

THE PICARO

February 22, 2000

Volume 35 Issue 10

www.picaro.ns.ca

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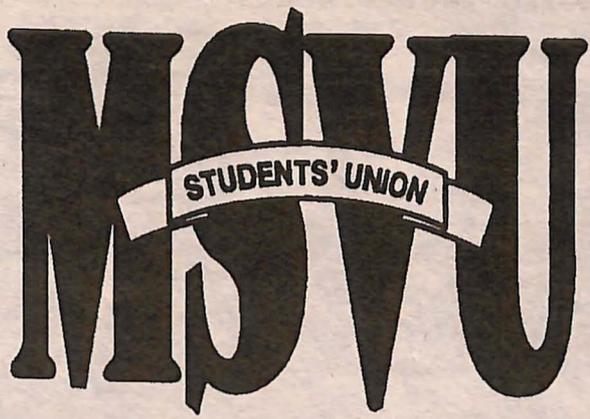
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Students Union Spring Elections

Nominations Week
Feb. 21 - Feb. 25

Campaigning Week
Mar. 6 - Mar. 10

Election Days
Mar. 15 & 16

The following positions are open:

- ¥President
- ¥Executive Vice-President
- ¥Vice-President Internal
- ¥Vice-President External
- ¥Vice-President Race & Gender Relations
- ¥Board of Governors Rep
- ¥Full-time Students Senate Rep
- ¥Part-time Students Senate Rep
- ¥Off-campus Students Rep
- ¥Residence Students Rep
- ¥Graduate Students Rep
- ¥International Students Rep
- ¥Arts Students Rep
- ¥Science Students Rep
- ¥Professional Studies Students Rep

A referendum will be held on election days asking the following question:
"Are you in favor of Students' Union withdrawing its membership from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)?"

Nomination packages are available at the Students Union Info. Desk. For more information, please contact Melis Caha at 457-6105 or 457-6123.

A Night of Stars

★ Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union ★
 ★ Annual Awards Banquet ★
 ★ Wednesday, March 22 ★
 ★ Rosaria Multi-Purpose Room ★
 ★ Tickets: \$20 ★

Contact Brenda Harvey at 457-6558 for more information or to purchase tickets.



Students' Union, on behalf of the Information Technology & Services Department, advises that computer orientation sessions are available in Seton labs.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

SCOTT MACKAY,

Students' Union General Manager,

from all of us at Students' Union.



Is education a right?

By Matt Burns

Two weeks have passed since the February 2nd Day of Action sponsored by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). Students, whether they were participants or observers, are left with the message that they have a right to a post-secondary education.

"Your financial circumstances should not determine whether or not you are getting an education," says Penny McCall Howard, Nova Scotia representative for CFS.

According to CFS, ensuring this right to education means many things have to change for students. Students need a tuition freeze. Bursary and scholarship income should not be taxed. Private funding of school programs should not lead to reduced

funding or cuts in other programs. A system of grants should be implemented over the present system of loans. Finally, Canada should work towards a system of free tuition for all post-secondary students.

From this list of goals, one can see that their achievement will cost money. Is all of this affordable? The CFS thinks so.

"The federal surplus will total \$100 billion over the next four years," says McCall Howard, Nova Scotia rep for the CFS. "With \$7 billion taken out of federal education transfers over the last four years, \$7 billion looks like a drop in the bucket."

McCall Howard also argues that Canada is in the minority of industrialized countries that do not offer free tuition for students. Even worse, she says, Canada does not have a system of grants and taxes people receiving bursaries and scholarships.

Although the MSVU Students' Union did not endorse the Day of Action, it supports some of the CFS' positions, such as the right for students to a post-secondary education.

"Education is a right for every individual," says Manal Mahshi, the Student Union's Vice-President External. "It is the key to success."

Judith Woodsworth, the Mount's vice-president academic, also believes education is a right. She is, however, under no illusion that guaranteeing that right will be difficult.

"I think everyone, in general, has the right to an education," says Woodsworth. "I do not know, other than from government, where the new revenues will come from."

In order to make school more affordable, many universities have looked to raise funds through the private sector. CFS sees increased private funding or "corporatization" of universities as problematic.

"Privatization brings about the issue of academic freedom," says McCall Howard. "Corporate sponsorship is becoming an increasing reality at campuses all across Canada."

"MSVU's administration also sees issues arising with increased private funding of universities.

"A lot of people are opposed to this type of revenue generation because they ask the question, 'is it compromising education?'" says Woodsworth.

"With the MSVU administration and student union in agreement with the CFS that education is ideally a right, each party will be watching closely at the upcoming federal and provincial budgets to see if more money is coming. If it does not, education may move closer towards the domain of privilege than ever before.

Students will head to the polls over CFS membership issue

Students' Union votes to hold referendum

By Jennifer Henderson

There has been a new twist in the strained relationship between the Canadian Federation of Students and the Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union.

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) is a national organization consisting of member schools across the country. Among other issues, CFS is dedicated to lobbying for increased government funding for post-secondary education. Students' Union has recently voted to hold a referendum on whether Mount students want their university to remain a member of the organization. The referendum does not comply with CFS bylaws and CFS is not obligated to recognize its results.

CFS bylaws require members to give CFS six months notice before a referendum vote and to have all their memberships fees paid in full. The Students' Union has not met either of these conditions.

"We want to make sure students make an informed vote. We're happy to follow those rules. It seems Students' Union Executive Council is not," says Penny McCall Howard, CFS's national representative for Nova Scotia.

McCall Howard says CFS does not attempt to stop member schools from legally defederating.

"The Mount is welcome to have a referendum. We just ask that they give us six months notice."

Students' Union president Margaret - Ann MacIntosh says the primary focus of the referendum is not defederation.

"The referendum is not necessarily about whether to defederate. It is to get a feeling of the students' feelings toward CFS."

The decision to hold a referendum was reached at a February 11th general Students' Union meeting. March 15 or 16th was chosen as the tentative date for the referendum. The question on the ballot will read: "Are you in favour of Students' Union withdrawing from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)?"

MacIntosh says that the motion to hold a referendum is not the first action the Mount has taken to sever ties with CFS.

"Last year, as the External Vice President, I sent a letter requesting they (CFS) revoke our membership. This was denied," she says.

MacIntosh dismisses the charge that the Students' Union has been purposely breaking CFS bylaws in hopes of being expelled. She says though CFS did not respond to Students' Union's letter outlining a payment plan for back fees by the proposed date, Students' Union still intends to forward the \$36 864 they owe in back fees.

Students' Union held a previous referendum on CFS membership in

The question on the ballot will read: "Are you in favour of Students' Union withdrawing from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)?"

1996. Students at the time voted to remain members.

While Students' Union is not seeing eye to eye with CFS, the lobby organization's relationship with the Mount Saint Vincent faculty association is considerably rosier.

"When we've engaged in activities with CFS, faculty has been supportive of them," says Faculty Association President and Association of Nova Scotia University Teachers President, Dr. Chris Ferns.

Members of the Faculty Association recently met with Members of the Students' Union executive council to discuss CFS among other issues. Dr. Ferns says the association offered to mediate between the Students' Union and CFS if requested.

"The Students' Union didn't seem to want to do that," he says.

Ferns goes on to say that in the event of a referendum, the Faculty Association would not campaign for CFS but that individual faculty members would be free to offer their opinions if consulted.

"It's not our job to interfere in student politics," he states.

While Students' Union and CFS cannot reach agreement on certain issues, their plans for managing the impending referendum are similar. Both MacIntosh and McCall Howard say their organizations "are currently discussing" what their next moves should be.

THE PICARO

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

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Charity Ball a success

By Beth Whyte

What can happen if over 150 Mount students grab a date, dress in their best and spend an evening at the Rosaria Dining Hall? Well, if they're going to the annual Charity Ball, then the answer is lots of fun and fundraising.

"It was wonderful, everyone looked great," says Missy Falle, a first-year public relations student. "It was prom all over again."

The Residence Society certainly did their best to create a fun and romantic atmosphere. Balloons, stars and candles were everywhere. Students were also treated to music and lots of dancing.

Perhaps most importantly, \$1,500 was raised in support of this year's charity, Phoenix House. This marks the second consecutive year that the charity was

selected by residence students to benefit from the Charity Ball. The students selected Phoenix House because they felt that they could really relate with the people it assists and also because the organization depends heavily on donations in order to provide its services.

A representative from Phoenix House will visit the Mount to accept the donation at a formal presentation where they will be able to learn about the Charity Ball and see some of the students' pictures.

This was one of the most successful years ever," says Sarah Devereaux, on behalf of the Residence Society. They would like to thank the Students' Union which covered the cost of the DJ among other things, the sponsors, the students who attended and everyone else who was involved in any way.



Tilley Photo

The Charity Ball was a huge success. Everyone danced up a storm, and no one turned into a pumpkin at midnight.

What's up with that???

News for the very common man, by the very lazy man.

It's the middle of winter and the HRM appears to be paying for a snow machine to cover parts of the waterfront with fake snow for its winter festival, yet when there's real snow the entire city shuts down.

What's up with that?

Every Monday evening the first floor of the Rosaria Student Centre smells terrible—really, really terrible.

What's up with that?

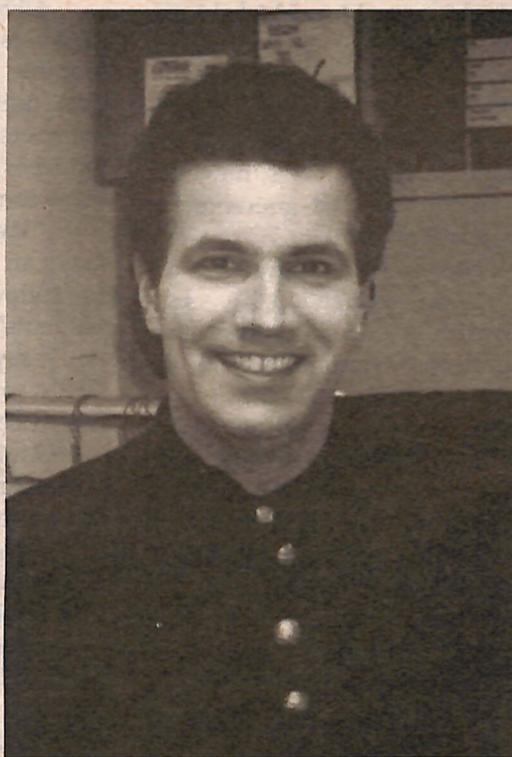
During last week's power outage and false fire alarm, some students had to wait to be escorted back into the library to collect their personal belongings as if the whole electrical failure was a keen attempt to thwart library security and steal periodicals.

