

PRIME MINISTER HARPER? NAW HE AIN'T THAT BAD

# THE NUGGET

Thursday, January 26, 2006  
Volume 43, Issue 16

YOUR STUDENT NEWSPAPER

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

## HOT KNIGHT AT NAIT

Former New Kids on the Block's Jordan Knight packed The Nest this past weekend. See Page 8.



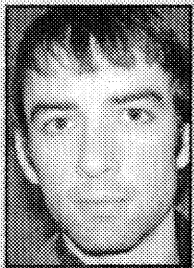
Jordan Knight, presented NAITSA, busted out all the moves Saturday night at The Nest.

Photo: Tegan McMartin



# NEWS & FEATURES

## Mouthing OFF



By TIM ANDRIES

**What are you doing for reading break?**

**GETTING MOUTHY:** Each week we at The Nugget pick an interesting question of the week to pose to NAIT students. Then we send out an eager reporter to capture the thoughts of various people on campus about the burning issue.



**Cheryl Marsonette:**  
"I'm going to be looking for a new place to live and doing lots of homework and hopefully going to see a lot of movies."



**Michael Wooley:**  
"I'm going skiing in the Swiss Alps (not really)...I'm going skiing at Panorama for five days."



**Erin Bayus:**  
"[I'm] going to the farthest corners of Canada to become a Canadian samurai, and waking up bears in the bush."



**Tegan McMartin:**  
"[I'm] going back to Victoria to see my boy and my family and to hang out where it's warm. Maybe do some snowboarding while I'm there."

## "Lighten Up"

**February 1, 2006**

**Rapid Fire Improv  
Shaw Theatre @  
4:30 -5:30**

Get your **FREE** tickets in the NAITSA office, Rm. E-131

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Tickets!!**

**Karaoke after the show in The Nest.  
WEAR YOUR  
BEST FROM THE  
80'**

## Snow where for art thou?

By CHARLES NOBLE

So often these days I hear people complaining about the lack of snow. I wonder why. I mean, just wait till next year and we will get snow hitting our city and people will complain about that. They'll say "Hey, why isn't it like last year?"

All this complaining can create a lot of unnecessary stress in a person's life. If people were to relax more and think less about impressing others or living up to a reputation, then life would be a lot easier and happier.

Stress is more than just a feeling - it hurts your body and your mind just the same. Stress can lead you down the path of anxiety attacks, insomnia and depression. Physically, stress can increase your chance of heart attacks, stroke and high blood pressure.

If you ever feel incapable of getting through the day, it is likely due to stress and one in six Canadians these days suffer from it. The signs are quite simple to spot: if you can't seem think clearly, constipation/diarrhea, being sick all the time, substance abuse and irritability. Many people may think that these effects are just a normal part of life, but in the long term, they can lead to mental problems and serious physical problems.

Some mental problems that can result are disillusion and constant depression, while the most serious physical problems are heart disease and strokes. If someone you know just always seems to be off in their mind and has had that cold for a bit too long, maybe try talking to them about any problems they might be having. One of the most obvious signs is road rage

or frequent arguments.

A common sign of stress that shouldn't be overlooked is substance abuse, such as a cigarette before and after every exam. This is where stress goes past just being a simple problem to solve - substance abuse can be the hardest problem to get past so consulting a doctor would be the most logical solution in such a case.

The easiest way to rid stress is to talk about the feelings being bottled up and help the person get over the problems or past them. Sometimes school can become a big factor in the stress of our lives, but don't let all the work load build up and you should be fine. Take school as a day-to-day challenge but don't let it rule your life. Have time set aside for fun and relax and most importantly sleep.

Sleep can be the best way

to let that built up stress float away. It not only calms you down but also gives you much needed energy to handle any stress that might come your way. If you're suffering from stress though, maybe you should work out a little more to try to regain the energy needed during the day which will also help you with any insomnia symptoms, because you'll actually be tired at night and your body will want the much needed sleep.

If worse comes to worst, consult a doctor about any severe stress related problems, but simply talking about your troubles and living a more balanced life full of exercise and regular sleep can almost eliminate stress induced symptoms. Just take a walk, have some fun, laugh a little more and most importantly, take the time to rest and relax.

## McNally Library is renewed!

Have you been to McNally Library lately? Well, if you haven't, today (Jan. 26) may be the perfect time to drop by.

"We have given McNally Library a facelift with new service desks, vibrant colours and comfortable lounge seating," says Helga Kinnaird, Manager of Academic Learner Services. "Our technology has also been renewed, including wireless access. Students can use the library's computers

to access software with a NAIT-wide site licence. And, the library's on-line resources and other services have not been forgotten - watch for announcements, coming soon."

Staff and students have 24/7 access to a growing number of library e-resources such as on-line books and full-text journal and newspaper articles. They can also use the library's website to request delivery of resources to one of many

convenient locations on NAIT campuses. Or, they can drop in and enjoy the library space with its new look and many convenient facilities.

To show the entire NAIT community what's new, Helga and the McNally Library team are planning an open house event for today (Jan. 26). Refreshments will be served between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and visitors will have an opportunity to enter their

names to win a great door prize.

"We want to encourage staff and students to drop by, take a look around, meet our friendly staff and find out more about what McNally Library can do for them."

**(McNally Library Open House, Room U310 - 3rd Floor Learning Resources Centre on Main Campus)**

## NAIT program's a gusher

This May, NAIT will launch its slick new program, the oil technician program.

According to Dave Roberts, the dean of the school of mechanics, May is an ideal time to start the program. "That's the slowest time for drilling technicians in the province."

Roberts says this will be the only course of its kind in Alberta and possibly the world.

"Each of these trades has to be designated by the Alberta government," said Roberts. "NAIT was selected."

The course is being offered in order to meet business demand and right now, the demand is staggering. "It's just crazy. It will be one of the bigger trades in the province," said Roberts.

Industry wanted oil rig workers to take more courses on safety. The course will also teach other job related skills.

# OPINION

## Grapevines writers can be tactless



Guest editorial  
By SHANT CHAKMAKIAN

For most of you that read the Grapevines, you can agree that maybe Grapevines need a little tact and maybe even some constructive (instead of destructive) criticism.

As entertaining and funny the Grapevines are, especially when you hear others colourfully bitch about something, or to see someone publicly yet anonymously express an interest in someone when they are too shy to approach the person themselves, I will admit it is kind of cute and then at times kind of annoying and at times even kind of creepy for some ladies, especially some of the shy ones...but that's my opinion.

But maybe we can do things differently...right? You know

bitching constructively, telling people what they need to do politely and with tact instead of what they don't need to do offensively. Or maybe even people can try working with each other instead of against each other. Maybe even try making a friend instead of an enemy. Why burn a bridge when you can build one right?

But what truly pisses me off is actually the insane amount of racist posts that originally come into Grapevines that of course are filtered out. Seriously... grow the fuck up, we live in a multicultural society and if you can't tolerate other races go live in a whitewashed, redneck, inbred, southern state near a KKK base.

But apart from that, I am happy to see the amount of posts in the Grapevines. I am happy to see those that pick the Nugget up and go straight to the Grapevines. But it never hurts to read a few articles, perhaps even try staying on top of student events.

And what would be even better is to see more "constructive criticism" on the Grapevines and more Nugget speak out forums being used to voice opinions such as changes people would like to see, ideas etc. We at NAITSA do everything we can to serve students but, it's harder to work for students when you don't know what they always want or their opinions.

All in all, I say this as an opinion, as a recommendation I would hate to see the Grapevines lose their spice, but at the same time I would love to see some tact...thus the title of this article. So enjoy the Grapevines as always and please try using them as a means constructive communication but by all



## 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.

## Better off with science?

Botox, genetically modified foods, laser hair removal treatment. It seems as though our generation is the guinea pig generation.

All of these come to us with the promise of a better quality of life. I'm all for a better quality of life, but we don't even know the ramifications of what technology is actually doing to us on a long term basis.

Think of laser hair removal. For that to work, the laser has to be strong enough to kill your hair follicles. Call me old fashioned, but I don't think that's safe.

But science isn't just affecting us on a physiological level - it's affecting us on a psychological level.

Progress has happened over

such a gradual period of time that we don't even notice how blatant it is. I was looking at an old ABBA music video. If you look at the two female members of ABBA, in the 70s, they were considered hot.

If ABBA were to release that very same music video today, we'd perceive the female members as having bad teeth, poor hair colouring and their bodies...too heavy, curvy and flat-chested. But what did they know then?

They don't seem that healthy looking by today's standards, but the joke is that they're probably healthier than the leading pop lightweights, ergh, heavyweights of today.

Nowadays, it's the vogue for celebrities to have an eating disorder. In the 1970s, the average

person didn't know what an eating disorder was. It wasn't until Karen Carpenter's death in the early 80s that people started to become aware of things like anorexia.

Today, infertility is a much more common problem than it ever was in the 70s. Could it have something to do with the environment? Could it have something to do with what we're eating? Could it have something to do with what we're not eating? With so many possible contributing factors, how do you tell?

Were things really that bad before?

Science might very well be building a better tomato, but do we really need it?



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**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



# Feeling blue?

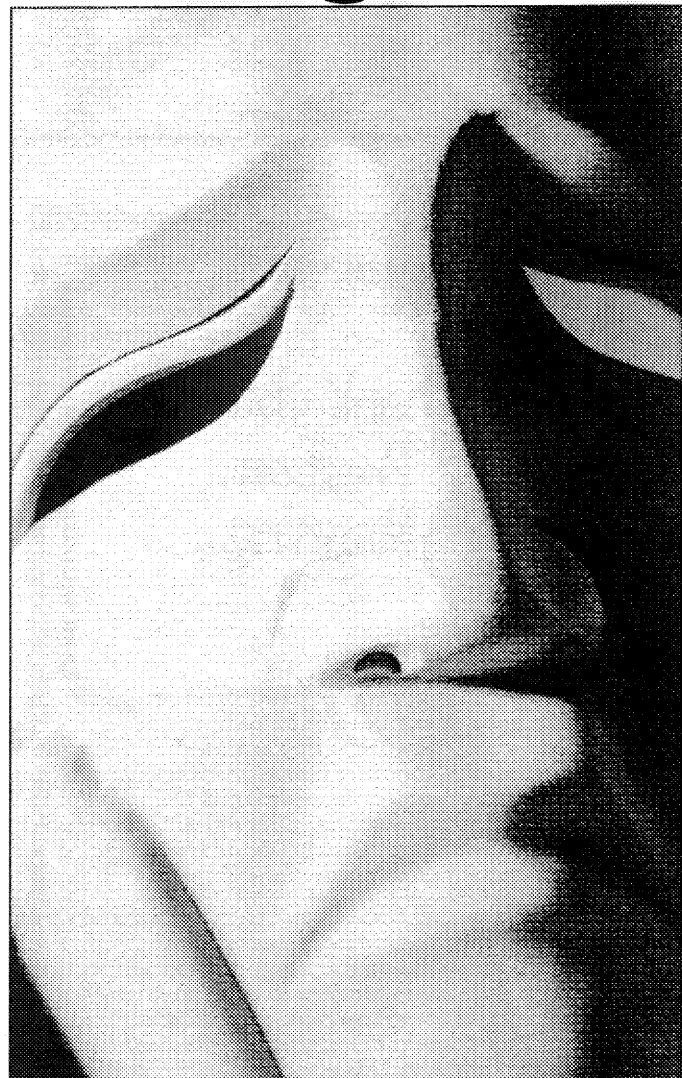


Photo: Olivia Kachman

By OLIVIA KACHMAN

It's that time of year again when the darkness and cold play havoc on your psyche. We'll show you how to get over that. Read on.

