

THE PICARO

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CHRIS MOONEY

The Mount ring, a symbol of the school for alumnae, students and the rest of the world. See story on page 9

The Setting of the SUNS?

BY MARK DARROW

A meeting at UCCB, in early October, by the representatives of the Student Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS) has ended with the possible dissolution of the Union.

SUNS, which represents 10 universities in the province, was a lobby group of universities to voice the concerns of Nova Scotia students to the provincial government. Infighting within the organization has resulted in a motion by its members to dissolve SUNS.

"Three major schools had put forward a constitution to replace the existing constitution," Rhonda Coleman, President of SUNS explained. "Another section of the membership felt that this is not a valid constitution, it would compromise our status in the Joint Stock and Registry." The schools which had presented

the new constitution were UCCB, St Francis Xavier and Saint Mary's University.

"There are extreme political differences amongst the membership," said Coleman. "They feel as a collective group we cannot move forward in our lobbying efforts."

John P. Francis, President of the Saint Mary's University Students Association (SMUSA), expressed his concerns for the nature of SUNS as an effective lobbying group. He explained that Saint Mary's, UCCB, St. FX and Acadia met in May at a conference in Winnipeg to discuss why the lobbying efforts of SUNS were not being achieved. "Basically there were a lot of things outdated in the constitution," Francis explained. "The rate of government change... The government can change policy

almost overnight." The proactive nature of government, Francis further explained, made SUNS "a bit of a dinosaur." A new constitution would reflect a more flexible response to changing government policy and meeting the needs of the students more readily.

The way in which SUNS meetings have been conducted have been met with frustration by some of its members. "The way that some of the members of the council were being very inflexible," Amy Cole, SUNS representative for King's College said. "Why come to the table with other groups to have no flexibility in your approach." Cole particularly mentioned the universities involved in the creation of the new constitution.

"When the constitution was presented by UCCB, St.

FX and SMU," Cole remarked. "I did not feel they were being very flexible; they would not compromise on what they had presented and what some of the members of council wanted." However, Cole feels that there should be efforts to save SUNS from dissolution. The union has a very good reputation with media, politicians and students, Cole explained, and that SUNS should not "just throw that away."

The future of representation of universities to government has not been finalized. "What we are looking at is developing another student organization," Coleman said. "The schools are still working together. Just the mandate of SUNS, people felt very strongly, was not working." So, a new SUNS could rise from the ashes of the old.

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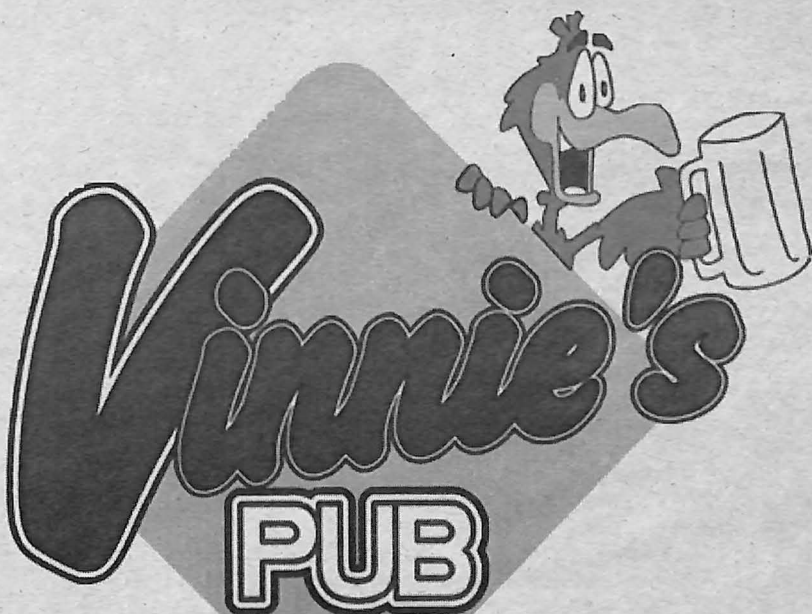
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Student Union

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NEWS

Student Enrollment Low

BY SUSAN BUTT

Mount Saint Vincent's student enrollment is at a low this year, not only in the number of students attending the school but also in the number of units each student is taking.

According to recent statistics from the registrar's office, enrollment is lower than in previous years and, in an attempt to understand this issue, an enrollment management team has been established. The team plans to address this low, find the causes and try to improve on future enrollment.

"It's at its premature stages because not of all the stats are in for the January courses. So all the data hasn't collectively come together as of yet," said Ron Pottie, Student Academic Vice-President. "But it was noted that the enrollment is down but not per se in bodies, it's in the units that are being taken."

As a member of the enrollment management team, Pottie says the main concern of the group right now is to establish the reasons why people are taking fewer units, why people that have been accepted to the Mount decided not to come and why some students have not returned.

"There are changes in university enrollment and we are watching very carefully what is going on and what we need to be doing from the registration

admissions process to make it easier for students to apply to and register with the university," said Lynne Theriault, Registrar at Mount Saint Vincent University and also a member of the enrollment Management Committee.

"This is where the enrollment management issue comes in," added Theriault, "It's a university wide issue, it's not focused in one area and that's why in the gathering of the management team there are members from a number of areas on campus."

Enrollment results are still being processed and the team has started calling students that have been accepted but have decided not to come to the school, as well as those students who have not returned. An analysis will follow and will be used to help the enrollment management team make decisions that benefit students and perspective students.

"We have to remember that these numbers are not as drastic as people think," said Pottie, "But until the remainder of the data comes in, we have to wait for the actual concrete data of why the enrollment is low. We want to make sure there's an understanding before corrective measures are taken."

Mount to Vote CFS Pull Out

BY MARK DARROW

Recent complaints to the Mount Student Union about the Canadian Federation of Students' (CFS) have resulted in a move to hold a referendum on the future of the Mount's involvement in CFS.

The CFS has recently been reported as forwarding an initiative to lobby government for free tuition. This initiative has concerned some students at the Mount, who have complained to Student Union about the rationality of CFS's position.

"Most of the feedback came right after the announcement that the Federation supports the abolition of tuition," explained Timothea Gibb, External Vice President of the Mount. "Which is just a small part of their strategy but students don't agree with it. They don't think it's fair." The complaints have resulted in a letter, by Gibb, to the CFS expressing the Mount's interest in holding a referendum to pull out of the organization.

"There is a possibility they're not going to let me have the referendum," said Gibb, "because the notice was sent on deadline." The result may be that the referendum will be held next fall.

The CFS has had concerns about the transfer of information to students due to the media coverage of the "zero tuition" policy. Amy Cole, Chair of the Nova Scotia Component of CFS, explained that "not enough information is given to the students." The "Strategy for Change" policy document of CFS was the culmination of 16 years work, with the proposal for free tuition being one aspect of the document.

"The zero tuition thing, the media picked up on it because it was quick, it was easy and you get a response from people," Cole said. "It was misconstrued." Cole further explained that the CFS is actually lobbying for a system of grants to be set up for students who cannot readily afford to go to university. "I think we are the only G-7 country that does not have system of grants," Cole said.

If the referendum is held in April, the result could be a pull out by the Mount from membership in the CFS. This leaves the Mount with an alternative to either consider joining Canadian Alliance of Students Associations or to keep out of national students groups altogether.



JAMES TILLEY

A Fire occurred in the Weight Room last week, repairs have been made and athletics and recreation services have not been effected



CHRIS MOONEY

The newest members of the Mount's "Hall of Fame"

BY JAMES TILLEY

This year's recipients of the Mount's honorary degrees are three women who excel in their chosen fields.

Kathleen Shannon is a feminist film maker who pioneered in the film industry. She paved the way for many new female film producers. (A profile of Shannon is on page 9.)

Alleyne Murphy is a name that many Alumnae might recognize. She was a big force in the developing and expansion of the Home Economics department that now is nationally renown. Though no longer a teacher Murphy was named professor Emeritus by the human ecology department in 1992.

Janet Connors is a well known spokesperson and AIDS activist. She, who has the virus herself, had fought successfully with the government for compensation for those who were infected through tainted blood.

Janet Connors speech to the graduates was excellent. Stacey Langley bid a fond farewell to her fellow graduates. Later came the chancellor's closing remarks and a final piece played by the Symphony Nova Scotia Brass Quintet. They entered empty handed as students but they left with the parchment which symbolized the hard work of three plus years.

The Picaro

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OPINION

CASA URGES ATLANTIC STUDENTS TO SIGN PETITION

BY ALICIA DOYLE

The Canadian Alliance of Student Association (CASA) is urging Maritime University students to sign a petition to persuade the federal government to reform the Canada Student Loan Program.

"The pull out of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce from the Nova Scotia student loan program signalled the need for some kind of reform," said Kevin Lacey, a vice-president of the Dalhousie Student Union and Atlantic Canada director of CASA. "Signatures from students will help to show support for CASA's plans for reform and we will present the petition to Parliament February 4."

The CIBC pulled out of the student loan program last spring due to the increased number of loan bankruptcies and the amount of students defaulting on their loans. The amount of students ditching their loans has increased from 3,000 in 1990 to 8,000 in 1996.

According to CASA, which represents 13 universities and colleges across Canada including Dalhousie and Acadia, their income-based remission program will offer a flexible payback schedule for student loans based on income, while providing grants for those graduates in need.

Student leaders say government funding cuts and tuition increases have left several grads with debts of more than \$25,000 and they have suggested a range of solutions from debt remission to free tuition.

"This is a serious issue that all Canadians should be aware of," CASA national director Hoops Harrison said in an interview from Ottawa. "We want to send a strong message to the federal government that (student) loans are a serious issue."

So far the Atlantic chapter of CASA has collected over 2,000 signatures. Students interested in supporting loan reform can sign the petition at the Information Desk located in the Dalhousie Student Union Building.

Tilley Refused Position to Board of Governors

BY MARK DARROW

As a result of the recent student elections at the Mount, James Tilley was refused by Student Union to be appointed to the Board of Governors.

There are three student positions on the Board which is a policy and a decision making group of the University. Students are normally elected to the position, but in times where an elected representative has not run for the Board, the Student Union may appoint the position.

