acceptable to gays and lesbians.

"[Day] seems to be a glossing over what lies underneath. I'm still suspicious of the party."

McGill political science professor Christopher Manfredi said Prud'homme's candidacy reflects an increasingly inclusive Canadian Alliance.

"Every political party attempts to demonstrate that it is open to every aspect of Canadian society," said Manfredi. "And the Canadian Alliance is no different."

Manfredi said Prud'homme's candidacy is significant because it shows that the gay community many not be as politically heterogeneous as some people think.

"There's more ideological divisions in the gay community than one would have otherwise thought," he said.

## Washin' away my problems

By Melissa Melanson, Editor-in-Chief

Lately, I never begrudge my roommate for leaving his dishes for me to do. I mean really, if only all life's obstacles were as easily overcome as a sink full of dirty dishes.

It's November, which for many of us means that we might as well handcuff ourselves to a computer for the next few weeks. Projects, papers, group work, midterms. Soon it will pass and we can laugh at the students whose marks depend solely on their final exam but until then what to do?

Approach it the same way you would approach a mountain of dirty dishes. Some things you can whiz through, like plates. Get those out of the way. It makes the load seem lighter when there's less to do. Sometimes we get so stressed by the sheer magnitude of the tasks on hand that we forget that individually they really aren't that bad.

Other times, you will have to handle the work with more care. When washing a knife you have be careful not to cut yourself. Recognize that sometimes you'll have to put more time in and have to be alert. You can't do a major assignment right after a pub crawl, or at least you probably can't do as well as you could if you just had 8 hours of sleep and are well hydrated.

And just as a pile of dirty dishes might make you want to sit on your couch and sulk, a seemingly

insurmountable list of tasks may lead you to run and hide. Above all you must keep in mind that every plate that you clean and every knife that you carefully wash and put aside makes the job much easier. If you pick away at it, the pile will go down and you'll be back to a clean sink again.

Life seems like a huge mess right now, but we'll all deal with it. Since coming to the university I've always lived by the same slogan, "It's not like I'm not going to do it". Because who wants to live surrounded by unfinished work, or dirty dishes for that matter.

And don't forget: even though dishes never end, Christmas is just around the corner.

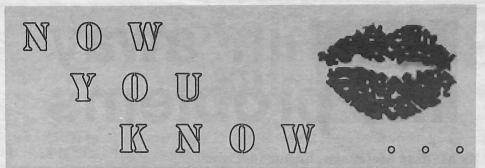
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## TOP TEN'!!!

By John Deg

Top 10 reasons why you're not reading this list:

- 10) BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T BE BOTHERED TO READ THIS PAPER ANYWAY.
- 9) BECAUSE THESE TOP 10 LISTS AREN'T FUNNY.
- 8) THE MOUNT DIDN'T TAUGHT STUDENTS HOW TO READ.
- 7) YOU WERE WATCHING THE DONKEY BASKETBALL GAME.
- 6) BECAUSE THE GOOD PARTS WERE CUT OUT.
- 5) YOU'RE CHECKING OUT THE MAN ON THE MOUNT.
- 4) BECAUSE IT DOESN'T HAVE PICTURES.
- 3) WHAT TOP 10 LIST?
- 2) BECAUSE .... GENSORED!
- 1) WE WERE UNABLE TO MAKE A FINAL DECISION AS WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED A FINAL VOTE COUNT FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA.



#### HOW YOU TOO CAN HAVE YOUR OWN SKILLFULLY CRAFTED AND WIDELY READ COLUMN

#### By Jennifer Henderson, News Editor

I am continually approached by people who ask questions about my job in the fascinating world of column writing. Okay, so the people don't ask questions about my job as often as they tell me how much better they would be at it than I am. If you can answer yes to majority of the following questions you too may have future as a highly stressed, short tempered columnist.

1. Can you take intimate details of your life and the lives of your friends and family and guiltlessly package them as amusing anecdotes?

If you have any sense of personal shame and/or modesty, column writing is probably not for you.

2. Do like to cruelly laugh at complete strangers and mock their many embarrassing flaws?

It counts if you do this behind their back, but you get bonus points if you do it to their face.

3. Can you write on a cocktail napkin?

It doesn't matter if you drink cocktails, ( or even know what qualifies as a cocktail) writing on napkins is a proud part of the columnist tradition. It's even more impressive if you can do this while in a moving vehicle.... pursued by angry readers.

- 4. Do you love to complain? No, I mean really \*love\* to complain?
- 5. Have you ever been referred to as a "curmudgeon?"

Once I was told I had the personality of a cranky old man. Close enough.

6. Do you have problem with offending people?

To be a truly successful columnist you must have a talent for stepping on people's toes, trashing their viewpoints and alienating authority figures.

7. Are you a raving egomaniac?

As Martha Stewart would say, "it's a good thing"... at least in an aspiring columnist. Just leave the holier than thou attitude at the keyboard. It will keep you from getting beaten up and having your lunch money stolen.

8. Do you know what a deadline is? Can you ignore it?

Columns demand to be written hours, even days after deadline, usually late at night with only a staticky radio station and stale ginger snaps for comfort. Get used to it.

9. Are you opinionated?

If not, you can always fake it by borrowing the opinions of some dead philosopher (Socrates is always popular) and passing them off as your own.

10. Do you respect authority?

Trick question! Authority is bad, if you don't know this then you have absolutely no business dreaming of life as the next Dan Savage.

