

LAST ISSUE OF THE NUGGET THIS SEMESTER – SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

THE NUGGET

Thursday, April 9, 2009
Volume 46, Issue 26



Please recycle this newspaper when you are finished with it.

YOUR STUDENT NEWSPAPER EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

WILL U-PASS? NAIT transit pass under consideration



Photo by Raymond Ip

A SPECIAL NIGHT

Linda Henderson, Director of NAIT Athletics and Recreation, poses proudly Tuesday with Dan Kai and Katie Seys, winners of the President's Award as top male and female athletes of the year. Full awards story on Page 6.

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NEWS & FEATURES

U-Pass ... is it time?



By **BRITTANY BLACK**
Assistant Issues Editor

NAIT is one step closer to getting that U-Pass that has been flowing through the airwaves for a few weeks and the results from last week's survey showed some interest in getting one. The survey was open to NAIT students for close to six weeks (I'm sure you knew this) and almost 1,500 students completed it.

Although NAITSA President Brent Constantin is leaving in a few weeks, he is showing his enthusiasm, "basically 85 per cent of the students, the 1,500 we surveyed, were in favour of a U-Pass in some form," he said.

For those of you who aren't sure what the U-Pass is, basically it is a mandatory 80(ish) dollar fee that is tacked onto your tuition, and from that, every student gets a bus pass for the whole academic year. If it is passed, every student will have to pay whether they take the bus or drive their own vehicle.

Some tension had risen from city Councillor Tony Caterina, who was recently quoted as saying: "NAIT does not have the ridership. The student population is gone four months of the year. These are welding students with their own trucks. They're not getting on public transit and carrying their

welders with them."

This statement insinuated that there was a lack of need for a U-Pass and that the LRT expansion to NAIT would be a waste of time and money. It would seem that Mr. Caterina isn't sure of where the welding students go either because they take their courses on the Souch Campus where there is no bus service.

However, Caterina was invited last week to tour the school and discuss the results of the survey. I caught up with him after the tour to find out how he felt about the survey outcome.

"It's going to be some time that has to pass before they can be considered for it from what I understand, whether it's another year or two years, but I'm glad to see that the students are willing to take a look at that and consider it a benefit," Caterina said.

The next step in the U-Pass process will be to present the information from the survey to city council and show them that NAIT's interest in this U-Pass is serious and that we would like to have one in the next school year. Dear City Council ... Will U-Pass this?



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Students for a short time - Alumni for a lifetime

Biz students place 2nd

By KATHARINE HAY

Students' from NAIT's School of Business have a little more to be excited about after coming second during the fourth annual Alberta Deans of Business Case Competition. From March 26-28, Students from Alberta's college, technical, and polytechnic institutes were challenged to find problems in a business case they were presented, and then fix the most pertinent issues.

"The teams are composed of students who have experience in all areas of management, so it's management, marketing, accounting and finance," explained Laurie Pisesky, associate chair of the NAIT Business Management program.

She explained that students are given a case and then put in a room for eight hours with no tools beyond a web browser and a flip-chart.

"They're put under extreme pressure. You're with your team for eight hours and you have to get along with those people," said Pisesky, adding that

the competition tries to copy the real world as much as possible.

This is only the fourth annual edition of the Case Competition, but Pisesky said that so far, students seem to like it, adding that "they (students) find it quite a challenge. It's tough, but for the most part, it is a good experience."

Pisesky said the attention this competition brings to an institution reflects very well on NAIT and that "finishing second helped, too."

Case Competitions of this calibre are, according to Pisesky, usually reserved for institutions with "university" attached to their name. "To show that we, the colleges, are just as competitive ... shows that our programs are just as competitive as theirs."

The actual cases the students work on have never been published and usually contain some red herrings to throw students off the main focus of what might be wrong with the business. After the competition, the students are judged on a 12-minute presentation that out-



NAIT's BUSINESS CASE TEAM

Larry Presiloski, left, (CGA sponsor), Don Ausman (coach), Ann Chen, Dr. Kevin Nagel (Dean, JR Shaw School of Business), Jason Paulsen, Connie Warholik, Jeff Nelson and Gordon Garriock show off their second-place prize.

lines their methods of "fixing" the business case. This presentation is judged by members of the business community, not by school professors, so this becomes a great opportunity for future entrepreneurs to show off their skills.