One such person who had applied for the position was James Tilley, Deputy Returning Officer for the elections committee. "If there's no candidates running for the Board during the elections," explained Tilley. "The conventional way of becoming a rep. is to be appointed. They have to just present themselves with a letter in writing."

Tilley did express interest, in writing, to the council, but was refused the appointment. "To my knowledge," said Tilley, "it's the first time an appointment has been said no to."

Rhonda Coleman, Student Union President, explained that with the elections just ending, appointments were not really necessary. "We felt that if he truly wanted to run," said Coleman, "he would have run in the election." However, Coleman said that she was surprised at the fact the Tilley expressed an interest in the Board of Governors. "I assumed that James was actively interested in becoming the Deputy Returning Officer," explained Coleman, "which he was ratified as."

Tilley explained that before the 48 hour deadline for nominations there were candidates running for all positions. However, when the nominations were due only 7 candidates had expressed interest in running for election. This prompted Tilley to send written notice to council expressing interest in an appointment to the Board, which was refused in lieu of the recent elections.

"They're constantly praising the fact that they want students to get involved," Tilley remarked. "Yet when a student wants to get involved they say no." Currently, there are two members on the Board of Governors: Rhonda Coleman and Paul Barnes.



MARK CAMPBELL

Mary Dulhanty's Diary was unveiled last week at the Mount Saint Vincent University's Art Gallery. Dulhanty was a Mount Saint Vincent College student in the mid twenties.

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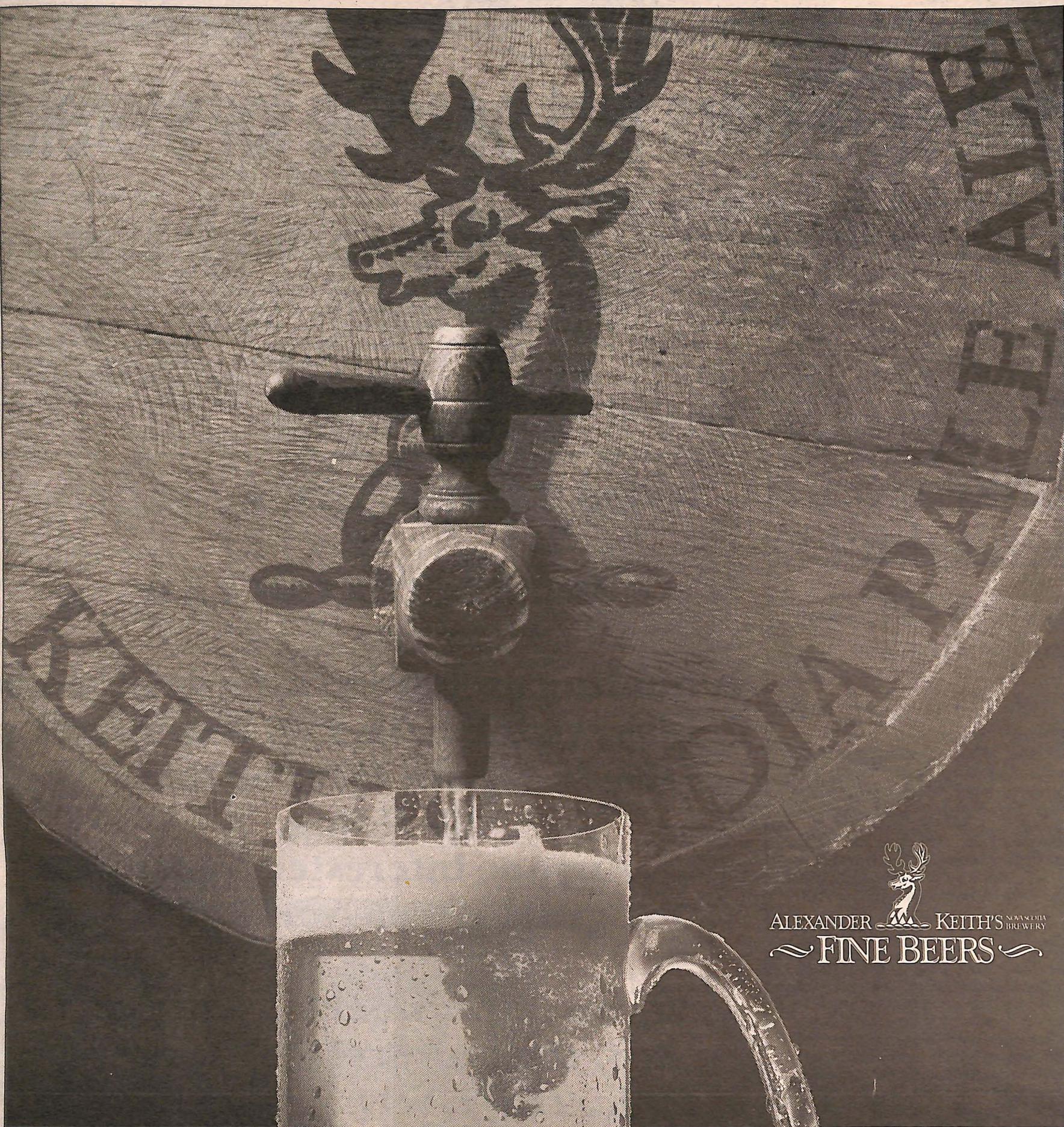
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Cup Briefs

Football players test positive for steroids

SOURCE: ONTARIO BUREAU • BY RACHEL FUREY

TORONTO (CUP) — Three Canadian university football players have been forced to hang up their cleats after testing positive for steroids.

Mathieu Demers of the Saint Mary's Huskies, Shawn Dyson of the Waterloo Warriors and Constanin Shousha of the Ottawa Gee-Gees were all tested during random, unannounced sessions in September. All three have admitted to using steroids and have waived their right to a second test.

The Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union announced on Monday October 6 that each player has been suspended for a period of no less than four years.

"I made the mistake because I was impatient to reach the top. I regret it and I must now live with my decision. I am human and I wanted to be the best. I am sorry," Demers said in a statement released later in the week.

Since 1990, approximately 2,250 drug tests have been conducted and 20 athletes

have tested positive. All but one of the cases has involved a football player and steroid use.

With these latest infractions, the preventative measures used to keep players from taking steroids are being called into question. "With three players [testing positive] in the same week, there's something wrong," Luc Gelineau, University of Ottawa athletics director, said.

The CIAU currently conducts mandatory drug education seminars for athletes

each year. Players must sign a form to indicate they've read and understood the union's zero tolerance policy on drug use.

All three players told their coaches they didn't expect to test positive for the drugs.

"[Shousha] was told by his supplier the drug would be out of his system and he was shocked to see that it was still there," said Gelineau.

Bankruptcy denied for two years

SOURCE: NATIONAL WRITER

BY JEN HORSEY

TORONTO (CUP)-Students declaring bankruptcy within two years of completing or discontinuing their studies will no longer be released from paying back their student loan debt unless they can successfully prove to the courts that special circumstances apply in their case.

NDP federal youth critic Libby Davies says she thinks it's outrageous that the government is singling out students for this special treatment, adding that this measure disregards the underlying problem of increasing student debt. "I think it is totally discriminatory by singling students out and saying, 'You're not allowed to do this,'" she said.

Naomi Ridout, senior policy analyst for the Canada Student Loans Program, says she supports the changes. She says she doesn't think students should have to resort to bankruptcy to take care of their student loans. According to Ridout, measures such as the six-month grace period after a student leaves school when they are not required to make payments on their loan, and the further 30 month period of interest relief address the problems students have with their student loan debts. "We have protected students from the need to default on their loans," she said.

Ridout says she is concerned that students are declaring bankruptcy without considering other options, and she says the problem is that information about the loan program's flexibility is not getting out to students, or the private lending institutions who administer the loans.

The high number of student bankruptcies are a sign student debt is rising out of control, Randy Miller, vice-president external of the Memorial University student union, says. "I don't know when they are going to realize students cannot pay off \$45,000 debts," he said. "They can't do it."

"Progressive thinking would say, 'Gee all these students are declaring bankruptcy. It can't be just because they don't want to pay off their loans. It must be because they can't pay it off,'" he said. "So government turns around and instead of attacking the issue... they go the other way and say they're criminals."

Other debts which cannot be cleared by bankruptcy include fines imposed by courts, money owed for things stolen and alimony or maintenance payments.

With files from the Muse and the Varsity

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**MACLEAN'S Magazine
News Release, Oct. 6/97**

Opinion

Scent-FREE Campus?

Editor's Notes

BY CERI YOUNG

A few weeks ago, one of my profs came into class looking rather distressed. She immediately asked our class if we were ever bothered by the perfume she wore, if it was too strong. Apparently, someone in another of her classes had had to leave because the scent of perfume was too strong in the air.

So we had a discussion about it. How much perfume is too much? How strong is too strong? The general consensus seemed to be that if you only put a little bit on, it won't bother anyone.

But all the while I was thinking, isn't the Mount supposed to be a scent-free campus? Isn't everyone supposed to be wearing no scents at all?

I realize the impossibility of having no one wear any scents. I'm going to smell like the soap and shampoo I use, if nothing else. But the line is being drawn at perfume, because it's extra, because it's not really necessary.

The Mount is a Scent-Free Campus for a reason. Part of the reason that Rosaria was under construction was to clean out the fungus that was causing poor air quality. A lot of people have trouble breathing the air here. Especially those with chemical sensitivities. Some people can't be around cigarette smoke, perfume or any kind of artificial scent, because their lungs clog up. Right away.

I know a lot of people who wear perfume, who put on "just a dab". That seems reasonable, but it can cause a lot of problems. What many people don't understand is that people with chemical sensitivities can't be around even a little artificial scent. They can't breathe. Consider what

would happen if you were sitting next to someone who was sensitive during class, or something more important like a test, or exam. A little bit of perfume can make a huge difference, especially if you have to sit next to it for two or three hours.

