

HA Section

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MATTE STEVENSON

We have all now witnessed and experienced the Full Mounty. Those who missed it can read the story. Crista Stone, Angie Elsinga and Lorraine Gillis were three of the many dedicated Frosh Crew who made the week happen. See page 10

MANUS No More

BY JAMES CHOW & SUPPLEMENTARY RESEARCH PROVIDED BY RHONDA SIMSER

An organization that once provided numerous resources for students at the Mount has packed up and left shop.

The Mount Association of Non-Traditional University Students (MANUS) ceased to exist on September 1. MANUS—which provided services to students 24 and older, and was the voice for part-time students on campus—closed down because of a lack of funding and support.

"MANUS did not receive any funding last year from student union or the university," says Susan LeFort, MANUS executive director. This lack of funding prompted MANUS to breakaway from the Mount Saint Vincent University Student Union (MSVUSU) and become an independent, non-profit organization.

But when asked where MANUS' funding came from last year, LeFort would only say "from private contract work," without expanding on what kind of contract work.

A posting on the MANUS bulletin board during the summer said the organization would stop operating at the beginning of September. The posting also stated MANUS was selling off its assets to pay debt, donating any remaining money to charity.

Nevertheless, many non-traditional and traditional students at the Mount are still unaware of the closing of MANUS. "I've talked to a lot of non-traditional students, and most of them are surprised about the situation," says Pat O'Rourke, former MANUS executive vice-president. "Some of

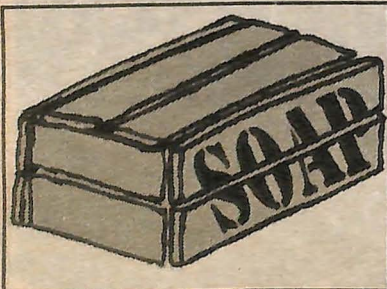
them were really shocked."

Terri Roberts, a traditional student, says she found out about the closure during the last week of summer classes. "I'm not thrilled about the closing," says Roberts. "There were a lot of great resources that MANUS provided for non-traditional students. It was essentially a one-stop shopping place, offering resources for all your needs."

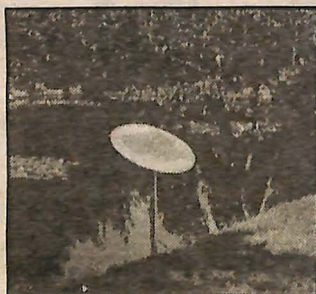
The MANUS lounge in Seton served as a gathering place for non-traditional students. Set up with comfortable couches and chairs, the lounge had a resource library, an office and a telephone (for MANUS use only). Complete with a resource officer, the organization also provided textbook loans, scholarship

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Greg Jackson has come out of the woods and he is ready to jump up on that soap box.
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Student Union Does Little to Inform Students of Fees Increase

BY GIN HING YEE AND MARK SITTER

Mount Saint Vincent University Student Union (MSVUSU) increased student fees this year in an effort to pay off its growing debt; but made little effort to inform students of the levies.

When asked why MSVUSU didn't give out information on the increase, President Sheldon Miller said he felt it wasn't that significant. "Most of Student Union's early publicity efforts went towards pushing Frosh Week," he said. "[MSVUSU] figured *The Picaro* would take care of getting that information out."

Although the per-student increases are relatively small—\$1.28 per unit of credit for the mandatory MSVUSU fee, plus a \$4.00 per unit of credit levy for this year—when framed in the big picture, they are quite significant. With the Mount's student population consistently over 3,000 each year, the total may increase to over \$30,000. (Since many students are still registering for courses, the exact total couldn't be determined.)

Money aside, many students do not approve of MSVUSU's decision not to disseminate information about the increase. "Student Union is obliged to inform students of any increases—regardless of how much or how little they may amount to," said third-year information management student, Adam Bowser. "Closed-door politics are morally and ethically intolerable. Student Union must show more accountability and responsibility on such matters."

The only document on campus that mentions the increases is "Registration Information 1998-99," which is put out by the Registrar's Office. This document, however, fails to explain precisely why the increases were made.

As mentioned earlier, MSVUSU sanctioned the increases to pay off a significant debt, which was the result of numerous factors: reduced enrollment and fewer residence students last year, which contributed to fewer sales at

Vinnie's and the Corner Store; renovations at Vinnie's, the Corner Store and MSVUSU offices; and a Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) membership-fee debt of over \$20,000.

Interestingly, MSVUSU recently passed a motion to hold a mid-October referendum for students on whether or not to stay a member of CFS. However, pursuant to CFS' membership bylaw, MSVUSU will still be required to pay off its current CFS debt regardless of how the vote ends up.

At any rate, when Miller was asked if the fees increase contradicted one of his election promises to reduce student debt, he responded: "I didn't promise to reduce student debt, I promised to work to reduce student debt. We have been lobbying the government, lobbying administration over the summer months both here at the Mount and working with universities from across the province to reduce student debt."

Vinnie's Pub Night Changed to Thursdays

BY MARK SITTER

Mount Saint Vincent University Student Union (MSVUSU) moved Vinnie's Pub Night from Wednesdays to Thursdays to make the Pub a viable social activity for all students.

"Many students have classes and practicums on Thursday mornings, so they can't really go out [to the Pub] on Wednesday evenings," says MSVUSU President Sheldon Miller. "Since most students don't have class on Fridays—and since there are fewer Friday classes scheduled in the Time Table this year compared to last year—[MSVUSU] decided to change Pub Night to Thursdays. More people will probably come."

Pub Manager Kyle Marryatt adds: "Last year many of the social events slotted [at Vinnie's] on Thursdays did very well and brought in a lot of people; so the change only makes sense."

In any event, according to Miller, the Pub isn't profit motivated, it's people motivated. "It's primarily a social service for Mount students—it's a place where people come to have a good time," he says. "Any profits generated by the Pub will be funnelled right back to the students. For instance, [the profits] might go towards decreasing student premiums for the Health Plan."

Nevertheless, in past years, the Pub has been a money-losing operation. For instance, according to financial statements from 1995-96, Vinnie's incurred a net loss of \$42,174.

Mount students think the change will improve business at the Pub. "Thursday



Last Thursday Night at Vinnie's Pub.

CHRIS MOONEY

nights are better bar nights than Wednesdays nights," says second-year student James Chow. "Look at other university bars in Halifax, like the Grawood or the Gorsebrook—they've both done very well on Thursdays."

For fourth-year student Jenn Parker, Thursdays are much more socially feasible than Wednesdays. "Wednesday's hump day," she says. "During the school year, I rarely go out on hump night. But Thursday, that's a whole other story; that's practically the weekend. I'll definitely pass by Vinnie's on a Thursday this year—

especially considering I have no classes on Fridays."

Aside from moving Pub Night, there are also a few other changes at Vinnie's this year. "There are more products, such as Keith's Lite and other Labatts beers," says Marryatt. "There's also new lighting and more entertainment." For instance, Sandbox is playing for free on September 25 to celebrate the Mount's 125th anniversary. And later in the year Lilith Fair-performer Johnatha Brooke will be on stage at the Pub.

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MANUS No More

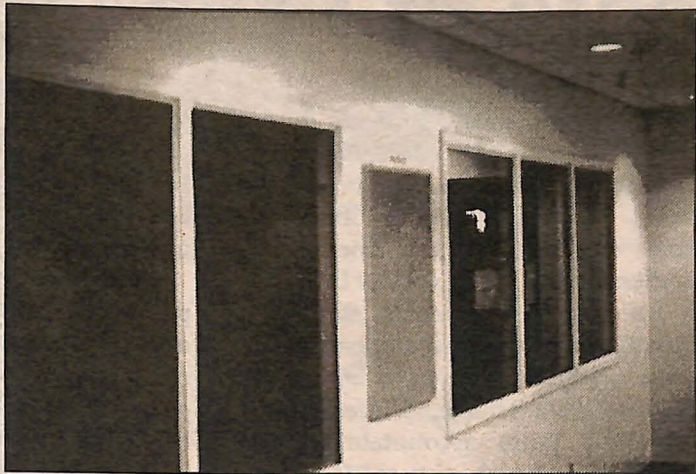
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and bursary information, volunteer tutors, free childcare, and various student workshops and developmental sessions.

"MANUS was doing great work," says LeFort. "The MANUS lounge was always full. We went with people to social assistance hearings, helped people with child assistance and transportation costs. We helped people on a daily basis."

People who relied on the resources provided by MANUS are now left wondering where to go. Sheldon Miller, MSVUSU president, says the MSVUSU will provide resources similar to those offered by MANUS. "It's important for the university to update the students on what resources are still available," says Miller. "They have to know where these resources can be obtained."

A list of MSVUSU and university-offered resources can be found in the Mount's 1998-99 academic calendar. These resources range from financial aid



JAMES TILLEY

Former MANUS lounge lies empty

to childcare. The MSVUSU will also be looking into hiring a resource officer to assist non-traditional students.

The question remains, however, whether or not MANUS will be resurrected in the near future. "People who would like to see MANUS at other universities have been approaching me," says LeFort. "If the Mount wants to see MANUS back, the Mount will have to be committed to opening MANUS as a community centre for students. The university has changed, and so has MANUS."



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Mount Introduces Much-Needed Changes to Computers

BY JENN PARKER

This year's Frosh don't know how lucky they are. Their first year at the Mount guarantees access to brand new computers in student-friendly surroundings—definitely a change from last year. Whether trying to type term papers, meet an assignment deadline, or just e-mail friends, most agree that computing at the Mount was frustrating in the past.

"This is the first time since I started at the Mount that all the programs I use at home are available on the computers here too," says Justin Harrington, a 3rd-year arts student.

"The old system made in-class computer assignments so annoying, there were always glitches and lock-ups," says 4th-year public-relations student Patty O'Neil, "First year students are going to have it so much easier than we did."