Now you know.

## Brad's Rants:

### Is It Time To Clean Up Our Act?

#### By Bradley J. MacKinnon, Production Manager

When is the last time you have taken a good hard look at the Link? Well, maybe the last time I wrote about it. Probably not in the last little bit, but you know what? Maybe you should, but maybe you should take two good looks -- one, first thing in the morning at about 8 am or so. I know the thought of being at school that early makes some of you sick to your stomach I will tell you what you would see: a perfectly spotless Link that looks like your house after Spring cleaning. It's a credit to our cleaning staff especially if you have ever seen the link after 6 pm.

Which leads me to the second look I have mentioned. If you have ever been inside the link at the end of the day, you would be in for a very unpleasant surprise. It looks like a hurricane went straight down the middle of the Link. Since no such natural disaster can be blamed for this mess, it lies squarely on our shoulders, and when I say our shoulders I mean all of us. All the students that attend Mount Saint Vincent University, at one time or another, use the Link as a place to meet with friends or just hang out. That is great, because there was a time when the Mount did not have a Link and there were only the halls to sit in. With this privilege comes a responsibility for everyone to keep it clean.

I'm not saying that you have to get down on your hands and knees and scrub the flour, but you should be able to clean up after yourselves. This is not a hard concept and if you could get out of high school and into an institution for higher learning like the Mount then this should be easy. When you are done eating in the Link put the wrappers and left-overs in the trash. It is as simple as that. The cleaning staff should not have to act like your maids and clean up the messes you make. In other words, would you like the cleaning staff to come to your home and make a mess, leaving it for you to clean? No. You would be angry and that's how some of the clean staff is feeling. The thing is, if we can't change, the cleaning staff is going to use this frustration to make changes.

From what I have heard, from more than one source, is if we don't shape up it will be time for the food and beverages to be shipped out. The plan is that if things don't change the cleaning staff is going to bring the Dean down to the Link one day around 5 pm and show her what they have to deal with on a daily basis. Trust me if the Dean sees the mess that I saw (on two non consecutive occasions) she will take away the right for us to bring food into the Link. Now think how much of a drag that would be, if every morning when you get a coffee you have to sit in the Sac and drink it before you can go to the Link, or at lunch if you have to go to another place to consume you meal. Sure, it may sound stupid but it could happen if we do not grow up and clean up after ourselves ( a simple concept that most animals have mastered).

I'm not trying to preach to you. I'll be the first to admit that I have been as bad as the next person and have left my can of pop or whatever you on the table in the link. But that has to change, we all have to do better, they say old habits die hard, well this one has to die fast. It's time for we the students to clean up our acts and start

acting our ages.

I'm not going to pussy foot around the issue -- clean up your garbage. If not, I won't be the only one pissed off. If you see someone not cleaning up after themselves, tell them because if you like me you don't want to lose the right to eat in the Link. If not, you know the consequence. We don't eat in the Link any more. Is it a bluff? I don't know ,but are you willing to take that chance? I'M NOT!

I'm Bradley J. MacKinnon and that's what I have to say!

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## Taking the whip out of the closet

By Lisa Caines, Ontarion (CUP)

GUELPH (CUP) – It's considered a taboo topic amongst many, but everyone probably has one. That guy with the sideburns in your psych lecture has one, and that woman in the red sweater in the corner of the coffee shop has one too. Chances are you have one too.

"Everyone has a fetish," says George Giaoris, of Northbound Leather, a store in Toronto selling dominatrix and other kinky accessories.

Although common fetishes include leather, vinyl, latex or rubber clothing, and even high-heeled footwear or boots, they are often as individual as the person and can include anything from Medieval corsets to hairdryers.

"A fetish, in a sexual context, is basically something that arouses like nothing else," says Giaoris. He says it is something that will arouse every time. Fetishes are usually discovered during puberty or early sexual encounters, and a person will gradually learn to associate a certain object with sexual arousal.

Giaoris says that fetishes are largely about challenging the status quo. "Anything that is considered taboo seems to have an attraction because whenever you tell somebody 'Don't go there,' they stand up and say 'Why not? Why can't I go there?' You're always drawn to what you're told you can't have."

But fetishes are more than kinky playtime in the bedroom. "It's a way that you deal with and conquer your fears," says Giaoris, who points out that it's not uncommon for gays or Jewish people to have a Nazi fetish, or for people of colour to enact scenes of slavery. "It's all about exploring aspects of the psyche that generally remain untouched." He says the reasoning has nothing to do with the politics, but more about dealing with the emotional issues of a power suit.

Because fetishism will often involve doing sexual scenes that may be considered taboo or frightening to outsiders, catchwords are often used and adhered to. Giaoris says over the last ten years, the catchwords that have developed are "safe, sane, and consensual."

Safe sex practices are always used, including the use of condoms, latex gloves, and water-based lubricants. 'Sane' means that no drugs or alcohol are used – everyone is in full control of their facilities. And 'consensual,' means that nothing is entered into without being fully agreed to in advance. "If you have a scene that you're entering into, it might involve verbal abuse and heavy humiliation, yet it may shock an onlooker to be getting berated and humiliated, yet that's what that person requires to get off, and it was

discussed beforehand."

Giaoris says that participants often gauge consent by using 'safe words', which are usually the colours of the traffic light. Green means your partner likes what you're doing and wants you to do more of it. Yellow means your partner likes what you're doing but wants you to slow down. And red means your partner wants you to stop immediately, and shift into what Giaoris calls "nurture mode."