And this is not to mention what would happen if you accidentally put on too much perfume, or don't realize how strong the perfume actually was. For you, it may mean that you spend the day smelling a little strong. For someone with a chemical sensitivity, it could mean that they have to leave class and stand in the hallway, or get special permission to write a test somewhere else.

And chemical sensitivities aren't the only problem. Strong perfume can set off an asthma attack, or give a migraine headache to someone that is prone to them. This is why the Mount is a scent-free campus, why people are asked to not wear any scents, especially any strong scents like perfumes and colognes that they can avoid.

I know if someone comes to you after class and says that your perfume is too strong, it really hurts. No matter how politely they say it, you're going to feel a little bit offended. But try to see the other side of the coin - because you wear just a dab of perfume, your classmate could have trouble breathing or spend the rest of the day with a pounding headache. Something that I'm sure no one would cause intentionally.

So think twice before you put on scents, even "just a dab". It may not make a huge difference for you, but it might for some of your classmates.

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NOVASCOTIA

Letters

Elections are boring?

In response to the "Elections are Boring" article in the last issue of the Picaro, In my opinion, as a student at Mount Saint Vincent University, I have found that elections are not exactly boring. Granted, the October By-Elections may not be as exciting as the Spring Elections, but they are every bit as important. I agree that Student Union elections may not compare to the excitement in that of a federal election, however, we are not governing 26 million people.

I am pleased at the fact that 12.4 % of our Mount population took the time to vote in this years election. The fact that some students either took the time out their busy schedules to help work the polling stations, sit on an Elections Committee or run for a position, proves to me that students do have interest and do care. I think an important fact to keep in mind is, if you don't vote, or get involved, what right do you have to complain?

So you want to jazz up politics....let's do it!!! You want to start first by poster the school from top to bottom? Let's be realistic, not only is this a waste of paper but also a waste of someone's time. Advertising for Elections is disbursed throughout campus in enough high traffic places and locations (including the Picaro) so that the students who take the time to stop and read, know what is going on. If I can recall, there was a full spread article in the Picaro with each candidates' name, picture and write ups on who they were, what they were running for and their platforms. And you still don't know who these people are or the issues?? As far as information on the job descriptions for the positions, there is a detailed outline of duties and responsibilities in the nomination packages, which, are free for anyone to pick up during the nomination week.

I completely agree that the voting tables are less then attractive and I'm sure the Elections Committee would love to have new ballot boxes and separate privacy tables, unfortunately, these items cost money and no one has yet stepped forward with a donation.

I'm not so sure we have to resort to a "rock, paper, scissor" voting process, but I agree that elections may need some improvements to encourage more students to vote. Perhaps if suggestions were submitted BEFORE elections and not after the fact, we could work on new ideas, and prevent students from "BOREDOM"

Respectfully,

Alison Druhan

Another Man and the Mount

I am a friend of Tim Boudreau's and I too am a man at the Mount (referring to his Picaro article "A Man and the Mount" Oct. 14, 1997). I too have many more female friends than male; I like and prefer it.

Tim, I have experienced the same things in school as you and many other people have as well. I too have been bullied, belittled, harassed, abused and etc...all at the hands of other people, yes even women. Those who say they have not should really dig deep.

Tim, not all men rape. Not all men kill. Tim if you truly looked at the world you would see that even women are shallow at times, abusive at times, and hurt others at times. I know a woman who physically beats up men; I was with her when she was thrown into the drunk tank for it.

Tim people are people. At times people are abusive and vindictive independent of all other variables, including gender. Tim, gender does not exclude you from humanity nor does it make you part of a whole. The trick is to change the idea of what that whole is; you should not think "all men rape...etc.." because it is not true. Tim, if you have never met a woman (or women) who has not had sex without love, been shallow, wanted control, hurt someone else, or abused another than you have not really known her and the claims that you have are invalid.

Everyone has been hurtful or shallow in their life. Sure you can read this and say that you have not, but you would be only fooling yourself. Well, maybe you have not recently, but then maturity does wonderful things. Tim, I think your revelation that the Mount caters to people who are not pigs is the revelation that these people are mature. Understand that there are people in this school who are not or not as mature as you and think differently from you and even have different cultures than you but that still does not make a man a pig.

Joel Simourd

Editors note: In "A Man and the Mount", Tim Boudreau was not asserting that "Men are violent," but was saying that the stereotype "Men are violent" is, as he put it, "negative garbage" and needs to be rethought. The article may have been ambiguous on this point and for that we apologize. It was never intended as an attack on men, but rather on the stereotypes surrounding men.

Get The Picture?

Want to take more than Holiday Snaps with that camera? Just finishing that photography assignment but you want some more work? Then the Picaro is the place! Not only are we looking for writers but we need photographers also. If you don't have your own camera fine. If you do have a camera even better! (We supply the film and developing)

FEATURES

Be Witched

BY JILL CURRAN

"Double, double toil and trouble. Fire burn and cauldron bubble," chanted evil looking witches as they stirred a bubbling potion in Shakespeare's *MacBeth*. Witches have long inspired fear and though they only appear once a year these days, they are still portrayed as pretty loathsome creatures—but are they really so wicked?

Vanessa Smith, a practising witch, says that today's Halloween witch is a poor representation of what witches really are.

"Centuries of misinformation about what a witch is has been carried forward to today," says Smith.

Witchcraft, also known as Wicca is a Pagan religion. Smith says contrary to the evil connotations of witchcraft associated with Halloween, real witchcraft is quite benevolent.

"It is a very positive religion with ties to protecting the earth as a sacred space, with ideas about equality between men and women and all the people of the earth, respect for all the animals and plants of the earth—it is a very balanced spirituality", says Smith.

Yet, the image of a witch as an evil woman casting nasty spells persists. Many of the negative connotations of witches and pagans originate from the days when Christianity was spreading throughout Europe. There was a need to convert the local population, which were largely pagan farmers and fishermen. (Pagan is a Latin word meaning country dweller.) Because these people drew their livelihood from the earth, their spirituality was also tied to the earth. Smith says witches were often the wise ones in the community and knew about herbs and healing.

"But at the time of Christianization of Europe it was necessary to discredit these religions and equate them with evil-doing to basically stamp them out," says Smith.

The evil stereotype of witches has been difficult to combat. Smith offers Wicca 101 classes at her store, Little Mysteries Books, to educate people and dispel stereotypes

surrounding Witchcraft and Paganism. Smith has practised Witchcraft for eight years and prefers to call herself a witch. Some people prefer the term Wiccan because it carries fewer negative connotations. But for Smith using the term witch, "is trying to reclaim the original essence of the word, a positive term—a term of power."

Today's Halloween is vaguely related to the traditional Pagan holiday, Samhain, (pronounced Sow An) a Gaelic term meaning 'end of summer.' Traditionally it was a holiday to celebrate the last harvest. It was a relatively solemn occasion for pagans—a time for remembering the past. As farmers gathered their last crops from the field and prepared food stocks for the winter, they reflected on their own mortality.

"It was a time for remembering our dead and doing particular rituals to honour them and to remember them," says Smith.

Some of the modern traditions of Halloween stem from the rituals of Samhain. During Samhain people put candles in the window to light the way home for souls that had passed on. The scary faces of the jack-o-lanterns were carved into pumpkins and turnips to ward off evil spirits. The tradition of trick-or-treating stemmed from cakes and candy given to children at Samhain as a wish to sweeten the future.

Smith says she enjoys the celebrations of Halloween, but feels it is too commercialized. Smith would also prefer a friendly, positive image of a witch. She says she was recently put off by seeing a 15-foot, inflatable, green, malevolent witch hanging over the candy display on a recent visit to the grocery store.

Public acceptance of the stereotype bewilders Smith and she says people would not be so accepting of stereotypes of other religions.

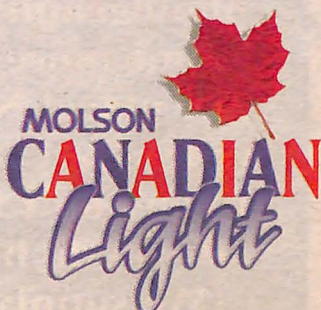
"It is not understood so much about witchcraft that it is a modern religion and that no one is really impressed by Halloween's misinterpretation," says Smith.



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FEATURES

With this ring...

BY JAMES TILLEY

Ever wondered about the dove story? No, not Noah's dove, or the story of two turtledoves; this dove story is the one that many of the Mount alumnae wear on their fingers.

The Mount ring is not as recognizable as the X-ring, which has been around since 1942, and is one of the most well-known rings with the exception of the Pope's and those given to the Superbowl winners. But the Mount's version of the graduation ring is a growing symbol of the university and its proud students.

Before the dove, there was a barrage of ring designs. "There used to be 30 to 40 designs," remembers Jean McKay, bookstore manager, "and every year a different person would come in and go to the student body and say 'Hey we have got the best and brightest and the shiniest.' Sometimes it was a matter of the name being recessed as opposed to being raised; there was no consistency."

The main design themes included the crest, the now extinct logo, and gemstones ranging from royal to pale blue. These three designs had different characteristics. The sides, as an example of the changes, could have the Nova Scotia coat of arms or the graduation year or the program you graduated with. The face could be round, oval, or square. All of the designs were made in various carats of gold or silver.

Susan Smith, the student union president in 1986, wanted to bring order to the chaos. She brought the proposal of creating a new official ring design to the Student Affairs Committee. This committee accepted the task of choosing a ring design. Such a project is a part of their mandate, which is to address student issues. The students, faculty and alumnae all contributed to the decision.

"It says something quite striking about the Mount, but it also gives a sense of history,"
~ Dr. Carol Hill,

"The intention was to have something as recognizable as the X-ring. Everyone uses St. FX's ring as the ultimate example of identification and ease of identification," says Ruth Jeppesen, the Mount's public relations officer, who was involved in the ring selection process. "The simplicity of our design becomes classic, it is not trendy."

The committee, with the aid of graphic designers, looked at old ring designs and other traditions of the Mount. After this research and several attempts they came up with the current ring design. By the 1989-90 academic year, the design had been finalized and approved by Senate, and the first of these new official Mount Saint Vincent University graduation rings were being sold.