## 1. Sun salutation

There is something that dog walkers, runners and smokers have in common- their habits force them to get outdoors, no matter the temperature. If you are a NAIT basement dweller like me who travels to and from school in the dark, going outdoors when the sun is shining for a few minutes a day is an absolute must.

## 2. Fitness = Fun

Getting fit does not have to look and feel like boot camp. A pick-up game of hockey, joining a belly dancing class, renting Carmen Electra's striptease workout video, taking salsa lessons, beating your friends up with a wet pool noodle, or having a massive snowball fight are all ways to get the endorphins flowing.

## 3. You're invited

From James Bond parties to geisha parties, murder mystery parties to spa parties, there is nothing more motivating than going out and acting ridiculous with your friends and classmates at a house party. All it takes is some imagination, a location and a reason for a celebration.

## 4. FAN-tastic!

There is nothing more primitive than screaming your lungs out at a sports team of your choice while drinking beer and chomping down on wings and nachos. If you can't afford Oilers tickets, sports bars are a good alternative as well as supporting your beloved Ooks or the Edmonton Rush at a home game.

## 5. Chocolate

Scientists have argued that dark chocolate is considered to be clinically helpful in battling depression. Small yet regular doses of dark chocolate ...

## 6. Embrace winter

You live in a country covered by snow and ice for most of the calendar year, so make the most of it. Go skating at Hawrelak Park, plan a skiing/snowboarding adventure in the Rockies (or sign up for NAIT's trip through the NAITSA office), go sledding, learn how to snow shoe through the river valley, make a snow angel- do anything but sit on your ass and complain about winter.

## 7. Sing, sing, sing!

There is nothing more empowering or embarrassing than picking up a microphone and belting out your favourite song to a crowd. If you are a virgin to karaoke, it is time to let loose and go wild. There are loads of venues catering to karaoke lovers near NAIT such as the Nest, Blind Duck, Rosie's, B-Street and Rosario's to name a few. Go on and release the inner rock star in you. I double dare you!

## 8. Be creative

People often forget to indulge in their creative side. For some reason, we lose our sense of play that we had as children. Why don't we invent things, dabble in finger paints, write songs, play board games or build forts like we used to? I challenge you to rediscover the artist-child in you that is being repressed and release your creative side one evening this week. You'll be happy you did.

## 9. Plan a road trip

Road tripping doesn't require you to cover epic distances or cost a fortune. The point is to get out of town. Reading break is a perfect time to plan to go somewhere. Start planning your adventure. By giving yourself something to look forward to, you are sure to beat the winter blues!

## 10. Volunteer

There is nothing more rewarding than donating your time and energy to volunteer with organisations. You will be valued, meet new people and get that warm and fuzzy feeling from helping others in need. You will never get paid, but the pay-offs on your resume will be worth it. Depending on the organisation you volunteer for, you may also realize that your life doesn't suck half as bad as you thought it did in the first place!

## 10.5 Alcohol

If you must drink with your friends to feel alive, do so in a responsible manner. Alcohol is a depressant, so that means drinking will not beat your winter blues but make things look worse than they actually are. Always have a designated driver or take a cab home.

## Letters to The Nugget editor

### Don't be a creep, talk to women

Dear Editor:

I'm writing this letter because I feel that the art of conversation has fallen to the wayside to instant messaging, gossiping like a bunch of bitches (male and female) trapped in a burning bitch factory and MP3 players. In result of this, we've become a society that is overly-sensitive as well as overly-creepy when it comes to face-to-face interaction. I'll stop mincing words and tell you, the editors of the Nugget, I'm talking about the most popular part of the entire Nugget, The Grapevines.

Guys, please heed these words, for no one will ever tell you the truth as much as I will right now. Learn how to become proper social animals or face being labeled "creeper" by every woman that you find attractive. Seriously, try turning off your screens, going outside, hitting the gym regularly and perhaps try chatting with your friends in real life instead of on the other side of a laptop. Think about the most charming person you've ever seen on the movie screen (fantasy and sci-fi movies do not count) and try emulating the things you see in that character you like. Try and put those qualities into your own self. Be the person you'd like to see in the reflection of the

mirror. Be fucking charming, you assholes! If there's a girl that you see that is pretty or cool or whatever, take the chance and talk to her. What's the worst that could happen? Getting a full can of bear mace or perhaps a new friend that could turn into something more?

Listen to what they say instead of wondering what it would be like to bang them in a handicapped bathroom. Gentlemen, let go of that post-high-school rut you've found yourselves and get some social experience. Luckily, thanks to Hollywood, we can overcome. Fellas, rent yourself Hitch, Swingers and The 40-year-old Virgin. Think about those guys who put up the pussy up on a pedestal.

But you know what results in that? You becoming a victim of Pussilia's entrancement, which in turn, results in you becoming stalker-like creepers whenever you find yourself around them! Don't go for the 10's right away. Start with some sixes or sevens. Someone in your own league, perhaps. Work your way up, and don't forget that confidence is everything!

Now I know what you're thinking, guys. "I hope I see you in a dark alley, you cocky motherfucker." Or, "You must

be a studly Adonis." Hardly. I'm slightly overweight, I have thinning hair and I've worn one pair of jeans for the last 18 months. All of these things are a part of who I am, yet I don't let these things get me down. I'm in a room with some beautiful women most of the time and I don't fear them. I talk to them like it ain't no thang. Remember bees, dogs and women can smell fear.

And to those who used the Grapevines to impress a girl: every time you drop a sick and pathetic ode to some chick who probably doesn't know you're alive in that Grapevines submission box, you become that much closer to being a stereotype that you may have been yearning to shake off. Every time you drop another Grapevine in that box, you're not getting closer to that girl that you pine for. You're actually driving her further away. She gets creeped out by it and in turn, she gets creeped out by any strangers that happen to be men. And guess what? You're still a stranger to her even though you've been monitoring her movements in and out of school for a month.

Be a man and talk to women.

Signed,  
Taz Dhariwal

## Is the Greenhouse effect simply all hot air?

Dear Editor:

Canada will always be cold and I am fed up that global warming is being used as an excuse to raise taxes. Does carbon dioxide cause global warming? Actually, it causes a greenhouse effect because

it absorbs some light, but it cannot cause global warming.

For example, a greenhouse only overheats if its doors are closed.

But the atmosphere has no doors and so unhindered convection of warmed air prevents overheating. As air

is warmed by the greenhouse effect it rises and cools because it fights gravity. Typically, warm air rises until it emits all its surplus heat into space.

Richard Blakely  
MIET Alumnus

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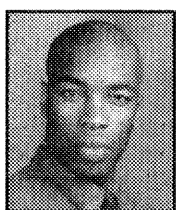
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# STUDENT POLITICS

Q&A with your Student Executives

## Big plans for reading break



**DWAYNE WILLIAMS**  
NAITSA President

**Are you running again next year?**

Nope, it's time to leave! I have been at NAIT roughly over four years now. It's time to give another group of students a chance to give the students a really great experience!

**What is the legacy you hope to leave?**

I hope that a lot of the changes we implemented at NAITSA will ensure that the service and tools we provide students will remain in place and that future executives will be able to constantly improve the organization for all!

**What's the biggest challenge with your job?**

Definitely staying aware of all students' issues amongst the different areas we represent students is a huge challenge. At the same time, being able to convey any problems or concerns the students have in an effective manner with NAIT administration provides quite the learning experience.

**What are your plans for reading break?**

Sadly, I might even pop into the office over reading break, but most likely watch some movies and relax with friends!



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

**What can students expect with this NAIT Idol?**

I hope students can expect some laughs and some real talent this year! We had great talent last year. Let's keep it up!

**If I'm interested in organizing a campus activity, how would I go about that?**

You would come to me, I would approve the event and I would help in every way to plan and execute that event. If anyone has any ideas but you are not sure how to do that

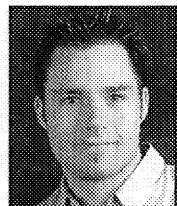
idea, just come on down and see me!

**What can students do to become more involved in campus life here at NAIT?**

I think the most important thing is to get your classmates together and just have a great time! Unwind and relax to relieve the stress of classes! It could be anything - a cabaret, a night at the Nest, just something to get out of classroom setting.

**What are your plans for reading break?**

I have no idea, maybe a trip, maybe study, could be both!



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

**What is the mandate of NAIT's Academic Council?**

The official role of Academic Council is to make recommendations to the Board with regard to programs that the school should pursue/discontinue, academic awards, academic policies or any other item provided by the Board. It is a great group of people consisting of President Shaw, Vice President Berry Calder, seven academic staff, seven students and three administrative staff members.

**Were you happy with the outcome at the all candidates forum? Any surprises?**

I was extremely proud of the NAIT students and staff for taking the time to come out and hear what the candidates had to say.

I heard a lot of talk about how NAIT students are not political. This forum proved that either NAIT students are interested in politics or at least that this election is not just about politics - it is something that impacts all students and everyone should care about it.

I would be lying if I said I wasn't surprised to see the theatre full. That was pretty cool and I sure loved the mix of controversy and humour.

**Why does the Nugget take two weeks off during reading break? Is this normal?**

The Nugget will not be printed those two weeks because the majority of our campus will be away for one of the weeks.

Unlike some other student newspapers, our staff is all fulltime students and I think they deserve a nice break too.

**What are your plans for reading break?**

Unfortunately, I have night classes throughout the break so I'll be around the school. If I could get away, I would probably be on the Reading Week Ski Trip.

I hear there are still a couple of spots left, so you can take my spot by coming by the NAITSA office and talking to Rose.

...



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

**Are the student fees going to go up next year?**

\$102.50 per semester. The fees are set in NAITSA's bylaws until 2011.

**Were there unexpected surprises in the budget for this**

**school year?**

No, we had a good budget year, no real surprises yet.

**What's the biggest misconception about your role with NAITSA?**

Some people think that I approve student loans and NAITSA actually has nothing at all to do with student loans.

**What are your plans for reading break?**

I am going to Mexico and I can't wait.

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6. Experience a dynamic work environment
7. Enhance your college experience
8. Work with a great team
9. Make a difference in Student Life
10. Travel Opportunities

**Nominations Open: Feb 1st**  
**Nominations Close: Feb 28th**

**NAITSA**

For more information or to pick-up forms come to the NAITSA Office, Rm. E-131, or join us for 3 info sessions in E129 on Feb. 6, 13, or 27.



# 'Keep your paws off instructors'



## Ask Maria

Dear Maria:

I'm in first year and I really like this guy in my class who I'll call Steve.

The other night we wound up at a party together and I was pretty drunk.

Before we knew it we were necking like crazy in a spare bedroom. One thing led to another and we had sex.

It was great up to that point but just as we finished, Steve's best friend from our class came in and started fooling around and he had sex with me too.

I'm so embarrassed by this I'm thinking about quitting school.

But the thing is I really like Steve and if I quit school I'd never see him again.