Although Giaoris believes that fetishes should be explored and celebrated, Keith Dobson, director of the clinical psychology department at the University of Calgary, recognizes that the psychology community does not feel the same way. "There actually is a mental disorder called fetishism," says Dobson. "Fetishes are in a group of disorders that we call 'paraphelias,' meaning a person has an unusual sexual excitement or sexual attraction to various stimuli."

He says that there is actually treatment for people with fetishism, however it is often unsuccessful because there isn't a lot of motivation to be 'cured.' "In its extreme form it certainly can be problematic. Certainly from a civil rights perspective, if a fetish involves things like sadism, for example, then that has other implications," Dobson says. "But unless [the fetish] is causing concern, why bother [treating it]?"

A recent fetish fashion celebration at The Docks, a popular nightclub in Toronto, shows that fetishism is a culture that is definitely growing in popularity. Giaoris was one of the main organizers of the show, which was the largest fetish party of its kind to hit the Canadian circuit. It packed approximately 2,800 people from all over the world including Amsterdam, Sydney and London.

"People have a predisposition to a certain kind of esthetic of behavior. They go to the larger fetish parties that are open to the public, sometimes looking for a like-minded individual to play with, or to form a relationship with."

Giaoris says a wide variety of people are involved in fetishism, varying in cultural background and ranging in age from those in their teen years to those in their 90s. However, he says it seems that those engaging in fetishes are predominantly university-educated, and he suspects this is because people with a university education are often more open-minded.

Open-minded or not, fetishism and fetish parties have come a long way over the past few decades. What once used to be a taboo topic is slowly being accepted. As Giaoris says, "It's fashionable to be kinky."

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## Horoscopes: We've Got That Lovin' Feeling

By "The Swami"

Scorpio: 10/24 to 11/22

I hate to tell you but your world is about to be turned upside down. A person very close to you will tell you something that will change your life; they have feelings for you. Now the ball is in your court, you have to make a choice. How do you feel about that person? If you feel the same way don't let them sit unsettled too long but if not, try and be kind and let him or her down easily.

Sagittarius: 11/23 to 12/21

Good news is in the air for you. The dark cloud that has been keeping the sun from rising in your world will soon go away and you will be back on the right track. For this time you have spent in this dark the fates will bring you an extra crumb of good luck.

Capricorn: 12/22 to 1/19

I can only wish that the news I had for you was as good as the others has been. It turns out that you are in for a downward spiral. Someone close to you will betray your trust. The secret you trusted them with is soon to become public knowledge. The only thing you can do is start damage control now.

Aquarius: 1/20 to 2/18

On the upside you have some good news in you future. All that effort that you have been putting into you school work is about to pay off as you're about to get word that you marks are improving. So keep it up. There's only one month left until you can rest.

Pisces: 02/19 to 03/20

Did you have a good time a few weeks ago? Maybe had one too many to drink and got carried away? Well that member of the opposite sex felt exactly the same way. They had as much fun as you had so no harm done, right? Wrong! You might want to clear up those leftover feeling that they have for you. Fast, before it begins to ruin you reputation.

Aries: 03/21 to 04/19

It's time for you to stop punishing yourself. Forget your past and look to the future. The time for mourning is over and it is time to move on with your life. Those you have hurt have forgiven you. Forgive yourself and begin to live again.

Taurus: 04/20 to 05/21

It's time for you to buy a lottery ticket because you are in for a hot streak. First, you will find out that you have more money that you thought you had. Secondly, you will have luck in the world of love and trust me you need it. Don't screw it up. You're luck but not lucky enough to get two chances.

Gemini: 5/22 to 6/21

Well, the only thing I can say to you is never give up. Just because you thought that special someone has not shown you enough interest doesn't mean you should just write them off. They will surprise you and fan the flame of love.

Cancer: 6/22 to 7/23

It's time to come clean. You've have been busted. That special someone in your life has been giving you the cold shoulder for a reason. They have found out about your cheating ways. Your best bet is to come clean and try to save what is left of your relationship.

Leo: 7/24 to 8/23

Well, here's a switch! I see nothing really exciting for you future. It seems that for the most part your life will stay the same - boring. But at least you don't have problems with you love life.

Virgo 8/24 to 9/23

Be careful. All those close calls you have been having over the last few weeks are about to turn into one big fall. The best thing I can tell you is cut back on the risks and you should be fine. If not, start wearing safety gear.

Libra: 9/23 to 10/23

And last and certainly not least, it's you. Well I have good news for you, that person in your life is finally going to give you what you want. They have a happy surprise for you. When they spring it on you, it will make your day. Try to act amazed.

