

THE PICARO

September 29, 1998

Volume 34 Issue 3

www.picaro.ns.ca



CRISTA STONE

A few years ago many people thought that getting males in residence would take a miracle. I guess the age of miracles has not ended.

Major Changes Made to Life in Residence

BY TIM BOUDREAU WITH SUPPLEMENTARY RESEARCH PROVIDED BY SUSAN BUTT

Mount residence has undergone a facelift this year. It's now home for some male students, and a place where those of age can drink alcohol.

As most know, in the past all residences here were all-female and alcohol-free. But due to the large number of vacancies last year, the Mount's housing office reconsidered some of its policies and made some drastic rules changes.

"After the vacancy last year, I was not prepared to have empty rooms again this year," said housing office manager, Frances Cody. "That's why [the university] chose to take a look and ask why did it happen, which eventually led to the change in policy."

It appears the changes have solved the vacancy problem. "All of the residence rooms have been filled," Cody said. "Residence is actually overbooked and housing has arranged ten temporary rooms for

people on the waiting list."

Originally there were plans to make one of the Birch residences entirely male; however based on enrollment numbers, that Birch became co-ed. "The first two floors are for males and the third floor is for females," explained Cody.

Beyond mixing gender, Birch four also mixes age. Legal-drinking-aged students live with underaged students in an alcohol-permitted residence. "Birch four is a bit of an experiment," said Cody.

The changes in residence policy, as revolutionary as they may seem for the Mount, are not that different from policies present at other universities. "It's my understanding that the Mount was the only university in Canada with a no-alcohol policy," Cody said. "I did a lot of investigating into other universities' residence policies and I picked what seemed to be the best for

this school. [Housing] put a lot of thought into what would give the students the freedom and independence they need in the safest environment possible."

So far, students seem pleased with the changes. Angie McAuley, a 2nd-year public relations student, said: "Men living on campus is a good thing that makes the campus normal. I don't see how it could be a bad thing."

Forest Kenney, one of the males living on campus, said: "Residence gives me a convenient place to live. All the guys talked it over, and we agreed that we're going to treat our surroundings with respect so we don't ruin this opportunity for future students."

When asked what he thinks other students feel about the co-ed Birch, Kenney said: "All I've heard so far from other people is that our Birch is more fun than most other

atmospheres at the university. Our Birch is a meeting place for a lot of different people. Those who come over from the other Birches and Assisi compliment us on our festive nature."

So far, Birch four has received more than one incident report; and an underaged resident was caught drinking there. And there are rumours the Birch partook in late night bouts of mischief, such as mooning security.

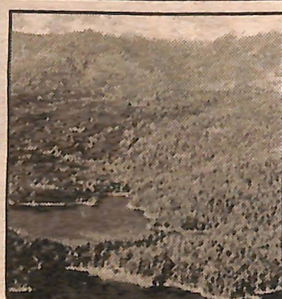
When asked about her predictions of the how the policy changes might work out, Cody said: "This is all on trial. But, I think things would have to go quite badly for us not to keep these new policies in future years. I'm very optimistic. We're looking forward to a really different and exciting year in residence. We're looking forward to the challenge it will bring."

What's Inside...



Where were you last Friday? If you missed the 125th party see some of the pictures.

... page 4



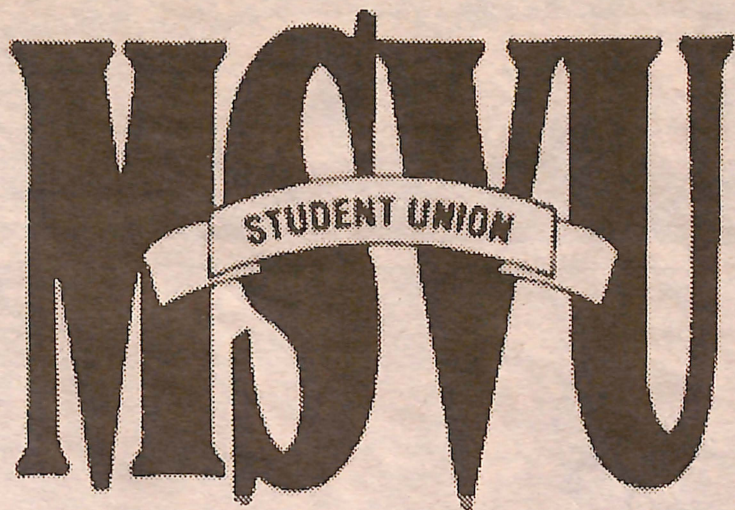
Have you ever wanted to see the world? ... of course you have. See the world through three students' eyes.

... pages 12-15



An eclectic collection of performance dance. Veronique Mackenzie-Bourne brings Committed to Halifax

... page 18



Mount Saint Vincent
University Student Union

Call: 457-6123
Fax: 457-0444

Or visit us on first
floor, Rosaria
Centre

Your Last Chance to Opt Out!!!

Wednesday, September 30

is your last chance to opt out of the Student Health Plan. You must present proof of alternative coverage to Student Union and get a medical waiver signed. The waiver must be taken to financial services for you to be credited.

CFS Day of Action

Enough is Enough!!

If you care about education join CFS and MSVU Student Union at a March for the Day of Action.

**Put People Before
Profits!!**

March from
**King's Quad to
the Legislature
for
students' rights**

**October 16th
at 1:30pm**

Fall Elections

There are still many opportunities for you to get involved in Student Union. Positions that are open include:

- Board of Governor reps
- Senate reps
- Co-op rep
- Professional Studies rep
- International Student rep
- Residence rep
- Off-campus rep
- Non-Traditional Student rep
- Internal Vice-President
- Graduate Student rep
- Tourism & Hospitality rep

Nominations are
Sept. 28th - Oct. 2nd

Campaign week
Oct. 5th - 9th.

**ELECTIONS
ARE
OCTOBER
13th & 14th**

For more information visits
Student Union

Volume 34 Issue 3

Editor-in-Chief
Tim Boudreau

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

**Layout Editor
and Online Editor**
James Tilley

**News Editor and
Advertising Manager**
Mark Sitter

Features Editor
position available

Art & Entertainment
Rhonda Simser

Sports Editor
position available

Classifieds Editor
position available

**Photo Editor
and Copy Editor**
Chris Mooney

Assistant Photo Editor
Matte Stevenson

Distribution Manager
position available

Contributors:

Sheila Brown
Stephen Brown
Susan Butt
Kim Boudreau
Beth Campbell
Janne Cleveland
Chastity Dooley
Craig Ennis
Greg Jackson
Todd Jackson
Christian MacLean
Cheryl McGrath
Sheldon Miller
Crista Stone
Cory Webb

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

The Picaro reserves the right to edit or reject any material, particularly material of libelous, racist, sexist, or homophobic nature. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Picaro or its editors.

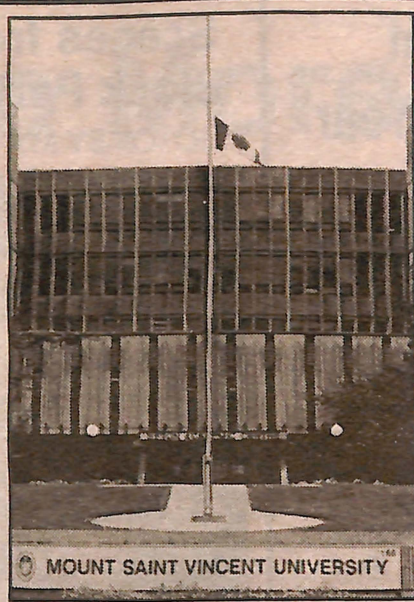
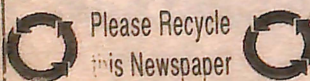
The Picaro is not responsible for or may not share the views of any of the advertisements printed in this paper.

The Picaro

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

email-
picaro@chebucto.ns.ca

online-
http://www.picaro.ns.ca



MATTE STEVENSON

A Loss in the Mount Community

The psychology department regrets to announce the death of Dr. Pauline Jones on Sunday, September 20, 1998.

Dr. Jones graduated with a B.A. in education from Memorial University in Newfoundland in 1961. She went on to graduate from the University of Alberta with a Masters and a Ph.D., both in educational psychology. She spent 1970 as a postdoctoral research student with the department of social psychology at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Following this Dr. Jones worked in the Institute for Research in Human Abilities and became the director of that Institute in 1974. She remained in that position until coming to the Mount. During her time at the Institute she was an associate professor of psychology in the faculty of science at Memorial University Newfoundland.

Dr. Jones came to the Mount as academic vice-president in 1982 and served in that position until 1987. Since that time Dr. Jones has been a professor in the department of psychology.

If At First You Don't Succeed . . .

BY STEPHEN BROWN

For the fourth time in three years, student union (SU) is gearing up to hold a referendum on the school's continued affiliation with the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

Although its first referendum in 1996 resulted in a "No" vote, SU sent a notice of intent for a second referendum to CFS in the fall of 1997. When CFS rules scuttled this attempt (it was submitted only a few days past deadline), SU sent another notice in the spring of 1998. That referendum was to take place in the first two weeks of October, but was once again shoved back, this time by SU itself.

"SU had to do some housekeeping to get everything set up and going," says SU president Sheldon Miller.

"There are different people involved [in SU] every year who come to the same conclusion." Miller also states the 1997 submission set a date for the referendum that coincided with similar movements at other universities across the country, including Memorial University in Saint John's and McMaster in Hamilton. He points to this, as well as to Acadia University's decision to separate — so far unrecognized by CFS — as proof of a nationwide trend to get away from the organization's "militant" views.

In recent years, the national student voice has been divided between CFS and its offshoot, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). The difference between the two is described by Miller as "right wing and left wing." He notes the two groups have the same goals, though they are achieved through different means: CFS is known for protests and student strikes, whereas the more "conservative" CASA for research and lobbying. MSVU is the largest member of CFS east of Quebec. (Dalhousie is a member of CASA, and Saint Mary's is unrepresented.)

When asked what direction he sees MSVU going towards if it does decide to leave CFS, Miller would only say: "Maybe if you have no national affiliation you could take the best of both. You could have the flexibility to support what's right for your students because you're not bound by political association." He also says there is a proposed student organization of Nova Scotian universities that would give a stronger voice to the under-represented East.

When questioned about the allegations that SU is attempting to leave CFS to avoid paying a sizable back-debt, Miller acknowledged that there is a debt in the neighbourhood of \$25,000, but SU has every intention to pay it off. "All back fees must be paid off before we can hold a referendum," he says.

Nevertheless, money is definitely an issue. "[Holding the referendum] is all about the dollars that are involved, and what we're getting back," says Miller. MSVUSU collected close to \$13,000 from students for CFS this year.

Miller doubts the average Mount student would feel any impact from separation. He contends SU policies would be unchanged, and would still have the strength to protect students from rising tuition and crushing debt-loads.

"Last year [SU was] really effective," he says. "Tuition went up five per cent. It would have been easy for [the MSVU budget committee] to have just raised tuition another two per cent. But the university was convinced, through SU presentations, tuition couldn't go any higher.

"Administration recognized that tuition levels aren't sustainable. The university made a commitment not to increase tuition more than five per cent this year."

SU represents student interests in academic issues, security concerns, and other advocacy matters. Beyond sitting on the university's senate, board of governors, budget committee and other sub-committees, SU operates Vinnie's Pub, the Corner Store and Games Room, as well as The Fountain Play Centre, and other services which employ over fifty students each year. It funds societies, organizes activities, such as Orientation Week and Winter Carnival, and produces the Student Handbook.

Take on your Future. Let Canada's Youth Employment Strategy help. Call 1 800 935-5555

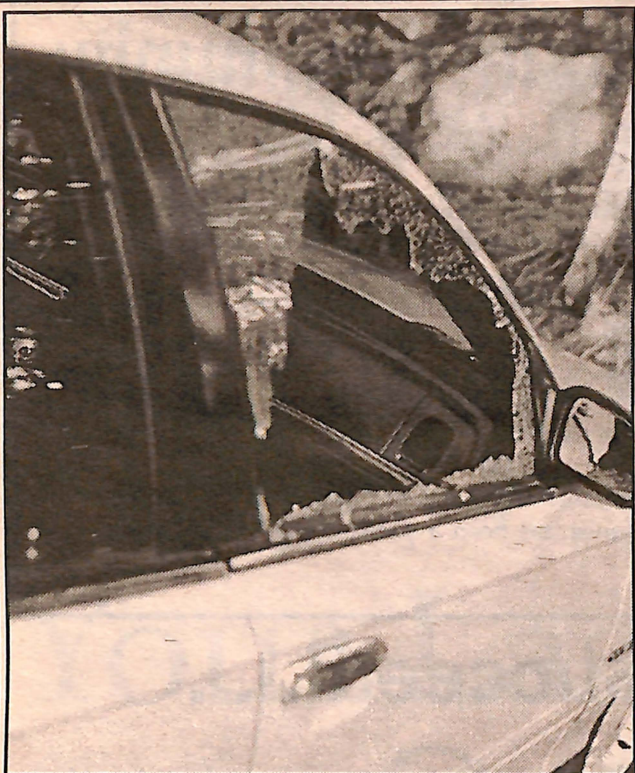
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Get work experience and internship opportunities here at home and abroad. □ Get the latest on-line career planning and labour market information. □ Find out about youth hiring incentives for employers. □ Get tax and interest relief on student loans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Get financial assistance through the Canada Student Loans Program. □ Get Canada study grants if you're a student with dependents. □ Get tax breaks on RRSP withdrawals if you're a mature or part-time student. □ Find out how the Millennium Scholarship Fund might work for you. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Find out how the Canada Education Savings Grant assists parents saving for their children's education. □ Find out how the National Graduate Register helps private companies recruit recent grads for permanent jobs and students for summer, and co-op jobs. |
|--|---|--|

You can also connect with Canada's Youth Employment Strategy by visiting the Youth Resource Network at www.youth.gc.ca



Canada





JAMES TILLEY

Drivers Beware: Another "Smash and Grab" in Rosaria Parking Lot

BY MARK SITTER

Another "smash and grab" in the Rosaria parking lot last week brings the total number of car break-ins at the Mount to over 20 in the last year-and-a-half.

"At 6:45 p.m. on September 16, [Mount] security was notified the right front window of a car in Rosaria parking lot number two was smashed and leather boots and a knapsack, which were originally in the car, were missing," says the Mount's chief of security, Glen Hollett. "The police were also notified."

Security—which, as a matter of policy, wouldn't give out the victim's name—believes the assailant had a smooth technique, since the crime occurred during daylight. "The smash and grab probably only took ten seconds," says Hollett.

Since the robbery, security increased its campus rounds. And police continue to patrol the area regularly.

Although all 20 car break-ins occurred in the four Rosaria parking lots, security doesn't believe there are any patterns among the crimes, because all took place at different hours of various weekdays.

Most "smash and grabs" at the Mount have involved the theft of visible goods left on car seats or floor mats. However, that's not always the case. "Once, a victim swore she hid her purse well underneath the front seat, but it was still stolen," explains Hollett. "That suggests the assailant might have been watching her get out of her car."

So far, cars with alarms have yet to be burglarized.

Security urges everyone to report any suspicious activity around campus immediately to the security office located on the first floor of Assisi. "We're as safe as we make ourselves," says Hollett.

Forecasted Mount Enrollment Up This Year

BY CHERYL MCGRATH

If you're a returning student, you may notice that the Mount is a little different from last year. The number of empty desks is fewer. The hallways in Seton and Evaristus are busier. The percentage of men on campus is even greater.

Believe it or not, it looks like student enrollment at the Mount will be up this year. (However, precise figures won't be available till October.)

At the President's Forum held Thursday, September 17, MSVU president, Dr. Sheila Brown, addressed the issue of increased enrollment.

"Our enrollment is ahead of where [it was] last year. Open Learning and DUET seem to be doing very well; and we expect to see more success this summer," assured Brown.

MSVU has been working very hard to find out why its student enrollment dropped last year and how to attract new students in the future. In fact, the Mount has taken noticeable action in promoting MSVU and making it a more inviting place to study.