This year, the Mount is making an impressive effort to meet student needs and demands for updated computer equipment. For instance, to ensure technology around here is cutting edge, the university recently created the department of information technology and services (IT and S), which is under the direction of Paul Campbell.

IT and S recently completed Phase I of its technological efforts by

purchasing 208 new computers for the campus, and by ensuring all work stations are connected to one central network—that means no more logging in as Seton 315, etc. Computer labs in Seton are now equipped with high-quality Pentium II work stations, offering Windows98, and the latest versions of Microsoft Office and Corel Suite. Because the Mount purchased such a large quantity of computers through its deal with Compaq and SHL Systems house, the university is offering a purchase deal to students, faculty and staff. Computers identical to the new ones around school are available to the Mount community at bulk-purchase prices—\$1930 without software. (Software packages, however, are available at cost.)

In addition, the terminals in Seton 345 and the library are being replaced with microcomputers, offering the same software as the labs. Hook-ups are being added to library study carrels, the link and carrels on the fourth and fifth floors of Seton, allowing students using laptops to connect to the school's network from common work areas. If all these new programs are filling you with anxiety, relax, all software previously offered at the Mount is still available!

At any rate, although most returning students would agree that

these changes are long overdue, Campbell's progress since his arrival in April is quite impressive. While he is the first to admit that he is still figuring some things out, he's pleased to see that the Mount is meeting some of its goals.

"The Mount wants to compete both globally and locally," says Campbell, director of IT and S. "Having this technology available to students gives us a competitive advantage in the global market."

Campbell's credentials are impressive. He oversaw the successful overhaul of technology systems at both the QEII Health Sciences Center and the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation. This experience brought him to the Mount with a vision: To match the school's reputation for quality education with a reputation for quality technology and services.

"The updates are putting us at a level playing field [with other schools]" explains Campbell. For instance, the new computers have the capability of being easily updated with future notebook technology, which will make upgrading both easier and cheaper.

According to Campbell, none of these changes would have been possible without strong support from members of the Mount community,

like vice-president academic, Dr. Judith Woodsworth. "Part of the university's strategic academic plan is to provide all students with access to the latest technology," says Woodsworth. "That's why [Campbell] was hired. He was able to put the plan in motion quickly."

Mount Saint Vincent University Student Union President Sheldon Miller is optimistic that the new system will ease student frustration, something Student Union has been hearing about for years.

"There's going to be a learning period, of course, but eventually it will allow students at the Mount to compete with students from other universities and private institutions," says Miller.

Phase II of the technological revolution at MSVU is already underway. Future plans include network connections in residences, remote access from home for Mount students, connections for laptops in Rosaria and Vinnie's (so students may someday run the risk of dripping beer on their laptops).

IT and S is currently setting up student accounts. So get down to the IT and S Helpdesk—formerly known as the computer information desk—in the basement of the library and sign-up for access to all the neat, new technological stuff.



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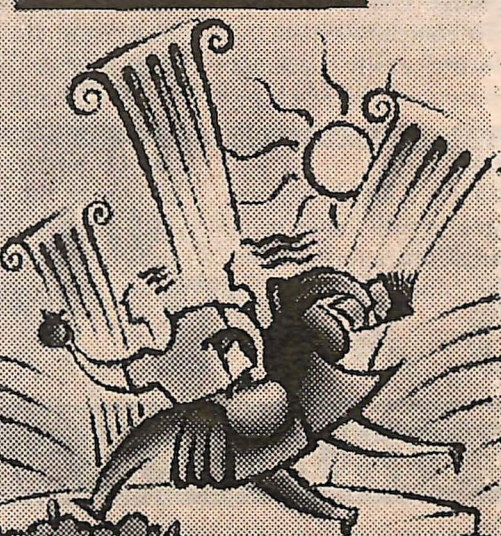
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Frank's World

Pretty Wymyn All in a Row

BY STEPHEN BROWN

We were all of us standing next to the bus shelter across from the Mount, leaning on the metal railing. We each were reading our separate copies of the latest *Picaro*, held up in front of our faces—four of us, lined up like that. I was there. Frank was there. Alabaster Chambers was there too, and so was Kurt Vonnegut. We were waiting for the 80 to take us to Sackville.

A very beautiful black woman passed by us and passed us by, without a glance of meagrest interest in the sight of four newspapers balancing themselves on their single tabloid cracks, in mid-air no less. Kurt Vonnegut lowered his paper to a point below his chin and watched the beautiful black woman walk away. So did Alabaster Chambers. Frank did not, and neither did I.

Father Kurt looked up the row from his position next to me; he was on the end opposite of Alabaster, who was closer to Frank than either of them would want. There were four of us, but I was in the middle. But as I said, Father Kurt looked up the row . . .

"It's a good thing for boys to stop and watch the girls go by. It's what makes them boys." He said.

"Yeah," Alabaster snorted, "There's nothing like stopping the game of Kill the Freak to tear a womyn into pieces, dissect and evaluate her tits or her ass or her gams and discard the rest. And whoever doesn't look—well then, that's the Freak, isn't it?"

Frank didn't even look away from the paper when he spoke to her: "You looked."

"When I look," she said, "I'm appreciating the totality of her beauty. From her black hair in dreadlocks to her painted toenails hanging out of and around the thong of her brown leather sandals."

Father Kurt spoke up: "I'm not talking about ogling pretty women. Or parts of her. Or even deciding if she's pretty or not. I'm talking about looking at the girls for being girls."

"Wymyn," Alabaster said.

"Looking at the girls and reflecting on the fact that there ARE girls. And that there's boys. That's so goddamned human I can't think of anything else that more makes a boy."

"So what you're saying—" I began, and then lowered my paper and looked at Alabaster—"is that you're looking at them and judging their attractiveness, too."

"But I'm not tearing their bodies apart, like some monstrously exaggerated tit chasing Woody Allen." She said with some annoyance.

"First off," I said, "I think the fact that you used the term 'monstrously exaggerated tit' indicates that you did

not get the joke. Secondly, it was not 'monstrously exaggerated' by, say, Russ Meyer standards, my little supervixen. Thirdly, finally, and seriously, if you're looking at women and passing sentence over their comeliness, then I say you ARE dissecting them, at least in order to expedite the assessment process."

"I'm assessing the entire image." She was defensive now.

"You're breaking the image into components, freely criticizing them, collating the judgements passed, summing up how the pieces complement each other, and rendering a dogmatized verdict on the paradigm." I folded the paper up along its natural lines and then once more, and put it under my arm.

"Dogmatized?" This was all three of them.

"Well think about it, no matter how you rationalize what you're doing, you're still making some kind of inference about her quality as a human being based upon your own predilections about what is attractive and what is not. And what is currently considered attractive has been dictated down to us from on high: thin, tall, big here and small there, impossibly clear skin —"

"I know where you're going with this," she said. "But I'm not affected by that. Nothing about your mainstream culture applies to me. Nothing that Playboy or Club International—"

"Or Seventeen, or Cosmopolitan, or Chatelaine, or Self—" Frank said.

"Yeah, them too," Alabaster continued. "Nothing they do has any effect on me. I'm not a goat-sacrificing member of the Cult of the Aesthetic, and I resent the suggestion that I am."

"I've seen the kind of women you think are attractive," Frank said to her, suddenly, "and you could be editor-in-chief—hell, you could OWN any one of those magazines and many more like them without any appreciable change in content. They'd just have more lesbians."

"I don't know," Kurt Vonnegut broke the momentary silence afterward. "It would be pretty hard to fit more lesbians into Club International."

We all granted him that.

Alabaster queried Frank: "Okay Mister 'Less-Sucked-Into-The-Dogma-of-Beauty-Than-Thou', why weren't you looking at her? Did she fail your test of what a womyn should look like?" Alabaster was smug. She was good at that. She looked just like Meryn Cadell.

"I didn't look because I don't look at women," Frank said.

"Why not?" Father Kurt asked. "It doesn't hurt anyone to look, and it feels good."

Frank looked at him while he



EditorsNotes

Jim Boudreau
Editor-In-Chief

Disturbing Silence...

Earlier this summer, before most sane people even considered setting foot back on campus, I had a short conversation with our student union president, Sheldon Miller. On this particular sunny August afternoon I found myself chatting with Miller about the closing of MANUS. I was sharing with Miller a bit of Boudreauesque wisdom on the issue. I can't remember the exact words that I used, but the gist of it was something like this:

"Sheldon, if you are worried what people are going to think about student union then you shouldn't refrain from talking about the closing of MANUS. If you stay silent on the issue then people will most definitely assume the worse. What you should do instead is talk to me, work with the Picaro, tell people what it is exactly you are doing, so they don't have to make their own assumptions."

As you can see from Gin and Mark's story featured this issue (Student Union Does Little to Inform Students of Fees Increase, pg.2) MSVUSU has not exactly made full disclosure its policy. If you have read the story on page 2 you now know that Student Union did not go out of its way to inform students of increases to student union fees.

Now I'm the first one to admit that I don't know everything about politics. But one thing I do know is that people don't like being kept in the dark, even when it is only regarding \$1.28 per unit. It just doesn't seem to me a smart course of action for the student union to exacerbate the situation by keeping quiet about it.

Now I know what some of you might be thinking. Sure its only an extra \$1.28 per credit, I could reach into my pocket and pull that out right now. The money isn't the issue, the problem is the silence coming from student union. As Adam Bowser stated in the article on pg. 2, its "closed-door politics" and although I wouldn't say that Student Union's actions are necessarily "morally and ethically intolerable" I will say that keeping their silence certainly does have the potential to make them look bad in public opinion.

It's like I said to Miller back in August, if MSVUSU really wants students to view them in a positive light, then it have to start being more open with them. Student union should portray itself as an organization that is working for the students benefit, which I believe it is. It should not do things which make them seem like a shifty bunch of characters who take your money without telling you why. Therefore, I encourage our student union to start telling people exactly what it is that they are doing, and more importantly, why it needs to be done.

spoke, then exhaled a breath slowly while nodding his head.