"Turn

Myself

invisible

and stalk

some cute

guy"

"Go

to the

Ventilation

System"

ed Girls That's My



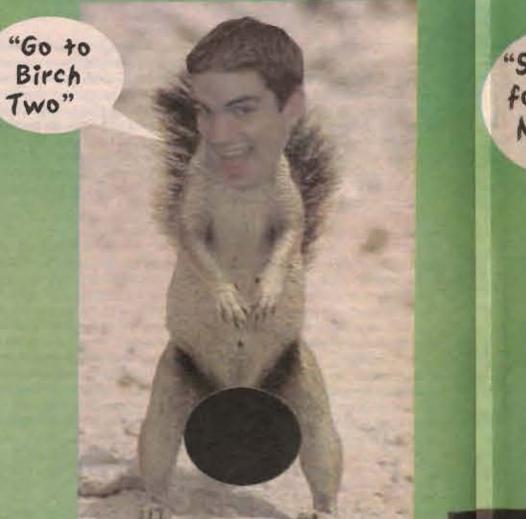
Christine Fryer

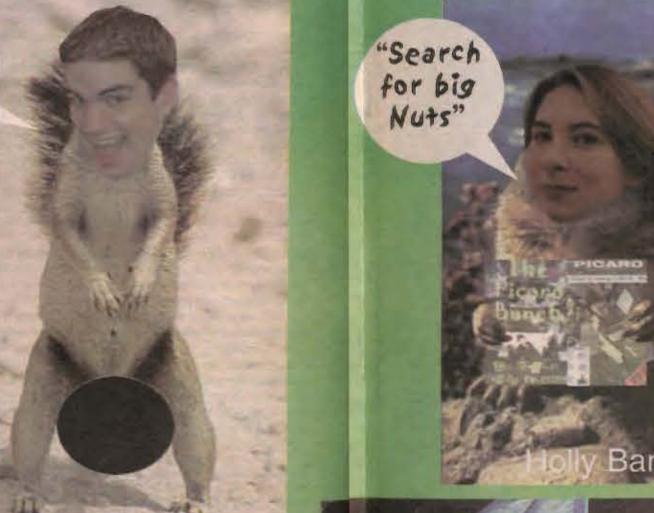
Matt E

"sit on the Big Metal Finger"

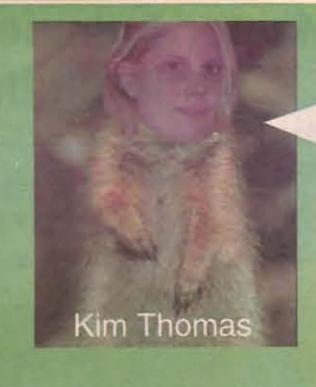
Vox Populi

If you were a magic Squirrel, what would you do on campus?









"Hide in the Pub"

"Go to the biggest tree"

"Go to the Freda Wales Trail"

Betty Ann



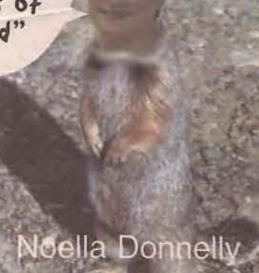
Natasha Wilson

"Tunnel a hole from the bottom of the hill to the top"

"Go to the Tops of Branches for the Best Nuts"



"Hang Outside the Cafeteria in Hopes of Food"





"Hide in a Tree"

Melissa McRae

Note: No Squirrels Were Hurt in the Making of this Vox Populi

## McMaster & James, ELEVEN THIRTY Rock the Palace

By Jasmine Marshall

The New Palace was packed last Thursday night as people came out in droves to watch the return performance of Winnipeg-born band, McMaster & James. The duo, who delighted fans last

summer, were a hit with the crowd yet again. They performed songs from their self-titled debut album, as well as a couple of covers of some old favorites.

The group wasted no time in getting the crowd pumped up as they started the show off with their hits "Love Wins Every Time" and "Doin' My Thing". Moving quickly through their set, they broke into a number of tracks from their current release showcased some new songs from their upcoming CD for fan approval. After wowing the masses with their versions of 'classic' tunes from artists such as the Jackson 5, Montell Jordan and Bob Marley, the group wound up the show with an appropriate hit; the crowdpleasing "Thank You". Displaying not only their talented voices, Rob James sat out a few songs to demonstrate his proficiency with the keyboard and Luke McMaster was rarely ever seen without one of his guitars in hand. With their boundless energy harmonious voices, the guys easily won over the crowd, and a few of the ladies' hearts.

Opening for the band was another duo; twins Toni and Trish, who are otherwise known as one of Canada's newest pop groups ELEVEN THIRTY (11:30). The sisters burst onto the stage with their dancers and quickly got the crowd moving with some of their up tempo, Latin flavored songs from their debut album.

But it was their final song, their hit "Ole Ole", that really brought the house down and according to Trish, it demonstrates why the girls love performing live. "Watching the crowd react is the best! It's fun to see people enjoying your music, that's

the big reward!"

Another big reward for the young duo from Montreal, was the chance to open for McMaster & James. "We saw them on

MuchMusic, and being big fans of Canadian artists, we thought they were great!" Explains Trish. "Knowing they (McMaster & James) were going to be stars, we

said that if we ever got the chance to perform with them, we'd know we made it!"



an Aliant company

## Man on the Mount

#### The Mount's Most Wanted

Name: Timothy Jet Martin

Age: 19

Date of Birth: April 29th, 1981

Height: 5"11"
Weight: 170 lbs

Home Town: Norwich, Norfolk. England.

**Currently Resides in: Bedford** 

Degree: Tourism

Favorite Movie: The Matrix Favorite food: Sausages

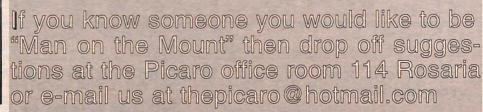
Favorite song: Country Grammar Favorite random numbers: 835-6905

Likes: Mountain Biking, Rick's fine foods, David Letterman, e-bay, Snowboarding, Riding the bus. Dislikes: Accounting, Stockwell Day, Shaving, music

declaring "I can't stop the bum rush".