What's up with that?



①

Tilley Photo



③

Tilley Photo



⑤

Tilley Photo

The week in pictures

- (1) Natalie Roberts and Lori Eaton were competing in the Winterpalooza sumo wrestling contest. Let's get ready to rumble.
- (2) Mount students are put to the ultimate test ... shaving a baloon. Look at the concentration on their faces.
- (3) Robert Lamar wowed audiences with his mind boggling hypnotist show. Didn't someone order a pizza?



②

Simser Photo



④

Tilley Photo

- (4) The information fair during open campus days was a huge success. The international students had one of the more exciting booths.
- (5) The touring high school student had no time to rest. The Student Alumnae Association was giving them a taste of what Frosh Week is like. Zip Zap ... Zop!

Atlantic universities need more government funding: report

Source: Atlantic Bureau Chief
By Amanda Labonté

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) - A report released by two Atlantic associations is calling for increased government funding for the region's universities.

The report, called *Our Universities: The Key to Atlantic Canada's Future*, was a joint initiative between the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) and the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council.

Among other things, the report looks into the economic impact that students have on the region's

economy, the relation between a university education and the unemployment rate, and the growing enrolment in Atlantic Canada's universities.

The report says universities are one of Atlantic Canada's greatest resources. It cites several benefits to having a university education including greater access to full-time rather than part-time employment.

The report also says a well educated workforce is critical in a globally competitive environment.

While the necessity for more people to obtain

a higher education has been growing, the report says funding from both the provincial and federal government has not been increasing with the need.

"Despite the demands being placed on our universities, the public resources which support them are increasingly constrained," said the report. "There are concerns that if this persists, the quality and availability of a university education in Atlantic Canada may suffer."

Anne Marie MacKinnon, the executive director of the AAU, says the report is meant to give an overview of what is happening in the region.

She says the association hopes to use the information in the report to support their case for more government support for universities.

"It's a baseline report, a good background information," she said. "There's nothing terribly new about it, but it will, I think, be useful to us when we use it to support our cause."

MacKinnon also says the report provides a good look at the advantages of having a university education.

Student lobby groups, such as the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Students (NLFS), have expressed their interest in the report, as it supports many of their views concerning the importance of post-secondary education and their stance against government cutbacks.

Allison North, NLFS chairperson, says the report brings together different groups with an interest in university education including students, faculty and university administrators.

"I think that the most important thing that [the report] does is it ties together a lot of different interest groups, people who have stakes in education at different levels and we've really been trying to break down those walls," she said.

While the report focuses on Atlantic Canada, North says the issues it addresses are not unique to Atlantic Canada. She says there's a lack of priority on post-secondary education that has created a national crisis.

"I think this is a universal issue, I think it's a national issue and things are as bad here as they are anywhere else," she said.

Student arrested for posting threatening messages to website

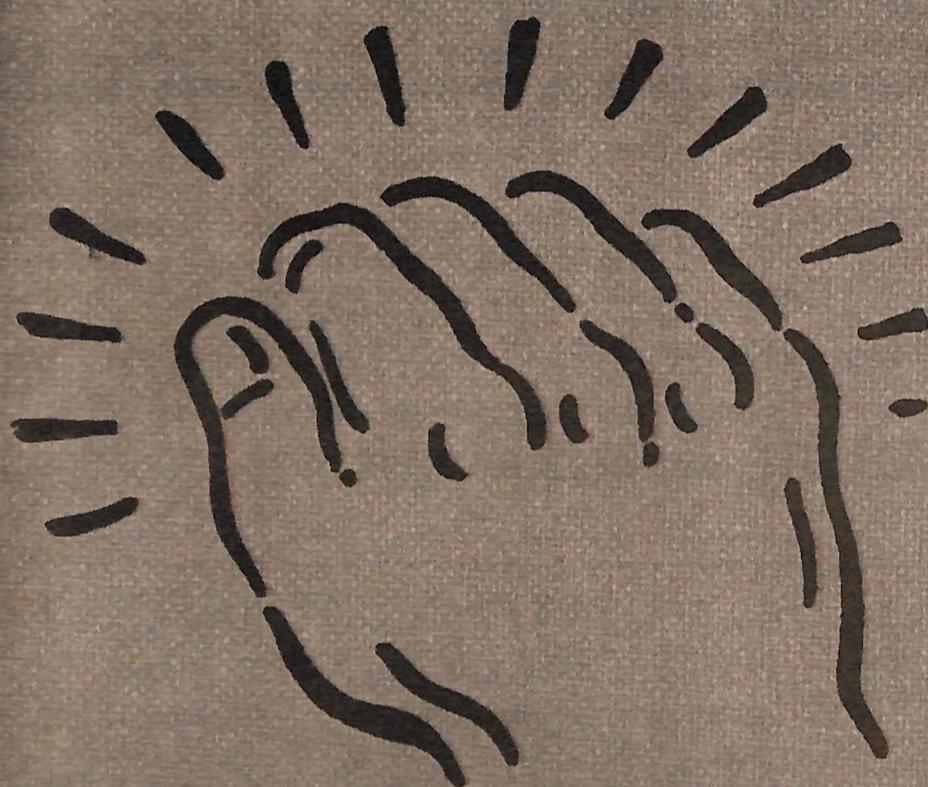
Source: Xaverian Weekly
By Kelly Sullivan and Tyler Hellard

ANTIGONISH, NS (ARCUP) - A St. Francis Xavier University (StFX) student has been arrested in residence for posting a threatening message to an Internet message board.

RCMP officers arrested the student February 8 and held him overnight before releasing him to his parents.

Website administrators for Inside-X.com, a student run StFX website, contacted residence staff after finding a message on their site which made threats toward the University student body.

An investigation is still ongoing, but RCMP Const. Thibeau, who was the arresting officer, says nothing was found in the student's possession to



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(continued on 6)

student arrested...

(continued from 5)

indicate that the threats of bloodshed would be followed through.

"I think it was an act of frustration but I don't think he had the means of carrying out those threats, even if they are violent," said Thibeau. "I think he said more than he meant."

A court date has been set for late April, at which time it is expected formal charges regarding the threats will have been laid.

The student has been in talks with Ian Cull, dean of Students, regarding his future at StFX and has said he will not be returning this year.

A week after his arrest the student posted a message to the same website explaining his actions.

"The reason I did it [posted the threats] was because I wasn't happy with my habitat, my marks and the road my future was taking," the student wrote. "I know this is no excuse for what I did and I realize that I have caused an uproar for some people. I had no intentions (sic) for what happened to occur. But if it makes any of you feel better, I am gone from your university and I will never be returning."

The University would like to assure students that they will be cooperating with police to ensure a thorough investigation and they will be make counselling available to any students who feel it necessary.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

If you're want to be one of the cool kids turn to page 20.

If you don't the turn to page 12.

L'ARCHE THE UNIVERSITY OF THE HEART

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

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

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Java Club Winners

congratulations
to

Tara Harras - Home Cappacino Machine

Heather Sheehan and Corey Baird - Java Cotton Shirts

Janet Macleod and Juanita Whalen - 2 java ceramic mugs

New Prize Offer

Purchase a Kellogg's cereal or nutri-grain bar and recieve a ballot to win three antique display tins showcased in the Rosaria Centre. Draw to take place March 31.

Valentine's Give-away

Erin Silver

2nd Prize

Abby MacLean

Mardi Gras Jelly Bean

contest

Mike Finn

& Wendy Walters

WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER!

Hours of Operation Spring Break

Sacateria

Monday Feb 28 - Friday March 3, 8-2 limited service

Rosaria Centre

Saturday, February 26 8:30 - 2:00 pm Limited Services

Sunday, February 27 - CLOSED

Monday, February 28 - Friday March 3rd, 8 - 2pm: Limited services

Saturday, March 4 - CLOSED

Sunday, March 5 - Open regular hours

New and Up coming Promotions Sacateria

- Wednesday at lunch is now pasta day in the Sac!

- Check out our weekly deli and grill specials.

Rosaria

- Tony the Tiger - a grrreat gift idea. The purchase of any Kellogg's product gives you the ability to buy a Tony!

Wednesday, February 23 Dinner-Spa Food and a taste of herbs. A great way to start the break!

Tuesday, March 7 Breakfast - Pancake Tuesday

Various types & toppings. Dinner: stuffed crepes - seafood

I wrote this after deadline

By Melissa Melanson

On Friday, February 11th, several groups of potential students roamed around campus. When they eventually made it to my corner of the university and I opened my mouth to talk, some of them just looked bored. But others looked at me expectantly. Simply because they had been expecting something throughout their whole academic career.

As high school students looking to come here next year (and some of them looked even younger than I do) they expected something from me, from the Picaro and from this university. They expected something from everyone and everything at Mount Saint Vincent because they had been thinking about the amazing experience of university for as long as they could remember. It made me sad to know that what they expected and what they would eventually get were two very different things.

For the good of the Mount, for the good of the future

By Ardyth Correia

Ask any resident student what they don't like about this university and they'll tell you loud and clear. It is very easy for students to complain, but there is also a lot of truth to their words. That is why last the administration of Mount Saint Vincent asked students what improvements they would like to see in this university. A lot of great ideas were exchanged, but I think many students didn't get express what they really want.

I live on campus in one of the Birches and so I am constantly hearing students express their feelings about this university (good or bad). Now, I have only been here for two years, but already I have learned that there are a lot of unhappy campers. I can't even count how many times I've heard "We don't have much of a life here." Little things like having the washer, dryer, fridge, freezer always dying on us is a major annoyance. Try doing laundry when it is only supposed to cost you \$1.25 and you end up forking out \$2.50 because a new dryer is needed. And this may also be true for Assisi. It is a real pain, especially when you are living on such a limited budget.

We have also become frustrated with the way the university says they will do one thing and then don't follow through. One girl expressed

Coming to the Mount was a big shock. I had imagined the typical university experience: parties, school rivalries, and a bunch of kids going to class in their pjs to learn and not to worry about a career. I wasn't completely ignorant—I did the research and I knew that the Mount is different. But I had no idea how different it would be.