The Case Competition's final results had Grande Prairie Regional College in first, NAIT taking second and Lethbridge College sliding into third. Each team took home a cash prize, to be split among the team members.

NAIT's own beauty

By BRITTANY BLACK
Assistant Issues Editor

It's almost time for those television self-esteem-boosting moments: beautiful people falling down in front of millions and saying things that make them seem very unintelligent ... thus making you look better. It's the 2009 Miss Universe Pageant!

If you remember from the Miss America Pageant from last year, Miss South Carolina became a YouTube wonder, screwing up possibly one of the easiest questions asked. Let's hope we see some more of those this year.

However, it looks like one Edmontonian and more importantly NAIT student is going to be a distinguished and pride-worthy representative of Canada and NAIT. Twenty-



Orlandice Balanag

one-year-old Orlandice Balanag, born and raised in Edmonton, will be participating in this year's pageant and in September she will start her first year of Architecture Technology here. Let's just say she won't have a problem finding a man, if she doesn't already have one.

The pageant is held in Toronto at the John Basset Theatre in May, and Orlandice will be among the lucky few who will compete to represent ...

oh, no big deal ... the universe. On top of training for the pageant, Orlandice juggles being a student, local modelling and a job as a designer's assistant.

"I've chosen to pursue this journey for inner strength, loyalty to a country that's given me opportunities beyond my imagination and to be part of something that teaches young girls and women all over the world that beauty lies beyond a pretty face" said Orlandice on her inspiration for the pageant.

"For those who are bullied with physical and emotional abuse of others, beauty is what is in our hearts, mind and spirit."

Orlandice was a victim of bullying herself as a child, and expressed that if given the opportunity to be Miss Universe she would like to "take the opportunity to speak out and work with issues such as bullying, children and youth abuse and animal abuse. She is a firm believer that those who cannot stand up against abuse themselves need to be protected by others; it is a crucial need in order to stop violence."

You can check out the 2009 contestants at www.beautiesofcanada.com. You can already vote for the people's choice award and the most voted contestants will be in the top 20. Take the time to check it out! Put NAIT on the map, and support Orlandice in ruling the universe.



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The deadline is noon on the last school day of the week. (All submissions must include your name and student ID number.)

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

Letters

We want your views

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?

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Brent says goodbye



MacKENZIE MARSHALL
Issues Editor

After four years at NAIT and two years spent on the NAITSA executive, President Brent Constantin is moving on. Where will he go next, what does the future hold? I sat down with Brent last week to discuss his time here and NAIT and where he'll be in the next few years.

MacKenzie: Hey Brent, thanks for taking the time to sit down and talk with me.

Brent: For sure, no problem, it's the least I can do.

M: For those people who don't know you, can you give us a bit of your background here at NAIT.

B: I came to NAIT in Jan. '06, I took Radio and Television, the radio part. I did that semester then did a year. I was on NAITSA Senate and I was the Entertainment Editor for the *Nugget* for two years.

M: Let's get to know you a bit better ... you're originally from Edmonton?

B: Yup, I lived on Vancouver Island for a few years after a tornado destroyed our house in 1987.

M: Wow, a tornado survivor, that's intense. If you were to spend the rest of your life on a desert island, what three albums would you take with you?

B: Pink Floyd – *The Wall*, Joel Plaskett – *Emergency*, and Ryan Adams – *Love is Hell*.

M: What's your favourite all time movie?

B: Wow, that's hard, I don't know about favourite, but *Donnie Darko*, the original Batman with Adam West and Burt Ward. *Narcotic Justice*, which I got in a four pack from Wal-Mart, probably the lowest budget movie ever. I love terrible movies.

M: After four years at NAIT, what are you going to do when you wake up on May 1?

