

# THE PICARO

Februrary 16, 1999

Volume 34 Issue 9

www.picaro.ns.ca



Donald Harvey

A re-enactment of a theft on campus. Approximately \$10,000 in electronic equipment was stolen from the *Picaro* office on Monday, Feb. 25.

## A campus under siege!

### More than 15 grand worth of electronics stolen from Mount

By Mark Sitter

Four robberies between Jan. 20 and 26 cleaned out over \$15,000 worth of electronic equipment from rooms and offices on campus.

Security suspects the same group of people committed all four crimes.

"Every one of the robberies involved moving heavy equipment, and was high risk," said Paul Reyno, director of the Mount's physical plant, who's ultimately in charge of security. "Some of the thieves must have been on lookout,

and others waiting in a vehicle. And since the criminals were able to avoid alarmed areas, we think at least one of them is a student who's quite familiar with the university."

The spree of burglaries began late at night on

Wednesday, Jan. 20, when a 32" Sharp television and VCR were stolen from the Don MacNeil Room in Rosaria.

"The television was bolted down, so the thieves needed wrenches to take it," said Reyno. "The TV and

VCR are a little awkward and fragile—more than one person must have carried them."

The second robbery occurred early Sunday morning, on Jan. 24. Two faculty offices on the fourth

**continued on page 6**



#### What's Inside...



Another year, another student protest. See the photo collection of the NSCAD strike on Thursday, February 11.

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Some people complain they can't go to school while others don't have enough to eat. Find out how you can help.

... pages 16



If you want to see some real art, drop your picket signs and find out why *She's All That!*

... page 20



# HELP US SURVIVE THE YEAR 2000!

**The Student Union Elections  
are right around the corner.**

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**March 1 - 5**

*nominations forms due Friday at 3:00pm*

**Campaigning Week**

**starts Monday March 8**

**Voting Days**

**Wed. March 17 & Thurs. March 18**

*Results announced at Vinnie's during thursday night pub night.*

**If you have any questions, comments and concerns contact James Tilley, CRO at Student Union or call 457-6105**



## Volume 34 Issue 9

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Tim Boudreau

**Managing Editor  
and CUP Editor**  
Gin Hing Yee

**Layout Editor  
and Online Editor**  
James Tilley

**News Editor**  
Mark Sitter

**Features Editor  
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**Classifieds Editor**  
position available

**Photo Editor**  
Matte Stevenson

**Intern Advertising Manager**  
Crista Stone

**Distribution Manager**  
position available

**Contributors:**  
Micheal Allen  
Stephen Brown  
CUP Newswire  
Mark Darrow  
Natalie Dorey  
Donald Harvey  
Greg Jackson  
Anya Lisowski  
Manal Mahshi  
Jenn Parker  
Trina Roache  
and probably more

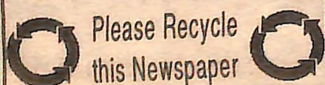
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**The Picaro**  
Rosaria Centre  
Room 114  
166 Bedford Highway  
Halifax, NS  
B3M 2J6  
(902) 445-3584  
fax- (902) 457-0444

email-  
picaro@chebucto.ns.ca  
online-  
http://www.picaro.ns.ca



*Page three is brought to you by the number three, Tim Boudreau, Angie Elsinga and the space previously occupied by the Picaro's computer.*

## The Picaro's accountability contract—so far so good

Both the paper and SU are pleased

By Mark Sitter

Both the *Picaro* and student union (SU) are happy with the newspaper's accountability contract—which is almost finalized.

"Negotiations have been going really well, despite the less-than-perfect circumstances under which they're taking place," said the *Picaro's* editor-in-chief, Tim Boudreau, referring to the fact SU made the bi-weekly's funding for the rest of the year contingent on signing the contract.

"Many changes have been made to the original draft," he explained. "For instance: [SU] must make transfer payments to the paper at specific times each year; the union can't withhold future

funding unless the advisory board says so; and the process the advisory board will use to evaluate the *Picaro's* conduct [in cases of grievance] is much clearer.

"Accountability is in place, and I don't think the *Picaro's* editorial freedom is compromised."

SU president, Sheldon Miller, shares Boudreau's sentiment.

"We've settled on all the major points of the contract to the satisfaction of both parties," said Miller.

Legal counsel is currently looking over the agreement to ensure its wording is as clear and specific as possible. Once that's finished with student council will vote on the contract's ratification.

## Council passes constitutional changes

By Tim Boudreau

Last Friday, the winds of change blew through the Don MacNeil Room as student council was putting the finishing touches on the new Student Union Constitution, which students will vote on next month.

"There are many structural changes to the document," said Alison Druhan, executive vice-president and chair of the constitution planning committee. "Several obsolete positions [and sections] are being taken out, and new ones need to be added."

There are three major changes to the document; the first of which involves expanding role of the status of women officer, which will become the vice-president of race and gender relations next year. Interestingly enough, no one debated this change during the meeting.

"The new position is good," said James Tilley, internal

vice-president. "It takes a more holistic approach to advocating issues affecting all students at the Mount — not just women."

The second change involves the GPA cap. If passed, the

long as they pay student union fees.

Status of women officer, Janne Cleveland, doesn't believe the GPA cap is a restriction on student involvement, but rather a protective measure.

others added.

One structural change that concerns some councillors is the elimination of one student-elected Board of Governors (BoG) representative. Traditionally, the three

gives a student a unique opportunity to be involved in decision making relating to the workings of the university. By eliminating this position, the majority of 'student voices' on the Board are trumpeted by the student union executive, not necessarily by the general student population."

Student union president, Sheldon Miller, believes the position of external vice-president brings valuable experience to the Board.

"The executive VP [currently] sits on the budget committee as well as the finance committee," he said. "As a Board member, the executive VP will fit in well."

These amendments and others must be approved by the student body in a referendum that will be held on March 17 and 18.

## Status of women officer out, GPA cap in, and one less student elected to BoG

amended constitution will state that anyone running for a council or executive position must have a GPA of 1.7 in his or her previous academic semester.

"A GPA cap is not right," said Gin Hing Yee, the sole non-council member in attendance at the debate. "You are taking away the rights of students."

Yee believes all people, regardless of their GPA, should be able to run for office as

"Everyone should have a chance to run for [student government]," she said. "As long as they live up to their responsibility: their education."

The GPA issue was debated at length. However, all but two council members voted to ratify the cap.

The third major change deals with the structure of council, itself. If the constitution is passed, several positions will be eliminated, while

BoG student seats were filled by the student union president and two elected councillors. However, the revised three-member delegation will consist of the president, the executive vice-president and only one elected student.

"This amendment is doing a disservice to the students [whom the union] represents," said Crista Stone, current BoG representative. "A position on [the BoG]



## '99 Teach in Japan

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## New online scholarship database free to students

By Mark Sitter

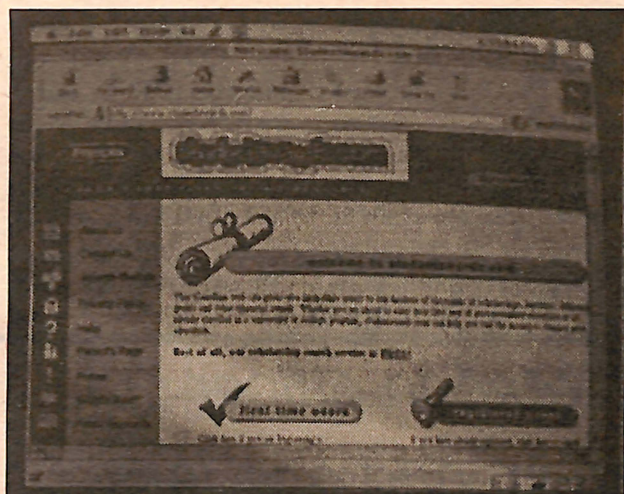
There's a silver lining for all you debt-ridden Mount students. And it's called StudentAwards.com.

The database of almost 50,000 student awards, bursaries and scholarships is now online—and it's free to all students.

StudentAwards.com matches students with appropriate financial awards, explains Joe Freedman, president of the database service.

"Once a student completes the online registration, our search engine matches his or her profile with awards on our database," he said from his Toronto-based office. "Whenever any new matches come up after initial registration, the service delivers them to the student's private email account."

Online registration is comprehensive, but free. To subscribe to the service, students must go to [www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com) and answer six Webpages worth of background questions—most of which focus on academic



Donald Harvey

pursuits, personal history and contact information.

"The more we know about a student, the more awards we'll be able to match with him or her," said Freedman, who also feels the site would be a great service to Mount students.

"Our database has a lot of scholarships for women and mature students," he explained. "That's why we ask students for information on gender and age."

Instead of charging students for the service, like other scholarship Websites, StudentAwards.com gets most of its money from

advertising.

"We also sell mailing lists of the students' profiles," said the president of StudentAwards.com. "But, if particular students don't want us to sell their information, they can indicate that on the questionnaire, and we won't do so."

Currently, the service is growing at an impressive rate. "Every day we add hundreds of scholarships to our database," said Freedman. "As the number of awards we have increases, so will the number of students we help."

## ODDS & ENDS

Compiled by Mike Allen and Mark Sitter

### Fancy-footed thief makes off with dance shoes, but leaves cash

VANCOUVER—Whoever broke into Greg Hanna's car last week was so happy to make off with a duffel bag full of Irish dance shoes that he or she decided to leave behind \$1,000 in cash, a \$10,000 guitar and a book of blank cheques. Hanna

stepped away from his car for about 20 minutes, and returned to find his window smashed and duffel bag gone—but the cash, guitar and cheques were left untouched. "[The shoes] are no use to anyone who doesn't Irish dance," he said.

### And you thought the Mouseketeers were devoted...

BETHLEHEM, PENN.—Disney's unofficial greatest fan has a lot to show for it—all over his body. George Regier, a 44-year-old postal worker, has spent more than 26 years collecting Disney paraphernalia—the most interesting of which are his tatoos. From head to toe, Regier has 844

different tatoos of various Disney-related themes. Pinocchio's whale is on his stomach. Mickey Mouse's Fantasia character is on his forearm. And there are more than 101 Dalmatians on his back. Regier has spent more than \$85,000 on tatoos. His goal is to have one thousand by the year 2000.

### Motion to legalize marijuana sponsored by Bloc MP

OTTAWA—Bloc Quebecois MP Bernard Bigras is sponsoring a motion in the House of Commons that asks the government to examine the benefits of marijuana as a treatment for symptoms of certain illnesses, like AIDS. Bigras wants Health Canada to conduct a three-year study involving over 400 patients before

considering whether or not to legalize the substance. The motion will require the government to take a position on the matter before it comes to vote in May. Currently, Bloc, NDP and PC caucuses all support Bigras' motion—as do influential doctors in the Liberal caucus, such as cabinet minister Hedy Fry.

### Can't be raped if in jeans—Italian court

ROME—Italy's top appeal court recently ruled women wearing jeans can't claim to have been raped, because such pants can't be taken off without the help of the person wearing them, which stipulates consent. The judgement

quashed a conviction in a case where an 18-year-old female had been raped by her 45-year-old driving instructor, who was originally sentenced to 34 months in jail. He always maintained the woman consented.

### If you wanna be a dead journalist, move to Latin America

VIENNA—Latin America is the most dangerous place for journalists these days, a new report from the International Press Institute says. At least 50 news people were killed there last year,

and around 100 were thrown in jail. Nearly half of all journalists who died in 1998 worked in Latin America. Ten died in Columbia, five in Mexico and four in Brazil.

### Nova Scotia's Tory leader doesn't mind his music dirty

HALIFAX—Who says Bill Clinton's the only politician who occasionally likes to get dirty? As part of the opening ceremonies for last weekend's Tory convention, a video produced by conservative faithful featured media-roll of leader John Hamm with Third Eye Blind's "Semi-Charmed Life" blasting in the background. The lyrics of the alternative song make

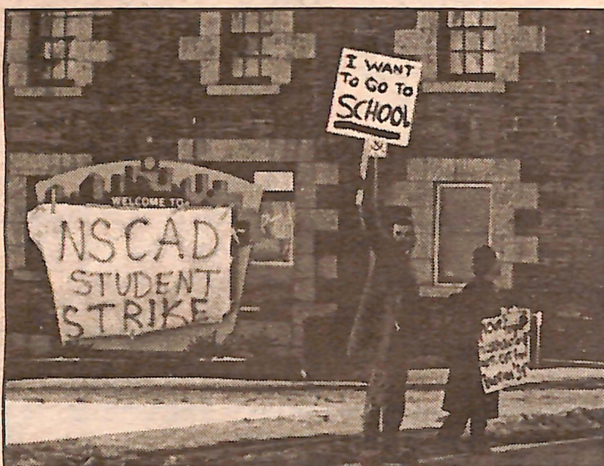
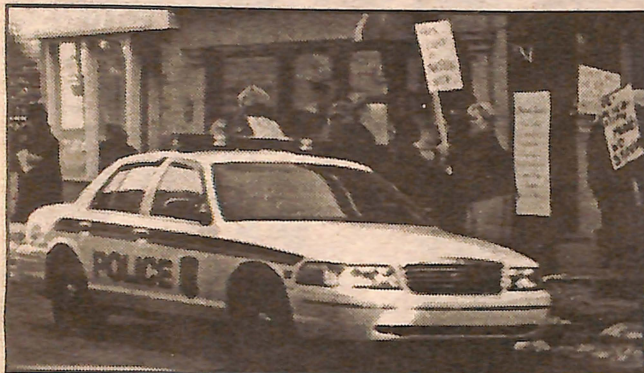
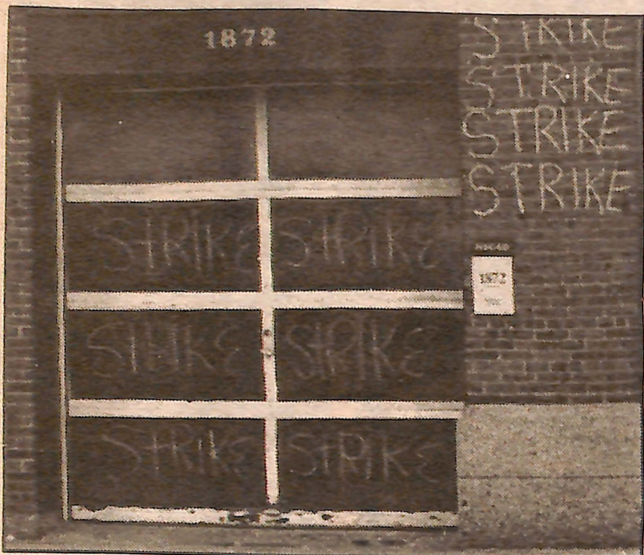
reference to panties, oral sex and masturbation. Hamm admits to being a little embarrassed after finding out about the ditty's content, but wasn't overly concerned. The producers of the video say they used the song because "it's a super hit, and it's the image the party's going for—a younger crowd."