Initiatives—such as airing radio ads which emphasize the learning advantages of smaller classrooms; introducing a male residence on campus; installing new computers in the labs; and renovating the south wing of Evaristus—were all put into place to make the Mount more inviting to prospective students.

In addition, Mount students were hired to survey students who applied to the university last year, but never attended. The goal of this project was to see if the Mount could improve its enrollment strategies based on why these people didn't attend. The top reasons why these students no-showed were: They didn't get accepted into the program they wanted; they were having financial/personal difficulties; or their marks were not good enough.

At any rate, one thing's for certain: The Mount is trying hard to keep its students in school and attract more in the future.

Scenes from the 125th Block Party last Friday.

PHOTOS BY MATTE STEVENSON



Career Fair To Provide Students With Job Possibilities

BY CHASTITY DOOLEY

Are you tired of staring into the crystal ball of real-world employment? Are you finishing your degree and wondering what's out there? Wondering what the future holds? If so, on October 5, your future may become clearer.

All students across Nova Scotia are invited to the first-ever Joint Career Fair. It will be the largest of its kind in the province with over 80 organizations searching for potential employees. The Career Fair will be held at the World Trade and Convention Center (WTCC) in Halifax, on October 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Although Mount Saint Vincent, Dalhousie and Saint Mary's Universities organized the event for this year's spring graduates, all university students throughout the province are welcome to attend.

"All students should take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to explore the potential employment opportunities that lay ahead," says Scott James, co-chair of the Career Fair.

The Fair will feature a wide variety of organizations, representing a range of fields from accounting to public relations to information technology. In fact, 87 local, regional, national and

international organizations looking for potential employees will be attending. Some organizations that will be represented are MT&T, Corel, Business Depot, Bell Canada and Campbell's Soup.

"This is a great opportunity for Mount students to get recognized," says Sheldon Miller, president Mount Saint Vincent University Student Union. Miller says student union will provide a shuttle from 9:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to transport students to and from the Career Fair.

Admission is free for students with a valid university I.D. Students are advised to attend the Career Fair dressed in appropriate attire, with their resumes and cover letters in hand. Upon entering the event, students will be given a name tag and a program, which includes: a brief description of each organization present, a booth number for each organization and a floor plan of the WTCC.

For further information on the Career Fair please contact the Career Fair Hotline (902) 494-5516/2515 or visit the Career Fair Web page at <http://careerfair.interuniversity.ns.ca>.

STUDENTS!!!

SMT and Acadian Lines have
a DEAL for you!!!

Student Travel Pack (33 1/3% off)

Buy 4 Tickets, get 2 FREE!!

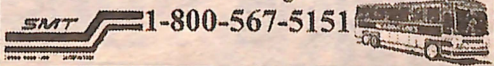
Now Good For Travel In
New Brunswick, PEI and Nova Scotia

10% reduction on One Way!

20% reduction on Return!

Call Your Local Agent or Call

1-800-567-5151



No More Manus Cont'd

BY MARK SITTER

Although the Mount Association of Non-traditional University Students (MANUS) no longer has a presence on campus, many questions regarding what led to its termination are still alive and lingering.

Why didn't MANUS receive money from student union (SU) last year? How exactly did MANUS support itself without SU funding? Did the university administration have a hand in MANUS' downfall?

Here's a look at the events which led to MANUS' undoing:

According to SU records, during a student council meeting in August of 1997, a MANUS representative proposed that MANUS' budget allocation be increased from \$7,000 to \$14,650 to help pay for a new computer system, more bursaries and higher honorariums for its executive and counselling staff. Council, however, defeated MANUS' motion, stating the university offers many similar services and resources, therefore a budgetary increase to cover such costs would be unnecessary.

Current council chair, James Tilley, feels this discussion played a key role in prompting SU to delve further into its relationship with MANUS. "In the past student union would give MANUS money each year without considering why," explained Tilley.

"After a few other council meetings which touched on MANUS-student union issues, student council was prompted to look more closely at the constitutional relationship between the two organizations. And what council found out was that MANUS wasn't a recognized society within student union. This meant that, technically, MANUS was ineligible to receive student union funding." This point of order led SU to withdraw MANUS' budgetary allocation.

After much bureaucratic hoop jumping and discussion, MANUS

became a chartered society, and therefore was re-allocated \$7,000.

However, once other societies heard SU gave MANUS \$7,000—the exact amount which was to be shared among the 26 other student societies—they requested a council meeting to propose a review of MANUS' allocation and to discuss the budgetary discrepancy.

Minutes from the council meeting of September 30, 1998, show all societies represented at the meeting strongly opposed MANUS' allocation. "Half of the funds shouldn't be given to one society and the other half to be split up between 26 other societies," said a representative from the student alumnae association at the meeting. "Other societies on campus have to do a lot of fundraising and they find ways to make things work. Every student pays [SU] fees and every student should be treated on an equal basis."

MANUS argued—and still argues—that it deserved more money because it offered a variety of special services for students, such as all-hours counselling, tutoring and child-care support.

After the meeting, SU reviewed MANUS' budget and mission, and decided MANUS should only receive \$1,775. (Essentially, SU thought many services MANUS provided overlapped with services the university provided, like counselling and tutoring.) Feeling it could raise more money as a non-profit organization, MANUS revoked its SU charter, thus revoked its financial allocation.

"MANUS intended to fundraise as a non-profit organization by applying for government grants and holding anti-poverty workshops at the Mount," explained Susan LeFort, former MANUS president. "MANUS couldn't maintain [its] society status if we wanted to be legally

considered a non-profit organization."

This new strategy, however, didn't work out exactly as planned. "After approaching the university with some fundraising ideas, administrators told [MANUS] that if it wanted to stay on campus, it couldn't do any fundraising off campus," said LeFort.

Dean of student affairs (SA), Dr. Carol Hill, feels there definitely is a problem with student societies fundraising, but denies knowing anything about threatening to expel MANUS from the university if MANUS tried to do so. "As far as I know, asking MANUS to leave was never an issue," she said. "Nevertheless, the university has problems with permitting MANUS—or any other student group—to fundraise. The student group would be going to the same corporate donors the university goes to. That means the group would be competing with the university for the same money. That reflects poorly on both parties; and donors would think neither has its act together."

"Fundraising aside, last year was a very difficult for any student association or society to explore alternative ways of receiving money, because the university didn't have a development officer."

"I know not long ago MANUS submitted a proposal to the university for a \$60,000 centre; but the Mount had next to no money available to support such an undertaking. Perhaps if the proposal consisted of something less costly, [the university] might have been able to help out."

In terms of finances, the 1997-98 academic year was very difficult for MANUS. It raised some money through bake sales and holding anti-poverty workshops off campus. LeFort and certain faculty members, such as Margaret Conrad, gave some of their own money to MANUS. Students even provided the MANUS

lounge with coffee. Neither SU nor the university made any donations.

"MANUS couldn't offer nearly as many services last year as it did in previous years," said LeFort. "Some days I'd be counselling or working with MANUS students till midnight. I'd go with students to welfare appeals and child court on almost a daily basis. The counsellors at the Mount can't provide students with that kind of everyday support. The students I helped are still very thankful. Sometimes they stop me in the street just to say thanks."

Regardless, SU maintains that some MANUS resources overlap university-offered ones. "Student affairs helps students with academics; there are counsellors who help students with life pressures; and there is The Fountain Play Centre for student-parents," said Sheldon Miller, SU president. However, SU, in conjunction with SA, is looking to hire a resource person to work with students in need by referring such students to more specialized assistance.

LeFort can't see why SU and SA decided to hire a resource person instead of coming to MANUS for assistance. "MANUS could provide that type of service," she said. "Considering [MANUS] already is established and has a large community, I really can't understand why they didn't come to us with this idea."

"It seems like there's a major campaign around the university to get rid of us. But, I'm tired of fighting with [SU] and the university [administration]."

Upon leaving, MANUS sold all of its lounge furniture—which was donated by the physical plant—to help pay off its operations debt from last year. The former MANUS lounge is now open to all students as a resource centre and a study hall. SU is in the process of buying furniture for the room.

RUN for the CURE

On October 18th, MSVU will be entering a team in the CIBC Run for the Cure in aid of Breast Cancer research. Last year MSVU had an award-winning team of 142 members, and this year we want more! Please register as soon as possible at the Health Office, 2nd floor Assisi Hall or at the Student Union Information Desk. "Get Involved!"

D*P*RTM*NT *F R*D*ND*NCY D*P*RTM*NT

BY GREG JACKSON

"Escape from the weight of your corporate logo!"

-Frank Zappa, from the song Absolutely Free

So kids, this is my third attempt at trying to finish this. Things keep getting in the way. Lack of sleep, lack of imagination, lack of talent and computer glitches (like misplacing disks) have joined forces to make sure that what you are now reading is, by all accounts, a total rushed job. I keep asking myself what would a professional journalists do in a time like this, when deadlines have passed and the heat is on? Get really drunk? That's a given. But I also think they'd look around at some other people's work and exclaim in a loud, bold voice: "Me Too!!" Then proceed to write something that everyone has heard a thousand times over and fill up valuable print space with drivel that has no new, meaningful content.

That being said, let's talk about the whole Clinton deal. WAIT!!! Before you sigh, roll your eyes and turn the page, hear me out. I promise not to mention the word bl*wj*b. Because it's irrelevant to the piece and to use it over and over again would be excessive. Besides, I doubt whether the editors would allow it to be printed anyway. Hmm...I guess I was right.

On with the show! On Monday I watched two hours of the grand jury sex-travaganza. What I saw disturbed me to no end. Not because it was the President of the United States sweating it out over a beer goggle-esque episode, everyone's had to do that at least once in their life. No, I saw something worse. Something sinister.

Listen: President Clinton is Coca Cola's hand puppet. It's true, people. Really. Every time he had a sip of his tasty beverage, the can was well positioned to make sure that the label was in plain

The Wonder Drug of the New Millennium!*

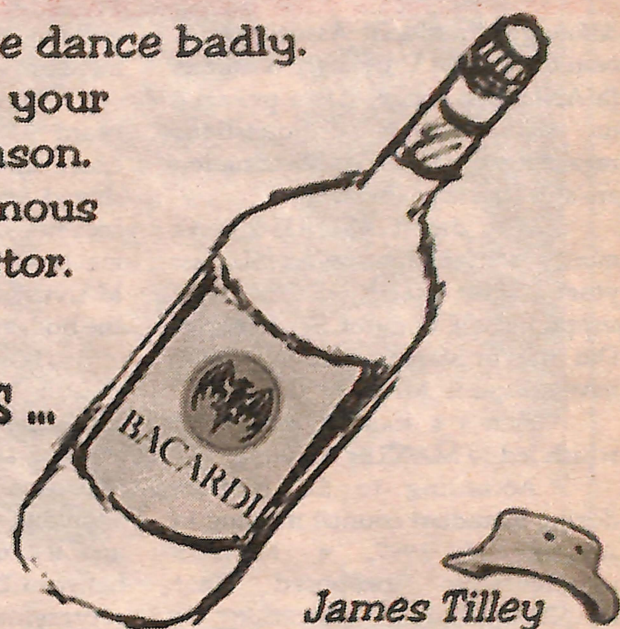
It makes you feel better.

It makes you and your date dance badly.

It makes you want to kiss your date for no apparent reason.

It makes you feel like a famous television-commercial actor.

This new wonder drug is ...



* The Picaro does not endorse the overconsumption of alcohol.
Any effects caused by this drug may be the result of bad marketing

view, not to be obscured by any presidential digits. He might as well have been a little more obvious, he was being honest about everything else.

"My fellow Americans and members of the Grand Jury. I admit it. I love Diet Coke!! Mmmmm...it's impeach-o-riffic!!!!"

It's lead me to believe that the whole thing was a well orchestrated, multi-million dollar ad for Diet Coke, and that the whole Clinton presidency is just a means of getting Coke world wide attention. Rumor has it that whenever he goes to third-world countries, he brings cases of the stuff to hand out to foreign diplomats.

"Gee, I'd like to talk about your human rights policies, Mr. Dictatorman. First though, I think we should discuss it more over a nice cool glass of Diet Coke! Mmmmm...oppressively delicious!"

Are we going to see Jean Chretien testifying that he didn't order students to be beaten to a pulp in B.C. and that he's Coo-coo for Cocoa Puffs? Will the cops be promoting 3-M, makers of the "best darn hippie-controlling pepper spray on the market today?"

"Yes Mr. Gillcup, you must sign the following document stating: That you will never, under any circumstance, protest a vicious dictator's human rights violations again. That you will ignore your constitutional rights and that somebody did, in fact, say MacDonald's. Failure to do so will result in a severe beating from Remington's T-3000 Student 'Demoralizer' (as seen on TV)."

What's next? Are huge national companies going to sponsor hallways in universities? No, now that's just too ridiculous.

**the proceeding may or may not have happened.*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am writing this letter in an attempt to clarify statements made by individuals in the September 14 issue of The Picaro. While "Student Union Does Little to Inform Students of Fee Increases" was presented as a news article it seemed to carry the tone of an opinion piece that did not effectively convey my personal sentiments or those of your student union. Alleging that councillors were engaging in "closed door politics" by passing this one-time levy of \$2.00 per half credit is not only completely false, but it also wrongly damages the credibility of the Mount Saint Vincent Student Union (MSVSU) and those students who are involved with it. This is something that I do not take lightly.

The facts are that the levy issue was debated at two student council meetings in the spring of this year. All regular council meetings are open to all students and it is the responsibility of the speaker of council to provide notice of council meetings to all councillors and to students. I find it bizarre that one of the co-authors of this article, which alleges "closed-door politics," was also speaker of council at the meetings where the levy was debated. It was his responsibility to inform the students of the meetings.

Furthermore, I want to make it explicitly clear that neither I nor council as a whole, felt that this issue "wasn't that significant." We all recognize that students are having a difficult time financing their education and we do not want to further that burden. Reality is that tuition has increased from \$510 per credit in 1994/95 to \$745.50 for this academic year at the Mount. People across the province and the country are being denied access to a university education because they cannot afford it. Those of us who are here are facing the reality of graduating with unmanageable debtloads. This situation is not acceptable, and that is why now more than ever we need a strong, united voice to speak for students. At MSVU your student union is that voice and we have been writing documents, preparing presentations and

arranging meetings to address the issue of student debt. The MSVUSU has been working over the summer with student unions from seven other Nova Scotia universities to bring your concerns to the attention of Government. We will be meeting with the minister of education on September 25.

In closing I would like to restate that MSVUSU is your student organization and that I encourage everyone to get involved. Only through your active participation can we identify your needs and work to meet them. Please stop by the student union office, pick up a schedule for the fall council meetings and hopefully I will see you soon.

Sincerely,
Sheldon Miller
President, MSVU Student Union

Do you have an opinion about the Picaro or any article within it? So you want your concerns brought to the attention of everyone who reads the Picaro? The Letters to the Editor are the perfect solution. Just submit your letter to the Picaro please include a disk and a paper version. To have your letter published you must sign your name to the article. That is a policy for all articles. We must know who the author is before we can print the story.

Do Profanities Belong in *The Picaro*?

An Editor's "Godly" Opinion

BY MARK SITTER

To begin with a presaging digression: As a newspaper editor, I firmly believe in editing articles for context. Hell, if I wanna do my job properly, I really don't have much of a choice, do I?

At any rate, one of last issue's contributors, Craig Ennis, recently came to me with gripe about some edits I made to his story, "Nuns and Books and Lots of Girls." Basically, Craig was upset about a few mild profanities I added to his text. More specifically, he didn't appreciate the additions of compounded adjectives like "wild-ass" and "fun-ass," or the compounded noun "sons-of-bitches."

Ultimately, he told me he didn't want to associate his nom de plume with such words, primarily because his immediate family, whom he planned on sending a copy of the article to, wouldn't appreciate it.

Fair enough.