B: (laughs) I don't know, I'm so used to getting up at 11 o'clock! (laughs) No, I'm not going to be out of here May 1, I've got a few things left to do before I'm out of here. We've got convocation on the 10th, there's an ACTISEC conference. Hopefully I'll have something lined up for my practicum but I don't know if there'll be a lot of time for me to sit back and reflect on my time here. I've got to find something and get into it quick, so hopefully when I'm an old man I can look back and smile.

M: What's your favorite memory about

your time at NAIT?

B: I think this year for sure. This has been such a great year. The best part would be the exec meetings. We have such a great group and we all click. The personalities played well off each other, we didn't really fight. Those exec meetings were great.

M: What would you say is one of the most important things you've learned over the past four years?

B: I would say a lot of confidence in myself. I would recommend any of the positions to anyone who wants to build that. When I first came into this I was really unsure and I wasn't comfortable speaking in front of politicians, people from NAIT or in front of students, for that matter. But I realized that if you're not speaking, then you're not doing your job. That's something I'll take with me no matter where I go.

M: What would you say led to that change?

B: Like I said if you go to these places or meeting and don't say anything, then you're not doing your job. I realized that I was invited to these things for a reason and my opinion was valued. You've got to say what's on your mind and I think a lot of people hold back. I think a lot of people clam up and let the big shots talk, but I felt like I wasn't being true to myself so I just started speaking my mind. If you can do that articulately, without hostility, and if you know what you're talking about, people will respect you.

M: What kind of stories will you tell your grandchildren about this job?

B: I'd tell about all the boring stuff, but I'd tell them about how I stayed up in the fork lift for 24 hours, I got to fly a plane from the City Centre Airport to Red Deer, I met so many awesome people, I got to travel all over Alberta, all over Canada, oh and jumping in freezing cold water in middle of winter.

M: Anything else you want to add?

B: Yeah, for sure. The Students' Association is a self-sustaining club and it needs students to survive. It's so dependent on people coming down and talking to the executive and telling us what's going on and suggesting what we can do for them. If you want to come down, sit on a couch, say hi, join a club, it's so important for people to come by. We're here to make sure that the quality of things at NAIT is very high and we're here to advocate on your behalf. It's crucial that the Students' Association is a separate body from the administration. Take advantage of the time and the opportunities that are there for you when you're in school. There is so much you can do here to help yourself and other people so I encourage people to get out and make a difference.

M: Great advice! So how can people keep in touch with you and see what you're up to?

B: You can add me to Facebook, come and check out one of my comedy shows, or just stop by and say hi!



Photo by Colleen Nuc

Outgoing NAITSA President Brent Constantin looks back on a year of accomplishment and growth.

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OPINION

— Editorial —

My year ... and yours



CHRIS CARMICHAEL-POWELL
Editor-in-Chief

I have been waiting for this week to arrive for some time now. This will be the final edition of the *Nugget* until August. Wow, what a roller-coaster ride this has been. Being the last issue of the 2008-2009 school year I finally have the ability to write whatever I like and

don't have to worry about your responses in the form of letters to the editor. That being said, this editorial is going to be about my NAIT experience over the past two semesters. I'll call it NAIT: the good, the bad and the ugly.

Let's start with the good. Despite all of my complaining you guys and gals have put up with over the past several months, I have to say, I love this institution. The small class sizes create an intimate learning environment that I have now grown very accustomed to. It allows me to speak one on one with my instructors on a regular basis. It feels pretty great. In addition, I feel like I receive a higher level of instruction because of the student-teacher ratio.

