

TRYING TO SURVIVE THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL SINCE 1963.

# THE NUGGET

Thursday, September 8, 2005  
Volume 43, Issue 2

NAIT'S OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

## PARTY TIME!

NAIT kicks off new year with Ookfest bash Sept. 10. Details inside.



**WIN**  
Ookfest Tix &  
Backstage  
pass  
See inside.



# OOKFEST

## Get ready to party at Ookfest!

The fun begins September 10th

Ookfest is arguably the best party on any college or university campus in Canada.

It's a kickoff to the NAIT year that sees thousands of students and guests having the time of their lives.

We won't bore you with other descriptions save to say, Be there!

This is a kickoff bash that rocks.

Here is a complete schedule of bands and a map to get you to where you need to go.

### OOKFEST 2005 Schedule 10-Sep-05

Band	Start	End	Stage
Theory of a Deadman	9:45PM	11:00PM	A
Break	9:30PM	9:45PM	
Default	8:30PM	9:30PM	B
Bif Naked	7:45PM	8:30PM	A
Tupelo Honey	7:00PM	7:45PM	B
Grady	6:15PM	7:00PM	A
Vanilla Ice	5:30PM	6:15PM	B
Social Code	4:45PM	5:30PM	A
Aaron Pritchett	4:00PM	4:45PM	B
Drive By Punch	3:30PM	4:00PM	A
Deep Fine Grind	3:00PM	3:30PM	B
Long Way Down	2:30PM	3:00PM	A
Chysuga	2:00PM	2:30PM	B
Everett	1:30PM	2:00PM	B
Soccer Field Doors Open	1:00PM		

## Ice is warm to Edmonton

Vanilla Ice is one of the big-name acts that'll be served up hot and steamy at this year's Ookfest on the NAIT soccer field in Edmonton.

To say Ice was huge more than a decade ago is an understatement.

The man who was born Rob Van Winkle took the music world by storm with his 1990 debut album, *To the Extreme*.

It still has a place in history as one of the best-selling rap albums of all time with a reported 17 million copies sold worldwide by the year 2000 alone.

Later Vanilla Ice projects failed to come close to the success of *To the Extreme*.

He struggled with drug problems and a controversy that revealed he hadn't grown up leading a gangsta lifestyle as his handlers had told the media.

But now, 15 years later, the Iceman is on the comeback trail, turning heads again with his live performance and his recordings.

Nugget contributor Tara Copeland caught up to Vanilla Ice prior to his tour date here in Edmonton on Sept. 10. With only five minutes to chat, Copeland fired four quick questions his way.

**Nugget:** Why do you think you're so popular in Edmonton?

**Vanilla Ice:** Wow, that's a good question, I don't know. I always get a good response when I come

out there, man. Canada is very good to me. Edmonton is always good. I'm just a normal guy. They appreciate what I'm doing, so I appreciate the love that they're giving me.

**Nugget:** What is the craziest thing that has happened to you so far this tour?

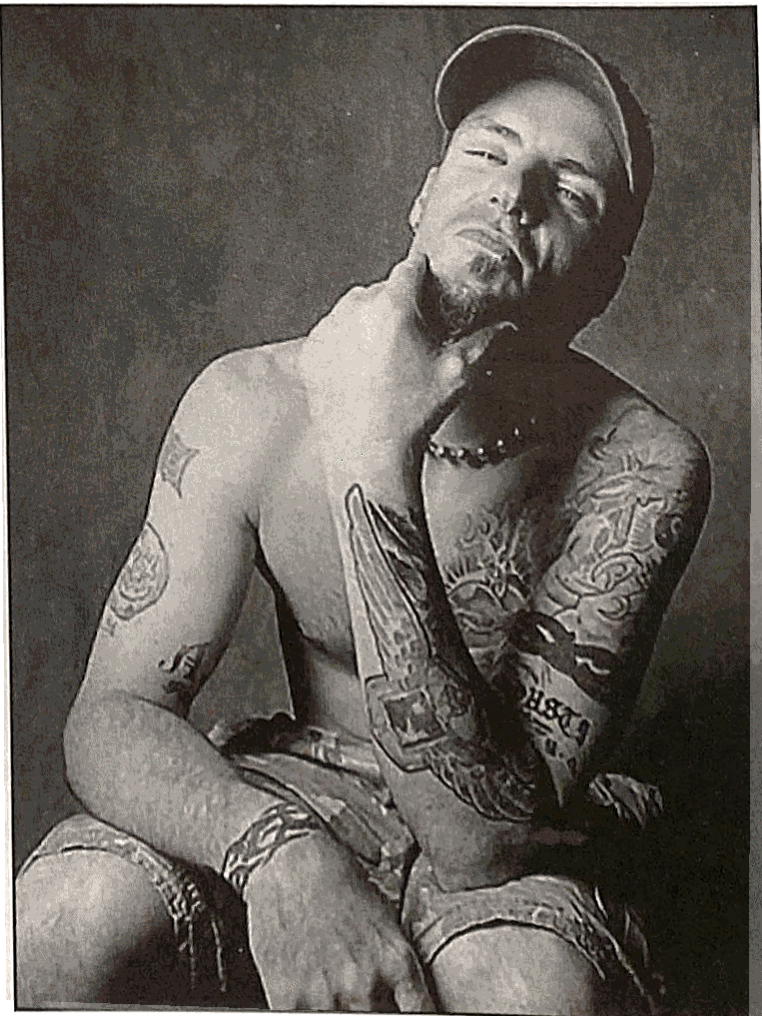
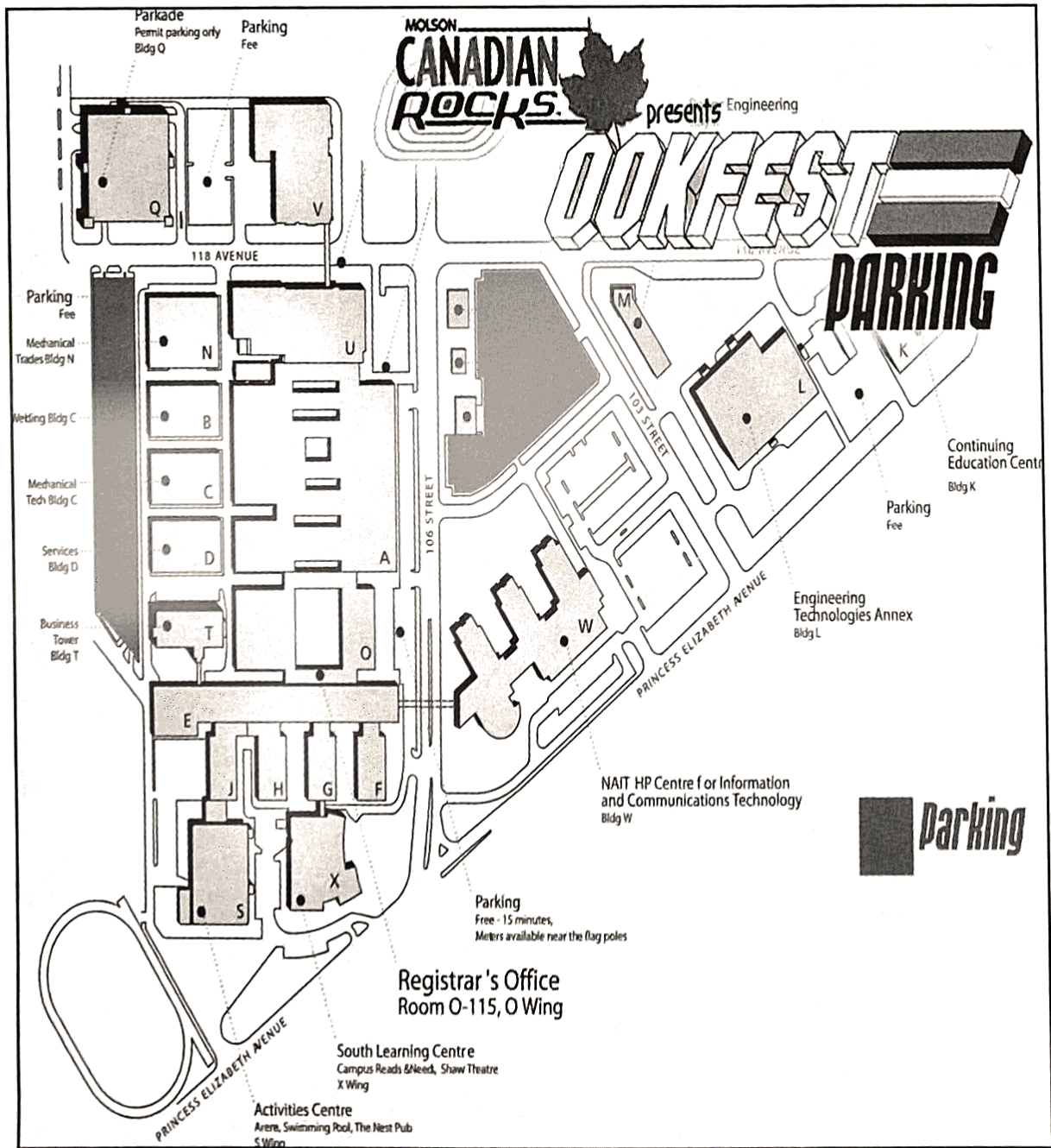
**Vanilla Ice:** Naked girls. I know it sounds like the normal thing, but sometimes, they'll jump up on stage and I don't know if I should even say this ... Sometimes, they get really crazy, you know. They'll just take their tops off, get a little liquored up and put on a show for everybody, I guess. The guys are always like, 'Woo,' but yeah, it's pretty nuts.