The last thing I hoped to accomplish by the aforementioned additions was to embarrass him in front of his family. And I told him that. And I apologized for that. And perhaps, had I known those words would have launched such an effect, I wouldn't have edited them in. Pragmatically speaking, there isn't a cornucopia of volunteer writers around here; so why would I bite the hand that feeds me?

All in all, contrary to some rumours I've heard, my editorial intentions in this case weren't pointedly malicious; there wasn't some little horned devil on my right shoulder goading me on to sabotage Craig's work. Those who REALLY know me know I wouldn't do such a thing. And, furthermore, there's no way in hell *The Picaro's* editorial staff would allow me to be part of the team if I were so inclined.

Up to this point, I have filled a fair amount of inches with my feelings towards Craig's take on the wordy situation. Now, I feel, it's only fair I explain why I inserted the edits.

I would like to begin by explaining the circumstances surrounding the papermaking of last issue. Deadline week was Frosh Week. Consequently, since several editors and contributors were heavily involved with the celebratory week, taking care of business in an orderly fashion was next to impossible. In other words, as an editor I had difficulties finding time to go over stories with writers, like Craig. If all were normal, I undoubtedly would have talked with Craig about the edits and undoubtedly we would have reached some understanding.

So, I made some changes—not all of which involved profanities, by

the way. And, for the record, it was understood between Craig and I that changes would be made. And, to be persnickety, he never voiced what changes were and weren't permissible, in his view. Now, being a reasonable person without a desire to be a contract lawyer, I don't think that argument alone is enough to justify my edits.

However, that argument was grounds for me, the acting features editor, to make changes which reflect the tone and context in which the article was written. Now, if you read the article, I'm sure you would agree with me when I say its tone had a vernacular, jocular intensity. The article was about Frosh Week. It was about partying, dancing and good times. Just look at the title: "Nuns and books and lots of girls..." With that said, I feel my edits were perfectly acceptable. They didn't detract from the article in any negative way; in fact, I'd say they contributed positively to its tone. They weren't used in a derogatory, capitulating sense; rather they were used in an everyone-occasionally-swears-when-they're-having-fun sense. If the article were a serious piece about starving children in a developing country, I wouldn't have dared edit in any profanities—because the context would have been inappropriate. Context, and putting things therein: That's what papermaking's all about. And having contextual understanding, a good editor does make...

As I mentioned earlier, Craig's major concern about the profane additions was that they made the article unshowable to his family. And I don't doubt the truth to that statement. However, *The Picaro's* primary readership doesn't consist of the parents and siblings of students; rather, it consists of students and other members of the university community. And I, along with the rest of *The Picaro* editors, feel that articles with occasional profanities are acceptable for the readership. Students have the rest of their lives to conform to conservative conventions of real-world society. That's why they should have "wild-ass" fun at school, while they still can. In my opinion, university is the one place on the planet where creative, alternative, if not offensive, ideas should be encouraged, not repressed. Different ways of saying things, writing things, lead to different ways of seeing things, which, I believe, ultimately lead to new, innovative, "fun-ass" ideas. And isn't that why most people go to school?

Regardless, who am I to decide



EditorsNotes

Jim Boudreau
Editor-in-Chief

At some point a guy has to cross the line...

Very recently, something truly frightening happened to the students of Dalhousie University. As I'm sure you have all heard, or read by now, a dangerous fugitive from the States, William Shrubbsall, was caught hiding out at a Dalhousie frat house. There has been a great deal of coverage on the Shrubbsall issue in the *Dalhousie Gazette*, including an editorial by the Editor-in-Chief, Natalie MacLellan. It is MacLellan's editorial which I wish to address today.

The editorial in question is entitled "Just when you think it's safe..." and the connection of this title to the content of the piece should be rather self explanatory. MacLellan addresses the very real sense of fear, and uneasiness that the Shrubbsall issue has understandably created. She ends her editorial with the statement, "I thought I was safe, thought I knew who I could trust. That's all gone to hell. I don't want to fear men for the rest of my life, but I'm beginning to wonder if I have a choice in the matter."

This sort of reaction, I believe, is perfectly warranted. How can women feel safe, anywhere, when a dangerous beater of women has been found hiding out on a campus which we all believed to be relatively secure? Where can a woman be safe? Who can a woman trust? How can she trust anybody? These are very pertinent, and perhaps unanswerable questions. Or maybe there are answers to these questions, as unsatisfactory as they may be; a woman is not completely safe anywhere, she cannot fully trust anybody.

I would like to discuss, for a moment, the effect that this type of fear, as legitimate as it may be, has on the individuals of the male sex. Let's talk about myself for a moment, and my own feelings about the fear woman may experience. I empathize with a woman's plight in not feeling safe around men, and I do my best not to portray myself as the type of man that a woman need fear. I don't stare profusely, I don't aggressively pursue, I don't stand too close, or sit too near, if I run into a woman late at night, walking down the street, I keep my distance. These are things I feel like I should do in order to avoid creating the type of fear in a woman that apparently any strange man is capable of instilling. I feel like I couldn't approach a lone woman on the street in a way which will let her know that I can be trusted, that I won't rape her right then and there. The reason is that I am a man, and when I encounter the Jane on the street I'm compelled to wonder "Am I frightening her? Am I being respectful enough of her personal space? Do I strike her as the type of guy who would hurt her?"

So what's a guy to do if he wants to meet a woman, a potential (dare I say it) soul mate? My point is, that a guy can keep a respectful distance from a woman he doesn't know in order to avoid making her feel uncomfortable, but eventually a guy has to take a step forward, has to cross the line of respectful distance. One might argue that guys should wait for the go ahead from women before approaching; the green light, the thumbs up that lets you know that the woman trusts you and wants to meet you. But to this I say, shouldn't a guy be able to approach a woman that he would like to meet? Women are told that they are allowed to choose the person they would like to be with, isn't a man afforded the same right? Certainly once a woman displays a wish for the man to leave her alone he has the obligation to do so, but shouldn't he be able to initially approach her at his own behest if he so desires?

At times I feel somewhat powerless, when I read editorials like MacLellan's. I wish to give validation to the real feelings of fear which women experience, but the stance taken in editorials like MacLellan's leaves little room for guys, nice guys (like me?), to break through the polite distance people feel the need to uphold. It seems that guys are left with few options. How can I prove that I'm the type of guy who can be trusted if a woman would never trust me? The issue has me all confused, I am perplexed to the Nth degree. What to do, what to do...

whether or not profanities are acceptable in today's society? I don't get paid enough to solve that moral dilemma. There are, however, certain regulatory bodies in this country that make that decision. For instance, according to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) language standards, the profanities added to the article are

perfectly acceptable for broadcast over Canadian airwaves.

Now, as far as I see it, what's good enough for the CRTC is good enough for *The Picaro*, but, then again, maybe I'm just one of those "sons-of-bitches," who spend all their time playing editorial god... Nah, the money ain't even good enough for that.

Welcome to the Mount

BY SHEILA BROWN, PRESIDENT MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY

I am very pleased to welcome new and returning students to Mount Saint Vincent for the 1998-99 academic year. The summer has been a busy one for the Mount community. In July we welcomed many new students for "Next Step," a program which included early registration, placement tests, an introduction to the Mount for students and their families, and an opportunity to mix and mingle at a barbecue supper.

Our major initiative over the summer has been upgrading the Mount's computer systems and network infrastructure. New, more stable systems, with better capacity and flexibility, will greatly enhance the computer resources available to students and faculty alike and are a significant addition to our academic infrastructure.

Campus improvements have also been underway over the summer. The lower level of Evaristus South wing has undergone major renovations to replace some mechanical systems. This has allowed us to completely renovate three classrooms which have been upgraded for computer usage and given a really attractive facelift. As well, you will notice some improvements to campus walkways, particularly on the hill going down from Evaristus.

The academic year 1998-99 marks the Mount's 125th Anniversary. Founded in 1873, Mount Saint Vincent has long and distinguished history. Over the years we shall celebrate our accomplishments and look toward our future. We had a fine start to our celebrations when Rosa Parks, known as the "Mother of the modern civil rights

movement" honoured the University with her presence in early August and accepted an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in recognition of her leadership in the field of equality and human rights. The event struck a chord with many, the auditorium was full and nation-wide coverage followed in print, on TV and on radio.

Alumnae Reunion, held in August, also featured an Anniversary theme. Other events planned for the coming year are a series of lectures by distinguished scholars in women's studies, changing displays in the Library of scholarly work by faculty and alumnae and a community celebration during the afternoon of Friday, September 25. Please mark the date in your calendar. The Mount will host the Third Annual Atlantic Universities Teaching Showcase on October 24. The Art Gallery will feature, in September, work by artist Marlene Creates who has also created a special anniversary installation around the campus. You will see a series of new markers highlighting locations significant in the Mount's history, incorporating intersecting text—the "official" text drawn from various University publications and a contrasting text, giving comments from a Mount student or alumna. My personal favorite is the "rhubarb patch"!

Many students took courses over the summer here on campus or through distance education. As well, we welcomed many international visitors to the campus, including 24 Hungarians who participated in a three-week entrepreneurship program, offered by our Department of Business and Tourism and the Centre

for Women in Business. Major funding for this three year program is provided by the Canadian International Development Agency. Faculty worked on campus or farther afield, visiting research institutes, libraries, archives and laboratories, pursuing their research, scholarly and professional activities, attending conferences and preparing for the new academic year.

So now that year is upon us, we are very pleased that you have chosen to attend Mount Saint Vincent and I trust that you will be challenged and stimulated by your courses. I know that you will find that the Mount is a great place for you to get to know each other, your professors and the staff. I hope you will also enjoy our facilities—from the wide range of programs and activities in Athletics and Recreation and our beautiful campus, to our recently renovated residences—and make use of the wide range of services we offer in support of student life.

As well, if your time permits (for we are aware that many of you are engaged in paid employment), I encourage you to participate in the clubs and societies that the Student Union offers and to consider involvement in student governance. An excellent academic program, combined with co-curricular activities, is a terrific foundation for the future.

I trust that your experience at Mount Saint Vincent will be rewarding and that your goals and aspirations will be met. Each of you brings something to our community and we are delighted to have you here.

Student Protest Oct 16th

BY TODD JACKSON

On October 16, the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) will be sponsoring a protest march in support of freezing tuition. The march will start at 1:30 p.m. at the King's University quad, make a few pit stops at some of the banks downtown, and finally end at Province House. The Mount is currently a member of CFS and asks that its students show up.

CFS unites 400,000 students who are members of 60 colleges and university student unions across Canada. The Federation was formed to give students a strong united voice, provincially and federally. CFS works to build a high-quality system of post-secondary education which is accessible to all by lobbying, conducting research, protesting and organizing members.

The march is also in protest of certain measures in Paul Martin's last federal budget. Namely:

- a ban on student loan bankruptcies until ten years after graduation
- banks can now set loan rules (behind closed doors)
- a new loan remission program that can only help a few graduates, and not those who are especially needy
- a new measure requiring students to pay five extra years worth of interest in order to get loan remission
- the Millennium Scholarships—which will only help 7% of debtors

Students at the march will be asked to support increased social spending, freezing of tuition and the establishment of a national system of grants. Between 1993 and the year 2000, \$3

billion will be cut from federal cash transfers to the provinces for post-secondary education.

It is clear what the government is doing to the financing of higher education. Education is being thrown to the wolves (oops, I meant to say banks) and becoming more privatized. When I started at the Mount ten years ago tuition was about \$1,800 for a full-time student. The average student debt load was \$10,000 to \$15,000. Canada Student Loans were administered and guaranteed by the federal government and there was even a Royal Bank branch on campus with three full-time employees who were able to serve students.

Now tuition is about \$3,800 for a full time undergraduate student. N.S. Student Loans are increasingly being administered by the Royal Bank. The average student debt load will be \$25,000 (before you even have a job!!!). The bank branch is gone, replaced by an ATM. Maybe that says a lot about our future.

Where to get the funding to freeze tuition and increase social spending? I hate to sound like a broken record but if the truth hurts...increase the taxes on the rich and big businesses. In 1993 the department of finance released a report saying that over 66,000 profitable corporations had paid no taxes in the previous year. The same study showed that big corporations owed over \$36 billion in deferred taxes to the government. In 1991 Statistics Canada released a study stating that the debt was created by tax loopholes (50%) and high interest charges (44%), while very little was caused by social

spending (6%).

Of course it will be very hard to convince the government to raise taxes on the rich and big business. An article that appeared in *The Chronicle Herald* on July 4, 1998, pointed out that the Liberal party received approximately \$800,000 from Canada's big financial institutions. The politicians understand that old motto, "Whoever pays the piper gets to call the tune." The only way to get the government and big business to listen to students is to take to the streets and protest. It makes them nervous.

On October 16, get out and support the freeze-tuition march. CFS is counting on you to make a difference!!!

(Stats provided by Statistics Canada, Ontario Federation of Labour, department of finance, Canadian Federation of Students)

CALNEN PHOTOGRAPHY

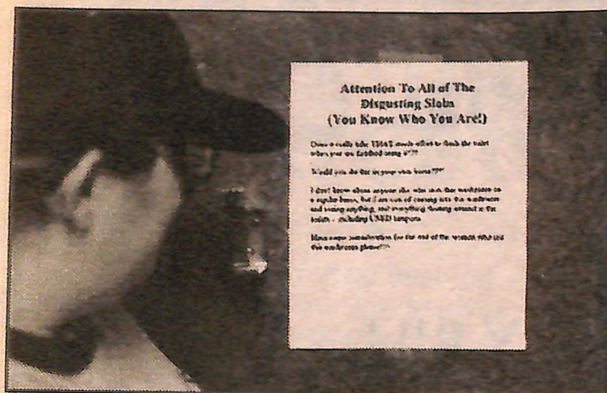
Official Photographer for the Class of 1999



We'll be here on campus to photograph graduates **starting October 27th**

Sign up for sitting times at the information desk in Rosaria Hall

1469 Birmingham Street, Halifax Ph. 423-8840



Pottie Problems

BY RHONDA SIMSER

Recently I went to the bathroom in Rosaria, you know the one down the hall from the corner store, and much to my surprise, there was a sign on the walls, and the backs of all the stall doors. The sign crudely addressed the dirty-bathroom problem at the mount. I do not know who put it up, but I congratulate her to no end. I too, am tired of having to regurgitate my lunch because of tampons and pee floating around in the toilets. It disgusts me. Whoever put up this sign should step forward and take a bow. It may have been a little crude, but it was needed. At a time in our lives where we are mature adults, the least a person can do is flush the toilet. Take a look at the sign in the bathroom, and think to yourself, are we in a university, or are we in an elementary school?

Take Back The Bullshit

BY STEPHEN BROWN

I am not going to feel guilty anymore that I used my virginity on the anniversary of Marc Lepine's murder of fourteen women at the Montreal Polytechnique. I am not going to feel guilty anymore that I did it again the next year. And the year after that. Different women, different year, different feelings, same day. I didn't plan it; it was just bad luck.

I am not going to feel guilty anymore that I have been with different women in different ways. They have all been with different men, before and after me. I am not going to feel guilty anymore that each of them was raped before and after me — in different ways — because I did not rape them.

I am not going to feel guilty anymore that I did use them because they did use me. That's what it's all about, right?

I am not going to feel guilty anymore about what women do to their bodies to look attractive. I do not make them do those things. I do not define the beauty artifice that makes them do those things. I do not subscribe to it. I have my own aesthetic myths that I believe in and sacrifice pieces of myself to. My shoulders hurt all the time from that old weight-lifting injury, and I lose an hour a day to the ritual of self-beautification — an hour I could be using to live, love, study. And I have no one to blame but myself.

I am not going to feel guilty anymore about menstruation, PMS, and pregnancy, because I had no more control over my birth-sex than you did.

You may bleed, but masturbated semen makes a bigger mess, and they still haven't found the cure for APH (adolescent public hard-on). PMS hurts but so does blue-balls. If I could get pregnant, I'd take the pill too.

I am not going to feel guilty anymore that He wouldn't go down on you, because I will. I am not going to feel guilty anymore that you might gag on what I ejaculate, because I might gag on your lubrication and menstruation. I am not going to feel guilty anymore about being curious, because you were too, once.

