

# The Nugget

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1996

NAIT's STUDENT NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 10

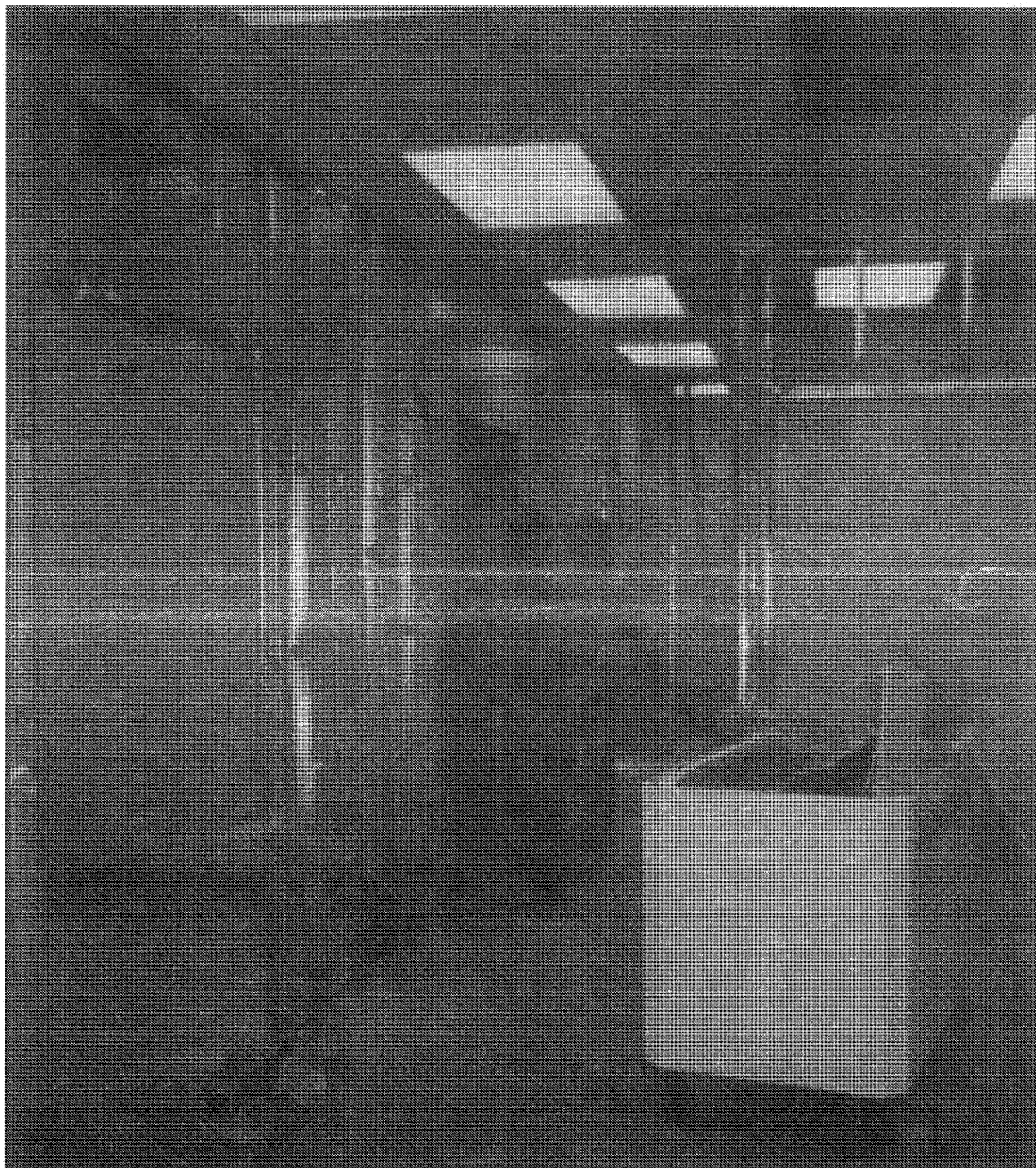
## RENOVATION FOOLS

by Scott Hayes

If it seems like NAIT isn't quite the same as it was when you left it in April (assuming you're a returning student), or even if you have a really keen eye for detail, or maybe you're omniscient, it's because many things were changed over the summer. NAIT went renovation crazy after April finals and most of the projects are only recently finished with a few finishing touches left on some others.

**'The Student Store  
and the old  
Bookstore by  
McNally Library  
have converged in  
one place. . . '**

Take a look down the NAITSA corridor. NAITSA has some brand new offices to work in, with a beautiful new reception, specially designed to make it more receptive. Good work! Right across the hall is a smaller but more economical Nugget office. As Editor-in-Chief of the Nugget, I would like to extend a personal invitation to visit me any time to look around the office and answer any questions or concerns you may have. Remember: I work for you. The Student Store and the old Bookstore by McNally Library have converged in one place, the new and improved and very modern Bookstore in the newly opened South Learning Centre. Almost forgot to mention that. The building on Princess Elizabeth Avenue that wasn't there before is the SLC. Contained within are some lecture theatres, some lab rooms, the new bookstore, of course, and other stuff I can't think of right now. So check it out for yourself. And finally, the main hallway with the Registrar's Office is in the finishing touches stage. Soon it will look exactly like it did before, except better.