**Nugget:** You know you're playing Ookfest here. What do you think an Ook is?

**Vanilla Ice:** I don't know. What is an Ook? It's probably a college mascot thing, college party or something like that.

**Nugget:** Is there anything else you'd like NAIT students to know?

**Vanilla Ice:** The new album came out last week. It's called *Platinum Underground*. You can go to [vanillaice.com](http://vanillaice.com) and download some of the music and lyrics for free. You can get merchandise there. Check out my tour dates, they're on there too.





## No butts about new NAIT smoking rules

TARA COPELAND  
Nugget Contributor

Administration is trying to clear up the smoke surrounding NAIT's smoking policy. The policy was updated on July 1, 2005.

With the updated policy, you cannot smoke within 10 metres of building entrances, within three metres of any bus shelter, in front of the entrance to the HP Centre or the Ernest's restaurant and within 10 meters of any fresh air source.

According to Sandy Sanderson, director of recruitment and student life, a smoking policy is nothing new – it's just been re-worked. "The policy has always been there. There has always been a policy of where you can and can't smoke."

"We recognized that we had to update our policy," said Sanderson.

"It's not something we're going to be writing tickets about," said Sanderson. "It's more about educating people. It's about respect."

Sanderson says the feedback he has received from students has

been positive.

Leslie-Anne Fendelet is one of the many non-smoking students at NAIT who supports the updated policy.

"I think that smoking is disgusting and if you want to smoke, you should have to do it on your own private property, not on NAIT campuses," said Fendelet. "If you are a smoker and you want to slowly commit suicide, that's fine. Just don't commit murder while you're at it."

James Oikawa, another non-smoking student at NAIT agrees that the policy is a step in the right direction. "Now, I won't have to run the gauntlet and want to gag every time I want to get into a building at school."

"I don't appreciate having to hold my breath while I enter a building," said Sean Amato, non-smoking NAIT student. "I agree with any by-law that makes smokers feel like the lepers they are."

Several smoking students were given the opportunity to comment, but they did not have anything to say regarding the policy.

## News Poll

Are you in favour of NAIT's new smoking policy that prohibits outdoor smoking within 10 meters of building entrances?

☐ Yes. ☐ No.

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Drop your submission off to the NAIT students association office at E131. We'll publish results of the poll next week along with some comments.

## I'm with the band

Want to win ticket to the Sept. 10 bash, Ookfest?

Sure you do!

But that's only part of this super prize package.

Your NAIT students association is giving you a chance to win four tickets to Ookfest along with a chance to meet a couple of the hot bands backstage.

Fill in the form below and

drop it off at the NAITSA office at E-131 pronto.

Include your name and a contact number and you might be the lucky fan chatting face to face in a meet-and-greet with some of the members of bands such as Default, Theory of a Deadman and Vanilla Ice.

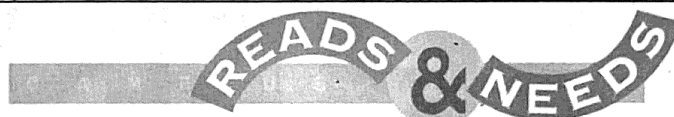
Get your entry in right away and we'll call you to tell you if you got lucky.

## OOKFEST TICKETS DRAW

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



## We want to fill your tank or buy your October bus pass!

Please complete our survey and return it to be entered into a draw to win!

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I was able to find my required books and supplies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My required texts and supplies were available on time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am likely to buy (or bought) other items than those that are required for my courses.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If I required assistance, there was a staff member available to help me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The bookstore staff was friendly, knowledgeable and courteous.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The store layout was clean and accessible.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

General Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Prize is \$54 gas fill or an October bus pass and must be accepted as awarded. No cash value. You need to submit your Student ID# and Program to win and you must agree to your name being used for promotional purposes. Entry deadline is September 23, 2005. Prize will be drawn on September 24, 2005.

## The sky is NOT the limit



photo by Jeff McDonald

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# OPINION

The Official  
Student Newspaper of

**NAITSA**

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The Nugget encourages  
submissions.

Visit:  
nuggetsubmissions@hotmail.com  
nuggetgrapevines@hotmail.com

THE DEADLINE IS  
12:00 p.m. on the last school  
day of the week.

All submissions must be  
accompanied by your name &  
student ID number

The opinions expressed by contributors  
to the Nugget are not necessarily  
shared by NAIT officials, NAITSA or  
elected school representatives.

## Letters welcome

*We want your views*

We want to begin a weekly letters-to-the-editor page here at The Nugget. Is something bugging you about NAIT or the rest of the world?

Do you have some praise to dish out about the school or life in general? Get those thoughts into print.

Keep them short and to the point. No more than 100 words. Hell, we're a newspaper not an encyclopedia. Give us a break!

Submit your letters with your real name and contact phone number to:

[nuggetsubmissions@hotmail.com](mailto:nuggetsubmissions@hotmail.com)

Don't sweat it. We won't publish your phone number, but we do need to list your real name.

It's all good. Getting something off your chest is downright therapeutic. Trust us on that. Write us.

## Welcome back students!

Welcome to all you new NAIT students.

If you're returning from a previous year, welcome back to you too.

You're lucky enough to be attending one of the best post-secondary institutions in Canada.

While classes have just started and there aren't many exams or assignments to worry about, we know this can be a stressful time of year.

You've probably already spent a good chunk of the cash you earned over the summer just paying for tuition, books and other supplies.

That's not to mention you've also had to cough up wads of cash for rent. Last we checked rental accommodations aren't getting much cheaper these days – if you can find a decent place at a decent price at all.

And the price of gas for your car? Well, don't even get us started.

That just plain hurts.

Suddenly public transit looks like a whole better deal than a gas-guzzling vehicle.

Suffice to say, we feel for you.

But it's too early in the school year to get depressed by the weight of the world, so let's move on.

We're not trying to depress you, honest.

In fact it's quite the opposite.

We at The Nugget want to welcome you back and encourage you to kick the year off with a party put on by your students association, NAITSA.

Check it out. It's Oookfest and the big event goes Sept. 10.

You'll see posters all over the campuses for this puppy.

Have fun.

If you need any more details on that or any of the other services offered by NAITSA check out the website:

[www.naitsa.ca](http://www.naitsa.ca)

We at The Nugget wish you a fine, fun, fantastic year.