I am not going to feel guilty anymore that He didn't love you because I yet might, but you probably won't return it.

I am not going to feel guilty anymore that He hit you, because He hit me too, and so did She. Perhaps you were strong and did not cry, but I wasn't and I did, because I'm a wimp, I guess.

I am not going to feel guilty anymore for all the wars that have been waged and all the crimes that have been committed by people with whom I share genitalia and nothing more, because I did not wage them and I did not commit them.

And I am not going to feel guilty anymore that you are afraid because I am too. I am not going to feel guilty anymore that you need to band into a potential lynch mob — like a Southern 'coon hunt — to feel empowered. I am not going to feel guilty anymore that you can't walk the streets at night in safety, because neither can I.

FRANK'S WORLD

Toeing The Line

BY STEPHEN BROWN

Now that she is in my room and on my bed, I have no confidence. I'm sitting at the foot of the bed, leaning against a bulwark of pillows protecting me from the discomfort of the corner against the wall. The woman is lying on her back, her head in my lap. I am stroking her hair gently, pulling it away from her scalp, running my fingers along its length until it all falls away, back against her head and my engorged stomach. We had picnicked on pizza, before — but now I am lightly pulling knots out of her hair with unctious fingers. Earlier she had let me play with her breasts, but I had been too rough and they were sore. I like this better. We are watching *Evil Dead II*, starring Bruce Campbell.

Frank is here too, sitting on my weight bench — the only use it seems to get anymore.

Without looking at him, I tell him: "I was so cool."

He nods. I'm telling him how I got her onto my bed.

"We'd been talking for a while when I said: 'You do of course realize that I have been hitting on you for the last half hour.' It wasn't a question."

"She said: 'Oh, really. I hadn't noticed.'"

"Of course not," I said, "I'm terrible at it."

Frank smiles. So had she. We had talked some more — she and me, at that party where we met — enjoyed each other's company some more. I had given her my number, written on the back of someone else's business card. She called me. I hit on her again — and again — with some wisened, more chary brand of aspiration and presumption. And here we are.

"So is that your line, now?" Frank asks.

"No." I said, insulted. "I don't have a 'line'."

"Sounds like one to me."

"I was just trying to be confident. I wasn't try to con her into the sack like some Three's Company's Larry clone. How pathetic can you get." This also is not a question.

"You were being someone you weren't." Frank says.

"No! I was being who I am so she could see how cool that me is, and know if she wanted to be with me or not, without having to go through all that confessions-of-a-mask bullshit." I am upset and tense, but pull no harder at her hair. She moves slightly, and exhales.

"You were 'trying' to be confident. Your description. A concious effort to be confident. That doesn't sound like someone being himself." He picks up my guitar, manages to strum out a few notes before Harley Chaser, Led Zeppelin's lawyer, barges in with a writ of some kind and is gone just as fast.

I yammer out: "The only concious effort was in not buckling under to that over-riding dogma that I am not attractive and women are not sexual, and that if I just try to be a good friend to her then she will obviously realize how cool I am and want to be with me."

"That doesn't work." Frank says.

"No! It doesn't. The confidence wasn't something I wanted to project onto her — it was something inside me, to make sure that what I really wanted to say was what I said. I didn't want to say all those platonic nonsenses when it was eros on my mind. I mean — all those years hiding behind that

fake, sexless me — that was the lie. THAT was pathetic. Not this. This was the coolest thing I've ever done.

"This was me saying this;," and here I look down at the top of her head and speak to her, "I like you. I enjoy your company. I like talking to you — you make me feel comfortable. I want to spend more time with you. If we keep liking each other as much as we do right now, then I will want to be with you, because concomitant with this all, you are a wonderfully sexually engaging woman. Are you game?" And I am satisfied with this; I feel no twinge of unknowing — like butterflies breeding — in my gut.

"Isn't that what a line is?" Frank says. "A practiced-from-the-cuff remark that makes your layability plain. What's more packed with meaning than 'What's your sign, baby?'" He imitates Austin Powers.

"It's not a line." I say.

"Do you plan to use it again?" He asks.

I look down at the top of her head again. For the only time that night, she looks back up at me, smiles. There is nothing sure about this moment, nothing permanent.

"Sure." I say back to him, without looking away from her. "If I mean it."

"It's a line." He says, and then he doesn't say anything more.

The movie plays on, and she returns to watching it; fidgets with her hands, linked over her belly and womb. I sit back in blunted silence and pull flat faux-blond hair back against my chest. In a while I'll try to get her shirt off, but right now my confidence is gone.



NO MONTHLY BILL.
NO CREDIT CHECK.
NO CONTRACT.



Wondering where to get
the new "Pay As You Go" cellular?



Available at These Locations

*Rogers Cantel Inc. **AT&T Corp. Used Under License.

Worldwide
Communication
2760 Robie St
453-3388

Worldwide
Communication
100 Ilsey Ave
468-3388

Cantel Booth
Penhorn Mall
452-2421

Celluland
752 Bedford Hwy
457-1144

Celluland
Scotia Square
423-2292

The Cantel Store
Hlf. Shopping Ctr
455-1778

The Cantel Store
201 Chain Lake Dr
450-5226

RadioShack.
FUTURESHOP

Women March to Take Back the Streets of Halifax, No More Shit

BY JANNE CLEVELAND

I have just returned from the annual Take Back The Night March, which is always held the third Friday evening of September. For those of you who don't know what this even is all about, it's an annual event at which those women (and some men) gather to protest the fact that women are constantly being made aware of how unsafe it is to be women out at night.

Traditionally, there is a period of gathering at Grand Parade Square during which various women perform music (like our very own Joanne Bond, of the band The Three Helens), read poetry, and speak from their experiences as women in a hostile world. After the entertainment, which included a few rousing choruses by The Raging Grannies, and brief addresses by such notable women as Jackie Stevens of the Avalon Sexual Assault Centre, and NDP MLA Yvonne Atwell, the women marched en masse through the streets of Halifax, escorted by the local constabulary. (The fact that a police escort is necessary for such an event is ironic, but I will refrain from making further comment here.)

At every March, men are invited to join the gathering, and then are asked to refrain from marching

because this is an event in which women can find empowerment by taking back the streets that often pose the dangers. It's about women's safety, the lack of it, and our right to it.

This year's March was organized (and very well, I might add) by Patty Thompspon of the Dal Women's Centre with the help of some committed volunteers who came early to hook up sound equipment; set up tables of juice, hot chocolate, muffins, t-shirts; and distribute sheets of chants and placards for those who desired them. The same volunteers stayed afterwards to dismantle the equipment and truck the left-overs back to the Dal Women's Centre. In other words, they did the grunt work that never gets properly acknowledged. Let's just say these gals did a great job of organizing a truly woman-spirited event.

The only evidence of hostility during the gathering came when one man walked rapidly (ran?) through Parade Square shouting that he was a man. I am still unsure of who he was trying to convince. Some mysteries are best left unsolved.

One woman, Suzanne, who self-identifies as a Miq'maq woman

and Wiccan priestess, gave an impassioned address that drew cheers and applause several times. She reminded us that in the early days of Second Wave Feminism (ask your feminist professors for clarifications) the number of Marchers would have been greater than today. Not having been in Halifax during that time in the 1970s, I can't argue. What I can say is that I don't think they would've been louder or more spirited. I was proud to be among the women; and I'm still hoarse.

The March itself comprised of a wonderful blend of younger and older women of a variety of cultural, racial and class groups, and sexual orientations.

The streets of Halifax rang out with the sound of women's voices raised in chants like "Women unite, take back the night", "Yes means yes, no means no, however we dress, wherever we go", and my personal favourite "No more patriarchy, no more shit."

The only confrontational incident I witnessed came when a very belligerent drunken man stood in the road, refusing to let one particular woman pass by. He moved fast enough, however, when a rather

diminutive female police officer physically hauled him out of the way and told him firmly to get lost. Not all men are assholes, of course, but this one obviously was. The woman rejoined the march unmolested, which was the whole point of the event.

What was particularly encouraging and empowering about the March were the number of vehicles that stopped to honk their support, as well as the number of individuals at various spots who applauded and cheered us on.

I came away from this even feeling the power that comes from standing up and speaking out against the hostility that makes it necessary for women to constantly be on our guard, particularly when we are out alone at night. No one deserves to be treated like prey. Certainly, the woman who was found severely beaten this week in a Dartmouth schoolyard, didn't deserve such a fate. Incidentally, she died in hospital in the afternoon just prior to the Take Back the Night March. Now tell me there's no need to take to the streets to march and protest the conditions that make that sad end possible.

Everything You Hate About the Student Loans Process, And Then Some

BY CHRISTIAN MACLEAN

It's 8:15 in the morning and I'm standing outside the Student Loans Office on Brunswick Street. Huddled up drinking a mug of caffeine, I await the noise of doors being unlocked at 8:30. THIS time they won't get away from me, I think to myself. THIS time they can't avoid the phone... I pause to sip coffee.

For three weeks I have been trying to get through by phone. Weeks earlier, I had called to find out the status of my file, and I was told by the oh-so-enthusiastic voice-mail that "additional documents were needed to complete my loan application." And so began my futile attempt to find out which papers they needed. Call after call awarded me with only busy signals, and in despair, I programmed the office's number on speed dial... it was at this moment of weakness that I decided to visit Student Aid in person. Which explains why I stand here this early in the morning. Ah. Student loans. Everyone seems to have a sob story about them. But what exactly are they?

To use their terms, the Canada Student Loans program is a program designed to help both full-time and part-time students finance their

education. Essentially, a loan to help you pay your way through your degree. And who doesn't need help at \$700+ for one course? All for the sake of education. All for the sake of education. I sigh. Right. Back to Student Loans.

Of course, the government simply won't give you money because you want to get a post-secondary education. There are rules of eligibility which you can read about in the Canada Student Loans Program Information Guide. I guess the most important thing is to prove to Student Assistance Office that you don't have enough money to pay for your education on your own. They look at how much money you make, how much money your parents make, what you've saved up, what you haven't saved up, how you spent your Aunt Bertha's birthday cheque... Merciless these folks are. Merciless. But anyway, if you fit all these requirements, you can apply.

After you've applied, the waiting process begins. Generally, it takes six to eight weeks for your loan to be processed; if, that is, you've filled everything out properly, and included the right documents (which I didn't). And if, in this gruelling

process, you have any questions, The Mount's Financial Aid Office (Evaristus 419) is a great place to go. The person you'd want to contact would be Frances Cody. She'll help you with your loan, and can also help you gain information about your file that you might not necessarily be able to get on your own.

Once you get your loan, you go about paying for your tuition and fees, et cetera. Obviously. The loan stays interest-free while you are in school. Your debt, however, begins to accumulate interest six months after you finish school. That's why, to avoid paying it off, you either go back to school or never leave; but then you need another loan to be in school, and then you're in more debt... Ah. The Student Loan Cycle.

Really, though, it's not as bad as it seems. Well, maybe. But if it wasn't for this program, a lot of students (including myself), wouldn't be able to go to school. Then again, if I wasn't mixed up in this, I wouldn't be standing outside an empty office, drinking a cup of really tasteless coffee. Give and takes. It's all about the give and takes.

I hear keys jingling. Gotta jet.



Volunteer Opportunity

Position: Student Buddy
1st meeting: Sept 30, 1:30 - 2:30
Rosaria room 105

The mission of Best Buddies Canada is to provide an opportunity for university and college students to be matched in one-to-one friendships with a person with a developmental disability.

Best Buddies International was originally founded in the USA in 1989. Today there are over 200 chapters involving nearly 8,000 volunteers.

Any questions contact:
Sherelle Franks
Phone: 457-4862

Dirty Amsterdam: An Adolescent Perspective

BY MARK SITTER

Before I slide into any discourse about the dirty little town I once called home, I wanna set the record straight. That line in *Pulp Fiction* about drugs in Amsterdam—you know that one about "It's legal to buy it, it's legal to sell it, blah, blah, blah"—is all bullshit. Crapola. Or, as we say in Dutch, "Stront!" Get this: The 1976 Opium Act prohibits the importing, trafficking and possession of "soft" drugs in Holland. How 'bout dem apples? Technically, marijuana is illegal in Amsterdam. Son-of-a-bitch! However, selling or possession of 30 grams or less of marijuana or hash is only a misdemeanor—as is riding your bike without a reflector. In other words, although soft drugs are technically illegal, punishment for selling or possessing them is never really enforced. In essence that is what Dutch people are all about: Tolerance. It's in our Calvinist blood.

Anyhow, drug scene aside, man, there's sooooo much I could say about Amsterdam: the gabled buildings, canals, museums... Man, I love that stuff. And I love reading about it; it brings back great memories. But, ya know, that's all anyone really writes about Amsterdam. And, since I'm insecurely kool and I label myself a I'm-too-tough-to-be-cliche type, I reckon I mi'se well try me some'n different... So... Okay, I'm gonna write a little how-to piece for young travellers. (How original!!!) How-



Mark (right) and his friend James feeding the birds

to what, though? Hmm. To keep it fresh and new, it can't be too lugh brow. Rather, it must be low brow. Something shockingly inappropriate, after all. Amsterdam is full of the inappropriate—just look at my lead. I'll lie and exaggerate with this piece—I'm sure no one will take it too seriously. Never... Okay. Hmm. So, how 'bout how-to do a day in Amsterdam on the cheap and dirty? Or just the dirty? Yeah. Okay...

So, if you plan on going to Amsterdam but wanna save as much cashola as possible—and you're not afraid of breaking the law or getting dirty—here's whacha gotta do... But before I say anything else, I gotta throw in a little caveat: I haven't lived there since '95, so my prices and knowledge of the area might be a bit outdated; but, I'm sure you won't hold thatslut against me, right?

Okay, enuff of that preamble bullshit. So say you're just arriving in A'dam. You get off the train at Centraal Station, right near the G-spot of town. What you think you're thinking is, I've been travelling on that stupid train for eight hours. I'm tired. I'm hungry, I really want to find a hostel and crash for a couple hours. But, what you're really thinking is: I'm in Amsterdam. I wanna smoke up, I wanna see a live sex show, I wanna get dirty... (Or maybe that's just what your repressed Canadian psyche is thinking.) Regardless whence comes the idea, here's whacha do to make it happen in A'dam: First, you throw your rucksack in one of those lockers at the Station—they cost something like \$4.00 a day. (FYI: The guildler is roughly \$0.88 on the Canadian dollar.) I know that's not dirt cheap like getting a locker at a train station here, but the thing you gotta remember about Europe is that everything is more expensive (and smaller). So accept that and quit comparing stuff to Canadian prices. Get over you and your bourgeois mentality!

So, after your luggage has been taken care of, your first stop is the Sex Museum on the Damrak—Main street, if you will—which is about one-hundred metres straight on from the main entrance of the Station. After paying a couple guilders to get in, you take your time, learn about the history of beastiality through pictures and paintings. You ponder the golden age of prophylactics, then hunker down in a video booth and watch the latest local production. You even take a few pictures for your family back home. You shed your parochial occidental taboos of sex and nakedness. You soak it up baby, you're in Amsterdam!



Sex Museum anyone?!

Once you've filled your shorts for with that experience, you feel it's time for the real deal. So you cross the canal and hop a few blocks east, to the "Wallen," better known as the red-light district. You take a look around. You look at the female prostitutes in the red-fluorescent-lighted glass doorways, all lined up one after another like sideways dominos. You feel a little conscience—especially when you see one who reminds you of your sister. And when you see the sad looking ones from south-east Asia who really don't wanna be caged behind glass doors. But then you get usta it, eventually. As far as I can tell, that's what the human spirit's all about: adapting to situations, which, in this instance, means becoming desensitized to what you would consider back home to be a moral tragedy. But, hey, as we say in Dutch: "Zo is het leven." (Such is life.)

continued on page 14

Vivre La France; Vivre Bonheur; Vivre La Coupe Du Monde!

