



The Sentient



FREE

Algoma University Student Newspaper

April 5, 2005

One flower's strength backed by Nature

By Troy Miron

I was standing outside the front of the school and I notice a woman raking all the cigarette butts out of the concrete planters at the east entrance. I commented on what a job that must be and to my surprise, it was Caren Kernaghan from my political science class. It turns out that Caren maintains all the gardens and pretty much every spot where you see a flower in the spring and summer. She also created beauty in a little unknown place that has become her pet, which is beside the GP wing. It can be seen through the hall window as you are walking to the AUSU office.

It is a huge job with a miniscule budget of around 500 dollars, now that is not enough even to beautify an apartment balcony, let alone a university campus. Also, let it be known that she takes care of all the flowers in and around residence. Now I understand that we run a university here, not a park. Until now I never knew who took care of the landscaping, or wondered the cost.

You would think there would be a hefty budget for this sort of thing? Well this is certainly not the case. Caren donates a lot of her time, in kind. Caren came to school when she had lost her husband. She has always loved gardening and even used to rent out her backyard for weddings. Caren is most inspired by the property and its traditions.

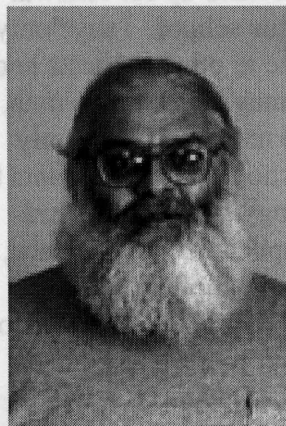
Needless to say Caren has a passion for horticulture. When change came she had to leave the sanctuary of her backyard and get an education. When she came here five years ago she noticed the conditions of the grounds. Things like trees were in flower beds, there was grass in places where it is almost impossible to get a lawn mower. She saw that this school needed someone with a green thumb, patience, hard work and dedication. Caren will be graduating this year and she said if she found a job in the Sault she would probably stay and work, but the odds are...? Caren told me the hardest thing to keep up with is the garbage and the cigarette butts everywhere.

So I ask those of you, when you are outside please respect the hard work that goes into creating something we all can enjoy. Caren also suggested some type of fundraiser to try and bring in some money to allow the beauty of our horticulture to grow into a fine sight. Now I know not everyone thinks that flowers are all that important, perhaps we should try to get some sort of cigarette butt receptacle. Until then realize and respect the effort that goes into something as simple as a flower. We can make the small conscious effort to respect our school and it will make a person's job a whole lot easier.

Number Crunching

John Gagnon

It has surfaced that Dr. DeFazio's interim contract will not be renewed on May 31. This will be a challenge to the Math Department, which seats only two fulltime tenure positions. Budgetary reasons are impeding the process of filling the vacant seat. I spoke with President Celia Ross on Easter Monday, early evening, concerning this loss. Dr. Ross had just completed collecting all of the sap from the trees outback between the school and the cemetery. I was hesitant about discussing this subject with her, knowing full well it is not conducive to an academic environment to be without a strong Mathematics curriculum. Dr. Ross suggested that sessional teachers would take some of the course load, and open the position up to competition when viable moneys are available.



Dr. Mark DeFazio
(Assistant Professor)
Dept. of Mathematics

On the flip side, where every negative has a positive, there has been an increase in enrollment at AUC, meaning the Social Sciences and Humanities will receive money to hire more sessionals. It is certainly understandable that an infrastructure must adhere to the demands of the population. We have encountered this scenario here at Algoma U before with Dr. Broadbeck, who was trapped in the same type of predicament, when our school had to re-structure its economy. This resulted in Dr. Broadbeck having to find other employment. There are ways around all situations, Dr. Broadbeck is with tenure, perhaps the nickel could be squeezed a little tighter for Dr. DeFazio. The Sault cannot lose another child. Dr. DeFazio has not only taught here at Algoma on more than one occasion, but he has also studied here, first as a boy taking a summer math course, and then in preparation for graduate school. Making the pain of his departure more enduring for us, as citizens of Sault Ste. Marie and students of AUC is that Dr. Mark DeFazio has had his hand in the labour of our institute, when he paid his dues helping in the construction of the library.