## Be a Volunteer This School Year

### On Campus Volunteer Opportunities:

**OOKFEST 2005** needs you! Come out to volunteer at this one of a kind welcome week event! Assist with site set up and take down. Contact Mike Anderson at 471-7603 to volunteer.

**Shinerama** is seeking volunteers to help out on Sat. Sept 24 with our annual Shine Day. This event is a great way to meet people and support a worthwhile cause! Stop by the NAITSA Volunteer Centre in E-133 to sign up!

The **NAITSA Volunteer Centre** is looking for a referral clerk to assist with the operations of our Volunteer Centre. For more details, contact Shannon at [naitsavc@nait.ab.ca](mailto:naitsavc@nait.ab.ca)

### Off Campus Volunteer Opportunities:

The **Grey Nuns Community Hospital** is now recruiting volunteers for the following positions: Art a la Carte, Baby Photo Assistant, Chocolate Sales, Day Medical, Emergency, Hope Task Force Volunteer, Kindergarten Tour Guide, and Palliative Care. These positions require a six month commitment, two hours per week minimum, two letters of reference and submission of recent TB test results.

The **Good Samaritan Society** is currently recruiting volunteers for these positions: Pastoral Care, Rehabilitation Assistants, Mealtime Assistants, Medical Appointments and Special Events volunteers.

The **Edmonton Food Bank** needs you to help feed 13,000 people this month! Volunteers are needed to sort donated food and assemble food hampers. Evening hours for busy students are available.

The **Canadian National Institute for the Blind** is now recruiting volunteers to answer phones at their telethon on Sat. Sept 10th. Two shift times are available: 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Food and refreshments will be provided.



# SPORTS

## High hopes for NAIT sports teams in 2005-06

**LORI COOLICAN**  
Special to the Nugget

Heeks! Watch out for those Ooks this year.

"We want revenge on MacEwan because they kind of had our number last year. We want to turn the tables on them and kick some Mac butt," says NAIT Athletics promotions guru Mike Stefan.

Tryouts are underway now for most of the school's 13 teams, but even back in August, Stefan's knickers were already in a twist over volleyball.

"We're very excited about our volleyball program this year. We have a wicked brother-sister combo, Erin and Brandon Kerschbaumer. She led the Ooks in a lot of categories last year and was probably in the top three in Alberta. I think she led the north in kills last year, too."

Both the men's and women's volleyball teams made the top eight in the province last season, and this year they're gunning for

the finals, Stefan said.

In case you didn't already know, NAIT has some decent bragging rights when it comes to sports.

Curling coach Jules Owchar is back this year, and now has an Olympic foray with Kevin Martin under his belt. Owchar was chosen ACAC Curling Coach of the Year for 2003-04.

Also returning to Ooks women's hockey is the fabulous Miranda Miller, who burned up the highway last year traveling back and forth to games while completing a work term out of town in Combined Lab and X-Ray. She was the first Ook to win the ACAC scoring title with 35 points in 20 games.

"She's led the league two years in a row. She's just great," Stefan said.

His goal is to get more students cheering from the sidelines. Most Ooks games draw about 200 people, but last year when NAIT

hosted the nationals they had to turn that many away because the gym had reached its capacity of 1,500. Stefan was in heaven.

Admission to Ooks matches is free for students, by the way. Did you know?

"We try to provide event nights, whether it's a party night out or free food or whatever," Stefan says. He wants your butts in the seats, plain and simple.

Mark your calendar for opening weekend, Oct. 21, when NAIT Athletics is planning a free barbecue for staff and students. And keep your eye out for an even bigger party with our MacEwan rivals if Stefan has his way this semester.

This guy uses the word "party" a heck of a lot.

"We're trying to create some fun events, so we want to go head-to-head with MacEwan and have some kind of a party weekend or something," he said.

## Editor Wanted

The Nugget, a weekly newspaper published by the NAIT Students Association is seeking a dynamic student editor.

The ideal candidate will have a flair for writing and editing stories that matter to students.

He or she will provide articles and help lead a team of contributors who will churn out high-quality news, sports, arts and opinion columns.

Candidates should be interested in digging up interesting stories that occur both on and off campus.

The editor, reporting to the editorial advisor, should have solid writing skills, a knowledge of politics, a creative, innovative nature and be willing to put in the hours to make The Nugget the best student paper in the province.

Previous editing and reporting experience is preferred. An ability to meet strict deadlines is required.

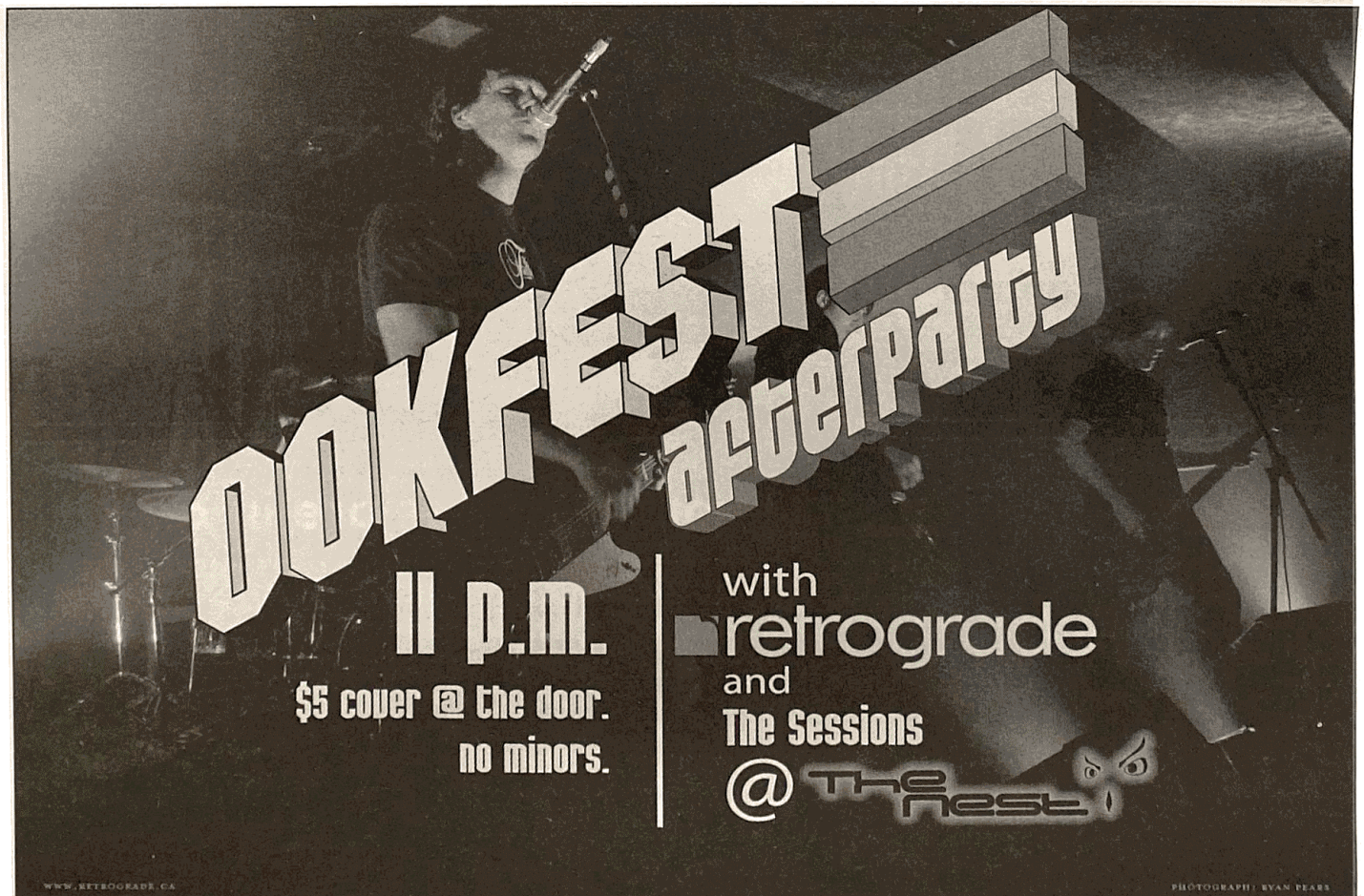
A knowledge of page design would be useful.