The design is an ideal graduate ring for the university. The dove originates from the crest and reflects the university's heritage with the Sisters of Charity and the Catholic church. Not only is the dove a religious symbol for the holy spirit, but it also represents peace and appropriately knowledge. A stylized M and V are created by the triangle surrounding the dove. The two tones of blue have been the Mount colours for longer than most people can remember. In fact, the original Academy ring was a square with both light and dark blue. The current enamel on gold is a simple design strategy that has been used in many past designs. Both sides of this gold ring have the year of graduation in raised numbers.

"It says something quite striking about the Mount, but it also gives a sense of history," says Dr. Carol Hill, Dean of Student Affairs, and head of the committee that developed the ring design.

The design sets the Mount apart from others because it does not look like the standard high school rings that many universities use. It can be recognized as a Mount ring without the need of a microscope to see the writing. On the inside of the band the student's three initials and program are engraved. This not only personalizes the ring, but it gives it an added amount of security. If someone finds a lost ring they can return it to the university. Then the bookstore, with the aid of the alumnae

office, can locate the owner.

No new students can order the older designs since the dove design is the official ring. On campus other rings can be purchased. One version with the crest on it can be purchased, but it has no dates and is not the official graduation ring. The public relations society sells a society ring, which is available to all of its members. The human ecology students receive a ring from the national society of human ecologists. This is given during a "yellow rose" ceremony during their graduation week. If students cannot afford a ring then the bookstore also sells a variety of pins and pendants.

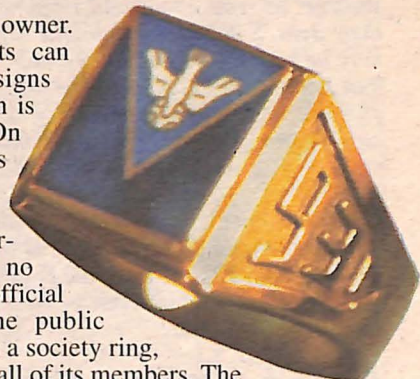
An X-ring can cost students \$300 - 400. At the MSVU bookstore a ring can cost as low as \$120, if purchased on a ring day, when they are available for less.

It is a graduation ring so you cannot buy it until your final year. Old Alumnae can purchase a ring even years after their graduation. The ring will have the year that they graduated on the side. McKay recalls one alumna who wanted her ring from when she graduated in the late 1930's; the student really liked the new design and she had to have one.

"You can order your rings anytime during the year," says McKay, "and it takes about eight weeks to come in because they are specially made to fit the individual, as well as the engraving."

The current design shows the world that the owner is a proud Mount alumna, not just a student who graduated with a BSc or a tourism graduate who happens to have gone to have gone to MSVU. The ring promotes the school as a whole and shows the uniqueness of it and its students.

The Mount rings are still young, but at the same point in St. FX's ring history, its design was also unknown and unpopular. The dove ring is growing in popularity and is getting more recognition. With this trend the Mount ring will soon be on the same playing field as St. FX.



And the Award goes to...

BY CARRIE WARNER

After experiencing adversity as a young filmmaker, Kathleen Shannon decided to make it easier for other women following in her footsteps. At this year's Fall Convocation on October 19th, Kathleen Shannon, received an honorary degree for her extraordinary work in film and for her support of women filmmakers.

In 1974, Kathleen Shannon created Studio D, a branch of the National Film Board where women could turn for support and guidance in making films. Hundreds of productions later, Studio D has been closed due to National Film Board budget cuts.

Shannon was born in 1935 in Vancouver, BC. She lived in several places during her childhood, including small towns in Manitoba and Ontario. She later moved to bigger cities like Winnipeg and Ottawa, where she often felt lost. In her autobiographical film *Kathleen Shannon on film, feminism & other dreams* Shannon says she hasn't felt at home since was five or six.

The film was given its Atlantic Canadian premiere last Monday night in Auditorium C here at the Mount. The students, faculty and visitors who watched the film were given a glimpse into the motives that prompted Shannon to start her own production studio. After growing up with movies



in which women did little speaking, Shannon made it her work to give women a voice in film.

Shannon stopped working with the National Film board in 1992. Since then she has been working as a media consultant, counsellor, and writer. She also operates a guest house and retreat for women.

There is no doubt that the demise of Studio D is regrettable. During a talk by Shannon after the film, she said that statistics show that the status of women filmmakers is as grim as it was when Studio D began 23 years ago—if not more so. Shannon's work was not without merit, however. She has proven to be an inspiration, not only to women

Features

Discussions about Feminisms....

We are a group of women at the Mount from different backgrounds and age groups. Over the last year we have spent a lot of time together discussing some of the issues that affect women's lives. Our purpose in starting this column is to broaden our discussion and create a forum for Mount students to read about and respond to issues relevant to their lives. Some of the opinions expressed in this column may be provocative; if so, we hope it stimulates thinking and talking. If you would like to suggest a topic for discussion, respond to something you read, or join our discussion group, please drop us a line c/o the Picaro.

- Andrea, Heather, Judi, Karen, Linda & Terri

On Friday evening, September 26, between two and three hundred women gathered together in downtown Halifax to participate in a "Take Back the Night" march. The question under discussion this week is What does "Take Back the Night" mean to you?

Students at the Mount had this to say:

So that women can go downtown one night of the year without being afraid.

Kari, 3rd year public relations

What is it? I never heard of it.

Darlene, 4th year child and youth studies

I never heard of it, but now that you have explained it, I think it is a good idea.

Emily, 1st year human ecology

I've never gone, but I think it's a really important issue that women are frightened, and because they are, their mobility is limited. We have to take back the night on our own and not be afraid to go places, in which case, we have to be prepared to defend ourselves, or we have to do it as a movement to affect changes in the image of women's fear and vulnerability.

Joan, women studies grad student

If people speak out about violence, it will raise awareness. We need to show that there is no tolerance. I've never been afraid to walk the streets at night, but I know a lot of people are afraid.

Kristen, 2nd year public relations

I never heard of it before.

Rubhina, 2nd year women's studies

It's a night when women of any age, race or social class can walk without fear in our community. It is a night where we as women can call our community ours, a part of our home without fear of any kind of threat. We are taking it back from the violence, crime, and rape.

Alicia Doyle, BA

It's a damned good idea!

Andrea, 2nd year women's studies

These students' thoughts provoked the following conversation at our round table.

I thought the most important thing was when Joan was talking about women's fear, women's vulnerability. Some women are really hyperconscious about not wanting to go places alone and it's valid because women are afraid of getting killed and raped. I think that the march is a demonstration and is symbolic, but really, what is it doing? It's saying stop the violence, but how are we going to show that the violence is stopped if we don't test it?

-Andrea

But why risk your life? I'm a realist. Women are preyed on more than men because of their physical size. Every woman should own a gun in this society—I do. I believe in trying to change things too, but in-the meantime....

-Karen

We are socialized to think that we can't be strong, and we are supposed to have a man to protect us. But I think we can take back the night by challenging and doing safer things and walking in groups and learning karate.

-Andrea

I used to run at night, by myself, after 9 o'clock when it was pitch black. I will not do that anymore. I've smartened up. I used to say I'm not letting anyone keep me from running. Not anymore. I know that I am risking my life going out there. This girl got stabbed while she was out running at 7 am and when I heard that I realized that no matter what kind of shape you are in, if you are a woman you are not safe anywhere, anytime. I don't agree with guns, I really don't, but Karen is right on, she believes in them, and it is the only thing that will stop a man.

-Judi

But if we don't do things that we are afraid to do, how are we going to take back the night?

-Linda

I'm not going to let them stop me. I walk assertively and I hold my keys between my fingers, although I don't know what that would stop. By doing so, I am sort of breaking that myth of the submissive, scared woman who would have to stop at a payphone and call a husband or a boyfriend or a brother to come pick her up so she would feel safe. Rather than sitting home at night and living in fear, I would rather live my life to the fullest and challenge these stereotypes and perceptions.

-Andrea

AND DIE YOUNG - NO. NOT ME!

-Karen

You know the other thing that came up when I was talking to people, especially the younger students, they didn't know anything about "Take Back the Night." Why, in an institution like Mount Saint Vincent where, I don't know, maybe 80% of the student population is women, didn't those women know anything about it?"

-Linda

The Mount is a patriarchal institution. They might let more women in and sponsor women's learning, but they are just pumping out women who will go to work in big companies. They don't know anything about feminism.

-Andrea

Community means nothing to them. There should be a mandate....

-Karen

Forget the mandate, there should be a womandate, that is the problem with all these institutions, there has got to be a womandate especially at the Mount.

-Judi

It makes me feel kind of sad because the Mount publicises itself as a women's institution. An introductory women studies course should be mandatory for every student that attends this university.

-Linda

The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the Picaro or its editors.

Nutrition Quiz

BY GINA WOOD

Well, here I am again with some more nutrition information, this time in the form of a nutrition quiz to test your dietary decorum. Good Luck!

1. Which of the following is a good source of calcium?

- A. cheese pizza
- B. milkshake
- C. ice cream
- D. all of the above

2. You need 2-3 servings of meat and alternatives each day. One serving of meat is about the same size as...

- A. a match box
- B. a deck of cards
- C. a thin paperback book
- D. none of the above

3. You need 5-10 servings of fruit and vegetables each day. Which of the following represents one serving?

- A. a medium-sized apple
- B. one cup of raw, leafy vegetables
- C. half cup of juice
- D. all of the above

4. To maintain a healthy body weight you should...

- A. eliminate the fat from your diet
- B. eat well, be active, and feel good about yourself
- C. use calorie reduced or "light" food products

5. Which of the following lunch items is highest in fat?

- A. caesar salad
- B. chicken salad sandwich
- C. hamburger

6. Which food item has the least amount of fat?

- A. steak dinner
- B. large muffin
- C. caesar salad
- D. broccoli and cheese quiche with salad

7. How much fat will you cut out by removing the skin from a serving of chicken legs (dark meat)?

- A. 5.5 grams
- B. 10 grams
- C. 12 grams

8. Which snack item is a better choice?

- A. pretzels
- B. peanuts
- C. potato chips
- D. donuts

Answers

1.d 2.b 3.d 4.b 5.a 6.a 7.b 8.a

If you didn't do so well, fear not! The counsellors at Student Nutrition Services are here to help. We're armed with copies of Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating and heaps of food facts. So if you feel you need to enrich your nutrition knowledge, make an appointment and come see us today!