Sources: AFP, AP, CP, Daily News & Reuters



# NSCAD on strike

Photos by Matte Stevenson



On Thursday, Feb. 11, NSCAD students went on strike. They took to the street to protest possible changes to the Nova Scotia's student-loan program. The banks and province might make an ammendment that will allow them to rate post-secondary programs based on loan defaults, retention and hireability after graduation—which basically means students taking fine arts courses probably won't get nearly as much loan money as those taking professional studies programs. Strikers feel such a change would seriously compromise students' academic freedom.

## Student leaders want province to allot a lot of cash towards education

By Crista Stone

Student leaders around the province are demanding that the Nova Scotia government allot a good portion of its recent federal equalization payments towards reducing the cost of university education.

The province, which previously committed to increasing university funding by \$23 million during the next three years, is set to receive \$50 million from Ottawa over the next five.

"A significant amount of that funding must be used to reduce tuition fees," said

Sheldon Miller, president of the Mount's student union. "The government has recognized the problem and claims to be committed to

it has gone up nearly 50 per cent in five years," he said. "Students can't afford another increase. The government must act immediately."

Specifically,

### *Equalization payments must be used to reduce tuition fees*

correcting it. However, to date, little has been done to stop tuition increases."

Tim McIntyre, president of St. F. X.'s students' union, feels hikes in tuition have grown intolerably high.

"At some places,

student leaders from eight Nova Scotian universities want a portion of the recent equalization payments to go towards accelerating the implementation of the recommendations of the Nova Scotia

Council on Higher Education.

"By increasing university payments sooner, universities will be in a position to stabilize tuition fees," said Kelly McKenzie a representative of Dalhousie's student union.

Student groups from across the province will meet with government officials soon to discuss the issue.

For the most part, student leaders feel social spending must continue to be a priority for the province—with health care and education at the forefront.



Crista Stone

## Touring the masses

Many attended Open Campus Days

By James Tilley

The number of high school students attending Open Campus Days this year was more than three times that of last year.

Every academic year, admissions and the student alumnae association host at least one Open Campus Days to give high school students a chance to experience university life and tour the campus.

Traditionally, only 100 high schoolers come to these events—and the last one drew only 60 students.

But on Feb. 12, however, there were over 190 students and parents participating in the half-day event.

At the event, there were over 30 information booths set up by various

roups; such as departments, societies, clubs, student union—and there was even a Tai-Chi demonstration for anyone interested.

Nevertheless, the actual success of



the event can't be measured by the number of people who were in attendance, but rather by the number of students who apply and are accepted to come to MSVU next academic year. And that won't be known till September.



Matte Stevenson

Students and faculty attending the recent English Conference took a break to ponder and analyze the significance of the Art Gallery's wig exhibit. See the full story next issue.



# Campus security to beef-up measures

## Look out criminals—Big Sister will be watching

By Mark Sitter

In response to the rash of recent on-campus thefts, Mount security will increase the frequency of its rounds and install more video cameras and alarms throughout the university.

"Hiring more security guards is also an option," said Paul Reyno, director of the Mount's physical plant, who's ultimately in charge of security. "We're definitely going to set up cameras near the entrances of all the buildings, in the Rosaria parking lots and in a few 'secret' locations. There will also be more alarms in

offices and rooms."

The cameras will be directly connected to the security office and monitored around the clock.

"We don't want to turn the campus into an armed camp," said Reyno. "We want to

make the campus safe for students and staff."

In addition to these measures, students are also required to sign in and out of the computer lab in Seton.

Reyno would like students to call security

access to, the better," he said. "In the last little while, we've been getting calls from students. Hopefully that will continue."

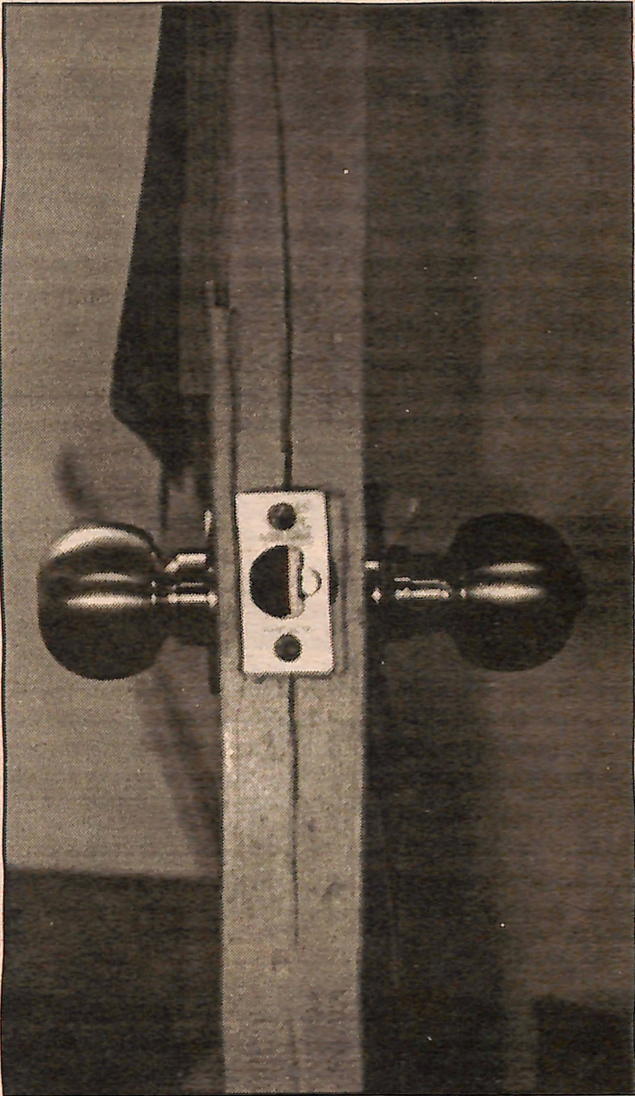
Beyond the recent robberies on campus, there have been other security problems this year. A few weeks ago, a masturbating male harassed female students numerous times—but police recently apprehended him. Since September, there have been four car break-ins in Rosaria lots one and two. And numerous jackets and wallets have been stolen in EMF Centre.

**"We want to make the campus safe for students and staff"**

make sure our new measures only serve as a deterrent—as prevention. They aren't designed to be obtrusive. We want to

whenever they see anything suspicious happening at the Mount.

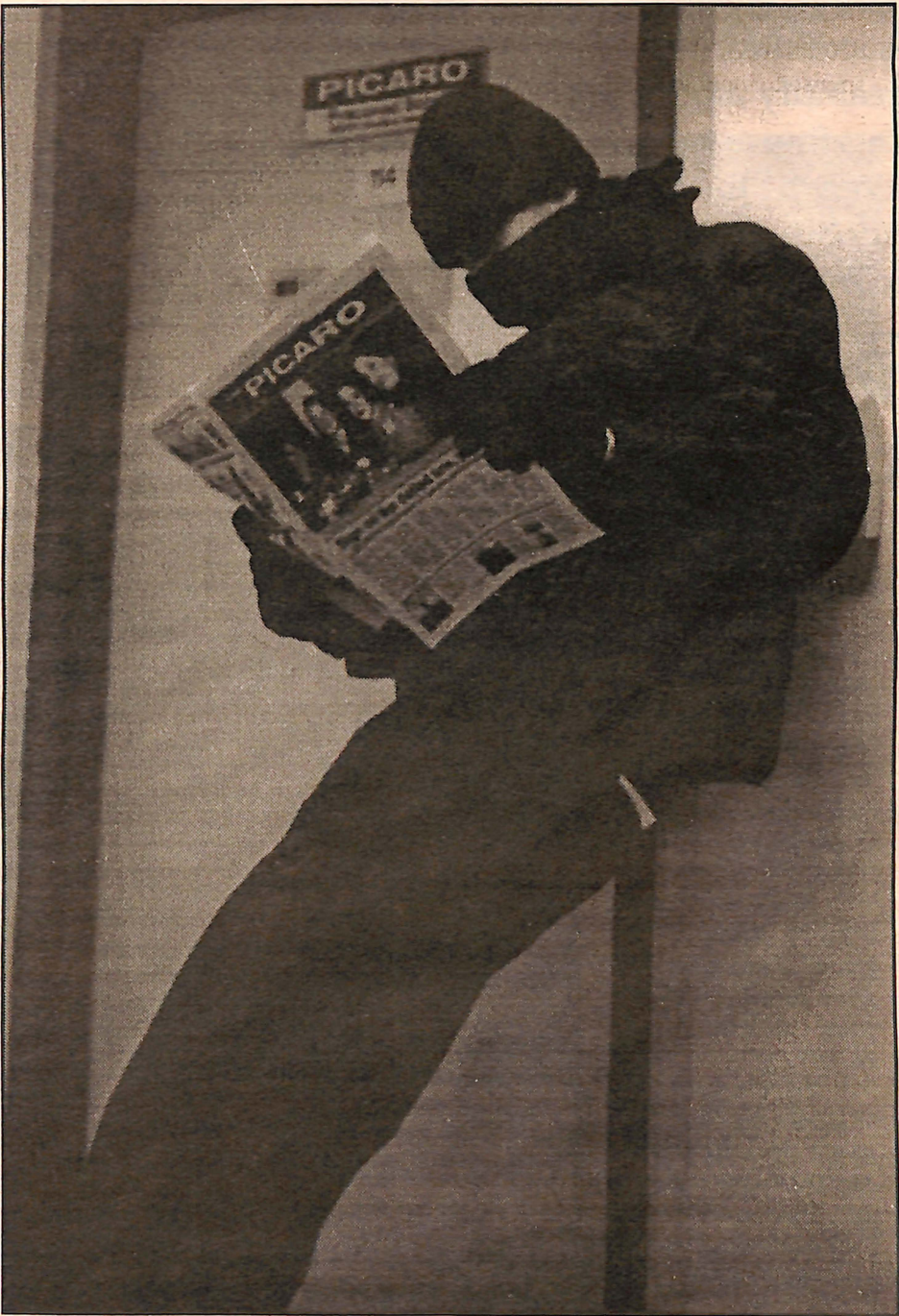
"The more information we have



Matte Stevenson

They don't make 'em like they used to. The Pic's office door after the break-in.

# BREAK INTO THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS!



Mark Sitter's looking for some newsworthy partners in crime. If ya wanna piece of the action, write a news story for the *Pic*. Come by Rosaria 114 and ask for Mark, or call 445-3584.

... just don't bust his balls—he knows where you live...

*continued from page 1*

floor of Seton were broken into, however one was left untouched.

"The doors of rooms 409 and 425 were kicked in," said Reyno. "All the new computer equipment in 409 was stolen. It was only installed weeks before. But 425, which had old equipment, was left alone. Those are strong doors. So, whoever knocked them in must be big."

The very next night, between eight and nine o'clock, the *Picaro* office in Rosaria was burglarized. A lot of computer equipment was stolen, along with a Sony CD player and a wall clock.

"This one was very strange," said Reyno. "[When the crime was taking place], there were people in the pub; and the corner store and games room were open. But no one heard the *Picaro's* door get slammed in.

"Plus, the office is alarmed. The perpetrators probably

knew the alarm wasn't activated when they broke in. I suspect they aren't total strangers to the newspaper."

On Jan. 26, the most brazen of the four crimes took place. A computer unit and monitor were lifted from Seton 316 during lab hours.

"The computer lab was monitored when it happened," said Reyno. "The thieves are either extremely stupid or extremely smart. They had to walk down the hall and out of the building with the equipment."

Reyno hopes students report anyone or anything that looks suspicious to security—extension 111 or 412.

"The more eyes we have, the easier it will be to prevent any further crimes, and find the thieves," he said. "It would be great if everyone in the Mount community could work together, like a neighbourhood watch."



# Brain drain to sunny south a hoax—Statistics Canada

By Alex Bustos

OTTAWA (CUP)—There is little evidence Canada is suffering a mass exodus of talented workers to the United States, federal government figures show.

In fact, a large number of educated workers are coming into the country from around the world, contributing to a "brain gain" rather than a "brain drain," the study suggests.

According to the unpublished Statistics Canada report completed last October, approximately 32,800 university-educated people immigrated to Canada annually

between 1990 and 1996.

In contrast, only 8,500 Canadians with post-secondary education left each year to the United States.

In other words, every year Canada gained almost four times the number of educated workers than it lost.

"And those numbers are very conservative," said Scott Murray, a Statistics Canada researcher and author of the report. "The U.S. output numbers are overestimated, while the immigration figures are underestimated."

More specifically, the study also shows

more people with master's and Ph.D. degrees immigrated to Canada than left here for the U.S.

The only sector where international immigration did not outstrip emigration to

nurses are moving south of the border because health cuts and salary caps are making it difficult to practice in Canada.

The short paper also stated that fiscal conservatives who

on the brain drain," said Seth Klein, director of the group's B.C. office.

But according to a right-wing think-tank, the Statistics Canada study is flawed.