"It does hurt, Kurt," Frank said. "It hurts me. I look at a woman, any woman, and I'm giving her the opportunity to judge me. She can look away because she's scared. She can laugh at me. She can glance me up and down with disgust in her eyes. She can look back and smile and say 'Hi' or she can tell me I'm a worthless pig. And that would hurt my pride and my self-esteem. And that doesn't feel good."

"I think you're exaggerating," I said.

Frank was quick with his response: "I'm only relating things that have actually happened to me. You see, Steve - Alabaster, Kurt -, for that moment, that short and cut-off second that you look at a woman, whether she even knows you're doing it or not, she OWNS you. You're encapsulated in a space of time that belongs to her. And I don't let anyone own me."

"I don't know," I said. "I didn't look either, and part of it was that I was afraid of her judgement; that

she'd think I was crazy or something. I've said it before and I'll say it again: There's a fine line between an appreciative glance and the piercing stare of a madman. And I don't always know where that line is. So, just to be safe, I don't look.

"I mean - I think all women are beautiful. All of them. I have my preferences like everybody else but my preferences aren't like anybody else's, and they aren't definitive. I'm not going to reject someone out of hand for not fitting into some iconic physical ideal. I like to look at all women, and admire them; but a look can become something more - something possessive. There's more than one kind of jealousy that can ruin an innocent look."

I was rambling.

"And the golden rule also applies: I don't like to be stared at, so . . ." My voices trailed off into nothingness as the bus pulled up to the stop.

Father Kurt looked up the row of us. "I feel sorry for you both," he said. And Alabaster said: "Yeah."

The "F" Word Gets In Your Face

JANNE CLEVELAND, THE STATUS OF WOMEN OFFICER

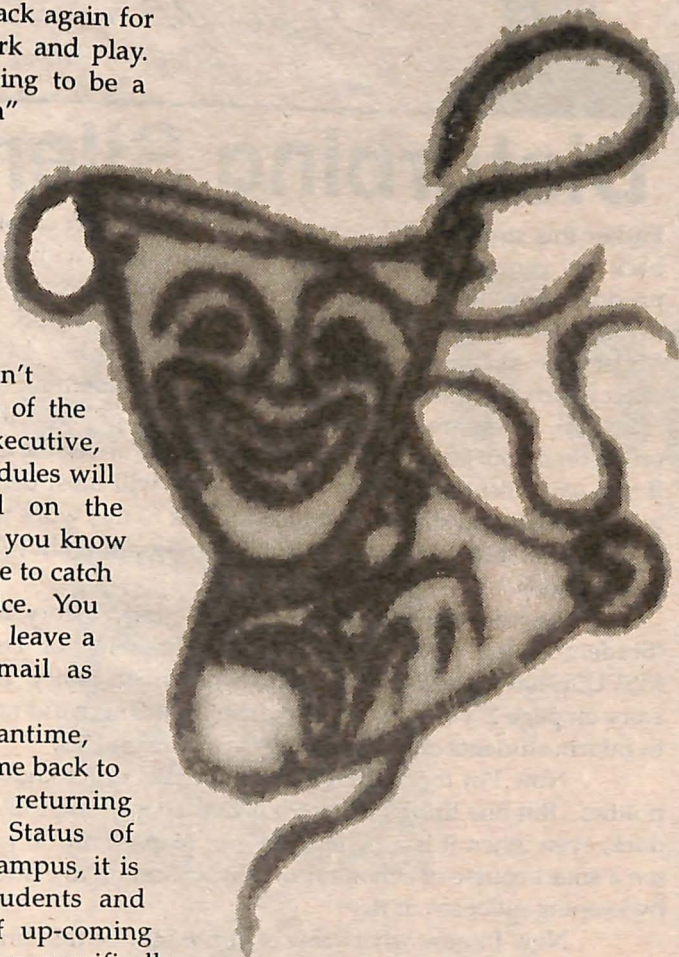
Well, here we are back again for another year of work and play. Already it's promising to be a busy one. "Frosh" students already have an idea of how much behind-the-scenes work goes on at Student Union. For those who don't know the members of the Student Union Executive, pay us a visit. Schedules will shortly be posted on the various doors to let you know when is the best time to catch any of us in the office. You can always call and leave a message on voice-mail as well.

In the meantime, welcome and welcome back to both new and returning students. As the Status of Women Officer on campus, it is my job to keep students and faculty informed of up-coming events that touch on specifically women-centred issues.

The first of these happens on September 18th, beginning at 7:30 at the Grand Parade Square. This is, of course, the "Take Back The Night March", organized by the Dal Women's Centre and supported by "MSVU". I encourage all women to make your presence known as we march through downtown Halifax. Political events, besides creating awareness of some pretty serious issues, can also be a lot of fun. This year's "TBTN" line up of entertaining women promises to deliver lots of spirit. As always, men are asked to show their support for this event by staying home. Supporting your girlfriend's/sister's/mother's right to be out at night without fear will be appreciated more if you respect our right and our need to stand up for ourselves as women.

Still in September, the 27th is the annual and national "AIDSwalk". For information on how to participate on the "MSVU" team, contact me at the Student Union office. Last year's walk raised a record \$70,000, and was a "marvellous" day for everyone. There will be lots of food and entertainment provided after the walk for participants. Don't miss out. Get your pledge form soon!

October is Women's "Herstory" Month once again. This year the theme is "The Work of Women". Watch for announcements regarding events and guest lectures in conjunction with "WHM", or call the Student Union Office for up-dates.



The last week of November marks our observance of "The Week of Reflection" during which we consider the issue of violence against women in our society. December 6th, of course, is the ninth anniversary of the "Montreal Massacre" when 14 women students were brutally murdered simply because they were women.

That takes us to the end of first "term". There will, of course, be many events in the new year that you won't want to miss. Stay tuned for information on those. In the meantime, if you have thoughts and ideas to share, don't be a stranger.

Also keep a look out for the first issue of "HerVoices", the women's newsletter on campus. If you have stories, poems or artwork that you would like to contribute to this publication, get it to me ASAP. Submissions are encouraged. Make your voice heard. Be loud!

When you're busy deciding which clubs and societies look interesting, consider "Students For Literacy". This is a group of students who volunteer to provide literacy tutoring to adult women in the greater community. There is a tutor training session scheduled for September 26th so check it out. For more information, contact me or leave a message in the "SFL" office at 457-6123. It only takes a few individuals to make an enormous difference in the lives of others.

Once again, welcome to the Mount. May your academic year be everything you hope for. Those of you who guessed that the "F" word is feminism, go to the head of the class. You're off to a good start.

Department of Redundancy Department*

BY GREG JACKSON

"If you think this is a mess, you should see what it's like up here." And my brother pointed to his own head.

-Kurt Vonnegut, from the book Wampeters, Foma and Granfallons

Last year I wrote a little column called Instant Leprosy. It started late and finished early. I wrote three articles. You got to read two. Apparently there was talk of liable, thumbscrews and a public flogging because of the third one. It was quietly killed. BANG!

That unfortunate and silly episode has prompted me to end each piece with this: The proceeding may or may not have happened. Hopefully that will make sure no one releases the legal hounds. Oh well, on to nicer things.

I've changed the title this year, as you can plainly see. I like change. After all, people, variety is the spice of life. Some may say it's paprika, but they're wrong. It's variety. I lifted last year's title from a Monty Python sketch, by the way. Instant Leprosy was soap, but I was hoping to make the nasty parts of people's nature rot and fall off. I failed miserably. Who wouldn't?

Originally I was going to call this Seven Cent Writing. "Seven cent" anything is a tree planting term, something I've done in Ontario for the past three years. Basically if you're getting seven cents per tree, you put them in as fast as you can, not paying attention to quality, because hey, seven cents, my friend. Seven cents.

That's what I'm doing here, not paying attention to quality and just

whipping it out. I'm not getting paid at all this time. Actually, I am paying to do this. You could too, you know. Yes, that's right!! One free soap box with every tuition payment.

And I'm sorry to say that there is no deep meaning behind the Department. Nothing that will get me in trouble. Nothing that will get me a governmental hearing. Not even any double entendre or sexual innuendo. I tried to find one. I really did. I failed miserably. Who wouldn't?

I also thought about calling it "What Was the Point?" which is what a girl I know asked when she read the one you didn't get to see. I couldn't answer. I didn't know. I don't talk to her anymore...for different reasons. So what is the point? I still don't know.

Maybe I'll stop when or if I ever find out. Maybe I'll get hit by a bus. Maybe the PR department will send out their hired goons to take me out because I make them look bad.

Who knows? Who cares?

The title does represent some thing though, for me. It's a memory. A grand one. Here it is: I was having drinks in Montreal this summer. My friend, Ben Beardmore (that is his real name) declared his life ambition was to be a Third-Vice-President of the Department of Redundancy Department. I laughed so hard, foam came out my nose. Heavy, man. Heavy.

**The Following May or May Not Have Happened*

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT MARCH

A MARCH FOR WOMEN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1998

7:30 PM

PRE-MARCH RALLY
GRAND PARADE SQUARE
HALIFAX, NS

SNACKS, MUSIC, OPEN MIC
BRING VOICES, NOISEMAKERS AND SIGNS

MORE INFO? CONTACT THE DAL WOMEN'S CENTRE
AT 494-2432

Money Lending and the Ways of the World

BY MARK SITTER

Lately, I've been paranoid. More than usual, that is. These feelings don't stem from the usual stuff, like all that destructive pyromania I never got caught for as a kid, or all that money I covertly "borrowed" from mum and dad. Nope. Rather, my paranoia stems, oddly enough, from credit; a line of credit, that is. And the fact I don't have one.