Recipe of the Week

Fruity Bran Muffins (makes 12)

Ingredients:

1 1/4 cups whole wheat flour
1/2 cup oat bran
1/4 cup wheat bran
2 tsp. baking powder
1 tbsp. vegetable oil
1/4 cup honey
1 egg (beaten)
2/3 cup of skim milk
1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
2 medium ripe bananas (mashed)

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Grease muffin tins.
3. Stir together dry ingredients and set aside.
4. In a bowl, combine the oil and honey. Whisk in egg, milk, applesauce and vanilla.

5. Combine the dry and wet ingredients until just blended.
6. Gently fold the bananas into the batter.
7. Spoon the batter into the muffin tins and bake until muffins just begin to brown, about 20-30 min.

Variation:

Substitute 2 cups blueberries or 1 cup chopped cranberries for the bananas.

Nutritional information

(per muffin):

120 cal.
3g. fibre
3g. protein
18mg. cholesterol
2g. fat
71mg. sodium
23g carbohydrate

A & E

Gay and lesbian vernacular

BY TAWNYA ZWICKER

The latest exhibit at Mount Saint Vincent University is creating a commotion among the gay and lesbian community of Halifax. "Queer Acting, Queer Looking", an exhibit which features what the poster describes as "gay and lesbian vernacular" is a first for the small campus gallery. It is also a first for the country.

Curated by local activist and well known member of the art community in Halifax, Robin Metcalfe, the show is a celebration of the history of the gay and lesbian movement primarily in Halifax. Posters advertising what could have been long forgotten meetings, dances, and plays, t-shirts worn to celebrate and educate, and many archived comic strips, essays, and newspaper clippings adorn walls and tables throughout the gallery.

A constant hum is in the background as a television plays lesbian and gay identified videos gathered by activists Catherine Phoenix and James McSwain provides an excellent background to the informative wall displays. Most of the items come from the curator's own collection explained Jane Kansas, a local broadcaster and activist. "Robin has been diligent about pursuing and saving these kinds of things. Otherwise, a lot of these things get tossed away, and history gets lost."

Though the Mount had hosted many exhibits by solo, lesser known lesbian artists, there had never been this type of installment providing a way of bridging the central themes common to both lesbian and gay identified themes. Ingrid Jenker, director of the Art Galley said, "Robin pointed this out to me. And I thought it was a good idea." The Mount soon decided to host the event after Metcalfe let it stew for a few years while planning and organizing on his own.

Metcalfe has had a lot of help bringing this concept to life. Activists such as Catherine Phoenix, James McSwain, Jane Kansas, Dr. Steven Bruhm and Dr. Josette Deleas (professors at the Mount), and Deborah Trask provided their ideas and materials. They have all contributed to the film and lecture series as well as the catalogue in the gallery. A grant from the Canada Council of Arts, and donations from various collections of artists in Halifax helped shape the focus of the exhibit.

A lesbian architectural firm in Halifax provided the white fabric designs to which

are pinned Pride Week buttons dating back to the late 1970's. Jenker states, "the fabric designs are not there to serve a real purpose except to add an ascetic and to add another aspect of the (gay and lesbian) community." This may be the case, but from the balcony, looking into the main gallery, the white fabric looks as though it is a spiderweb. It connects the different areas to one another by providing a transition point between sections involving different politics, fun, and more serious aspects of the community. The white structures also break up the screaming pink and purple walls, adding a calming effect to the exhibit and allowing a person to walk through with pleasure.



As the television plays, it is not always possible to see the video, but one is

always able to hear it. The commentary it provides gives another dimension to the installation, and, when I was walking through, a more serious take on the gay and lesbian community. The tapes were provided by James McSwain and Catherine Phoenix, members of the Centre for Art Tapes in Halifax. These videos were also screened on October 16 to allow people to come and discuss the content of the films with Phoenix and McSwain. Of the various mediums involved in the production of the exhibit, Jenker said, "The lectures have been scheduled to take place to enable the exhibit to reach more people, though I'm not sure how many people who are not from the gay and lesbian community have attended."

However, Kansas believes that the mix of media both draws more people and at the same time, doesn't. "Yes it draws more people because, for example, Robin's lecture is a very well known one when word gets out, and whenever one's given, people tend to go. The fact that it is different media does draw from different communities. I'm going to hedge my bet by saying that in Halifax, because the queer community doesn't often have chances like this. I would have gone anyway."

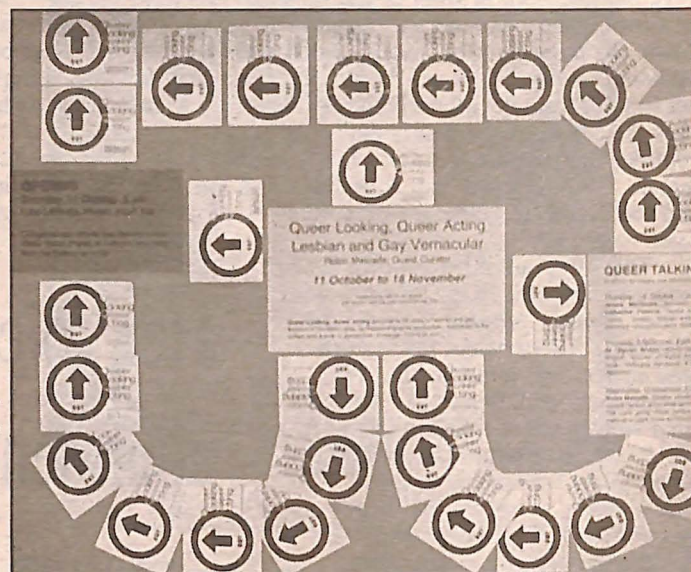
Kansas is right when she says that the gay and lesbian community in Halifax does not have very many chances to gather like this and celebrate. That could be a reason why response to the show has been incredibly positive. A look through the comment book show a favourable response from the people who have gone. Kansas said, "I know that at the gala reception (which opened

the show) a lot of people were amazed and delighted to see work that came out of a political necessity put on the wall so that we could all stand back and look at it without 'Oh my God, I've missed that meeting.'" Jenker agreed by saying, "If people have been making unfavourable comments, their tendency has been not to make them to me."

Jenker is unsure about the number of straight Mount students who have been to see the exhibit. Kansas said that she has brought straight friends to the exhibit and they have been really pleased with the informative nature of the display. "Some of the people I went with (to the gallery) are straight people who had not been exposed to that kind of thing before. They thought it was informative but it wasn't like a dry textbook."

With works such as Chuck Gillis' piece, "The Crown Jewels of Corporate Greed," Kansas' friends were right. While the piece, a sculpture of a crown and sceptre may simply appear beautiful and interesting at first view, the second view reveals a political message that is too strong to ignore. The piece is made entirely from approximately \$4,500 worth of expired AZT capsules. There is not a lot of textbook information, even when it comes to the delivery of safer sex information. Condom packages that were distributed by the local group Men's sex are well designed and the inside information, though the language is a bit shocking, are informative and fun to read.

Because the exhibit deals primarily with Halifax relics, there are no plans to move this display to other Canadian cities. Kansas said, "I think it's an idea that can be done in Winnipeg or Toronto, or maybe the show could be done again with items



of a national origin. I don't think people in Regina would want to go to a show that's all about what's happening at a club on Barrington Street." According to Jenker, Metcalfe has been speaking with members of the art world in Toronto about sending an exhibit similar to the one at Mount Saint Vincent to Toronto. Robin Metcalfe was unavailable for comment.

"Queer Looking, Queer Acting" began on October 11 and is scheduled to run until November 16. There are still two more lectures to take in. Dr. Steven Bruhm will be reading from his book, *Reflecting Narcissus: A Queer Aesthetic* on November 6 at 8 p.m. and Robin Metcalfe's discussion and slide show *Into the Light* will take place November 12 at 5:30 p.m. It is an interesting show to view and worthwhile exhibit to see.

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A & E

Dayna Manning: Down to earth.

BY ADRIA MAY

Dayna Manning jumps off the Grawood stage, the eyes of the audience on her, and picks up a broom. "I'm sweeping the floor in front of the stage, so everyone can sit down," she announces, "Come she says, come sit down. Soon the floor in front of the stage is packed, and Manning sits on a stool and begins her performance with her first hit from her album Volume I, Half The Man. Her eyes are closed as she gently plays her guitar. Her voice confident and mature and soulful. It is reminiscent of 70's female folk musicians like Joan Baez and Joni Mitchell and she sounds the same on a recording as she does live.

The 19 year old Stratford, Ontario singer/songwriter was touring with Wide Mouth Mason across the Maritimes. She made her fourth stop in Halifax, after visiting the Fredericton, and will make her final stop in Saint John on Oct. 18. "I just played the best video game," Manning beams. I'm slightly surprised by her greeting, and of her personality. "It's the one where your driving a car, and you're shooting the bad guys," she says as she takes a Mission Impossible stance and points her hand like a gun. "Have you played it?"

I hadn't of course, but I enjoyed her enthusiasm. "Just a second, I have to go talk to my manager, I'll be right back." She was back within seconds with a hand full of M and M's peanuts and some change. "Want some?" she says extending her hand. *I declined her friendly gesture.*

Manning seems down to earth, and talking to her seems like talking to a friend, someone who you wouldn't be afraid to approach after a concert to tell them how much you liked it. Being on stage and touring feels natural to Dayna and it shows.

Manning was discovered 2 1/2 years ago by her now-manager, Ray Coburn. He found her playing at an open-mike night at Lee's Palace in Toronto. Coburn was impressed by her talent. "He hooked me up with the record companies and stuff like that. He would say, 'got this chick I want you to hear play,'" she jokes. "And I would play without a mike or anything at their office." After only two live performances for EMI executives, Manning was signed to the label.