"It is very flimsy mathematics they are employing," said Walter Robinson, executive director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.

"The brain drain is real. Yes, there is a small number of professionals leaving to the United States, but they're impact on our tax base is huge."

Citing a study by the C.D. Howe institute, Robinson

points out that in 1996, 8,600 highly skilled managers and professionals moved permanently to the United States.

In the same year, roughly 44,000 high-skilled workers went to work down south on temporary visas.

A high-skilled worker was defined as someone making \$70,000 or more per year.

If you look at the \$70,000 plus tax bracket, argues Robinson, you realize although this group makes up only six per cent of all taxpayers, they contribute 31 per cent of all tax revenue.

## "Brain Gain" rather than "Brain Drain"

— StatsCan study

the United States was health.

In a brief paper released last Wednesday, the left-wing Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives argues doctors and

demand tax cuts to combat the so-called brain drain are fighting a fictitious battle.

"This [government] study was an effort to inject reality into the debate

## Charge against APEC protester dropped two weeks before trial

By Sarah Galashan

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Two weeks before a trial was scheduled to begin, an assault charge against a high-profile anti-APEC activist was dropped.

Former University of British Columbia student Jaggi Singh learned last week the charge against him was officially withdrawn.

Singh was the only one of more than 50 protesters who continued to face a charge after the November 1997 Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation summit ended.

His charge stemmed from a Nov. 7, 1997, anti-APEC protest held in the backyard of UBC president Martha Piper's home.

Dave Goodrich, a former UBC assistant patrol manager, alleged Singh had damaged his eardrum by yelling at him through a megaphone at close range.

But Singh wasn't arrested until the day before the APEC summit began, more than two weeks after the alleged megaphone incident.

He was released later that day on a promise not to return to UBC's campus, where he had been arrested. When Singh breached that condition, he was arrested again and spent the next four days in jail.

"Well it's done," Singh said upon learning the charge against him was dropped.

"But in another sense it begs a whole bunch of other questions like why did I spend four days in jail and why was I nabbed?"

Singh says the answer to those questions can be found in documents released at the start of last year's RCMP Public Complaints Commission hearings.

In one internal RCMP document, Staff-Sgt. Lloyd Plante said: "With the view towards eliminating some of the more high profile members of APEC Alert we recommend that these charges be laid."

Singh says Plante's comments suggest there was a clear attempt to stifle protest.

"Essentially the

RCMP, under whose orders I don't know, took it upon themselves to create a sanitized, protest-free zone at UBC," he said.

But Plante says campus RCMP officers were simply carrying out an arrest warrant.

"That was really the end of our involvement," he said. Singh, who now lives in Montreal, says he plans to testify when the inquiry resumes hearing evidence in March.

Meanwhile, Bruce Quayle, a lawyer for the City of Vancouver, confirmed the city is pulling out of the inquiry because it is taking up too much time and money.

Quayle said accusations by student complainants that the city is withholding incriminating documents "outrageous."

But student Jonathan Oppenheim is convinced that's the reason the city is pulling out.

"If they withdraw, then we don't have the power to procure documents from them," he said.

## Federal bill recognizing same-sex spouses defeated

By Erin Fitzpatrick

OTTAWA (CUP)—A private member's bill that would have changed the definition of the word spouse to include same-sex couples in all federal laws died in the House of Commons last week.

The proposed Bill C-239 was introduced by Bloc Quebecois member of parliament, Riel Menard.

"I'm convinced that there's something very discriminatory in our treatment of same-sex partners," Menard said after the bill died on the House floor last Tuesday.

"The Canadian government needs to accept there are men who love men, women who love women, and that those people are in real, authentic relationships that deserve to be recognized."

In 1995, the government passed Bill C-33, which effectively outlaws discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. However, there are still 70 federal laws in place that define spouses as a heterosexual couple.

"We've already recognized we can't

discriminate against gays, so the next step is to recognize their relationships as legitimate," Menard said.

Because it was a private member's bill, Menard's initiative was not voted on, but only debated in the House of Commons for an hour.

Private member's bills are only put to a vote if the MP behind them can convince an all-party committee or the entire House that the issue merits a vote.

Both the Reform and Liberal parties opposed the bill.

Reform MP Eric Lowther defends his party's position.

"We look at the benefits that are there today for couples, and largely those benefits are there in recognition of the social contribution that couples make in procreation, and the rearing of the next generation of Canadians," he said.

"That's in the public interest."

"If the government is going to change the word spouse to include same-sex couples, it should first determine how the

public interest would be served by such a move."

The effort to have same-sex couples recognized as spouses, however, didn't die with Menard's bill.

New Democratic Party MP Svend Robinson, who supported the bill, says he plans to re-introduce it himself in the near future.

"It's a question of basic equality and fairness," Robinson said. "Gay and lesbian people are involved in committed loving relationships—I myself have had the good fortune of being involved in one for almost five years."

And we're saying that our relationship should be recognized as equal, especially when opposite-sex common law relationships are recognized."

But it's about more than just recognition, Robinson says.

"It's also a question of justice. We pay taxes, we pay into benefit plans like the Canada pension plan, and we shouldn't be denied equality."



# Attention Students!

Your Student Council is interested in pursuing a new model of course and professor evaluations. Below is the current model used by the University. Currently it is not accessible to students, and is used for promotion and tenure of faculty. We are interested in working with the University to develop or revise the current model and making the results public for you in the form of a published document. This document would be provided for students by the Student Council prior to registration each year. Through this document we hope to provide you with insight on what other students like you have thought of the course, material and instruction. There is a lot of work involved and this is the first step in providing an opportunity for you to provide us with feedback, so we can be better prepared on your behalf in meetings and presentations

*We need your help and input in order to make this happen. Please look over the copy of the current model and provide input to the few questions that follow:*

On the scanner sheet provided, please mark ONE response to each statement.

## ORGANIZATION/CLARITY

1) The instructor organized the course and the individual classes well...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

2) The instructor's language and speech were clear and comprehensive...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

3) The course was successful in meeting its stated goals and objectives...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

## Fairness/Feedback

4) The instructor was fair and reasonable in evaluating and marking student work...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

5) Students were given meaningful, adequate, and reasonably prompt feedback on test, laboratory work, and assignments...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

6) The instructor was able to arouse my interest in the course...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

7) My powers to think, criticize and/or create have been improved as a result of this course...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

8) Assignments, quizzes, and examinations assisted in achieving the objectives of this course...

a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

9) The course improved my knowledge and understanding of the subject...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

10) The instructor showed interest and enthusiasm for the subject matter of the course...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

11) The instructor seemed genuinely concerned with student's progress and was actively helpful...  
a) Very strongly agree, b) Strongly agree, c) Agree, d) Disagree, e) Strongly disagree

12) Compared with other university instructors I have had, I would rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness as...  
a) excellent, b) above average, c) average, d) below average, e) very poor

## Open Ended Questions

Please print your responses

1. What, in your view, are the strengths and weaknesses of this course?

2. What, in your view, are the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?

1. Would you find a published document of course and professor evaluations beneficial?
2. Would you take the evaluations more seriously if the results were to be published?
3. Do you find the current questions appropriate for evaluating professors and courses?
4. Are there any additional questions you would like to see on the evaluations?
5. Do you think the current model and its purpose is okay the way it is?

Please take the time to provide feedback. This is something for you. Without your input, it can not happen! Forward your responses to the Student Union Information Desk on the first floor of Rosaria C/O Ron Pottie, MSVUSU Academic VP.

regards

*Ron Pottie*



# Security needs better communication efforts

*Robberies are part of life—but so is prevention*

By Mark Sitter

Robberies happen. They're part of life. And of course they piss people off—especially victims. Nobody likes getting his or her stuff stolen. But that's not the worst part about being robbed. The worst part is knowing that *only if* certain measures were taken, it all could've been prevented.

Now, in terms of the recent string of robberies at the Mount, what I don't understand is why security didn't do much to inform the university community about what was going on right away. The first crime occurred on the 20th of January, the second on the 24th, the third on the 25th and the last on the 26th. But security didn't put out a major advisory until after the last robbery. C'mon.

That's like performing heart surgery on a cadaver—better late than never just won't cut it here.

If all students and staff heard about the first crime right away, then the other victims would have been afforded the

**That's like performing heart surgery on a cadaver**

opportunity to take preventative action to secure all their valuables. We at the Pic, for instance, could have activated our alarm at an earlier time, which, in all likelihood, would have bamboozled the

bad guys before they were able to make off with our stuff. And I'm sure the computer lab could have also taken preventative measures—*if* only they had known what was going on before it was too late.

Now, if, as Paul Reyno says, security wants a neighbourhood-watchlike atmosphere on campus, then it must take a leadership role in sharing information with the rest of the Mount community. Pardon the cliché, but security needs to be more 'proactive' and immediate with its communication efforts to create an example the rest of us can follow.

As I said before, robberies happen—that's life. But nowadays, so is prevention.

## Smoking Kiddy Porn

By Anthony Cushing

OK, I know I'm not the only person lamenting the decline of morals in the world today, but what's one extra voice in the roaring cacophony?

There's a lot that's going on in the world lately: Europe is now using a common currency, creatively dubbed the Euro; University computer labs are being broken into; The offices of university newspapers are being broken into; Consumers of child pornography are getting off (no pun intended) scott-free and little children are smoking while no one bats an eye.

I have a 20-minute wait for my bus every morning at the West-End Mall. Every morning kids from the junior high school across the street congregate in the bus shelter and have a smoke or two before grudgingly crawling to class. One child in particular caught my attention. He was about 15 years old and had his little brother with him. I overheard him saying that if he didn't hurry he would be late for his class at the elementary school. Before the little kid took off, the bigger kid gave him a cigarette and lit it for him. WHAT? I thought to myself, what is he doing? This kid couldn't have been any older than seven or eight years old and here he

was smoking and cussing like a sailor.

The woman who stood next to me in the bus shelter turned to the kids and mentioned that smoking IS bad for one's health and that one shouldn't be indulging in the habit at such a young age. The kids promptly told her where to go and how to get there. Wow, if I had even

***This kid couldn't have been any older than seven or eight years old and here he was smoking and cussing like a sailor.***

thought about saying anything like that to a stranger when I was a kid, my parents would have had some strong words with me.

To change the topic abruptly, the recent case in BC about the 65 year-old man who was acquitted for possessing child pornography has sparked a great deal of discussion around the world. The Supreme court of BC condoned the possession of kiddy porn by saying, "Yes, it is an infringement of your rights to

*continued on page 10*



## Editor's Notes

Tim Boudreau, Editor-in-Chief

### Shame on Chretien

*The biggest photo op of the century lost*

Shame, shame on Prime Minister, Jean Chretien, how dare he embarrass all of Canada? King Hussein, Monarch of Jordan, dies and what is our nation's illustrious leader doing? He's on a ski trip in British Columbia. Chretien's simple act of omission has called more ridicule and criticism on him than the APEC controversy ever could. This issue is like three APEC controversy's, each one three times worse than APEC. The day after the world watched Hussein's funeral on the tube, newspapers were rife with stories and editorials decrying Chretien's absence from the television festivities. And it really is an atrocity, don't you think? I mean everybody else was there: poor orphan Clinton, trying to salvage his presidency, took a break from impeachment trials to attend, Yeltsin, who looked like he was about to join Hussein, was there, even Hussein's good friends from Syria, who tried to send Hussein to the grave prematurely at one point, were in attendance to pay respects (or perhaps to bid good riddance). And who does Canada send to Hussein's funeral? Lloyd Axworthy. If Hussein had been a turbot Axworthy may have been a good ambassador to send.

The media is sending Chretien a very clear message: we are very disappointed with you, mister. The popular phrase of the day is that Chretien has embarrassed Canada. But as far as I can see Chretien didn't just miss the funeral of a great man, he also missed the biggest photo opportunity of the century. I mean, like, everybody else was there looking all solemn, so the leader of Canada, like, should have been there too. Chretien is just so not cool for missing out on the international party. If there's any more prominent funerals you know Chretien isn't getting invited. If Chretien isn't careful he's going to be kicked out of the G7 popularity club.

I admit I'm being a little flippant. I understand, or at least I'm told, King Hussein of Jordan was a great individual worthy of being honoured by the presence of world leaders at his funeral. I also believe that Chretien's lame-assed excuse of not being able to get to the funeral on time is somewhat lacking. But come on people does he really deserve all of the abuse that he's getting? Does he really need to stand up in the House of Commons and brandish a written apology as if he's using it to fend off the slings and arrows being hurled at him by the opposition?

Chretien missed out on the opportunity to bid farewell to a great man, but primarily what he missed out on was one of the biggest media circuses of 1999. Sure everybody else was there, but were they there because they truly respected the former King, or were they simply not willing to miss out on all the great publicity?

Besides if people are going to jump on Chretien for something I'm sure there are much more poignant issues they could choose. There are bigger fishes to fry. Whether or not Chretien had his picture taken with Clint, Yelt, and the rest of the gang seems, to me, to be a very small concern. I'm not embarrassed Chretien didn't go to the funeral, I'm more embarrassed by how the Canadian media has made such a big deal out of it. I'm more embarrassed that Chretien has been bending over and kissing his own ass to apologise for his act of omission, and that the picture of his ass-kissing was plastered all over every newspaper available in the city. Are we so controversy starved here in Canada that we have to jump on every little thing our Prime Minister does, or doesn't do? Maybe Chretien will develop a hearty appetite for oral sex and young office interns and then we will have a national leader we can truly be proud of. Or at least we'll have lots of the controversy that we crave so much.



# Frank's World

## Venting What's Left of My Spleen

By Stephen Brown

In the cereal aisle, Frank loses it.

"When did Roloids and Pepto Bismol come to constitute one of the four basic food groups?"

"What are you ranting on about now?" I ask askance.

"Look at what you're buying!" he says, in what comes as close to a yell as he has ever allowed. "No wonder you have the most complete and intense pedigree of digestive disorders yet experienced by *homo sapien sapien*."