Appeals Dustin Mann

With final exams approaching fast it is imperative that students know their rights when it comes to final grades. As a student you might not be aware that you have the ability to appeal your final grade. If you feel that you have been unfairly graded or that your essay was granted the mark that you felt it deserved then you can appeal the professor's mark. The process is not hard. Basically what you need to do is act before a 60-day deadline, which after the 60 days your appeal will not be considered. To initiate the process, you need to try to mediate your mark with your professor. However, if you are unable to talk to your professor, the Academic Dean (Dr. Arthur Perlini) is the alternative. If both parties are unable to reach some sort of agreement, then the appeal will be given to an appeal committee made up of three faculty and two student representatives. This committee will consider both arguments strenuously and the committee will reach what they believe to be the fair grade. The appeals process is a right that is guaranteed to all students. That means do not be shy to ask questions about your grades. If you have any questions regarding the appealing of your marks, just ask a member of AUSU, who will be happy to guide you through the process.

Editor's Letter

John Gagnon

There is an upcoming year filled with dreams, aspirations and good tidings from the Sentient, as the torch is passed on. We should ask ourselves how we can make ourselves more accountable for ourselves. What can we bring to the table that is going to benefit each and every one of us here at AUC. Referring to our education, so to speak, having our mentors making us all aware of our environment, our place on this earth, our observation skills and most of all making us aware of how to be better people.

This is our time to change, we are the future and it begins at home. Students please take regard to the idea of keeping this voice, your voice. Everyone has a story, or a plight that needs to be addressed. If we are searching for students outside of our home country to visit and study, let's give them the true nature of the character of Canada. We should greet them when they arrive and show them where they may lay their head in comfort. We should feed them and clothe them for our climate. This is how it was with the first one's, let's evolve ourselves to acceptance of everyone we invite to our home.

This picture of our home entails more than the splendid beauty of age and architecture, as simple as it may look. In the walls, is the spirit, of all who walked our halls. We must look to our imminent future with great regard to our history, though not so much that we get lost in that history and keep making the same mistakes in the present. With a new leader taking over in May, we here at the Sentient are not sure if we are signing off till September? There are still students through summer, I guess we'll have to see how much integrity our new leader can produce.



You may contact us at sentient@auc.ca in order to keep us accountable and productive.

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If you have anything you would like to submit to the Sentient, please e-mail it to:

sentient@auc.ca

Please attach files in a Microsoft Word if possible. We reserve the right to refuse work that is harmful to anyone.

Letter to the Editor

The school is not planning on renewing Dr. DeFazio's contract. It comes up for renewal on June 1, 2005. He is the only and best math teacher we have at this school. I say "only" because the other teachers that are qualified to teach math specialize in other subjects and teach other subjects, they are not as advanced as Dr. DeFazio. He may be a strange man, but as a teacher he's brilliant. The man's a genius when it comes to math, and is exactly what the math department needs. This is a university, not a high school. Algoma wants to ween out and get rid of the math department and specialize in Biology. Let me ask you this, how can a school not offer advanced math courses and try to specialize in a science, when math and science go hand in hand? Without math you can't have biology. It's only logical. I spoke with my fellow classmates and we all agree. We can't lose Dr. DeFazio, he's the only pure math teacher we have left. And also we don't want to have to go to a different city to complete our diploma. Math is important to everyone, without it we would have never evolved. I agree math is not liked by all, but for the ones that do appreciate its uniqueness please leave it as may be. It may not have popular enrollment, but it does still have some enrollment. And also another quick note, the Provincial Government has given Ontario 160 million dollars to put towards improving the quality of math in Ontario. So the Government thinks its important, why doesn't Algoma? Please help us.

Thank you for your time.

Amy

AUSU would like to put a thank you out there, for all the Physical Plant staff for cleaning up, on late pub nights and every other time for that matter. Our gratitude can be shown by helping when we can, and by creating more work for you in the future. You are the unsung heroes of our school.

Waking Up the Dormant Voice

SELECTION FROM SHINGWAUK PROJECT

Presented by Dave Elliott, Aboriginal Affairs Representative, AUSU

LIFE AT SHINGWAUK

Since its inception in 1875 school life at the Shingwauk Home consisted of half a day of academic studies and the other half learning trades. The trades that were taught included: carpentry, shoemaking, tailoring, farming, laundry work, cooking, and general housework. These trades were considered quite important for the students to survive in the mainstream of Canadian society.