BY BETH CAMPBELL

So a week before my job in France is about to start, I decide to try and get myself a ticket to get over there. Not only was the soccer World Cup '98 about to start, but Air France had just gone on strike. Needless to say, it was a bit of hassle to find myself a flight. My summer started out with a four-day delay in Toronto, then British Airways took me to London for a day and then on to Paris—quite a long haul. There I was, in the airport metro station, trying to catch my train wading, with my luggage, through the multitudes of drunk "football" fans. Another hour of train riding took me to my final destination of Albert, France. I could go on



Beth and a friend Carlos (Captain of the Colombian Soccer Team)

and on about my summer job at Canadian WWI memorials, but instead I will dwell on what life is like in northern France.

First of all, there are a couple of things that take a bit of getting used to. Everybody smokes, anywhere, anytime. Whether it's the guy at the train station ticket wicket or the ten-year-old at the bar with his parents. The French take their dogs (little nippy things) with them everywhere: the grocery store, the bus, restaurants...not a pleasant thing when you're trying to eat your crepes sucrés (yummmmm...crepes...) and a dog is lifting his leg on your chair. Something else you notice right away is the lack of "family" cars. All you see are mini cars, scooting in and out as if they're the only ones on the road (and don't expect anyone to ever stop at a crosswalk). The only four-door car I saw was an ambulance, so forget about seeing mini vans.

Grocery shopping is an experience of its own. It's hard not to be freaked out when you notice milk and eggs sitting on shelves. Apparently if you zap the heck out of that stuff, there is no need for refrigeration.

Everyone always talks of the exquisite French cuisine...well that fine French fare costs a pretty penny (but is well worth it). Even a McDo's (French slang) "Royale with cheese" menu goes for \$10 (this is including beer, which is cheaper than pop). That is why I lived on baguette and camembert, and, of course, wine. Oh, that French wine. You could snag yourself a bottle for \$1.50. I'm no connoisseur, but the cheap stuff doesn't taste half bad.

Speaking of wine and stuff—the French really know how to have a good time. I was fortunate enough to have experienced a couple of "nuits blanches en boîte" (which translates to evenings at the discotheque). It's cheap; you pay about \$7.50 at the door and that includes a free (alcoholic!) drink. Not a bad

deal, and they don't skimp on the alcohol like here. Be sure that if you're the DD, to ask for "coca," "coke" might bring y something white and powdery. The disco is always packed. There are all kinds of different rooms with themes—from outer space to the 80's. Video cameras with TV screens are in every corner so you can watch yourself dance Electric-Circus style. Yep, they even have cages and mirrors for the pros. The music varies from European techno and French Celtic rap to YMC&A (they always have an "American Music Hour"). We would always take off around sunrise

continued on page 15



Baguettes and cheese, add a little wine and you're French

PICARO TRAVEL SECTION

Three Students • Three Summers • Three Stories



The view from James' backyard, Kootenay Lake. (At the far end if you squint you can see the United States)

Bear Impersonations and other Survival Techniques

BY JAMES TILLEY

Since we are doing a travel section in this issue of the Picaro, I only felt it appropriate that we review somewhere in Canada. Since I played tourist for part of my summer, I can tell you all about Beautiful British Columbia. Well I can't really do that; I only have seen one little corner of the province.

For two months of the summer I slept in a tent near the shores of Kootenay Lake. The lake is one of the larger lakes in the south-eastern corner of the province. It is in the valley between two mountain ranges. It is a great spot that just comes alive in the summer months. The tourist trade is one of the primary industry in the region—Little craft shops literally spring up over night everywhere you look.

The lake is quite large and beautiful, so people come in droves to speed around in their little boats. The locals (which is what I eventually became) really dislike it, but what can you do? Pilot Bay (where I was if you want to be specific) was one of many tiered bays where the boats stayed over night. Sound echoes wonderfully over the lake, so you can always hear the party-boat filled with displaced maritimers (probably atlantic canadianers, but it just doesn't sound right), or at least maritimer wannabes, because they belt out Stan Rogers, and his old sea chantes including "Barrett's Privateers"—I was obviously feeling a little homesick.

For those who are interested in heading in that direction, there is a wide range of campgrounds, motels and hotels. La Chance Suisse, for example, is a really good place with very good prices, considering each room has a hot tub or fireplace. If you don't go to stay, at least eat there. They serve a variety of traditional Swiss dishes as well as one of the best pizza on the planet (they are baked in a brick-birch wood-fired oven). And the owner's father will even play his accordion during your meal, which is a mixed blessing.

The tourist trade there isn't based on amusement parks or historic sites; although there are a few small museums and older historic buildings around. For example, within walking distance of my tent there was an old lighthouse. You can still find the hundred-year-old foundations overgrown with forest.

And that leads to why everyone comes to British Columbia: the view. The scenery is like nothing you could imagine, unless you have been to B.C. or Switzerland (I hear B.C. looks a lot like Switzerland, but B.C. has less civilization). Sure you have seen photos or videos but they are nothing compared to actually being there. Smelling the hugemongous trees, hearing the rustling leaves; B.C. actually reminded me of some places in Cape Breton, just on a grander scale. We have the little hills, they have mountains. We have forests with medium sized trees, they

have huge tracts of forests with equally large trees. Nova Scotia may have the ocean, but in B.C. if the wind is coming from the right direction the mountains create that wind-tunnel effect and the lake starts to have ocean sized waves. During one such storm we lost one canoe, which was tied to a now nonexistent dock, and one lawn chair (it was blown into the fire and consumed). A tree fell on our truck and another on the neighbour's boat. The storm damaged many other trees, some property and even me—I tried to save the canoe; a stupid move on my part.

You can swim in the lake, you can even drink from the lake. I was told by my step-father that it was the cleanest lake in Canada; it could be, but he also said there would be no mosquitos and he lied about that. The lake is fed by the nearby Kootenay glacier. That makes the water very very very cold, which is good on a hot day, however there weren't too many hot days. But on the plus side if you are in the water, after about twenty minutes you would get so numb that you couldn't feel the cold.

This is compensated by one fact, though. Nearby there are several hot springs. Some have become commercial, like a local swimming pool, to create a relaxing and enjoyable mineral hot-spring environment. Ainsworth is one such place. They provide change rooms with showers, a warmed mineral pool, a steaming hot pool, which includes caves to hang out in, and a cold pool, and I mean straight-from-the-glacier, four-degrees-celsius cold. The point is to jump from really hot to really cold water and it feels really good (that is, if you don't have a heart attack).

continued on page 15



Follow the winding dirt road up into the majestic mountains

Picaro Travel Section cont.

Dirty Amsterdam: An Adolescent Perspective

continued from page 12

(For the record, prostitution is legal in Holland.)

While you're walking around, you maybe poke your head into a sex shop, which are located on every corner in the area. What's interesting is you notice that sex shops in A'dam are exactly like sex shops here—I guess people everywhere like being dirty, as long as they can have some semblance of closed-door privacy.

Now, since you're a little worked up over all of the debaucherous urban peoplescapes being stabbed down your eyes, it's time to chill out. Relax. Take it EZEE. In other words, it's time to head to Coffee Shop 36, provided it's still around. Now, this place ain't your touristy coffee shop, like the Bulldog or the Grasshopper. 36 is, well, by Canadian standards, is a dump. All the couches are torn up. The owner lets his dog run around and defecate in the corners. The floors are stained with liquids, both synthetic and bodily. Nevertheless, the place is cosy, in a dirty sorta way. AND, it has the best and cheapest weed in town—or, at least I always thought it did. So, you either buy a pre-rolled joint or a gram. The former will run ya about f3.00 and the latter f8.00. Or, beyond those two items, maybe you order a slice of space cake, which is also about the same price as a jay. Once you've chosen your weapon of self-destruction, you hunker down on one of the couches, and become entranced by the cartoon playing on the muted television. "How can I order an anvil from Acme," you ask yourself after a while. Then you ask the same question to the portrait on the wall of Queen Beatrix. And eventually she answers... After a few more shits and giggles, and the usual sweating behind the ears and tingling of the finger tips, you feel like you've solved a few problems of the world. Like how water turned into wine is the drink of life the hoi polloi really wants. Excited about this outsize, you wanna tell someone about it and collaborate with them on some other eye-widening, pupil-dilating ideas. So, you turn to the group of northern-African refugees strewn out on the couch beside you. In a half-French half-English dialect, you manage to throw around a few misquotes from Descartes and Marx. You all laugh. You maybe pass around your jay, and they reciprocate with theirs. You cry about not loving your long-dead wire-haired terrier enuff. Then you move on to more important things like playing table football. After arguing about the rules—goalies can't score, deflection goals don't count, etc.—you guys play. You get

your ass kicked. Then, suddenly you feel hungry. Exit stage left.

Your stomach grumbles with each step on the narrow cobblestone canal side streets; however, before your hunger pains blind all cognitive ability, something catches your eye: A big sign that reads: "LIVE SEX SHOW." All those scones you wolfed down on the train ride up are giving you a second wind. Thank god for carbohydrates. Now, obviously, you wanna see what this live sex show is all about. Here's what you don't do: Don't go in the building with the "LIVE SEX SHOW" sign and try to buy a ticket. Unless, that is, you wanna pay f40.00 for the show. Here's what you do do: Case the surrounding exterior of the building and look for an inconspicuous looking guy, standing around, wearing a tweed jacket, hands in pockets, and you tell him you wanna see the show. Then you begin bargaining with him. Hollanders love to bargain. (Don't be afraid to be a little belligerent and aggressive, because that's exactly how he's gonna be with you.) Realistically, you shouldn't pay more than f15.00 for the show.

Anyhow, once you entre the squash-court-sized theatre, you see the most pathetic sexual displays of your life. You sit down and watch a fat middle-aged, hairy man jammin' it into a fatter, more middle-aged, hairier woman, both looking at the clock on the wall, wondering what they should buy their respective mothers for "Kerstfeest" (Christmas). The sex is slow, lazy, middle-class. Once the 25-minute show ends, you leave a little confused, the reality of the intercourse you just witnessed was discouraging, if not off-turning. You decide to escape this reality, you decide it's time to get drunk, you decide it's time to go to the Heineken Brewery Museum to take a "tour."

However, you have no way to get to the Brewery: You don't wanna walk, it's too far and you're hungry. You can't afford the tram. What to do? What to do? Here's what you do: You steal a bike.

Rumour has it that there are more bikes than people in A'dam. So, don't worry, there're lots to go around. Many "fietsen" aren't locked or have the most pathetic locks you've ever seen—liftin' one's child's play. People steal and sell bikes all the time. In fact, if you're really strapped for cash, you may wanna go around stealing and selling bikes, it's definitely a lucrative field, but ya didn't hear it from me. Anyhow, so, you steal one of those pre-WWII Grandpa-Pee Wee Herman-style



The Dam is the heart and soul of the capital of the Netherlands

bikes and head south for the Brewery. You don't know exactly where you're going, so you just ask somebody, you get directions, then you see if they might be interested in buying you're bike, once your finished with it, that is.

After pedalling around in concentric circles for about an hour—those damn swervy canal streets all look the same!—you finally end up at the Brewery. You pay a coupla guilders to get in; some tour guide takes you around, explains the history of Heineken and the history of beer, then leads you and the rest of the tour group to a huge dining, nay drinking, room. Then a bunch of server-type people bring out platters of Heineken and Gouda cheese and little cheesy puffs. And you fill your boots. Flush it all down like a toilet, or, shall I say, W.C... Having an addictive personality, you get really drunk. Then you're sick. Then you're in the W.C., on your knees, with the porcelain in a devastating headlock. Blah comes out of your mouth... It's projectile motion, baby! Fire in the hole! But, shit, you realize your puking into a Dutch toilet bowl, which has a dry "display shelf," if you will, that cause the chunky puke spray to deflect off the shelf back on to your face and clothes. Damn! But, what can you do? "Zo is het leven."

Now that your system is flushed out, your hunger strikes back with vengeance. Cheap food—where to get it? Lucky for you the Albert Cuyp Markt is within skipping distance. So you go to the market, find some cheese, herring, and licorice (typical Dutch stuff); and you barter with the salespeople, getting deals on every item.

After stuffing your belly, you wanna be entertained. You could go to some erotic-exotic gay discotheque, like The IT, but, you don't feel like paying f20.00+ to dance next to sweaty naked people who are all on XTC. So, instead you saunter down to Leidseplein, hoping to be entertained by some sorta-free-to-watch busker folk. Along the way, you get a chance to admire the outside of gabled homes, the Rijks Museum, and every other museum

on Museumplein. But you don't go inside any of them. At Leidseplein you take in a Mariachi band, a dorky-looking Dutch guy on a pogo stick and one of those people who assume a statuesque pose for about an hour and expect you to throw change into their satchel. Whatever! Watching the statue dude, in conjunction with your current blood-alcohol level, makes you really woozy and tired. Where to go? You left your bag at the train station and it's too late to book a room at a hostel cuz it's after hostel curfew—fruity hostels. Well, here's what you do: Go about 100 meters south west to Vondel Park—it's a big city park that Central Park in New York was actually modeled after—and find a cosy tree to snuggle up against.

Half asleep, cold, uncomfortable, resplendent in puke chunks, a cop kicks you and tells you to get up. In that situation, here's what you do: You beg the cop to throw you in the holding cell for the night—food and shelter for free, not bad. Cops in Amsterdam are socialistically sociable—I know they've gone for such requests before.

Waking up early next morning, you leave the cop shop and spark up a joint, ready to repeat yesterday's events...

Then you think: I'm such a bone head! Amsterdam is a beautiful city, so rich in culture. I didn't go to the Rijks Museum to see Rembrandt's Night Watch. I didn't see any Impressionist art at the van Gogh Museum. I didn't bother going to the Anne Frank Huis for an insight into what it was like for Jews in Holland during WWII. I didn't go the Begijnhof to admire the Victorian architecture of the quaintest neighbourhood in downtown Amsterdam. I took no time to stroll through the Bloemenmarkt to smell all the pretty flowers. I forgot to take a canal-boat tour. I didn't even go on a free walking tour of the city. Man, I really blew it. Thanks to my adolescent views, I wasted a day doing dirty nothing in one of the most charming cities in the world. Shit! Man, I guess the Dutch put it best: "Zo is het leven..."

Vivre La France; Vivre Bonheur; Vivre La Coupe Du Monde!

continued from page 12

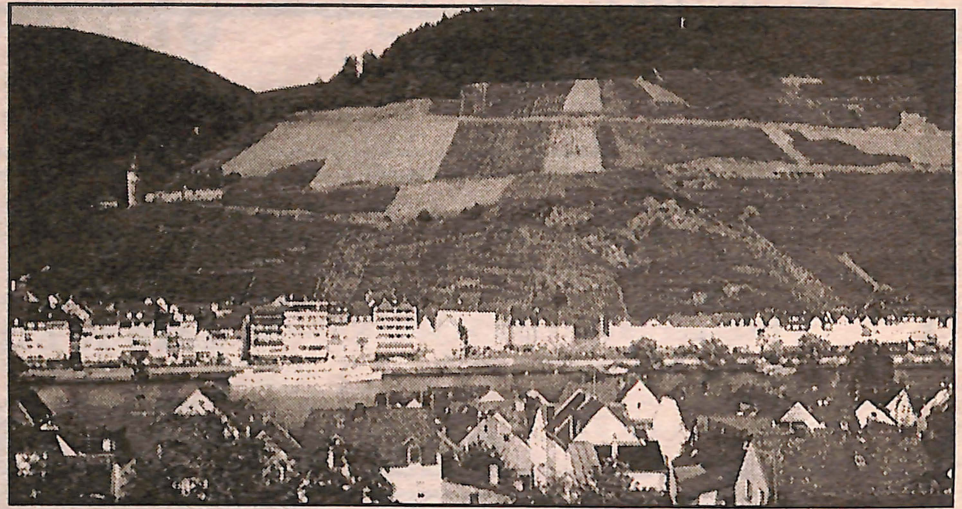
(you know what it's like when you have to work) and amazingly enough there would still be a lineup of people waiting to get in.