Greatest achievement: Causing a worldwide musical

mystery phenomenon, by letting the dogs out.





## CD Review: three "pics" from a chick

By Nicola Hanson

Cherry Lifesaver Carol Richie Independent

Bite My Cherry Lifesaver!

I always feel compelled to make comparisons when listening to an artist for the first time. I try not to do it, but invariably it happens. Carol Richie has such a familiar voice. This may be because her voice has elements of many other singers who I enjoy.

This British Columbia native joined our fair city a few years ago. and Since then, she has become a popular fixture in many musical venuses; she has even played here at Vinnies once or twice. From what I am told, she has an incredible stage presence and her live shows are a must see!

This is a commendable effort for her debut full-length CD. There are definitely some Nova Scotian influences in her songs. The bluesy 'Carry Me Back' struck me on my first listen. This, along with other songs like Cherry Lifesaver, Monday Morning Man and Good Girl really show off Richie's talents as a songwriter and a lyricist. Richie is on the scene for a long time, keep your eye out for her!

Real Emotional Girl Patricia
O' Callaghan
EMI Music
Canada

Soprano meets Rock meets Cabaret

From small-town Canada, this is Patricia O'Callaghan! I don't remember ever hearing a classically trained singer singing pop songs in a cabaret style. Amazing! Real Emotional Girl begins with "Hallelujah," a song by one of Canada's cultural icons, Leonard Cohen From there she moves into

Pearl Jam's Better Man. Are you intrigued yet? You should be! O'Callaghan covers other songs by Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, Kurt Weill and Randy Newman. The songs, en français, are reminiscent of Edith Piaf; (there I go comparing). O'Callaghan is inspired by many kinds of music. She is not locked into a specific genre. Throughout high school she sang in rock bands as her training developed. During her time at the University of Toronto, O'Callaghan continually found herself drawn to local night-spots and was torn between her desire to sing classical music and rock. "I never felt entirely at home in either world." She says. "What I look for is simply a wonderful song."

Blair Witch 2: Book of Shadows Various Artists EMI Music Canada



Marilyn Manson...Rob Zombie...Elastica...Nickelback ...Need I Say More?

What have you heard about this movie? Yeah, same as me! The hype is not nearly as hyped, the talk is not about the movie. It could be about the soundtrack.

Godhead, P.O.D., Rob Zombie, Marilyn Manson, and Elastica are just a few reasons to pick up this CD. Goodbye Lament, a song from Black Sabbath's Tony Iommi's new CD features Foo Fighters' Dave Grohl is amazing. The CD, unlike the movie, is not a disappointment!

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enjoying your music, 'net's

## Simplicity is not the soul of "Wit"

By Victoria Keirstead

I last visited Neptune Theatre ten years ago on an elementary school trip. To say the least, it's been a while. As I walked towards the theatre I recalled my elementary vision of Neptune and the plays of mystery and magic only to be hit with reality.

I was about to see a story of a woman's struggle with inoperable cancer. Vivian Bearing, played by Nicola Lipman, is an intimidating character. She is a literature professor who specializes in the 17th century sonnets of John Donne. Bearing lacks family and

friends, making for few characters, and little interaction with others. As she waits in the hospital she recalls and recites John Donne's never- ending sonnets about death. If you don't know who John Donne is you're missing half the play. I personally had no idea who he was and found her constant reference to him annoying.

Throughout the play one can only feel sorry for Vivian; she is alone and dying of cancer. She is constantly debating whether or not interaction with others is more important then her professional life. Unfortunately, she dies before she can put her new look on life as a compassionate person into

According to the playwright, Margaret Edson, the play is not about cancer, "it is about kindness, but shows annoyance. It's about compassion, but shows insensitivity."

The cast of "Wit" is full of Maritime favorites such as Live at Five's Nancy Regan and Jamie Bradley of Street Cents. Playing at least three different roles throughout the performance the hard work and integrity of the cast

showed through. Geared for the baby boomer generation, this play through momentum builds laughter and tears. But it manages to lose it all in a terrible ending of chaos and confusion. misunderstand, this winner of the 1999 Pulitzer Prize was very well written play and it had a very strong message. However, the true essence of the production is lost in vocabulary and concepts that are not simply understood by the average audience member.

## **MSVU World of Sports**

By Beth Whyte

### Woman's basketball off to a good start

The Women's basketball team got off to a good start at their tip off tournament held on the weekend of November third. This gave all the teams a good chance to see what the oppositions were going to be like.

"I was pleased with the weekend because we saw everyone in the league. It confirmed the hopes that we were strong", says coach Angie MacLeod, of the Mystics effort over the weekend.

"They played good defense, although their offence needs a little work. They also thought they were going to have a problem with NSAC, that they would be the team to beat, but it turned out they only lost to them by three points."

As for the rest of the teams, MacLeod was very impressed with what she saw. Most of them played at about the same level as our girls, which will be good if they keep improving. I think MacLeold speaks for the whole team when she says:

"I looked at the other teams and thought: We can play with these guys"

The next game for the girls will be November 25 at 6:00pm against STU.

### Soccer team loses out third year in a row

Even though it looked promising for the women's soccer team this year, they lost their third title in a row because of a penalty shot. The team played very well despite being nervous and having many lost chances in overtime.