I'm hoping we might be able to be girlfriend-boyfriend.  
- Big Mess

Dear Mess:

You've chosen a good handle. This is a mess.

First off, as shameful as you might feel, you can't quit school over this.

You got yourself into this mess, now go and tough it out for the benefit of an education that will serve you well for the rest of your life.

Try to face Steve as soon as you can along with his friend. Tell them pointedly you're a embarrassed by what happened and you wouldn't normally do such a thing when sober.

Take Steve aside and tell him you have feelings for him. Be honest.

It's not a good sign that he

feels the same was about you. I doubt he'd be so willing to share you sexually with a friend in that case.

But stranger things have happened.

The biggest thing is don't worry about Steve. Worry about yourself and your education.

You might also talk to a professional about your drinking. Nobody should regularly get so drunk that they do things that make them ashamed of themselves. If this is happening to you, lay off the booze, honey.  
...

Dear Maria:

I'm taking mechanics at NAIT and also working 20 hours a week at a bar because I have to to make ends meet.

I'm just finding the school work too much and too hard.

I noticed one of those correspondence schools from the United States that offers mechanical courses and it says I could become a licensed mechanic in a year and get a job after for sure.

I'm thinking of quitting school and trying that.

Would that make sense?  
- Grease

Dear Grease:

I doubt the training at such a place would come close to the kind of education you're going to get at NAIT. It's a top-notch school, especially compared to some correspondence centre out of the U.S.

Why not try to cut back your work hours a bit so the courses at NAIT might be easier to deal with?

Also, for sure, for sure, talk to a school councillor. I'm sure they'd have some very good advice for you.  
...

Dear Maria:

I've got this huge crush on an instructor and I think he likes me too.

I don't want to say what class this is in but he's young, has a hot body and is friendly to me.

I'd like to ask him for a drink and I dream that he might even go out with me like a regular boyfriend if things worked out.

Am I being stupid?

- Lovestruck

Dear Lovestruck:

Yes, you are being stupid. I hate to be blunt, but that's the case.

No upstanding instructor would consider getting into a relationship with his student. That would be unethical and I'm sure you realize why.

Don't take his friendliness as a sign he might want to date you. I'm sure he's friendly to lots of people because that's his nature.

Just don't go there girl. Trust me, it's not worth it on any level.

But don't beat yourself up either. We've all had crushes on teachers at one time in our lives or another. That's life.  
...

Dear Maria:

My roommate is forever helping himself to my beer and he promises to replace it but somehow never does.

I hate to be anal about this but it's starting to piss me off.

I figure he owes me about six, six packs by now.

How can I get him to repay me without looking like an uptight nerd?

- Crying in My Beer

Dear Crying:

You're not being anal.

If someone borrows something they should replace it, simple as that.

Just tell him, "Hey Joe, I figure you owe me about six, six-packs of beer and I'd appreciate if you'd replace those."

If he waffles or makes excuses, stand firm.

You're not being uptight to want something that was borrowed to be replaced.

If he won't do it, start shopping for a new roommate.  
...

Dear Maria:

My dad bought me this new bright red Mustang for Christmas because I had the best marks in my class.

I love it but ...

I kinda had a bit of an accident with it when I hit a pole by mistake and there's a fairly good ding on the rear fender.

I don't want to tell my dad 'cause he'll have a shit fit. But I can't afford to fix it myself.

What should I do?

- Mustang Sally

Dear Sally:

Time to face the music kid.

If your dad's peeved, so be it. Tell him about the accident and say that you'll do whatever it takes to repay him for having the car fixed.

That should make him less angry because it shows you're facing up to a mistake you made.

But in future, watch where you're going girl!

(Maria Manna is a NAIT alumnus whose columns have appeared in publications throughout North America. If you have an issue you want to discuss, e-mail her at [etiquette@shaw.ca](mailto:etiquette@shaw.ca). She will answer all letters, published or not).

## Have you been out of school for several years?

Would you like to meet other returning adult students?

For more information contact Student Counselling  
Room 0117, Main South Lobby

## JOIN US FOR COFFEE

WEDNESDAYS  
7:30 to 8:00 a.m.  
COMMON MARKET  
(Main Cafeteria)

**Jägermeister Winterfest**

**Sat. February 11th**

**Tickets \$12 in advance \$15 at the door**  
doors open 8 p.m.  
**Live @ The Nest**

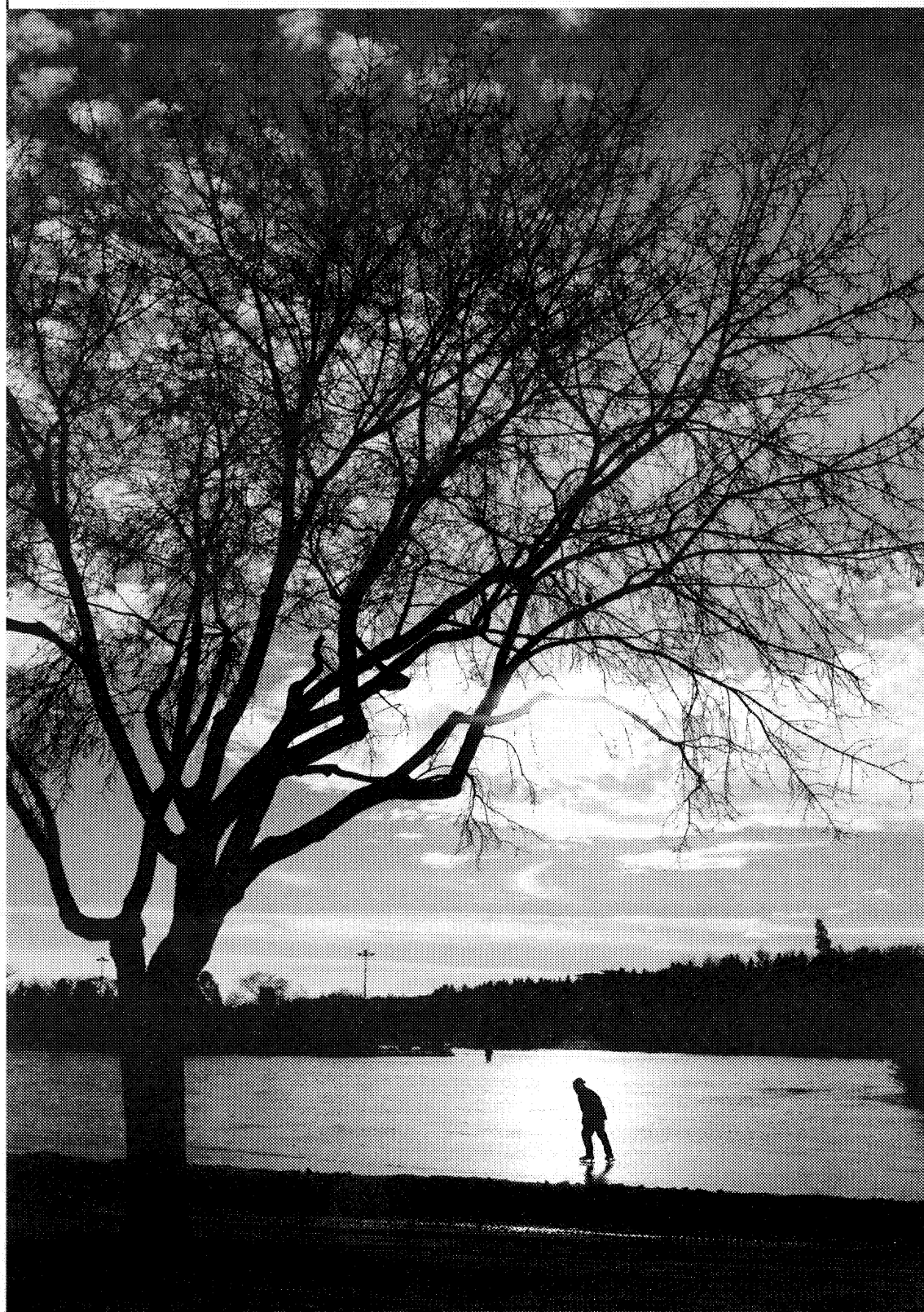
with *Drive by Punch* & MURDER CITY SPARROWS

**Tickets available @ The Nest & NAITSA Office (E-131)**  
\*complimentary beverage upon entry into event

Presented by **The Nest** & **NAITSA** & **Jägermeister**



# Winter solstice



NAIT photography student Olivia Kachman captured a lone skater enjoying the mild winter weather at Hawrelak Park Photo: Olivia Kachman

## TANNING SALE

### 800 Minutes - \$49.95

(Details at the Salon)

## GOLDEN BEACH

*Suntanning Salon & Esthetics*

(Make-up, waxing-eyebrow, lip, leg, Brazilian)

**471-2550 \* 10412 - 118 Ave**

(Next to ABC Weddings, Across from the Annex)

**We also sell collectible diecast cars**

## HELP THE HOMELESS

Helpthehomeless.ca

NAIT and HTH have joined together to make a NAIT community group for the purpose of helping those in need in the downtown sector. To get involved with the HTH missions, log on to [www.helpthehomeless.ca](http://www.helpthehomeless.ca) and fill out a volunteer/donation form for the next upcoming event February 4th.



HTH IXOYC



**Shinerama**  
**V.I.P. card liquidation**

*Tired of turning into an icicle waiting to get into your favorite club?*

**NO LINE // NO COVER FOR 2**

Showgirls	The Standard	Iron Horse	Wolly Bully's
Esmeraldas	Stonehouse	Reds	Hudsons
Cowboys	Armoury	Stollis	Union Hall
Diamonds	The Nest	Rum Junge	Kingsnight Pub

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

Available at Campus Reads & Needs, The Tech Store, & the NAITSA Office (E131)

### Interested in custom clothing for your technology? The Respiratory Therapy Class of 2007 can help!

In partnership with promotion company MAAKL, we are offering a great deal for all NAIT techs and groups with:

- a wide variety of items
  - awesome prices
  - opportunities for fundraising
- Design your logo and we'll take care of the rest!

**For more information contact:**  
**Jessica @ [karrahud@telus.net](mailto:karrahud@telus.net) or**  
**Gary @ 721-8773**



**NAIT Staff & Students**  
**\$2 OFF A Toasty COMBO!**

Toasty Combo includes a 20 oz. drink,  
Bag of chips and Rg or Lg sub at Quiznos Sub  
11621-Kingsway  
(by Save On Foods)

**Present your valid ID card.**

### NAIT Student Awards Office Winter Bursaries and Scholarships

- Available to 2nd semester students
- Available to 2nd 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) December 12, 2005.

**Deadline: February 3, 2006**

For more information, please visit us in Room O101 or go online to view a tutorial on "How to Apply for Awards".



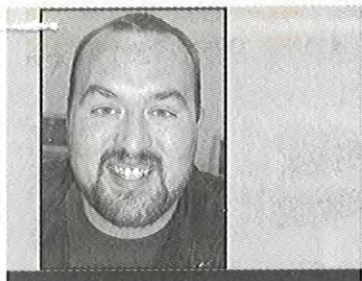
# ENTERTAINMENT

## 'New Kid' rocked



Jordan Knight revs up the crowd Saturday night at the Nest. It was poacked for the one-hour concert

Photo: Tegan McMartin



By **TREVOR ELLIOTT**

The capacity crowd at the Nest on Jan. 21 would agree that Jordan Knight is still the heartthrob that he was with The New Kids On The Block (NKOTB).