While we're on the subject of drinking and good times, in France, drinking equals good times, because you can drink anywhere you damn well please: on the train, on a park bench, even out on your front lawn... But if you're drinking in a bar, don't expect service as we know it in Canada. A server may take half hour before they even realized you're there—that's not unusual. And they prefer it if you just wait until you leave to pay your tab....which can be quite dangerous ("Whaaaaat? I didn't drink that much beer!")

Enough about the drinking and on to the cultural experiences—oddly enough, the most interesting ones seem to involve the former. Let me tell you about what it was like to be in France during "La Coupe du Monde." After a night of some serious good times in Arras, "the capital of the north," I was waiting around at the train station for my train. I had some time to spare, so I wandered outside... something caught my eye, and I turned to look, and who's face was I staring in? None other than the Columbian guy with the big fro!! Yep, it was Carlos,

the captain of the Columbian soccer team. So I went into hysterics and snagged his autograph and the best photo of the entire summer.

The night that France was playing the championship, I was camping out in the middle of a vineyard in the Champagne region (nursing a bottle of champagne, of course) when all of a sudden all we could hear was hooting and hollering in the distance. I figured it must have meant that France won, but just to be sure, I ran to the nearest pay phone to call my dad in Canada to get the details (yep and I was right there in France). After getting the good news, my amities and I grabbed our French flag and headed out to our fave bar, le Kingston. The atmosphere of the place is impossible to capture on paper, all I know is that Canadians never get that excited about hockey. Everyone was clad in red, white and blue with their faces painted, all ready and raring to celebrate with confetti, noise makers, etc. The whole town was out that night, whether you were three months or 90 years. The game was exciting and when France scored its 3rd goal, the celebrations began. Queen's "We are the Champions" was put on repeat, fireworks started up, everybody jumped into their cars, drove around



A small village in France along one of the many rivers

with their heads stuck out the windows, screaming at the tops of their lungs until 4 a.m. It was rather a twist of events when inside the bar, we met up with some French people we knew and they got the whole place chanting "Canada, Canada, Canada"... I guess everyone could tell we weren't locals!

I spent another great cultural experience in Paris. After polishing off a bottle of champagne (leftover from my trip to the Champagne region), my friend and I decided to save some money by skipping out on the hostel scene. Our alternative.... spending the night in the Champs de Mars, otherwise known as right underneath the Eiffel Tower. The night was sans sleep, as there was an

annoying English bum who would not leave us alone. The novelty of being under the Eiffel Tower soon wore off when it started to rain. As I'm sure you can imagine, there isn't much shelter under the ole tower!

So there you have it, a little taste of what life is like in northern France. If you have the chance to venture out that way, it is definitely worth it. The people are super friendly up there (a cab driver even gave me a stick of gum when he found out it was my birthday) and they love Canadians. Although it takes some explaining that there are Canadians who aren't Quebecois who can speak French. Well, as they say in France: Bon Courage et Bon Voyage.

Bear Impersonations and other Survival Techniques

continued from page 13

For the more adventurous, there are hidden hot springs up winding dirt roads and paths into the woods. Most tourist shops sell a local area map that points the hot springs out. There is even a book that describes the types of hot spring facilities—cement pond, or large wooden boxes, or just a pond where the coldness of the glacier meets the steaming hot spring to create the perfect temperature. The book goes on to explain how long and difficult the hikes to the hot springs are; It even describes how optional a bathing suit is.

You will probably need some form of transportation if you want to get to a larger town, although hitchhiking is very much an acceptable habit. But I won't recommend hitchhiking, for there are some really weird people out there. So a car or bike is almost essential. Crossing the lake is very easy, you just hop on the longest FREE ferry in North America and wait 45 minutes.

There are two nearby towns: Creston and Nelson. Creston wasn't very exciting—not much to see except a little museum and the Ostrich Farm just out side of town. They do have laundry facilities, grocery stores, and an Internet cafe to keep in touch with the "real world." Nelson, on the other hand, is one of the craziest towns I have ever seen. It is for some unknown reason a magnet for the "hippy freaks" (no insults to any hippy freaks reading

this). There are more hemp clothing shops, spiritual book stores, Volkswagen Vans and Beetles per person than anywhere in the world, or at least it seems that way. However, it also has all the stuff you will need. It might be worth taking a day or two to wander around town.

That's just the beginning of the craziness of this part of British Columbia. Between Creston and the Ferry there are a few very weird places. First is the castle; having a castle in the mountains sounds like a neat idea. However, the people who own it decided to paint it pink, not a nice pink but a bright Pepto-Bismal pink.

Second is Grey Creek. All this small town has is a general store. Grey Creek decided that it would be metric free. The "welcome signs" declare it as a metric free town. However, I did not find any examples of this anti-metric system in the store; milk was bought in litres not gallons.

Third is The Glass House. A guy decided to build a small house completely out of glass. Again you are probably thinking that a glass house may look normal, even futuristic. Well, not in B.C. Nothing is what it seems. The owner built it out of bottles he collected at work. He was a mortician. This building is built entirely out of embalming fluid jars. (A disgusting idea, don't you think?)

You might be wondering about the wildlife. Even if you're not I will tell you anyway. I saw lots of crows, I

mean nothing like The Mount but when they wake you up at six in the morning, it can get really annoying. There were a few eagles and osprey soaring high above. My step-dad's cat Buddy loved to chase the many squirrels and mice; but with the bells around her neck, she did not catch much.

And then there are the were the bears. Since my step-dad moved there, more than 15 years ago, he has seen only two bears and none on his plot of land. However, just before I began my trek home, we were visited by an adolescent bear cub. Now when I say adolescent he was not huge, but he wasn't exactly a cute cuddly teddy bear either. (I guess putting those bones in the compost wasn't a good idea after all.)

That leads me to a very funny story. In the middle of the summer my mother was giving one of the neighbours a tour of the property. During the tour the neighbour, with a frightened look on her face, turned to my mother and asked: "Is that a BEAR!!" Mom, looking at the large black shape in the woods, just calmly replied: "No, that's just my son." I guess with my long hair untied and my beard much too scruffy for the civilized world, I looked like a bear to some.

I have just scratched the surface of the wonders of Beautiful British Columbia. So if you just happen to be in the province, Kootenay Lake would be a good



It is just like bottled water, very clean and nicely chilled

place to visit. However, as a final note, if you are as far west as B.C., it is possible you may go all the way to see Vancouver. Some of the sights you might want to catch there are: Capilano Suspension Bridge, Stanley Park, the area around Simon Fraser University, downtown, and remember to hit the beach.

Going from ocean to ocean is a great idea, even if you end up on the wrong (I mean left) side of the country.

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

Life is still simple.

eat.study at Mount St. Vincent.shoot pool

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP - \$8.00

* **Life-time** membership is valid at all 68 Dooly's in Atlantic Canada, Quebec and Ontario and is transferable. * **15 % discount** on pool. * **10 % discount** on Pro Shop. * **FREE HOUR of POOL** when you receive your membership card. * **FREE HOUR of POOL** every time you accumulate 10 hours.

* **Personalized** correspondence.

Purchase your membership by October 15, 1998 and enter your name to win a free month of pool. Draw to be held October 16, 1998.

"THE MOUNT NIGHT" AT DOOLY'S FAIRVIEW**STUDENT MANIA - EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT!!**

* Coupon for a **Free Half Hour of Pool**. * **Half Price** Dooly's Snacks.

* **Happy Hour** drink prices.

7:00 p.m. 'til Midnight

Must show valid student ID and liquor ID. All university students welcome!!

PIZZA - N - POOL FRIDAY

FREE PIZZA while you play pool from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
every Friday at Dooly's at 70 Lacewood Drive.

Watch for movie pass draws too!

CALL US AT DOOLY'S FAIRVIEW FOR MORE DETAILS!

70 LACEWOOD DRIVE

457-0651

*Bring in this ad and redeem it for a **FREE HALF HOUR OF POOL**
At Dooly's Fairview.*

We wish all Mount students a fun and successful year!

Billiards with an added

touch!

DOOLY'S

La nouvelle

définition du billard.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

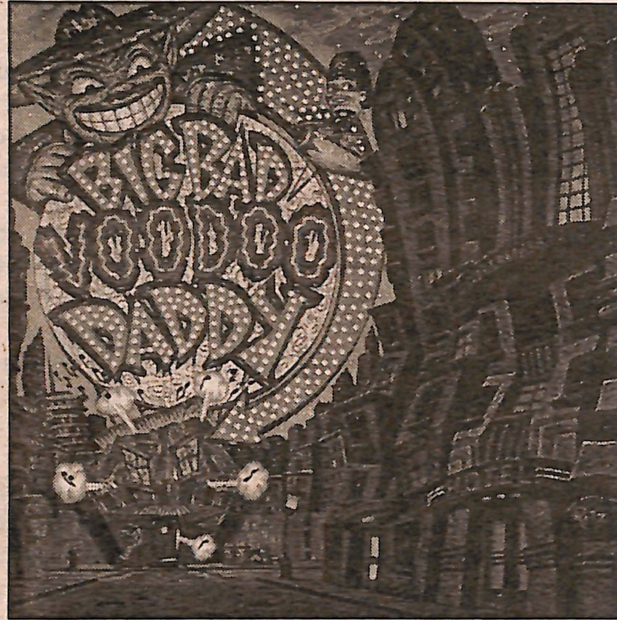
BY RHONDA SIMSER

I was very excited today to receive a new CD in the mail for my listening pleasure. I was not sure what to expect. Lately I have been getting very weird CD's in the mail. But I was pleasantly surprised when I opened the package and saw Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. With the comeback of swing music in the past few months, this is definitely welcomed. With Colin James and the Little Big Band, and the Cherry Poppin Daddies charging back onto the scene, I was beginning to wonder how far this swing epidemic was going to go. I became obsessed with the Cherry Poppin Daddies through the summer when their hit "Zut Suit Riot," hit the airwaves. I was equally impressed with Big Bad Voodoo Daddy.

Their CD consists of the same kind of swing music you are hearing now, and it is awesome. I may be biased because I already like swing music, but hey, if you don't have a little bias, how can you ever know what you don't like? Anyhoo, I am off track. This CD is everything you would want out of a swing CD. It is kinda bluesy, it is kinda swingin', and is definitely jivin'. There are a few slower songs on this CD, but it does not slow the pace of the music down, it only adds to it. All the songs are amazing, and I wanted to listen to them over and

over again, but some people in the office don't share my love of swing music, so I had to change the CD.

So, if you have any interest in swing music at all, you should go out to the nearest music store and buy this CD. It will be something that you will play over and over again. Take my word for it, and that of someone in the office who didn't like it... I'm right.

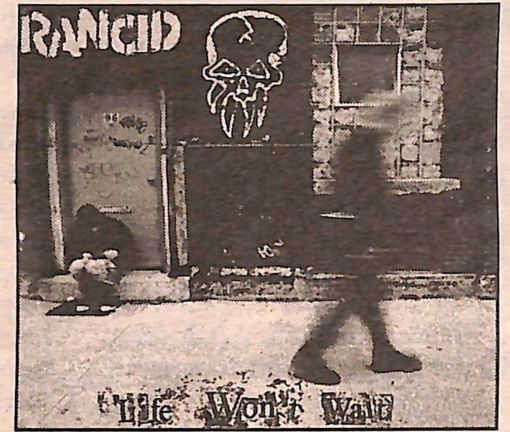


Life Won't Work- Rancid

BY CORY WEBB

This CD is not what you think. When I took it home I was, all ready for the fast-paced ska-punk that I've come to expect from Rancid. But I was wrong. Sure, if you look hard enough, you'll find songs vaguely reminiscent of Rancid's older stuff, but at first glance, the only thing familiar is that raspy grammatically deficient voice. That said, Initially I didn't care for this CD.

Then a funny thing happened. I listened to the songs, not the band. I discovered that the CD grows on you. In fact you may find yourself singing along, if you can figure out what he is saying. Over all, the CD is good but I would borrow, or buy it cheap; it is not worth buying brand new, full-priced.



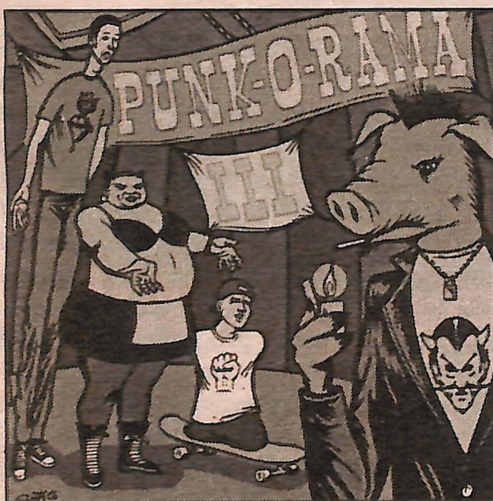
Punk-O-Rama Vol.III

BY CORY WEBB

WOW! This compilation of epitaph's best punk bands is amazing. There is a good mix of some bands that have been around for a while such as Bad Religion, as well as bands which are new on the scene, such as Oskar. Out of the 25 songs, there is not one that can justify using the evil skip button.

As with the previous two Punk-O-Rama CDs, this one is a pure adrenaline rush. My only complaint is that the catchy tunes and pure speed make it hard to sit still long enough to hear the whole thing...and you do not want to miss a single track.

If you are remotely into punk music, or even if you just like anything fast and loud, this CD is for you. That is if you can find a copy of it.



Where did this come from?

BY JAMES TILLEY

I was flipping through CDs looking for the Blade Soundtrack, when I stumbled upon something I didn't expect to see. So, in the tradition of Romeo and Juliet, Hackers, Titanic, Trainspotting, Grosse Pointe Blank, and even Romey and Michelle's High School Reunion; a second Braveheart CD was released.

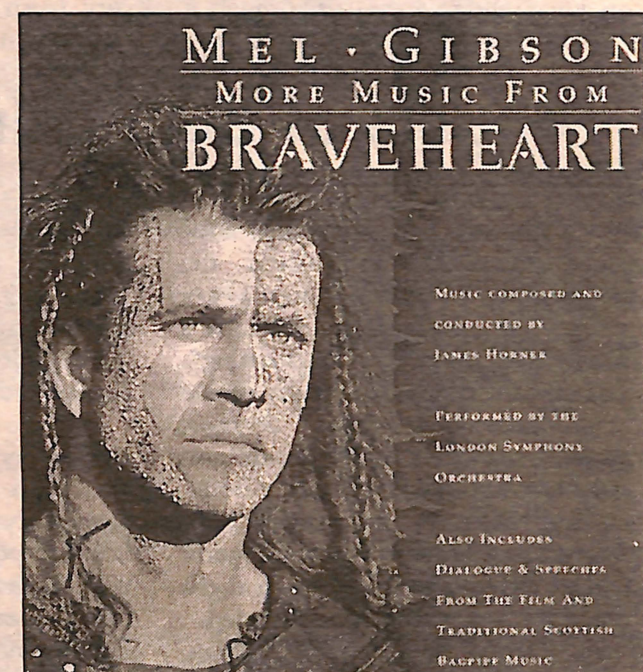
The Soundtrack is "More Music From Braveheart." This intrigued me, and so like any good consumer I bought it. I got home and threw it into my step-brother's stereo (I don't even own a CD player- go figure!). I played the CD and noticed the first track sounds very similar to tracks the other CD. Then the voice of Robert the Bruce (Angus McFadyen) spoke to me: "I shall tell you the story of William Wallace..."

This is an unusual CD. It has some of the background music that was included in the first soundtrack. It has some movie dialogue—actually quite a lot of dialogue. The CD also includes some music played during the movie (like at the wedding scene,) as well as some traditional Scottish Music.

I would recommend that all hard-core Braveheart fans pick this up. And if you haven't seen Braveheart then go out right now and rent it or borrow it from a friend. Hell if you ask nice enough I might even lend you my copy. Those of you out there who like bagpipes and various other Scottish instrumentals would enjoy this soundtrack,

however the first CD has more of that type of music than "More Music From Braveheart."