*Student Associations offices part way through the renovations.*

**Will you get a Job?**

**see page 2**

**Heard it through  
the Grapevines.**

**see page 4**

**Welcome Week  
Schedule.**

**see page 10**



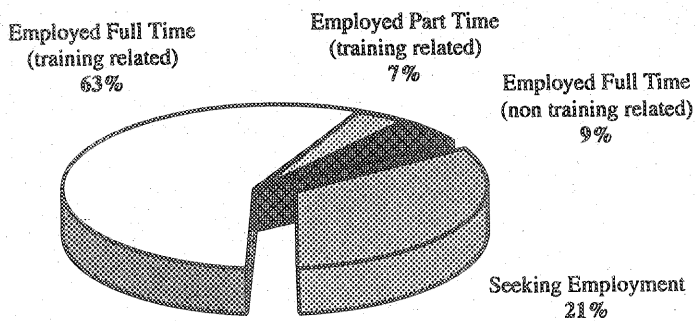
# N E W S

## WILL YOU GET A JOB?

Some people come to NAIT because of the institute's success in finding its grads jobs. Others come here because of lower tuition, friendlier instructors, and two year schooling. In most cases, however, it is the combination of all these factors.

Here are a few stats you may find interesting.

### overall PLACEMENT



#### Overall Placement (Class of 95)

Employed Full Time (training related) 63%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 7%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 9%  
Seeking Employment 21%

2,743 graduates responded to the survey.  
9% are continuing their studies,  
74% found employment in Edmonton and area,  
3% found employment in Calgary,  
16% in various locations across Alberta,  
6% in other regions of Canada, and  
1% outside Canada.

#### Architectural Technologies

Employed Full Time (training related) 46%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 3%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 11%  
Seeking Employment 40%

#### Business Programs

Employed Full Time (training related) 65%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 6%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 8%  
Seeking Employment 21%

#### Civil Engineering Technologies

Employed Full Time (training related) 73%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 2%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 8%  
Seeking Employment 17%

#### Electrical/Electronics Engineering Technologies

Employed Full Time (training related) 64%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 1%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 12%  
Seeking Employment 22%

#### Environmental Engineering Technologies

Employed Full Time (training related) 66%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 1%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 7%  
Seeking Employment 26%

#### Health Sciences

Employed Full Time (training related) 53%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 25%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 5%  
Seeking Employment 17%

#### Hospitality and Applied Arts

Employed Full Time (training related) 70%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 14%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 7%  
Seeking Employment 9%

#### Mechanical Engineering Technologies

Employed Full Time (training related) 59%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 2%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 13%  
Seeking Employment 26%

#### Petroleum/Mineral/Chemical/Groundwater Engineering Technologies

Employed Full Time (training related) 66%  
Employed Part Time (training related) 0%  
Employed Full Time (non training related) 8%  
Seeking Employment 26%

There are a few programs with extraordinary grad placement. Court Reporting and Geomatics Engineering are both reported to have 100% full time employment (training related). Others worth mentioning are Computer Systems Technology (89%), Photography Technology (89%), and Petroleum Engineering Technology (88%). There are a few more technologies with full time (training related) grad placement above 80%, and many in the high 60's and 70's.

If you learn that your particular technology only has a grad placement of about 50%, don't sweat it. It just means that you will have to work extra hard. It is important to

remember that if you enjoy what you are doing, no marks are unachievable.

On average, full time enrollment at NAIT exceeds 6,000 students while part time enrollment exceeds 38,000 students. NAIT conducts one of the most comprehensive grad surveys among post-

secondary educational institutions in Canada.

Information gathered from the 1995 Placement Survey guide produced by NAIT Career & Counseling Services. For more detailed information, pick up a 1995 Placement Survey at the Career Services Office in the North Lobby (Room O-117).



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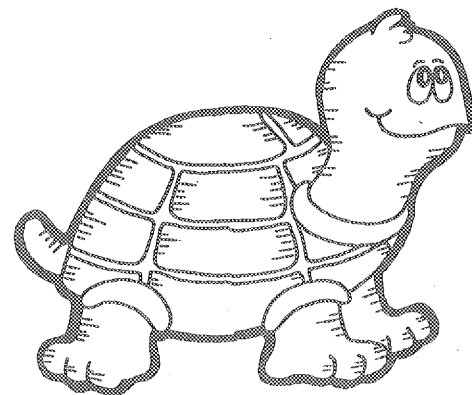
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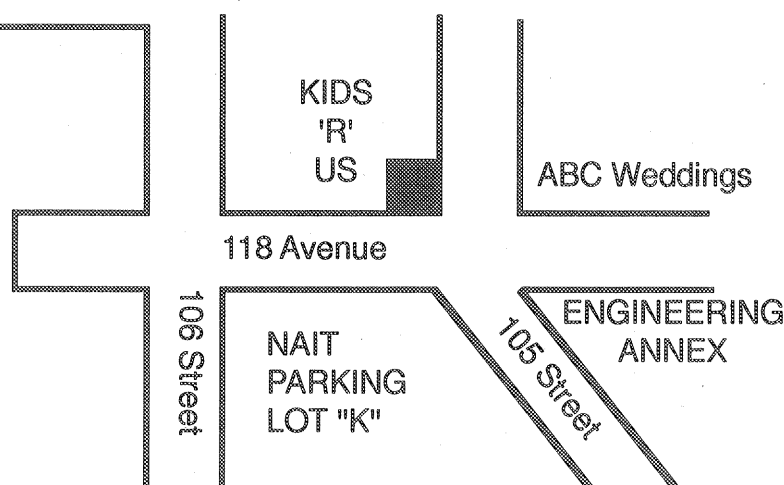
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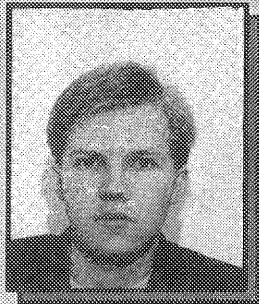
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## O P I N I O N