"I'm getting some Count Chocula. Why should that cause you such an inordinate amount of dismay?" I query with some annoyance.

"Look at the legacy you're purchasing! Kraft Dinner, flavoured rice and noodle packets,

Pop Tarts, canned pasta—my gawd man! canned pasta!—chips, pop, and Mr. Noodle! Mr. Noodle! You'll notice the conspicuous lack of an 's,' as Mr. Noodles is, in fact, one big noodle-shaped mass of Elmer's Glue!" He is incredulous at my lack of gastronomic saavy. "The student diet is not only driving your bank balance deep into the negative zone, but it also most likely murdering whatever health you have left from your teenage years."

"Mmmm . . ." I coo, in my best Homer Simpson, "Rice and noodle packets."

"All you're going to do," Frank continues, "is not eat this stuff because it's all *crap*, and blow all your money on substandard subs, extra-greasy pizza, and ever-delicious spastic-colon-

inducing Nova Scotian donairs. Then, when you're broke at the end of the month, you'll

suggest that I do with my money instead of this." I look down at my bachelor's cart.

**Mr. Noodle! You'll notice the conspicuous lack of an 's,' as Mr. Noodles is, in fact, one big noodle-shaped mass of Elmer's Glue!**

force yourself to swallow down some clam-flavoured Mr. Rice with a tablespoon of butter to disguise the taste, and half a bottle of soya sauce to disguise the taste of the butter, so why even buy it at all! It's a waste of money!"

I throw another bag of dill pickle chips onto my arm-load of groceries. Casually and unimpressed, I say: "So what does new-and-improved fiscally responsible Frank Ellis

"Chips are only about a buck a bag, same with the rice and noodle packs. Pop Tarts are a part of your complete and nutritious breakfast for only two buck fifty or so. Count Chocula—well that's a special treat. Kraft Dinner is generally cheap. Mr. Noodles is only thirty cents a pack!"

He is on me like buckshot on a beer can: "I remember when Kraft Dinner was cheap enough to be sensibly

included in the diet of a growing boy. It was somewhere between the release of *Transformers: The Movie* and *Ladyhawke*, so don't preach to me the gospel of inexpensive KD. The fifty-cent box was long-ago crucified by the welfare state. As for the rest of that edible tar-pond effluvium, it could be just as cheaply replaced by some fruits and vegetables, something that had at one time been a part of the natural food chain. I mean—*pop*. Why don't you just drink Flubber if you're so desperate to bloat your innards—and while you're at it, if you're going to eat Mr. Noodle you might as well call Jon Doe from *Se7en* over to kick you in the duodenum. It's a lot faster than letting that plastic tape-worm creep into your heart and cause a coronary

so explosive that Snowden's Secret itself says *Holy shit!* "

We look at each for a moment, waiting. Finally, I ask: "Are you done?"

"Yup," he says, pointedly ignoring the floor-walker glaring at us from under bushy eyebrows and a wrinkled forehead.

"Good," I say, and throw a bag of salt-and-vinegar chips onto the pile cradled in my arms. Frank throws his hands up in the air and lets go a breath of frustration. He doesn't know that I do have a secret, and this is it: If I eat dill pickle and salt-and-vinegar chips together, they burn out all the skin in my mouth, and I can't taste all the garbage that is the all-I-can-afford-to-eat-on-a-student-budget budget. That's what I tell myself, anyway.

## View from a Fishbowl

by Mark Darrow

A new year brings us a new round of seemingly endless award shows on the old idiot box. The list just keeps growing: The Oscars, the Emmys, the American Music Awards, ad nauseum, ad infinitum. A ceaseless parade of the vain, vacuous, and pretentious celebrities that grace our presence with their royal vestiges.

The limos roll up to the red velvet carpet as the celebrities gracefully alight from their respective chariots. Slowly they turn to the adoring crowd of "the little people" and give a gentle wave, with a self-absorbed complacency that only stars can possess. This scene repeats itself every year with increasing frequency. The award shows themselves are a rather banal, self-congratulatory display

of the famous. As always there is the omnipresent gratitude of the stars thanking everyone from their mothers to the heavens above for bestowing yet another piece of glittering junk in celebration of the celebrity.

As for the celebrities they are performing in the role of the year, fawning at the camera and playing the crowd with all the smugness and condescension that used to be reserved for royalty. This is their night(s) to show the world that they are plain old folk just like you. Forgetting, however, that plain old folk do not wear \$2000 Gucci shoes or have their own personal fashion designer prepare their "costumes" for the grand ball. The adoring public is left outside as the celebrities disappear

into the hallowed halls of fame and fortune, jockeying for the best position to see their favourite stars up close and personal.

Indeed stars are the modern form of royalty. We (the adoring public) moon over them, wonder what they are like in real life and buy the infinite numbers of celebrity magazines in order to catch a glimpse of their lives. The stars rarely marry outside their own circle of fame, and when they do it is a scandal of monumental proportions. Much like the aristocracy of old, which had arranged marriages in order to preserve the royal bloodline, celebrities keep to their own. Their exploits are charted by the hundreds of celebrity publications, television shows and biographies. The ordinary plebians watch in awe and

admiration at the wonder that is the universe of stars, wishing that for once they would just look their way and take notice.

The stars have a continual love-hate relationship with those who had propelled them to fame: the press. At Oscar time we see them mugging the camera and "playing" with the paparazzi. This is something that benefits them and for once a truce is called between these two adversaries. But, the lust for knowledge by the adoring public send the press digging into the dysfunctional lives of the stars once again.

This yearly ritual of the rich and famous allows me to ponder and reflect on the very nature of celebrity. Why do we raise people so high upon a pedestal of fame and fortune? We struggle

everyday of our lives in order to stay ahead of the game, while those we have propelled into fame behave like petulant children. Every now and then a star falls upon our little outpost on the edge of civilization. We swarm to get a glimpse at our famous visitor and ask

inane questions like "what do you think of the weather?" At award time I ponder the past year and think of how our civilization puts such value on the stellar few. But then, like everyone else, I can always reach for that remote...

*continued from page 9*

confiscate child-pornography." Isn't there a saying like *possession is nine-tenths of the law*?

It seems that the children are being forgotten of late. People don't remember what it was like to be a kid, therefore they are not really considered. Maybe people think they have their kids' best interests at heart but who's interests are they, really? Concerning child smokers, wouldn't their parents find out eventually what was going on and shouldn't it be their responsibility to stop it? With the man in BC, shouldn't the courts say he has no right infringing on the rights of children just for his own perverse pleasure? What is happening to childhood? It's being drowned in the adult world and turned into an early adulthood. No ifs, ands or buts. There's no way to stop it. Canada is in a state of extreme moral decline.

So I guess the only thing that could logically come of all of this is that now, after a satisfactory climax, the dirty old man and his little child companion can *both* light up and have a smoke.



# DEPARTMENT OF REDUNDANCY DEPARTMENT\*

*"So we'd hang out, we'd go to movies, we'd go to the occasional dinner, or walk, and one day, you know...we started looking at each other, you know, in that way. You know the way, when people are interested in each other's genitals, you know what I'm saying."*

-Sandra Shamas

By Greg Jackson

Monday, 5:17am. That's what time it is as I'm writing this, Sympathetic Reader. 5-fucking-17 in the stupid morning. I can't sleep. This isn't the first time this has happened. Insomnia is a curse on the mind. I've been pacing around my apartment. I've been staring at the ceiling. I've been thinking about everything and nothing at the same time. Thinking, thinking, thinking.

sleep and whip it back in there when you wake up in the morning—if you remember. I should hire someone to come to my house at 12:30 each night an whack me on the skull with a mallet. You see?! You see?! It's stupid thoughts like these that keep me conscious.

Here's a good thought at 5:23am: Valentine's Day is coming up soon. Please Good-looking Reader,

day, (I think it's a Sunday this year—like it matters) like the movies or swanky restaurants or whatever. All you'll see are vast quantities of happy couples. Seriously, who needs the reminder of their excess singledom? Not me Brothers and Sisters. Can I get an amen?! Can I get an hallelujah?!

The only thing to do is hang out with your own kind, probably get quietly drunk somewhere and not sleep, all the while chanting the collective mantra: "There's always next year. There's always next year." Now listen: Under normal circumstances this wouldn't bother me so much, but it is 5:38am and there appears to be no end in sight.

You know when I was a kid growing up in the early 80's I used to be terrified of nuclear war. I'd stay up late and frantically listen to the radio, just waiting. Waiting for the sirens to go. Waiting for that one sustained "beeeeeeeeeeeep!" of the

Emergency Broadcast System that meant you were about to fry. I used to have nightmares about it. I really did. I was afraid of dying. I mean come now, I was young. I had things to do. Places to go. People to see. I don't do that anymore. Now I worry about dying alone.

H a p p y Valentine's Day.

\*The proceeding definitely happened.

allow me a little bit of predictability: I hate Valentine's Day. I think it's a day that only Nazis could have concocted. Nazis with a talent for writing cards. Think about it. It's an incredibly exclusionary day. Couples only, Dear Friends and Neighbors. Couples only.

It's a day for those who are couples to feel superior and look down their combined noses at the rest and go "Listen: Don't you see? We're just far better than you. See how happy we are, lowly plebe? You should all be rounded up, taken somewhere unpleasant and be quietly disposed of, so we don't have to hear any more of your whining."

It's true. Single people are unwelcome in certain places that

*Seriously, who needs the reminder of their excess singledom? Not me Brothers and Sisters. Can I get an amen?! Can I get an hallelujah?!*

Wide awake at 5:18am and I have a class at 9:00!! Wonderful!

I really should be asleep right now. I should be asleep and dreaming. Dreaming of adventures or scary things. Dreaming of far off places. Dreaming of me, a desert island and the fabulous Linda Kelly. Anything but what I'm doing now.

I'll tell you another thing people, the Bank of Nova Scotia is screwing me with their size extra-large shaft. But we can't go there...for legal reasons. I wish there was some way to turn my brain off. Sort of like a once-a-day, night time lobotomy, effective for a healthy eight hours. Or a little flap or something in your skull that would allow you to take a chunk out of your brain, get some

## Customer service at MSVU sucks

*Students are treated like movie characters... lemme explain*

By Natalie Dorey

What do movies like *The Net* with Sandra Bullock or *Man in the Iron Mask* with our pal Leo have in common with the Mount? Lots. Let me explain.

In *The Net*, Sandra's character's identity is erased by bad guys who are, of course, out to get her. In *Man in the Iron Mask*, Leo's second character is conveniently hidden away and forgotten about while everyone else lives normally. And we all know what typically happens when these types of characters try to stand up for themselves or speak out...

Still wondering what all this has to do with the Mount? Well, if you have ever visited the Registrar's Service Counter or Financial Services, you would know. It seems as soon as we students enroll for our all-important first-year classes, the administration conveniently forgets about us.

We've all been through it. Calmly telling people at Financial Services for the fourth time that, yes, I have made financial arrangements and that someone behind the desk already signed the necessary papers about three weeks ago. Or explaining to the Registrar's Office for

an hour that, yes, I have finished a certain course, and that, yes, it should be on my transcript. Such dealings are frustrating as hell—you feel like you're trapped in a bad movie.

The Mount is a business. If enrolment goes down, classes are cancelled, funding is cut, and so on. The university depends on students to survive. And not just new students, all students. From those taking one class to those enrolled in a bachelor's or master's program—part-time or full-time.

It's understood when people reach university, they are adults. They are responsible for their own future and the Mount shouldn't have to baby-sit them...

Fine, most of us students are adults and we would all like to be treated as such. So when we ask for help, the university should treat us like the adult, paying customers we are. Administrators at the Mount must realize they depend on us. We are not interrupting their work—we ARE their work. In other businesses, customer service is one of the most important factors of success. I guess the Mount hasn't caught on yet...

So, anyway, you get a handshake and a "welcome to the Mount" on the way in. Then there are years of silence and no help. And when you're all finished, you get another handshake, a "congratulations" and a "don't let the door hit your butt on the way out."

"And, oh, by the way, don't forget to mail your donations to the Alumnae and Development Office."

It seems like once the Mount sucks you in—just like a bad movie—you're stuck. You've paid your money, you've bought your popcorn, and like most people—no matter how bad the movie is—you're going to see it through to the end.

There are a few brave souls who will get up and leave, but most people, however dissatisfied, won't leave the theatre or switch school... And in cases of the latter, sometimes people have no choice but to stay. People in public relations and child and youth studies can't take their programs anywhere else in the country.

That's why many people, like yourself, have to come to the Mount, and live the movie.

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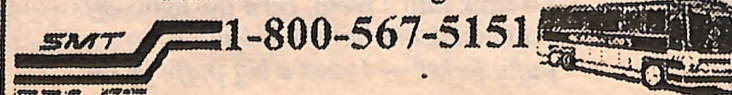
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Compiled by Crista Stone

If you were going to steal a computer on Campus, how would you do it?