After waiting over three hours to see their childhood idol, the hoard of women in the Nest, screamed a deafening shrill when Knight took to the stage for over an hour's worth of reminiscence.

To no one's surprise,

Knight opened his set with a NKOTB hit, *My Favorite Girl*. The real shocker, however, was that no one seemed to recognize the singer's own material. Even his sound techs were dumbfounded when asked the name of his first original song of the evening.

The heartthrob was sure to mix in lots of NKOTB songs between his occasional original. His set included number one hits such as *Step By Step*, *Valentine Girl*, *Please Don't Go Girl*, *Cover Girl* and *I'll Be Loving You*.

Two things were obvious disappointments about the concert.

First, Knight resorted to using a recorded version of at least one song – *Cover Girl*. The voice of Donnie Wahlberg could be heard resonating from

the speakers; however, Donnie could not be seen anywhere. It makes one wonder just how many of the songs he played were pre-recorded.

Secondly, Knight just does not have the same voice that he used to as a child. Knight completely killed *Please Don't Go Girl* as his voice just doesn't reach as high as it used to. "He can't hit the high notes anymore," said longtime NKOTB fan Shawna Terry. "He needs to be kicked in the crotch (to hit those notes)."

It was amazing to see how many guys were at the concert considering there were only three reasons for them to be there. Either they were gay, looking to pick up women or were working.

Believe you me, the couple of guys who were groping each

other on the dance floor were noticed by everyone around them.

The highlight of the evening was when Jordan asked NAITSA Program & Events Manager Mike Anderson to join him to sing *Games*.

Anderson put on an enthusiastic display as he busted a move with Knight.

Anderson could easily have been the opening act as he far out-performed Jeff Hendrick who put most of the audience to sleep with his slow-paced reggae style music.

Brainz Davis, formerly MC Brainz, was a good fit to the evening as the second act. Davis was very effective in getting the crowd to its feet and raising the excitement for Knight's arrival on stage.

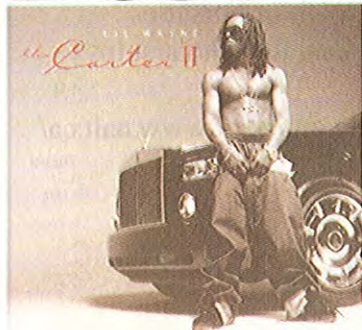
The intellectual highlight of the night was provided by Davis who pointed out that "the difference between an MC and a rapper is that an MC speaks from the heart. A rapper talks a lot of bullshit, but doesn't have shit to say."

In the end, fans got exactly what they wanted. Knight provided an evening for the hundreds of screaming fans to relive their childhood and to remember the fun they had when they were kids.

Just one piece of advice to Knight: Stick to the NKOTB material because your new material is simply not the same that fans fell in love with all those years ago.

"All his new stuff sucks," said Erin Gallagher, "it's just not the same."

## Best rapper alive?



Lil' Wayne: Tha Carter II  
By **TRYSTAN MEYERS**

The dirty south cat Lil' Wayne (a.k.a. Weezy) doesn't need to worry himself with burning out because he is the

fireman! Weezy's new album hit stores Dec. 6 and flew off shelves this Christmas season. On his forth album, he claims to be the best rapper alive.

That is a bold statement from Lil' Wayne considering the last rapper who had beef ended up six feet under. Wayne doesn't have to worry about creating a buzz because *Tha Carter II* is jammed with, smooth southern flow, witty punch lines and hip hop metaphors that make this lyrical work of art a must buy.

The full 77 minute, 22 track record features guest appearances by: Kurupt, Currenky, Nikki and Baby (a.k.a. Birdman), but more importantly

is missing production from Mannie Fresh.

The first two singles are *Fireman* and *Grown Man* respectively. Many tracks use heavy piano loops most notably in *Fly In and Fly Out*. Other blazin' tracks are *Oh No* that features a soulful sample, the sick guitar in *Weezy Baby* and the interview styled track, *Feel Me*.

I wouldn't go as far to say Lil' Wayne is the best rapper alive. By the time word hits the street, he will probably be number one in the charts and hopefully Weezy isn't dodging bullets from all the other jealous rappers.

## Hot picks for 2005

(Here is Nugget reviewer Trystan Meyers' picks for the best albums of 2005)

**Kanye West:** Late Registration

**Green Day:** American Idiot

**50 Cent:** The Massacre

**Mariah Carey:** Emancipation Of Mimi

**Gwen Stefani:** Love Angel Music Baby

**Coldplay:** X & Y

**Black Eyes Peas:** Monkey Business

**Kelly Clarkson:** Breakaway

**Deep Dish:** George Is On

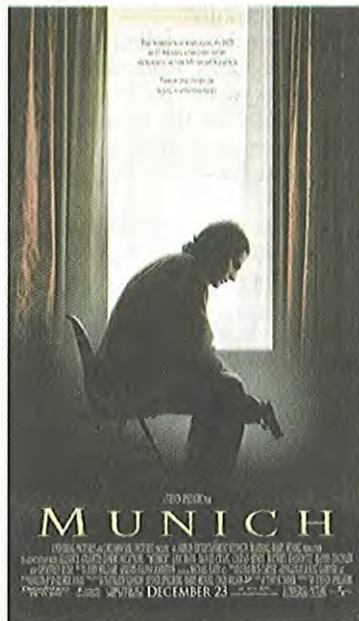
**Destiny's Child:** Destiny Fulfilled



# Munich no big hit



By DAVID MALLETT



Steven Spielberg returned over the holidays with his second film in eight months and the result is a mixed bag. Hollywood's favourite son is usually a big draw at the box office, but this film is bringing in small crowds.

So far, *Munich* has only made around \$40 million. To be sure, it is a topical film with no A-list stars, but nevertheless, the impact of a Spielberg flop is felt in the film industry.

However, *Munich* doesn't deserve to be a hit.

There is something cold and calculated about this film and it isn't the plot devised by the terrorists. *Munich* deals with the aftermath of the hostage taking and murder of nine Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympic Games in Germany.

In retaliation, the government attacked in guerilla fashion sending out a squad of mercenaries to take the lives of prominent Palestinian enemies. As we all know, the conflict between the two factions has been a source of tension in the Middle East for decades.

Spielberg tries to illuminate the struggle for us by showing the merciless way in which the Israelis executed their targets. But, over nearly three hours later, one feels like they are back where they started, just a little worse for the wear after all

of the brutal violence featured in this film.

Like *Crash* and *Brokeback Mountain*, this film asks questions that need to be raised. Sadly, the way they are asked is just not that compelling.

*Munich* isn't a complete failure. A filmmaker as skilled as Mr. Spielberg rarely makes a big stinker. But, with this film one feels the king of the box office is beginning to fall into a very dull rhythm.

Spielberg employs several techniques throughout that reek of manipulation - from a blood splattered wall morphing into a dark sunset sky to a book slamming closed, transitioning to a sudden rush of wind blowing dust to and fro.

One feels the cute factor seen in his more family oriented fare starting to conflict with his intentions in a film like this. Babies, Gladiator-type music and ridiculous dream sequences only serve to illustrate this point.

I find it difficult to love his dramatic films entirely as his style tends to overshadow story. With *Munich*, this has never been more true.

He remains one of the finest movie makers of all time, but his ideas may be starting to run low.



# Car show revs up



By CHARLES NOBLE

If you're a car buff, you'll want to check out the upcoming Edmonton Motor Show.

So what is unique to the Edmonton show?

Well, at the Edmonton Motor Show, you'll get a sneak peak at Champ Series race cars as well as product from about 30 car dealerships.

This show might not include as many concept cars as Detroit's famous auto show but it has strong appeal with the many events for children and adults alike. The remote control race car events can be just as entertaining as seeing the many beautiful cars.

The highlight of the show will be the Ferrari Enzo making its first appearance here, which is world renowned as the best Ferrari ever made. A few other exotic cars making appearances are the Lotus Elise and the Saleen S7. Some of the best American cars will be showing their own style and most-wanted models, such as the Ford Mustang GT-R and the Ford GT.

The event is sponsored by EMDA (Edmonton Motor Dealers' Association) that every year, donates more and more money in the form of scholarships to NAIT.

This year, officials plan to donate more than \$270,000.

If you're not a fan of the exotics and showroom vehicles, there are some Tuner cars that just look amazing and will be appearing at the show full of incredible sound systems and big shiny rims.

Make sure to bring your camera because you're bound to find some car worth taking a picture of. It's a fine family event or a fun trip for you and your friends.

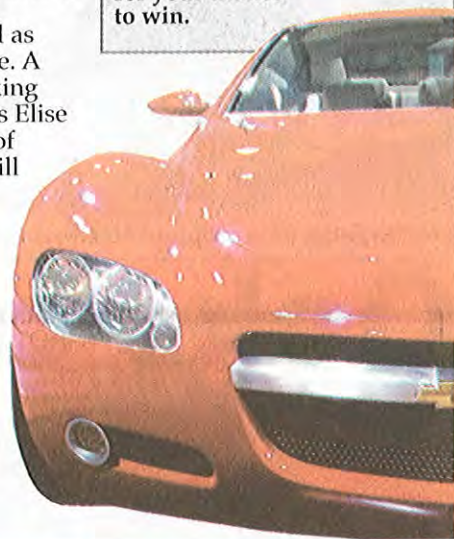
The Motor Show will be taking place at Northlands Agricom from Jan. 26-29.

## Would you like free passes?

The Nugget is giving away a whack of free VIP tickets courtesy of Bob Vilas.

If you'd like to win a pair, e-mail your name and phone number to the address below. We've got lots to give away, so your odds of winning are good.

One e-mail per person please. If we receive multiple entries from one e-mail address you'll be disqualified. E-mail [nuggetsubmissin@hotmail.com](mailto:nuggetsubmissin@hotmail.com) for your chance to win.



# Wild about parrots

The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill

Directed by Judy Irving

By KEVIN GIBSON

Lacking the cutesy cache of "March of the Penguins" or the clout of Werner Herzog's "Grizzly Man," 2005's "The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill" mostly flew under the mainstream's radar. With the recent spate of top notch documentaries (Mad Hot Ballroom, In the Realms of the Unreal, Murderball ...), "...Parrots..." got a bit overshadowed, which is a shame as it's every bit as compelling as any thing currently playing at your local multiplex.

In the last couple decades, a flourishing flock of Wild Parrots have adopted San Francisco as their habitat. How they got there is anyone's guess. Rumours abound of zoo escapees and exotic stowaways. Most were simply set free by annoyed owners who underestimated the loquacious nature of their house mates. These domesticated parrots were left to fend for themselves, save for one ally: Mark Bittner.

A non-conformist seeker of truths, the one-time aspiring musician was drawn to early '70s San Francisco with the rock 'n' roll promise of a culture that had already begun to erode. Unable or unwilling to work a nine to five, he's nonetheless managed to eek out an existence through

happenstance and charity. Neither lazy, nor lacking a desire to contribute, he was searching for some sense of purpose.