**SCOTT HAYES**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

# Choosing Life

Life is what you make it. Sure that may sound like an odd thing to say, maybe even a little too obvious. But it's true. For the most part, things do not just happen to you. You choose them. Whether you realize it or not, you choose them. That's really the great thing about life: you make your choices and you either make good ones or bad ones and you reap the rewards of both. If it's a good choice, then you've succeeded, and if it's a bad one, then you get to learn something. Mistakes are rewards too. Regardless, you're making your own reality. Take drugs for example. (That's only a figure of speech, not a request for you to take drugs just for this example.) With any mind-altering substance, the perception of reality changes. That's the point of taking them; change your reality. Sometimes pleasantly, sometimes not, some-

times as a stimulation, and sometimes as a depressant. Whatever happens, reality itself is a constant. The drugs only change your perception of that reality. There's six billion people on this planet, and we all share the same reality, but no two of

## There is only one reality but there are six billion different interpretations of it.

us share the same perceived reality. At least no one can prove it.

Drugs or no, our minds act as filters all on their own. There is only one reality but there are six billion different interpretations of it. This would make life like one great Rorschach test. And a lot of perception has to do with knowledge and not with purely physical or physiological elements. Centuries ago, most people thought that the world was

flat, but that was only because they didn't know anything else. That's what they were taught and no other evidence to the contrary was introduced. Despite the undeniable fact that the world is round, the general perception was different. An alternate reality was created. They chose to believe it. Even if it was forced on them, they still had the choice to let it be forced on them.

Why are we even in school? Some of us like to learn, some of us have nothing better to do, some of us have careers in mind so we can provide for our families. We choose this. Just wanting to provide for your family is not enough. That want is a goal and you have to work toward that goal. Say your goal is a job paying \$30,000 a year. These jobs aren't just given out to everybody who wants them, right? You have to earn the job by proving your-

self worthy through training or scholastic achievement or whatever. Training is preparation, preparation is effort, and effort is not just something you do without thought. You do it because it's for a reason, an important reason. It was something you chose to do.

Now that we have established that we choose our own realities, let us elaborate and say that any reality can be chosen. First we must agree that humans have an infinite capacity for change and growth, leaving a list of limitless possibilities for the future. People dreamed of flying to the moon but thought it impossible. People didn't think the atom could be split. Despite the doubt, those dreams were important stimuli. They are, however, only stimuli, and must be tempered with a good dose of hands-on experience. Dreams are the goals but those goals can only be attained by using your hands and your brain together.



**SPENCER MYERS**  
COMMUNICATIONS VP

# These be the Rules . . .

For those of you new to the institute, you are about to discover one of the most entertaining and controversial sections in our student newspaper, The Grapevines. The Grapevines are short messages where a student can say "hello" to the one that he or she admires, say "thanks" for whatever needs saying.

Some of you would not believe the things people write expecting it to be published. However, it is not fair for me to lecture you without setting some guidelines.

1. No swearing. You are obviously an intelligent human being if you're a student at NAIT, so apply your intelligence and express yourself without using profanities.

2. I have a problem with names. That's right, names! If you're in love with the hot babe in the class, great. If you want to say that in The Grapevines, fine. If you want to say his or her name, forget it. Names cause problems, and sometimes, the law gets involved. (I have nothing against the law. The fact of the matter is, on occasion, there are donuts around the office. I'd like to keep it that way).

3. The Nugget is a small paper; keep that in mind when submitting your Grapevines. A four page report on the cabaret you went to last

## If you're in love with the hot babe in the class, great.

week will likely lead to a job as an editor, not a blurb in The Grapevines.

4. When submitting anything to be published in The Nugget, be sure to include your name and student ID number. If you decide to leave them out, the staff at the Nugget will de-

cide to leave your article/Grapevine out. The name is kept on file in case of legal ramifications. The only people who will have access to those names are myself, Scott Hayes (Editor-in-Chief), the typesetter, lawyers, police officers, and judges. I will not release the name to students or staff. That includes the other NAITSA executives and NAIT executives.

To make these rules easy to remember, Scott has developed the K.I.C.K. (Keep it clean, kids) principle. It states that submissions will remain confidential within the bounds of the law. The Nugget

would like the Grapevine section as positive as possible. If you have a beef with somebody, please try to work things out outside of the public press. We reserve the right to refuse to print any letter or Grapevine. All submissions become the property of The Nugget.

If you find these harsh or tame, phone me, visit me, something! Nothing can change without your input. I will monitor The Grapevines very closely throughout the year to insure that these rules are respected.

Thank you for your understanding into the matter.

# Shinerama '96

**Who:** All Students  
**When:** Starts September 7

**Why:** Pub Crawl  
Great Prizes  
Free T-Shirts  
Free Food

**How:**

Volunteer for Shinerama by signing-up at the NAITSA office(E-131)

The **Nugget**

The Official Student Newspaper of

**NAITSA**  
Student Association

Room E-128  
11762 - 106 Street  
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For Advertising  
Inquiries please call  
Advertising Manager  
Linda Campbell  
471-8866

## Submissions ENCOURAGED

**Deadline:**

**4:00 p.m.**

First school day  
of the week

All submissions must  
be accompanied by  
**Your Name**

and  
**Student ID Number**

Contributors  
Tammy Carreiro,  
Jonathan Hogg, Spencer  
Myers, and  
Stuart Werenka the  
master magician.

The opinions contained in The Nugget are the opinions of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Nugget staff or NAITSA. The Nugget reserves the right to edit letters and viewpoints for brevity.