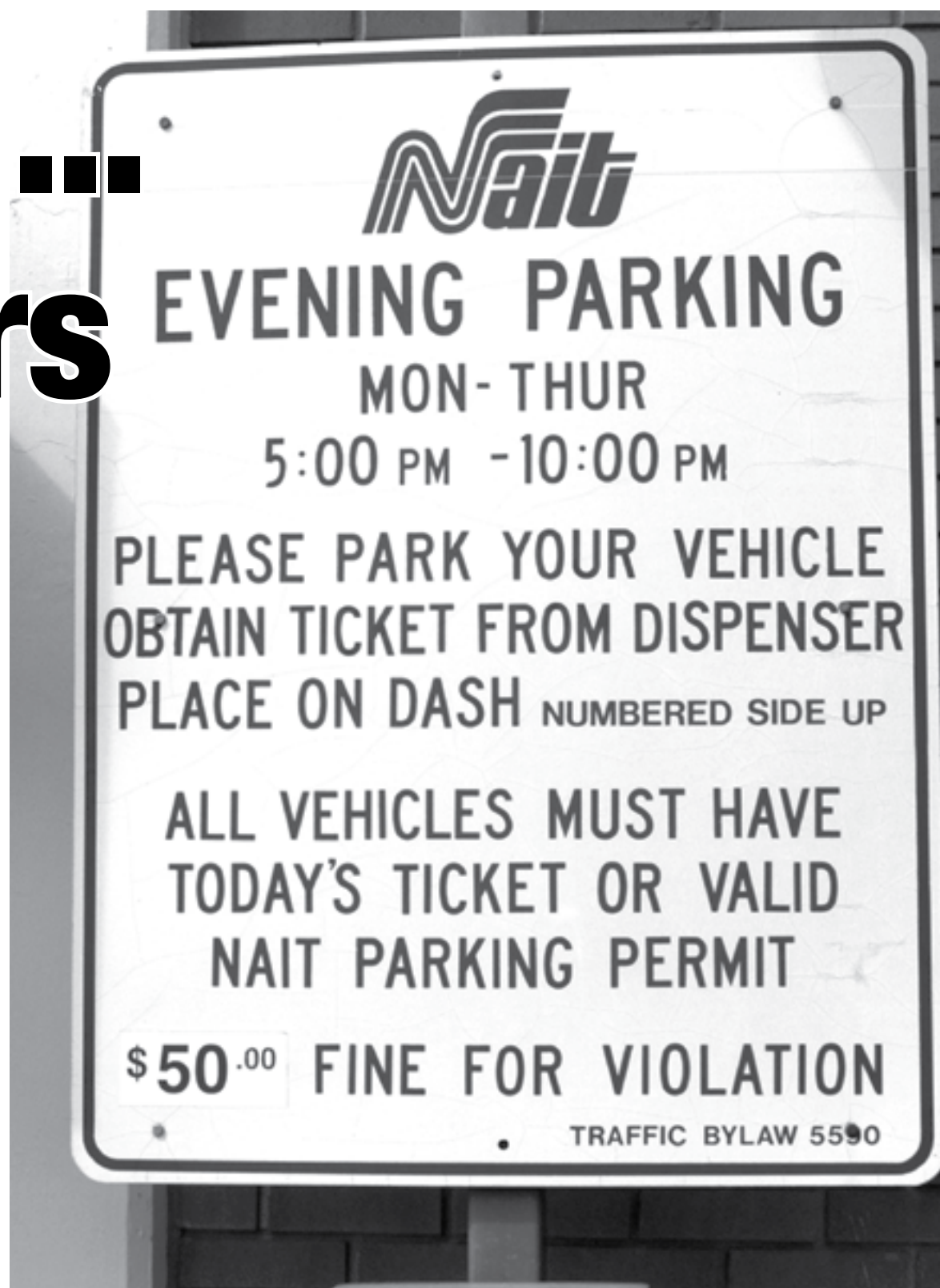
A few issues

Now, it's not all smiles, rainbows and butterflies at NAIT. There are a few issues that rub me the wrong way. Sorry to sound like a broken record, but the parking here is awful, and so are the parking lots! I understand it will cost big bucks to rectify the parking situation, but honestly, NAIT is filled with educators and administrators that have degrees of education up to and including doctorates. Are you going to tell me that they cannot figure out a way to fix the parking issue? Maybe next time they get a multi-million dollar donation they can invest it in the parking crisis. You would also think they would be excited to build more parking lots, seeing as they are charging \$5 a day. This is an increase from the \$3 a day they charged last year. NAIT explained to the *Nugget* earlier this year the increase was due to increased maintenance costs, but they clearly have not used the money for maintenance (this is obvious if you have tried to drive through a parking lot recently).