Considering I'm 22 and have never had an overdraft and never owned a credit card—not even a Club "Z" Card for that matter—I think I can justify my monetary concerns. Like, shit, what if, say, I wanna take out a huge-ass loan after I graduate next year to buy a plot of land in northern Russia, or something; then I'm screwed. Cuz, I's got no credit, Huck. Banks would sooner finance a tourism venture in Ethiopia than a guy with no credit, right?

Anyhooles, after getting rejected by one credit-card company—Express this, American bastards!—and after filling out two other card applications, I've noticed a thing or two which makes me a tad wary about these high-on-the-mountain, money-lending corporations.

For one thing, what's up with all the questions in the credit-application forms? Home address. Permanent address. Previous address. Previous address once removed. Permanent previous home address. Like frig off already, I just want a credit card, not the blue prints of the atomic bomb, or, worse yet, the Colonel's Secret Recipe.

And what's up with all the super-aggressive sales people? As far as I reckon, you can't really brow beat someone into filling out a credit-card

application. This one guy practically disemboweled me for not remembering a past employer's postal code—which, again, was a stupid question.

And this other company had the bright idea of hiring models from a local talent agency to do all the selling. As if beautiful people are enough of an impetus to make a guy like me apply for a lousy card. What kind of chump do they take me for? Nevertheless, a bunch of my friends and I all signed up with this company. We also repeatedly came back to the kiosk with refreshments for the comely little sales bunnies. (Come on, what's a guy supposed to do, they looked thirsty.)

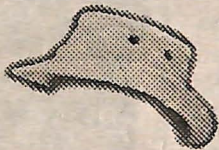
At any rate, another thing that makes me fidget is the Royal Bank Link connecting the SAC to the EMF. Last year, the link was The

Link—now its got this big, blue Royal Bank sign, which, interestingly enough, matches the color of the link's couches. Coincidence? Ask Noam Chomsky. Who knows, maybe the outright corporatization of the university has already begun. School is money—that sounds like the proper Orwellian watchword. The next thing you know They'll be stitching a magnetic strip on to your undershorts, which reminds me: It's wash day.

Dirty laundry aside, all this money and banking skulduggery really busts my chops. Something's not right. Something must be done. The people must rise up. And I'll lead them. But, that can wait for now. I have my priorities. First I got to finish my fourth credit-card application; that land in northern Russia is calling.

Hat's Eye View

BY JAMES TILLEY



Well, we all survived the "Full Mounty." I would first like to thank all of the rest Frosh Team and its coordinator, Carlee Portolesi, for an excellent job running and organizing the bulk of the Orientation activities. Second, the Student Union Executive and Staff; without their efforts the week could not have happened. Third, the returning students; having the Frosh out to Orientation events can be expected, but all of the other students helped pack all the concerts and events making it a really rockin' time.

Finally, and most important, I'd like to thank the first year students. They made the week a success. Not only did they show up in record numbers to many events, they were also willing to wear garbage bags and the most silly hats (and I know my hats). They managed to make up a school song that was tasteful, something that the Student Alumnae Association (SAA) has been attempting for several years now. They have already shown a very strong interest in working with campus societies and clubs. And almost everyone woke up and joined in our 2:00a.m.-residence-activities Wednesday. This is my fourth Frosh Week and it has been the best. (Of course, two years ago they did have those really cool tie-died T-shirts.)

But I am not here to promote the wonders of the "Full Mounty." I am actually here to do what I seem to do every year: Promote dedication to the Mount. I am not talking about academic achievements, although that does have value, I suppose. I am talking about joining and being an active member of a society, or five. Going to root on the Mystics teams. Getting involved with the student union and make use of all the wonderful services it provides. And, most importantly, writing for your student newspaper.

Much of what I am going to say may sound similar to pieces I wrote in previous years. So, forgive me. Nevertheless, I am going to tell all of you a little bit about myself. When I was in my first year of high school, I didn't do much to fight for the cause of school spirit. I was pretty much a hermit. I played volleyball (while I'm on the subject everyone should play Thursday Night Volleyball at the gym every week), went to class and hung with a few friends left over from Junior High. I didn't even eat in the cafeteria. Grade eleven was pretty much the same. I did try a few new things but nothing extraordinary.

Then my final year rolled around, and something snapped inside of me. So I got involved in everything I could: student council, newspaper, yearbook, model parliament, the

fashion show, grad week committee, and I still stuck with Volleyball (not being the rookie has advantages). That year, I admit, my marks dropped: however, socially speaking, I had the best year of my entire educational career. So, after moving on to the Mount, I continued my involvement, and I haven't stopped yet.

You are probably asking: "Why did James continue doing everything if his marks dropped?" And even if you didn't I am going to answer that question anyway. Here it is: I have met more people, and made more potential career contacts than you can imagine. For example, I met Brian Kerrigan while working at the Picaro. We worked together for a couple of years on the student newspaper. Eventually, he recommended me for a job at the Daily News. Now, one year and many hour of part-time employment later, I may have secured a full-time job that I enjoy after I graduate.

Networking is not the only reason for getting involved. You would be amazed on how much experience you get working for a society. In some cases I have learned more with my extracurricular activities than in my classes. Working at DUET (Distance University Education via Technology), in the basement floor of the library (they are always looking for people to work for them) taught me how to use a video camera and video editing equipment.

A year later, I needed to know all of that for my electronic media class. Working for the paper has also improved my writing skills and editing techniques by a thousand-fold (As Brent King would attest the writing in my first year of PR was really horrible). And student union gave me experience in politics and public speaking.

Those in child and youth, can get much practical experience at the Fountain Play Centre. Tourism students wanting restaurant or food service experience can work at the cafeteria or Vinnie's. Anyone wanting a little customer-relations experience should work at the Corner Store or the Student Union Info Desk. And if you know anything about computers, Informational and Technological Services is usually hiring new employees.

Well, I have been rambling on for a while now, so I better wrap this up. Getting your education at the Mount is inpart, about taking part in university life, which means having one (a life that is). Meeting new people, getting some experience: That is all part of University Life. You are paying enough for your education, so make sure you're getting the full meal deal. Get involved! And, oh yeah, if I didn't mention it before, everyone should write for the Picaro. It is an enriching experience that should not be passed up.

Attention to All Societies:

The deadline to apply to be chartered by the Student Union is Friday September 25th. Applications can be picked up at the Student Union offices. Questions, contact Crista Stone at 443-4224 or 457-6123

Nuns and books and lots of girls...

Frosh Week '98: The Full Mounty - Revisited

BY CRAIG ENNIS

That's right everybody!!! It's back to school time and the frosh are having a blast at the Mount. New students had Sex with Sue, did some touring and saw a few bands, and even a live (amateur) performance of Riverdance by the Frosh Crew.

Monday was the first day of Frosh Week '98, so the Frosh Crew was busy helping resident students to move into their new homes for the year.

Later in the evening, new students played icebreaker games before they joined returning students to pack Vinnie's Pub to see Sue Johanson and talk sex with her. Everybody seemed to have a great time, and the night was just beginning.

After talking sex with Sue, the Frosh were fired up for Michael Anthony, a hypnotist and mentalist. He had the crowd rockin' with some fun mind games, like making people forget the number six, and crazy actions, including a chest-beating Tarzan act. All in all, people were giggling hysterically, acting crazy and having a good time.

The audience seemed to like it too.

In the morning of Day Two, new students had an orientation session with faculty and administration members in the Seton auditorium.

After a small food and relaxation break, it was off to see the sights and sounds of the city. The buses stopped at Dalhousie, and about 70 brave frosh, wearing garbage-bag raincoats and funky paper hats, started the walk to Saint Mary's. The trip to Saint Mary's was eventful, with a cheer-off between "us" and "them" as the highlight. Then it was on the Murphy's on the waterfront for supper.



JAMES TILLEY

Meeting the Administration at the Meadows

After a fantastic meal, a boatload of students toured the Bedford basin and were treated to music from a live band. People danced and sang along with the music, hoppin' the evening away. Some fun-ass highlights of the boat tour included the debut of the Mount's new song and the amateur Riverdance number. With all the dancing and singing, I'm surprised the boat's still in one piece.



MATTE STEVENSON

(left) Travoltas were great, baby!
(up) Frosh should always wear proper rain gear when traveling down town.
(right) The River Dance King showing everyone a few of his moves.



JAMES TILLEY



MATTE STEVENSON

"We got spirit, yes we do! We got spirit how about SMU?!"

Once we docked, everyone hopped on the buses and rode back to Vinnie's to get ready for the disco inferno. Spirited students cut up the dance floor with the Travoltas, a groovin' retro band that sang the best of the disco era. When the show ended, most people turned in, probably anticipating the first day of classes.

For those unfortunate enough to have an 8:30 class, getting up after the party on Tuesday was a little difficult. However, classes progressed as normal and the frosh got their first real taste of academic life at the Mount. During the afternoon, members of the Student Alumnae Association took the frosh on campus tours.

Later in the evening, Kilt fired the party back up with some fresh East Coast music. Everybody got silly, dancing about, having a good ol' down home time.



MATTE STEVENSON

Swing your partner round and round. But not too hard it is a Harbour Cruise after all.



MATTE STEVENSON

MSVU Frosh causing traffic jams throughout the city.

On Thursday, Vinnie's debuted its brand-spankin'-new Pub night. The frosh, along with their upperclassmen, helped kick off this historic occasion by packing the pub and participating in the usual dancing, drinking and talking routine. Everybody also had the chance to get a temporary tattoo from Labatts, which had representatives there to promote responsible drinking. More than a few people went home with the "Cheryl" tattoo from the "see ya at the beach cool guy" commercial.

Friday's first activity was a volleyball tournament organized by Athletic/Recreation. There was also a barbecue for frosh in Rosaria. (Now all you frosh know what the barbecue sauce in the frosh packs was for!) An impressive crowd showed up for some good grub with the Frosh Crew. Of course, the spicy barbecue was only a warm up for the even-spicier events of the evening. The Dave Carmichael Band and the Punters rocked the house at Vinnie's. Everybody went wild-ass on the dance floor. Another late night, but the party marched on.