An inquisitive spirit is essential.

Salary is negotiable.

E-mailed applications are preferred but we'll also look at hard-copy applications mailed or dropped off to:

Jon Hoffman, VP - Student Affairs  
NAIT Students' Association (E131)  
jonh@nait.ca  
Include writing samples.



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# New coach for women's hockey

**TREVOR ELIOTT**  
Nugget Contributor

"Athletics is a vehicle to teach life skills," says new Lady Ooks Head Coach Keith Garner. "I believe through effort, enthusiasm, discipline and the ability to work together for a common goal, one can achieve great things," says Garner.

"These important attributes are used in the workplace daily and, through sport, one can fine tune these skills."

Garner takes over for Jim Newman, who had led the Lady Ooks for the past four seasons. Garner has been with the Lady Ooks since 2001 as an assistant to Newman.

Born and raised in Lloydminster, Garner carries with him a very impressive resume.

The husband and father of two carefully balances his family life with hockey and his professional career as transportation administrator of the Transportation and Agricultural Services Department of Strathcona County.

Garner has coached female

hockey in Sherwood Park at the Midget A and Senior AA level at provincial, Western Canadian and Canadian Winter Games.

He's director of female hockey in Sherwood Park, and is on the executive as former president of the Northern Alberta Female Hockey Association Under-18 league.

He believes that a combination of athletic and academic excellence will help provide students with a strong sense of maturity and responsibility.

"Balancing academics and athletics can be a real eye opener. The time management skills become such a factor in the student's decision-making process.

"I think the organizational, time management, teamwork and communication skills learned through participating in sport and academics are valuable life skills that can be transferred to the work place."

Coming off of the Lady Ooks' most successful season in the team's history, Garner plans to take the team to the next level.

Garner will have a great sup-

port staff and some key returning players to help him reach that goal.

Of the returning players, most notable are the trio of Kerry McDonald, Miranda Miller and Kelsey Macmillan who all led the league in scoring last season. Another notable returnee to the team is Lindsay Ferguson, who helped to significantly improve the defence last season.

Garner's coaching staff is also impressive. Assisting the team this year will be former Women's National Team member Jane Lagace, Julie Kelly who is an avid promoter of female hockey – and trainer Jenna

Lewis. Lewis returns for her third season as trainer and is planning to significantly improve the fitness of the team this season.

With such a great hockey background, a strong support staff, and key returning players to the program, Garner is sure to enjoy a successful tenure with the Lady Ooks and continue the "Tradition of Excellence" of the NAIT Ooks hockey program.

## We need a few good men and women

### We need you!

We're looking for talented writers for this school year's editions of your student paper, The Nugget.

We need people to write about politics, sports, features and opinion columns.

Do you have a flair for photography. We need that too.

We're also looking for good cartoonists – whether you've got a flair for editorial cartoons or comic strips, show us your work.

The best part is, we'll pay cold, hard cash for your contributions. Show us your stuff.

Drop off a resume at the NAIT Students Association office at the main campus along with samples of your work. Include a brief cover letter and tell us what kind of work you want to do for The Nugget.

Include some contact information. Send it to the attention of  
Jon Hoffman  
VP Student Affairs  
Room E131 or e-mail:  
[jonh@nait.ca](mailto:jonh@nait.ca).

No phone calls please.

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# Oilers bulk up with new talent



By **TREVOR ELLIOTT**  
Opinion Column

"This is one of those moments where you wish you had 18,000 seats in the building!"

That was Oilers President Patrick LaForge's response to the hype the Oilers are getting for their pre-season opener against the Calgary Flames on Sept. 16.

It has been a very long time since hockey fans have been this excited about the hockey season. Over the past 15 brutal Canadian winters, since the Oilers won their last Stanley, they have made the playoffs only seven times and have been to the Conference semi-finals but once.

This attitude of hockey fans is much different this season. Not once, this summer, has a single Edmonton hockey fan muttered the words "small market" or been

beleaguered by the exchange rate.

Hockey fans sense a coming of age for the Oilers. For over a decade now, the Oilers have acquired outstanding talents such as Doug Weight, Anson Carter, and Mike Comrie only to lose them to free-agency or have to trade them away dirt cheap because we couldn't afford to pay for their services.

This season, the Oilers are no longer restricted to only the "throw-away" players. The Edmonton Oilers, in fact, made a bold statement to fans and league critics alike, that they were no longer

just a "small market" Canadian team. The Oilers went out and paid top dollar for the services of top defenceman Chris Pronger and centre Mike Peca.

These acquisitions proved that the Oilers will be competitors in this new era of salary cap hockey. Hockey fans enthusiastically responded to the Oilers' new mindset by rushing to snap up the available season tickets.

Although the Oilers were able to pick up a couple of fan-

tastic free agents this summer, the Oilers likely still don't have enough firepower to make it past the second round of the playoffs.

Pronger is arguably one of the best defencemen currently playing in the NHL. The six-foot-six, 220-pound hulk puts fear in his opponents' eyes whenever he lurks near them. Teammates and opponents, alike, respect him because he always plays with heart and intensity. Pronger should be a monster up front on the Oilers ailing powerplay and a rock on the penalty-kill ... if he stays healthy. Pronger has not played an entire season since 1997/98. Most recently, Pronger missed all but five games in 2002/03 due to a wrist and knee injury, and he suffered an eye injury in the 2003/04 season.

Peca has a great attitude and a good sense of the game; however, he is not the first-line centre that the Oilers have so badly needed since losing Weight. Having won the Selke trophy, for best defensive forward, in the 1996/97 and 2001/02 seasons, Peca has proven he is valuable on the penalty kill and a great clutch player. Peca is

not a top offensive producer however as in his best season (2001/02) he was only able to muster 25 goals and 35 assists.

The biggest move the Oilers have made this off-season was the re-signing of Ryan Smyth minutes before his scheduled arbitration case.

Smyth is the Oilers' best player and the top scorer on the team with 23 goals and 36 assists in 2003/04. With the team since the 1994/95 season, Smyth is the longest tenured Oiler on the roster. "I'm very happy with this deal, especially since we didn't have to go through the arbitration process," Smyth said. "I've been an Oilers fan since I was a kid, and there isn't any other team I'd rather be with."

The most promising rookie entering the camp this season is Yan Stastny.

Stastny is the son of 16-year veteran Peter who lit the lamp for over a point-per-game in the NHL. "I watched him play at the World Hockey Championships," says Lowe. "I think he's a great story. I don't like to make comparisons. But he thinks the game

like his dad. He skates like his dad. And he fits the mould of an Oiler." The Oilers were able to steal Stastny away from the Bruins in exchange for the 4th round pick that they gave the Oilers for the disappointing Brad Isbister.

Danny Syvret, Captain of the Memorial Champion London Knights, also has an honest chance of cracking the Oilers lineup this season. At six feet tall and 206 pounds, Syvret led the Knights in +/- last season with 69. Many Oilers analysts expect the Oilers to make a final move, this off-season, for the top-line centre that they have been missing since Weight was traded. Not to say it won't happen; however, as the season closes in, the pickings are getting slimmer by the day. The best two unrestricted centres left - Mark Messier and Ron Francis - are both over 40 years old.

Whatever the outcome of the season is for the Oilers, one thing is a guarantee. Despite the bad taste the lockout left in their mouths, fans are more excited about this season than they have been in more than 10 years.

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# TRAVEL

## Kids wanna rock on The Rock

Newfoundland is a whole 'nother world – and a great one at that!

By KERRY DIOTTE  
Nugget Editorial Advisor

We think we know how to party in Edmonton.

Hell we're the city of festivals, and arts and music, right? I've attended our major events in E-town over the years: the Fringe, the Edmonton Folk Festival, Stage 13, Big Valley Jamboree, Ookfest, dozens of concerts – and more.