Early on in my first semester, I found out that less than half of the people in my program were coming from high school. They had degrees, they had kids, they had 10 years experience. And as far as parties go, the no drinking rule in res pretty much eliminated any chance for tomfoolery and most people left on weekends. School spirit was non-existent; students didn't care much about their school, let alone how it rated compared to other schools.

This school certainly wasn't what I expected. It wasn't really even what I wanted. So what keeps me here?

this when she said, "They have been saying that the gym floor will be changed, for over a year now. I don't feel this will ever happen in the near future." Obviously, comments like this one don't give the university a good image.

However, all is not lost. In fact this university has great potential if it would just change a few things. For example, when I went around my Birch and asked the girls what they would like to see changed, they had a lot of great answers, and not one of them mentioned alcohol or partying. Most of them focused on how the athletics facilities could be improved, that it would be nice to have a pool, a bigger weight room and perhaps separate the aerobics room from the weight room and gym. These changes could increase student satisfaction. After all, enrollment is getting bigger, so the Mount needs to grow with it. Residence life is very unique, we don't want to destroy it by cramming everyone into the tiny spaces that we have now. Right?

Some of you are probably wondering why I have taken the time to write this and why I care about changes to the Mount. I'm only here for a few years, right? But, when it really comes down to it, if in the future you have children who want to come here, wouldn't you want the best for them?

Regardless of who I'm going to class with or who I see in the hall or how my classes are taught, I am ultimately responsible for my own education. When someone with a drastically different background from me speaks up in class, I am learning. When I realize that a class' subject doesn't interest me, I am learning. When I write for the school paper, I am learning. When students complain about the newspaper, student union or the university in

general, I am learning. Almost every moment I spend at the Mount is an education.

New students may not be prepared for what awaits them at this, or any other university. What they will get is the chance to capitalize on a take-it or leave-it education that won't stop for them, but will only be available if they have the desire to learn. That's something that they can expect.

I have in no way been misrepresented

In response to the article in the February 8th issue of the Picaro entitled "You don't speak for, or represent me".

To the Editor:

As a Mount Saint Vincent Student who has paid tuition for the 1999-2000 academic year, I am officially a member of the MSVU Students' Union. This entitles me to complete access to all Student Representative Council Meetings, any information I should request about the dealings of the Students' Union (both internally and externally), as well as representation by a group of elected councilors. The money I pay per course to be a member of the Students' Union is distributed among various ends and is entrusted by the students to the members of the Student Council when they vote in the elections.

Upon coming to the Mount in September, I decided to become involved with the Student Union. I would just like to state for the record that students of the Mount are actually encouraged to attend bi-weekly meetings of the Student Representative Council, where you have the right to speak on issues you feel concern you. These meetings are held in an orderly fashion and they follow guidelines, which are not intended to restrict the information being brought forth, but more so to make the information more effective. I attended the most recent meeting in which CFS representatives presented their Access 2000 campaign to the members of the SRC. Being a non-member of the council, I shared the same role in the meeting as the Mount student who wrote the editorial. I would like to express that I strongly disagree on the point: council has restricted all students access to information regarding the SRC stance on CFS and the withholding of the \$6.40 per student, which is directed from Student Fees to CFS. When CFS first came into the picture for me about three weeks ago I requested information from a

Student Union Representative and I was thoroughly informed regarding the entire issue. I am confident that as my concerns were promptly addressed as will be yours should you choose to seek out the proper channels.

As far as the SRC not giving the power of decision to the students regarding their inactive stance with CFS, the SRC is considering a referendum to defederate from this organization. It is very preliminary to state that the SU is withholding information regarding an issue that is far from settled. If students are interested in the decisions of the SRC, the meetings are open-door policy. It is a shared responsibility of both the students to participate and take interest in these decisions as well as the SRC to ethically represent the student body. Also, should the students vote to remain with CFS, this decision I am sure will be advocated and represented by the Students' Union as this is the purpose for their role.

In conclusion, I would like to state that I have spoken with both CFS and the MSVU SRC and I feel that I have in no way been misrepresented, denied information or treated unfairly. In order for an organization such as the Students' Union to effectively represent Mount students, the students must first effectively represent themselves. This is only possible if students take the initiative to become involved and informed. I would also like to say that I fully respect the opinions of my fellow students, however it is important that students realize that opinions can only take issues to a certain point; it is when people learn to form understandings and realizations that they are truly listened to.

-Jackie Thornhill

An open letter to Mount students

To the editor:

As I contemplate the national student day of protest I must confess that I am a little ambivalent about your demands. Yes, I know that my job depends on you and that you are paying exorbitantly high tuition fees, but still... Part of my ambivalence, perhaps, is that I have recently watched a couple of very ill family members backed up in the health care queue. At the moment, money for cancer treatments seems a little more important than that to forgive student loans.

I know what you're thinking. It wouldn't be a choice between health care and post-secondary education if the corporate scoundrels were paying their fair share. You are right. I'm also sick and tired of blood sucking CEOs whining about social spending one minute while sticking their hands out for "business welfare" the next. These "piggies" will put thousands out of work to cause stock surges on the TSE while pocketing an extra million or two in bonuses and options. My "scum of the month" pick goes to the top boys at the Royal Bank; will other "piggies" knock them off their perch next month?

My perfect world would not only have the corporations acting with some semblance of morality, but would also include a redistribution of tuition fees amongst the student population. I would decree that a significant proportion of you attend university tuition free. You already know who you are.

You are the students who remain determined in your resolve to succeed despite being human pinballs bouncing between university fees, textbooks bills, monthly rent, and grocery costs. Macaroni dinners very quickly become tiresome. You are the students who race away from class to your shifts at Tim Horton's, Subway, and Sobey's.

You are the single parents who are determined to make a better life for yourself and your child. You are the students who struggle with course concepts while others lazily loaf through the same material. You are the students with a gleam in your eye when a new insight strikes; you think I don't notice? You are the students who know that studying for tomorrow's midterm takes precedence over Beverly Hills 90210. You are the students who challenge me to think with provocative questions or who approach me after class with a life anecdote you see as relevant to the day's lecture topic.

One group of students brings me special pleasure. You are the older women who have returned to university after raising families. You often approach me with some trepidation about your abilities to cope with the challenges of university. I respond to you with a "poker face" while I smile inside; you see, I have an insight of which you are not yet aware. I already know that your maturity, motivation, and general quest for knowledge will soon vault you to the upper levels of your class.

To this "no tuition" group I would add all the rest of you who come to the Mount to work and to learn. Despite my highlighting of certain types and circumstances, my criteria are not really that exclusive. All that I ask of a student is a desire to learn, a willingness to exert effort, and a knowledge that developing yourself for the betterment of society is both a privilege and a responsibility.

Now, can you guess to whom I would not

extend my tuition waiver? In short, you are the students who waste the tax payers' dollars, my time, and your potential. I can find you sometimes at the back of the auditorium with your feet draped over the furniture. You are the students with the "this is all bullshit" junior high school attitude. You are not quite sure what you are angry about, just that it's cool to hold the "geekish" professor in contempt. I see you glaring at me. Could you formulate your contempt into a provocative question or challenge that would stimulate class discussion? Of course not. That would take too much thought. Has anyone ever told you that the James Dean bit was already done over four decades ago?

You are the students who show up just often enough to take tests. You think you're pretty smart to get course credit without attending class. The joke is on you; you have your credit but you don't have an education. No, I'm wrong. The joke is really on the tax payer who, despite your high tuition fees, still subsidizes your education. Do you ever think about the thousands of working poor who, despite never crossing a university's threshold, have to divert some of their meager earnings to sustain your irresponsible carcasses? I'm not poor, but every penny of my tax dollar spent on you rots my socks.

I'm not finished my rant. My second group also includes those of you who are more interested in "feeling good" about yourselves than you are in developing yourselves. You are the students who whine and bitch when I provide you with feedback that your written work is "not up to snuff." I know, no one in your past has had the audacity to stifle your "creative expression" and "alternative learning styles." As a result, you still haven't mastered the basics of grammar and logical progression in your written expression. Some of you have writing talent, but you figure that what can't be mastered in one draft between Beverly Hills 90210 and Ally McBeal isn't worth doing. You don't seem to believe that I struggle with every word and that I rewrite endlessly to achieve my goals (or that my writing sometimes gets trashed by reviewers and that I learn from the trashing!).

Do you thank me for spending hours pouring over your work in an effort to help you learn? No, you would rather put me down as a teacher to my colleagues, your peers, or on the anonymous teaching evaluations. As a social psychologist, I understand. Denigrating me is adaptive, at least in the short term. Believe me, however, it will be to your detriment in the longer-term. I'd like to say I don't care, but I do. I'd really like you to like me. Fortunately for you, I'll keep doing what I'm doing because I need to like myself more. Maybe someday you will come to understand that it has been the system, and not me, that has cheated you. You should know that many of your professors feel exactly the same way as do I (at least those who are truly interested in your well-being).

So, what would I do with you? My solution is somewhat arbitrary, but I propose to triple your tuition.

Oh, you couldn't attend? Sorry, but I won't spend much time missing you. Don't worry though, my proposal will never take root. University administrations across the country love you too much; you add to the "body count." I just wish you would drop your bodies in the classes of other professors. I, and the students who want to learn, can live without you.

Write me off as a right-wing authoritarian if you like. I'll take solace in the belief that FDR and Tommy Douglas would be disgusted at how you waste your opportunity for educating yourselves. I know for sure that the students who I recently taught in The Gambia would be baffled by your failure to seize what is offered you. Are you tempted to write me off as an academic elitist with his head in the clouds? Sorry, folks, but I grew up in a working class neighborhood and spent 10 years as a street cop. I've seen misery and injustice most of you can't even contemplate. I know what the real world is like. Do you? Are any of you getting this? Am I fooling myself that any of you will even read this letter or am I just preaching to the converted?

I recently talked to my teenage son about balance in one's life. I'm embellishing here a bit, but this was my point. There is a time for skiing but there is also a time for shoveling snow. There is a time for People Magazine but there is also a time for Emile Durkheim. There is a place for self-interest but not at the expense of communal responsibility and human compassion. The last two points I quote word for word: "talent without effort is a waste" and "privilege without responsibility is immoral." I'm not convinced he bought into this to the extent I wished. He is 14-years-old. What is your excuse?