# STUDENT LOAN BLUES

It seems that the most important thing to the average consumer is quality customer service. Whether you are buying a car, a computer, or in this case, applying for a student loan, superior customer service pays.

told me about Bank of Montreal's Student Line of Credit. Sounded good. One problem. Time. Wrong. Bill gave me the phone number for Bank of Montreal's telephone banking center. I had nothing to lose so I gave them a call. Before I knew

**'For more information on the Student Line of Credit, visit Bank of Montreal's web site at <http://www.bmo.ca> or drop by any branch and ask for the loan application'**

A few weeks ago, I was introduced to the laptop group in the Business program here at NAIT. This is where a student is required to carry a laptop to all of his or her classes. When I decided to express my interest in the laptop stream, I had one question on my mind; do I qualify for a student loan to pay for a laptop. The answer is no, so I almost gave up.

As everything was coming together in the first few weeks in August, Bill Fricker, the Assistant Program Head of First Year Business,

it, I was pre-approved for a student line of credit. Within days, I had access to my money.

For more information on the Student Line of Credit, visit Bank of Montreal's web site at <http://www.bmo.ca> or drop by any branch and ask for the loan application or call the telephone banking center at 1-800-665-9665.

Keep in mind that this is not a paid advertisement for the Bank of Montreal, just a way of me saying thanks to all those with the bank who helped me get my loan.

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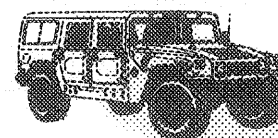
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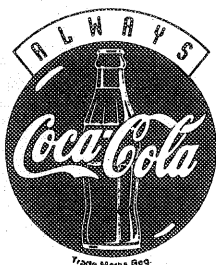
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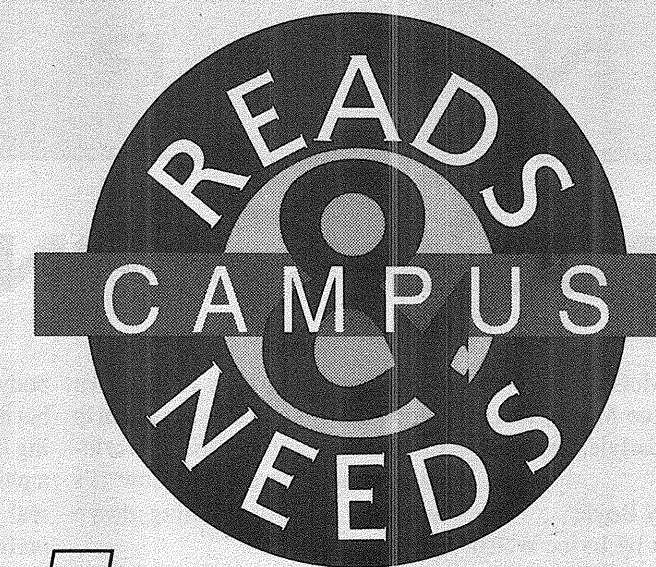
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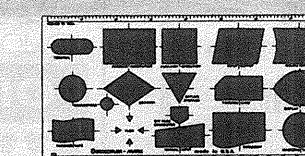


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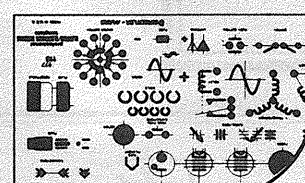


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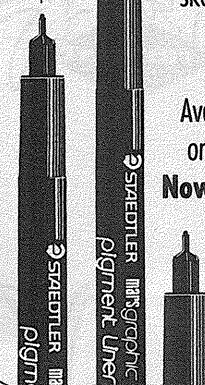
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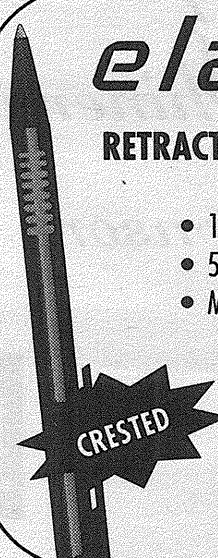


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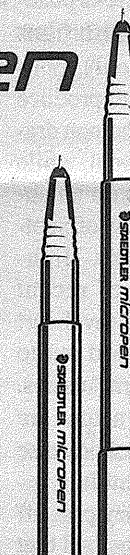


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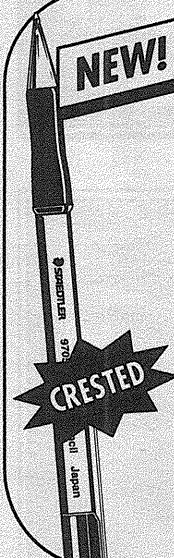
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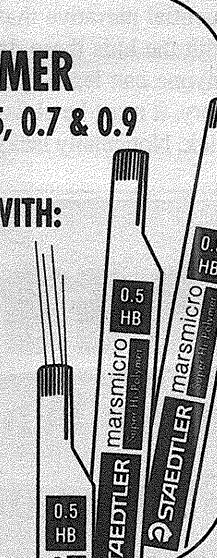


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# ENTERTAINMENT

## CYNIC'S CORNER: TRAINSPOTTING

Starring: Ewen McGregor, Ewen Bremner, Jonny Lee Miller, Kevin McKidd, Robert Carlyle, and Kelly McDonald

Directed by Danny Boyle

Based on the book by Irvine Welsh

In a few years, nobody will even care about American assembly line movies cranked out by the Hollywood pap machine. Tinseltown will be a deserted playground with the rotting corpses of Encino Man and Happy Gilmore lying face down in the ditch. Steven Seagal will be a decrepit toothless maniac eating the flesh of rodents.