If you thought that rant was long, hold onto your socks, I'm just getting to the ugly. The thing I hate most about NAIT are the teachers who treat me like I am still in high school. We are in college now, instructors should treat students accordingly. I'm not talking to the majority of you out there, most are amazing, truly amazing. As for the one per cent of the instructors I am talking about, they stress me the F out. Yes, I did just say it. I understand you want what is best for your students, but what makes you think you are best for us? The way I see it, as long as my marks are high enough it really is not your concern why I don't show up for your class. If I show up a few minutes late, get over it. I hate to disappoint you but I do have other things going on in my life that don't include you or your classroom.

Sounds bitter

Yikes, that sounds bitter. I swear, regardless of what I have complained about, I really do like NAIT. I've been to the U of A and Grant MacEwan and NAIT is easily the only place in Edmonton I would go to get an education – even with the Swiss cheese parking lots and high school teachers. To be perfectly honest, if the only things I can really complain about are the parking and teachers that care too much, I guess I really can't complain at all. I'm lucky to be receiving such a high-quality education at such a competitive tuition price, and so are the rest of you students. Good job, team NAIT. Keep it up.



File photo

A real brouhaha

By **AMBER TIENKAMP**
Sports Editor

It's a game of inches and not just football. Lots of games are games of inches – curling, badminton, shuffle board, etc.

But we all remember the line from *Any Given Sunday*, which I watched recently, made me think, what's the deal with sports cliches? I personally don't have a huge problem with them, they usually make me laugh while watching a game. But I also love a few Don Taylorisms thrown into my sports games, that little extra that gives the sportscast an extra boost.

But how could you get sick of

using the word brouhaha? I looked up the most over-used cliches, just to get you all prepped up for the hockey playoff season.

"We got a real barn-burner here" do we really? This saying is severely overused. Save it for the really big rivalries, not everyday games!

Example: Oilers vs. Flames, always a barn-burner, especially this week. Do or die boys, do or die.

Here's a few Oilers' fans have heard way too much this season:

"They're not playing to win, they're playing to lose."

"They're making a lot of unforced errors."

"That's too little too late."

"A lot of faithful are heading for the exits" and "This could get ugly."

Although cliches can be a real laugh blast for everyone, playoffs seem to bring out a certain bit of predictability in every sportscaster.

"They've been here before."

"They have to remember what got them here."

"They have a lot of big game experience."

Seriously people, the sports have been around for years, just think of something entertaining!

Until then, as Don Taylor says, for all you young sportscasters out there, if you ever get the chance to use the word brouhaha, USE IT!

SPORTS

NAIT's best honoured

By **LANDON MOSKOWEC**
Department of Athletics
and Recreation

Katie Seys and Dan Kai were the big winners at the annual NAIT Athletics Awards Tuesday night at the NAIT Shaw Theatre.

Seys, a women's volleyball player and Kai, a national champion badminton player, were each presented with the President's Award, recognizing leadership, sportsmanship and academic success coupled with outstanding achievement in an intercollegiate sport.

In her first season with the NAIT Ooks volleyball program, Katie lived up to her billing as one of the top female collegiate volleyball players in the country, earning her second consecutive Canadian Colleges Athletic Conference All-Canadian award.



Dan Kai

Katie led the entire Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference in kills (5.3 per game), and was second in stuff blocks (0.8 per game), and seventh in service aces (0.37 per game). Her statistical dominance garnered her an ACAC All-Conference selection.

Katie was instrumental in the development of the Ooks women's volleyball program this season. As team captain, she guided the Ooks to their first win over Grande Prairie Regional College in 18 years. NAIT also pushed Medicine Hat College to five sets in the teams' qualification series matches, with the Ooks narrowly missing out on a post-season berth.