Unaware of their entwined fates, Bittner - who admittedly had a surplus of time - took it upon himself to get to know his exotic avian neighbors soon after spotting them in 1990. The following fifteen years found him tending to his feathered friends increasingly often. As

the Parrot population soared, so too did the reputation of their de-facto caretaker. Far from the eccentric bird man one might expect, Bittner proves to be a thoughtful well spoken middle aged man who's managed to cling to ideals most have

long forgotten. Never wanting for friends, he does bemoan the lack of a love in his life. Putting horse before cart, he refuses to cut his long hair until he's found a girlfriend. Ever the realist, he does acknowledge most women aren't looking for love with an ageing hippie with no visible means of support.

Bittner speaks of resisting the urge to anthropomorphize the birds as they are, in fact, "Wild Parrots" but, given their pronounced singular personalities, it's hard not to. There's Pushkin, a single father of three and Sophie and Picasso, a cuddly pair who prove that not even parrots can avoid love's pitfalls. Perhaps most affecting is Conner, a blue-crowned conure, ostracized by his cherry headed

brethren. A stoic misanthrope (if a bird can be one), his solitude is heartbreaking.

Perhaps reflecting the lack of pretense in her subjects, Director Judy Irving's style is engagingly informal if a bit clumsy at times. She inserts a bit of her own story in the film's narrative which initially seems a bit precious and distracting, but by the conclusion, makes perfect sense.

If Bittner's life with the parrots seems a little too idyllic, it is. Nothing lasts forever and soon our hero finds himself evicted. More dire, the parrots themselves are in peril as the San Francisco city council weighs the option of relocation. And even in this urban utopia, predators (mostly hawks and humans) are everywhere and when one of the flock falls prey, the sense of loss is palpable.

Honestly, it's hard not to gush as this film works so well on so many levels. It's a character study, a nature study and ultimately, an affirmation of the worth and integrity of a true individual.

In a totally unrelated note, be sure to check out the accompanying music video included on the DVD. A musical tribute to the Parrots, it is unintentionally pants wetting hilarious.

In spite of the documentary form, this feels more like a modern fairy tale. Do the parrots keep their home? Is Bittner forced from his? Does he finally cut his hair? Do yourself a favor; watch "The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill" and find out for yourself.



## BOOKFEST Battle of the Bands

**WINNER TAKES HOME \$500 AND AN OPENING SPOT AT BOOKFEST 2006 ON SEPTEMBER 9TH**

**QUALIFYING ROUNDS: MARCH 3RD & 10TH**

**FINALS: MARCH 17TH**

**PRIZES FOR WINNING BAND**

- PLAY MAIN STAGE AT BOOKFEST
- \$500 CASH
- INTERVIEW ON THE BEARS RED WHITE & NEW
- ENTRY INTO THE WESTERN CANADA CAMPUS MUSIC EXPLOSION
- THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE TO EVERY CAMPUS ENTERTAINMENT BOYER IN CANADA. IF SELECTED YOU MOVE ON TO THE NATIONAL CAMPUS MUSIC EXPLOSION
- PERFORMANCE SPOTS AT REDS AND STARBITE ROOM
- 1 YEAR BRONZE MEMBERSHIP TO THE SOUND RADIO.COM
- \$100 IN REDS AREAS

**YOU?**

**DEADLINE TO ENTER: FEB 10TH**

**SIGN UP BY GOING TO WWW.THESOUNDRADIO.COM**

must have at least one NAIT student in band to enter

NAITSA CNOX ROCKS JIM BEAT THE SOUNDRADIO.COM



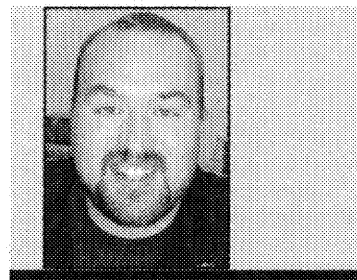
# SPORTS

## Lady Ooks sweep MacEwan



Kristen Sugiyama stopped 56 shots enroute to two Lady OOK victories.

Photo: Trevor Elliott



By TREVOR ELLIOTT

The Lady Ooks hockey club finished out the 109 Street Challenge with a gritty 2-1 victory of MacEwan at Grand Trunk Arena on Jan. 20.

The Lady Ooks kept a furious pace of action with non-stop, end-to-end action. Team captain Kerry McDonald opened the scoring with a short-handed goal at 10:10 of the second.

Defensemen Stefani Grant, Lindsay Ferguson, Ashley Edwards and Kerry McDonald shone as they shut down the Griffins during three consecutive powerplays.

MacEwan evened the score at the 1:53 of the third. MacEwan was caught with too many men on the ice and Kendra Willis was quick to take advantage of the opportunity,

scoring the eventual game winning goal on the ensuing power play opportunity.

The entire team gelled as a unit. The Lady Ooks were strong on both sides of the puck and took the majority of the loose pucks. Goaltending was solid, as always, as Kristen Sugiyama stopped 21 shots.

With the victory, NAIT claimed the inaugural 109 Street Challenge by a point total of 3244 to 2311.

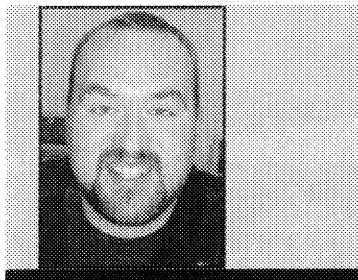
NAIT hosted the thrilling rematch on Jan. 22. Again, Kerry McDonald scored the opening goal at 7:33 of the first.

MacEwan tied the score momentarily, at 9:29 of the first, only to have the Lady Ooks storm back 31 seconds later with a goal by Sarah Wanchuk. Kerry McDonald rounded out the scoring with the game-winner, and her third goal of the weekend, with 39 seconds left in the first.

Kristen Sugiyama earned her sixth win of the season with a 35 save performance as the Lady Ooks won 3-2.

The Lady Ooks host SAIT Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. the NAIT Arena.

## Ooks conquered by Vikings



By TREVOR ELLIOTT

With less than a month left in regular season ACAC action, the Ooks hockey club continued their embarrassing season against Augustana.

The Ooks had hoped to take at least half of the home-and-home series, but the second-place Vikings had their number all weekend.

The Vikings out shot the Ooks 38-28, losing 4-1 in Camrose on Jan. 20. Dustin Jack was the only Oook to find the twine as Tim Haun was rock solid for Augustana, continuing to solidify his league MVP bid.

The Jan. 21 rematch at the NAIT Arena was no different. The Ooks played extremely sloppily and were out-hustled to just about every loose puck.

Augustana drew first blood as Chris Dawn found the back of the net at 1:58 of the first period. The Vikes would score another three goals before Ryan Olynyk put their lone goal in for NAIT at 8:10 of the third. The Vikings topped the Ooks 5-1 to take the season series 3-1.

With the two losses, the Ooks find themselves well on the slippery slope to a losing season.

Normally, a losing season wouldn't be a big deal, but

these are the Ooks. Whatever happened to the 'Blue and Gold Tradition of Excellence' that the Athletics departments so proudly boasts about?

With a home-and home series against Mount Royal on Jan. 27 and 28, the writing is on the wall. The Ooks can still pull this season together, but they must act fast.

The biggest problem for the Ooks this season has been their obvious lack of depth. Through most of the season, only the top line has been able to find the twine early. Adam Ferrante leads the team in scoring with eight goals and 13 points. The lack of skilled defensemen hasn't helped the team keep the puck out of their own net either.

The Ooks have been extremely well disciplined, their 327 penalty minutes is second fewest in the league. However, their powerplay has been atrocious, capitalizing on a measly nine opportunities through 16 games.

NAIT currently leads Briercrest by two points for the last play-off spot, with two games at hand. Success in the final few weeks of the season will be critical to their chances in the play-offs.

The third and fourth lines must start pulling their weight and take the pressure off Ferrante and the top line. The team must also find a way to give Kirkpatrick some defensive support.

Come out to the NAIT Arena Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. to show your support for the Ooks as they take on the Cougars.



Cutline: The Ooks' Brandon Hill deeks past an Augustana Viking during Saturday's game at NAIT. The Ooks were defeated 5-1. Photo: Tegan McMartin



# Olympic Corner

## Face-off for gold

By TREVOR ELIOTT

With two weeks left until the Olympic flame shines in the Turin sky, the Nugget provides a three issue preview of the 2006 Winter Games.

A dozen nations will compete for men's hockey supremacy. The teams will be divided into two groups of six for round-robin play. The top four will advance to single-elimination play with hopes of competing for the medals on Feb. 26.

All odds listed are odds to win Gold as listed by SportingOdds.com.

### Group A

**Canada** – at 2-1, Team Canada is the hands-down favourite to win Gold in Turin. Team Canada has the deepest bench and greatest talent among all Olympic teams. This team can play any style against any team. Expect Brodeur to start in net; however, Luongo is more than capable of handling the goaltending duties at any moment. Canada's toughest round-robin game will be Feb. 21 against the duly talented Czech Republic team.

**Czech Republic** – (13-5) - Backed by the 'Dominant' (Hasek), the Czechs will be extremely difficult to beat. The defending World Champions arguably have the best starting goaltender in the tournament. Combined with an experienced group of defensemen and the offensive firepower of Jagr, Straka and Rucinsky, their 'never say die' will spell doom for many of their tournament opponents. Expect to see a lot of skill from this quick and agile team.

**Finland** – (12-1) – The Fins may not win gold, but their mix of youth and veteran experience will give teams a lot to handle. The Fins are notorious for their grit and toughness and the 2006 Olympics will be no different. Kiprusoff should be solid in net. The only thing keeping

this team from the medals is the injuries concerns of many of their starters. Expect grit and tenacity from this team who should be in many close games.

**Switzerland** – (100-1) – The Swiss are notorious for their exceptional team discipline. The Swiss sent two players home early from Salt Lake for missing curfew. The Swiss are an up and coming squad who may surprise some teams. Goaltending is the key to their success. David Aebischer and Martin Gerber will be expected to be solid.

**Germany** – (250-1) – The Germans are another team with a shortage of NHL talent. Olaf Kolzig is still a good goaltender, but the remainder of the team lacks the skill and experience needed to be competitive. The Germans are a very proud club and will fight for the final quarterfinal spot.

**Italy** – (1000-1) – The Italians have never medaled at the Olympics or the World Championships. The team has no NHL experience, however, as hosts, the team could provide a lot of excitement if they win a game or two.

### Group B

**Sweden** – (5-1) – With an abundance of talent, the Swedes expect nothing less than a medal in Turin. Despite the lack of a world-class goaltender, the Swedes are extremely talented both offensively and defensively. The Swedes will be out for redemption for the embarrassing loss they took to Belarus at Salt Lake. The Swedes could be the strongest shoot-out team in Turin.

**Russia** – (13-2) – The Russians are highly skilled at every facet of the game. The biggest question for this club is their age. The Russians are not the same team they were four or eight years ago. They should be in the hunt for a medal, but conditioning may



be their Achilles heel.

**USA** – (10-1) – After their 'Miracle On Ice' in 1980, the Americans have seemed to have lost interest in the game of hockey. There were virtually no world class players produced in the generation X era and the Americans are forced to rely on many veterans who should be retired. Expect the Americans to provide a slow, grinding style with many low-scoring, tight games. Could be in the medals if one of their goaltenders steps up as number one.

**Slovakia** – (15-2) – The Slovaks are possibly the most likeable team in the tournament. The Slovaks provide a wealth of offensive talent and should score a lot of goals. The problem is that their goaltending is susceptible as well. Expect some high-scoring, entertaining games from this club.