Stephen B. Perrott, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychology
February 3, 2000

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Everybody loves Raymond

Staff Profile: Ray McKinnon, security official

By Melissa Melanson

Late at night, when there is seemingly no one left in Rosaria center aside from the Picaro staff, one sign of life can still be heard: the jiggling of keys from the night time security guard. One of these dedicated people is Ray McKinnon, who came to the Mount at the beginning of the academic year.

This part-time security official, who you are most likely to see at night on the weekend and occasionally during the week, became instantly popular at the Mount because of his charming personality, approachable nature and youthful good looks.

Despite his easy-going image, Ray takes his job very seriously. He says he enjoys doing security and enjoys working with people. "I love my job," says Ray. In fact the only thing he doesn't like about his job is the uniform because of the confusion it causes. Since taking the job, he has twice been mistaken for a metro transit bus driver because of the uniform.

Ray attributes his job satisfaction not only to his love of the work but also to the respect that he is for those who work around him. "Glenn (Hollett, chief of security) is excellent to work for," says Ray. "He's very fair."

Another colourful character on campus, Ted Misztela helped out Ray a lot when he first came to the Mount. Ted is a well liked security guard who has been at the Mount longer than James Tilley—and who knows how long that is. Ted was responsible for a lot of Ray's training. "I model myself after Ted. I'm his protegee," says Ray with a grin.

To see Ray, you would never guess that this personable friendly looking guy could probably kick your butt. And you would probably never guess his age. The 31 year old with the boyish grin, comes to the Mount with a wealth of experience and knowledge. Before coming to the Mount, Ray was an instructor at Holland College where he

taught police defense tactics.

As proof of his dedication to the martial arts and self-defence techniques, Ray currently holds a fourth degree black belt. "I'm always learning," says Ray.

When not working part-time at the Mount or at his other stint as a part-time security officer at the NS where he does security for the forensic unit, he runs his own self-defense school. He teaches jujitsu and judo.

Besides his professional life, Ray is married with children. Along with his wife and six year old daughter, Ray shares his life with five cats and an iguana, Spiggy.

Students may be relieved to know that Ray has never had to use his "kung fu fighting" skills at the Mount. Contrary to other security work he has done, he has never encountered any problems while working at the Mount. "Everybody is really good here at the Mount."

Despite the peaceful atmosphere at the Mount, Ray does not find his job the least bit dull. To put it mildly, the job of the night time security official is to basically "hang out" at school. In reality, their job is very physically demanding. While patrolling, a security guard is always walking. "Within a run of a night, we patrol all the buildings about 50 times," says Ray. "As Ted says, 'you wear out the bottom of your shoes and not the bottom of your pants.'"

Of course a security guard is not always on foot. If Ray had to pick a tune to be playing on the car radio, while driving around fighting crime, it would be the theme song from "Cops".

But the Mount is a safe campus, says Ray. "All the security guards do the best job that they



Tilley Photo

charming personality, approachable nature and youthful good looks

possibly can do. And all are well trained." However, the security of the university is everyone's responsibility, says Ray, and students are encouraged to notify security of anything unusual or anything that makes them uncomfortable.

Ray speaks with assurance when he says that the Mount is a safe campus. And with his experience and skill we can be sure that on the nights that he patrols our halls, our university truly is a safe place to be.



Christine's Cuisine

Canada's Guideline to Healthy Eating suggests that we consume adequate amounts of food from all four food groups: Grain Products, Vegetables and Fruit, Milk Products and Meat and Alternatives. An easy way to include all of these in one healthy meal is by choosing what is known as: Combination Foods. These are made up of more than one food group like casseroles, soups or an alltime favourite, pizza. The following example is a prime example of a combination food. Lasagne's on the menu and here's how to serve it up!

Lasagne

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 lb | ground beef |
| 1 | onion |
| 2 tbsp | oil |
| 1 diced | green pepper |
| 2 | garlic cloves, crushed |
| | OR 2 tsp garlic powder |
| 1 tsp salt | tomatoe paste |
| 1 6-oz can | tomato juice |
| 2 to 2 1/2 cups | (2 1/2 cups makes it moist) |
| 1/2 tsp | mixed Italian herbs |
| 1 tsp | chilli peppers |
| 1 10-oz | package spinach |
| 12 | lasagne noodles |
| 1 cup | cottage cheese |
| 1/4 - 1/2 lb | sliced mozzarella cheese |
| | OR 1 package presliced cheese |
| 1/4 cup | Parmesan cheese |

Part 1

1. Stir fry beef and onion in a large frying pan, in hot oil until lightly browned.
2. Drain off fat.
3. Add the green pepper, garlic, salt, tomato paste and juice and mixed herbs.
4. Stir well and cover.
5. Cook slowly (over low heat) for 30 min.
6. Uncover and simmer another 30 min until thickened *Be careful- burns easily at this stage*
7. Taste and season with chilli peppers and more salt if necessary.

Part 2 (May be prepared while Part 1 is cooking)

8. Cook spinach. Drain and chop fine.
9. Cook noodles in boiling, salted water until soft and tender. Drain and cool.

Part 3

10. Arrange a layer of noodles in the bottom of a 9 x 13 casserole (3 noodles- side-by-side, length wise)
11. Cover with 1/2 of the meat mixture and cover with half of the mozzarella cheese.
12. Arrange another layer of 3 noodles on top.
13. Mix the spinach and cottage cheese together and spread on top.
14. Arrange another layer of 3 noodles on top.
15. Add the remaining meat, topped by the remaining mozzarella cheese.
16. Top with remaining 3 noodles.
17. Brush or spray with the top noodles with oil and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

Part 4

18. Cover with tinfoil and bake at 350 degrees F for 30 min.
19. Uncover and bake another 15-20 min or until bubbly.

Serves 6-8 (Cover when reheating in the microwave or it will explode!)

Keep in mind that even if you despise spinach and /or cottage cheese, when combined in this nature, you will not even know they are there...you will just know that it's good. Enjoy!

All the colors of the Gay Pride rainbow

by Rhonda Simser

*names have been changed for privacy

Everyday we get up, have a shower, eat breakfast, brush our teeth, and then go to work or school. Once we get there we go through our day just like everyone else. We gripe about our classes, jobs, profs or bosses, the same as everyone else does.

But for some people, the day can be riddled with insults, slurs, hateful looks, and even violence. Why you ask? The reason is, those people are gay, lesbians, transsexual, bisexual or drag queens.

Some people falsely accuse others of being one of those things, without really knowing the proper definition of them. The term "gay" is really only meant towards men. You are gay if you are a man who is only attracted to other men. Similarly, you are a lesbian, if you are a woman who is only attracted to other women. If you are bisexual, you may find yourself attracted to members of both sexes. At any given time, you may be in a relationship with either sex, but may still be attracted to members of the same sex, or of the opposite sex, depending on the situation.

If you are a transsexual then you have decided that you are not happy with the body you are in. You feel trapped in the body you were born in and decide to change it. This means that you have a sex change, and begin to live the life of the sex you have changed to. To be a drag queen means that you, usually men, dress themselves as women, very elaborately, to enter competitions or pageants put on by the gay community, or simply because you like to wear women's clothing. These are all respectable choices for one's life.

In our communities, our schools, and our work places

there are many gay and lesbian people. They are no different from anyone else, in fact, you may be sitting next to a gay or lesbian person right now. The reason people are so afraid, disrespectful, and condescending towards gay and lesbian people is because they don't take the time to get to know them. So, I have done it for you. I sat down with a gay couple and a lesbian couple and talked to them about life as a gay/lesbian person, and what it was like when they came out.

Shawn and Jamie have been together for about five months, "It seems like years," Shawn laughs. They live together and are very open about their relationship, to some extent. "My parents don't know," Jamie says, "I don't think it would be accepted by them." Shawn on the other hand is open with his (birth) parents about being gay.

In both their lives, being gay is something that they have known for a long time. Shawn says he knew when he was about 13 he was gay, but didn't come out until he was 16. "I came out then because it was hard to hide, people knew before I told them. I couldn't deny it anymore, it is part of who I am." Jamie on the other hand came out when he was 19, which wasn't that long ago. "I avoided coming out until I was sure, but I guess I have always been sure. I was just worried what some people would say, I am involved with a lot of team sports, and didn't know if it would be frowned upon." Both say that they came out because it was who they were, and didn't want to hide behind anything.

Shawn and Jamie are a few of the lucky gay men who have not had problems with gay-bashing, or negative results from coming out. Although Shawn says that he

was jumped once because he was gay. "He didn't hurt me though, I ended up kicking his butt." Neither are bothered by what people say about them when they walk down the street, they openly hold hands, and kiss in public. "If straight couples can do it, so can we," Jamie says.

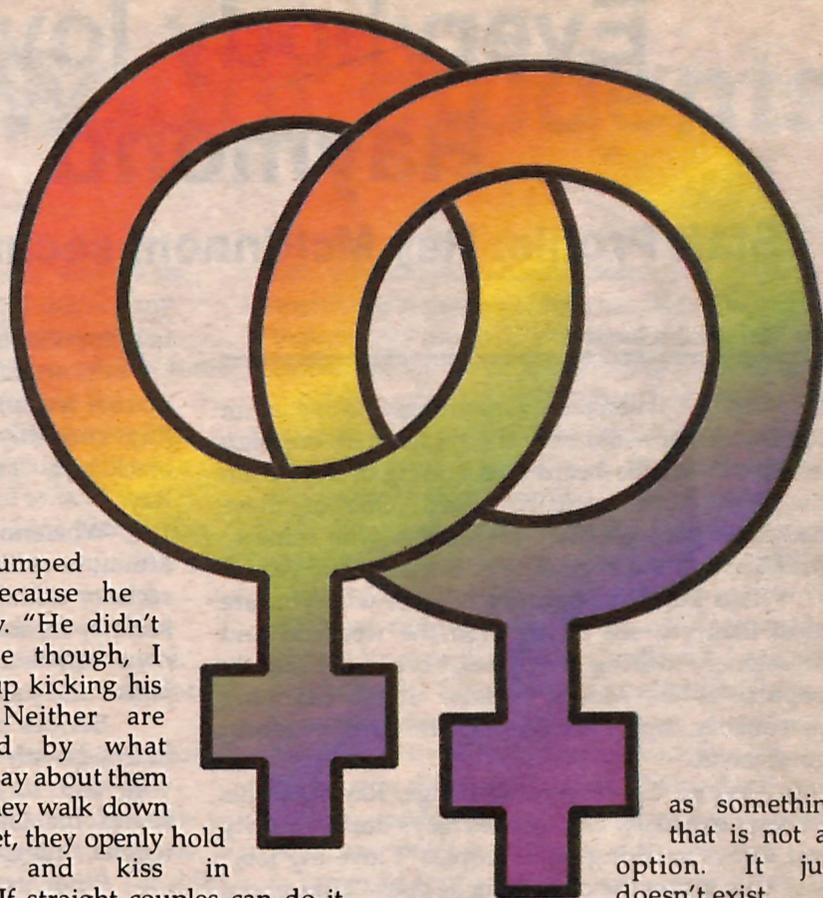
When asked if either regretted coming out, both were quick to say no. They are comfortable with who they are, and have been accepted in the gay community, and for the most part, the straight community. Both have straight friends who have not left their sides because they are gay.