"You can stand strong the whole time, but if you can't get the ball over the goal you can't win", says Angie MacLeod, coach of the soccer team, "They just couldn't get the ball in, although there were some good shots that almost made it. What happened was cruel because we were the best team on the field. We dominated the game."

This was very hard on the girls, especially the fourth years who have seen this happen the last two years and will not be returning next year. However, they are planning on having a senior recognition game on the fifteenth of November which might bring their spirits up a bit. The game will be held here and the Mount will be playing NSAC.

As for the off season, our Mystics will be training once a week over the winter to keep their strength and techniques up.

#### What's up with the Moose?

There may be hope for our Mooseheads yet. They finally managed to pull off a home game win over the Rimouski Oceanic, skating away with a 4-2 victory in the end

This proved to be the first win for Halifax on their own ice, a win that they pulled off in front of 5,954 fans. It was obvious that they really wanted this one because they managed to get an early lead with the help of the spectacular effort by Giulio Scandella. The rookie centre split through the Rimouski defense at 2:04 to put a shot into the top corner right past Eric Salvail. This put Halifax into good spirits for a few minutes, but the Oceanic stole the spotlight when Benoit Martin and Jonathan Beaulieu scored in the middle of the first period.

At this time head coach Shawn MacKenzie decided to call a time out and give his team a little pep talk, hoping to bring their spirits back up. This proved to be successful as they managed to score another goal 38 seconds before the period ended.

The Moose went through the second period without anything happening, but 9:05 minutes into the third Halifax got another break with two more goals to end the game. This was a rewarding game for the Mooseheads, one they have been waiting for since the first opener more than six weeks ago.

#### Sports Outside the Mount

The Boston Bruins said goodbye to their general manager of 28 years. On Wednesday, just one week after coach Pat Burns was fired, Harry Sinden stepped down from his role.

Sinden plans to remain president of the team and will be involved in daily operations, a job he has been doing since 1961 as both a player and a coach. The Bruins have earned ten division championships, five conference titles and went through twenty-six winning seasons.

Mike O'Connell, Sinden's assistant from the past six years, will be replacing him.

In baseball, Todd Helton of the Colorado Rockies was voted Associated Press Major League Player of the Year on November 2. The 21 year-old first baseman received 21 of the 106 votes cast nationwide by writers and broadcasters.

In second place was Oakland first baseman Jason Giambi with fifteen votes followed by San Francisco outfielder Barry Bonds, Boston pitcher Pedro Martinez and Seattle Shortstop Alex Rodriguez, all with twelve votes. Carlos Delgado of the Toronto Blue Jays came in sixth with ten votes.

GARTOOMS

PARICK BURGONASTER



## That Zany Simon



## Tales From The SmackDown Hotel

By "The Game" Steve Ryan and "Your Olympic Hero" Dave White

#### **WWF Buying WCW**

This is the hottest rumour in the wrestling world today, and we have reasons to believe it will happen. The WWF and Vince McMahon have the inside track on the purchase with Mandelay Sports also interested. If Mandelay gets in on the action Eric Bischoff, a former WCW official, will also be involved. This means Mandelay and Bischoff, along with Hulk Hogan, will end up on the FOX network with money crazy Rupert Murdoch. One problem may be the anti-trust laws that the WWF is sorting out with lawyers. These laws are to ensure a monopoly does not take place, but with WCW's financial problems and need for a sale, these laws may be put aside if both parties agree.

#### New DX?

With the reforming of the Radicals in the last few weeks, there is a strong possibility that we will see a new form of DX. If you look at the events of the last while you will see

that every member of the Radicals has a beef with a current wrestler who could be DX material. Eddie Guererro has feuded with both Billy Gunn and Chyna, and had a run in against Triple H. Chris Benoit and Triple H had a ferocious feud and Dean Malenko has been an enemy of Road Dogg. That leaves Perry Saturn unless WWF waits for the WCW buyout and takes wrestlers from that. You could see someone like Al Snow or maybe even Chris Jericho enter the group. One thing is for sure, you will not see anymore of X-pac.

#### Where is The Big Show?

The last we saw of Big Show he was acting like other wrestlers and doing a great job of it. These days he is in Ohio, in a developmental organization trying to lose weight and get more focused on wrestling. His weight is down a bit and he is sporting a new look, with his head shaved. He is eyeing a return to the WWF for Royal Rumble in January 2001.

#### Real Name

The WWF's Undertaker is really Mark Calloway. He used his real name in WCW in the late eighties, but Mean Mark Calloway just didn't cut it in the WWF.

#### Picaro Wrestling Fantasy Tournament

Today we start our 32 man tournament of legends. We will start with the first eight matches this week and the next eight in two weeks time. Winners will be determined on your vote. Please vote by emailing us at talefronthesmackdownhotel@hotmail.com (all one word). We need your support to keep the wrestling spirit alive.

Rock VS Billy Kidman

Sting VS Big Show

Jeff Jarret VS Steve Blackman

**Undertaker VS Lance Storm** 

Kurt Angle VS General Rection

Scott Steiner VS Billy Gunn

Goldberg VS Val Venis

Kane VS Kevin Nash

Check next week to see the winners.

Vote for me or I'll lay the smack down!





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### Women's Volleyball

### Game Results

Nov. 4 U. Ste. Anne def. King's College

Nov. 4 U. St. Thomas def. UNB-Saint John

Nov. 4 U. Ste. Anne def. King's College

3 - 0 Scores: 25-20, 25-17, 25-14.