But I've got a confession to make.

The people in Newfoundland can teach us a thing or two about partying hard with not a whiff of the kind of butt-head BS violence you'll often see on Whyte Avenue on a weekend night.

A few weeks back I hopped a plane and checked out Canada's newest province – a place affectionately known as The Rock.

I had a quick realization: everywhere you go the kids wanna rock on The Rock.

There's no better place to realize that than the province's capital, St. John's.

I lucked out when I was there. The city with a metro population of more than 170,000 was smack in the middle of an annual ritual known as the George Street Festival.

During this time in late July and early August, it's doubtful there's a more lively city in the Maritimes – Halifax, N.S. included.



Newfoundland's capital city, St. John's offers a pallet of colourful houses – some of which date back to the 1800s.

This fest sees thousands of people throng to catch top-notch musical talent at an outdoor stage on George Street, and entertainment strip of scores of bars that's St. John's answer to Edmonton's Whyte Avenue. (Only it's way more friendly and the crowd ranges from students to middle

aged and older – all partying side by side).

The outdoor stage is just a focal point. There's even more action indoors at dozens of bars along the city's entertainment strip that features acts ranging from rock, to Celtic, to country, to hip-hop. This year's fest was

headlined by the Juno award-winning Sam Roberts Band.

The concept is dead simple. The entire strip is blocked off to traffic during the famous fest (and at night during the rest of the year) and people pay one cover charge that gets them into any club. This year it ranged from \$10 to \$15 de-

pending on the talent on the main outdoor stage.

Partiers are free to wander outside the bars with their drinks of choice so long as they're poured into plastic glasses.

At the tail end of the six-day festival is more Rock-style revelry, this one surrounding what's called North America's longest-running sporting event, the Royal St. John's Regatta. It sees tens of thousands flock to the city's Quidi Vidi lake to watch dozens of teams compete in Olympic-style rowing.

Whether you know a coxswain from an, er, cocker spaniel it's easy to have fun just cruising the crowds, checking out the handicrafts (a la Fringe Fest) and sipping a few cold ones at a packed refreshment tent.

(Oh, and get your mind out of the gutter. For the landlocked crowd, a cockswain is the helmsman of a ship's boat or a racing crew).

Naturally most people's livers couldn't keep up the partying pace in St. John's for too long so the smart thing to do is go farther afield and check out a few of the movie-set quaint towns and villages within 300 km of the capital.

The best bet is to take side trips off the Trans Canada Highway that begins in St. John's and heads west.



In Newfoundland, weathered houses perch precariously on the water's edge.



The first must-see stop is Cape St. Mary's Ecological Reserve, about a three hour jaunt by car southwest of St. John's.

It's about a one kilometre hike from an interpretive to a lookout point that puts you nose to beak with one of the largest nesting colonies of sea birds in North America.

Along the way you'll encounter (and nearly bump into) sheep-loads of shy sheep, contentedly grazing on the grasses only a few meters from cliffs.

#### A Must See

If you have a fear of heights or suffer from vertigo, take a deep breath before looking down because your vantage point at the end of the hike is right at the edge of a cliff that drops straight down, 100 metres or so to the Atlantic Ocean below.

Another must-see location is the old town of Trinity on the Bonavista Peninsula about a half day's drive northwest of St. John's.

There you'll likely bump into Tineke Gow, one of the first entrepreneurs to resuscitate the post-card perfect seaside town in the mid-1970s.

"People have been living here

for 500 years," says Tineke Gow, who's hooked on the former ship-building village.

Gow fell in love with the place more than 30 years ago and bought a ramshackle home in 1975 for a mere \$4,000 with a thought to opening a bed and breakfast.

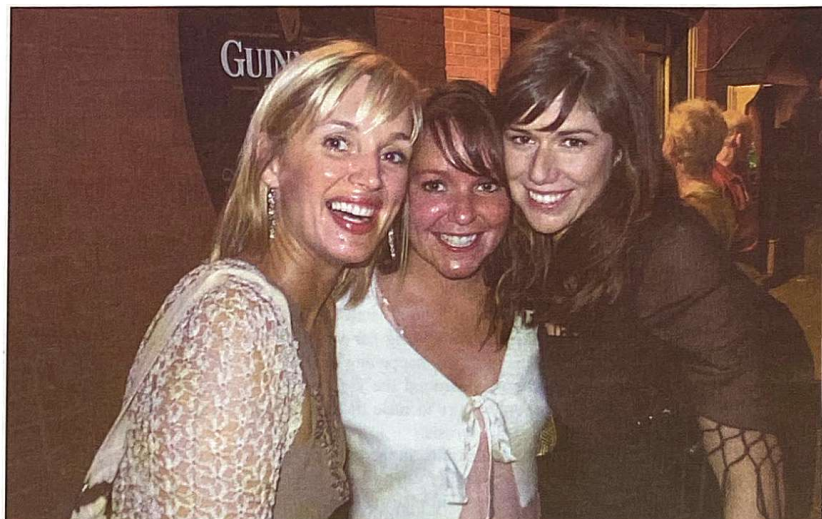
"The locals thought I got taken for that price," says Gow who restored it to its former glory with a lot of sweat.

Today she owns or operates a handful of bed and breakfasts as well as a trendy restaurant called the Twine Loft in the Artisan Inn that offers licensed dining with a menu as sumptuous as you'll find in any North American city.

Today the community is a haven for artists – and there's even a theatre company that operates in a town as picturesque and quaint as any you'll find in the world.

There are scores of other destinations within a short drive from St. John's including Bonavista where John Cabot landed in 1497, Port Blandford at the entrance to Terra Nova National Park and Musgrave Harbour where you'll see thousands of lobster traps stacked near the seaside.

Numerous places operate whale watching and bird spotting tours where you can take in thou-



Everywhere you go on The Rock, the kids wanna rock as evidenced by these three women at this year's George Street Festival in St. John's.

sands of exotic-looking puffins and spot humpback, minke and orca whales.

Along the way you might even catch a wayward iceberg made of snow that's tens of thousands of years old.

**WHERE TO STAY IN ST. JOHN'S:** There's a youth hostel in St. John's right in the heart of

downtown. If you've got a few extra bucks to blow, park your butt at one of the numerous bed and breakfast operations. It's a fine way to get to know the locals, plus you'll get a hearty breakfast thrown in just like the one your mom rightfully forced you to eat before going to grade school. They'll cost you about \$69 and up.

Places I stayed that were amazing included Everton House on King's Bridge Road, Rendal Shea Manor on Cochrane Street and McCoubrey Manor on Ordinance Street. All of them were easy walking distance to downtown.

For more information check out the province's tourism site: [www.gov.nf.ca/tourism](http://www.gov.nf.ca/tourism)



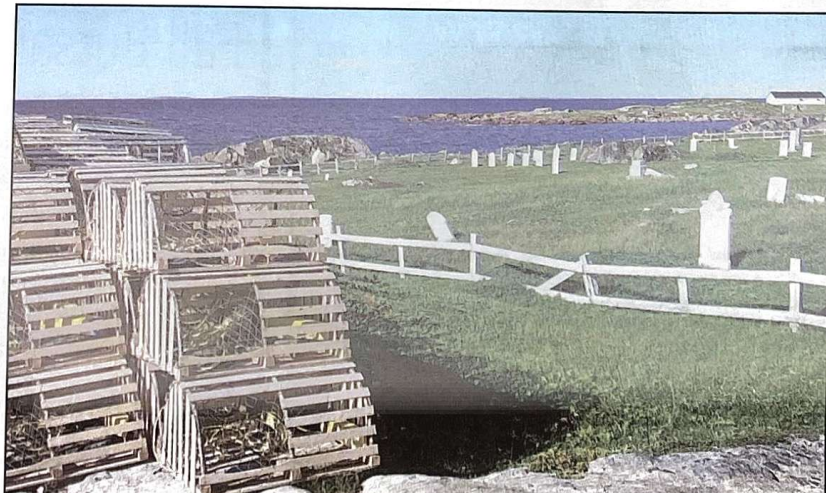
OK, even Newfoundlanders know this unfortunately named town turns heads when its name appears on signs.