Jen and Michelle, on the other hand don't have it as easy as Jamie and Shawn. Things are different for them. Jen and Michelle have been together for about a year, and are now living together. As with Jamie and Shawn, Jen and Michelle also both knew at a young age that they were lesbians. "I knew in grade primary, even before that," Jen says matter of factly. Michelle knew in grade three that she was a lesbian. Both were in their late teens or early twenties before coming out. "Michelle came out when she was 21," Jen says, "I was 18, but I came out to my mom earlier than that."

At 18, when she came out, Jen never considered not coming out, but before that she was worried what people would say. "I was worried about disappointing people. At a young age, being "gay", and being a "lesbian" was not addressed. A lot of kids are confused. They don't know where to turn."

Although Jenn has never been attacked for her lifestyle, she is constantly aware of disapproval. "Usually it's in my head," she says, "not a lot of negative feedback really, because a lot of times, I will avoid a situation which could turn out to be negative. If I am asked however, I will never lie about being a lesbian. It is part of who I am. Which is unfortunate in some ways because a lot of my friendships and relationships with people stay on a surface level."

At one point Michelle considered not coming out. She was worried she might disappoint people in her life, especially her parents. Michelle is from a strict traditional culture, which looks upon lesbianism



as something that is not an option. It just doesn't exist.

The same sentiment rang true with all four people. They came out because it was who they were, and they no longer wanted to pretend to be something they weren't. Talking to these people is a refreshing break from what one would see on TV, or hear on the radio about gay and lesbian people. They are open, candid, and very honest about who they are and what they are.

As an afterthought Jen had this to say, "The recent increase in the acceptance of gay and lesbian adults is very encouraging to men and women who have been socialized in their schools, communities, and often their families to think they were deviant. It's nice to be smiled at, and told in your mid-twenties that it's okay to be gay. Unfortunately, however, it by no means makes up for the loneliness and self-doubt we go through as children, which was a direct result of blatant heterosexism still found throughout our community and public school systems." Jen is very adamant about children receiving education about gay and lesbian issues in public schools. She feels that if children were exposed to this early enough, a lot of children wouldn't grow up confused about their own sexual identity.

The gay and lesbian community has grown in Halifax over the last few years. Whether it is because people are more open about their sexual identity, or that the community is actually growing, is debatable. Has there been an increase of gay and lesbian people in Halifax, or are people in the gay and lesbian community more comfortable coming out? This is a question that can't really be answered.

The next time you go out and see someone you think may be gay, or a lesbian, don't make comments, try to see it from their perspective. They are just trying to get through life the same as you are. Remember, when it comes down to it, we all do the same things everyday, the only difference is, with who.



What are you doing for Spring Break?

POPULAR

Compiled By James Tilley



"My masters thesis"
Manal Mahshi
2nd year MA



"Having a birthday party for my mom and skiing in Quebec"
Lori Flynn
last year BSC AHN



"Heading up to Ontario"
Jeff Gillis
3rd year BA



"Living in a lab ... Doing my honours thesis"
Angela Caines
last year BSC



"Going home and going shopping"
Maryanne Gautreau
1st year BSC AHN



"I'm going home to eat real food!"
Allison Jardine
4th year BA



"Staying here"
Khaliah Foster
2nd Year BAA IT



"I'm going home to hang out with my friends"
Alison Banks
1st year BCYS



"I am working over break and going to the Mount's Beat the Blues Bingo... Isn't everybody?"
Joanne Burns-Theriault,
Ath/Rec officer, 1st year MA ED



"Going to the famous town of Oxford NS... Blueberry capital of Canada"
Tara Fenton
1st year BCYS



"Going to Puertoplata (dominican republic)... My sugar daddy gave it to me for Christmas"
Kathleen Jay
4th year BAA IT

Horrorscopes

Sometimes I'm so nice I could puke
...this is not one of those times

By Charity Baker



Pisces: 2/19 to 3/20

Don't question the seagull that suddenly starts to follow you. Everyone needs a fan, your's just happens to be a trash-eating bird. If you think about it, it makes sense, because seagulls do love garbage. That would explain the flies too.



Aries: 3/21 to 4/19

If you look a gift horse in the mouth, it will probably spit in your face. That, or bite off your ear. So remember to be grateful for everything you get and never question anything. Like this prediction...sure it's crap, but you should still be thankful, cause it's free dammit!



Taurus: 4/20 to 5/21

I know this really great Taurus, and his future is looking great. In fact, his life is so terrific some people think he lives with me. For him the next couple of weeks are going to be great. Then there's this other chick who's got more passion than she can handle. Her life is about to take a great change. This is why I can't figure out what's wrong with the rest of you losers. Life is still crappy for you. Especially that whole allergic reaction thing that is about to happen. Those are nasty looking hives. Sucks to be you.



Gemini: 5/22 to 6/21

There was once a time when Geminis were revered by all other people. This was the Dark Ages, when people were stupid. Now, most people realize that there is nothing in a Gemini worth worshipping. Which is why your high opinion of yourself only makes other people laugh even harder. Thanks for the laughs, oh revered one.



Cancer: 6/22 to 7/23

Ummm, did you see Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire? Well, you're life is going to suck so much that even the people on that show will look cool. Maybe you should raise a couple million so you can buy a life too.



Leo: 7/24 to 8/23

You're really hot and in your groove right now. Or at least you like to think so. In truth most people think you've lost it. But hey, you're only as insane as you

think you are. Besides, that waking up to reality thing is for wussies. So, keep grooving dude.



Virgo: 8/24 to 9/23

Hey, you could be a contestant on Who Wants to be a Millionaire. Not because you've got the whole brain thing going on, but because you could probably meet the freak and geek requirement. If this sounds a little harsh, just poll the audience.



Libra: 9/24 to 10/23

So, here's what I'm thinking. You should have a terrific week. Because, it's about damn time. So have a fine time and fly through this week. Cause man or woman, I feel it's a great time for you. But that's just what I think, and if you put much weight in that I'd be a lot richer, cause I think you should give me money too.



Scorpio: 10/24 to 11/22

This prediction applies to all the Scorpions except the cool ones. You know who you are. And for those of you sitting there, going, "Yeah, that's me, I'm one of the cool kids," think again. I only know one cool Scorpio. The rest of you should prepare for the worst. Gloria Estafan was right. Eventually the rhythm will get you, and then you're in for a good deal of pain. Damn that rhythm monster!



Sagittarius: 11/23 to 12/21

Okay, I admit, your last prediction was pointless. I ran out of ideas and just blabbered on. That was my bail out method. So, here's a real prediction. Life is going to suck. The world's not going to end, but you're going to wish it does. Just remember to watch for flying cats and rubber vomit.



Capricorn: 12/22 to 1/19

How many times has your mother told you not to kiss strange animals? Now you know why. I imagine by the time that infection clears up you will have probably forgotten what a horrible mistake you made. But I think it would be pretty obvious not to kiss anything that looks like a butt sore. But if you did it once, I hope you learn from this, because it is nasty just looking at you, especially with those Jagger lips.

The Nova Scotia
Advisory Council
on the Status
of Women

in honour of

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political commentator,
television host, author

speaking on

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CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

We like you just the way you are. turn to page 20.



Aquarius: 1/20 to 2/18

Well, seems like you always get the good prediction doesn't it? Not this time. Over the next few weeks your life will be hell. You won't be getting any sleep and you'll frequently speak before you think. Don't be surprised if people start questioning your motives and sanity. And try not to get fired, because

sometimes you're funny, and sometimes...you're not.

So, you've read your prediction and now you feel like you deserve to complain. Well get over it, because everyone has a little suffering to go through, even you. And, (just to overuse an already overused pop culture reference, I'm just that cruel), that's my final answer.

THE MORALITY OF OUR FANTASY.

We are in trouble.

By Bruce Ross

It has always been a cruel world, and no one can deny that. And it may always be a cruel world, but it is not the answer to just accept this, give up, and not try to make it better. But that is the mantra, the constitution that most people are led to believe is the truth and which people are taught to live by. This view is at the core of the cult of the individual. And the great irony is, we are supposed to achieve this individuality by purchasing material goods that have been given the okay by distant forces, forces that claim our humanity and define (or at least spend lots of money trying) who we are. Do what is right for you. Fulfill all of your wants and desires. And do it by making bundles of money and buying our product. Yeah right. You do not "buy" this do you? Well, the fact is we all do in varying degrees. It has been bred into us. It is our culture, a culture that has its roots in the development of liberal ideas, the industrial revolution, and the French and American revolutions. People died for what we have today. And what do we have? A lot of human beings who do not even recognize the importance of elected government, that are at all concerned with their self and no one else. The pillars of our society are the dreams of the mass majority. We are a minority. But this cannot last forever.

Nor should it. The world is a cruel place, as I said before. And the truth is it is cruel for us too. But the cruelty does not lie in starvation, disease, famine, overpopulation or military dictatorship. No, the cruelty lies in our ignorance of the reality of our way of life. We cannot sustain the fantasy of our lives. There is enough food for every mouth in the world, but not enough for our appetite. And therein lies the problem, and why we are in big trouble. It is the end of the line, or at least it is pretty damn close.

So, what can be done about this? The first thing that needs to be done is we have to start asking ourselves what is most important. In fact, the most important thing before anything can change is to completely question everything that provides the foundation of our system. You start doing that by asking yourself questions that normally do not even cross your mind. A friend of mine once said that it seems some homeless people choose to live the way they do. When I mentioned this to another friend, he came up with quite a question, one that inspired the content of this article. "Practically speaking, what would it take for you to end up destitute and on the street?