Most of the work done contributed to the upkeep of the School. The farming assisted in the feeding of the students. Carpentry proved to be helpful in maintaining the condition of Shingwauk.

In 1877 a residential school for girls was built. It was called the Wawanosh Home.

The population of Shingwauk during the first 25 years was strictly male and usually involved about 50 pupils mostly from ages 7 to 18 years. In 1911 an extension was built onto the School and the girls from Wawanosh were moved to Shingwauk Hall, which brought the population to 75.

During this era there were several buildings in addition to the main Hall. These included the Principal's residence, a large building with a drill hall downstairs and classrooms upstairs, a hospital, a hospital attendant's cottage, a carpenter's shop, farmer's cottage, shoe shop, barns, stables, and various other minor buildings.

<http://www.shingwauk.auc.ca>

Reflections of Montreal

Luke Dufour

On March 18th-21st, Algoma U's History Society descended upon the great Canadian city of Montreal for their annual vacation... or scholarly excursion, whichever you my dear reader might prefer. One of the highlights of the trip was the Eternal Egypt exhibit at the Musee des Beaux Arts. This exhibit showcased the growth of Egyptian art from approximately 3100 B.C. to 350 A.D, with all artifacts being from the extensive collection of the British Museum. Students also took in the life and culture of early Montreal at the McCord Museum, also experiencing it first hand during a walking tour of Old Montreal. Some students also opted for a tour of the Basilique Notre-Dame de Montreal, whose parish dates back to 1642, with the current building dating back to 1841. Many students would argue that the only event lacking in this years' trip was Dr. Newbigging's very attractive rendition of "I Can't Get No Satisfaction", however this debate will remain under the wraps of road trip confidentiality. This trip was a great success and a privilege for the 26 students who enjoyed it. Thanks to all who participated in the bowling night and hockey tournament and also to the AUSU for their generous support. A very special thanks also goes to chaperones, Dr. Reed-Elder and Dr. Newbigging.

Shingwauk Aboriginal Student Association Elections Results

By Dave Elliot

This year SASA has had an interesting year in putting together their constitution, which is expected to be ratified at the Annual General Meeting. With the election now official we have five new members that will take on their new positions on May 1st 2005. It is very important that support is given to those student representatives that decided to support the growing Aboriginal Student Population.

This year we have:

PRESIDENT -- *Rene Ojeebah*

FINANCE COORDINATOR -- *Marceline Muckuck*

CULTURAL COORDINATOR --- *Marina Thompson*

EVENTS COORDINATOR -- *Dianne Bob*

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR --- *Sandy Jacko*

We look to our leaders for guidance, knowledge, and constructive criticism.

*a song that sort of
explores
the realm of catharsis
and my arse is
a-capable of more
flush
adolescence in essence
is all about trust.*

Gord Downie

Algoma University Student Union

PRESIDENT - Mark Pitcher
VP INTERNAL - Justin Tetreault
VP EXTERNAL - Ryan Lefevbre
SECRETARY - Mary Frances Bouliane
FINANCE DIRECTOR - Joshua Pringle
COMMUNICATIONS - Jessica Mills
CAMPAIGNS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS - Paul Quesnele
OMBUDSPERSON - Skye Berry
SOCIAL SCIENCES REP - Jessica Ferlaino
ABORIGINAL REP - David Elliott
INTERNATIONAL REP - Asif Mowla
RESIDENCE REP - Jay Trinier

Behind the Scenes

Kristen Hoffman

When I was living out of town, I was asked the same question about my hometown numerous times – “what is there to do in the Soo?” My answer was always simple – “Lots”. There are different events happening all the time in this city that appeal to various interests. If you enjoy sports, you can watch or participate in a wide variety of activities, including hockey, football, basketball, soccer, curling, volleyball and more. If you’re one for the arts, there are new exhibits on display at the Art Gallery of Algoma as well as at lop lops and a few other places around town every couple of weeks. Or you can choose to take some art classes at the Art Gallery of Algoma or at one of the private studios in the Soo. If you are interested in theatre, the Soo is home to theatre groups such as Pull Chain, the Musical Comedy Guild and Theatre Algoma. For the music lovers, there are plenty of local concerts, featuring different genres of music, to attend throughout the month, as well as events like Jazz Night at Docks on Thursdays. There are also many places around town where you can learn how to play musical instruments, such as the Algoma Conservatory of Music and other private locations.