Now, the last day of Frosh Week; what can be said about Great Big Sea? The Great Big Picnic was a great big attraction for a lot of the frosh as well as the entire university community. Despite the rain and the cold, thousands of fans packed Citadel Hill to groove along with their favourite East Coast band. Those crazy sons-of-bitches! The pre- and post-picnic pub parties were turgid with shenanigans, tomfoolery and ballyhoo on the



JAMES TILLEY

A first taste of group projects with Mount Frosh.



MATTE STEVENSON

Rockin' at the Pub with the Frosh Team

backdrop of alcohol and music.

Officially, Frosh Week '98 came to a close when Great Big Sea walked off the stage. Everybody had a great time going to all the dreamy events and partying their asses off during the first week of classes. And now it's time for everyone to get some much-needed rest.

All said and done, this was no ordinary Frosh Week; we gave everyone the Full Mounty.



JAMES TILLEY

That's it were done ... Have a fun year everybody!

Where is the A-R-T in Mount

BY PAM WETZEL

Everywhere you look, funding of the Arts is being cut. Why? Dr. Anna Smol, chair of the English department summed it up nicely when she said: "New ideas disrupt complacency, they disturb assumptions, they rearrange world views, they are not comfortable. Formulating those ideas—pressing a connection, pushing a formulation, thinking itself—is hard work; it is not a comfortable process."

Whether it's the lack of promotion Nova Scotian artists receive, the cutting of Canada Council grants, or even the increase of regulations for the Filmmakers Assistance grants at the National Film Board, it's reassuring to know that some people are trying to increase the visibility of ART in Nova Scotia. But if you look very closely, you will notice A-R-T is hidden well here at Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU). Fortunately, there are a number of people in the arts faculties at MSVU who are working towards eliminating the absence of ART.

DRAMA

Dr. Patrick O'Neill in the Speech and Drama department is organizing the production of *SISTER AMNESIA'S COUNTRY WESTERN NUNSENSE JAMBOREE* !! Any and all students enrolled on campus may take active part in this production—participation is not limited to speech and drama students.



BRIAN KERRIGAN

Painting by Margret Clarke, "Mary and Brigid" 1917. In the MSVU collection.

SISTER AMNESIA'S COUNTRY WESTERN NUNSENSE JAMBOREE is the third instalment in Dan Goggin's successful series of musicals about the Little Sisters of Hoboken, New Jersey. Many of you may remember the Mount's production of *NUNSENSE* in 1994.

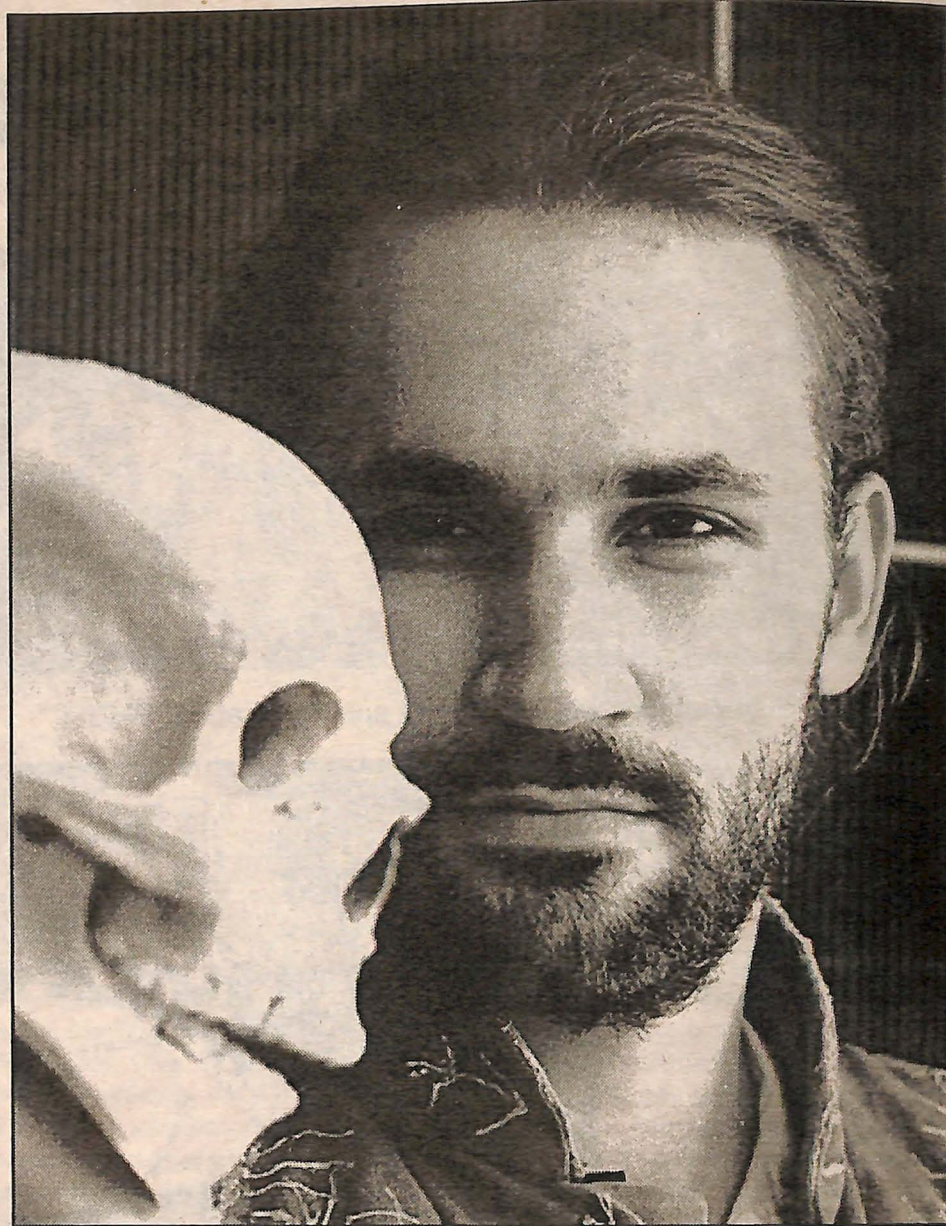
The musical concerns itself with Sister Mary Paul's dream to become a country-music singer. Having recorded her first album, "I Could've Gone to Nashville," Sister Mary Paul—along with some friends from the convent back home (including a Franciscan Priest)—is on tour promoting her album. The show has elements of "Hee-Haw" and "Laugh-In." Terrible jokes abound: What do you call nuns at the Sistine Chapel? Ceiling Fans. Nevertheless, the music is memorable: "The Delta Queen," "Mini-Pearls of Wisdom," "We miss You Patsy Cline", and "Do Unto Others" are just four of the twenty-five pieces of music contained in the script.

Auditions will be held on Monday, September 14, and Tuesday, September 15. For additional information contact Dr. O'Neill in Seton 517. The production is scheduled from November 5 to 7, 1998, in the Multi-Purpose Room, Rosaria.

ART GALLERY

Another exciting and intellectually stimulating feature on campus is the Art Gallery located on the first floor of Seton. There are many great shows scheduled for this school year. As the MSVU Web site states, the Art Gallery is "nationally recognized for exhibitions and special events that focus on women and Nova Scotia artists". A Web page on the work is currently being constructed and will be available on the Internet, so stay tuned.

Presently, the Art Gallery is under instalment. The next show, Marlene Creates: Language and Land Use, Newfoundland, is scheduled to open September 12 and runs until October 11. The exhibit is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts and presents a series of photo-assemblages completed in 1994 by Marlene Creates, who in 1997 was named Newfoundland's "Artist of the Year." Each assemblage—composed of three black-and-white



BRIAN KERRIGAN

"Alas poor Yoric..."

photographs, a text, and objects collected from each site—centres on signs posted in public recreational areas in Newfoundland.

"The geography around each of these signs, the territory that is under the influence of the printed public message, is a place circumscribed by human activity," says Creates. "In each assemblage next to the language of the public sign, I have placed a small hand-written panel describing my personal observations and experiences in each place."

Creates' artmaking makes critical links with practices, such as journal-keeping, travel photography and souvenir collecting. It demonstrates the unorthodox ways in which history can achieve inscription.

Marlene Creates will present a gallery talk on Sunday, September 13, at 2 p.m. The opening reception begins at 3 p.m. and includes a walking tour of the eight-part *Intersections* site-work. *Intersections: Places, General Regulations, and Memories*, Mount Saint Vincent, Halifax 1998, was commissioned from the Saint John's artist, Marlene Creates, on the occasion of the Mount's 125th anniversary. Composed of eight signs installed on the grounds of the

Mount, each marker combines a photograph of the site as it appeared in 1997/8 with two texts: an excerpt from one of the Mount's official publications over the last 100 years and a passage from an interview between the artist and a former faculty member or student. The effect is to document the interplay between changes to the physical landscape and changes in university regulations—all of which affected many aspects of student life.

Admission to the Art Gallery is free, although donations are greatly appreciated.

LITERATURE AND STUFF...

In the July 1 issue of *Maclean's*, Ann Dowsett Johnston wrote an article, "Farewell to Equal Access." It reads: "What happens to a country when liberal arts are undervalued? James Downey, president of Waterloo and himself a scholar of 18th-century literature, sums up the effect: 'a coarsening of the culture.'" Coarsening of the culture??? Nah, Canadians are softies at heart, not hard-ball knuckle heads, right? Just check out what the english society has planned this year and you'll see, there's no coarsening of culture happening here!

Saint Vincent University?