Stained glass in an historic house near Bonavista, Newfoundland frames an ocean scene.



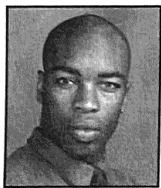
Fishing stocks have been depleted in recent years but the industry is still very much a part of Newfoundland.



Lobster traps perch next to a seaside graveyard in small-town Newfoundland.



# Get involved for a wild year! Come out to help a good cause



By **DWAYNE WILLIAMS**  
NAITSA President

Welcome to official start of Welcome Week! If I haven't had a chance to talk to you or your class, here's some information on great ways to get involved with NAITSA in September to kick off a great time this semester!

**OOKFEST:** Sept. 10, 2005 will be the official student party to introduce the 2005-06 school year.

There are 13 bands, two stages and a field filled with thousands and thousands of NAIT students! Tickets are available for \$25 at the NAITSA office (E-131). Bring your friends.

**SHINERAMA:** Sept. 24 will be a Shine Day – a day of wet and wild times!

Several schools across Canada will be hosting car washes. This will be happening in the afternoon around the city for a couple hours to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis.

Afterwards, in the evening, a huge after-party with limousines will be taking place at The Nest, with the limos taking volunteers and friends to Cowboys nightclub to party the rest of the night away! For more information check out:

NAITSA.ca/shinerama and come out!

**THE SENATE:** This is the most powerful and respected governing student body of NAIT.

This September 18 students will be elected to filled these paid positions as senators for their respected schools. This is a paid position with free food given throughout the year!

For more information visit NAITSA.ca or swing down to the NAITSA Office (E-131) for a nomination form.

Nominations close Sept 23, 2005, and elections will be held on Sept. 28.

So start this year off right! Work hard and play harder! See you all soon!



By **CARRIE CREASER**  
V.P. Campus Life

Hey Everyone! Welcome back to the daily grind! I am Carrie Creaser, your V.P. Campus Life here at NAITSA!

I hope all your summers were enjoyable! The only thing I know is that the summer was way too short!! Just a note to all of you to say welcome to NAIT!

I am here to let you know

all about the awesome events happening. Here are some coming up that you should all be aware of and attend: **OOKFEST:** Sept. 10. Come out with the rest of the school for the biggest welcome week event in western Canada!

Imagine thousands of students partying together watching amazing music.... doesn't get much better than that!

**SHINERAMA:** Sept. 24! Come meet new people and raise money for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

It's a great day of car washing, free stuff and a memorable experience So much more to come! Keep checking out the website [www.nait.ca](http://www.nait.ca) for info!

Talk to all of you soon!

## Be a shining light by volunteering your time



By **ELAINE DEVINE**  
V.P. Finance & Administration

Welcome Back! And to all the new students, welcome to NAIT. We have been working hard all summer in the NAITSA office, to ensure that this is an awesome year for all students.

**OOKFEST** is right around the corner, taking place on Sept.

10. This year's event is going to be to be bigger than ever. A total of 13 bands, two stages a full day of live music, what could be better! Buy your tickets today at the NAITSA office, Rm. E-131 or at the door.

This event is sure to sell out, so don't wait to long to purchase your tickets!

This year, I am NAITSA's Shinerama Campaign Director. Shinerama is a post-secondary fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Our Shine Day is Sept. 24. I look forward to seeing all of you in The Nest at 9 a.m. for your free breakfast, T-shirt and a day of fun.

You don't have to be a NAIT student to volunteer, so bring all your friends.

Did you buy a VIP card yet? If not, you are missing out. Check out the ad in this issue. The card is only \$15 and all proceeds go to our Shinerama Campaign. If you use the card once with a friend it will have paid for itself and it is good until the end of May 2006.

If you have any questions feel free to call or e-mail me at any time:

Elaine Devine  
VP Finance and Administration  
ACTISEC Treasurer  
Shinerama Campaign Director  
471-7609

## Opportunity knocks for NAIT students



By **JON HOFFMAN**  
V.P. Student Affairs

There is definitely a real buzz on campus. Its hard to believe that it's time to hit the books again. I just wanted to let you know about a great opportunity at the school this year.

I am looking for six committed people to represent the student body on Academic Council. This is an extremely important committee that helps to set the direction of the school. If you are someone that knows the issues that students have around campus and wants to speak out about them let me know. This committee usually meets the third Thursday of the month over lunch. Send me an email for more details.

Have a great start to the year and if we can help you out with anything come by the Student's Association office.

### CAPTAIN PAUL WATSON COMING TO EDMONTON!



*"Captain Paul Watson is the world's most aggressive, most determined, most active and most effective defender of wildlife." —Farley Mowat*

Please join Captain Paul Watson for a lecture on wildlife conservation and the urgent state of the world's oceans today. Learn about Sea Shepherd's 25 years of courageous campaigning to stop the slaughter of whales, seals, dolphins, and other marine life in the oceans—and their exciting plans for the future!

7:00 p.m Thursday September 15

Stanley Milner Theatre, Sir Winston Churchill Square

Tickets \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door

\$2 deduction for students with valid identification

Tickets at Earths General Store – 439-8725 OR Alberta Public Interest Research Group (3111 HUB International Mall, U of A Campus)

Information: contact Leah at [aprin@ualberta.ca](mailto:aprin@ualberta.ca) or 492-0614

## NAIT Student Awards Office

### Fall Bursaries and Scholarships

- ✓ Available to 2<sup>nd</sup> semester students
- ✓ Available to 2<sup>nd</sup> year students
- ✓ Must have 60% course load for bursaries
- ✓ Must have 80% course load for scholarships

Application forms are available online at [www.nait.ca/scholarships](http://www.nait.ca/scholarships) August 15, 2005.

**Deadline: October 7, 2005**

For more information, please visit us in Room O101.



- Public service announcement -

NAIT Student Counselling welcomes you!

## When in need get some counselling

The Counselling Staff is committed to supporting and facilitating student success. Counselling services focus on skills for academic success, career planning and personal balance and growth.

We are here to facilitate your transition to NAIT and to assist you in making the most of your educational experience as you embark on your chosen career path. Through the provision of individual counselling, seminars, and referrals to peer tutoring, we strive to make your educational experience at NAIT successful, positive and enjoyable.

We look forward to meeting you. We wish you a successful 2005-06 academic year!

### COUNSELLING SERVICES:

Room 0117 South Lobby  
Phone 471-8874 - press "4"  
TTY 474-5883

Web:

[www.nait.ab.ca/counselling](http://www.nait.ab.ca/counselling)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday,  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

### Services Available:

#### Individual Counselling:

- Academic Counselling Assistance with study skills, examination preparation, examination writing techniques, time management and other skill-building techniques to enhance academic success.

- Career Counselling Assistance with career exploration and career planning.

- Personal Counselling Assistance with personal concerns that present barriers to success as a student.

- \* Our services are confidential and free

- \*When appropriate, referrals may be made to outside agencies and services.

#### Seminars:

Seminars are offered in the areas of study skills, examination preparation, examination anxiety, time management and memory, stress management and other relevant areas.

#### Peer Tutoring:

A roster of names of students who will tutor is available at the Counselling Centre. Also, if you would like to tutor other students, inquire at the Counselling Centre.

## thedoxx@Kingsway Medical Clinic

(Family Medicine Clinic)

Welcomes two new family doctors:

**Dr. Hany Youakim, M.D.**

**Dr. Norris Wong, M.D.**

who will be accepting new patients.

Please call 479-3699 (479-DOXX)

303 Kingsway Garden Mall

Take the elevator near the food court to the third floor.

Hours:  
Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fridays: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays & Holidays: closed

By appointment in the daytime.  
Walk-ins welcome only after 5 p.m. and Saturdays.