Katie's dynamic ability on the court, selfless dedication and resolute leadership also led her to be named as the

team's Silver Torch winner, as MVP.

"It's nice to see Katie achieve this award in an environment as competitive as the ACAC," said women's volleyball head coach Keith Lundgren. "The whole team is very proud of her."

"She has been able, along with the rest of the team, to develop the culture of competitiveness that will be required to compete at the national level."

On the men's side, President's Award winner Dan Kai captured the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association national men's singles title for the second year in a row, establishing himself as arguably the top male collegiate badminton player in the country. He was also named on Tuesday as the ACAC male athlete of the year.

At the CCAA national championships in Toronto, Dan posted

a perfect 7-0 record in round robin and medal round play to take home the gold medal. He was also named a CCAA All-Canadian.

Dan also added a second Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference men's singles title to his list of accomplishments after going undefeated in conference play with a 22-0 record. As a result, he earned his second ACAC First Team All-Conference selection.

A two-time ACAC Athlete of the Week and three-time NAIT Ooks Athlete of the Week, Dan's strong play on the court led the NAIT badminton team to their first ACAC team championship in 16 years. As a result, he was the team's unanimous selection as its Silver Torch winner for team MVP.

"Having a player of Dan's calibre has elevated the awareness of NAIT badminton," said badmin-

ton head coach Jordan Richey. "Good players want to come to NAIT to play with an athlete of his level."

"He's the best badminton player to ever play at NAIT, and I wouldn't be surprised to see him compete in the Olympics one day."

Also on Tuesday, the Silver Torch Awards were handed out to recognize the athlete on each team that has contributed most to its overall success.

Winners were:

Badminton – Dan Kai; **Basketball (Men's)** – Dennis Ashworth and Jon Honey; **Basketball (Women's)** – Dale-Marie Cumberbatch; **Curling** – Colin Hodgson; **Cross Country Running** – Jamey Olson; **Golf** – Coogan Mitchell; **Hockey (Men's)** – Nick Stermer; **Hockey (Women's)** – Kendel Jurista; **Soccer (Men's)** – Joe Asarfo-Adjei; **Soccer (women's)** – Claire McWilliam and Alex Mah; **Volleyball (Men's)** – Scott Lefebvre; **Volleyball (Women's)** – Katie Seys



Katie Seys

Tiger's ready

By **MacKENZIE MARSHALL**
Issues Editor

A lot of people look forward to things like warm weather and melting snow this time of year, and while those things are nice, I'm looking forward to a much more exciting thing, the world of sports. The beginning of April is a great time of year for sports. The NCAA March Madness tournament wraps up (even though this year's championship game was a dud), opening day happens at ballparks all across the U.S. and Toronto, giving us seven months of baseball, the Stanley Cup Finals begin in a week and watching teams fight for playoff spots and positioning is great and the Masters, my favourite event for this time of year, starts today (Thursday).

The 73rd annual Masters, arguably the most prestigious of all the golf majors, will once again take place in Augusta, Georgia, and the person making all of the headlines is Tiger Woods. And hey, why shouldn't he? How many of you cared about golf before Tiger turned that world upside down? That's what I thought, not very many. This will be Tiger's first major tournament since the 2008 U.S. Open where he beat Rocco Mediate in a playoff. Tiger's knee was hurt, and hurt badly. He pulled off one of the most epic wins and gutsy performances in sports history. Immediately after the win, Tiger had surgery that shut him down for the remainder of the 2008 season.

So far Tiger has played in three tournaments in 2009. He teed off in the Accenture Match Play Championship and lost in the second round to Tim Clark, who played the round of his life to beat Tiger. He finished ninth at the WGC-CA Championship, again playing decently but his putter really let him down. It all came together though two weekends ago at the Arnold Palmer Invitational. Tiger was five strokes back heading into the final round. Dressed in red as he does in every final, Tiger played smart and solid golf and took the championship home with a 20-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole. No one was shocked or surprised, it was just Tiger being Tiger.