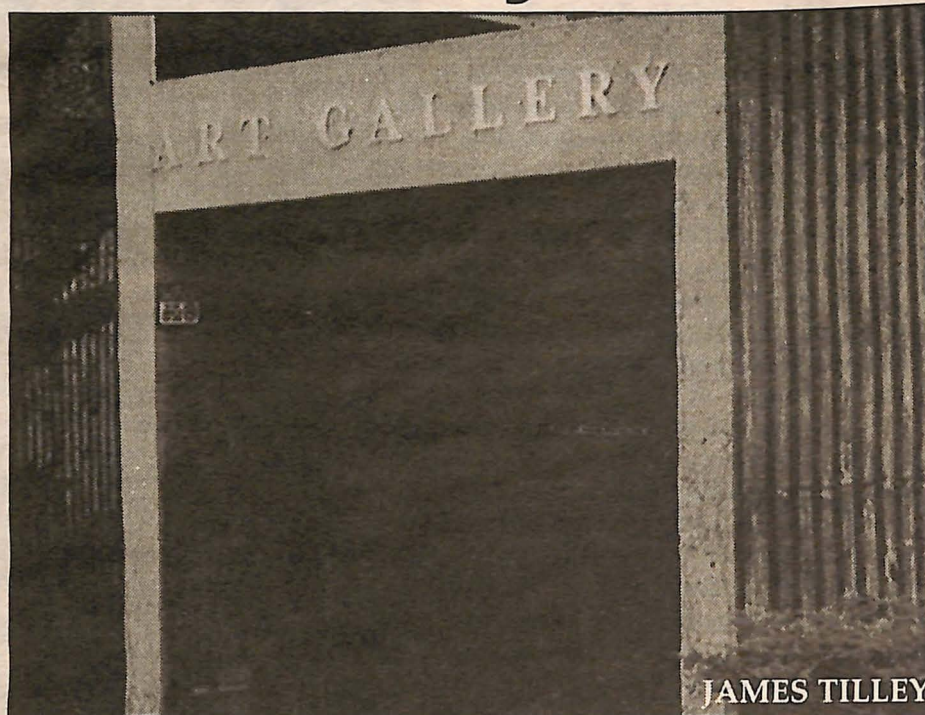
From the goodness of their hearts, the good folk at Shakespeare by the Sea have offered MSVU students a 50 per cent discount on ticket prices to see "Henry V" performed at Citadel Hill. All of those interested in attending can sign up and pay at the English Corner (outside of Seton 507), September 9 and 10. The cost is as low as \$12.50 for the Thursday, September 17, production at 7 p.m. We'll be meeting at the Seahorse for pizza at 5 p.m. and then leave for the show around 6:30. If you can't find an english society member, and you don't know who to give your money to, go see Debbie in Seton 533, she'll sign you up; she's the new English department secretary.

Also, don't forget about the Annual Atlantic Undergraduate English Conference, February 5 to 7, sponsored by MSVU.

Undergraduate students from all over Atlantic Canada and Maine attend this conference to meet other students and have tons of fun. Oh yeah, they also read papers, both academic and works of fiction.

The english society has lots planned for this year, including a visit to Word on the Street, Sunday, September 27, Spring Garden Rd. For more information on the society, check out its Web page at <http://www.msvu.ca/english/engsoc.htm>.

So, I guess the Arts are still alive and kicking at MSVU!! Thank the gods.



JAMES TILLEY

How have you BEAN doing?

BEAN looking for somewhere to publish your work?

BEAN searching for somewhere to get involved on campus?

BEAN wanting to get some volunteer (or paid) work experience?

BEAN bored with life in general?

Well the Picaro is the answer.

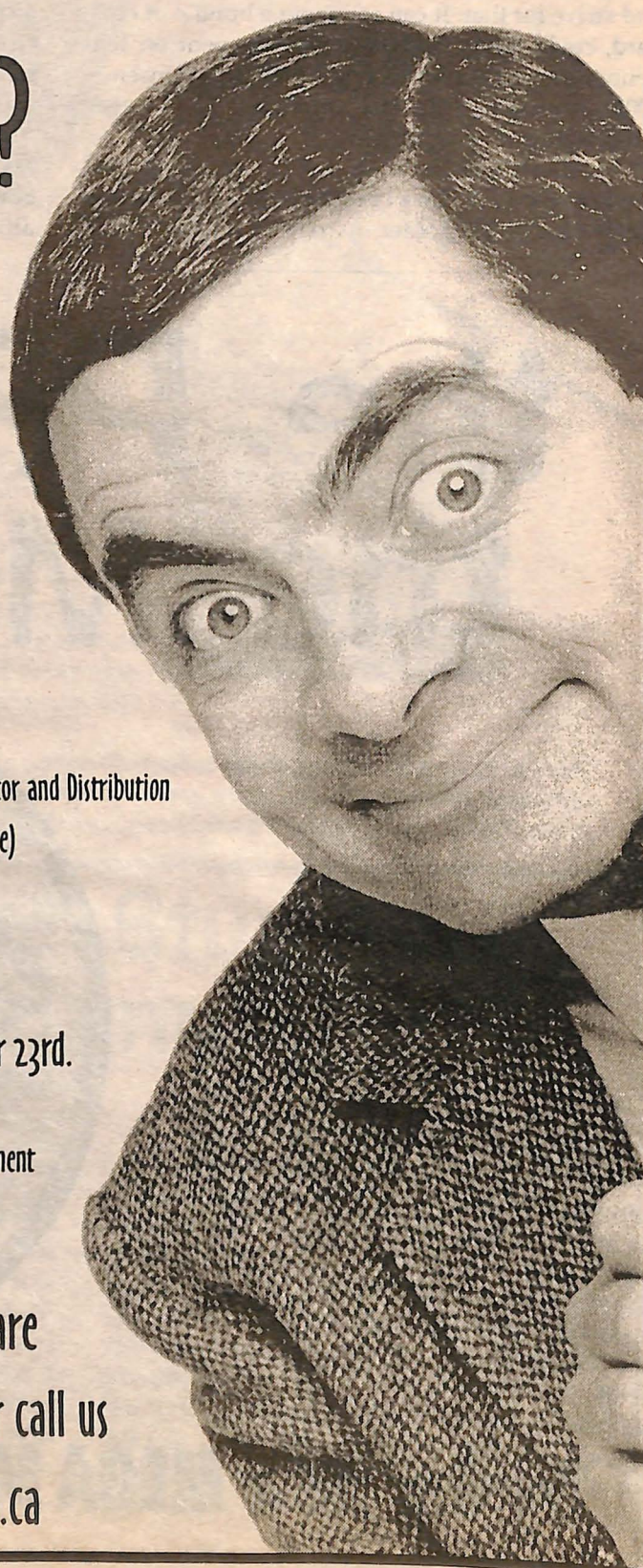
The paper has BEAN missing some editors for a while. The positions available are: Features Editor, Sports Editor, Classifieds Editor and Distribution Manager. If any of the positions seem interesting drop by the office and give us a resume. (Attn: Tim Boudreau or Gin Hing Yee)

We have always BEAN in need of writers for all sections News, Features, A&E or Sports. If you are interest drop by the office.

The deadline for submissions has always BEAN Wednesday at 5:00pm. The next one is on September 23rd.

Has your society BEAN unable to promote its events effectively? Well the Picaro can help there also. We provide free advertisement (space and location depends on amount of material and availability) for all Societies to promote there events and fundraisers.

If you have BEAN interested in anything in this ad drop by the office we are located in Room 114 of Rosaria (across from the Fountain Play Center); or call us at 445-3584; or fax us at 457-0444; or email us at picaro@chebucto.ns.ca



Bill Gates' Wallet and the Hierarchy of Needs

BY STEPHEN BROWN

What I need is a glorified typewriter.

What I want is a top-of-the-line, state-of-the-art, word-processing, Photoshop-rendering, Shadow Warrior Lo-Wanging, loads-up-Alyssa-Milano-nudie-pics-faster-than-her-mother-can-sue-ing, Ultra Harley-Gawd Death Machine.

What I NEED is a glorified typewriter.

What I WANT would cost \$2299 this week at Business Despot, without taxes, but with a scanner, printer, monitor, and other essentials that are normally found in the accessories section. Somewhere else you might pay the same price for the basic hardware, without the luxury of a monitor, or a superfluous printer.

What I NEED costs me absolutely nothing. A good friend, known only as The Benevolent St. Brian, gave me a decrepit Rue McLanahanesque 386-33 cobbled together from spare parts strewn around his dungeon of digital despair. Tastes great, less filling, and you can't beat the price.

And so I learn the first lesson of the Great Computer Purchase (GCP): Identify what you need and strive for that. It can save you a bundle of cold, hard, credit limits that can be better spent on Ten-Penny Ale and textbooks and other such nonsense. 400Mhz is great, and sixteen million colours sweet, but it is also very expensive.

Incidentally, hidden in my tale is the second lesson of the GCP: Don't buy new what you can get cheaper used. Computer owners love to get rid of

old, out-dated systems and parts—parts that will seem shiny and fresh to you, who's still fumbling between the black strip and the red on ye olde typewriter ribbon. On the other hand, computer owners often have a bloated perception of what their junk is worth, so be careful you aren't dealing with someone who doesn't know that once you drive it off the lot, the value sinks faster than a turd on the Titanic. Your first hint will be if the computer is named either Jenny, Pamela, or Lacey. Either way, expect to pay in the area of a \$1000 for a used but working system — there is only one Benevolent St. Brian and he's MINE.

On the other hand, the only printer he could offer me was a dot matrix made from the bones of ex-employees of Kathy Lee Gifford. I would rather rely on a monk with a quill than a dot-matrix printer, so I politely declined St. Brian's kind offer. Instead, I headed out to Suture Chop to find a nice ink-jet printer. They had one on sale for \$109.99, after a mail-in rebate. That's a fantastic deal, so of course I was wary. St. Brian came with me to inspect the goods, and that's lesson number three: Get informed help before making the GCP. This can be invaluable, especially when dealing with used goods.

The first thing I learned from St. Brian was to ask a sales representative for details on the rebate. Some rebates must be specifically requested—after all, sales reps need as many chances to shaft you as

possible with a mere 10-per cent mark-up apocraphally attached to such purchases. Since this rebate went to the tune of \$50, I was making sure I got it. Lesson number four.