Since her discovery, her life has changed a lot, so much it is difficult for her to describe. "It's meant a whole

lot to me," she says. "There's a lot more things I have to think about as I have many more responsibilities."

Manning's been playing guitar since she was thirteen and she began writing songs when she was sixteen. She has been surrounded by music all of her life. Her father is a high school music teacher and plays trumpet and guitar and her mother plays clarinet. Both play on her album.

"It wasn't a planned thing," she says. "It was totally cool and they're totally cool. We just had them in the studio one day and we cut the tracks. It wasn't a big deal or anything. It felt very natural."

Another guest on her album is Sean Ono Lennon who plays guitar, organ, and bass on "My Kind." They're acquaintance was very spontaneous.

"I met Sean Lennon in a bar one night, and literally the next day we went into the studio I don't keep in touch with him or anything. It was just a weekend Rendez-Vous," Manning grins.

She also greatly appreciates her cello player, Simon Fryer who begins to do a soundcheck in the background. "That's my cello player, she says proudly, "He's my pride and joy." Fryer, who also plays on her album, sounds wonderful

even with all of the feedback given by the equipment.

Dayna's favourite song on her album is "A

Walk on the Moon" because she feels it best represents who she is as a person. It was also the first song she ever wrote, unbelievably enough. I agreed, with her as it is one of my favourites as well. She describes her lyrics as being inspired from everything she sees and anything she does. "A book or a movie," she says enthusiastically, "anything anyone says to me, or even stuff like that video game I played."

Manning fell madly in love at the age of 16 and song's like "Coincidence" speak of relationships. She leaves her personal influences as being "her friends." Her musical influ-

ences include Tom Petty, Joni Mitchell, Rage Against the Machine, Tool, and U2.

Her most recently released video is for "My Addiction" which can be seen on MuchMusic. In the video she chases a man around who's driving a truck, attaches herself to the truck, punches him in the face, steals the car, and ties him to the front bumper. "The video doesn't represent the lyrics at all," she says. "And that's the complete point that I meant, it's just completely opposite to what the song means. I didn't mean it sarcastically, but it kind of makes what I'm singing come across sarcastically. I didn't mean it that way, I just wanted to put a twist on it." However, during the performance she tells the audience that she abused the guy because he made too much noise during one of her performances.

Her next album is already written and she'll probably be calling it Volume II, based on her past experience at trying to name an album.

Manning still got future aspirations other than music. She wants to own her own pottery shop, have a family and she wants to be an entertainment lawyer. "There's so much legality involved in this business that I didn't know about before," she explains, "I want to learn all about it."

She loved playing for the crowds at Lillith Fair, a woman centred tour that travelled across North America. They were extremely responsive to her performance.

"They were really respectful, she says modestly, "They almost made me cry."

She's really enjoying her Maritime tour. "This is one of my favourite tours actually. I'm having a wonderful time, and I couldn't ask to be on with nicer guys, the other bands and stuff, they're total sweet-hearts."

Manning had a little bit of time to go shopping around Halifax before her concert. "I found this dollar store and I went and bought the guys little presents for inviting me on tour. I got them road necessities like extra toothbrushes, a pack of razors, and a wack of chocolate bars, bath soap, and I got everyone a bracelet of course," she exclaims as she points to a blue plastic bracelet she's wearing with sparkles floating around inside. "They all got pink, green, and purple ones."

"It's been a fun tour," she says. "I really like the Maritimes and I'll be down here again soon."

Her voice
confident,
mature
and soulful

"I really like
the Maritimes
and I'll be
down here
again soon."

~ Dayna Manning

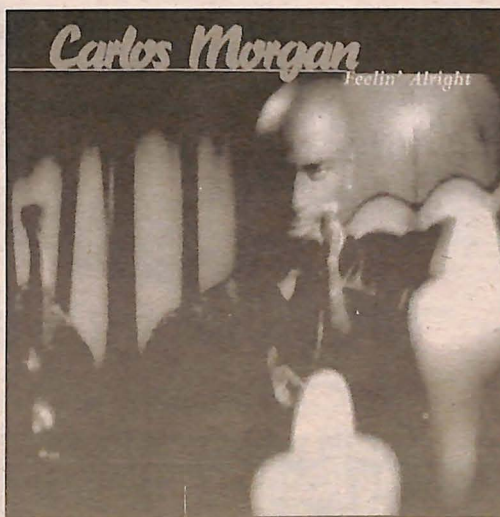
Carlos Morgan Feelin' Alright

BY GLENN HARRINGTON

Canadian R & B artist Carlos Morgan has escaped the indie music scene to be signed to Universal Music with his debut album *Feelin' Alright*. Morgan's gifted voice is influenced by such legends as Stevie Wonder and Nat King Cole. With up beat tempos, mellow pitches, slow bass and a dash of rap *Feelin' Alright* is a very well balanced album.

"Baby C'mon" is the biggest gem on the album with subtle scratches and dance flavour. "Let Me Love Again" is a well composed love ballad while "Get Down To It" is a laid back club jam.

Carlos Morgan reminds me of an old school R Kelly, at the same time he holds his own in an impressive demonstration of vocals. You can see Carlos Morgan at Reflections on Saturday Nov. 8th. Be prepared to dance the night away.



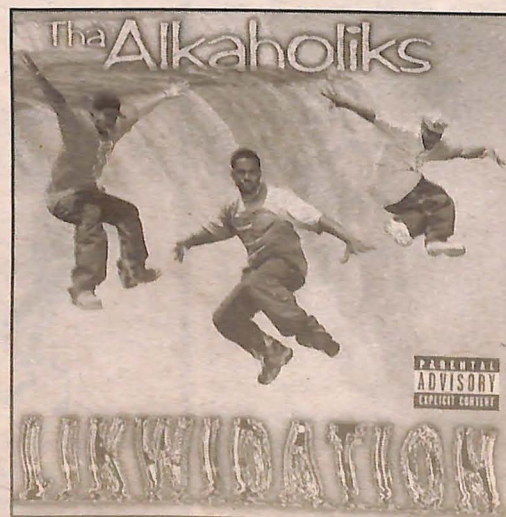
Tha Alkaholiks Likwidation

BY GLENN HARRINGTON

Mix West Coast party flavour with lyrical ability, toss in three kegs of beer and you have Tha Alkaholiks. With their third album *Likwidation*, MC's Tash, J-Ro, and E-Swift bring likwid funk from the underground with humor and an impressive list of guests.

"Hip Hop Drunkies" (featuring ODB) was released as a single earlier this year with sharp piano and bar hopping tales. "Funny Style" (featuring King Tee) is straight rhyming while "All Night" is solid bass for late night lounging.

Tha Alkaholiks hold lyrical and beat diversity as they experiment with different variations ("Captain Hook" has a sample of a sitar). However some songs lack this combo. As only a few tunes can possibly be regarded as average, *Likwidation* is a well worth the buy.



A & E



Once Upon a Time, you believed in faeries...

Stardust (part 1 of 4)—written by Neil Gaiman, art by Charles Vess
Vertigo, DC Comics • \$8.50

BY CERI YOUNG

Once upon a time, you believed in faeries. You may even have gone out into your garden looking for them, and dreamed about them at night. And then, as you got older, you stopped believing. Well, believe again.

Despite the fact that you will probably only find it in comic stores, and that it is published by DC Comics, Neil Gaiman's *Stardust* is not a comic book. It is a faerie tale for adults, a delightful storybook in four parts.

The story starts off in the town of Wall, in England, which hosts a very strange market every nine years - a market in which they trade with the residents of

Faerie. Dunstan Thorn, a sensible English farmer of 18 years, goes to the market in the hopes of finding a gift for his lady-love. But a chance encounter with a faerie flower-seller changes his life. Years later Dunstan's son, Tristran, promises to catch a falling star for his love. A star which has fallen, predictably, into the land of faerie.

The plot elements are simple, but the effect of the book is magical. Gaiman does a wonderful job of contrasting the normal, everyday life of the village of Wall, with the bizarre, otherworldly ways of Faerie. The differences are humorous, and at times I found myself laughing out loud.

The tone of the story is in keeping with the faerie tale theme. It is a direct narrative style that almost gives the impression of reading a children's story book, with a twist. The dialogue is engaging and believable, I could hear the British accents as I read.

Added to the story are the drawings of Charles Vess, that mesh with the narrative wonderfully. In particular, the two page spread of the Faerie market, bearing only the words "The market was thronged" is panoramic. The visions of Wall are proper, stuffy, British, and the love scenes are tenderly drawn, with a magic of their own.

It would be worth it to buy *Stardust* just for the drawings, or just for the story, because both elements are wonderful on their own. But blended they complement each other perfectly to create a much more complete story than either could do alone. After finishing the book, I wanted to pick it up and read it again, to flip through and look at the drawings, all of which I would love to hang on my wall.

At \$8.50 per book, for 4 books, *Stardust* may seem a little pricey, but it is well worth the money. I am definitely looking forward to reading the next three books and to see how well Tristran Thorn fares in the land of Faerie. If you've ever believed in faeries, this book is not to be missed.



A trek in the mountain

BY CARRIE WARNER

I didn't really want to see *Seven Years in Tibet*. It looked like a long, drawn out movie in which nothing really seems to happen. Plus that annoying guy's voice during the trailer didn't make me run to the theatre either. Who is that guy? Anyway, I digress. Despite my reluctance, I found myself sitting in a big plush chair at the theatre.

The plot of the film is rather extraordinary in that it doesn't tell a story that we hear every day. An Austrian man (Pitt) leaves his pregnant wife behind as he attempts to climb to the highest point of the Himalayas during the late 1930s. While he is away war breaks out and he soon finds himself in an English war camp. The rest of the movie follows his journey as he finally escapes from the camp, and goes on a journey of self discovery that takes him as far as Tibet, where he befriends the Dalai Lama.

Even though I told myself that I wouldn't be entertained, and that Brad Pitt was the only reason I was there, I couldn't help but keep my eyes on the screen. The scenery in this movie is breathtakingly beautiful! From the shots of the Himalayas to the Tibetan landscapes, every scene was a piece of cinematic perfection.