"It feels good to be back in contention, to feel the rush," Tiger said. "It's been awhile but God, it felt good."

Now that he remembers what it's like to win and with his game seemingly back to where it was before he had surgery last July, this is really

Tiger's tournament to lose. He knows the course inside and out, he's healthy, confident and wants a fifth green jacket. If Tiger fails to win this weekend, it will be the fourth year in a row since he's won a Masters title, the longest drought of his career, and I can't see that happening. Tiger will have lots of competition from the likes of Ernie Els, Phil Mickelson and Padraig Harrington, just to name a few, but with Tiger on his game, it will be tough. Expect to see Tiger slip into his fifth green jacket on Sunday evening.

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2 minutes in the box

NAHREMAN ISSA

Sniff ... wipe away the tear.

This, my friends, will be the last "2 minutes in the box" featured in the *Nugget*. Your little sports girl is graduating in May. Hopefully one day you'll see me dishing out trade deadline deals or reporting live from the sidelines of a football game.

I hope you guys enjoyed the ride. See ya around!

...

What better topic to write about for my last article than my beloved Edmonton Oilers?! But I'm not going to talk about Craig MacTavish or the fact the team may or may not miss the playoffs (this article is being written while the team is mathematically still in it). What I am going to talk about is how much we need the Oilers in our lives.

I know right now morale for the team is low. So many people are jumping off the bandwagon, you have to swerve all over the road to avoid them. I personally would love to run over each and every one of them but I don't have

time for a criminal record.

There is plenty of frustration going around town with our hockey team. And while I do think the frustration with the hockey team is well deserved, people need to put into perspective just how valuable this team is to us.

Everybody knows the Oilers have the best hockey fans in the

league. But as fans, we expect the team to back up our support; and it's not happening this season.

But imagine life without the Edmonton Oilers. Our winters are sometimes minus 30 C without the windchill. I'm not a winter outdoor enthusiast, so for me, hockey is my entertainment. Watching 19 players lace up to play a hockey game is my

winter survival.

Spring sucks when we don't have the Oil in the playoffs. Nothing is better than going to a hockey game with just my Steve Staios jersey on wearing flip-flops. I love the warm spring weather mixed with crazy hockey fans enjoying a tailgate party.

I love going on vacation and bringing some form of Oilers apparel with me to represent my team.

Basically, what I'm trying to say is, Oilers fans: BE GRATEFUL WE HAVE A HOCKEY TEAM.

Hockey fans in Winnipeg and Quebec City cannot say the same. I couldn't fathom having to say goodbye to my hockey team; even if we were the bottom-feeding team.

If you don't want to support your hockey team right now, then don't. But please just shut up about it. Because I guarantee when the Oilers get their asses into gear, all the so-called fans who said they were done with the team will be back on the bandwagon pretending

they never got off.

Remember back in the late '90s when the Oilers were on the verge of being sold and moved to an American city? The arena could barely muster 13,000 fans. Look how far this team has come. We've got a billionaire owner who says the team isn't going anywhere and you would have to give up your first born to try and get season tickets.

Hockey fans are just frustrated right now but things will get better with our hockey team. I may sound naïve to the whole situation, but I would rather have my head in the clouds than face the bitter reality with the team!

Oilers fans, I beg you to get behind your hockey team. The team will straighten things out this summer. I guarantee you the team will be different come the 2009-2010 season.

Oil fans, have faith in your hockey team. Regardless of what happens, they are still part of the family.

GO OILERS, GO!!!



Oilers fans are the best!

commons.wikimedia.org

What's in the cards for baseball?

By CURTIS DIXON

The first pitch has been thrown, the first hot dogs eaten. Now it's time for predictions and scepticism. But I would suggest you don't compare any of these predictions to the few ball games already in the books. Based on the results, C.C. Sabathia is the worst starter in baseball, Adam Lind will break the single-season RBI record, and the

Jays offence will actually bail out Roy Halladay (as opposed to how it usually goes). None of these things, however, are true.