Sault Ste. Marie also offers many festivals throughout the year, the most famous being one of Canada’s largest winter carnivals – Bon Soo. Other festivals include the Soo Locks Festival, Soo Rotary Club Community Days, The Great Tugboat Race and Parade, Rotaryfest, Algoma Fall Festival, Hempfest, and Echoes of the World Drum Festival. The time and effort that goes into these events is tremendous and many hard-working people go unnoticed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in these projects for their effort towards the betterment of Sault Ste. Marie. These athletes, teams, artists, musicians, production companies and organizations who contribute their energy make this city an enjoyable place to live.



Niagara

Murray Lamothe

Murray Lamothe is a local businessman and current student at Algoma University. This is an adaptation from The Day Niagara Falls Ran Dry By David Phillips

Who would have dreamed that the mighty Niagara Falls with all its power and grandeur would suddenly come to a standstill? Unexpected and without precedent, that’s exactly what happened on the night of March 29, 1848. During the following 30 hours citizens were puzzled and amazed by this phenomenon. Many of the 5000 onlookers stood silently by while other more adventurous types seized the opportunity to dig up riches lodged in the muddy river bed. Sometimes when we least expect it, our lives become overcome by some unexpected event leaving us high and dry. What are the options? Remain on the sidelines or use the opportunity to reflect, assess, dig in and make some changes?

Some brave souls set out that morning into the shallow pools of the past, salvaging long forgotten relics from the war of 1812. It takes courage to venture back into times of conflict. Sometimes the muddy pools can be unpleasant and perhaps more than one floundering fish is gasping in the crevasses of unfinished business. Perhaps it’s a friendship that needs to be reestablished or a relationship that needs mending caused by some long forgotten event. Risky indeed, not knowing if an apology will cause bitterness to rise to the surface or be met with mutual relief.

Adventurers who could see that beauty was more than skin deep had their eyes on a bigger prize. Old growth pine logs lodged tenuously above the falls were ripe for the picking. Inside blackened timbers lay treasurers of wood preserved and seasoned for furniture of timeless beauty. Could deeper reflection provide new insight causing us to look beyond the rugged surface of human behavior and glimpse into the heartwood of individuals who have long been written off?

Opportunity was knocking for the captain of the Maid of the Mist. Those jagged rocks that threatened to pierce her hull were now exposed. When hauling out the shovel is not enough blasting may be the only alternative. Psychologists tell us that 50% of fatal illness is caused by self-destructive behavior. Habits are not easily removed. Drastic results require drastic measures. The dynamite came out that day, ridding the threat forever. A change in behavior may require more than soul searching but a change of life style to resume safe passage on the journey of life.

The unexpected and unexplained caused many that day to seek spiritual solace in their local church or sweat lodge. When the events of life cannot be understood or questions easily answered many look beyond themselves for answers. For some it was all gloom and doom. To others it was an occasion for inventory of more than failures but of deeds well done, friendships made and kindness extended. Many found strength and renewal, to bring them forward into a new dimension of gratitude and change. There is balance to be struck in this soul-searching business.

All returned to normal on the night of March 31, 1848. The falls thundered and the eddies swirled, the waterwheels churned and the factories resumed. A combination of shifting winds piled up ice and fair weather had caused the Niagara to come to a halt. To many it is business as usual when a crisis has past. For those who dare to venture out and seize the moment, their lives may be enriched forever.

America the Great

Aaron Burgess

There are claims that the terror on war in the year twenty o four is about oil, and with a Bush in office, how can anyone honestly question the intentions. Jr. is a former governor of the oil State. The money and family have ties with other cartel families. As cheap supplies dry up elsewhere, oil in Iraq requires nothing more than death of the poor. This illegal occupation by the Pentagon is nothing short of brutal war crimes. Vetoed by a world stage, both in the political boardroom and on the city streets, America attacked a country that had been on U.N. sanctions for a decade. The militants defend their morality with only Kalashnikov rifles from the nineteen eighties, and homemade explosive devices, while America has weaponry of a very technological and advanced proportion; nothing short of instigators and ignorant bullies.