The acting was flawless as well. At least it was once I accepted the accent Brad Pitt had adopted for the film. For the first fifteen minutes of the film it was so distracting because it sounded really fake, but eventually I was lost in the story and didn't notice anymore.

All things considered, *Seven Years in Tibet* was worth the time and money spent. The story wasn't as "epic" as the trailers would have liked you to believe, but the scenery deserves a big screen viewing. So shell out the \$5.50 (or \$8.50 if you're rich) and spend 2 1/2 hours with Brad Pitt.

"There is no resisting this story." — *The Globe and Mail*

Ann-Marie MacDonald Fall On Your Knees

THE #1 NATIONAL BESTSELLER

A powerful, and macabre tale

Fall on Your Knees—Ann-Marie MacDonald
Vintage Canada • \$18.95

BY TIM BOUDREAU

"They're all dead now." This is the ominous opening sentence to Canadian writer and actor, Ann-Marie MacDonald's first novel *Fall on Your Knees*. The narrative which follows is a powerfully gripping tale full of macabre imagery. *Fall on Your Knees* may be MacDonald's first attempt at being a novelist, but upon reading the book one might think that she has been writing novels for years. MacDonald displays a certain mastery in her writing style which results in an enjoyable, if unsettling read.

Fall on Your Knees centres on a family living in Cape Breton during the early 20th century. The life of the Piper family is doomed from the start, containing many problematic, and horrifying elements. James and Maria are your quintessential "star crossed lovers". But unlike other tragedies the two do not die, they are married, which makes the tale that much more tragic. From the doomed marriage spawn three lovely daughters: Kathleen, Mercedes, and Frances. The story focuses on the life of the three sisters, and the many misfortunes which befall them.

The dynamic of the three sisters is incredibly problematic: Kathleen is the beautiful and spoiled one, Mercedes is the pious and responsible, Frances is the rebellious "bad girl". MacDonald's characters are incredibly interesting and believable. The way she develops them throughout the book is richly detailed. The events of the character's lives are incredibly tragic, and horrific. MacDonald's masterful writing

style truly shines through in her portrayal of the terrible things which happen to her main characters. She certainly has a gift for the macabre.

Because of this *Fall on Your Knees* becomes a very disturbing book indeed. The injustices that befall the three girls range from things like sexual double standards, the hypocrisy of religion, to physical and emotional abuse. MacDonald certainly doesn't mince words as far as these things are concerned. She has a no nonsense attitude as far as her portrayal of the misfortunes is concerned. I enjoyed MacDonald's blunt portrayal of the situations in her novel, even though it served to shock me at times.

So consider yourself forewarned fair reader. Anne-Marie MacDonald has created a brilliant example of great Canadian Literature; she has already received the Commonwealth Prize for Best First Novel. However, *Fall on Your Knees* is an incredibly shocking, and disturbing book, and it is not written for the faint of heart. If a horrific, and macabre tale is exactly what you are looking for, then pick up a copy of *Fall on Your Knees*. You will probably be spellbound by the tragic tale, if you go for this kind of thing. The faint of heart may not be as appreciative, but still a good book to read anyway. Either way you will probably be impressed that this is MacDonald's first novel, and you will more than likely be eagerly awaiting her second novel, as I am.

CAREER

CAREER

Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to wrap Christmas gifts. This service will raise money for drug abuse prevention programs in the Halifax Regional area. This is a great way to get in the Christmas spirit and support valuable programs. Phone the Drug Prevention Network at 490-6245 for more information.

The Mira Foundation, a non-profit organization which trains guide dogs for the blind, will be having a fund-raising campaign in Halifax/Dartmouth. They need 120 volunteers to assist blind persons at their stands with different tasks like helping them sell their promotional items. The money raised will serve handicapped persons of the Atlantic provinces exclusively. The campaign will be held November 19-22. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact the Career Resource Room, Evaristus 217 at 457-6567.

Permanent Positions

Corporate Store Accounting, Special Projects Department, TRA Foods, Middleton, NS
Send resume to P.O. Box 790 Middleton, NS B0S 1P0
Deadline October 31, 1997

Entry level Management Trainee Opportunities, Enterprise Rent A Car, Enfield, NS
Send resume to Stephanie Dziubek, Enterprise Rent a Car, 209 Aerotech Drive, Unit 1 Enfield, B2T 1K3

On Campus Recruiting

Personal Banking
Customer Service
Royal Bank
Forward resume to Career Placement Room
Deadline: October 29

Area Manager, Consumer Product Sales
S.C. Johnson Wax
Drop off resume to Career Placement Centre

Part-time Positions

Moosehead Power Fans
Halifax Mooseheads Hockey Club
Send to Power Fans c/o Halifax Mooseheads Office
5284 Duke Street, Halifax B3J 3L2

Experience Canada
Work in your field of Interest
Apply online or call 1-888-234-6618

NS Links
BEA Links
Deadline: October 31 for work term January-April

*For More Info on these and other job positions drop by the Career Placement Centre, Evaristus 217

CLASSIFIEDS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Tuesday October 28

12:00 - 1:00 pm, MSVU Saints Band practice session Don MacNeil Room, 4th floor, Rosaria Centre

12:00 pm, English Society's Bad Poetry Reading, 2nd floor Seton Academic Centre

7:00 pm, The Pressure Project - free lecture on high blood pressure, Sheraton Halifax Hotel, Halifax A

Wednesday October 29

History Society Bake Sale, History Corner, Seton Centre

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-Time Intramural Program Rosaria Gym

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting, Rosaria Centre, Room 114

3:00 - 4:30 pm Pick-up Indoor Soccer, Rosaria Gym, Free for students & members

4:00 pm, Revising Your Paper Workshop, Writing Resource Centre, Evaristus Hall Room 219E, Call 457-6567 to register

Ghosts from the Sea - A Pre-Halloween Special, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic
Call 424-7490 to pre-register; Fee: \$3.00

Thursday October 30

3:00 pm, External Affairs Committee Meeting, Vinnie's Pub, Rosaria Centre

4:30 pm, Women In Science & Technology, Ada Lovelace: A Pioneer in the History of Computers, Seton Academic Centre, Room 307

National Association of Women and the Law, Access to Justice to Women: The Changing Face of Inequality, Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, for information call 463-4464 (Until November 2)

8:00 pm - 2:00 am, Halloween Party hosted by the Athletics Department, Advance admission: \$2.00; Door admission without costume: \$3.00 at Vinnie's Pub

Friday October 31

Halloween Door Decorating Contest, Athletics & Recreations Department

Saturday November 1

English Society Party- details at the English Corner (Seton)

10:05 am, Reading by Canadian Poet, Marvyne Jenoff Faculty Lounge, SAC 404

12:00 pm & 2:00 pm ACAA Women's & Men's Soccer Semi-Finals, NSAC

Sunday November 2

12:00 pm & 2:00 pm ACAA Women's & Men's Soccer Finals, NSAC

Monday November 3

12:00-1:30 pm, Have lunch with the Gerontology Association of NS, Bloomfield Community Centre, Senior's Lounge, Topic: Models of Hospice Care for Nova Scotia

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-Time Intermural Program Rosaria Gym

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting, Rosaria Centre, Room 114

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor Soccer, Rosaria Gym, Free for students & members

Mount's Library Booksale

Deadline for application to all Co-op programs

Wednesday November 5

12:10-12:45 pm, Lunch-Time Intermural Program Rosaria Gym

French Society Career Night
7:00-9:00 For more information contact Kim at 457-6272.

3:00 - 4:30 pm, Pick-up Indoor Soccer, Rosaria Gym, Free for students & members

3:45 pm, Women's Studies Seminar Series, Amy Black, British Feminisms and the Politics of Motherhood, 1960-1990, Dalhousie University, Killiam Library, Room 5105

7:00 pm, Information Session for all prospective applicants to Dalhousie Law school for the 1998-99 academic year, Room 105, Weldon Law Building, University Avenue

7:00 pm, Mount's Blue Crew - Bleacher Creature Meeting, Help host our home games, Rosaria Centre Gym

7:00 pm, Living with Cancer Meeting, Canadian Cancer Society, Guest Speaker: Valerie Melanson, 5826 South Street, Halifax

Friday November 7

3:00 pm, Student Council meeting, Rosaria Centre, Room 106

9:30 am to 9:30 pm, Youth Info Fair, Youth Employment Strategy, Job hunting workshops, occupations with opportunity and numerous exhibits, MicMac Mall, Dartmouth (also on Saturday)

Monday November 10
Fall Study Day - no classes,

Tuesday November 11

Remembrance Day - no classes

Wednesday November 12

6:00 pm & 8:00 pm Women's & Men's Basketball, Kings @ Mount

6:00 pm, Women's Volleyball, MSVU @ NSCA

2:00 pm, History Society Meeting, Seton Academic Centre, Room 552

2:00 pm, Picaro Staff Meeting, Rosaria Centre Room 114

Friday November 14

Last day to withdraw from fall term courses without academic penalty

Deadline to file Intent to Graduate for Spring 1998 Convocation

Saturday November 15

Application deadline for January entrance to graduate programs in Education, except School Psychology

Sunday November 16

Drug Awareness Week 97, Drug Dependency Services, Keep Your Dreams Alive (until Nov 21)

Friday November 21

8:00 pm, Post-Feminism Christian Women in the post-modern world?, A Public Lecture by Professor Janine Langan, Ph.D., Cardinal Cushing Auditorium, MSVU Motherhouse, Admission: \$5.00; Students with ID \$2.00

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - OFF CAMPUS:

Volunteering is a great way to gain practical experience while contributing to our community. The Volunteer Resource Centre matches people interested in volunteer work with non-profit agencies looking for help. Listed below is a sample of the current available opportunities. For more information, please call their office at 423-1368.

MUSIC TEACHER

A Halifax agency is looking for some one to volunteer as a music teacher for special needs children aged 3-7 years. This position gives anyone already comfortable working with the young, a chance to gain experience in communication with those who are disabled. Short-term commitment of only one hour a week.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/FUNDRAISER

A Halifax agency is in need of a program volunteer to perform such tasks as poster distribution, public awareness, fundraising, etc. Volunteers will undergo RCMP security clearance and be asked to do minimal training. This opportunity will help you learn about missing children issues and

gain experience working with the public. Long-term commitment.