Why? One word: Trainspotting.

Trainspotting is the latest show-no-mercy thrill ride from the makers of last year's dark star, *Shallow Grave*. They're the mavericks pushing the new wave of Scottish films to a higher frontier. The only motivation for these people is to produce gritty, darkly humorous human dramas bordering on the surreal, while still keeping a death grip on an absolutely unsentimental view of Scotland by avoiding the faux Highlander swordfight b.s. of recent times like *Rob Roy* or *Braveheart* where key roles are slopped out to Irishmen or American-born Aussies. Here we know that the actors are true-blood kilt-wearers; nobody else could fake that thick rumbling incomprehensible brogue they pass off as a language. That and the fact that if Sean Connery doesn't star in it then he is at least a main focus of dialogue. It's a Scottish law. TS is one of those rare cinematic delights where not only the hype preceding it will make you excited to see it but also the seeing it will make you ex-

cited for having seen it. Not like *Showgirls*. It's caused a sensation in Europe and through many worldwide film festivals and now it's working towards running down North America too.

A group of five friends, described aptly as losers, liars, psychos, thieves, and junkies, have a lifestyle that us sensible sweater-wearers and early-to-bedders generally don't like to think about: the heroin lifestyle. They live it through

**'... he doesn't believe in polluting the body with those darned chemicals, but this doesn't stop him from drinking like a frat boy and smoking like a philosophy major.'**

all of its squalid glamour to its lavish revulsion. Stuff like the romance of always looking for a vein and all the rituals of cooking up to shoplifting as social support and that hollow feeling inside. Our anti-hero is Mark Renton (McGregor), a junkie who wants to go straight but has trouble completing the task successfully. He knows he's a bad person but he's trying to change. He has a philosophy. You can create your own reality by making life choices. He just has to make better ones. Renton hangs out with Begbie, Spud, Sick Boy, and Tommy.

Begbie (Carlyle) is the gang toughie. Played with the casual intensity of a smouldering volcano with the dial set to defrost, Begbie lives from some macho testosterone always-out-to-prove-something centre of his sour remorseless brain. He brags about his brawling bravado just before he carelessly throws an empty beer mug into a crowded bar scene, obviously instigating another mêlée. He doesn't do smack because he doesn't believe in polluting the

body with those darned chemicals, but this doesn't stop him from drinking like a frat boy and smoking like a philosophy major. That boy has a real potty mouth too. All in all, a perfect character foil for Renton.

Spud (Bremner) is the geeky, four-eyed, Proclaimer look-alike. Sick Boy (Miller) looks like Billy Idol except that Billy Idol never had such nice clothes. He's attractive and self-confident: in general, a jerk. He could just as easily pass as a corporate executive as a drug addict. Funny how those two always get confused. He spends his free time expatiating about that Scot of all Scots, Sean Connery. And Tommy (McKidd), like Begbie, is also clean. Unfortunately, that doesn't forgive him

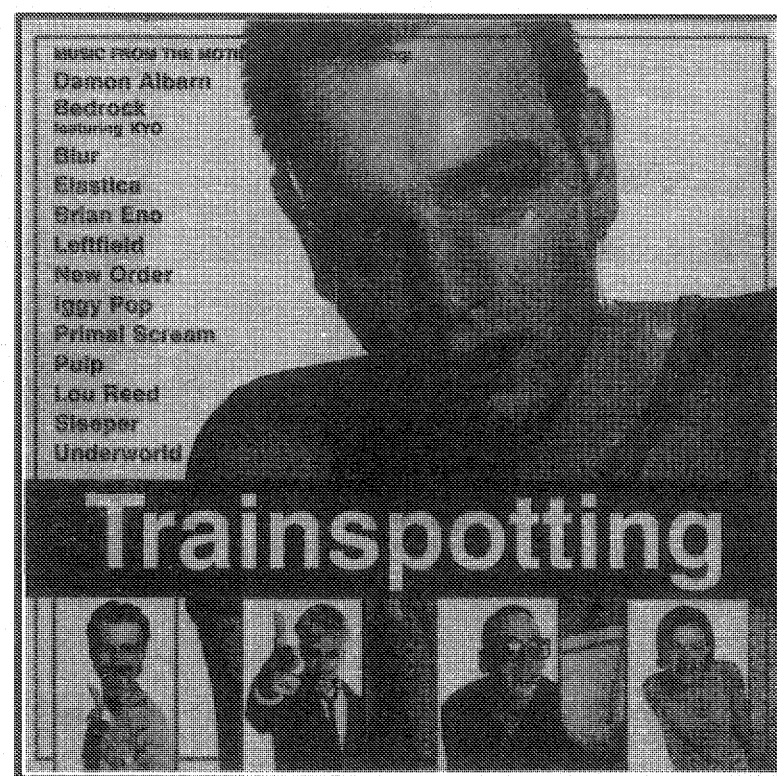
his love of Iggy Pop. Life turns tragic when his girlfriend Lizzy leaves him and he turns to H for comfort.

What is given is a highly charged existential essay of making one's way on the splintered and shady path of good and bad. Trainspotting is local slang for the hobby of watching passing trains and keeping logs of their identification numbers. It serves as a metaphor for purposeless life or misspent youth. It's entirely plausible that some hip Scottish AADAC-type organization wanted to show heroin stripped of its pretenses, hoping that in doing so, junkies would somehow become motivated to come clean and go straight. Obviously a Protestant conspiracy. The style of the film is fast-paced with a plot that is constantly being propelled forward, with a minimal of that fractured sequential narrative that's so popular with the kids these days. Although anyone can learn the moral of this story, it must be classified as a guy flick. Noticeably lacking is a strong

female character who doesn't have to take off her clothes. Most prominent among these few females is Diane (McDonald). She's smart and sassy and can see right through any male's glycerine façade.