3 - 0 Scores: 25-13, 25-17, 25-9.

3 - 0 Scores: 25-16, 25-17, 25-20.

Teams	MP	MW	ML	GW	GL	Points
U. Ste. Anne	2	2	0	6	0	4
St. Thomas	1	1	0	3	0	2
MSVU	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSAC	0	0	0	0	0	0
UNBSJ	1	0	1	0	3	0
MSVU NSAC UNBSJ King's	2	0	2	0	6	0

### **Up COMING GAMES:**

Date **Date** Fri. Nov. 10 Mount Saint Vincent U. @ King's College TBA Sat. Nov. 11 UNB-Saint John @ Ste. Anne 6:30 pm N.S. Agricultural College @ St. Thomas U. 7:00 pm

Sun. Nov. 12 UNB-Saint John @ Ste. Anne N.S. Agricultural College @ St. Thomas U. 11:00 am

### INFORMATION SESSION

## Interested in Teaching as a Career?

Join us for an Information Session on Bachelor of Education programs -Elementary and Secondary

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Tuesday, November 28, 2000 University of King's College Arts & Administration Building - Bottom Floor The Screening Room

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm Saturday, December 2, 2000 Terry Symonds Auditorium, North Branch Library 2285 Gottingen Street, Halifax

For details contact: Department of Education

Tel: 902 457-6178 Fax: 902 457-4911



Excellence · Innovation · Discovery

## BOOK SALE "A Buck a Book"

Monday Nov. 20 to Sunday Nov. 26 Mount Saint Vincent University Library

Call 457-6250 for information.

## Working and Studying Abroad

By Laura Hepditch

For many students, working and studying abroad offers the promise of an exciting adventure: meeting new people, experiencing new cultures and customs, the possibility of learning a new language. These are all excellent reasons because they are pro-active, rather than reactive.

Students must be practical in their expectations of what life will be like while living in another country. If your motive for applying to overseas universities or looking for international work opportunities is because you believe life in that country will be romantic, you likely will be disappointed. No matter where you live, you'll have to deal with the same everyday chores as we do in Canada.

There will always have to be cultural adaptation, getting used to a new schedule, and learning how to meet and interact with new people. The things which you depend on in Canada, such as a daily bowl of Corn Flakes, may not be available in the

Australian Outback. Flexibility is a must. It is important to start your quest for overseas opportunities with an acceptance of the challenges that you will face.

There are several steps students can follow when beginning an overseas information search:

1) Decide on the length of time you would like to live abroad

2) Choose a target country; learn about its culture as well as its employment opportunities or postsecondary institutions

3) Look at government and privately funded programs to help with contacts and expenses

4) Apply for jobs or admittance to a program of studies

5) Obtain work or study visas, transportation, living and banking arrangements, insurance, and all the little things no one thinks about. (There are several great resources

which can help with each of these

steps listed in the Check It Out! section of this article.)

Once all of the housekeeping has been taken care of, you can focus on making plans to travel and explore while overseas. Whether it's checking out the club scene in London, visiting ancient ruins in Rome or visiting the world's largest outdoor Buddha statue in Hong Kong. The only limits on this part of your adventure are within your imagination.

The Career Placement Centre can help you in your search for international opportunities. Make an appointment to see Jill or Kim, our Career Counselors, at Evaristus 218.

#### Check It Out!

The Canadian Guide to Working and Living Overseas}, by Jean-Marc Hachey

What Next? A Job Search Guide for Teachers], by Alan Travers & J. Daniel Lalonde

The Student Traveler, the Canadian

Federation of Students - Services
Transworld Education Empire
Publishing

Study Abroad 1999, Peterson Guides Inc.

Web sites for Study Abroad University of Prince Edward Island Centre for International Education: www.upei.ca

www.student-world.co.uk/main.htm www.studyabroadlinks.com/

International Employment
National Information Services and
Systems, UK:

www.niss.ac.uk/noticeboard/index.
html#jobs

www.careertips.com/ www.monster.co.uk

Transportation, Accommodation, etc www.hostellingintl.ca www.raileurope.com www.travelcuts.com



By Theresa Keddy

Students now have an opportunity to give their opinion about employment trends and issues that affect them and to have a chance to win great prizes, including \$1,000 cash prizes! The Canadian Association for Career Educators and Employers is conducting a study called Graduate View 2000 in order to obtain feedback on these issues from students in business and computer science.

Graduate View 2000 will examine attitudes, demographic make-up, perceptions of industries and companies, media habits, and much more. Students who will be graduating in 2000, 2001, or 2002 with either a bachelor's or master's degree in computer science or business can participate in the study.

As many of you are probably aware, there is no guarantee that after you graduate you will get your dream job, or even one that is in your field of study. Although Canada's unemployment rate dropped back down to 6.8 per cent in September, students still find it difficult to land a job.

Cut-backs and restructuring also pose a threat to career security. Take for instance, our health care system and the many health professionals that are losing their jobs. Currently, the Colchester Regional Hospital in Truro, N.S. is restructuring and merging the pediatrics and obstetrics units. A recent staff memo indicated that seven pediatric nurses have been displaced: six accepted positions elsewhere, and one resigned. Other positions have been eliminated.

These employment trends are becoming more common in many professions. It is important for students to be aware of them, and to make their opinions heard. Many of these issues affect or will affect them. The Graduate View 2000 survey is a great opportunity for students as well as for researchers.