Aside from the family that America supplied weapons for two decades ago, Iraq is extremely poverty ridden. The former ruling Hussein Family was rich with bricks of gold, exotic cars, jewelry, all kinds of wealthy spoils. This extravagance and filth of riches was too much for the Bush clan. There are no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, but there was a rich Arab in a country full of starving civilians. This much the same as in America.

Rich Christians operate a country full of starving civilians, except America IS a mass weapon of destruction. How has the war helped with clean drinking water and sanitary disposal of sewage? The only thing that this war has done is help some very elite in America line their, already silk and satin, pockets. But let us explore other avenues of reason.

Extremist's come in all shapes and sizes. There are some who are extreme Jesus followers, and others follow Mohammad to the extreme level; whether one is ultimately right is not what is in question here. Arabia is Islamic, Israeli is Judaic, and America is the main player, praying hypocritically to Jesus. Any irony is his being learned of the Pentateuch? Anyhow, the real religion going on with factions is the dollar sign. Who will win the race for power? Who can purchase whose paramilitary aid and techniques?

Jr. woke up form an alcohol-induced blindness and looked at his vomit-covered face in a mirror. He was from thereafter, Born Again. Ahh, bless his soul, he's been saved. In the meantime, Texas has put more Africans to death than ever during his term. Jail facilities are being built and filled faster than their demand can handle. Death spews from his venomous mind as thousands of women and children have been maimed and killed due to the chase to the oil fields. Or is it actually, a war against Islam? Are religious zealots creating a prophecy, an Armageddon, a Jihad?

America challenges the holy shrines of Islam in Iraq. Christians and Muslims are the teams. If

we wanted to look at the other Middle East problem, it is Muslim and Jewish teams. But what is the American vice that rivals oil. Sure, oil helps our industrial inventions run, but caffeine is what keeps our addicted bodies functioning. America is a heavy, heavy consumer of this drug, a society that is hooked on the java fis. This is a war about control of coffee. That's right. This whole atrocity stems from the corporate driven, profit seeking, coffee companies. When Baghdad was the seat of world power in the first century Anno Domini, goats of the Kaldi would eat the coffee beans as they wandered the Arabian Peninsula and become frisky and excited. The herdsmen took not of the goats' change in personality after munching on these shrubs and began ingesting the drug too. Across the Red Sea in Ethiopia, coffee trees also prospered, thus the whole region became a haven for trade. Mesopotamia was the hub of the coffee industry, and almost two thousand years later, it is still the reason for slaughters of the innocent.

To this day Muslims refrain from two dietary staples of the American diet. Pigs and booze. They do; however, still share the employment of a good cup of coffee. There are American cities with coffee shops on three out of four corners at an intersection.

The big companies that are reaping the financial benefits of caffeine addiction in America need to control the flow of coffee in the Middle East as well. Timmy Hoes, Buckstars and other international chains of coffee suppliers are certain to continue with their astounding and continually growing income. War is good for more control.

What we have here is a Christian nation that is, virtually, intravenously sustained by coffee and oil invading an Arab nation that is sitting on the historical beginnings of coffee, and full of oil within the land. Take your pick. I'm going with the pathetic reason for hate inflicting crimes by the villains America as stemming back to the discovery of a socially accepted stimulant. Our beleaguered present day circumstances could be solved if we resisted that uplifting jolt of java we take each day. Will that be with one lump or two?

Just a Question

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Men's

Varsity

Basketball

Team



Kyle Beers, Paul Best, Tony Boniferro, Adam Carpenter, Matt Chaimbrone, Cory Glaister, John Kasch, Ryan Lefebvre, Ben Myers, Jarret Sanders, Brian Smith, Kellan Stilin, Jacob Tomas, Jason Trinier, Stefon Wilson, Head Coach Jeff Giovanatti, Assistant Coach Mike Cundari, Assistant Coach Joey Turco



Women's

Varsity

Basketball

Team

Bottom Row : Mel Viotto, Melissa Stumpo, Jessica King, Jenna Caicco, Sarah Medaglia, **Top Row :** Erin Gordon, Danielle Harmsen, Lisa Medaglia, Jen Cronin, Chrissy Caputo, Amanda Knuff, Coach Ed Green

The Buzzer Sounds...