On the surface, *Trainspotting* starts off as a light biographical account of 5 guys having fun in the worst way, with brilliant but demented scattered scatological humour that would give Dan Aykroyd seizures. Scenes of festive Burroughsian junk visions and truly horrific actual events illuminate and decorate our comprehension of the addict's mindset. As the story progresses, it takes on a serious tone as Renton struggles with the decision to stagnate and fail as the social unit slowly disintegrates or instead to rise above and evolve as a person. If we look deeper, it becomes reminiscent of the small budget, highly acclaimed, much overlooked "Fresh" from two years. The central character lives amidst

chaos and violence while longing for a normal life. That normal life can be obtained but the choice to get there is a difficult one and comes with a heavy price: the acceptance of maturity. For Renton, the heroin addict's life is only glamorous on the outside, just like the drug itself. It gives immediate and powerful pleasure but underneath that is the inherently sinister — the constant threat of AIDS, the criminal behaviour, not to mention being forced to hang out with the other unsavoury dregs of society and miscellaneous riff raff. The controversy surrounding this film probably comes from conservative types who don't want heroin made attractive in the media. Rightly so, what with certain recent events involving the Smashing Pumpkins, etc. They have nothing to worry about. This film does not show a flattering portrait of the drug or its addicts. It doesn't even show a flattering portrait of regular people.



## Shinerama '96

Saturday September 7 – Car Wash and BBQ

Monday September 9 – Shinerama Kick-off

Tuesday September 10 – BBQ

Wednesday September 11 – Orientation and Social for Shiners

Thursday September 12 – Shoe Shining at Cowboys!

Friday September 13 – Downtown Shinerama

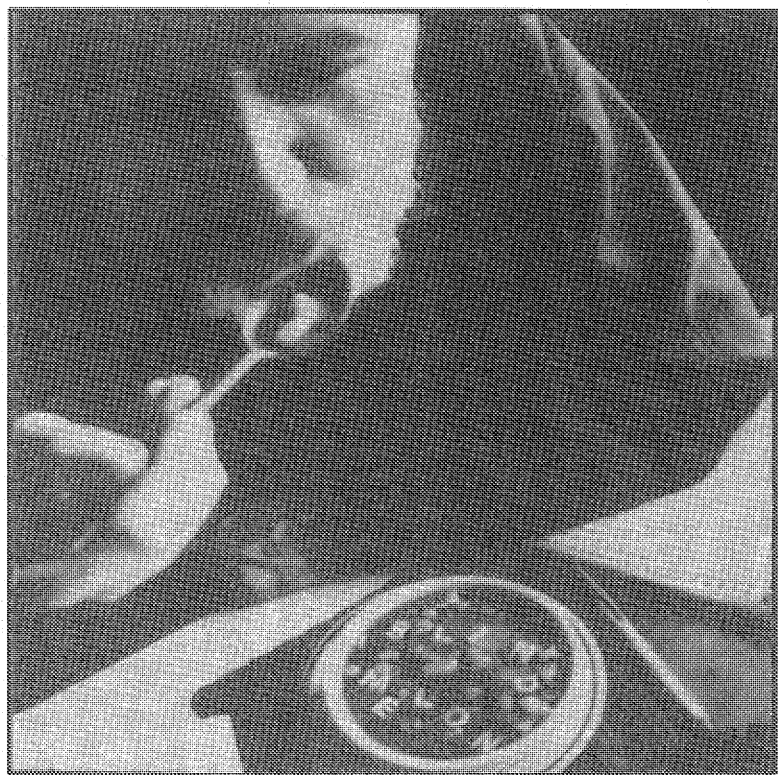
Saturday September 14 – Shinerama Day and Pub Crawl

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, STOP BY THE NAITSA OFFICE(E-131)**



# Blind Melon Soup

review by Nate Gray



With the unfortunate death of frontman Shannon Hoon, Blind Melon is left to contemplate its role the grand scheme of the musical universe. Leaving behind two major label releases, Blind Melon follows its debut with 'Soup,' a half-hearted attempt but a definite improvement over its self-titled first album.

The tone is set at the beginning, with Kermit Ruffins & the Little Rascals Brass Band giving a slow and slack performance. Without powerful chords or riffs behind any of the songs, 'Soup' lacks the ability to produce truly great singles. The first single, "Galaxie," is mediocre at best, giving a poor representation of what Blind Melon may be capable of. Accompanying Hoon's tiresome wail, a cello on "St. Andrew's Fall" and "Car Seat (God's Presents)" is a welcome diversion from the regular humdrum of the band's monotonous melodies.

The one thing that 'Soup' has

going for it is the lyrics. Although they are not cleverly crafted, the meanings behind them are quite compelling. On "Skinned," Hoon attempts to examine the mind of serial killer Ed Grein. Hoon uses strong images of being face-to-face with Jesus Christ on "St. Andrew's Fall" a song written after Hoon had witnessed a woman fall from a building to her death. Hoon continues to delve into the deep and dark on "Car Seat (God's Presents)," in which he expresses his disgust for an incident in South Carolina, where a mother strapped her two children into their car seats and rolled the car into a lake. Although they may seem dreary at times, Blind Melon's lyrics reach their pinnacle at their darkest moments. This may not be the Soup of the day because of dull, lingering, and discordant tunes, but the presence of exceptionally strong lyrics keeps it from getting entirely cold.