As for the rest of you, the CD might not be your cup of tea. But because you are living in Nova Scotia (also known as New Scotland) you have to have a little of Scotland in you. So grab your Haggis and sit down and enjoy a good CD.



The Picaro is going on a short holiday. Our next issue will be out October 27. (Deadline for Submissions is October 19th.) Good Luck to everyone with their upcoming midterms and assignments. And we will see you all on Hallowe'en!

An eclectic collection of performance dance.

BY TIM BOUDREAU *Veronique Mackenzie-Bourne brings Committed to Halifax*

On October 1 and 2, Halifax has the opportunity to get committed. Or more accurately (without the puns), The Sir James Dunn Theater, at the Dalhousie Arts Centre, will be showcasing an eclectic collection of performance dance. Veronique Mackenzie-Bourne, a dancer and choreographer who is currently teaching creative movement and modern dance at Halifax Dance, is the inventive dynamo behind the show.

"I'm a dancer and choreographer in the city, I have been here for approximately 15 years," she said. "Just recently I've started the whole process of applying for [Nova Scotia Arts Council] grants. I've become more serious, more committed to the work"

An understatement, to say the least. Mackenzie-Bourne has taken on the arduous task of predominantly producing *Committed* on her own. This lively dancer and choreographer has committed herself to doing everything from visualizing the four distinct dance pieces which make up *Committed*, to designing many of the sets and props which add an element of visual artistic quality to the works.

But where does Mackenzie-Bourne get all of this creative energy? "People ask me where I get my ideas, what kind of drugs I'm on, what is going through my head," she explains. "Not only am I committed to my work, but apparently some of my ideas, and my sense of humor is a little off the wall so that some may

think that I should be committed. I have imagination. It's part of my personality, but a lot of it depends on my experience as well. I think I've had a lot of tragedy in my life, and out of that tragedy I've had to either learn, or give in."

Nevertheless, her work comes off as quite lively, and even humorous. "I deal through creation and expression," she said. "I love to explore universal human conditions. Things from grief to anger, to humor."

When asked specifically why humor plays such a big role in her work Mackenzie-Bourne replied, "Life is short, I have to lighten up, and a lot of people have to lighten up. There are a lot of bad things that happen in the world, but some people see things in a very negative way all the time, and they believe there is something wrong with everything. I don't find everything funny, I just think that there are a lot of very humorous things in the world."

Mackenzie-Bourne is not solely committed to displaying humor in her work, she also wishes to display feelings of frustration, and outbursts of emotion, in the dance piece *Vent*. "Originally [*Vent*] was to be a comical piece, but I started the piece off differently than I do most," she explained. "I started with improvisation. I came out of a moment one day while I had been doing my income taxes, and I was very frustrated and I slammed my book down. The piece started to get

darker, and darker. It started to build up tension to the point of someone slamming something down in frustration. People might find it disturbing, but my children found it hilarious." *Vent* promises to be a dance piece of bizarre intensity as dancers "vent" their frustrations on telephone books.

As for the other unique dance pieces that make up *Committed*, *Crypt* is an exploration of the immortality of memory and soul inspired by the Huldremose Woman, found preserved in the peat bogs of northern Europe. This piece promises to be somewhat macabre as it features life size paper mâché mock-ups of the Neolithic "bog people", fabricated by Veronique's own hand.

In the Wings is a "behind the scenes" look at performance art. Audience members will get a chance to view some of the antics that go on in the wings of stage performances, with presumably hilarious results. *The Seeds of Time* is quite a bit different from more live dance performances. In a marvelous menagerie which combines comic, and science fiction elements, *The Seeds of Time* is based on a John Wyndham short-story called *Pawley's Peepholes*



As anyone can presumably surmise by now, the dance pieces contained in *Committed* as Mackenzie-Bourne explained are, all very distinct from each other. They look different, They're really a repertoire of material rather than one long piece. They are meant to stand alone like paintings in a gallery by the same artist. "You will see similar elements in each of my pieces, but you will also find unique statements in all of them."

Mackenzie-Bourne is hoping that Haligonians will show that they are committed to the genre of live dance and come to the Sir James Dunn Theater on October 1 and 2 to see her show.

"Angels of Lightening" Light up The Sir James Dunn Theatre

BY JANNE CLEVELAND

With the end of another frantic week in sight, I relished the opportunity to replenish my weary spirits at the Dunn Theatre's production "Angels of Lightening". The performance featured the works of dancer George Stamos, singer/songwriter Laura Smith, and singer/songwriter David Sereda. Having been familiar with both Stamos' and Smith's work, I eagerly looked forward to the opening night production. I was not disappointed.

George Stamos, and dance partner Marianne Thorborg, opened the evening with a piece choreographed by Stamos, entitled *Eunuch*. As the programme denoted, the mythology surrounding eunuchs lends itself to speculation around current debates of androgyny as either the absence or presence of both sexes. It was danced magnificently and thoughtfully. The piece raised questions regarding the cultural expectations and constructions of gender identity. The chiaroscuro lighting affected a space which allowed the audience to focus

on the intricate movements of the dancers as they engaged in presenting more questions than answers to a visual investigation of issues of desire and denial inherent to gender and sexuality.

The second dance piece, *Horny*, performed solo by Stamos, was pure delight. Enacting the bawdy lyrics of Lucille Bogan, Stamos, sporting red velvet horns led the audience on a merry romp of sexual pleasure and self-fulfilment. The intimate space of the theatre allowed the audience to thoroughly enjoy the conspiratorial ecstasy of Stamos' knowing wink. The celebration of in-your-face sexuality also played on issues of gender with Stamos' pairing of his expertly executed movements with the very scratchy recording of blues singer Bogan's sexually explicit lyrics. The audience howled with laughter, delighted to be part of the open secret that pleasure, in an often puritanical culture, is the real four letter word.

When Laura Smith took the stage, her haunting, and sometimes

very funny lyrics, filled the room. By turns, Smith took us through long moments of introspection followed by the honest laughter created when we laugh at ourselves. Everyone in the room appreciated the irony in her candidly funny "I'm Gonna Get It Right This Time." The strength of Smith's voice only serves to add to her enormous presence on stage. She performed a duet with David Sereda, was accompanied by the very capable veteran guitarist, George Antoniak, on another number, and performed solo in another set. The force of her voice filling the space of the theatre captivated the audience.

David Sereda closed the evening by performing a number of his own compositions, some of which were highly amusing. Particularly, "I Want to Kiss You Naked," was a very wry look at the problems of relationships in the 90s. He ended the evening by performing a very empowering gospel arrangement, a cappella, during which he encouraged the audience to join in the refrain. While it was a small

house, most of the audience took the opportunity to raise their voices in what was a very satisfying finale.

As well as being a thoughtful, provocative, and engaging evening, it should be noted that the Saturday show was given as a benefit for Phoenix House. For anyone who doesn't know, Phoenix House is a local advocacy programme for youth (16-24). It operates four projects which include a ten-bed residential facility, a drop-in crisis centre, three supervised apartments and a follow-up contact programme. In the past year alone over a thousand individuals accessed its services, which include counselling, health services, food, clothing and emotional support for street youth. The work it does is often thankless and always tiring for the staff and volunteers. There are never enough hours in the day (or enough money in the bank) to accomplish all the work that needs to be done. So when performers give their time and talent to such an event as "Angels of Lightening," it's much appreciated by the entire community.

You got where you are with hard work and smarts.

Plymouth Neon Expresso

Dodge Dakota Club Cab

Jeep® TJ

Plymouth Voyager

\$750 GRAD REBATE

Chrysler can help out with your driving ambition.

As a recent graduate, you're on the road to achieving the best life has to offer. At Chrysler, we're rewarding that kind of initiative by offering \$750 toward the purchase or lease of a new 1997, 1998, or 1999 Chrysler car or truck (excluding, Dodge Viper and Plymouth Prowler), over and above most current Chrysler incentives. And, if you finance with Chrysler Credit Canada we'll defer your first three months payments! * This \$750 Grad Rebate is available to all college and

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.

For more information, visit your nearest Chrysler Canada Dealer. Or, hit www.chryslercanada.ca or call 1-800-361-3700.

CHRYSLER CANADA
Official Team Sponsor

*Some restrictions may apply. **Jeep is a registered trademark licensed to Chrysler Canada Ltd. ©1998

The Myths of Boyhood

BY TIM BOUDREAU

Real Boys: Rescuing Our Sons From The Myths of Boyhood
William Pollack Ph.D.
Random House
\$32.95

Boys are in serious trouble, including many who seem "normal" and to be doing just fine. Confused by society's mixed messages about what's expected of them as boys, and later as men, many feel a sadness and disconnection they cannot even name.

—from Introduction

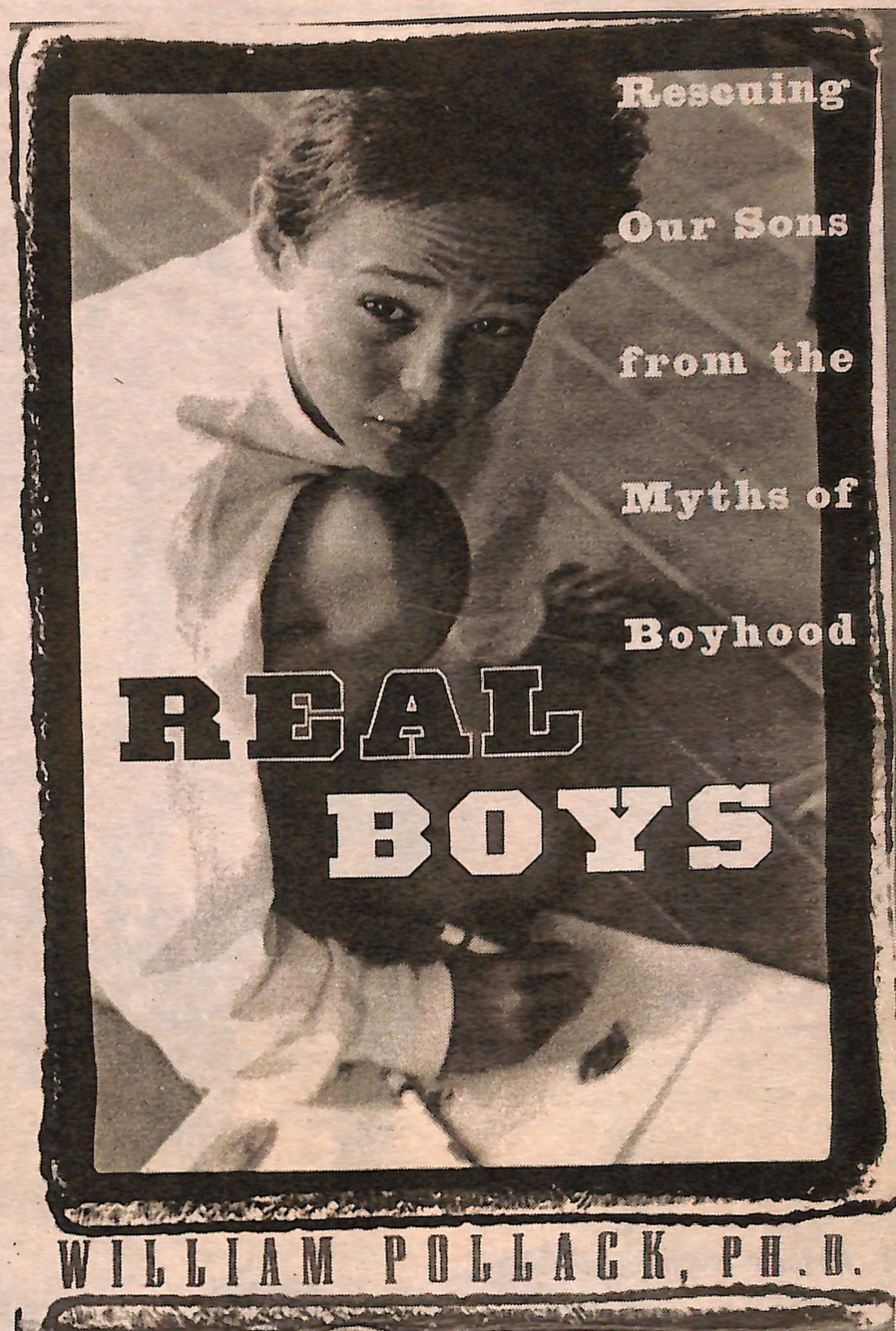
A lot of the reading that I have chosen to partake in during my spare time has dealt with the issue of breaking down traditional gender stereotypes. I feel that dealing with the sometimes unchallenged misconceptions Western society upholds about gender is a very worthy goal, and I believe that I have gained a great deal of valuable insight from the books which have made this a priority. I'm not trying to establish myself as an expert in the field of gender stereotypes, but a few titles I've read would fall into this category. *Lip Service*, by Kate Fillion was one of the most influential books that I can remember reading on this topic; Naomi Wolf's *Promiscuities* is also a very eye-opening read, and last, but certainly not least; *10 Stupid Things Women do to Mess Up Their Lives* by the infamous Laura Schlessinger. There is one significant element that each of these books contain, and that is to address, and challenge, the myths which surround women, and womanhood in general. Even though each of the above three books also addressed certain myths about men, none of them took the time to deal with the problems surrounding male stereotypes as thoroughly as those surrounding female stereotypes.

I've found that there has been a great deal of writing in popular culture which attempts to break down female gender stereotypes, but I have noticed a surprising lack of material which does the same favour for men. The fairly recent book, by clinical psychologist William Pollack, Ph.D, serves to fill in this gap. *Real Boys: Rescuing Our Boys From the*

Myths of Boyhood, addresses some of the real challenges faced by many boys on their way to becoming men. More importantly, however, he identifies these problems for what they really are: unfair stereotypes.

One of the first, and most telling observations, Pollack makes in his study is that boys in the 90s are being raised under a very confusing dichotomy. On the one hand, boys are taught these days that they are expected to be warm, egalitarian, and expressive. On the other hand, the age old pressures which cause boys to become cold, distant, authoritative and taciturn are still present, and rarely challenged. These out-dated attitudes towards boys include some key assumptions. First of all there is the assumption that "boys will be boys," the misplaced belief that, regardless of upbringing, testosterone causes males to act out, to be aggressive and abrasive. "Boys should be boys" illustrates the predominant societal attitude that boys "must fulfil the stereotype of the dominant 'macho male'" (58). In other words, boys should not act in ways which are seen as typically "female", or "unmanly." *Boys are toxic* supports the belief that, since boys are doomed by testosterone to be aggressive, "there is something inherently dangerous or toxic about boys—that they are psychologically unaware, emotionally unsocialized creatures" (62).

Pollack draws upon his extensive research on boys, and their behaviour, as well as numerous interviews with real boys to illustrate some of the points he is trying to make. In addition, Pollack analyses



the main assumptions about boys in relation to several difficult life events which they are exposed to. Adolescent sexuality, suicide, divorce, confusion about sexual orientation, and teenage violence are to name a few of the issues. Pollack points out that boys deal with many of these issues in ways differently than girls; and that parents, teachers, and other mentors must be sensitive to the way boys grow and learn.

Pollack stresses the worst thing we can do to our boys is disconnect emotionally from them. The three main assumptions about the nature of boys, Pollack insists, causes people to create emotional distance between themselves and their boys. Pollack suggests that, in creating this distance and disconnecting from boys, society attempts to place males into a "gender straightjacket." Pollack insists that it is through this "gender straightjacketing" that the main assumptions about boys are propagated; that if boys were not pressured to fit the male stereotypes they would be more loving and expressive. Connection, Pollack urges, is the key to helping boys be the best people that they can be. If a boy feels emotionally connected to those around him then he will not be distant, aloof, or feel the need to act out aggressively in order to express

himself. Basically what Pollack is saying is if boys are given a venue in which they can express themselves then they won't have to revert to the stereotypical behaviours.