By: Travis Merrett

The men and women's basketball seasons have come to an end here at Algoma. Many might think that it was another end to an expected disappointing season. However that is the furthest from the truth. Records aside, both clubs managed to obtain the respect of their opponents and of myself, with the next task being the rest of the student body. In a town known for hockey, I am sure more than just myself would enjoy seeing a university level varsity team hit the ice, but that doesn't seem to be an option in the near future. So with that said, the sheer appreciation I have for sports comes into play. Watching Algoma's men's and women's basketball teams play this season was a surprising treat. To be quite honest, they were down right enjoyable. Both clubs had the competitive attitudes to keep the scores tight and push their opponents to the limits. Thus, you'd think another losing season would leave a sour taste in the mouths of the team members and fans. That is not the case. Both teams can perform. That is not the issue. With persistence and quality coaching the wins will come. Therefore, leaving one variable from the equation, fan support. Without support from someone in our everyday

lives, accomplishing even the littlest tasks would become a difficult feat. Whereas having that extra little bit of intensity from a cheering bleacher section is something I think both clubs would benefit from. When the clock is ticking down, the T-Birds are down by three, and we have the ball, a silent gym actually speaks louder than a rocking one ever would.

Plain and simply, the lack of support for our varsity basketball teams, demands nothing but a lack of effort on their part, and it has surprised me that both teams have yet to fall into that scenario. With that said, the missing entity to a winning season just might be a rambunctious crowd playing as a sixth man.

We as a student body should be proud of the men and women that make up our varsity teams in any sport. The fact that the skill and sportsmanship is there on a university level is remarkable. It is just sad to see that no one else recognizes that, or does, and just chooses to ignore it. I think we can all do a little more as far as supporting the men and women Thunderbirds who playing in any sport, specifically basketball. The little effort it would take on our part would be a nice gesture in appreciating the huge effort that is put forth on their part.

Next year will bring a new season, and a new desire for excellence. As students, let's be a part of that, and give credit where credit is surely due.

Open Letter to Minister Kennedy: Education Students Deserve Fairness

Honourable Gerard Kennedy
Minister of Education
Mowat Block, 22nd Floor
900 Bay Street,
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Kennedy,

I am writing to you to express our concern with the current status of teacher certification in Ontario. I understand that although the Ministry has eliminated the Ontario Teacher Qualifying Test it still intends to introduce an alternative test for those who have completed their Bachelor of Education.

Our members who will be graduating this semester are concerned that they will only be issued a provisional teacher's certificate, as opposed to the permanent teacher's certificate. There is growing concern that graduates applying for jobs having only provisional certificates will be at a disadvantage as compared to those who will have received a permanent teacher's certificate.

The wide-spread opposition to the Ontario Teacher Qualifying Test was undoubtedly a factor in your government's decision to eliminate the Ontario Teacher Qualifying Test. We are concerned that replacing the OTQT with another will amount to an exercise in duplication. We are even more troubled that the mechanism for the alternative test is not yet available for students who are graduating this spring.

Students are extremely concerned that a delay in issuing a permanent teacher's certificate for this year's graduates will create two tiers of students applying for teaching positions—those with a permanent certificate and those with a provisional certificate. Moreover, many students have plans to leave the province and the country. A requirement that graduates must travel back to Ontario some months in the future to take an additional test, may create hardship for many. I urge your government to either dispense with the test altogether, or waive the test for those graduating this year.

Sincerely,
Jesse Greener
Ontario Chairperson

Federation Supports Striking Students in Quebec

The Canadian Federation of Students has joined its sister organisation in Québec, the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec (FEUQ), in endorsing the efforts of striking students in that province. Yesterday, the FEUQ, the largest student organization in Québec, officially endorsed what has become the biggest student action in the province in more than a decade.