Now that I think of it, I believe I'll make an appendix to Lesson number four: Ask the sales rep everything you can think of. They hate that, but it's their job, so screw 'em.

My sales rep was very helpful. The first thing he pointed out was that the printer in question was designed for use with Windows '95. My computer doesn't have Windows '95. No problem, he said, you can download the drivers to make it work with Windows 3.1.

Great!, I said. Where?

Uh —

Now, the best part of our Q&A was his honesty. He detailed to me that even with the proper drivers, a 386 would take about five minutes to print a page of text.

Uh —

You can't expect that kind of honesty from every salesperson, I'm sure - and maybe one less now, as I walked away from the printer. I couldn't close the deal; the prospect of an evening waiting for a full course load of papers and essays to print scared me off. I'll just rely on the printers here at the Mount, writing at home on my TV-and-keyboard. Why else did gawd make 3.5" drives?

That's lesson number five.

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The coolest CD in the history of cool CDs

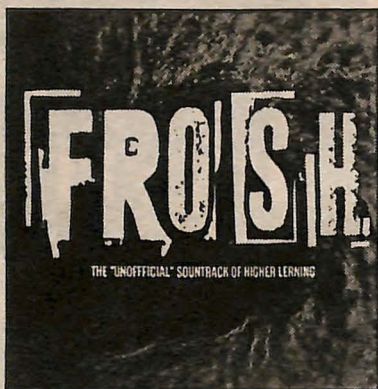
BY JAMES TILLEY

We were packing the Frosh Kits a couple of weeks ago when someone put in a tape of the "Frosh" CD. I only heard a few of the songs, but I thought, "What a cool CD." Later that same evening a friend of mine was telling me about the CD, talking about some of the other songs. Then I thought to myself "What a really cool CD, I have to go pick that up." So I did.

I just can't say it enough: this is a great CD. It is a mix CD of songs dating back as far as 1972 to one done last year. Some of the songs are: Song 2 (you know the WOO HOO!! Song from Out of the Blue), I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles), Blister in the Sun, Asshole, (You Gotta) Fight For Your Right (To Party), Y.M.C.A., Groove is the Heart and Lust For Life.

There is only one song on the CD I don't like and out of 17 tracks that is not too shabby. Everyone should just stop reading the paper right now and go directly to the nearest store which sells CDs (almost everyone has "Frosh" in their store). I have seen it for \$18 but also as low as \$14. (I am one of the poor saps that paid \$18)

Hey you! ... leave already. Go get this CD now - before everyone else reading this right now beats you there.

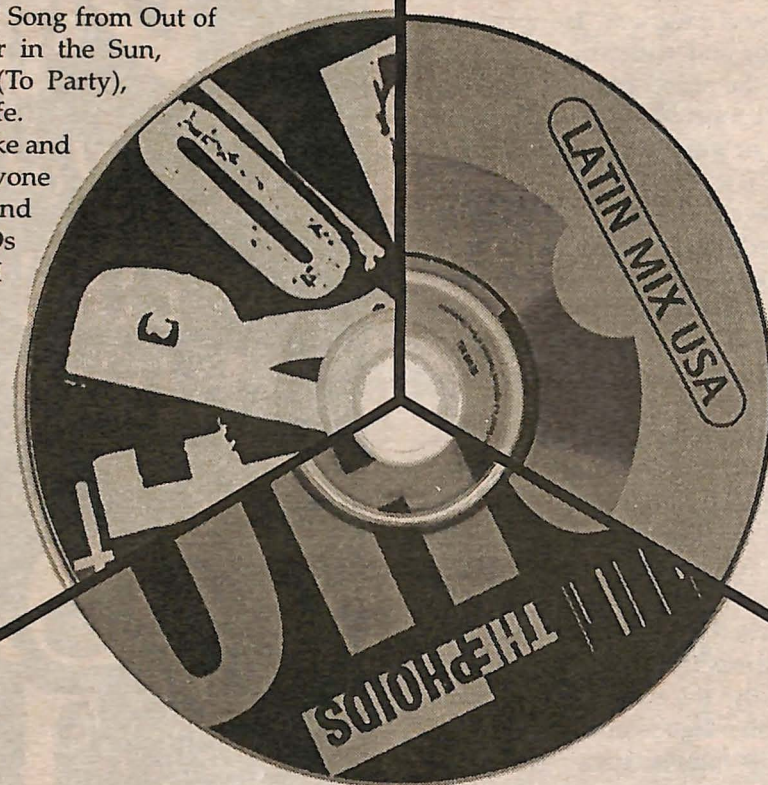


A must for any music lover's collection

BY RHONDA SIMSER

As the days go on, there is always another music compilation that comes our way. Some of them are good, some of them are really good, and some of them, although not many, are really great. Latin Mix USA is one of the few that are really great. It has some of the best dance music that you hear in the clubs now. The opening song is one that I am sure everyone has heard at least once while jamming out downtown, "Maria", by Ricky Martin. It is by far the best song on the Cd, although many of the other ones are close behind. This CD is great for pumping up while studying for a test, it will wake you up, and get you moving. If you are having a party, pop in this CD to have the party going into the morning hours.

This CD is a must for any music lover's collection. If you like dance music, R&B, Hip Hop, or rap, you will love Latin Mix USA. Oupa!

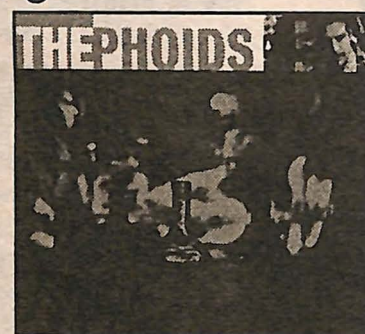


Music you can listen to without analysing

BY RHONDA SIMSER

The Phoids. Interesting name, interesting music. At first I thought it was another alternative band, trying to cop off of some of the greats, you know, Nirvana and The Smashing Pumpkins. Boy was I wrong. The Phoids consist of Jac Calabro, Matt Chiravalle, Greg Bass, and Michael Chambers, and let me tell you, they are nothing short of amazing, and I am not talking about just looks here, people. Their music is a cross of rock and roll and blues. It is very laid back, and the songs are catchy, they make you want to tap your feet, or get up and dance. The songs are laid out well on the CD, with a rock-like song followed by a more mellow song. To think that they were a knock off of Nirvana or The Smashing Pumpkins was wrong. If I had to compare them with another band or group, it would be Bon Jovi, or Jon Bon Jovi, during his current solo career. Of the songs on the CD, the most popular one with me, and people who have heard it, was "Ride It Home". It is by far the catchiest song on the CD, and it has gotten tremendous airplay from me.

If you are a fan of rock and roll, or just like music you can listen to without trying to understand what the singer is saying, you should pick up The Phoids. Another thing that I liked about this album is that the songs are short, which means when you start getting tired of a song, a new one starts. The Phoids is a CD that everyone should own; no matter what kind of music you listen to, you will enjoy The Phoids.



The Barenaked Ladies-Stunt ... Should be called Stunned

BY RHONDA SIMSER

I was rather excited that I would be doing another CD review. I love music, so I figured I couldn't go wrong with this review. I had been complaining about always liking what I was reviewing, and that people would begin to wonder if I hated anything.

I borrowed The Barenaked Ladies "Stunt" from a friend, and he had raved about it. I put it on, and of course I loved the first song. It is a song that everyone knows, as it has been getting lots of airplay. "One Week" has been engraved in our minds as the song. It has some words that we can't understand, but who cares, it is a catchy song, and it is fun to try and figure out what the hell is being

said. I wish I could say that I loved this CD as much as the other ones I have reviewed, but as hard as I try, I can't bring myself to even tolerate the rest of the CD. There is only one other song that I like, it is called "Alcohol", and as you can well imagine it is all about the wonders of alcohol. It is a good song, and just may become the drinking song of the 1998-1999 school year.

What disturbed me was the song entitled "I'll Be That Girl". It was about suicide. What disturbed me even more was when my friend who lent me the CD came to pick it up, he said he thought the song was funny. Disturbing....

All in all, if you have always liked the Barenaked Ladies, you may very well like this CD. I for one only liked the songs that were released, and a video was made. Call me a sucker for TV, but I love a song more if I get a visual to go with it...I guess you could say I am a music video junkie. There is a song that comes to mind, and I know, my thinking about music and music videos was influenced by it..."Video Killed The Radio Star"....Call me crazy, which I am, but I didn't like this CD. It made me tired and want to fall asleep, which isn't a good thing before an already boring class.

How to spell action movie with a capital A

BY JAMES TILLEY

Actually one might even spell this action movie with an ACTION!! The movie I am referring to Blade, directed by Stephen Norrington, is the latest movie to be based on a Marvel comic. In the movie, Blade (Wesley Snipes) is a half-breed, half-human/half-vampiric, his mother was turned into a vampire while she was pregnant. He inherited both vampiric strengths and weaknesses. He had the physical strength, the speed and the need for blood. However, unlike most vampires he was not hurt by garlic, silver or sunlight (hence he was called the "daywalker").

His vampiric powers surfaced at puberty where he went on murderous rampage and drank the blood of the homeless. The other main good guy, Whistler (Kris Kristofferson) is a career vampire hunter, he found young Blade and almost killed him until he realized what he really was. So instead Whistler trained him and the two began travelling the world, hunting the undead. The other main characters are Karen (N'Bushe Wright) a haematologist (isn't that convenient) and Deacon Frost (Stephen Dorff) the leader of the younger vampires who were unwilling to follow the doctrine of the elders.