# NAIT is smoke free

- smoke free entrances, courtyards, bus shelters

Respect  
**NAIT**ure  
A clean air environment

For more  
information visit  
[www.nait.ca/  
respectnaiture](http://www.nait.ca/respectnaiture)

### Thanks for your cooperation and support

NAIT recently updated its smoking policy to reflect the need for a clean and healthy environment and address the concerns of staff, students and the public.

In addition to Institute buildings and vehicles, effective July 1, 2005, a number of outdoor areas were also designated non-smoking, including entrances, bus shelters and courtyards.

New signage is currently going up and ashtrays are being moved to reflect the new policy. Whether you are a smoker or a non-smoker, we appreciate your cooperation, patience and support during this period of transition.

Questions or comments? E-mail [respectnaiture@nait.ca](mailto:respectnaiture@nait.ca) or call 491-3004. Again, thanks for your cooperation and support.





**We Want YOU!**

Food Services is seeking energetic and enthusiastic individuals with experience in the hospitality industry to join our remarkable team.

Positions Available:

- Catering/Banquet Staff
- Time Out Concession (gym & arena) Staff

Starting wage - \$12.85/hour

Resumes can be dropped off to office U114 or faxed to 491-3991.

Call 471-8411 for more information.

NAIT Food Services... *be a part of it!*



## HELP WANTED

The nait arena requires part-time casual arena attendants for evenings and weekends

We require you to have the following:

- Zamboni/ Arena operation experience
- First aid/CPR
- Good customer service and work ethic
- Level 1 Arena certificate is an asset

We offer the following:

- \$12.49/hr (under review)
- Evening & weekend shift differential
- Fabulous work environment

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

TERRY BAUMGARTNER  
ARENA OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR  
RM S218  
PH. 471-8699  
e-mail terrybau@nait.ab.ca

## STUDENT SUCCESS SEMINARS Room X111

SESSION	DATE	TIMES
HOW TO STUDY	Wednesday, Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup>	11:15 to 12:15, 12:15 to 1:15 <u>or</u> 4:30 to 5:30
MEMORY, LEARNING & CONCENTRATION	Wednesday, Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>	11:15 to 12:15, 12:15 to 1:15 <u>or</u> 4:30 to 5:30
TIME MANAGEMENT/ MANAGING PROCRASTINATION	Wednesday, Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	11:15 to 12:15, 12:15 to 1:15 <u>or</u> 4:30 to 5:30
EXAM WRITING/ MANAGING EXAM STRESS	Wednesday, Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>	11:15 to 12:15, 12:15 to 1:15 <u>or</u> 4:30 to 5:30
STRESS MANAGEMENT	Wednesday, Oct. 12 <sup>th</sup>	11:15 to 12:15, 12:15 to 1:15 <u>or</u> 4:30 to 5:30

All sessions are free and on a drop-in basis.

For more information contact the

## STUDENT COUNSELLING

Room 0117; phone 471-8874 (press 4)

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Take care of your back with an Obus Forme® Comfort Support System™ Backpack ...

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Comfort Support  
System Backpack





## ACTIVITY IS ALIVE



## FALL ACTIVITY CLASS SCHEDULE

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
7am		Par Fit			Cardio Craze
12-1pm	Belly Dance	Power Yoga	Cardio & Tone	Abs, Core & More	Hip Hop
4-5pm			Pilates	Boot Camp	
6pm	Silo-Fu Kung-Fu	Karate	Silo-Fu Kung-Fu	Karate	



CLASSES START SEPTEMBER 26

REGISTER FOR THESE EXCITING CLASSES

© STUDENT SERVICES E-134

OR PHONE 471-7713

If you want to donate to Hurricane Katrina's Victims, come to the NAITSA Office E-131. All the money raised will go to the Canadian Red Cross. They need anything that you can give.



Photos from: www.nola.com

Have you been out of school for a few (or quite a few) years?

ATTEND:

**"STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS"**

DATE: THURSDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>

TIME: 4:30 TO 5:30 P.M.

PLACE: ROOM E202

Presented by  
NAIT COUNSELLING  
0117, SOUTH LOBBY  
471-8874 (press 4)

**Calling  
all  
Clubs!**



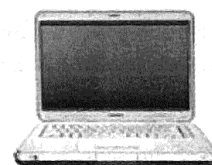
Do you have an idea for a club on campus? How about an Ultimate Frisbee Club, the Really Stinky Locker Club or a Coffee Club for instance? Well, we can help you get it started and we'll also help you keep it going. All clubs must be NAITSA sanctioned in order to be recognized as a club at NAIT. So call Rita right away at 471-8960 or email me at [ritac@nait.ca](mailto:ritac@nait.ca) and we'll discuss the tools you'll need for your club to run smoothly and successfully.

**TechStore**

Technology You Can TRUST  
[www.nait.ca/techstore](http://www.nait.ca/techstore)



WIN!



WIN!

CONTEST!

The NAIT Tech Store is pleased to ANNOUNCE the

**"WIN YOUR PURCHASE"**

Contest

- Come see our fantastic deals on laptops and computer systems, and for a limited time period you can enter our contest to win back up to \$1,500 of your purchase.

**What a great way to start the semester!**

**See in store for details. Certain conditions apply.**

**Draw Date is October 15th, 2005**

**Come check us out at the NAIT HP Centre, Room W101,  
10504 Princess Elizabeth Avenue, 471-8390**

**[www.nait.ab.ca/techstore](http://www.nait.ab.ca/techstore)**



## Introducing a brand new student government body known as

# The Senate!

Spawned by the original concept of General Council (the former NAIT student government body), The Senate will decide on what actions to take in order to meet the best interests of the students.

The Senate will consist of 18 elected student representatives from nine NAIT schools:

- School of Business
- School of Hospitality
- School of Building Science
- School of Academic Foundations and Bridging
- School of Applied Media & Information Technology
- School of Electronics Technology
- School of Health Sciences
- School of Manufacturing Technology
- School of Resources & Environment Management

Senators will be required to meet twice a month for meetings in which current issues and problems around NAIT will be discussed. Food and refreshments will be provided as well as a monetary compensation for time.

### Interested?

Well, The Senate election is happening in late September so you better move fast! Swing on down to the NAITSA Office (E-131 by the Business Tower) and pick up a nomination form!

Nominations close September 23rd 2005, and the day of voting will be September 28th 2005!

If you have any questions, please contact NAITSA president, Dwayne Williams at: 471-7608 or e-mail: dwaynewi@nait.ca




MOLSON CANADIAN ROCKS PRESENTS

# OOKFEST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Organized by the NAIT Students' Association



## THEORY OF A DEADMAN









Default Bif Naked Tupelo Honey  
Grady Vanilla Ice Social Code  
Aaron Pritchett and more...



NAIT Soccer Field, Main Campus  
Doors: 1 PM (rain or shine)

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW @ NAITSA OFFICE**  
NAIT MAIN CAMPUS RM. E-131

**\$25** STUDENT PRICE  
[www.ookfest.com](http://www.ookfest.com)

Part of the proceeds from the event go toward the NAITSA Shinerama Cystic Fibrosis Campaign



# GRAPEVINES

## A journey through the twisted world of Grapevines

(Care to give someone the business? Got a crush on a hot guy or girl? Ticked off at something and want to get it off your chest? Send your rants here to: [nuggetgrapevines@hotmail.com](mailto:nuggetgrapevines@hotmail.com))

Seeking guitarists to jam with at school. Call 984-7779 if interested.  
Caroline

Drummer looking for new band members. E-mail: [macabremurder@gmail.com](mailto:macabremurder@gmail.com)  
-Dawson

I have an announcement. Since January, I came to realize that my life was quite Epic in Epic proportions. So I officially declared my life an Epic Story. I endure hard quests, and meet many warriors along the way. And many of you reading this have seen me before, and seen me in all my Glory.  
- Housamicus the Glory.

It is I again, Housamicus the Glory. As I was resting after a journey, this Glorious Beauty crossed my path, which left me speechless. Housamicus the Glory. I came to realize I have seen this girl before. The girl I see

walking around has blonde hair, and she has this back back that is so tiny. I saw her again before I wrote this today. But I must continue on my quests for Glory.  
- Housamicus the Glory.