**Latvia** – (150-1) – The Latvians are an older team who has few players left that were trained by the Russians. Latvia has been free for just over a decade and the nation's budget for their hockey program is very limited. The Latvians will be playing for the memory of Sergei Zholtok – an NHL veteran who died in his native country, last season, from heart complications.

**Kazakhstan** – (300-1) – Kazakhstan is another up and coming hockey nation who have been investing heavily in the program as of late. This team did not qualify for the 2002 Olympics and will resemble the 2005 World Championships team. Vitaly Kolesnik is a huge goaltender for the Avalanche and Nik Antropov (Maple Leafs) is an excellent team leader. Both will be important to their nation's development in the game.

## Win Oilers Tickets!

With just under a month left until the Olympic flame lights up the night sky in Turin, Italy, the Nugget wants to know what your favorite memory of the Olympics is.

For the next two issues, the Nugget will print the best stories from our readers. Those stories selected will be entered into a draw for a pair of Oilers tickets in March.

All submissions must be no longer than 200 words and include the name a program of the entrant. The submission must include your favorite memory of any Winter Olympics.

Submissions must be made to nuggetsubmissions@hotmail.com by 4:00 p.m. Fridays. All submissions must be received by Feb. 3 to be eligible.

New submissions will be selected each week.

The winner will be announced in the Feb. 9 issue of the Nugget.

# Home court advantage for badminton

By JORDAN RICHEY

After three league tournaments, the Oaks badminton team currently sits in third place in the ACAC with an 8-7 record. The Oaks competed this past weekend at Red Deer College. The team posted wins over Grande Prairie Regional College and their rivals from MacEwan before losing three tough rounds against Concordia, Mount Royal College and host Red Deer College.

The Oaks season began with two league tournaments in the first semester at Mount Royal College and Concordia. The team finished the first semester in third place in the ACAC with a 6-4 record and ranked ninth in the CCAA National rankings.

The team is led on the men's team by third year player Eric Tseng and fourth year player Mike Berezowski. The addition of Skylar van Heukloot, this semester combined with the efforts of Kevin Chow, Terry Lamlerpanya, Ty Stefanik and Tuan Nguyen have provided the Oaks with tremendous depth on the men's side. Despite losing a valuable member on the women's side after the first semester, Karen Ng, Renee Au, Jessica Charrois and Bailey Callaway have all developed into dependable

players and give the Oaks a balanced attack.

Up next for the Oaks is a tournament at home on Feb. 11 and 12. This will be the final tournament before the ACAC team championships so the Oaks will be looking to position themselves for the playoffs. The NAIT tournament will also play host for the Nationals Singles Qualifying with the top two males and top two females in the tournament going on to represent the ACAC at the CCAA National Badminton Championships which will be held at Mount Royal College in early March.

It has been a successful season up to this point for the Oaks badminton team and the team is looking to the future to ensure they are on the podium at the end.

### TOURNAMENT #3 RESULTS

1st	Concordia	5-0
2nd	Mount Royal	4-1
3rd	Red Deer College	2-3
4th	NAIT	2-3
5th	MacEwan	1-4
6th	GPRC	1-4

### OVERALL Rankings

1st	Concordia	14-1
2nd	Mount Royal	13-2
3rd	NAIT	8-7
4th	Grant MacEwan	5-10
5th	Red Deer College	3-12
6th	GPRC	2-13

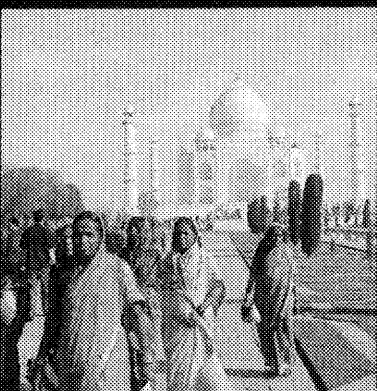
## TUITION TAX RECEIPTS 2005

**STUDENTS:** The T2202A Tuition Tax Receipts for the 2005 calendar year will be made available on the Student Portal at [www.nait.ca/MyNait](http://www.nait.ca/MyNait) in February 2006.

Instructions are provided on line to assist in creating your NAIT login and printing your T2202A.

Please note: Tax receipts will not be mailed. Students requesting a printed T2202A form will be charged \$10.

## The 2006 NAIT Cruise Needs You!



Volunteers are needed for the S.S. Benefit Nait Cruise to India on Saturday, March 4, 2006. This annual NAIT Corporate fundraiser needs individuals for duties ranging from setting up the event to monitoring the silent auction. If you would like to help, please complete a Volunteer Registration Form at the NAITSA Volunteer Centre (room E133). Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated.

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

For more information contact

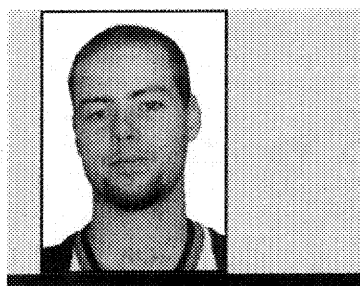
**Room 0117; phone 471-8874**



# Rush still winless

# ACAC standings

As of Jan. 22



By JASON JONES

"It's starting to wear on you. It's not fun at all," said NAIT alumnus and Rush forward Jimmy Quinlan, responding to the fact that the Edmonton Rush are still looking for their first win after losing their first three games of the season thus far.

Despite a fourth quarter onslaught by the Rush on Jan. 21, the Calgary Roughnecks edged the Rush for the second straight game. "They're a veteran team and they capitalized on their chances tonight and we didn't. Our offence let us down," said Quinlan after the game.

It was déjà vu all over again for the Rush and Roughnecks. They have played twice and in both games, the Roughnecks got out to big leads and hung on for the win. Over those games, the Rush went four of 19 on the power-play while the Roughnecks were five for 14.

The Rush is fourth last in

the league in power-play percentage and failed to capitalize on two five-on-threes in their last loss.

"To correct that, I think we've just got to start playing with more urgency and confidence. We're passing up good shots and forcing bad passes. We're trying to get the pretty goal instead of just getting the goal," said Quinlan, who leads the team in scoring with 14 points.

More than 11,000 fans watched the Rush's second home game - a noticeably quieter affair over the sound system. A team representative said that fans asked for less volume during play and Yukon Jack commented during the game that he got in trouble for berating the opposing team in the home opener.

The Rush has been close in each of their games only to come up short in the end. They've been competitive, but they haven't been able to put together an entire game to pick up a win.

Against Calgary on Jan. 21, the Rush gave up four unanswered goals in the third quarter. "Unfortunately, a bad third quarter cost us the game," said Quinlan. The Rush is capable of competing, even dominating at times. They outscored the Roughnecks 5-1 in the fourth quarter.

"We just played with some urgency, some desperation, we put everything aside. We were down by seven, so we had nothing to lose. We came out there and went at them," said Quinlan. If the Rush can bottle that quarter and put together a consistently desperate effort, then they will win sooner rather than later.

It doesn't get any easier though. The Rush now head out on the road to collide with the defending champion Toronto Rock on Friday, Jan. 27. The game can be seen on Sportsnet at 5:30 p.m. The Rush then return home on Feb. 3 to face-off against the Minnesota Swarm.

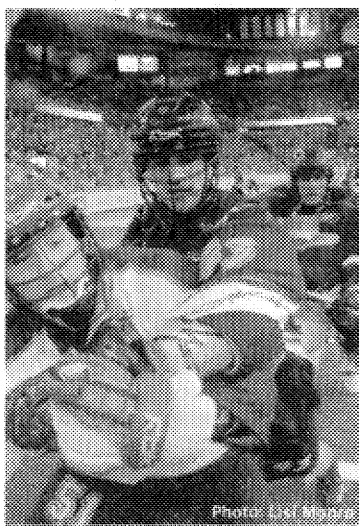


Photo: Lisi Moore

## MEN'S HOCKEY

Team	GP	W	L	T	OTL	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away
Mount Royal	18	11	6	0	1	23	72	66	6	3
Augustana	18	10	6	2	0	22	76	55	5	3
SAIT	16	10	5	1	0	21	76	47	6	2
MacEwan	16	8	5	3	0	19	62	42	4	2
Concordia	18	8	8	0	2	18	60	70	5	4
NAIT	16	5	10	1	0	11	40	65	4	3
Briercrest	18	4	13	1	0	9	48	89	2	7

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Team	GP	W	L	T	OTL	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away
SAIT	16	12	3	1	0	25	74	31	7	0
Mount Royal	16	10	3	2	1	23	48	36	5	2
Red Deer	16	9	4	2	1	21	47	31	5	2
NAIT	16	9	5	1	1	20	44	42	4	4
MacEwan	16	4	12	0	0	8	28	47	3	5
U of C	16	1	15	0	0	2	16	70	1	7

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### North Division

Team	GP	W	L	Pts	PF	PA	Home	Away	Strk
MacEwan	18	15	3	30	1358	1260	7	2	8
Concordia	18	13	5	26	1462	1341	6	3	7
Lakeland	16	11	5	22	1307	1161	6	3	5
NAIT	17	9	8	18	1299	1284	4	5	3
Grande Prairie	18	7	11	14	1374	1392	4	4	3
TKUC	16	3	13	6	1116	1263	1	6	2
Augustana	15	1	14	2	998	1213	0	8	1

### South Division

Team	GP	W	L	Pts	PF	PA	Home	Away	Strk
Mount Royal	14	12	2	24	1210	941	7	0	5
SAIT	14	11	3	22	1094	924	5	1	6
Red Deer	14	10	4	20	1099	904	5	1	5
Lethbridge	14	7	7	14	1051	1035	5	3	2
Medicine Hat	14	1	13	2	901	1092	0	7	1
Briercrest	14	1	13	2	729	1188	1	7	0

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

### North Division

Team	GP	W	L	Pts	PF	PA	Home	Away	Strk
Concordia	17	15	2	30	1135	932	9	0	6
MacEwan	18	15	3	30	1278	1013	7	2	8
Augustana	15	9	6	18	986	944	5	3	4
TKUC	16	7	9	14	964	1002	4	3	3
Grande Prairie	18	5	13	10	1167	1310	3	5	2
Lakeland	15	4	11	8	954	1093	3	5	1
NAIT	17	3	14	6	1024	1213	3	6	0

### South Division

Team	GP	W	L	Pts	PF	PA	Home	Away	Strk
Mount Royal	14	13	1	26	1055	643	6	1	7
Lethbridge	14	13	1	26	988	733	7	1	6
SAIT	14	6	8	12	765	831	2	4	4
Red Deer	14	5	9	10	730	767	2	4	3
Medicine Hat	14	5	9	10	744	829	2	5	3
Briercrest	14	0	14	0	560	1039	0	8	0

## Provincial Pool

Team	MP	MW	ML	Pts	GW	GL	Home	Away	Strk
Red Deer	4	4	0	8	12	3	1	0	3
MacEwan	2	2	0	4	6	2	2	0	0
Mount Royal	4	2	2	4	9	9	1	1	1
NAIT	4	2	2	4	9	8	2	1	0
Grande Prairie	4	2	2	4	8	8	2	0	0
Briercrest	6	0	6	0	4	18	0	2	0

## North/South Division

Team	MP	MW	ML	Pts	GW	GL	Home	Away	Strk
TKUC	7	7	0	14	21	4	4	0	3
Lakeland	7	5	2	10	18	8	4	0	1
Keyano	6	4	2	8	13	9	3	0	1
SAIT	6	3	3	6	10	10	3	2	0
Lethbridge	4	0	4	0	4	12	0	0	0
Medicine Hat	4	0	4	0	1	12	0	2	0
Portage	4	0	4	0	0	12	0	1	0

## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

### Provincial Pool

Team	MP	MW	ML	Pts	GW	GL	Home	Away	Strk
Red Deer	4	3	1	6	10	3	2	0	1
MacEwan	4	3	1	6	11	5	3	0	0
Mount Royal	4	3	1	6	9	6	2	0	1
TKUC	6	3	3	6	12	13	2	1	1
Grande Prairie	4	2	2	4	7	6	2	0	0
SAIT	6	0	6	0	2	18	0	2	0

## North/South Division

Team	MP	MW	ML	Pts	GW	GL	Home	Away	Strk
NAIT	7	7	0	14	21	2	5	0	2
Lethbridge	4	4	0	8	12	1	0	0	4
Portage	4	3	1	6	10	6	1	0	2
Briercrest	4	1	3	2	6	10	1	1	0
Lakeland	5	1	4	2	5	13	1	3	0
Medicine Hat	4	1	3	2	4	11	0	2	1
Keyano	6	0	6	0	3	18	0	3	0

## Ook tracks



### Men's Hockey

Last Week: Lost 4-1 and 5-1 in a home-and-home with Augustana on Jan. 20 and 21. Coming Up: Host Mount Royal Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. Travel to Mount Royal on Jan. 28.