## Wendy Lands: Angels and Ordinary Men

Review by Scott Hayes

From the first lilting, haunting, country-tinged strains of the title track to the folksy-bluesish rhapsody of "Age Old Thing," Wendy Lands has broken through the barrier of some great local secret to national exposure. Combining the best of Shania Twain, Alanis Myles, and some Holly Cole in there too, Lands comes across as a sultry balladeer, if one could ever come out of Toronto. Her first disc, *Angels and Ordinary Men* was released independently last year to immediate attention and acclaim. Quickly landing a major record deal from that, *Angels* is now re-released into a full length of with enhanced interactive cd-rom features. You want cool, listen and look here.

Perhaps you've heard her recent single, "Little Sins." It reminds one of the way that Tom Waits made it in music, by talking about the painful, embarrassing, stupid things that us problematic humans do, and yet making it clear that we are humans and supposed to be doing these things, sad as they are. In fact, most of the album comes across this way. The title track, *Angels*, investigates thought about the uselessness of heaven. The people she sings about are deal with frustration, infidelity, and forgiveness. While looking closer at the lyrics, we find in the fourth

stade this line: "I used to be a person once, now I am graceless."

Besides the regular music type stuff on this disc, as a bonus you also get an enhanced cd-rom feature for Macs or IBMs. This is not like most 'bonuses' where the extra stuff is really boring and stupid. Lands' extras come across your computer as an interactive ouija board where you can choose features like video (where you can view her videos for "One Love" and "Little Sins"), biography, or photos, or you can listen to the music from the album and

choose to watch some of the live concert or studio footage too. Boring? No. Cool? Très!

When *Billboard Magazine* describes her work as "one of the most impressive Canadian recordings in years," you know for sure that this isn't some flash in the pan Moxy Frivious looking to sparkle across the sky and fade quickly like a dud firecracker. Wendy Lands is the rare performer whose light stays shining brightly like a solid star lasting through the years.



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# Brain Candy Soundtrack

review by Scott Hayes



This is the sort of record that makes all of the folks at the CRTC happy for its CanCon (Canadian Content). They decide on a certain percentage of music played on Canadian radio stations must be Canadian Content, meaning music by Canadians. If they got their hands on a copy of this disc, they'd be mighty pleased. There is nothing more Canadian than The Kids in the Hall, and most if not all, of the music contained herein is absolutely 100% pure Northern boys and girls, maple tree, Mountie hats and all.

The movie is about a happiness pill, a sort of Prozac drug to cure depression. That sort of topic only leads to people writing songs with the "h" word in it. Songs like Matthew Sweet's "Happiness" try to counteract the at-times overpowering effect of melancholy that "Some Days it's Dark" by Death Lurks has, even though Death Lurks is fronted by Bruce "These are the Daves I know" McCulloch with the Odds backing him up. It seems that Death Lurks felt guilty about that first

song, so they also put in a rather fluffy John Denverish bubble gum sing-along called "Happiness Pie." There's that "h" word again. Notable highlights are Liz Phair singing about a "6 Dick Pimp," a sort of peep show with men, "Postal Blowfish" by some lesser known band called Guided by Voices, and of course, no movie with heavy Canuck influence would be complete without the Hip and Gord Downey subtly yet neurotically giving us something to think about in "Butts Wigglin."

Brain Candy may have already gone the way of the mammoth, but this album is good to last another two or three ice ages. With Sweet, Phair, the Hip, They Might Be Giants, Pavement, and the Odds, you know for sure that you're getting your money's worth. Also, it's a Kids in the Hall thing, so expect the Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet to end off the disc with the Kids' theme, "Having an Average Week-end."

## TOPTEN

by the Master Magician and Twinkle Toes

Top Ten reasons this paper looks like it was put together by Four People.

- 10.
- 9.
8. Communications VP was to pushy.
- 7.
6. To many damn ads, Manager was out of control
5. We were hungry and the damn pizza guy did not want to deliver.
- 4.
- 3.
- 2.
1. Because it was actually done by Three people. Scott took the day off!

Welcome Week Schedule					
	MONDAY 2	TUESDAY 3	WEDNESDAY 4	THURSDAY 5	FRIDAY 6
11:30 to 1:00	Noon BBQ, great food cheap prices				
3:00 to 9:00	Labatt Beer Gardens & BBQ All Week	Rapto Tattoo (4-7pm)  All Beef Comedy (4-6pm)  Kapers D.J. (4-8pm)  CISN Country	Rapto Tattoo (4-7pm)  Yuk Yuk's (4-6pm)  Kapers D.J. (4-8pm)  The BEAR Radio	Rapto Tattoo (4-7pm)  Jessica Schoenberg (4-6pm)  Kapers D.J. (4-8pm)  Caricaturist Cathy McMilan (4-7pm)	Not Goin' to Vegas  Kapers D.J. (4-8pm)  Caricaturist Cathy McMilan (4-7pm)
All week these activities are held at the Court Yard by the Main Cafateria					

## Timothy Leary and Simon Stokes: Right to Fly

Review by Scott Hayes

A few years ago, William S. Burroughs put out a really funky disc with the Disposable Heroes of Hiphopraspy entitled "Spare Ass Annie" based on Burroughs' stories, with the 80-year old man himself rasping out the lyrics in that inimitable sly drawl of his. That was a great record.