Over 30 students' unions from universities and colleges in Québec have held or are holding campus referenda seeking mandates to join a province-wide student strike against Québec Premier Jean Charest's \$103 million cut to the Québec student grants program. According to the FEUQ and the Fédération étudiante collégiale du Québec, last year's \$103 million cut resulted in a 62% increase in student debt.

"All students across Canada have a stake in supporting the efforts of students in Québec to fight for

Have We Gotten Our Fair Share of Facts from Bob Rae? Top Five Facts That Rae Overlooked:

1. Bob Rae talks about the fairness of income-contingent loan repayment schemes but he refuses to level with students about the real cost of such a program. Under an ICLR scheme, with just 2.5% interest, a student will pay 20% to 40% more for their education. That amounts to as much as \$10,600 more than the current system. These added costs are independent of the massive fee hikes Rae envisions as a primary component of his ICLR fixation. Rae consistently forgets to mention that those students who borrow are already, by definition, the poorest students. These are indeed novel definitions of what constitutes "progressive policy" and a "fair share."

2. While Bob Rae always finds time to say why tuition fees need to go up, he won't tell us that: Every \$1,000 in tuition fee hikes makes it nearly 20% less likely that a student from a low income family will complete his or her program.

3. Bob Rae lauds the new "study now, pay forever" model in the UK. What is mysteriously missing from his discussion paper is Stephen Machin's comprehensive study of the new UK policy. Machin concludes that since the high fee/high loan model has been introduced, the participation rates of low income students have declined by close to 50%. The new growth in the system is coming from wealthy and middle income students. In short, Machin demonstrates that high fees shut out the poor.

4. As part of his campaign for higher tuition fees, Bob Rae is so busy telling us how much money college and university students will make that he forgets to tell us that: In 2001, a graduate earned on average a mere \$32,736; this is more than \$3,000 less than the Statistics Canada minimum required to raise a family of four in a major urban centre.

5. While Rae is enamoured with the US system of market-driven fees, he neglects to tell us that between 1996 and 2001, the participation rates of low income students fell by 5%.

affordable post-secondary education," said George Soule, National Chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students.

Currently there are no tuition fees for colleges in Québec, and university tuition fees have been frozen for 31 of the past 36 years. However, the cut to the Québec student grants program demonstrates the Charest government's preference of loans over grants. Student leaders in Québec are concerned that this shift in student financial assistance policy is a prelude to deregulating tuition fees for all Québec students.

"The shift from a system of grants to loans is a regressive turn for the Québec government," said Soule. "Studies repeatedly show that grants, not loans, improve access to education. The cut to the grants program is being felt by those who need the most assistance, students from low- and middle-income backgrounds"

Frostbite Tour 2005

By Kristen Hoffman

On Thursday March 10th, 2005, the Canadian hosted Frostbite Tour 2005. The event featured local favourite, the Inner City Surfers, as well as Ghosts of Modern Man, The Planet Smashers, and headliners, Guttermouth. It was a sold out show and all ages were invited.

All bands put forth an abundance of energy into their performances, and the crowd responded, dripping with sweat and cheering at the top of their lungs, in a huge jam-packed mosh pit.

I arrived at the show around 8:00 p.m. and was upset to hear that I missed the Inner City Surfers. Although I have seen the band numerous times in the past, they remain one of my favourites. With upbeat, catchy tunes that appeal to diverse musical tastes, they are always a pleasure to watch and deliver a remarkable performance that gets even the worst dancers up on their feet.

Ghosts of Modern Man took the stage next. They impressed everyone who had not heard of them previously and rocked out those who had. The four-man band from Saskatchewan plowed their audience with an energetic performance of heavy melodies, despite being up late the night before. I was lucky enough to chat with two members from Ghosts of Modern Man after their set. Guitarist/vocalist Stacey Hahn and bassist Jamie Deal took some time out to answer a few questions:

Me - How is your tour going so far?

Stacey - Really, really fun. Awesome. All the shows have been really cool and all the bands have been really cool to tour with.

Me - Do you tour a lot?

Stacey - Yeah, we've been touring for about three years now.

Me - I see you guys have played a lot of shows lately, are you looking forward to some time off?

Stacey - Umm, no. We're pretty much touring right until June and at the beginning of June, we're doing a tour back home so we're pretty much going to be touring until July now. But, I love touring, it's fun and we get to play cool shows.