(L to R) Tabitha Conway, Sherisse Dixon, Tania Nicholson, and Shonda Dixon: from J.L. Isley High School, Halifax  
Climb through the window, steal it all (including the desk!) ... clean it right out ... Open window ... throw everything on a mattress in the back of a truck



Pam Wetzel, 5th year Arts, Kentville  
I don't think there are any computers worth stealing



Nadine Leblanc, Krista Smith: from Millwood High, Halifax  
Dress up as a computer fixer and take it - break a window or something



Geoff Tait, L. Sackville & Amanda Smith, 2nd year IT, Dartmouth  
Just take one! - go into the lab, take one, and walk out



Tyson Langille, 1st year BBA, Sackville  
I'd walk into a room, turn the lights off and walk out with it. I'd put it up a puffy jacket — I need a big puffy jacket



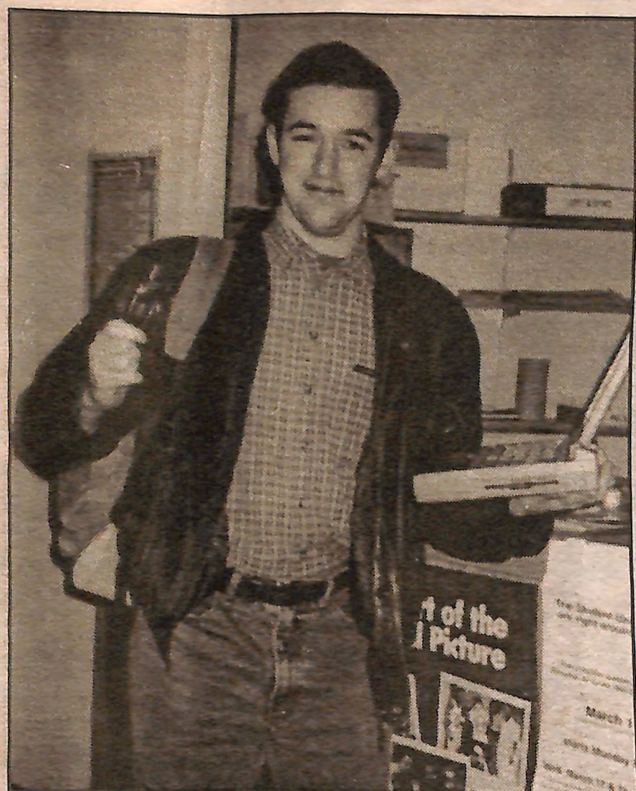
Shannon McPhee, 1st year BPR, Glace Bay, NS or Curtis, ON (she isn't sure)  
I'd put a virus in the computer so that it would steal itself for me



Colleen Brinen, 1st year Arts, Mt. Uniacke  
I'm too much of a nice girl to steal a computer

PROFESSOR

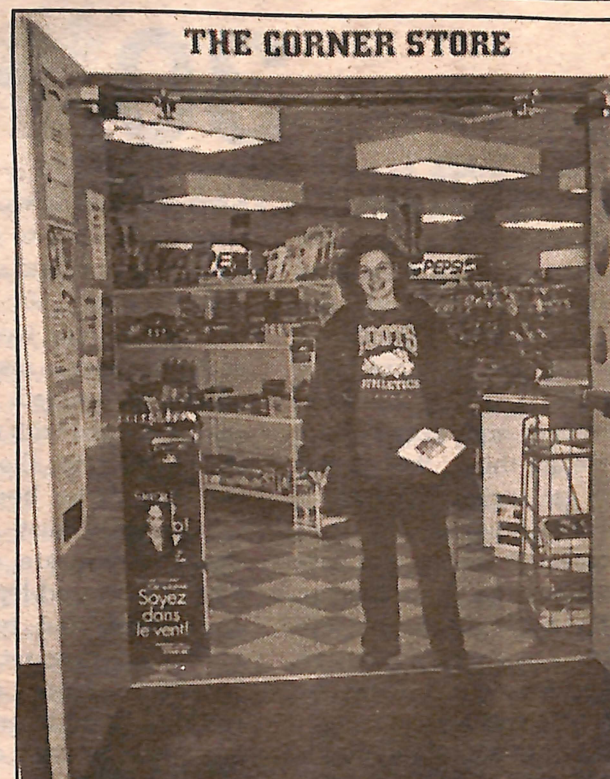




**Mark Cooper, 4th year IT, St. John's, NF**  
*How would I Steal a Computer!? I don't want the whole computer just the good stuff inside*



**James Tilley, 4th year BPR, Halifax**  
*You couldn't pay me enough to take that IBM junk away. Unless I needed a doorstop or something*



**Angie McAuley, 2nd year BPR, Bridgewater**  
*I used to work at the Corner Store and I saved all my pennies. So now I don't need to steal one*

# YOUR HORRORSCOPE

By Charity Baker

## **Pisces: 2/20 to 3/20**

I see your birthday is coming up. Is it me, or do you get worse every year? This is going to be a rough year for you, and you will have a hard time getting through it. You do have friends who will try to help you out, but eventually they will tire off your endless self pity and will abandon you. I'd like to say you are going to get through it all right, but some of your aren't going to get through it at all.

## **Aries: 3/21 to 4/20**

Lately there has been a fire burning inside you that you can't seem to quench. It's like a passion that runs your life. It's forever inside you and you can't figure out what to do to help it. Well, for one thing, it isn't passion, or desire you are feeling. It's heartburn, pure and simple, and the only way to get rid of it is to eat better food. Did you really expect all that grease to just disappear and never return to haunt you? Wake up and smell the maalox.

## **Taurus: 4/21 to 5/21**

I didn't have enough money to do yours, sorry.

## **Gemini: 5/22 to 6/21**

So, you're trying to be an individual eh? Setting your

own rules, dressing however you want, and saying exactly what comes into your mind. Hey, don't you know that's what gets people killed? Which, by my prediction is basically how this is all going to end. You won't know where, and you won't know how. I suppose I could tell you, but I don't feel like it. Besides, that would be messing with the future, and I don't want to be responsible for that.

## **Cancer: 6/22 to 7/23**

You're going to be running low on money soon. It has a lot to do with the people that are going to mug you and beat you half to death, but enough about you. I am having a great week. It seems like I can't do anything wrong lately. It's too bad you don't have as much luck as me. But, I guess not everyone can be perfect.

## **Leo: 7/24 to 8/23**

You know, I had a really good prediction for you, but then I decided that it just wasn't worth it. How would the other people feel if you had a positive future and they were left in the cold? So, here's your actual prediction. I must admit, it is pretty bleak. It looks like you aren't going to be happy now because someone has let you

down. In fact, it's almost as if they out and out lied to you. They didn't mean to, but it was necessary to change the outcome at the very end. Besides, if you look at it without being such a whiner, it is rather funny. You may however, want to verify this.

## **Virgo: 8/24 to 9/23**

Happiness once surrounded you, now it seems distant and obsolete. Where sunshine once filled your days, there is now rain. What you really need is a good dose of luck. Unfortunately, that isn't happening any time soon. What's worse, is you are about to run into a streak of bad luck that will make suicide seem very comforting. My suggestion would be to just try and get over it, eventually this will all end. Who knows, maybe a piano will fall on your head.

## **Libra: 9/24 to 10/23**

Don't try anything too adventurous in the next few weeks. Danger is lurking around every corner. There are people out to get you. They know what you know, and they want to make sure you don't tell anyone. Be extremely suspicious, you never know who may be out to get you. For all you know

I could be one of the conspirators. And I know your future, so I know where you will be at all times. Be afraid, be very, very afraid.

## **Scorpio: 10/24 to 11/22**

Isn't it wonderful to have good friends? Why am I asking you? Your only friend is yourself. This has a lot to do with you vanity, and self love, but mainly to do with the fact that no one likes you anyways. Seems that you will be alone for the rest of your life. At least you've already mastered the art of talking to yourself. Just remember, it's only bad when you start answering back.

## **Sagittarius: 11/23 to 12/21**

You're just one of those unlucky people in the world today. If a million dollars landed at your feet, money would go out of style. This is the life you lead. No matter what you do, it is never good enough and ends up coming back to haunt you. It's funny in a way, how even your best intentions land you in trouble. Of course it's a good idea for most people to volunteer, but not you, as it will only wind up with horrible consequences. Try to avoid everything, that may be your only solution.

## **Capricorn: 12/22 to 1/20**

It's time for travel. You are going to want to get away from it all. Perhaps an adventure to an exotic country would be good. You will need to get away, after you are framed for murder. You really shouldn't let yourself be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Sorry about the bullet wound to your leg. You should have played dodge ball more as a child.

## **Aquarius: 1/21 to 2/19**

This is a great time of year for you. With the sun so close to your ruling planet things are looking bright and sunny. Romance is in the air, which is good seeing as Valentine's Day just passed. It's about time you start living the good life. Who knows, you may just meet that special someone when you least expect it.

*Do not take these predictions seriously. They are purely meant for entertainment. That is about the only pure thing about them. The writer is not an actual astrologer, and if she was, she wouldn't go to the trouble of figuring out your real future anyways.*



# 30 Hour Famine

By Charity Baker

A friend of mine received a care package today from her mother. Without it, she may have gone without the essentials of life. The things that make student life bearable.

Cookies, chocolates and other sweets. These are things that people here get excited about. It's different however, for other people. To them, that care package would have seemed like a gift from heaven. To them, cookies are an extravagance, chocolates are a luxury, and sweets are out of the question. Food itself is sometimes treated like treasures.

Around the world there are children starving everyday. They go without food and water for days. Thin and frail, they suffer to survive daily life on dirt and other things that would make most people cringe. These children are so weak from hunger that they often can't stand on their own. After days, weeks, or even years of suffering they often face an cruel and painful death. There are people trying to create a better life for these children and there is a way for students to help too. Through World Vision Canada's 30 Hour Famine people across Canada are given the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of these children.

World Vision Canada is dedicated to stopping world poverty and hunger, through the 30 Hour Famine they allow the people of Canada to lend a helping hand. The Famine is based on people caring enough to go 30 hours without any food. A long period by our standards, but mere hours to the children in undeveloped countries who go days without nourishment.

Participating in the 30 Hour Famine is one of the greatest things a Canadian can do to show their compassion towards the rest of the world. Last year, Canadians raised over \$2.65 million to help the children who need it the most.

By taking part, you will be helping a young child get the food they need rather than having to grow food to support their family. If you feel that your work load is overwhelming, think of the children who at the age of

seven are already working 15 hours a day only to go home to dirty water and no food. Today over 60 million children in India work. Out of that number as many as 15 million are bonded. Parents are often faced with no other choice than to allow their children to be bonded to raise money just to feed them. There are children who sit crossed-legged all day, rolling and tying the ends of cigarettes or "beedis." Some children work 12 to 15 hours a day, most have a daily quota of up to 2,000 a day. Some children face beatings and shackles from their employers. A scary prospect for children who have nothing to eat.

World Vision has helped in the release of over 2,000 children from this type of labour in one region alone. By supplementing the parents' income so the

*To them, cookies are an extravagance, chocolates are a luxury, and sweets are out of the question. Food itself is sometimes treated like treasures.*

children can return to school to take up trades such as tailoring and carpentry at World Vision centres. World Vision's efforts have caused authorities in some areas to begin enforcing their laws by charging the employers for abuse towards the children.

There are also personal benefits other than just feeling good. World Vision has a system that rewards people for raising as much money that they can. With items such as hats and travel mugs there is a great emphasis on trying to fund raise as much as possible.

One of the best rewards however, comes to people between the ages of 15 and 19 who raise over \$250. These Faminers are asked to write essays on certain topics and then 10 people are chosen to visit Toronto to tour World Vision Canada's headquarters in Mississauga, take in a baseball game at the SkyDome and visit other local tourist attractions like MuchMusic. Two of these winners will be chosen to visit one of World Vision's project overseas.

This year, Mount Saint Vincent will be hosting a 30 Hour Famine at the campus.

The organizers are hoping to have over 100 people participate. If you have decided that this is a year you want to do something to make a difference, sign up. There are starving children around the world who will send their thanks out to you as they finally receive the food they so desperately need.

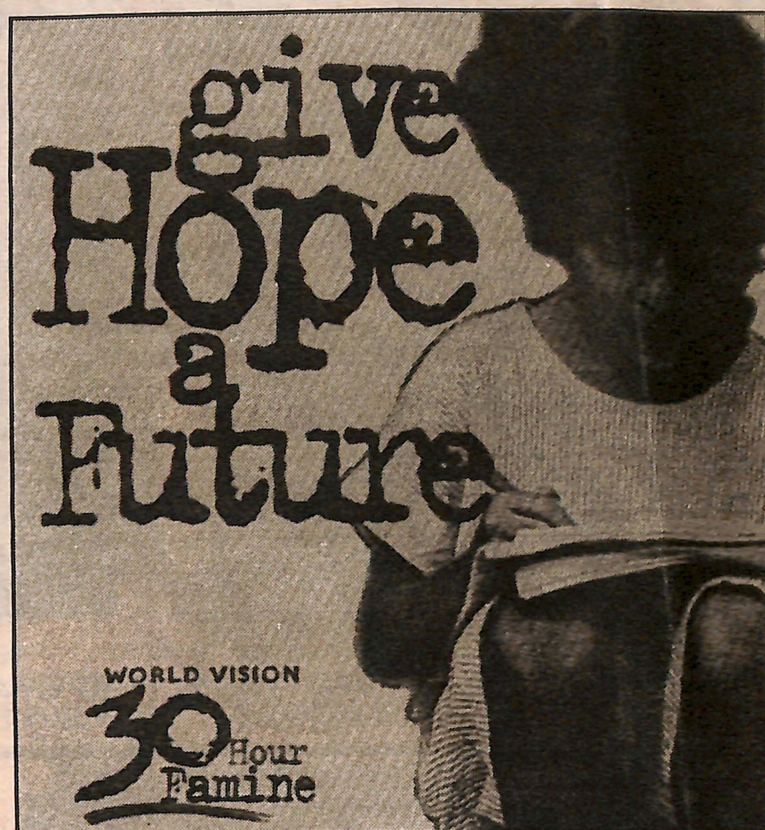
If you would like to help out but cannot take part in the actual Famine for medical, religious or personal reasons you are welcome to fund raise and join in the activities the days of the event. Those who would like to famine, but dislike the idea of fundraising, can see if they can find someone to fund raise for them. Personal contributions are also welcome for those who don't like to fund raise and also cannot participate in the Famine itself.

One of the best parts of participating is getting together as a group for the 30 hours and having a great time. However, the committee realizes that most people have prior commitments and for that reason people are welcome to join in even if they cannot be here for the actual event.

World Vision has also created t-shirts to celebrate the event. The committee at Mount Saint Vincent University will be looking into ordering these if enough people show interest in participating. The shirts will be available to everyone who participates.

As a treat from the Committee of the 30 Hour Famine at the Mount Saint Vincent, the Faminer or fund raiser who brings in the most money will receive a special thank you gift for their efforts.