Now on to the movie. The plot actually sucked, most of the acting not exactly Oscar material; the dialogue at times cheesy; the storyline had some very bizarre aspects (blood gods and everything); and the middle of the movie pretty slow. But despite all of that you just can't help loving the movie. It is an ACTION movie, so the fighting is spectacular, the cinematography is excellent (lots of stop motion, stuff like in Forever Knight, a Canadian Vampire show, see it on Showcase), the soundtrack is really cool (very techno), and the special effects were impressive (some looked rather fake, but impressive just the same).

For those who have read some vampire novels or played the White Wolf systems, the older vampires are very similar to the Camarilla, where they hide their presence and life is filled with the bureaucracy and the status of the elders. Frost and his young band of rebels are much like the Sabbat. This is demonstrated in one of the first scenes, when the rebels are dancing at a party and blood starts spraying out of the sprinklers (a disgusting concept but a very well done scene). And the dancing continues at a frenzied rate. Then the party is broken up by Blade; he comes in and kicks ass.

It is a very good movie to just sit down and watch, but do not analyze the plot or the literary devices. Enjoy the movie purely on its entertainment value. It is well worth seeing, if you can make it on a cheap night, great; if not then it is still worth seeing. But if you miss it then that's your loss.

*Like movies?
How about CDs?
Maybe Books?
If not Plays, Shows or Exhibits?
Why not write for the Picaro and the Arts & Entertainment Section. If you don't like the music we listen to or the movies we watch the submit one of your own. Next Deadline is Wednesday September 23rd*

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university undergraduates and postgraduates who have graduated or will graduate between October 1, 1995, and September 30, 1998, and all currently enrolled master's and doctoral students (regardless of final graduation date). From high-value subcompacts and minivans, to tough pickups and sport utilities, we've got a vehicle that's right for you. No matter where you want to go in life... we want to make sure you get there.

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Career Resource Centre Open for Students

BY KIM BOUDREAU, CAREER RESOURCE ASSISTANT

Well, summer is coming to a close and classes have resumed. Our summer months have gone by quickly, some may say too quickly. Before we realize, it will be December and we will all be writing our Christmas exams—what an unpleasant thought.

So why remind you of such an awful idea? Because just as fast as the summer has gone by, so will this entire school year. Then it will be time to frantically search for summer employment and for some, to start thinking about what to do after graduation. If you have not yet thought about these questions, you soon should.

Start by preparing now for any part time or summer jobs that may come up in the following months. Prepare an up to date resume and bring it to the Career Resource Centre to be critiqued. If you are graduating in the upcoming months, begin researching graduate programs or other programs offered that may interest you so you won't be overcome with applications and deadlines when the time comes. If you are going to be looking for full time work after you graduate, you may want to begin researching labour market information in your field of interest. If you are one of the many students who are still not sure what path to follow the Career Resource Room can also be of benefit to you. Use the Centre as a guide to provide information on the many career choices available today. Search on-line for any upcoming labour market information. Or even put your resume on-line by registering with the National Graduate Registry.

How can you do all this you may ask? Simply stop by Evaristus Room 218, and visit the

Career Resource Centre. This year, Jill Totten and myself are employed as Career Resource Assistants and are ready to assist students in various areas of career searching including resume critiques and career exploration. Information ranges from the occupational to the educational, and everything in between. The centre is open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. Drop by anytime during those hours. Hope to see you there!

The Professional Development Career Club is another way for students who are career oriented to become involved in the MSVU community. The society promotes career related events, forums, and the importance of career education. Members of the PDCC are also involved in delivering workshops related to career planning. Any interested students can drop by the Career Resource Room in Evaristus 218.

On October 5, the First Annual Halifax Joint Career Fair will take place at the World Trade and Convention Centre from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Representatives from various career fields, organizations and businesses will be in attendance to promote and possibly recruit. Admission is free with a valid university I.D. and a free bus service is provided from all schools. Make sure to bring resumes and covering letters to drop off to potential employers. Visit the Career Centre for more details.

So don't put off the inevitable until later in the year. This will only breed anxiety and stress (as tempting as it may be). The best way to combat fear is to dive right in. Start your career planning and development now!

News From Admissions

We have a new face in the Admissions Office this academic term. Frank Bryant, a Mount BBA student, is liaison assistant with Admissions for his third co-op work term. Frank's main role is to visit high schools in Atlantic Canada, informing students about the Mount and its programs.

In addition, the Student Alumnae Association (SAA) has assisted Admissions with the Ambassador program at the Mount for

several years. Last year was an extremely busy year for the SAA, with Open Campus Days, campus tours, the new High School Mentor Program, a leadership conference and the perennial high school visits. If anyone is interested in being part of the Ambassador Program or is interested in visiting high schools locally and/or in their hometown, please contact Tara at 457-6252 or drop by Evaristus 215. We would enjoy hearing from you!

This Space page is provided by the Picaro to give Societies a place to advertise their events for free. Just submit your advertisement on paper (and disk if possible) to the Picaro office (room 114 in Rosaria). We only publish once every two weeks so bring your advertisements in early to guarantee they get in before the event.

Career Corner

Current Employment Opportunities Full Time Positions

- Various Positions
 - Deloitte & Touche
Deadline: Oct. 1
 - KPMG
Deadline: Oct. 2
 - Price WaterhouseCooper
Deadline: Oct. 5
 - Grant Thornton (Doanne Raymond)
Deadline: Oct. 5

Companies will also be holding information sessions on various dates in October. Please see Career Placement Centre for further details.

****Pick up CACEE applications on disk at Career Placement Centre (\$14).**

• Management Trainee Public Service Commission

- Translators
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Immigration Examining Officer
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Fisheries Researchers
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Ecosystem Conservation Officers
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Oceanography, Marine Biology/Chemistry and more
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Stock Assessment Biologists
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Habitat Biologists
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Mathematical Statisticians
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Financial Officers
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Audit Officers
Deadline: Oct. 5
- Economists/Social Scientists
Deadline: Oct. 5
- *and many more...

Pick up Information/Application Package at the Career Resource Centre. For any interested, the Public Service Commission will be having a Recruitment Information Session on Wednesday, September 16 in Seton 507 from 1:00 - 2:00 pm.

Part Time Positions

- ICT Canada
 - Telephone Representatives
Deadline: none
- National Graduate Registry
 - Campus Reps
Deadline: asap

Workshops/ Information Sessions

Learning with Learning Disabilities - 6 seminar workshop. Students Interested are welcome to attend an informal information session on Wednesday, September 23 at 12:00 pm.

Public Speaking Anxiety Workshop - 7 Seminar Workshop starting September 29 at 12:00 pm.

For inquiries about full or part-time employment or information sessions, or to register for either workshop visit the Career Placement Centre, Evaristus 218 or call 457-6567.

Join a Club or Society...

Student Leadership

Ath/Rec Society- 1st meeting Wed. Sept.23, 4:30-5:00, Vinnies
Bleacher Creatures- 1st meeting Wed. Sept 30, 7-8pm, Gym
Mystic School Band- Call Joanne at 457-6369

Play Intramurals...

They're free, co-ed and run on drop-in basis

Volleyball
Indoor soccer
Badminton
Basketball

Explore the Great Outdoors...

Sea Kayaking- Sat. Sept 26, 10-2, \$45, Reg at Ath/Rec
Skiing - Get a group and ski cheap
Cycling - See Joanne and arrange a tour
Running- Join the club

Get a job with Ath/Rec

Preschool Playgym Teachers
Front Desk Staff
Minor Officials
Intramural Coordinators

Learn Something New...

Students join for 1/2 price.

Try your first class FREE Week of Sept. 21-26

Yoga: Tues Sept 22, 10:40 and Wed. 23, 6:30
Karate: Mon/Thurs 8:00, Wed/Fri 4:30, Sat. 10:45
Tae Kwon Do: Mon/Thurs 7:00
See Ath/Rec for class locations

You Tell Us...

Let us know what you want and we will help you organize it!

Drop by the Athletic/Recreation, Rosaria Centre for more information on these and other Campus Recreation events or call 457-6369.

MSVU - Varsity Team Tryouts 98-99

Women's Basketball

Monday, September 13, 6 PM - 8 PM
Wednesday, September 16 6:30 PM - 8 PM
Thursday, September 17 6 PM - 7:30 PM

Men's Basketball

Tuesday, September 15, 6 PM - 7:30 PM
Wednesday, September 16, 8 PM - 10 PM
Friday, September 18, 4 PM - 6 PM

Women's Volleyball

Monday, September 21, 7 PM - 9 PM
Wednesday, September 23, 5 PM - 6:30 PM
Friday, September 25, 4 PM - 6 PM

COED Badminton

Monday, September 28, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Friday, October 2, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Sunday, October 4, 4 PM - 5:30 PM

Athletics/Recreation and Student Union presents:

"Welcome to MSVU" Information Fair

**Tuesday, September 15,
11:30-1:30 Rosaria (outside cafeteria)**

**Wednesday, September 16,
11:30-1:30 The Link**

This is a great opportunity to find out what the Mount has to offer in terms of Student Societies, University Departments and Offices.

EXPERIENCE JAPAN !

THE JAPAN EXCHANGE AND TEACHING (JET) PROGRAMME

is looking for young university graduates to participate as assistant English teachers in a one year cultural exchange experience, beginning in **August 1999**.

The Consulate General of Japan at Montreal will hold the following information sessions:

DATE: September 24th, 1998

Time:

Place:

AM: 10:00-12:00 Dalhousie University
Council Chambers
Student Union Bldg.

PM: 14:00-16:00 St. Mary's University
Loyola Building 186

For more information:
The Consulate General of Japan
Tel: (514) 866-3429
or check out www.embjapan.can.org

JET Programme application deadline:
Nov. 13th 1998 (postmarked)

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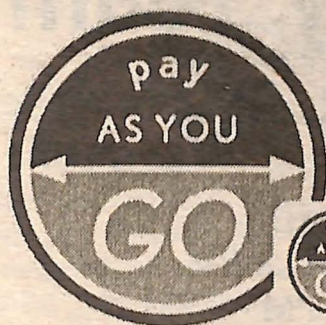
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