Just recently, Timothy Leary, former military cadet, Harvard professor, actor, convict, political wannabe, comedian, etc, passed away after fighting with prostate cancer for a year and a half. His life's work focused on one phrase he made popular decades ago: "tune in, turn on, drop out." Apparently they don't let just anybody be a Harvard professor. Well, he's been cashing in on that one thing ever since, trying to finagle his way back into the popular consciousness. With death, he regained that spotlight by promoting his 'final trip' and was able to show us all once more that even though years of LSD abuse have kept him in a semi-preserved state, all creative energy he may have had are long gone. With 'Right to Fly', Leary tries to rip off everything that was good and wholesome about the 60's and anything that seems media wise here in the mid-90's. This is not a great record. This is not even a good record. Let's just say that he postponed the release of 'Right' until after his death for a reason: the abysmal response would have killed him anyway.

Using every clichéd trick in the book, Leary attempts to come up with any pearly pun possible for each song. Titles like "Ripped Van Winkle," "Drive-By Love," and "Right to Fly" show he's still got it after all these years. And that "it" that he still has is a very poor sense of judgment about what's actually cool. It shows him for what he is, or was: a crotchety senior citizen trying to keep a good humour in a humourless body. He tries his hand at the old man rapping thing but unfortunately "PsychoRelic Rap" comes out as just a bunch of geriatric gibberish. First of all, it's not rap; it's just him talking, stuttering nonsense, with select words electronically repeating after his voice. Secondly, no rap would have that kind of hillbilly elevator music feel to it. It's more painful to hear than anything.

If it sounds like a poet huckster teamed up with some Grateful Dead lackeys who didn't know what to do with themselves lately, it's because that's exactly what it is. Contrived and pathetic, even Dr. Kevorkian would have put this one down early, and without a second thought at that. A mercy killing it would have been.





# S P O R T S

## HOCKEY SEASONS BACK!

Have you been to an Oilers home game where the boys in blue face the Montreal Canadiens or the Toronto Maple Leafs. Sure, we'll sell 16,000 seats, but the majority of the crowd is cheering for the visiting team.

So the Oilers haven't been the best team in the NHL over the past few years but they are certainly a team with a lot of potential. Take Doug Weight. One of the best players in the NHL, finishing in the ranks above Mark Messier, and above the Great One, Wayne Gretzky. The Oilers General Manager, Glen Sather, has some work to do. The best work he could do right now is sign Weight. Signing Weight could be make it or break for this team in the up-coming years.

We all complain when the Oilers lose every game to the pathetic Dallas Stars, but it is time to support these guys. Doug Weight, Jason Arnott, Zdeno Ciger, Curtis Joseph and Bryan Marchment are the key players if the boys want to drink from Lord Stanley's Cup. But, it is not fair to leave out the rest of the guys because these 5 don't make the team. It is the speed of Todd Marchant, the leadership of Kelly Buchburger, and the youth of many others that keep many fans believe we'll see a cup here before 2000.

The big thing for the Oil this year is goaltending. With one of the top goaltenders in the league, the Oil had to make a move this summer by acquiring a solid backup. Coach Ron Lowe, who was a goaltender in his days, does not want Cujo to burn out so Slat signed Bob Essensa. Essensa spent some time in the minors because he got screwed when he was signed by the always favored, never succeeding, Detroit

Red Wings. Detroit had too many talented, high priced goaltenders, so Slat got a deal when he picked up Essensa.

Any hockey fan will admit that the Oilers are an up and coming team. The question is, when are they coming up. Some say this year, others say next year. Slat sometimes hints that a cup isn't a dream any longer, but the goal. We have the talent but why hasn't it been working? Part of the problem has been signing and keeping key players. Sather was wise by deciding not to make any major trades as the trade deadline approached. That sent a very positive message to the team.

So why are Weight, Arnott, and Ciger without contracts only weeks away from training camp. It all comes down to money, but money is not as much as an excuse as it once was. Edmontonians pulled together when they had to and purchased over 13,000 season tickets, with special thanks going to Superstore. Selling all those tickets not only generated revenue by the sale of the tickets, it also qualified the Oilers for the subsidy that the NHL offers to small market teams.

So we have the cash to pay Weight, to pay Arnott, and to pay the rest of the key guys so why aren't some of them signed. Well, Slat, according to the agents, is being unreasonable. According to Slat, the agents are being ridiculous.

Over the next few weeks, Oilers fans will probably see these guys signed. The Oilers won't beat the Red Wings in points this year, and may not beat the Stars every time, but I think they'll be a fine team, much better than last year. And who knows, a Stanley Cup may be closer than we all think.

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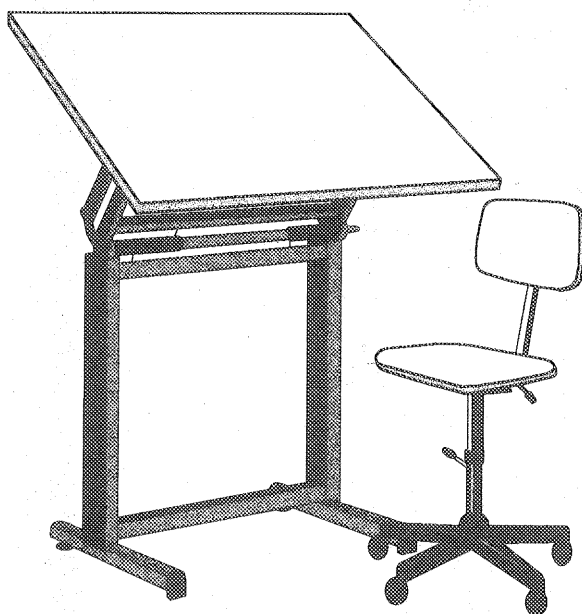
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