The 30 Hour Famine Committee would also like to issue a challenge to the societies and faculty departments of Mount Saint Vincent University. We would like to see the groups battle for the title of The Ultimate Famine Fund Raising Team.



The first meeting for people interested in taking part will be March 4th at 4:30 in Room 106 in Rosaria. This meeting will help us determine the number of people to provide juice for and how much food we will need at the end of the Famine. An Executive Committee will also be formed at this meeting as well. If you cannot make it to the meeting but are interested in participating call one of the contact

numbers and leave a message. The tentative date for the Famine is March 19th and 20th. Look for posters around campus announcing the dates of the Famine and the contact numbers.

It's up to you to take the first step in helping out those who weren't fortunate enough to be born in a country that can provide for itself. You were, and in thanks you should do whatever you can to make their lives a little easier.

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# A Fresh Start

## Jubilee 2000-A year for social and economic justice

By Trina Roache

As we head toward the millennium, it is not apocalyptic visions of biblical proportions that the Church is preaching, but a vision of social and economic justice. The main impetus of the Jubilee 2000 is debt cancellation for developing nations which are poverty stricken and burdened by huge, unpayable loans.

John O'Donnell, Director of Administration at the Catholic Pastoral Centre in Halifax, notes that increasing inequality has always been a part of human history and the Jubilee is "a time for renewal...to level the playing field." A Judaic tradition going back thousands of years, "the idea of forgiving debts has always been around," says O'Donnell. Historically, the Jubilee was also a time to free slaves. And while slavery may not exist in its conventional form today, "developing nations are enslaved by the developed world by the fact that they're so deeply in debt."

Five or six years ago, the Pope revitalized the idea, situating it at the global level. And it's taken hold not just among Christian churches, but by other religions and organizations such as Development and Peace. An estimated 300 million signatures collected worldwide

will be presented to the Group of Eight meeting in June of 1999. O'Donnell foresees that if the G-8, the World Bank, and the IMF "make only a token gesture, the political consequences will be staggering."

Dr. Bradfield, Professor of Economics at Dalhousie, describes the Jubilee as not only "humane," but as "simply a practical thing to do." The debt incurred by many developing countries is the result of what Dr. Bradfield calls the three M's -the military, megaprojects (both of which were often at the initiative of developed countries), and Mercedes (luxury goods). "What has made the debt so overwhelming is a combination of decreasing commodity prices on export products, increasing interest rates, and "bad advice, given by international agencies, in terms of what was good for the economies of developing nations."

Canada is owed roughly 1.5 billion dollars by developing countries, and though this may seem like a high number, Dr. Bradfield points out that "two wealthy families in Canada have received tax breaks of almost that much money. If we can do it for them, why can't we do it for the millions of people in the Third World countries who are

suffering horribly from the attempts of their governments to pay off these loans."

For the fifty-five countries which meet the criteria of indebtedness, such as Zimbabwe, Nicaragua, Bangladesh, The

recognize "the debt is imposed" and compares the pressure put on developing nations to borrow to the pressure put on Canadians to have credit cards, something to which students can relate. Necessary for

"between 1981 and 1997, these countries have already paid 2.9 trillion in U.S. dollars." And much of this is merely the interest payments owed to the banks. And as Dr. Bradfield explains the cycle, the public tax dollars that fund relief packages sent to foreign countries often come back to our own banks in the form of these interest payments.

While corruption among the governments of some developing countries is a reality, it is, in fact, besides the point. Mr. O'Donnell recognizes the "need for checks and balances." But this emphasis on "proper accountability" should also be extended to the lenders. Dr. Bradfield notes that it's as much a matter of bad lending as it is bad borrowing. And eradicating the debt is not lining the pockets of corrupt

leaders but "putting less pressure on them to squeeze their population for money."

The success of the Jubilee 2000 campaign depends on how informed people are about the issue, and how much they relate their concerns to their politicians. While church leaders across Canada have met with Paul Martin already, he needs to be aware that this is something the public is concerned about. Menendez says education on the issue is essential and universities should play a role.

While discussions of debt may be couched in economic terms, it is important to remember the human costs. This is the focus of the Jubilee, to mark the millennium by moving towards social justice for those people in developing nations whose lives are defined by poverty.

*This is the focus of the Jubilee, to mark the millennium by moving towards social justice for those people in developing nations whose lives are defined by poverty.*

Honduras, and Jamaica, the social consequences of debt are devastating. As a native of El Salvador, Roberto Menendez, President of Development and Peace in Halifax, understands firsthand how issues of healthcare and education are affected, citing unemployment levels in El Salvador at 35-40%. He sees our "economic system as the underlying cause of suffering."

Menendez says it's important to

buying a car and establishing a credit rating, credit cards can be a fast route to personal debt.

He also wants people to understand that the Jubilee is not about charity. After all,

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# Now that's entertainment

By Mike Allen

OK MSVU, a few of you wanted it but all of you are gettin' it - Mike Allen's off the wall thoughts and sayings article. That's right, I've broken down and decided to share some of the dumbest things I have ever said to all who are willing to read it. Before I begin, I have to make the following statement: by putting forth this article I assume full liability for damages caused from hysteric laughter, I fully take on the risk of never being spoken to again, and I hereby set myself up to be the centre of numerous jokes that may effuse from this piece herein.

Let's begin with censored language. There are a few words that are just fine with everybody that I think should instill a little amendment sickness in society, and here they are: (10) "Woody" that talking tree (if kids only knew. (9) Dictionary, (8) Back Hoe, (7) Box (it's so crude), (6)

Curtain Rod, (5) Bag Pipes, (too much male anatomy) (4) Muffler, (3) Rubber (sounds like rub-her which is, of course, sexual harrassment) (2) Mail, and finally (1) Grease Nipple. Something tells me my number one selection will hit the revisal board any day now as could any one of my other selections. Any suggestions?

School can be very boring at times eh? And I don't mean that everyone tries to dig a hole in the cement, but I mean boring as in dull. Being an economics major I ask people what they think of it and they say that - just like a vacuum cleaner - it sucks! Well, I may have the solution. We need to think of economics and its terms like this: Is the Titanic considered a sunk cost? How can an economics professor keep a straight face while talking about net gains to the fishery? What is

really on the professor's mind when they make an equation with the variables KY? If you made a graph for the modeling industry,

Link. But before you get that far, what is that little hall entitled that connects the SAC to the Link? The Slink? Ya, um...I'll get right on

*School can be very boring at times eh? And I don't mean that everyone tries to dig a hole in the cement, but I mean boring as in dull.*

you'd need to have a few curves! And what about marginal cost - I thought your computer stayed between the lines for free. Ya, anyway don't write any of this stuff down on an exam if you're looking for an A for AWESOME because you'll get an F for F\*&KED. Just remember it for when class gets a bit slow.

Now that we're done with class for the time being, how about spare time? The first thought that should enter your mind is the

that. Anyway if you are in the Link you may see a person or two hanging around - literally. If you are a no nonsense type of person who can't stand a joke - never tell somebody hanging on the pipe to get down. Why? Because they'll just tell you to "pipe

down." Or, asking someone sitting on the couch how their day is going is about as useless as sitting in the electric chair with a really messed up Rubix cube in your hand! Come on, if you ask me how I'm doing when I'm on the couch I'll say to you "sofa so good!" Any questions?

On a spare note we have the following scenarios:

1. A canoe paddler asked his teammate which paddle he wanted and the guy replied by saying "Either or."
2. A girl went to her friend the ropemaker and said, "You are cordially invited for supper." Needless to say the ropemaker didn't make it because he was tied up.

3. Just the other day my friend quit working at Midas because he claimed he was exhausted.

4. Finally, several years ago a local banker had to quit work and go on retirement early because he claimed that he was suffering from withdrawal.

So there it is folks, some of the dumbest things I have ever said at MSVU and most certainly some of worst jokes you will ever, ever hear. Hopefully you haven't been too corrupted from the theatrics of the previous paragraphs. If you have, then I guess you're just like a Robinson or Philips....screwed. Oh Doctor! Till next time!

## Rantin' and ravin'

*A day at the rave, and the quest for the perfect shirt*

By Tim Boudreau

The day begins with the quest for the perfect shirt. When you go to a rave you don't want to go as 'you,' but rather that part of yourself which normally doesn't get to see the light of day. Your zany, wacky, not-so-run-of-the-mill side. Your rave self should be a persona not at ease with going to the mall, or taking notes in class. On the day of the rave, you want to let that part of yourself—which wants to dance all night long to the funkier, craziest tunes imaginable—run loose. The perfect shirt is a good place to begin your personal transformation.

A rave is an all-night dance party, but it is about much more than just dancing. Raves contain a certain underground appeal, a unique otherworldly allure that draws all sorts of freaks,

losers, and normal spuds out of the woodwork. Everyone into the rave scene knows when one is coming, but the actual location, a warehouse or unused bingo hall, is not disclosed until 48 hours beforehand—adding to the sense of mystery.

Stepping into a rave is like entering another dimension. No two raves are exactly alike, but you can count on there being lots of smoke, insane light shows, and the craziest electronic funk. There is no defined dance floor, the entire premises is open territory—from the front entrance to the main floor to the bathroom stalls. Every inch of every imaginable stretch of floor space is covered with gyrating souls testifying their groove-a-tron powers.

The rave scene is one of

the biggest new gigs catching on here in Halifax. It's a cultural phenomenon that adds new life to the skanked-out, dog-ridden downtown dance scene. First of all, raves are very unstructured, unregulated and free of restriction, making them more appealing to young people who desire a vacuum in which to define their personalities. The rave is a realm of personal exploration, a temple of mental and physical soul searching. Ravers are encouraged, nay, obligated (in the most benevolent sense), to experiment with zany new styles of clothing, hairdos, and makeup. Overly spacious cargo pants, shimmering shirts, skimpy tops, glittering nail polish, scintillating body paint, crimped hair, and all

assortments of tank-tops are standard issue.

What goes in your body is almost as important as what goes on it. Ecstasy—a form of LSD which incredibly enhances ones sensory perception and sense of touch—is the drug of choice. As one enthusiastic raver put it: "Everything feels so coool on E."

Beyond ecstasy, some ravers smoke weed, others stick to the traditional alcohol, while others choose to "do it" substance free, enjoying a natural high. Most raves also feature a bar where 'smart drinks'—fruit juice beverages pumped up with energy supplying vitamins—can be purchased. And there's always water; lots and lots of water.

After six in the morning, or whenever people feel like

going home to crash, the rave comes to an end. However, shortly thereafter, another one is being planned—another one is always being planned. All anyone has to do to find details on upcoming raves is keep an eye out for promotional flyers distributed at key locations. A couple of stores to check out for rave information are Urban Sound Exchange and HMW; or you can just keep your eyes on telephone poles on Spring Garden Road and Barrington St. for flyers. Also check out [www.ravesource.com](http://www.ravesource.com) for details on up-and-coming 'events.'

Just remember, to survive the rave you need to get lots of sleep beforehand, leave your reservations at home, and, or course, find the perfect shirt.







# A day in paradise

By Manal Mahshi

It has been six months since I have been away from home. People ask, "Where is home?" Well it is far away I say...on the other side of the world! Home for me is the United Arab Emirates, it is not the country I am actually from, but it is the place where I have lived, where I was brought up, and it is the place where my memories and friendships trace back to. Home is thirty two hours of travelling from here. Yes it is far, which leads to the next question that I am commonly asked. "Didn't you get a cultural shock by coming here?" Well, my answer is no! Surprised?! Surely there is a cultural difference but there is also a cultural awareness. The United Arab Emirates is a modernized city. It is a desert but we do not drive on sand anymore because it is also a pioneer country in desert agriculture. It is a semi-island thereby surrounded by the Persian Gulf. I will take you for a drive on one of the main streets in the capital city of Abu Dhabi. Are you ready?

The roads are five lanes in each direction with a divider filled with pine trees, grass and lamp posts and lots of trees that bear fruit. Now can you see the sea on your right? Yes, it is there behind all the trees and picnic shelters. But between the gardens and the sea is the wide pavement paths where we go for our jogs. Oh you don't jog! Well that's okay you can just go for a walk or take your kids to play ball. Did you say you prefer cycling? Fine then, that's the best place to go because there are bicycle roads right next to the main road alongside all the gardens. Now look to your left. The buildings are lined close to each other as though by their closeness they would provide a greater shelter from the warm and stinging sun. Do you realize the architectural competition by looking at the buildings? Oh I

am sorry I am not making sense to you! Well, look at the way the buildings are racing to the sky. Look at the different colours of glass and marble that make up the buildings. That's the competition that the architects go through. Their task is

is 16kg of gold powder in the glass of this building. Ya! Very impressive.

I suppose we don't have to drive on for that is the way this road keeps going. With hotels and market places on the left and the sea and the gardens

ever been to a fish market? Well, of course you have. Maybe I should rephrase my question. Have you ever been to a closed fish market built in the form of a huge castle with expensive ceramics covering floors, walls and ceilings? Is it a fish market with approximately one hundred kinds of sea creatures? An area with around fifty men just cleaning and cutting the fish according to your request? Well that's our fish market!

Are you concerned about the night life? What's your favourite weekend activity? I can say everything is available from fancy restaurants to not-so-fancy restaurants to pubs to discotheques to movie theatres to coffee shops both inside and out. Do you know what my favourite weekend outing would be? Well, how about a night time boat trip

with water skiing at sunset and then dancing and barbecue at midnight? My friend doesn't like the sea so I have to go with her on her favourite outing every now and then. Care to join us? Well, we'll give you time to think but I will tell you where we are going first. We are going to rent some four wheel drive vehicles and head into the desert. From there we will go desert skiing and try sand dune rides and have a barbecue and then once it gets cooler in the night we'll retire into the tents and play cards and games.