If those circumstances became a reality for you, would you say that you made the choice to be homeless?" This reversal of roles, a sensitive consideration for the situation of others is absent in our culture. What is more important, television or food? Brand names or survival? Cable in the classroom or secure learning environments? The private lives of celebrities or genocide throughout the world? Priorities are really strange in this land. We all seem to prefer to be misled than to be told the truth. It IS scary that corporations keep on merging. It IS scary that slave labor still exists. It IS scary that the environment is being destroyed because of our appetites. We have so much potential as a race, so much diversity, so much creativity, so many strengths that can be used to make it a better world. But we do not use them. Why? Because of our culture, our tradition, and our unwillingness to question the morality and importance of our daily decisions.

We lie dormant, a silent, blissful majority within the borders of this country, "true north, strong and free". But all is not fine in the peaceable kingdom. The world is changing, but not for us. It is not changing for us and not for anybody else who parallels us in this world. And it is a harsh reality that lies ahead. A reality filled with a few hundred trillionaires and a few billion wage laborers. It is a pure market, with a pure market result. An oligopoly. Yes, the dream of a few and a nightmare of the many, but this is supposed to be good, right? Besides, all that matters is being at the top, and by God, we'll do anything to get there.

My words carry a serious charge against the authority of our traditions. We all seem to work within a rigid framework, a boxed set of words and concepts that hold obscure meanings, words like "freedom" or "democracy". These words evoke images, yes, but seem to be beyond our grasp. These are not realities for us, because they are defined by authority, by media, and by interests that are counter to our own. Society does not work for us and we do not work for society. This is a severe problem, because we are effectively trapped, trying to make it serve our needs and not let it destroy our own lives, our very survival. We cannot serve, and we cannot be served, and therefore we spin about without any meaningful end. The question then arises, "how do we change this?" That, everybody, is the million dollar question, and the beginning of the path to change.

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING...

by Martha Martin, MSVU Chaplain

How can the church hold any credibility when it has so many divisions?

It does seem like a contradiction when a religion preaches peace and love and then wages war on those who hold different beliefs. Jesus himself taught and lived a theology of inclusivity, and during his ministry challenged the insider/outsider practices of many around him. One can spend many years studying the history of the Christian Church, it's various splits and schisms, including the Protestant Reformation in the 16th Century. I believe that the evolution of many Christian denominations over hundreds of years are a natural reaction to the hierarchy of the church attempting to assimilate all of the doctrines, beliefs and practices into one accepted set. It's like trying to put God in a box - it can't be done. And as various groups believed that the status quo was too limiting, or perhaps too liberal, a new "church" was born. We see this happening all over the world even today. Given human nature, its history and experience, it is only reasonable to think that there are many valid expressions of the experience of God. I for one celebrate this diversity, and am grateful that there isn't one "World Christian Church".

However, sometimes people of faith can rise above their differing theologies, practices, rituals and interpretations and come together for a common cause. This happened last year with the global Jubilee movement. More than 17 million people from over 155 countries signed a petition demanding that G7 leaders cancel the debts of the world's poorest countries by the year 2000. The Jubilee movements around the world represent a moral call from both grassroots and upper levels of churches including the Vatican, the World Council of Churches, and the Lambeth conference of Bishops from the worldwide Anglican Church. The Jubilee has its roots in scripture, and is intended to renew society, to restore equality and justice, and to protect and nurture the land. Although in the end the G7 did not meet the urgent requirements of the 50 most impoverished countries on the Jubilee list for immediate and total debt cancellation, the worldwide movement continues to push for change.

In Canada, the Canadian Ecumenical Jubilee Initiative (CEJI), a coalition of almost thirty national churches and church organizations succeeded in collecting 635,000 signatures for the petition. CEJI's work continues over the next two years as it produces materials to raise awareness about other national and global justice campaigns. Ten Days for Global Justice is another church-based coalition that does education each year around a specific justice issue. Their 1999-2000 theme is "Close the Gap between rich and poor". Their materials challenge all of us in the western world to re-examine our lifestyles - for example: "The United Nations estimates that the additional cost of achieving universal access to basic education, health care, reproductive health care for all women, and adequate food, safe water and sanitation for every person on this planet is roughly \$40 billion per year. This is less than 4% of the combined wealth of the 225 richest people in the world, who have a combined wealth of over a trillion dollars - equal to the annual income of the poorest half of the world's people." (Ten Days for Global Justice, 1999-2000)

So, while it's true that there are many divisions within the church, there are also times when people of faith have been able to find a common task in the midst of their diversity - the task of building a better, more just world.

(For more information on the Canadian Ecumenical Jubilee Initiative, Ten Days for Global Justice, or the Students Against Sweatshops Campaign, contact Martha Martin, Chaplain, 457-6446. All of these organizations have great and informative websites!!)

The Chaplain can be reached at 457-6466; email Martha.Martin@msvu.ca

To be or not to be that is the question...-Hamlet

By Nicola Hanson

How now my Lord? How now my Lady? O, what a play is Hamlet.
The most melancholy of all Shakespearean tragedy.
Upon the stage of du Maurier,
the prince of Denmark in his unprofitable tale.

Something is rotten in the state of Denmark. -Marcellus
So excellent a king, killed at the hand of an ungrateful brother.
Hamlet arrives in time for a funeral and sees;
a wife and mother in squandered virtue,
not two months past before the marriage to young Hamlet's uncle.

Whether 't is nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune... Hamlet
Hamlet's father's spirit told the tale,
incriminating Claudius, the new king of Denmark.
Hamlet, crazed with madness, sought justice
for a King and father.

A bloody deed; almost as bad, good mother, As kill a king, and marry with his brother... Hamlet
The players play, while Hamlet views
the guilt upon the king's brow.
The truth is told the queen confronted
Poor Polonius pays the price.

To hide the slain? - O! from this time forth, My thoughts be bloody, or be nothing worth. -Hamlet
Hamlet's love, sweet Ophelia
finds madness as consolation.
Hamlet is sent away, lest pay dearly,
for the death of her father.

Lay her i' the earth; And from her fair and unpolluted flesh May violets spring! - Laertes
Hamlet returns, to find his fair maid
dead and gone. Her brother angered
at the loss of a family;
struck a deal with the villainous king.

Good night, sweet prince; and flights of angels sing thee to thy rest! - Horatio
The treachery begins, a duel'twain Hamlet and Laertes,
The king has poisoned the price. Laertes too acts in deceit.
The queen drinks from Hamlet's cup, All ends,
all are survived by Horatio, who tells the tale.

This is a great adaptation of one of my favourite Shakespearean plays. Tom Barnett as Hamlet provided a such a depth a character, you were able to feel his madness and anger as it unfolded.

Geoff McBride and Christopher Shore as Guildenstern and Rosencrantz bring an element of Dumb and Dumber to the roles. They are fabulous sidekicks and add a comedic ingredient to Hamlet.

Other notable players include Patricia Zentilli as Ophelia, Michael Krek as Horatio and Nicola Lipman as Gertrude. All actors work together to make this a superb production.

The duMaurier is one of my favourite theatres. It is intimate and enables the audience to feel a certain catharsis with the players. The set is very versatile and allows for easy transition between the scenes, while always bringing the audience along.

All in all, this is an excellent performance by many talented actors, in a great venue. Hamlet runs at the duMaurier Theatre until March 12. Ticket prices are \$26.50 for adults and \$21.50 for students and seniors. Student Matinee prices are \$11.50 each.



Kenneth Kam Photo

Tom Barnett as Hamlet in Neptune Theatre's Hamlet.

*That skull had a tongue in it, and could sing once:
how the knave jowls it to the ground, as if it were
Cain's jaw-bone, that did the first murder! This might
be the pate of a politician, which this ass now o'er-
reaches, one that would circumvent, my lord.*

- Hamlet

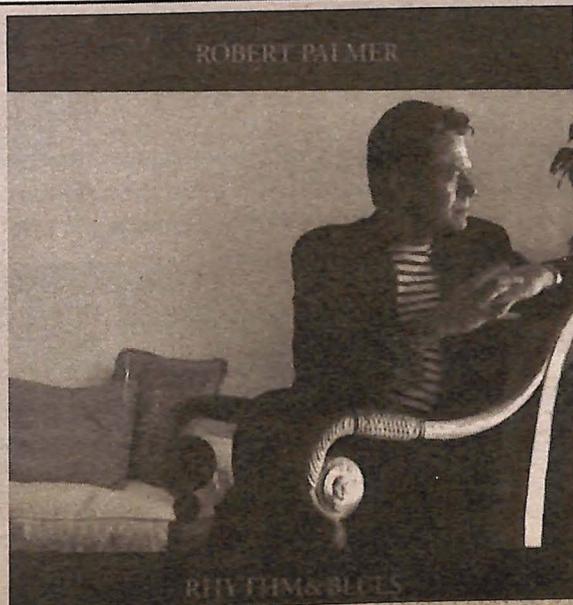
Robert Palmer's *Rhythm & Blues* EMI Music Canada

By Dave Roddis

Most of us who spent time in the eighties, remember groovin the night away to Palmer's classic hits Addicted to Love and Bad Case of Loving You. An accomplished musician/songwriter and producer, Palmer has collaborated on numerous collaborations with various artists. With this latest album Palmer attempts to continue his past success with a "current" R&B album. I say attempt because in this writer's opinion he fails. While not a huge fan of current R&B trends I do like good

music, and good music this is not.

Most of the songs on this album are impossible to distinguish from each other. They run together in a bland mixture of over-dubbed rhythms and misplaced melodies. The one song worth listening to is a remake of a classic Marvin Gaye track entitled "Let's Get It On '99". Palmer could have used a few lessons from that mystical master of soul on this album. Overall, I'd say only die hard Palmer fans need investigate.



I Mother Earth rocks a small but enthusiastic crowd at Vinnie's

By Nicola Hanson/ Melissa Melanson

A lack of ticket sales forced I Mother Earth from the Multi-Purpose room into Vinnie's Pub last Wednesday, but that didn't stop them from rocking the joint.

Touring has been corner stone of I Mother Earth's career. They have spent the majority of their career on the road.

"Touring...That's the only way to do it, because radio doesn't do it for us (IME)," said IME's bass player Jag in an interview before the sound check on Wednesday. "Before we were just up against rock bands and now we're up against people like the Backstreet Boys After Halifax, IME goes on the play at St.FX, UCCB and UNB. "We always go to the East Coast, we always go to Newfoundland, a lot of bands don't go to Newfoundland because it is very expensive."