I believe Pollack is doing something truly great with *Real Boys*. He does a very good job of showing how society, with the best of intentions, ends up programming boys to be the type of person that is so undesirable, and ineffective in the 90's. Pollack does all of this without any amount of backlash whatsoever; he is not trying to shame anyone, or blame parents for messing up their sons, he is merely trying to point out the sometimes sub-conscious, and flawed, attitudes society has toward boys and how they can do a great deal of harm.

In the area of challenging gender stereotypes, I am truly glad that there is finally a book out there that is as accurate and powerful as William Pollack's *Real Boys*. Anyone who has a son, or who might have one some day, will benefit greatly from reading this book. Students taking Child and Youth studies, I'm sure, could learn a great deal about boys in the pages of Pollack's book. Those of us, like myself, who are sick of ancient stereotypes which limit boys and men, will find *Real Boys: Rescuing Our Sons From the Myths of Boyhood* a breath of fresh air.

Join thousands of other students at Canada's fastest growing distance education university and ...

...Stay On Course



Canada's Open University™

Is the course you want to get into full?
Do you need a course to fit into your timetable?
Do you want to pick up extra credits or pursue personal interests?

If so, Athabasca University has hundreds of home-study courses to choose from.

- Study at your own pace.
- Credits earned are transferable.
- Get individualized telephone and computer-based tutoring.
- Register throughout the year.
- Reasonable registration fees include all required course materials.
- Challenge for credit opportunities.

Register today and chart your course of study with Canada's leader in individualized distance education. For more information call:

1-888-206-2942

Web Site: www.athabascau.ca
E-mail: osinfo@athabascau.ca

Athabasca University

Society Profiles

Students for Literacy

BY CRAIG ENNIS

If you can read this, you should probably help someone who can't.

That's part of the philosophy of the Mount's chapter of Students for Literacy. The society is dedicated to futhering the education of adult women, a goal closely related to the Mount's mandate.

"We want to provide an opportunity for community members to learn and improve literacy-related skills," says Janne Cleveland, Status of Women Officer at the Mount. "To do this, we need to get out into the community and actively work with people."

Students for Literacy has partnered with the Elizabeth Fry Society, a Halifax based community organization for women in conflict with the law. "There is a strong need for this service in the community," says Cleveland. "Students for Literacy gives us a practical means to help others. Everyone in the

university community has something to offer to these women."

There are plenty of opportunities to become involved in Students for Literacy. Volunteers with the society can become members of the organizational team or student-tutor volunteers. Tutors go out into the community and work with adult women who are trying to improve literacy related skills. Organizational team members work in fundraising, public relations, and administration.

This is the society's second year at the Mount. Last year was an organizational year. This year will be the first operational year. Training for student-tutor volunteers will be provided by Students for Literacy's parent organization, Frontier College. Placements for volunteers and learners should be arranged by late-October.

Student Alumnae Association

BY JAMES TILLEY

When you think of Student Alumnae Association (SAA) what comes to mind? Well, many of the first-year student will be thinking of campus tours or high-school visits. You residence students may be thinking of exam-survival kits. And those coming back to read *The Picaro* after graduation (which all alumnae should be doing) might remember the framing of your degree after convocation.

I am here to tell everyone about the SAA, one of the busiest and coolest societies on campus. So what do we do? We work to promote enthusiasm (spirit, if you will) toward the university. SAA does this for students throughout of their university careers. We promote the school to future students during tours, high-school visits, high-school leadership conferences, high-school mentor programs, open-campus days and much more. We also promote the Mount to past students. We assist the alumnae director with many of her events including the reunion, the alumnae phone-a-thon and the alumnae mentor program. But, we in SAA are all also current students so we also provide many services to our fellow students. Some of our more

popular services are exam survival kits, tuition draws and various conferences which SAA members can attend.

This year has a few changes. We have a practically-new executive, with some positions still available. This years co-presidents are Carlee Portolesi and myself. We have already planned some new, innovative activities. The SAA is going to join, as a society, the Mount team to raise money for the "Run for the Cure" in support of breast cancer research, education, diagnosis and treatment. Our next big event is the 80's dance on Wednesday October 14, at 8 p.m. This should be a rockin' fun time. Plus, we're going to be having the biggest fundraising event that the school has ever seen. (Keep watching this paper for details).

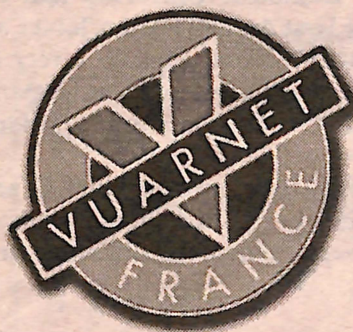
So, if you're interested in joining SAA, you can pick up one of the yellow application forms. Many are posted on the SAA bulletin board near the link or in the admissions office. You can drop off your completed form at Tara Wigglesworth-Hines' office (in admissions). Or you can just drop by one of our meetings: Fridays at noon (unless otherwise advertised).

International Student Society

Monday, October 5 at 12:30 in the International Student Lounge (in the games room). If you have any questions just call Angela Bean 445-3095 or Kelly Corday 457-5300

Student Alumnae Association is hosting an

80's Dance



**Wednesday
October 25th
8 pm - 2 am**

Tickets sold at the door.
\$3 general admission
**\$2 if wearing authentic
80's clothing.**



This event is completely run by and is the responsibility of the Student Alumnae Association

Thank You...

The following businesses helped by sponsoring the last set of SAA exam survival kits. *Atlantic Wholesalers, Boone Food Services, Budget Car & Truck Rental, Burger King, Cambridge Suites Hotel, Campbell Soup Company, Credit Union, Dairy Queen, Hershey Canada, Moirs Div., Hershey Canada, Kimberly Clark Inc., Lawtons Drug Store, McCain Foods, McDonald's Restaurant, Metro Radio Group, Nestle Canada Inc., Royal Bank, Sheraton Casino, The Body Shop, The Roadhouse, Toronto Dominion Bank*

BUSINESS SOCIETY

IS HOSTING

**A "DOWN TOWN SOCIAL"
ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

**TICKETS ARE ON SALE
NOW IN THE LINK**

**ALL ARE WELCOME BUT THERE ARE ONLY 50
SPACES AVAILABLE SO GET YOR TICKET EARLY!!**

This event is completely run by and is the responsibility of the Business Society.

Employers Seeking Students at Joint Halifax Career Fair

BY KIM BOUDREAU, CAREER RESOURCE ASSISTANT

What is it?

This year, Mount Saint Vincent University, Dalhousie University and Saint Mary's University are joining forces to host the First Annual Halifax Joint Career Fair. In the past, each university individually hosted separate career fairs through the year. This year, Metro universities pooled resources and expanded this idea, making the first annual fair bigger and better than anything before it.

At the fair, Students are provided access to over 90 different employers, all at one day and in one place. Employers are given the opportunity to meet thousands of students from all disciplines; and can expand their recruiting to many different areas of expertise.

Who will be there?

Employers from many areas—arts and social science, sciences, businesses and professional schools—will all be in attendance. Lists of all confirmed companies to date who are taking part in the Career Fair are now available in the Career Resource Centre. So far, we have a list of over 90 businesses in attendance! Some of these include several banks, Campbell Soup, Maritime Information Technology, Hudson's Bay Company, ITI, London Life, McCain Foods, Irving Oil, Proctor and Gamble, Sobeys, Olsten Staffing and National Graduate Register.

Metro students are targeted for the event, but organizers have extended the invitation to all university students across the province and recent graduates.

What should you bring?

Remember, these are prospective employers who may be interested in hiring you eventually, so be prepared for anything. Exercise your communication skills and professionalism at the fair. Make sure that you bring lots of copies of up-to-date resumes and cover letters, as well as a pen and paper for notes. If you have a business card, bring that too!

Where and when?

The First Annual Halifax Joint Career Fair will be held on Monday, October 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the World Trade and Convention Centre, 1800 Argyle Street, Halifax, located by the Halifax Metro Centre.

Why should you attend?

As students, you should strongly consider attending this Career Fair. While many students may have classes on Monday, October 5, it would be a good idea to try and squeeze in a visit, especially since transportation and entrance to the Fair are free to students with ID cards.

Ilona Oszadzsky, Career Counsellor here at MSVU says: "This is a great opportunity for students to meet employers from a variety of industries. Be sure to start your job search now and get out to this event." Employers are also very excited about the opportunity to meet such a diverse and specialized population of students. This is a great event that will be beneficial to all who take part.

Make sure that your dress is appropriate for networking, as this is a prime opportunity to meet professionals and Human Resource Personnel from various fields. Students can speak with representatives from various companies regarding upcoming employment opportunities, company structure, and mission and labour-market information.

How do I get there?

MSVU Student Union will supply bus transportation to and from the World Trade and Convention Centre. Transportation and entrance to the Career Fair is free if you can provide a valid university ID. The first bus is scheduled to depart (in front of Seton), at 9:45 a.m. and busses will be running all day, back and forth until 4:00 p.m.

If you are looking for more information on the Career Fair, visit the Career Resource Centre in Evaristus, room 218. As well, you can call the First Annual Halifax Joint Career Fair Hotline at (902) 494-5516 or visit the website at <http://careerfair.interuniversity.ns.ca> or email o@careerfair.interuniversity.ns.ca

The community Page is for Community Events, so if your Society or Club submit your events to the Picaro. Contact us by phoning: 445-3584; faxing: 457-0444; or drop by the office: room 114 in Rosaria.

CAREER CORNER

Full Time Positions

Position	Company	Deadline
Various	At ISM	asap
Office Clerk	KORNOVA	asap
Personal Lines Underwriter	The Dominion of Canada General Insurance Company	asap

Part Time Positions

Position	Company	Deadline
Retail Position	Abby's Fabrics	asap
Retail Sales	Moe's Menswear	asap
Track Marshall	Kartbahn Racing Inc.	asap
Mechanic	"	"
Manager	"	"
Telemarketing	xentelDM Inc.	on going

Attention Students: Anyone who is looking for on campus part time employment should consider the *Student Employment Bursary Program*. Applications are now available for the MSVU program. Positions are posted in the Career Placement Centre. The deadline is Monday, September 28, 1998 at 4:30 pm. Various criteria apply, for more info visit Evaristus Room 218 or call (902) 457-6567.

Halifax Joint Career Fair

World Trade & Convention Centre

1800 Argyle Street

October 5, 1998
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free admission
with valid
university I.D.

Free bus
service from
all schools

Bring
Resumes and
Cover Letters

Meet your
future



Hosted by:



DALHOUSIE
University

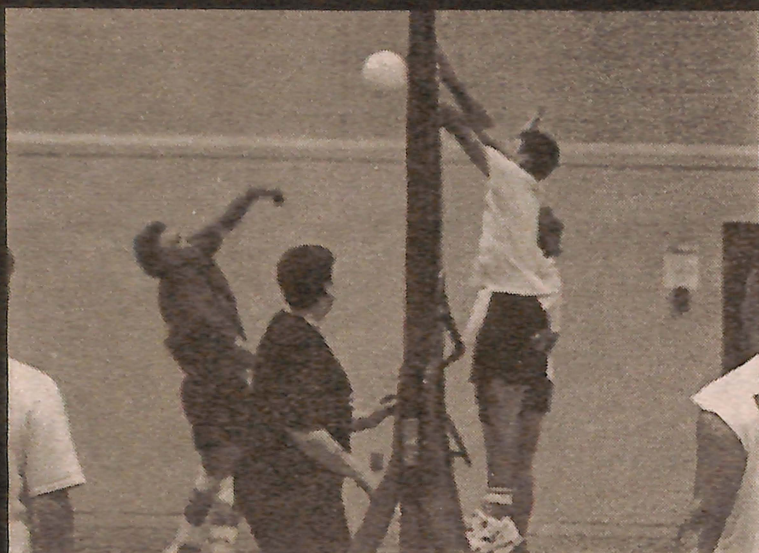


Saint Mary's
University

Sponsored by:
 Canada

Phone our HOTLINE (902) 494-5516/2515
Visit us at <http://careerfair.interuniversity.ns.ca>
Email info@careerfair.interuniversity.ns.ca

Free chartered bus leaving in front of Seton starting at 9:45 am. Will travel to and from WTCC until 4pm.



JAMES TILLEY

Every Thursday there is Volleyball at 7:30 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. It is always a great time and afterwards you can drop by the Pub for a night at Vinnie's

Mount Mystics are at the Top of ACAA Rankings

Women's Soccer

Updated September 20th, 1998

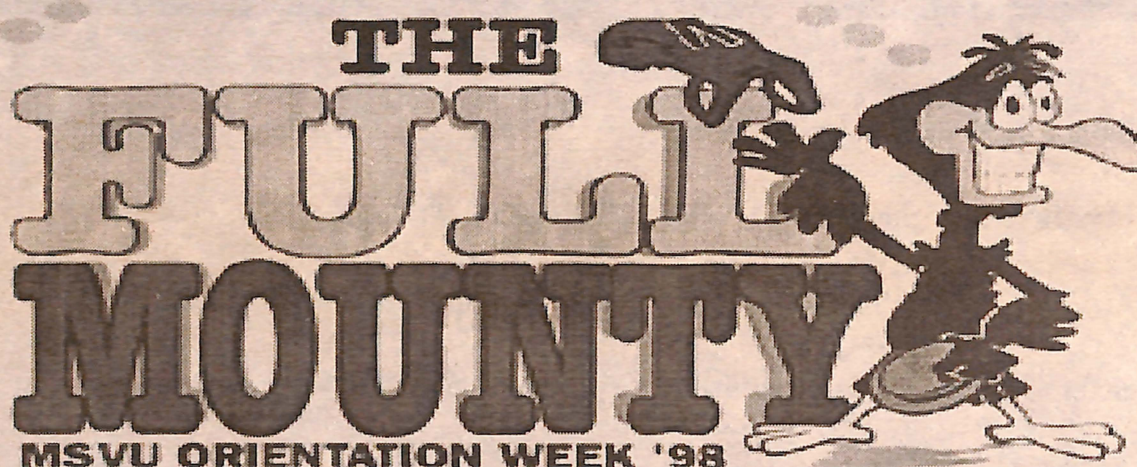
Game Results:

- Sept. 19 MSVU defeated UNB (St. John): 1 - 0
- Sept. 20 MSVU tied DalTech: 0 - 0

Conference Standings

Rank	Team	GP	Wins	Ties	Losses	For	Against	Points
1	MSVU	3	2	1	0	3	0	7
2	STU	4	2	1	1	4	3	7
3	King's	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
4	Dal Tech	4	0	3	1	1	2	3
5	NSAC	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
6	UNBSJ	4	0	1	3	2	7	1

1 down 7 to go...



"September Survival Party"

Come party with the Ath/Rec Society and the Frosh Crew!

MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTMEBER 30

8:00PM-2:00AM

WET/DRY with DJ

Vinnies Pub - Rosaria Centre \$2.00

All Welcome!

Come celebrate the end of the 1st of 8 months of the 1998-99 Year!

We're Online: www.picaro.ns.ca

~ THE ALEXANDER KEITH WAY ~

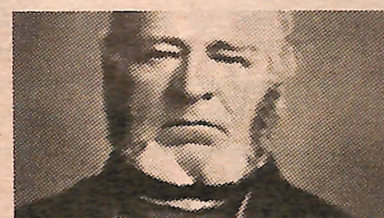


Join the celebration 203 years in the making.

Back in 1820, Alexander Keith first started brewing his fine ale in his Halifax Brewery. Since then, October 5 has been a day to celebrate in Nova Scotia. The day family and friends would gather and toast Nova Scotia's finest brewmaster. Today, more than 175 years of quality brewing later, you can join the celebration.

Look for specially marked cases of Keith's with the *free* Alexander Keith Calling Card inside. And when you register, wish Alexander a "Happy Birthday" because you might get to hear yourself in a radio ad. Must be legal drinking age. So hurry. Give your best to the man who always gave you his best. Alexander Keith.

WISH 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY'



TO THE MAN WHO DID
many things well and
brewed beer best of all.



Those who like it, like it a lot.

ALEXANDER  KEITH'S NOVA SCOTIA
BREWERY
~ 203RD BIRTHDAY ~
OCTOBER 5TH