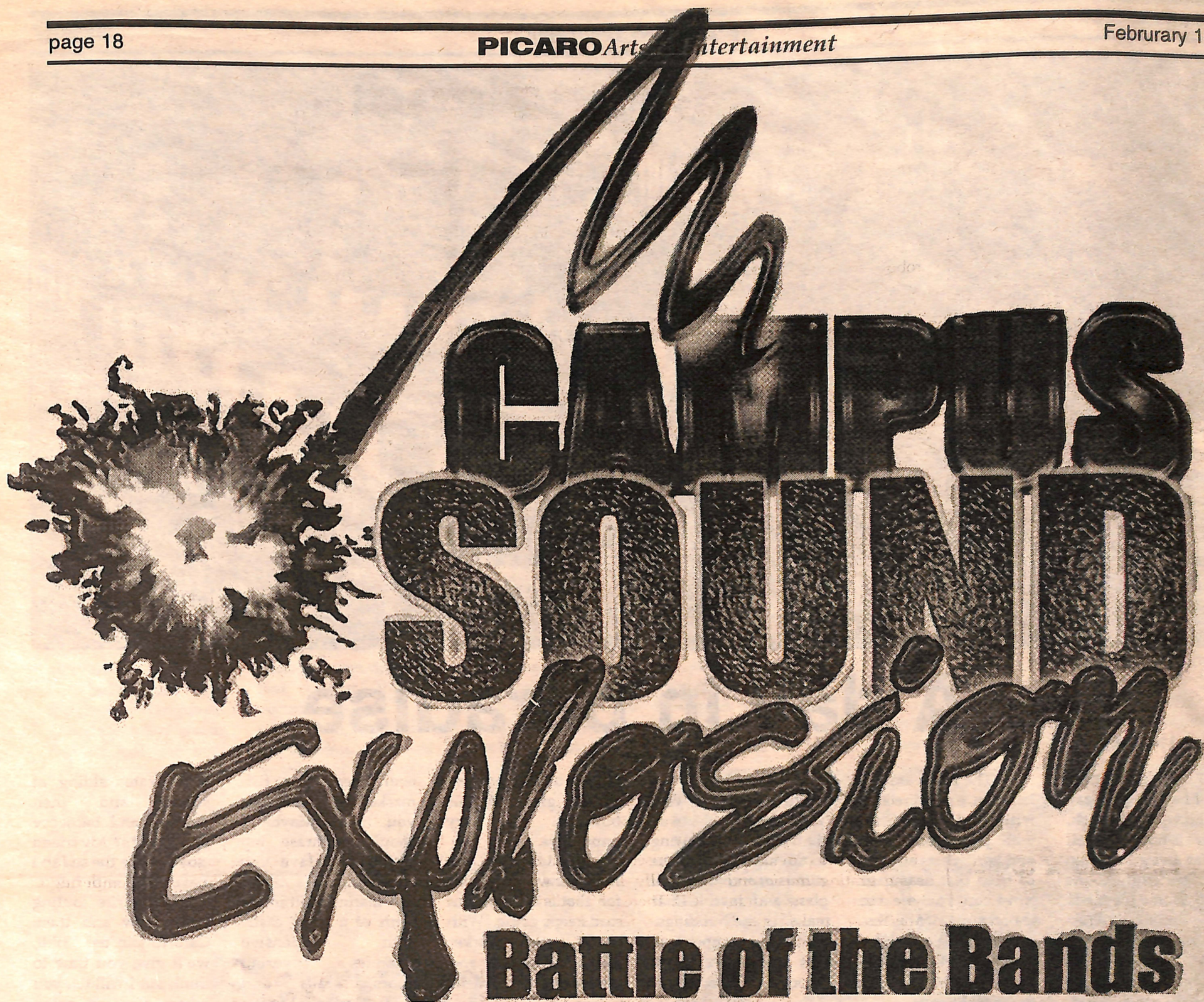
Are you tempted to come and visit? The United Arab Emirates is a friendly place and the life is one of ease and luxury. The people are very hospitable and always looking forward to entertaining and welcoming visitors. So why don't you make your reservations and take the next flight. I'm sorry, I know that it is not as simple as that so until you can make your arrangements, you can say that you have already been on a one day tour of Abu Dhabi.



to create the tallest building possible with the best design and with the most expensive building materials. It is obviously a rich country; rich in terms of capital but also in terms of taste. See that gold building that we just passed by? There

on the right. There are malls filled with the Western brand names, but there are also the traditional shops with Persian carpets, cultural garments and items. There are modern market places as well as the traditional open markets. Have you





# CAMPUS SOUND Explosion

## Battle of the Bands

## Bands a-fightin' while a-rockin' at the Pub

By Rhonda Smiser

The night began slowly... the bands were a little late getting started, but when they took to the stage, they either rocked us out, or drifted us into musical bliss. Campus Sound Explosion's Battle of the Bands on Feb. 3, 1999, went down at nine Maritime universities at the same time, jamming at local schools like Dal, SMU, and yours truly, MSVU.

The Three Helens opened the night with a very jazzy set. All of their songs were covers—but they were amazing, nevertheless. Their vocal harmonies were superb, and they added life to each of the

songs they did. They eventually took third place in the competition.

The second act to hit the stage was Ken & Leanne. Their music was godsent—literally. The Christian folk duo's talent bursted out at the seams of Vinnie's Pub. Leanne's voice should be bottled and sold to people who need to know what perfection is. It sent shivers up my spine more than once. Leanne, a fellow Mount student, has talent coming oozing of her ears—if not every other oraphus in her body. Unfortunately, the duo didn't place in the top

three—but they were amazing, just the same.

The third band to jam was All Day Breakfast. One of its members is the Mount's own Andrew Gosney. His band consisted of two other members, whose musical style, for that night anyway, sounded a lot like Hootie and The Blowfish. They were very mellow and low-tempo; able to relax the listener with all original songs and amazing vocal and guitar skills. All Day Breakfast took second place.

Crooked North was the last act to take the stage. With their

upbeat, original play list, they definitely rocked the house raw. Complete with a very talented female lead singer, they had a slight resemblance to the Cranberries. You could tell they were comfortable in front of a crowd. Even when they screwed up a song halfway through, they recovered nicely and moved on to another. Crooked North came in first, and will go on to the regionals on March 13, at Dalhousie.

All in all, although the turnout at Vinnie's wasn't great, the bands made up for it. They were each unique in their own

way, and all were strong vocally and musically. First place could have gone to any of them.

Now, here's a little profile on this whole Campus Sound Explosion thing. Please bear with me for a bit. So, every year, the big guys and girls from universities across the country get together and host a conference, called the Canadian Organization of Campus Activities, or COCA. Basically, it's a chance for universities to get together, have some fun; but more importantly, they get to share ideas about how to make each

university as amazing and fun as possible. At the conference, there are musical showcases, seminars and planned activities for all delegates to participate in.

So, I guess you are wondering what this has to do with The Battle of The Bands... Well, the winner from the regionals goes on to perform in the COCA showcase in June—and hopefully that band gets 'discovered,' or at least gets signed to play at different unis around the country.

I think there's a good chance we hear Crooked North's sound rock the next COCA...



# Strong enough

By Charity Baker

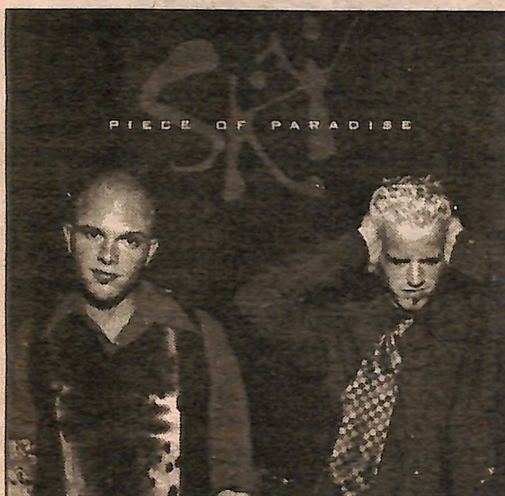
It's been awhile since Cher has come out with anything new in the music industry and that is a shame. Despite the wild rumours that she is a robot, she's an excellent artist who is really good at what she does. I was quite happy to see that she was coming out with a new album and I made sure I got it soon after it came out even though I had only heard one song. Or at least I thought I had only heard one song from this album. When I listened to the second track, The Power, I realized I had heard it elsewhere, namely, television. The song is used to sell some product

and now every time I hear it I think about the commercial I can't remember. It's actually a catchy tune that maintains the quality of the album. Believe, an album that has been dedicated to Son, is Cher's first album since the death of her ex-husband Sonny Bono. A good deal of the songs deal with love, including her first smash single Believe, which continues to climb the charts as a dance hit. Cher takes on a new genre of electronic music with Believe and she is successful at it. This is one of the better albums to come out in awhile. Some people may expect Cher to be a little

rusty or out of touch with the current music styles. With this album she is sure to prove them wrong. The diva with the goods, Cher manages to aim to the audience that loved her before as well as the new audience. With her ability to make love songs upbeat she has taken the world by storm. No longer a past performer, she has shrugged off the title of has-been and is now an always-will-be. It may have taken her some time, but I believe that she has finally done something that will be noted for her ability. She's no longer grouped with someone that has the ability to bring her down.

She's stepped into the spotlight, and it loves her. Her single isn't the only excellent song on this album. She's follows it with other songs that express feelings that many people can't. One song in particular is Strong Enough, which is track number five on the album.

I have to say that this is one album I am glad I purchased. The songs are excellent, and as a special note, like I've mentioned before, she has included lyrics. It's fast enough to keep a crowd moving, but deep enough to be moving itself, it's a rare find and one that I will cherish.



## The sky's the limit

By Rhonda Simser

After hearing the song "Some Kinda Wonderful", by Sky, I wondered if I would ever be able to get it out of my head. I didn't like it. I figured the rest of the CD would provide the same grating music and lyrics that "Some Kinda Wonderful" had done. I

was wrong.

The first song on the CD, called "Push", had a disco-y type vibe, which got me dancing around my room. I was pleasantly surprised to find out that I actually like the whole CD. There is a good mix of ballads, faster songs, and

mid-tempo songs. One ballad that I think would make a good single is, "All I Want." It is a beautiful love song about the love from one person to another, that makes it through everything.

Overall, including "Some Kinda Wonderful",

this CD is rockin'. I would pick it up, it is an excellent CD for all those romantic nights with that special someone. Or if there isn't a special someone, it can be enjoyed by yourself, while pampering yourself.

## Brandy the diva?

By Charity Baker

Brandy has often fallen under the title of teen star and as a teenager, this suited her fine. However, with her new album, Never-Say-Never, she has shown a new side. The songs seem more mature, and the style shows some serious work on the lyrics and the ideas. Now she has been given the title of young diva. This suits her fine too. Never-Say-Never introduces Brandy as an adult artist. With songs

like U Don't Know Me and Have You Ever? she is moving away from the songs that dominated her career as a younger artist. By working with contemporaries like Monica on the hit single The Boy is Mine, she has established a strong working relationship with those she would normally be competing with. There are a few songs that can get irritating like Top of the World. It is a song that

may appeal to some people, but for most seems to be just an annoying attempt to duet with Mase.

Finally, one of the best songs on this album is a remake. Normally I frown on remakes as I see them as a lack of creativity or originality. However, Brandy manages to take Bryan Adams' Everything I Do and make it her own. She transforms an already beautiful song in to

something that truly moves people.

Brandy was successful with her last album and Never-Say-Never should only increase that fame. As her singles climb the charts and she continues to take on more endeavours such as acting, she will definitely belong to the group of women who are called divas.

## They had so much potential

By James Tilley

This CD came out last year at some point but it is new to me so I am going to review it anyway. One Hit Wonderful is a compilation album of you guessed it... one hit wonders.

It is a pretty fun cd, with a good variety of music from the 70's and 80's. The list of songs includes Video Killed the

Radio Star, Come on Eileen, Kung Fu Fighting and one of my favourites, Bobbie McFerrin's Don't Worry Be Happy.

There is some really weird stuff on the album including a song by Bruce Willis?! as well as a song, featuring Bob and Doug McKenzie of SCTV's Great White North fame. I didn't

like some of the songs, infact I hadn't even heard of some of the bands (I guess that is because the are On Hit Wonders).

I think that those who are interested in a wide variety of old band who never made it past their first release, will enjoy this CD. If you are one of these people you may want to

pick it up. Go to a secondhand place though. It isn't worth the full price because most songs can be found on at least one other CD. I have: Come on Eileen three times now.

These bands rock! But you will not be hearing from them soon.

**Want some FREE stuff?**  
Sure you do... If you review one of the CDs that the *Picaro* receives almost daily, you get to keep it. Just talk to Rhonda Smiser, the Arts & Entertainment Editor. Call her at 445-3584 or drop by the weekly staff meetings: Mondays at 2:00 pm - Rosaria 114





# Grease on drugs!

By Charity Baker

When I first found out what movie I was in store for, I was a bit wary. As far as I was concerned *She's All That* was another teen movie that I, as a sophisticated university student, was supposed to snub. Shouldn't I be watching foreign films, or something that makes me ponder life? I thought that my maturity would hinder my enjoyment of this movie. Apparently I am not as mature as I thought I was; Nor are the friends that went with me. I have to admit that this was actually a pretty good movie. I will even say I liked it.

*She's All That* probably isn't going to rate well with critics, and it will probably be ignored by many of the awards

shows, but the audiences are eating it up. True, it's not an overly complex or moving show. And the characters aren't exactly the most deep characters in the world.

There's no analytical process or critical expectations. This is pure entertainment. Rachael Leigh Cook and Freddie Prinze Jr. did an excellent job leading this terrific

lack of widely established actors, the story was delivered well and the laughs kept coming. The story was a teen romantic-comedy story line that offered a few

were trying to be a musical, but just couldn't justify the idea, was one particular scene. At the prom, for some unknown reason, other than the DJ (played by

number. I even said out loud in the theatre that it was a freaky version of *Grease*. That aside, it was all in all a good movie. Nothing to study in depth, but a movie just to enjoy in its simplicity. Let it take away your problems for a short time. It's a great way to spend an evening. If you're going to procrastinate you might as well watch something that will really put your work out of your mind. I highly recommend *She's All That* to the people out there who are over-stressed or just over-achievers. Now, I must be off to find something else to waste my time doing. Maybe I can learn that freaky dance.....