The information students provide will be confidential. Personal information will be used only for the draw and the distribution of prizes. There are more than 320 prizes including seven cash prizes of \$1,000. Other prizes include movie passes, and gift certificates for Roots, Chapters and HMV.

The survey will take about 30-45 minutes to complete. Due to the length of time required, a PIN number will be generated so students can re-enter the survey later if they can't complete it all at once. For more information and to complete the survey, go to www.graduate view.com Results will be provided to participants and will also be available at the Career Planning Centre.

The Career Planning Centre in Evaristus 217 is another great source of information for students in any program of study. Employment information, career and employment trends, job listings, resume critiquing and career counseling are some of the resources available to students at the Mount.

#### LIBRARY AWARD

Mount Saint Vincent University Library Award is a single annual award of \$200.00. It is awarded to an undergraduate student who demonstrates outstanding research skills in using information and/or resources located in, or accessible from the MSVU Library, when completing a research assignment in any course at the Mount during the 12 month period preceding the January 31, 2001 deadline.

#### **Application Procedure:**

Please submit a clean copy (no comments or grade) of your research assignment with supporting documentation to: The Mount Saint Vincent University Library Award Program Attn: Terry Paris, Head Librarian The Library, Mount Saint Vincent University Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3M 2J6

#### ~ DEADLINE: 31 January 2001 ~

Supporting documentation includes:

a copy of the course outline and/or assignment a summary of the methodology, including a list of any periodical indexes and reference material used in the preparation of the research assignment.

The panel of judges representing the Library will select the winner by 1 March 2001. The decision of the panel is final. The award will be presented by the Head Librarian or his designate on Awards Night.

For further information, please contact the Award Co-ordinator at 457-6403 or Meg.Raven@MSVU.Ca.

Ine Student Travelet, the Caradian

## SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING...

By Martha Martin, MSVU Chaplain

#### Is it a sin to live together before marriage?

I hear a bigger question behind this question which is more about the nature of sin, something like - "Just what exactly is sin, and how and when do I participate in sin?" The Greek word for sin is "hamartia", which although translated into English as "sin", actually means "the arrow has fallen short of its target." In Jesus' interaction with "sinners", he used the word "repent" which means to turn one's self around, to head in a different direction. In Hebrew, concepts of the word included; to deviate from the right way, to miss a goal, rebellion against a superior, unfaithfulness to an agreement, senselessness or destructiveness, or "missing the mark".

But what exactly are we to turn from, what is the target or mark that we are missing? The concept of original sin is central to Christian theology. It goes something like this: original sin arises out of the sins of Adam and Eve, the first couple. Their fall from grace affects the whole of humankind for all future generations. Augustine, an early theologian, this meant that sin is an original state into which all humans are born, and over which we have no control. Our basic nature is towards sinfulness, and it is only through God's grace that we can be transformed. Because of original sin, our bias will always be towards choosing sin. However, through divine assistance our weak and frail human nature can be redeemed. If we use this as our definition of sin, just about everything we do is sin, including living together before marriage. The decks are stacked against us from the beginning - we will always miss

However another early theologian, Pelagius, believed that everyone had a free choice to sin or not to sin, and to choose to sin was a deliberate action. God created the world as good, and has shown humans what is expected. On the final day of judgement, humans will be judged according to their actions, and those who have not measured up to moral perfection will suffer eternal punishment. In this concept of sin, the answer to the question becomes a little more subjective - if you really believe that marriage is the place of moral perfection, then to live together is sinning. However, one might argue that marriage is created by humankind, not God. If God created

the world as good, this must include all that is created, including human love and sexuality. So maybe living together before marriage is okay.

If sin is a deliberate choice, the question in this case becomes who decides what is a sin and what is not? Pope Gregory the Great (590-604 AD) listed the "Seven Deadly Sins" - Gluttony, Lust, Envy, Pride, Slothfulness, Anger, and Greed. Dorothy Solle, in her book "Thinking About God", says that these are sins of power and privilege, not sins that oppressed or marginalized people usually relate to.

For women, the concept of sin can be quite different. We need to ask "What is it that separates us from the love of God?" Instead of pride, a woman's sin could easily be the opposite, self-denial. In this instance, the sin of living together before marriage might be more about how the relationship functions. Is it a loving and mutual relationship? Or is it a matter of convenience for only one person? Sally McFague, a recent feminist theologian, argues that the first creation story in Genesis tells us that we are not the only creatures made in the image of God. McFague suggests that sin is when we as humans are unwilling to stay in our place in creation, or to accept our own limitations so that other humans and other species have the space that they need to live in creation. She defines sin as living falsely, specifically as living a lie in relation to other beings, in relation to other animals, and in relation to nature. So missing the mark in this case might mean to intentionally hurt another being in creation, to live without love, integrity, or honour in a relationship.

Folks who read this column regularly will no doubt have a sense of my own biases about this topic. I tend towards the latter, more feminist understanding of sin. This of course is harder to define than the theological fathers' definitions. To answer the original question, I would be more inclined to probe further about the relationship of the two people living together, the respect and honour between them, and the understanding that they have about their commitment to each other, rather than to just pronounce willy nilly that they are "living in sin."

Do you have questions on spiritual matters? Email me at Martha.Martin@MSVU.ca

Join us for morning prayer Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:30 am in the Evaristus Chapel.

# Regis Reads The Picaro



So Should You