APPLICATION PROCESSOR

A Halifax agency is looking for an application processor to assist others in filling out agency forms and to explain Christmas program requirements. If you enjoy working with others and like to help make others feel welcome, give us a call! Needed for only two days in November.

PET THERAPY VOLUNTEERS

A Halifax agency is looking for special people and animals to work as volunteer pet therapy assistants. Friendly, caring individuals with similar pets that enjoy being patted are required. Dogs, cats and rabbits preferred, but other pets will be considered. Long-term commitment, one hour per week.

TUTORS

Do you have a tutoring certificate or relevant experience? Want to use those skills? A Halifax agency is looking for

GED tutors to work with male residents in an addiction recovery setting. A general knowledge of grades 9-12 courses is required. A great opportunity for beginning teachers. Long-term commitment.

SOCIAL PROGRAM LEADER

Do you enjoy working with seniors? Like to take on responsibilities involving organization and planning? A Halifax agency is looking for people to plan and put together social programs for a group of senior women. You must enjoy working independently and must plan activities involving snacks. Long-term commitment.

TAX RETURN PREPARER

A metro agency is looking for volunteers to prepare basic tax returns for seniors and low-income individuals. A general understanding of income tax required, training provided. Good experience for business/accounting students and a chance to help others. Short-term commitment.

ENGLISH SOCIETY

The Mount's English Society recently underwent a face-lift. We are now spotting a brand new executive committee, a revised outline of events, and a new philosophy towards society business.

The new executive committee consists of myself, Grant McDaniel, in the role of president, Pam Wetzel as vice-president, and Jennifer Barro as treasurer. No one on the new committee has held an active position with the society in the past, and no one from last year's executive committee has returned to active duty with this year's group. While several English Society veterans will be returning, the new executive committee is looking to new faces — first year English students — to match the new faces on the committee. Members of the English Society need not be English majors or minors; we close our doors to no one. All that is required of members is an enthusiastic attitude, some interest in the written word, an undying love of light-hearted fun and two bucks.

This year's outline of society events is still being defined. While nothing is set in stone, the Mount should brace itself for Sam Beckett's Endgame with a twist your darkest dreams wouldn't have come up with, a dramatic reading of Poe's The Raven, Bad Poetry readings, student poetry readings, Kafka days, some performance art, Leonard Cohen days, parties, de Sade days, David Letterman days, theme bake sales, W.O.R.M.S. — Writings of Registered Mount Students, and general silliness.

Our new philosophy towards society business is — at all times — to have a tongue placed firmly in cheek, which is not to say that we, the new executive committee, take our responsibilities lightly or hold our society as a laughable enterprise. This isn't the case; this is as far from the case as you can get. What we believe is that if you are to study Shakespeare's works in the classroom, then why not have some fun with Shakespeare's works in the hallways?

On behalf of the society, best wishes, and we hope to see you at our next meeting.

Students for Literacy Profile

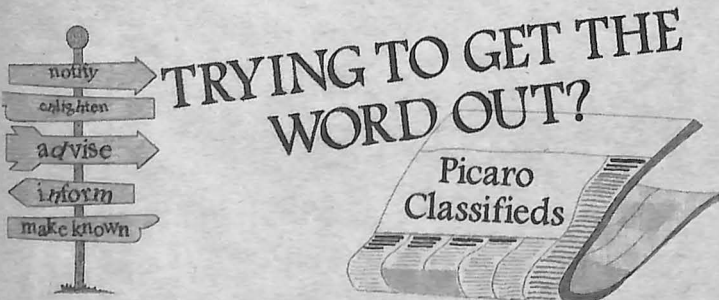
New to the Mount! As an exclusive affiliate of Frontier College, Students for Literacy is a society focusing on helping women in the community develop their literacy skills. Activities in the near future include a pizza party, career night and fundraising. Literacy is basically a new and growing issue so why not put your skills to good use and help others. We encourage you to come and see what we are all about as we are a very existing group. Look for signs around campus or contact Janne at 457-6123.

Vincent's Cookbook

The Tourism and Hospitality Management program is pleased to announce the completion of VINCENT'S COOKBOOK. The cookbook contains a selection of 70 of our favourite recipes from the famous Vincent's Restaurant Nights. Vincent's Restaurant nights began as part of the Tourism and Hospitality Management food and beverage management courses. The recipes are from those chosen by the students for their theme nights. All proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will contribute to the Dr. Don Smith Tourism and Hospitality Management Scholarship fund. The price for this fabulous collection is only \$7.50 and is available from Ann MacGillivray, Coordinator of the Tourism and Hospitality Management program. To purchase your own special copy today, contact Ann at 457 - 6198, Seton Annex 5C, or Ann.MacGillivray@msvu.ca. If you have any questions, please contact Paulette Cormier MacBurnie at ext. 517.

TAKE ON YOUR FUTURE!

There will a Youth Info Fair November 7 and 8, 1997 at the Mic Mac Mall Dartmouth put on by the Youth Employment Strategy. This is an eventful activity with information and fun, geared to help youth learn to gain the skills and experience needed for today's labour market. Students between the ages of 15 and 25 will have an opportunity to try out Internet websites to help chart a future in the labour market, learn and practise job search skills at workshops and find new choices in their community at numerous exhibits. The event is an ideal occasion for students to discover a wide range of resources available to help them take on the future! Hope to see you there!



Let everyone know about upcoming events by advertising in the classified section of THE PICARO

SPORTS



Pepsi Player of the Week

BY ANGIE MCLEOD

Jazmine Hayden a second year PR student is the Pepsi Athlete of the Week. Jazmine was outstanding in the Mystics win over NSAC. This former striker has moved to fullback the last few games and has played very well in her new position. A work-horse who never gives the opponents a moments rest, Jazmine shut down the league's leading scorer, Sherri Mackay from NSAC. This was instrumental in allowing AC only one goal against the Mystics.

New Mystics ready to uphold a Mount tradition.

BY MELANIE GAGNON

This year's tryouts are finally over as many new players prepare themselves to wear their uniforms for the first time and uphold a tradition which has been going on since 1968.

These athletes have sacrificed their time and energy to pursue a dream, whatever this dream may be. Their dreams start here, in a small gym located in Rosaria where they are trained by the best coaches and cheered on by the loudest fans in the world.

On game day, there is no

doubt about the nervousness of these new players and the extreme pressure felt as they are the centre of attention. At half-time their fear has vanished as they listen attentively to the coach's strategies in order to win their match. They head back out onto the court knowing quite well what it takes to win and how to accomplish it.

The clock is winding down but nothing will stop them from coming out on the winning side. Their strength and determination is stronger than any other teams

imaginable, this is why they always win in the hearts of the fans even though they may end up on the losing side once in a while. This tradition will continue for many years to come as new players attempt to reach their dreams as a Mystic.

This is dedicated to my sister, Isabelle, who withdrew from UNB due to surgery as a result of an injury which occurred during her second wrestling practice. Good luck with your recovery and remember your dreams will come true, the CIAU are waiting for you.

Soccer Team in Second Place

The Mystics had a fantastic road trip which lead them to take over second place from NSAC by winning their two games in New Brunswick on the October 4th and 5th weekend and by also hammering NSAC 5 to 1 on Wednesday October 15th.

MSVU opened the scoring seven minutes into the game with a nice finish from Erin Atkinson. Just two minutes later, Sarah Gillis sped away from her defender to put a second goal past the AC keeper. The score-fest continued with 3 more goals in the first half from Niddi Felderhof, Atkinson, and Gillis, respectively.

Kelly Naugler was amazing in nets for the Mystics. She made some key saves in the second half, not allowing NSAC to get back into the game and also by not permitting the Mystics lead to slip away from them. The Soccer Semi-Finals will be held on Saturday November 1st at NSCC. Fan support would be greatly appreciated.

Badminton Players Urgently needed

BY MELANIE GAGNON

Not many students attended the badminton tryouts that were held in the first week of October. The badminton season is just beginning and it is evident that the numbers are way down from last year. The badminton team are still looking for players "the more players the better" says the assistant coach Shawn Leamon. As it stands right now the team only has three female players which is not enough. Any male or female players who would be interested in joining the badminton team are welcome to attend the practices which are held on Thursday night from 4:30 to 6:00, Friday night from 5:00 to 7:00 and Sunday afternoon from 4 to 6 at the gym. Don't worry if you have no previous experience Mike Hingston, the head coach and the assistant coaches says he will be glad to help anyone in improving their skills and teaching the basics of the game. The badminton season starts on November 14th and 15th when the Mystics play at U St. A.

M.S.V.U. Saints

Hey, all you musically talented people!!! Why not showcase your amazing talent, and also help improve school spirit at the Mount? This year we are attempting to start a school band, of sorts. We will only be playing for fun stuff, like varsity games, and any other Mount activities that our lively and upbeat music will brighten up!! If you are even the least bit interested, come join us for a practice session. We meet every Tuesday from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm in the Don MacNeil room, 4th floor, Rosaria Centre. If you do not own your own instrument, don't worry, just get in contact with Joanne in the Athletics Department and she will take care of you! We really need some more players, so why not take the plunge and join us?

Campus Sports

SOCCER

Are you interested in playing Indoor Soccer? Join us every Monday & Wednesday between 3-4:30 pm at the Rosaria gym for a game of pick-up indoor soccer. Full time Mount students and members play for free but everyone is welcome.

INTERMURAL PROGRAM

Are you bored and looking for something exciting to do during lunch? If so, register for the Mount's Lunch-Time intermural Program. Come out Mondays & Wednesdays between 12:10 and 12:45 at the Rosaria gym. Participation is free and everyone is welcome.

Call 457-6369 for more information.

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* MONCTON, L'OSMOSE, NOVEMBER 6 * HALIFAX, GRAWOOD, NOVEMBER 7 * SAINT JOHN, PILLARS, NOVEMBER 8

BARSTOOL PROPHETS: DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED. MUST BE 19 AND OLDER