### Women's Hockey

Last Week: Nipped MacEwan 2-1 on Jan. 20 and 3-2 on Jan. 22. Coming Up: Host SAIT Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.

### Men's Basketball

Last Week: Split a two game home-stand with Grande Prairie 81-79 and 76-79 on Jan. 20 and 21 respectively. Coming Up: Host Lakeland College Jan. 27 at 8:30 p.m. Travel to Lakeland Jan. 28.

### Women's Basketball

Last Week: Split a two game home-stand with Grande Prairie 67-74 and 80-75 on Jan. 20 and 21. Coming Up: Host Lakeland College Jan. 27 at 6:30 p.m. Travel to Lakeland Jan. 28.

### Women's Volleyball

Last Week: Shut-out Lakeland College 3-0 on Jan. 18. Defeated Keyano College 3-0 and 3-1 on Jan. 20 and 21. Coming Up: Bye week.

## Ooks of the week

No Picture Available

### Male Ook Of The Week

Skylar Van Heukloom  
Badminton  
First year Business  
From Edmonton, AB  
This was Skylar's first tournament of the year and he surprised many by picking up five victories in convincing fashion. The rookie's dominance has many predicting that he will not only make it to Nationals, but that he will be a serious contender. To top off the weekend, Skylar teamed up with Karen Ng in mixed doubles action to beat the number two ranked Mount Royal team in a pair of games that were not even close.

### Lady Ook of the week

Karen Ng  
Badminton  
First year business  
From Fredrickton, NB  
Over the weekend, Karen brought her A game as she picked up four wins. It was her wins that were responsible for NAIT's two match wins in the team competition. Karen came into the weekend ranked 112<sup>th</sup> and left in the 61<sup>st</sup> position. That is an enormous jump that was directly linked to the huge upset against number two ranked Mount Royal that she, along with her mixed doubles partner Skylar Van Heukloom enjoyed.

## Shinerama

### V.I.P. card liquidation

Tired of turning into an icicle waiting to get into your favorite club?

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Emeralds	Stonehouse	Reds	Hudsons
Corbays	Armoury	Stollis	Union Hall
Diamonds	The Nest	Rum Jungle	Kingsnight Pub

Available at Campus Reads & Needs, The Tech Store, & the NAITSA Office (E131)

www.nait.ca



## I Volunteer! Help out on 'a cruise?'

### On Campus Volunteer Opportunity:

The 2006 NAIT Cruise Needs You!

Coming up on March 4th 2006, NAIT is hosting its annual SS Benefit Nait Cruise. Volunteers are needed to help transform the NAIT main campus into this year's diverse destination of India. Volunteer roles for this gala event range from set up/take down to mingling with the guest in our silent auction area. If you would like more details about this event or to sign up please stop by the NAITSA Volunteer Centre in E-133. Your cooperation & support are greatly appreciated.

### Off Campus Volunteer Opportunities:

Canadian Red Cross has openings for in the following volunteer positions: Cleaners/Cleaning Clerks, Customer Service and Repair clerks. These positions are located at the Edmonton General Hospital and range from a three to six month commitment. For more details contact the NAITSA Volunteer Centre in E-133.

Chrysalis: an Alberta Society for Citizens with Disabilities has opening for volunteers that are interested in working with their disabled clients. Activities include one on one support to clients, group support settings, cooking, reading, music, crafts and much more! For more details around this rewarding role, please contact the NAITSA Volunteer Centre in E-133.

Canadian Liver Foundation has openings for volunteer Peer Educators. These volunteers would assist in the preparation and execution of health presentations to groups across the City. Good presentation skills a must. For more details please contact the NAITSA Volunteer Centre in E-133.

In May 2006 come out and support the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual CP Bike a Thon. This years theme is Take the Ability Challenge. To get the latest details on the event or to register please go to their website at [www.cp100bikeathon.ca](http://www.cp100bikeathon.ca). Or call Crystal at 1-800-363 2807 extension #243.

## SHOT Single of the week



We know it's tough to find that perfect relationship but there are tons of eligible people out there right on campus. Best part is? They're single! Here's our Hot Single of the Week:

By KAITLIN VISSCHER

*Hey single girls. You're all beautiful to us. We want to put your smiling face in the Nugget. See below for details on how to submit your photo.*

**Name:** Jordan Mair

**Age:** 19

**Height:** 6 Feet

**Program:** Business Marketing

**Turn On's:** Good style, Long Hair

**Turn Off's:** Bad smells, girls who talk too much

**Dream Job:** Owning a high end car dealership

**Dream Girl/Boy:** Charlize Theron

**Last concert I went to was:** Black Eyed Peas, but I regret it

**The first part of the body I check out is:** Eyes, then progressively lower

**Ultimate Date:** Candlelit dinner and a walk in the river valley

**I'm single because:** Everybody has a boyfriend

**Why I'm better then your current Boyfriend/**

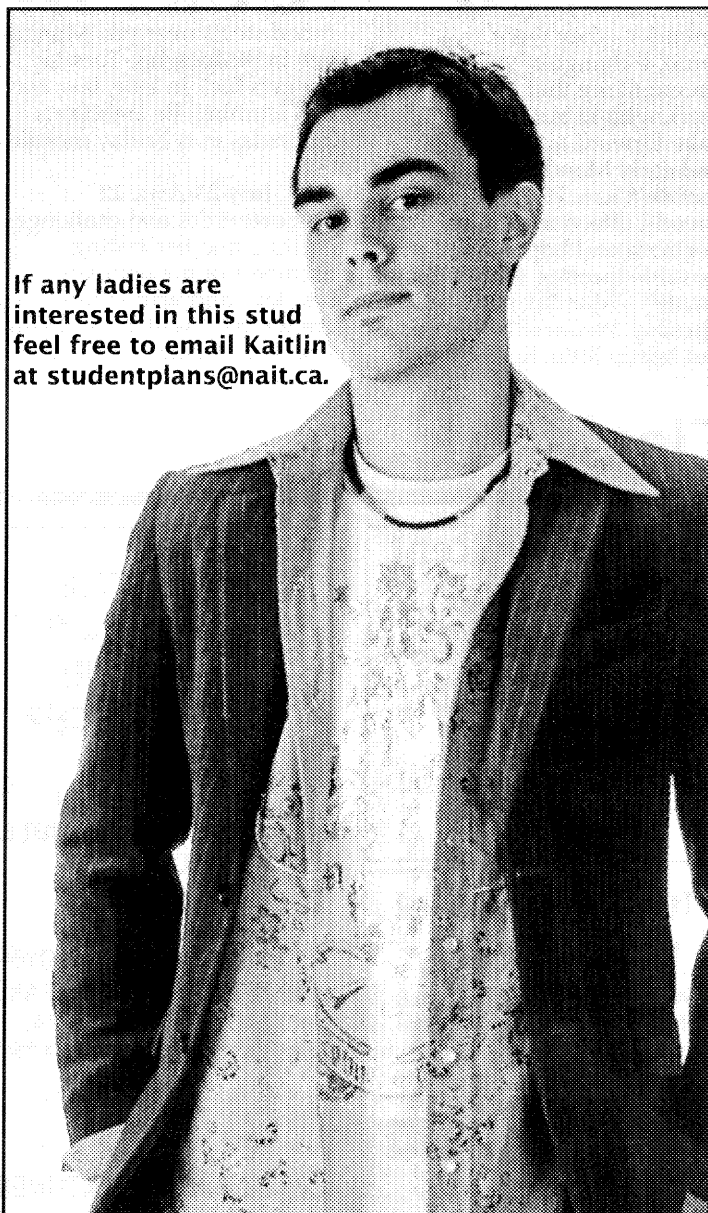
**Girlfriend:** I'm funny and much sweeter

## READS & NEEDS Got Issues?



**Get help!**  
from self-help books  
available at  
your campus store!

If any ladies are interested in this stud feel free to email Kaitlin at [studentplans@nait.ca](mailto:studentplans@nait.ca).



If you're an eligible single and you want to be featured here, submit your name and e-mail address to [eligiblesingles@hotmail.com](mailto:eligiblesingles@hotmail.com).



# Astral Reflections



By TIM STEPHENS

Jan. 29 – Feb. 4, 2006

**Aries March 21-April 19**

Your popularity and optimism are growing. Social joys greet you and flirtations follow you around, especially Sunday, early Monday and Wednesday to Friday! However, your luckiest actions this week will probably be taken when you're more alone and quiet – financial opportunities loom Tuesday and Saturday. Life has a destined flavor this week – it could carry you to new horizons, new prospects and new friends! Still, any small, nagging doubts are reminders to delay relocation, wedding, or seizing big new opportunities (signing contracts, etc.) until after June 22. Love straightens out.

**Taurus April 20-May 20**

Strive intently on career fronts, yet be diplomatic and flexible. Much depends now on your attitude, actions and hopefulness. Forget recent setbacks – they were, in a sense, a change of venue or circumstance that you can now work with to build even higher. Take forward action Sunday and early Monday morning (before 8 a.m. PST). Life offers friends, affection, bright new horizons and hopes – and a possible meeting with a viable "mate" – Monday night and Tuesday. Wednesday's hopeful but brings little. Rest, retreat,

contemplate Thursday/Friday. Your high spirits return Saturday!

**Gemini May 21-June 20**

A sweet, mellow mood should be stealing over you for several weeks to come (especially this Sunday/Monday). The "worst struggles" are over in a background, communications, career or work situation. Your financial situation remains buoyant. Love could steal over you – so could lust. Distinguish the two; they represent two very different paths and futures. Happiness and gratification are separate, too. Tackle career matters Monday eve and Tuesday – major lucky break possible! But back away Wednesday; be flexible. Friends, social joys, perhaps that light, sweet person enter Thursday/Friday. Retreat, rest Saturday.