*She's All That probably isn't going to rate well with critics, and it will probably be ignored by many of the awards shows, but the audiences are eating it up.*

However, it still has, what I've determined to be, a humorous quality. This is one of those movies where you go in and shut off your brain. It works well to take your mind off of all the problems and papers you may have due. You get the chance to sit in the theatre and laugh.

ensemble cast which includes Matthew Lillard and Usher. With the rest of the cast and surprise appearances by actors such as Sarah Michelle Gellar from *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, the movie is almost an animated version of *Teen Magazine*. However, despite the

different twists. Now, why do I think it's like *Grease on drugs*? Well, the characters can fall into the same sort of categories if you look at them closely. I know I said it was a movie that needed no analyzing, but I couldn't help myself. The main thing that really made me look at the movie as if it

Usher) telling them too, half of the class starts dancing as if they had spent months preparing for this moment. I realize that there are some people who prepare for their proms years in advance, but not by getting together and forming a full choreographed dance

# she's all that



# I actually wanted to see Simply Irresistible...

By Charity Baker

First off, I have to recommend this movie to anyone who feels that their knowledge of Shakespeare and his plays is superior to their friends. I also suggest going to this movie with those friends. It does stroke the ego to be the one who has to explain all the little inside details and subtle jokes to the less informed. It made me feel rather smart, although if I had gone with my Shakespeare professor I probably would have felt like a real moron. It can get a little annoying however, having to explain what the Rose Theatre was and the significance of certain characters. Another problem had more to

do with today's popular actors than Shakespearean references. I had to repeatedly point out to the less cultured that it was NOT Ben Affleck in the starring role. Other than having to educate my fellow movie goers the movie overall was quite good. At first I was afraid that it was simply going to be a rehashing of Romeo and Juliet, a play that has fully enjoyed its moment in the spotlight. In some ways this movie was simply that. Most of the inside jokes were focussed on this play, including the characters named Rosalind and the humorous balcony scene. Thankfully the

writers decided that most people would not spend money to see another movie based on this over popular play. I personally have never even read Romeo

Gwyneth Paltrow's character Viola. It was even more evident as to what this name was going to be in reference to later on in the movie. However, the entire

Hamlet. The main story was focussed on revealing what Shakespeare's life could have been like. Due to the fact that most of Shakespeare's life is unknown today, the ideas presented in the movie are merely that, ideas. However, they let the audience wonder just how it was that Shakespeare became so well known. Was he actually a brilliant writer that the world justly came to recognize? Or was it the death of Christopher Marlow, his contemporary, who according to this movie was also preferred over Shakespeare, that gave Shakespeare the chance to emerge as the more popular playwright?

Thankfully, these are questions that may never be answered and that allows the people of today to make up wonderful stories such as Shakespeare in Love to try and guess at what his life was like.

In the end, I had to question whether I enjoyed this movie. It did have a storyline that allowed the audience to question common beliefs. However, it also maintained a great deal of attention on the story of Romeo and Juliet. There also seemed to be a great deal of nudity that seemed a little unnecessary. So in conclusion I have to ask, "Did I like this movie? I don't know, it's a mystery."

*I had to repeatedly point out to the less cultured that it was NOT Ben Affleck in the starring role.*

and Juliet in it's entirety and I was able to catch on to most of the obvious jokes. I did however quickly catch on to the significance of the name given to

movie was not based on Romeo and Juliet, this was just a play within a play, which is a strategy that Shakespeare himself used in plays such as

## Aramark Food Services

*What We have to offer!*

### February Break Hours

**Sacateria** Closed Monday Feb 22. - Friday Feb 26

#### **Rosaria Food Court:**

Sat Feb. 20 Regular Hours

Sun Feb. 21 Closed

Mon - Fri Feb. 22 - 26: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sat Feb. 27 Closed

Sun Feb. 28 Regular Hours

### WIN!

#### **Rosaria Food Court**

With the purchase of any pizza product and pop fountain drink, receive a ballot to win: 1st prize - Procter-Silex Toaster. 2nd prize (3 drawings) - warm-up jackets. 3rd prize - CD alternative/rap selections

#### **Sacateria**

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*Draw to take place February 26 1999*

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## ORGAN RECITALS BY JAMES BURCHILL AND FRIENDS

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT AT 12.15 pm

24 February to 24 March 1999

- 24 February JAMES BURCHILL (Organist & Choirmaster, Cathedral Church of All Saints)  
Music by C. V. Stanford (Eight Preludes and PQstludes).
- 3 March MARGARET FAY (Dalhousie University).
- 10 March JAMES BURCHILL Music by Herbert Howells (Partita).
- 17 March BARBARA THOMPSON WILSON (Organist & Choir Director, Fort Massey United Church).  
Music by Healey Willan (Soliloquy; Chorale Preludes on Aeterna Christi Munera; Richmond; and Hyfrydol; Epilogue).
- 24 March JAMES BURCHILL Music by Julius Reubke (Sonata on the 94th Psalm).

TUESDBYS IN SPRING AT 12.10 pm

28 April to 8 June 1999

- 20 April JAMES BURCHILL (Organist & Choirmaster, Cathedral Church of All Saints) Music by Josef Rheinberger (Monologues, Opus 162, Nos. 4, 5, and 6; Sonata No. 14 in C major, Opus 165).
- 27 April JAMES BURCHILL Music by Three Canadian Composers: George Coutts (Prelude and Fugue in E minor); Keith Bissell (Two Preludes; Sonata; Trio Suite); and Ernest MacMillan (Cortege Academique).
- 4 May ROSS MacLEAN (Organist & Choirmaster, Presbyterian Church of St. David).
- 11 May JAMES BURCHILL Music by George Frideric Handel (Concerto No. 2 in B flat; Water Music; arrival of the Queen of Sheba).
- 18 May ALLEN WAYTE (Organist & Choirmaster, First Baptist Church).
- 25 May JAMES BURCHILL Music by Two Organists of Yorkminster Cathedral: Edward Bairstow (Sonata in E flat) and Francis Jackson (Teccata, Chorale and Fugue).
- 1 June GARTH MacPHEE (Organist & Choirmaster, St. George's Round Church).
- 8 June JAMES BURGHILL Music by J. S. Bach (Tocatta and Fugue in F, S 540; Chorale Prelude on "Komm, Gott, Schopfer, heiliger Geist", S 667; Chorale Prelude on "Wenn wir in hochsten Norten sein", S 668; and Trio Sonata No. 2 in C minor, S 526).

*The collection at the door will be divided between the Organ Restoration Fund and the expenses of music at the Cathedral, particularly the costs of this recital series.*

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND**

### RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

The Dalhousie University Department of Psychiatry is conducting a research study to learn how chronic neurological disorders affect youth and their families. If you are 15-24 years of age, and DO NOT HAVE any psychiatric or neurological problems, you and your parents may be eligible. Participation requires approximately two hours (interviews and questionnaires), some compensation included. For more information, please contact Diane Neera at (902) 473-4891.

### Participants in study needed.... (Begining early Spring)

PhD. student working through in conjunction with the University of Southern Australia. Area of Research: White Privilege.  
Purpose of research is to explore how white privilege promotes and sustains systemic racism. Interviewees: People of all races willing to discuss experiences of systemic racism.

Taped interviews to last about one hour. (Confidentiality guaranteed.)  
financial compensation for participation (exact amount to be confirmed at a later date)

To discuss details of interview, CONTACT:

**Tara Irons @ 479-3753**  
or e-mail

**Taram88@hotmail.com**

## Weekly events

- Outdoors Club Meetings, Fridays noon in the studio off the gym, Everyone Welcome
- Student Alumnae Association Meetings, Fridays noon in Rosaria Room 105, Everyone Welcome
- Coed Volleyball, Thursdays 7:30 pm, All skill levels welcome, Mount Student play for free.
- Indoor Soccer, Thursdays 4:00 pm, Everyone Welcome.
- Recreational Badminton, Mondays to Fridays at lunch, Tuesdays also at 8:00 pm, Everyone Welcome
- Ath/Rec Meetings, Wednesday 5:30 pm in the Rosaria Cafeteria, Everyone Welcome.
- Picaro Meetings, Mondays 2:00 pm in Rosaria 114, everyone welcome
- Student Union Meetings, Every second Sunday at 5:00 pm (Feb 14, 28)

## Upcoming events

- March 4: 30 Hour Famine Planning Meeting - Rosaria 106 @ 4:30 pm
- March 6: Chebucto Symphony Orchestra Concert. 7:30 at St. Matthews Church on Barrington Street in Halifax. Program includes works by Tchaicovsky, Mozart, Dvorak and Copland.
- March 7: Outdoors club: Hike outside Duncans Cove
- March 19 & 20: tentative dates for the 30 Hour Famine. Look for details
- March 21: Outdoors club: Horseback riding at Hatfield's Farm
- April 19 - 23: Used Book Buyback. Rosaria 303A from 9:30 am - 4:00 pm see bookstore for details.

## Business society

The Business Society would like to extend a special thanks to all the businesses, faculty and students who attended and supported the 25th annual business dinner and attributed to its success.  
*special thanks goes out to The Bay Halifax for their generosity and support.*

## Volunteers needed

Discovery Centre will be holding a Volunteer Orientation Training session on Wednesday, February 17 starting at 6:00 p.m. This session is an information session for all interested in volunteering at Discovery Centre. It will be held at the Discovery Centre location at 1593 Barrington Street. For more information, please call 492-4422.  
Thank you very much!



### A CAREER IN ORTHOPTICS/OPHTHALMIC MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

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

In July 1999, the IWK Grace Health Centre will commence an accredited twenty-four (24) month training program leading to a Certificate of Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology. Applications are now being accepted from individuals holding a baccalaureate degree with courses in any of the following areas: psychology, physiology, biology, anatomy, physics, statistics, research methodology. work/volunteer experience in the health care field will be considered an asset. Candidates should possess good communication skills, sound judgement, emotional maturity and a demonstrated ability to relate well to small children and to adults. Financial assistance may be available to qualified students. Deadline for application is February 28, 1999.

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

**School of Orthoptics/Ophthalmic Medical Technology**  
IWK Grace Health Centre, P. O. Box 3070  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3G9





James Tilley

# Student profiles

Submitted by: Jenn Parker and Anya Lisowski

**Name:** Anna Rhymer  
**Height:** 5'8  
**Hometown:** Annapolis Royal  
**High School:** Annapolis West  
 Education Centre (grad '95)  
**Team/Position:**  
 Volleyball/Middleblock  
**Program/Year:** BBA/1st  
**Alumni of:** Dalhousie (BA in English)  
**Astrological sign:** Cancer  
**Markings:** belly-button ring  
 (sometimes)  
**likes:** her dog: Lexie, Gabrielle Reese  
**dislikes:** Sony Playstation, Economics  
**favourite song:** Mary by Sarah  
 MacLachlan  
**rental reccomendation:** G.I. Jane with  
 Demi Moore  
**marital status:** babysitter



Valentines advice to the  
 men of the world:  
*"Do something nice or  
 you'll be in the dog house."*

Sorry No Photo Unavailable

**Name:** Chris White  
**Hometown:** Parrsboro  
**Year and program:** 3rd year, BBA  
**Astrological sign:** Pisces  
**Marital status:** "NOT"  
**Likes:** fast food, Schooner, people  
 who don't smack when they eat  
**Dislikes:** smacking, country music,  
 the Buffalo Bills, people who think  
 badminton is a pussy sport  
**Favourite movie:** Friday  
**Least favourite song:** "Achy Breaky  
 Heart"  
**Words to live by:** "Don't fry bacon in  
 the nude"  
**Personal achievements:** White is  
 undefeated in the ACAA league this  
 year  
**Upcoming tournament:** provincials  
 in Saint John, NB on Feb 20 and 21

## MYSTIC SCOREBOARD

### Women's Volleyball

Rank	Team	MP	MW	ML	GW	GL	Points
1	U.Ste.Anne	18	17	1	53	14	34
2	St.Thomas	17	12	5	41	26	24
3	King's	16	9	7	31	31	18
4	<b>MSVU</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>14</b>
5	NSAC	17	6	11	34	35	12
6	UNBSJ	17	0	17	7	51	0

### Men's Basketball

Rank	Team	Games	Wins	Losses	For	Against	Points
1	<b>MSVU</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1022</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>20</b>
2	UNBSJ	15	9	6	1071	1049	18
3	Mt. Allison	15	9	6	1152	1081	18
4	St. Thomas	14	7	7	1057	1066	14
5	DalTech	15	7	8	970	996	14
6	NSAC	14	6	8	1025	1065	12
7	King's	14	3	11	976	1097	6

### Women's Basketball

Rank	Team	Games	Wins	Losses	For	Against	Points
1	NSAC	14	13	1	826	607	26
2	King's	14	11	3	830	563	22
3	Mt. Allison	15	9	6	888	694	18
4	<b>MSVU</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>14</b>
5	St. Thomas	14	6	8	756	751	12
6	UNBSJ	15	5	10	767	896	10
7	DalTech	15	0	15	409	1037	0



# We may not be the biggest newspaper around...



## ... but at least we know how to keep our clothes on

We realize there are only three issues left, but we still looking for a new community page editor and a new advertising manager. Keep us in mind when planning for next year. The *Picaro* will soon (in a month or so) be looking for next year's editors, for all positions. The one job we really need to fill is layout editor. The current editor is graduating (with a little luck) and he wants to start training someone who is interested as soon as possible. If you have any questions, you can call 445-3584 or drop by the office in Rosaria room 114 (across from the Fountain Play Centre).

Everyone is invited to come to our staff meetings, which are Mondays at 2:00 pm—come on down.