IME formed in 1990 in Toronto. They quickly developed a significant following and an international record deal soon signed. By the release of their first album Dig, IME had toured all of Canada and the United States several times which cemented their status as one of Canada's most dynamic live shows.

After the popularity of IME's second release, Scenery and Fish, the band began to have internal problems. During the tour supporting that album, Edwin left to pursue a solo career. The change was an easy one for the remaining members of the band to make.

"It's so old now I forget, it was so easy. We were on the road finishing with the old guy (Edwin) and Brian started sitting in a bit. As soon as we came back, the next thing you know we're writing the new album with this new guy."

The new guy (Brian) brings an East Coast flavor to the band: he is from Newfoundland. He knows how to take care of the audience. In doing that, he takes the pressure off the others. The band is more unified now. The new album reflects a rejuvenated I Mother Earth.

"This one (album) was written more like a band. It has a different atmosphere (then the albums before), his voice allows us to lay back and do what we do best."

Blue Green Orange is the latest release from I Mother Earth. It was recorded at the band's own recording studio in Toronto. The first two singles,

"Our band is better. We smile while we're on stage now, it came to a point that we didn't like what we were doing as much...I'm ready to do this for another 10 years."

"Summertime in the Void" and "All Awake" have been received well both by fans and critics.

IME's 11th video to date is their latest single "When Did You Get Back From Mars" which was just released to Much Music a few weeks

ago. "I hate them (videos). I think it's the only thing that we despise. Collectively."

The one thing that I mother Earth loves more than anything is performing live. You play when and wherever you can, never turn it down is Jag's philosophy. I Mother Earth is



Hanson Photo

accustomed to a larger venue than Vinnie's.

"I'm not sure what happened here but it is all set up fine, it's going to be great."

There was a time when I Mother Earth did not love their job as much as they do now. With a new singer and a new album, IME has a new lease on life. "Our band is better. We smile while we're on stage now, it came to a point that we didn't like what we were doing as much." With Brian, now a seasoned veteran, IME with Bruce, Christian and Jag at the helm is back on the right track.

"I'm ready to do this for another 10 years."

"If a man can build a better portfolio..."

...the world will make a beaten path to his door"

(or something like that)
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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- 2 **Jump 'n Shout**
Basement Jaxx
- 3 **Faded**
Soul Decision
- 4 **Get Get Down**
Paul Johnson
- 5 **All I really Want**
Kim Lucas
- 6 **...Is Calling**
SM Trax
- 7 **Better Off Alone**
Alice DeeJay
- 8 **Honey, Ride This**
Club Robbers
- 9 **Sun is Shinning**
Bob Marley/Funkster de lux
- 10 **Disco Cop**
Blue Adonis

The New Palace



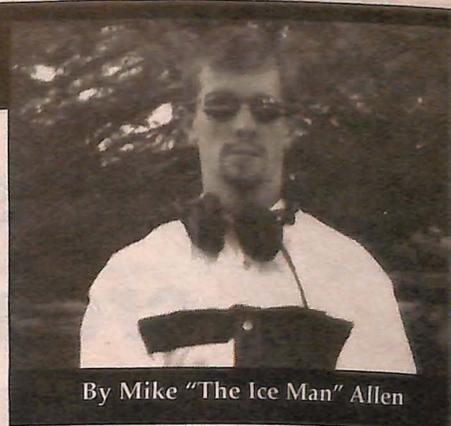
Massive 2000
Popular
Mike's Rating 9.5

Popular records have been putting out some good mainstream material recently and this album is another example of their awesome contributions. It features some premiere acts on the Popular label such as Eiffel 65 and ATB, as well as incorporating some good Urban tracks. The selection on this album is broad and was made in good taste as there aren't many songs that fail to deliver the vibes. Pick up a copy today - you won't be sorry!

In the last 5 months, we have been experiencing a breakthrough of Underground on to our dance music scene here in Halifax. Many of the bars have been promoting some sort of "Rave Night" to fuel the growing fire of Trance and House music that seems to have been ignited within many people. We have had many popular DJ's from across Canada and the USA make appearances, who have received a lot of hype in the process. However, let us not forget the people who make the music (the Producers) during our applause.

A Producer is the technical engineer who "creates" the music which is played. Tireless hours are spent either on the computer or at the mixing desk, in order to compose a track which will be successful. Not only do you need to know how to mix, but you need to be able to use a

variety of electronic equipment and finally, you need to have a creative mind. Building a song or making a remix isn't as easy as clicking a button. Each individual input sound must be customized to fit the song either by being faded, amplified, sped up, slowed down, echoed, inverted, and so forth. Once all the inputs have been customized, they must be added to a base line (which also needs to be created) and blended together. The Producer must build energy within the song as well as create breaks for the DJ to show-off with. It takes a lot of technical ability and know-how. Only a select few producers are world renowned for their outstanding abilities. When you pick up a new album, try to go past the name of the compiling DJ and read the fine print to discover the brilliant mind behind the song that stirred your soul. A lot



By Mike "The Ice Man" Allen

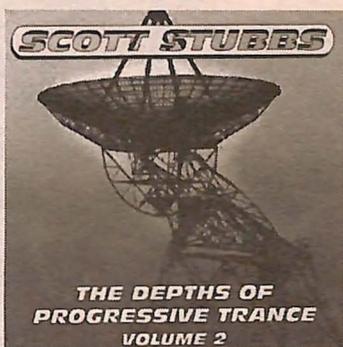
of credit has been given to many American DJ's who have played successful parties, but they don't produce much of the music they play. The DJ's deserve a lot of credit for their work, but credit must be given to the producers as well - don't forget, there is always someone behind the person on stage. With that, I'll leave you with this weeks Pool East top ten - check it out and keep on jammin'!!!
THE ICE MAN

KLUB KUTZ MIKE'S MARVELOUS MIX DOWN



Yves Deruyter - D Album
BT Buzz Records
Mike's Rating 10.0

Yves Deruyter is a brilliant producer who has a taste for danceable music with exciting depth. This album is jam packed with drop outs, builds, fades, and explosions, which serves a thrilling trip of excitement and suspense. There are 12 tracks on the album, which are built on solid base lines and take you higher as you get into them. "D Album" is a good example of what Underground music is all about as well as setting a benchmark for the producing end of things. The key word here isn't "artsy" but "technical." There is a technique to building the songs that will serve as the mechanical tools to drive the dance floor, and Yves Deryuter's got it! This album is a must have.



Scott Stubbs -The Depths of Progressive Trance
Topaz Records
Mike's Rating: 9.0

Scott Stubbs is an American DJ from Las Vegas who has made a name for himself on the Rave scene. He is an excellent programmer who not only builds energy, but sets the dance floor on fire. This album takes the listener on a trip of creative music, which ends in some hard driving songs. There are plenty of breaks and good transitions to please the technical ear as well.



DJ Dara - From Here To There Moonshine
Mike's Rating: 9.0

DJ Dara's latest album "From Here to There" is a creative Drum & Base mix, which features a variety of catchy songs. The program is set up to take you on a roller coaster ride of peaks and troughs (although there aren't many low spots) as you move from one funky base line to the next. It's good listening for the car stereo, and good listening if you're in the mood for something over the edge.



Mark Farina - San Francisco Sessions
OM Records
Mike's Rating: 8.5

Here is an album from Halifax's latest guest, Mark Farina, which features a variety of House music. The mixing abilities displayed on this album are first class with some excellent transitions. The program is consistent on this album, but it never really leaves the ground. Instead, it is a beat oriented album focusing on Mark's ability to blend two songs together in an incredibly smooth manner, rather than an energy build.. Look for San Francisco Sessions at HMV on Spring Garden Rd.

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**WRITERS
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WELCOME
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Bravo!

By Nicola Hanson

El Viento Flamenco with Evelyne Benais at the helm returned to Halifax, giving spectacular performances in a passionate flamenco style.

Flamenco

Flamenco is the traditional music and dance of the Gypsies of Southern Spain. The Gypsies, in an exodus from India to Spain that spanned several centuries, picked up musical influences all along the way. Once they finally settled, they used dance and song to survive the unjust treatment they received at the hands of the Spanish. Flamenco has evolved into alternating expressions of tragedy, intense happiness, even the burlesque.

El Viento Flamenco

El Viento Flamenco has experienced incredible success since its inception in 1996. The group draws audiences of all tastes and ages. They have performed at many established music and dance festivals and special events both locally and abroad. The group consists of Evelyne Benais dancing, Sean Harris singing, Bob Sutherby on guitar and Tony Tucker on percussion.

The Show

El Viento Flamenco performed at the Sir James Dunn to near sold out crowds every night. Benais has an unparalleled energy. Whether she is in the centre of the stage in a red flared skirt dancing in a most entrancing manner; or sitting beside the musicians and adding to the percussion by clapping or tapping, your eyes never really leave her when she is on the stage.

Her movements command attention.

The percussion was layered with the sounds of tapping, clapping and pounding and all members were lending a hand to the creation of a truly dynamic sound that kept the audiences feet tapping.



Greg Locke Photo

Evelyne Benais dances in El Viento Flamenco

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MOUNT COMMUNITY

Family Studies and Gerontology Society

The FSGN Society is having its next meeting on Thursday, February 24 at 12:00 Noon until 1:00 PM, in EVE 360 D, to discuss the upcoming career night. For more information, please contact GOTOBUTTON BM_1_ shaunalee.vincent@msvu.ca or check out the bulletin board outside the FSGN office, 3rd floor EVE.

Student Union Elections-Are you running??

Nominations Week-Monday, February 21-Friday, February 25.

Elections-March 15th and 16th.

Science Society Dinner Theatre
Friday, March 17th 2000

METRO COMMUNITY

Public Talk

"Women's Health and the Environment"—Elizabeth May
Tuesday, February 22, 2000
12:30-1:30: IWK Grace Auditorium, Halifax
Everyone Welcome!

Hymnfest 2000

Sunday, February 27th-7:00PM
St. Matthews United Church, Barrington Street
Hymns new and old with a massive choir of over 100 voices accompanied on the newly refurbished Casavant organ by some of the area's finest organists.
Contact: John Hudson, 757-2626 or 422-5620
"Come and Help us Raise the Roof!"