Me - what do you guys do when you're on the road to pass the time?

Stacey - Well, we have a playstation in the van and NHL 2005 and we just went to a pawn shop and bought a big trophy, so we're going to have the van trophy. We call our van Timmy, so we're going to have the Timmy trophy. We're working on our season right now. Playoffs will probably be in about three or four days from now.

Me - Who is winning so far?

Stacey - Jamie! He's been kicking ass. Every game he plays, he wins by like 7 goals.

Jamie - Yeah, I've never played this game before, ever!

Me - What is the biggest band you have opened for?

Stacey - ...I don't know. I haven't thought about that!

Jamie - Led Zeppelin back in '79.

Me - Wow, you guys look really good for your age! What is your favourite place to play?



Ghosts of Modern Man

Stacey - Sault Ste. Marie.

Me - You don't have to say that just because you are in the Soo, you know.

Jamie - Actually, I got my ass kicked by a girl last time we were here.

Me - Well I hope you don't hold that against the Soo.

Jamie - No, of course not.

Ghosts of Modern Man will return to Sault Ste. Marie on April 13th to play in the Smallman/Circa tour at the Oddfellows Hall. They will be playing alongside Choke, the Reason and Brazil. It will be a great show, so come out and support the bands. Doors open at 7:00 p.m., all ages, \$10 at the door to get in.

The Planet Smashers followed Ghosts of Modern Man at the Frostbite Tour. They pleased the crowd with feel-good favourites such as "Surfing in Tofino" and "Super Orgy Porno Party". They put on a great stage show and even managed to get the whole crowd to sit on the floor during one point in the show.

Guttermouth headlined the tour and as their name suggests, they were throwing out insults to the crowd left and right. Their heavy punk sound and tough stage persona drove the crowd wild. I witnessed a few tussles in the audience during their performance, perhaps due to their aggressive show, or possibly because no one was allowed outside the Canadian for fresh air. There were people crowd surfing and getting hurled on and off the stage. It was one of the wildest performances I have seen in a long time.

Needless to say, it was an exhilarating and memorable show by all bands involved. It was impressive to see such a great turnout and hopefully we will witness more shows like this in the future.

April Events

Friday April 1st

Downbeat Lounge: Mocombo

Saturday April 2nd

Downbeat Lounge: Mocombo

Art Gallery of Algoma: Murder, Mystery and Mayhem

Foggy Notions: Stiffler's Mom

Tuesday April 5th

Canadian: Robin Black feat. Fitswitch, Gates of Winter

Friday April 8th

Downbeat Lounge: Jay Scali Trio

Madison's: Fitswitch, Gates of Winter

Foggy Notions: Cleveland Steamer

Saturday April 9th

Downbeat Lounge: Jay Scali Trio

Oddfellows Hall: The Fullblast, The Crossed, Shore, Smeltzer

Foggy Notions: Cleveland Steamer

Art Gallery of Algoma: Last day of Carl Beam Exhibition "It's All Relative"

Sunday April 10th

Downbeat Lounge: Joel Plaskett feat. Jay Case

Wednesday April 13th

Oddfellows Hall: Choke, The Reason, Ghost of Modern Man, Brazil

Foggy Notions: Cadeaux

Friday April 15th

Downbeat Lounge: Agriculture Club

Saturday April 16th

Downbeat Lounge: Elvyn

Sunday April 17th

Canadian: 30 Years too Late, A Fall From Innocence, Caveman Morrison

Friday April 22nd

Downbeat Lounge: Big Wheel and the Spokes

Foggy Notions: Stiffler's Mom

Saturday April 23rd

Downbeat Lounge: Big Wheel and the Spokes

Foggy Notions: Stiffler's Mom

Sunday April 24th

Downbeat Lounge: Ann Vriend

Monday April 25th

Downbeat Lounge: Greg MacPherson

Thursday April 26th

Oddfellows Hall: Social Code, The Crossed, A Fall from Innocence, Oceania

Canadian: Lights Below, Soldiers of Misfortune, Fitswitch, Oceania

Friday April 29th

Downbeat Lounge: Startlefish

Saturday April 30th

Downbeat Lounge: Startlefish