**Cancer June 21-July 22**

Recently, many crises happened around you, but not to you. Keep your diplomatic mien, it's an armor stronger than steel. You're deeply attracted to a person or real estate opportunity who/that has "appeared" since last October. In February, the real action might begin in this affair. Be honest, ethical, especially if you're married. In business, realty opportunities, ethics and caution are needed also! A mellow, understanding mood steals over you Monday eve to Wednesday. Tuesday triggers luck in love, law, travel and learning. Be ambitious Thursday eve, Friday morning.

**Leo July 23-Aug. 22**

Opportunities and challenges, exciting and frustrating members of the opposite sex, love and war – these continue to swirl around you. Continue trying to keep your

temper, remain diplomatic to higher-ups and protect your reputation. Work provides a haven of calm, even affection – bury yourself in chores if you need a rest! You're still favored (through June) if you're in a lawsuit. Contemplate living in a foreign country, establishing a communications/publishing center (at home?) or schooling to improve your marketability. Act on these (or similar opportunities) Tuesday – change your life!

**Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22**

Like Cancer, you've escaped the main brunt of the crises and dilemmas and lover's quarrels whirling around for the last two, three weeks. (Think Iran.) Still, these could have affected your work, your peace, or your travel, study or media plans. You might be powerfully attracted to a sweet, intoxicating person (or a constant parade of them!) or to a creative or pleasure project. Past indecision around this attraction is about to end – by Thursday onward, you might take steps to make someone (or a situation) yours. Go ahead!

**Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 22**

The weeks ahead hold romance, deep feelings, pleasure, beauty, a gambling urge. Yet everything you do and every thing or person you're attracted to dovetails with a mildly lucky desire for security. This combo could involve you in a romantic yet sexual affair (even an extramarital one) or tempt you to marry someone for financial security. If you're honest, ethical, all should be fine. Overall, it's better to be involved than alone. (In creative areas, you're drawn toward a speculation designed to increase your property, or a creative "sinecure.")

**Scorpio Oct. 23-Nov. 21**

You're in the midst of a domestic phase, so look to your home, kids and also to your platform, your foundation, in career, work, finances, etc. Many struggles have occurred for years in home, for months in career, reputation, power relations (pecking order) and relationships. These might have run into a climax in January, but they'll "settle down" in February and ease markedly by late month. Be willing, now, to change, to seek new, solid places to stand, especially Sunday. Love, creative efforts and gambles meet with luck Tuesday!

**Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21**

All things considered, it's better to love deeply than opt for "friendship," better to plunge into risk and chance than to carefully plan the future – until late June. Remember this Wednesday afternoon to Friday morning. Work remains hectic (to Feb. 17) but, at last, delays in earnings will end this week. Expect more money in February. Take a short trip Sunday. Luck strikes home, family, domestic, real estate or similar interests Tuesday – if a door opens, step through! Romance, pleasure call you Wednesday to Friday. Tackle chores Saturday.

**Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19**

Chase money; make important purchases this week and the next two. Your memory improves. You might begin what you consider a casual sensual/sexual liaison – but realize the other person is very serious, probably infatuated. Being loved entails responsibility! (But you might also be in a deep, serious love affair that started some months ago – if so, the

present time is simply an easy, sensual phase.) Chase money Sunday. Short trips, paperwork, communication are lucky Monday eve, Tuesday. You could meet a splendid new friend. Destiny will provide direction midweek.

**Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18**

Your energy, charm and pizzazz impress everyone! (Well, everyone except that quietly stubborn person who sees only your flaws. If this, recently, describes your mate, it will pass in about 19 months.) Ask favors, tackle big things Sunday morning. Take advantage of your money luck late Monday through Tuesday! This isn't the best week to sign a contract, nor to convince opposing sides to agree, especially Sunday to Wednesday. A short trip, talk or news article could lead to "destiny's path" Thursday night, Friday morning! Domestic stuff Saturday.

**Pisces Feb. 19-March 20**

Lie low, rest, contemplate and regain your spiritual center Sunday (and to some degree for three weeks). If you need to contact a government agency or institution, try before 8 a.m. PST Monday. Your energy rises a bit Monday eve to Wednesday afternoon. You can take a successful step forward in legal, international, educational, media and/or cultural zones Tuesday. Chase money, buy/sell (but not luxury items) Thursday into Friday morning – this morning could lead you to a lucky long-term change in money direction – perhaps toward a pay raise.

www.astralreflections.com.  
Email: timstephens@shaw.ca.  
For a reading: (604) 261-1337.

## Classifieds

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# GRAPEVINES

## 'Future bosses' quip draws fire

**(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))**

To the stunning blonde in blue scrubs/ black jacket at Bytes Cafe in the HP centre last Wednesday at lunch. I sat a table over from you. Up for a coffee?

To all those people says things about of my poems: those poems were love and peace. Now, I see people don't like that, so I'll talk about hate and war.

"I do agree that it is best to avoid all forms of fighting, if possible. But fighting is something that cannot be avoided when you are threatened by the enemy. We

have to fight when the time calls for it. Otherwise, we won't be able to protect anything, not even ourselves. Those living normal lives in peace ought to be protected!"  
Mu-La-Flaga

To the girl who's talking about the guy in CST, "To the love of my life in CST..." "the guy with glasses, always in black." Can you give me a more detail information on this person...like more physical features? Cause I'm also in CST and I fit this person you are maybe talking about...  
- Simren Vig

Dear "Future Bosses"  
"We'll be the ones hiring you guys, paying your wages and telling you what to do." I don't know what you've been smoking but pack another bowl for me! First off, I just did a search on the NAIT careers website

for business administration management. Here's what I found: Evelinecharles Salons and Spas, Ikon Office Solutions, Boardwalk Rental Communities and a Government of Alberta ad asking, "Where in Alberta is the World's largest pirogi?"

Real giant companies. Last time I looked anywhere in industry, the bosses are those with the industry experience. For example, animal health techs are hired by vets with university degrees, petroleum, geology and chemical engineering techs are hired by the respective engineers, even the apprentices are hired by guys who went out got their ticket and started their own company.

The only people kissing your asses are going to be the 15-year-old "sandwich artists" at the Subway you manage. So all you business guys/gals, please pull your head out of your ass

and do some "research" before you claim that you will "own us."

-Ryan "Teach" Langner - Tower Hater  
Chemical Engineering Technology  
Bachelor of Education (University of Alberta)  
(Oh yeah and I'm not afraid to leave a name with my facts too).

Dear Egotistical Business Student,  
Nice to see you showing respect to your "future employees." Next time your computer needs fixing, I will be sure to put you on the bottom of my list. Try not to forget that while you may give the orders, we don't have to take your crap because we have the skills people need and all you have is pretty words.

What it all comes down to in the end is this: no one needs a manager who doesn't

understand the business he/she is managing and doesn't respect the people who keep that business running.

Remember that when your crew walk out on you because you tried to be an ignorant dictator.  
- Digital Angel

I am a first year PFT (personal fitness trainer) and I am offering free tours to anyone who has not had a tour of the NAIT weight room or the activities and would like one. If you are interested you can contact me at [Kevindunsing@hotmail.com](mailto:Kevindunsing@hotmail.com)

"Killing because someone was killed, being killed because you killed."  
-Mu-La-Flaga-



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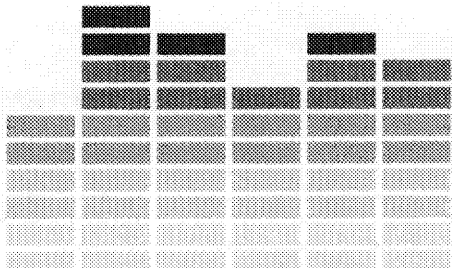
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## NAIT solving skills shortage

By Dr. SAM SHAW  
NAIT President

Canada is facing a national skills shortage, and it is time to ask: What are we going to do about it? Relying on the market to meet rising demand is not enough.

The reasons for the skills shortage begin with basic demographics. Simply put, fewer people are entering the workforce. Many of today's skilled workers are baby boomers. Over the next decade, 40% of our workforce is likely to retire.

The Canadian economy is strong. In 2004, eight provinces boasted increased employment rates. In a recent survey of Canadian businesses, 56% reported that they were forced to hire people who weren't suitable for the job. Another 30% had to forego business opportunities.

And it's only going to get worse. According to the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, that province will face a shortage of about 100,000 skilled workers in the manufacturing sector in the next 15 years. A Conference Board of Canada report noted that by 2025, the country will face a skilled labour force deficit of 1.2-million people. Skilled immigrants cannot make up this shortfall by themselves.

We need to encourage more young people, especially women and aboriginals,

to enter skilled trades and technical programs. Yet, how many high school counsellors have a trades-related background, or know that entrance requirements for many programs include Grade 12 with top marks in advanced Math, English and Physics?

How many parents know that the trades and technology fields are not only lucrative, but can lead to a career in senior management, or as a contractor, entrepreneur or inventor?

Although 60% of the post-secondary graduates in Canada are female, few are attracted to careers in the trades. Women need to know that these careers are not about physical labour - they're about advanced technology.

At the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), a public post-secondary institution with 49% Alberta government funding, we have created some innovative approaches to solving the skills shortage based on partnerships with the federal and provincial governments, the private sector and organized labour.

Together with our partners in the private sector, we built two 1,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art mobile classrooms to deliver trades training in remote Alberta communities, at a capital cost of \$1.2-million. We also offer distance training, with apprentices learning on the Internet and on the job, and returning real value to their employers.

But that's just the start. With



Dr. Sam Shaw poses with NAIT students. He says it is essential business support training in post-secondary institutions.

major projects on the books valued at \$116-billion and growing, Alberta needs huge numbers of skilled people.

That's why NAIT's current business plan has identified a 15-year, \$500-million campus expansion plan to train 160,000 skilled workers - everything from accountants to welders to ironworkers to MRI technologists.

Graduates will help run emerging projects, such as oil sands development and the proposed \$7-billion Mackenzie Valley natural gas pipeline. In this way, Alberta's manpower investments will help the whole country: More than 40% of the jobs generated by oil sands investment are outside

Alberta - 16% in Ontario alone.

Even if these projects were not generating jobs and wealth across the country, it would still be in the national interest to train more people. The last thing provinces such as Newfoundland, Quebec, Ontario and B.C. need is an exodus of skilled workers to the booming Alberta oil patch.

But governments alone should not be expected to pay the full cost of training skilled workers. After all, the private sector reaps tremendous benefits when it hires employees with the latest technical skills.

That's why companies such as Suncor Energy Foundation, Waiward Steel Fabricators Ltd.

and Spartan Controls have made major investments in NAIT's expansion. Edmonton-based Ironworkers Local 720 also stepped up with an investment, and more companies will come on board over the next 24 months as NAIT's \$50-million fundraising campaign gathers momentum.

The challenge is for business and industry - not just in Alberta, but all across Canada - to support training more Canadians in our post-secondary institutions, because it is the right thing to do, at the right time, for the right reasons.

(Reprinted from The National Post)

**Nait Idol**

**Preliminaries**  
**Thursday, Feb 9th**

Come sign up in the NAITSA office  
by Friday, Jan 27th @ 4:30 p.m.

The Winner will be  
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Ontario to compete  
against all the  
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for the title of  
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