Nova Scotia Talent Trust Year 2000 Scholarship Program

Established in 1944, the Trust provides financial assistance to Nova Scotians who demonstrate exceptional potential an commitment to become established artists in film and video, literary arts, performing arts and visual arts. The Trust gives priority to applicants not yet established in their chosen fields who are undertaking programs of study that will advance their artistic development. An eligible applicant is anyone who is a permanent resident of Nova Scotia, including those Nova Scotians who are temporarily studying outside the province.

The trust has three deadlines each year. The first is April 15 for applicants who plan to continue or begin a program of study in the Summer session. The second is June 1 for those beginning or continuing a program in September. The third deadline is October 15 for those beginning or continuing a program of study in the winter.

Editors Note: having all that said, there is free \$\$\$ involved and lots of winners each year. Therefore for me to have typed out that spiel, each and every one of you

should really get off your keister and apply. To do that and find out more about this great program, call the Talent Trust at 424-4442

Humans Against Homophobia

Humans Against Homophobia is a working group of the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG). Our working group is dedicated to doing research and public education around issues of homophobia and heterosexism. We are currently trying to compile a booklet/ display which details people's experiences with homophobia and heterosexism as a way to inform the public of these issues and possible ways to respond. So, to solicit submissions we would like to include a little blurb in your paper.

Humans Against Homophobia is looking for submissions that communicate your experiences with homophobia and heterosexism. We're looking for a broad range of experiences in any material. All ages and orientations are welcome to submit, anonymously or otherwise.

Deadline: February 29.

Submit to the NSPIRG office in the Dal SUB, University Ave or to
GOTOBUTTON BM_2_ nohomophobia@yahoo.com.

For more info call 494-6662.

Venus Envy Women's Basketball League

There are a few spots left for the Melba B recreational league. If you are interested, please call Marie at 453-5150.

Manna For Health is seeking volunteers to help in the collection, handling and distribution of food. Please call 429-7670, your call will be returned!

Frontier College

Students For Literacy At Mount Saint Vincent University

Approximately five million adult Canadians cannot read, write or use numbers well enough to meet the literacy demands of everyday life.

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To volunteer or for more information, call 457-6174, or visit our office in Rosaria 103B on Mondays at 2:00.

Don't just read about it!

Career Corner

If you are looking for a job, whether it be for part-time, full-time or for the summer, stop by the Career Planning Centre and check out the Job Board. Some of the job postings are as follows:

| Job Type | Position | Company | Wage |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------|
| General Employment: | | | |
| Summer | Retail Officer | National Capital Commission | \$11.05/Hour |
| Summer | Information Officer | National Capital Commission | \$11.05/Hour |
| Summer | VariousCamp | Tidnish | Unknown |
| Part-Time | Data Entry | ADECCO | \$7.00/Hour |
| Full-Time | Volunteer Coordinator | MISA | \$27,000/Year |
| Full-Time | Communications Officer | Canadian Council on Social Development | \$38,847/Year |

Arts & Science:

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Full-Time | Actuarial | Workplace Health & Safety Comm | Unknown |
| Full-Time | Medical Lab Specialist | Public Service Commission | \$20/Hour |

Professional Studies:

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| P/F Time | Promotions Rep | INVENTA | \$12.00/Hour |
| Full-Time | Customer Service Rep | Ford Credit Leasing | Unknown |
| Full-Time | Literacy Manager | Public Service Commission | \$22/Hour |

To find out the qualifications required for these positions and the application methods, stop by the Career Planning Centre in Evaristus 218.

Are you an Education Student and looking for a job? Here are some school boards that are currently accepting resumes:

School District #82, Coast Mountains, BC
Deadline: March 8, 2000
Nunavut Department of Education
Deadline: March 8, 2000
School District #60, Peace River, BC
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, ON
Jeong Sang Language School, Korean
Cree School Board, QC
New Brunswick School District (2&4)
Peel District School Board, ON
Durham District School Board, ON
Toronto District School Board, ON
Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic School Board
School District 17 & 18, NB
Buffalo Trail Regional Division #28, AB
Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board
James English Schools, Japan
Eastern School Board, PEI

Visit the Career Planning Centre to find more information.

Cultural Career Connections A One-Of-A-Kind Career Fair

Cultural Career Connections is an exciting initiative which will bring university and college students together with the cultural community to talk about careers in one of Nova Scotia's most promising new industries...culture.

This event is taking place on **March 23** at Pier 21 from 12pm-6pm. The event will feature performances, speakers, panels, seminars, workshops, information booths and more. The objective of this fair is to develop awareness of the broad range of cultural careers while helping student connect with those who actually work in the chosen field.

To find out more about this spectacular event visit the Career Planning Centre in Evaristus 218.

Are you looking for a job? Check out these Websites:

<http://jobs.gc.ca>

<http://www.ns.hrhc-drhc.gc.ca/english/jobs/jobs.htm>

<http://www.acc.net>

www.cacee.com/internship.html

<http://www.summer-work.com>

Conference Standings

...week ending February 13, 2000

Women's Volleyball

Feb 9 MSVU defeated King's College 3-0
Scores: 25-19, 25-19, 25-23

Feb 12 MSVU defeated UNBSJ 3-1
Scores: 25-16, 25-23, 22-25, 25-12

Feb 13 MSVU defeated UNBSJ 3-2
Scores: 23-25, 25-18, 25-22, 23-25, 15-13

Standings:

| Rank | Team | MP | MW | ML | GW | GL | Points |
|------|------------|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
| 1 | U.Ste.Anne | 20 | 19 | 1 | 59 | 15 | 38 |
| 2 | St.Thomas | 20 | 15 | 5 | 52 | 21 | 30 |
| 3 | MSVU | 19 | 10 | 9 | 38 | 38 | 20 |
| 4 | NSAC | 19 | 10 | 9 | 37 | 36 | 20 |
| 5 | UNBSJ | 20 | 4 | 16 | 22 | 49 | 8 |
| 6 | King's | 20 | 1 | 19 | 8 | 57 | 2 |

Women's Basketball

| Rank | Team | Games | Wins | Losses | Points |
|------|-------------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| 1 | King's | 16 | 15 | 1 | 30 |
| 2 | NSAC | 14 | 12 | 2 | 24 |
| 3 | MSVU | 13 | 8 | 5 | 16 |
| 4 | Mt. Allison | 15 | 7 | 8 | 14 |
| 5 | St.Thomas | 13 | 5 | 8 | 10 |
| 6 | UNBSJ | 14 | 2 | 12 | 4 |
| 7 | DalTech | 13 | 0 | 13 | 0 |

Men's Basketball

| Rank | Team | Games | Wins | Losses | Points |
|------|-------------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| 1 | Mt. Allison | 15 | 12 | 3 | 24 |
| 2 | St.Thomas | 13 | 11 | 2 | 22 |
| 3 | MSVU | 13 | 9 | 4 | 18 |
| 4 | NSAC | 14 | 6 | 8 | 12 |
| 5 | King's | 16 | 6 | 10 | 12 |
| 6 | DalTech | 13 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 7 | UNBSJ | 14 | 1 | 13 | 2 |

Fan Bus to ACAA Basketball Provincials at Mount Allison

Saturday, March 4

Details and sign up at Ath/Rec.

Cost is \$20



RESIDENCE PUB CRAWL SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH



- 8-9 Merrill's
- 9-10 The Split Crow
- 10-11 JJ Rossy's
- 11-1 The New Palace
- 1+ Reflections

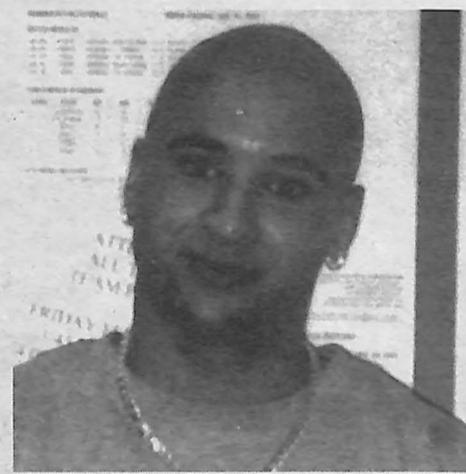
Shirts on sale in Rosaria outside cafeteria
FEBRUARY 21ST-25TH

Shirts cost \$13 -- \$6 in advance plus \$2 extra for the bus



Rob Turnbull

Age: 19
Astrological sign: Pisces
Graduated from: Prince Andrew High School
Year/Program: 1st, Arts
Sport: Basketball
Position: Doggy Style
Marital Status: ---
Marking/Piercings: 1 tattoo on arm
Favourite Song: Justin, by Korn
Favourite Movie: Pumping Iron
Favourite TV Show: Who's the Boss
Likes: Sleeping, eating, girls, drinking, tagging
Dislikes: Running, class, smoking
Notable Achievements: Her, her and her!
Player Quote: Woood!



Jayson Taker

Age: 20
Astrological Sign: Gemini
Graduated From: Charles P. Allen
Year/Program: 2nd, Arts
Sport: Basketball
Position: Shooting Guard
Marital Status: Not married
Markings/Tattoo's: Encrypted band and name
Favourite Song: Glaciers of Ice
Favourite Movie: Enter the Dragon
Favourite TV Show: Oz
Likes: Sleep
Dislikes: Chameleon's
Notable Achievements: ACAA Championships '99.
Player Quote: ---



Dennis Wright

Age: 19
Astrological Sign: Gemini
Graduated From: Halifax West
Year/Program: 1st, Arts
Sport: Basketball
Position: Point Guard
Marital Status: Engaged
Markings/Tattoo's: ---
Favourite Song: I need a hot girl
Favourite Movie: Scarface
Favourite TV Show: Comicview
Likes: Music, sex, chilling
Dislikes: Abstinence, condoms
Notable Achievements: "I'm still here!"
Player's Quote: ---

A look at...
Player profiles
Compiled by
Rhonda Simser

If you can read this then...

**The following positions will be available
for the 2000-2001 academic year:**

**Editor-In-Chief
Managing Editor
News Editor
Layout Editor
Features Editor
Arts & Entertainment Editor
Sports Editor**

**Copy Editor
Photo Editor
On-Line Editor
Distribution Manager
Community Page Editor
CUP Editor
Advertising Manager**

**Deadline to apply is March 8, 5:00pm drop resumes off at the
Picaro office (Rosaria 114) or email picaro@msvu.ca, 457-6386.**