To the hot girl in the HP Centre wearing The Clash T-shirt. I love you. Let's meet Thursday. 7 p.m. at the Nest. You know who I am. You have my digits.  
-Griffin

What's up with people who claim to be enviro fans? You see their Smart cars parked in front of their 3,500 sq. ft. houses in Valleyview. So they're saving a few bucks on gas but blowing a thousand a month on heating their unnecessarily large homes. Is that a friend of the earth?  
- Green Guy

You deceive yourself little one. You are petulant and perverse. I am your soul mate. Don't forget that.  
-G.S.

I think it's great that you dirty smokers now have to stand 10 meters from any building entrance on NAIT property. Keep your filthy habits inside your own

filthy homes. Glory to God.  
-Christian Boy George

Why doesn't the Nest have a stripper night to raise money for Shinerama? Jess wondering. It'd be for a good cause, no? It'd bump up the attendance.  
-Juice Monkey

Who is the hottest woman on campus? You are Smookie Pooh. And I'm still your Smoochieman. Let's meet at the pool and ignore the 'No Diving' signs.  
-Jayson

The the guy with the shag cut, cute butt and eyebrow piercings. We met Friday at the HP Centre. I'm the skinny chick with the boobs you liked. Call me. You promised. Otherwise I'll know you're a maggot like the rest.  
-Oogie

Deiter tell me again why you're stating that gold-digging slut in dating me? I'm better than her in all the ways you know.  
-J

If there are health warnings on smokes, how come are none on Big Macs?  
- Grievy T.

## Classifieds

Stunning 2 year old Condo for Sale or Rent. This Condo is walking distance from both NAIT and Grant MacEwan Community College. This 1400 sq. ft., 2 storey three bedroom, 3 bathroom condo is a great starter home or ideal for a group of students. The condo is equipped with a single attached garage, hardwood floors, and ceramic tile. It boasts a walk in pantry, large kitchen w/island, and walk-in closets throughout. Enjoy a morning coffee on the front veranda and a Bar-BQ on your private deck in the backyard.  
For more information please call 497-7660.

It's Party Time! Dial: 44-Party. Ads \* Jokes \* Stories & MORE! Free Local Call \* Safe \* Secure \* 18+ Ladies-R-Always Free! Guys from 5c / minute! 1st time callers get free trial with adcode: 7777 Meet New People... ...Make New Friends Try it NOW!(780) 44-Party

Are you looking for a job while going to school? Let Bear Financial Headhunter Service find you a job. Email your resume to [bfnsh@shaw.ca](mailto:bfnsh@shaw.ca) or fax (780) 474-9594.

Mac Powerbook G3 "WallStreet" laptop, 233 MHz processor, yo-yo adapter, software, asking \$225 obo. E-mail [barto@nerdshack.com](mailto:barto@nerdshack.com)

Nintendo Gamecube console (Indigo) with matching controller, \$90. Extra controller \$15, 2 mem cards \$15 ea., 5 games \$15 each, controller extension cable \$5. Take all for \$185. E-mail [barto@nerdshack.com](mailto:barto@nerdshack.com)

15" black LCD monitor, Dell 1503FP, asking \$170 obo. E-mail [barto@nerdshack.com](mailto:barto@nerdshack.com)

Attention Students \$18.05 base appt. Fall openings, flex schedule, sales/ service, will train, conditions apply, Call Now! 453-9006 [www.collegeincome.com](http://www.collegeincome.com)

## Editor Wanted

The Nugget, a weekly newspaper published by the NAIT Students Association is seeking a dynamic student editor. The ideal candidate will have a flair for writing and editing stories that matter to students.

He or she will provide articles and help lead a team of contributors who will churn out high-quality news, sports, arts and opinion columns. Candidates should be interested in digging up interesting stories that occur both on and off campus.

The editor, reporting to the editorial advisor, should have solid writing skills, a knowledge of politics, a creative, innovative nature and be willing to put in the hours to make The Nugget the best student paper in the province.

Previous editing and reporting experience is preferred. An ability to meet strict deadlines is required. A knowledge of page design would be useful. An inquisitive spirit is essential. Salary is negotiable.

E-mailed applications are preferred but we'll also look at hard-copy applications mailed or dropped off to:

Jon Hoffman, VP - Student Affairs, NAIT Students' Association (E131) [jonh@nait.ca](mailto:jonh@nait.ca) Include writing samples.

Lifeguards/Swimming Instructors - FREE BOOKS! Lifeguard "ALERT" Manuals, Red Cross and RLSSC Instructor Manuals, Water Safety Instructor Strategy Cards, Swimming and Water Safety Manual, etc. Email [RLawton@nait.ca](mailto:RLawton@nait.ca) or phone 433-7741.

FREE computer reference books for home/office/library: QuattroPro, QuattroPro 6, FORTRAN, WordPerfect (version 6), MS-DOS. Excellent condition. Email [RLawton@nait.ca](mailto:RLawton@nait.ca) or phone 433-7741.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom basement suite. \$600/month, utilities included. Walking distance to NAIT. Call Amy @ 424-7225.


Materials textbooks - FREE: Design & Control of Concrete Mixtures, The New Science of Strong Materials, Metals in the Service of Man, Engineering Materials 2. Excellent condition. Email [RLawton@nait.ca](mailto:RLawton@nait.ca) or phone 433-7741.

Design texts - FREE: Engineered Masonry Design, Handbook of Steel Construction (6th Edition), Handbook of Steel Drainage & Highway Construction Products. Excellent condition. Email [RLawton@nait.ca](mailto:RLawton@nait.ca) or phone 433-7741.

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[www.naitsa.ca](http://www.naitsa.ca) E-131  
main campus

\* NL / NC = No Line / No Cover



# Registration frustrated some students

By LORI COOLICAN  
Special to the Nugget

Twas the 23rd of August, the first day of registration, and all through the halls they were lined up for hours, like lonely men at a kissing booth.

Eager NAIT students who ignored the warnings about showing up early to register and get their photo IDs found themselves gritting their teeth in frustration when a computer glitch forced them to wait up to three hours for a little bit of paperwork and a plastic card.

More than a few of them wondered why a technical school still insists on having students come down in person and wind their way through various line-ups to fill out forms.

"We pride ourselves on technology. I know the U of A does everything online," mused Kurtis Anderson, who wisely waited for the second day of registration to sign up for his fourth semester of business management.

He buzzed through the lineups in just a few minutes, having paid his tuition on-line.

The majority of students over at MacEwan College get registered without ever leaving the comfort of their glowing home computer screens. College spokesman David Beharry learned that the hard way last year, when he invited some local TV crews to come down and film students lining up.

"They were like, 'Where's the crowds?' And the lines were all moving," he laughed. "I spoke to the registrar's office later on and they said the majority of students do it online now."

It can be tough to keep up with technology, but they don't have much choice, Beharry said.

"Our students know what's out there, and if we don't have something they'll let us know."

So what's up with NAIT? Jeremy, an eager new NAIT student who shyly refused to give his last name, couldn't believe what he saw when he showed up on the first day of registration.

"To get your ID upstairs (in the HP Centre) there was a lineup down the hall and into the stairwell. I gave up and went home. In a technical institute, you wouldn't expect that," he said.

Once the computer problem was fixed, things went along tickety-boo during the last two days of registration. It usually only takes about 20 minutes to go through the process, said NAIT registrar and Dean of Admissions Don Yurchuk.

The school could easily do everything online and have students use their drivers' licenses as photo ID – and in the next few years that could happen – but Student Services and NAITSA would lose

valuable opportunities to show students what they offer, Yurchuk said.

"People need to know what's available. We do it for them, not for us."

Standing at a booth near the ID cameras distributing handbooks on the second day of registration, NAITSA spokesman Nicole Oulette agreed.

"We really want to have that strong interaction with students, and if we don't have the face-to-face contact, chances are they're not going to come down and meet us," she said. "We'd really be missing out on that with online registration."



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