To me, it's obvious who the best team is going into the 2009 Major League Baseball season: New York.

Which one?

Good Question.

The Yankees look the best, simply because their additions of C.C.

Sabathia, Mark Teixeira and A.J. Burnett will be much more influential than the pickups made by other powerhouse teams. That's not to take anything away from what the Mets did, of course. Their curse going into the offseason was obvious – bullpen, bullpen, bullpen. Picking up two of the best closers in baseball in Francisco Rodriguez and J.J. Putz is a pretty good antidote.

The AL East is obviously the division of most interest in Canada, with the Toronto Blue Jays, New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, Tampa Bay Rays and Baltimore Orioles filling it out. This year looks to be another three-horse race between the Sox, Yankees and Rays, but I think the order is going to be a little different. The Yankees are the obvious No. 1. They have all aspects mastered, maybe a few questions in the bullpen, but they're set. And for those of you who say "Bold pick, Curtis, the Yankees always look the best," I tell you that this year is different. You have to agree, this is the best they've looked going into a season in a long time.

Boston should finish second,

since they have no apparent weaknesses outside of the bottom three guys in the lineup. They should win the Wild Card spot, too. I see the defending AL Champion Rays No. 3 in the division and unfortunately missing the playoffs – there are just two better teams in the division, simple as that. I'll take the Indians and the Angels as the other AL Division winners.

The Yankees' biggest competition lies in the National League with the Mets and the Cubs. The Mets as I mentioned made a good effort to solve their obvious bullpen flaws, which pretty much completes the team. They have a solid rotation with ace Johan Santana and

a very healthy dose of offence with the likes of Delgado, Wright, Beltran and Reyes on the roster.

The Cubs are another team that should have a very good season. Alfonso Soriano is healthy ... for now anyway. They have solid guys in the middle of the order with Derek Lee and Aramis Ramirez, and the sophomore season of Japanese star Kosuke Fukudome to look forward to. Not to mention that they have a fantastic looking rotation, if they can all stay healthy, which includes Canadians Rich Harden and Ryan Dempster. Rounding out the NL playoffs, I have the Mets, Cubs, Dodgers and the defending champion Phillies in the Wild Card.

That's my outlook on this year's baseball season. For the World Series ... Yankees win over the Mets in seven.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Running on empty *Empty the Nest was a knockout!*



MacKENZIE MARSHALL
Issues Editor

I like cheap beer. Not beer that is made cheaply like Dude beer. I like when decent to good beer is priced cheaply. I also like live music, good live music, of course. I got to experience both of those things plenty last Friday when I went to "Empty the Nest."

My first year at NAIT is almost over now and I've been to the Nest a fair amount of times and I quite enjoy it there. It is a little dark, but the food is usually solid and the drinks are competitively priced. I did a promotion there for one of my classes in December and the staff was helpful, friendly and they really helped me out a lot. I must admit though that all of my expectations were blown out of the water last Friday.

I arrived to Empty the Nest shortly after 9 p.m. I wanted to be there when it started but I had to work. All the tables and chairs were moved so the place was very open. As soon as I walked in knew I was going to have to play catchup. It was quite clear that everyone was taking advantage of the cheap drinks. I headed right to the beer tubs and started

drinking the \$3 beer. I started with Cold Shots because those little cans pack a solid punch when they're shot gunned. The Raptors had just finished playing their set when I got there, so I decided to have some shots.

At this point I was feeling great. I was with friends and we all were having a lot of fun. Christian Hansen and the Autistics were up next and wow, do they put on a great show! I had never heard anything about them before so I wasn't really expecting much and I was blown away. They had so much energy and they're real performers. They'd be singing one song and rapping the next one. It was awesome. Of course, during their set, the cold shots sold out so I had to switch to drinking Canadian which I would never normally do but for three bucks and a bit of a snap on I wasn't going to stop. After their set I got a brief chance to talk to Christian Hansen and the Autistics. I should have brought a voice recorder because I don't really remember what we spoke about. It probably went something like this: I stumble over and declare my new-found love for their music and the politely say thanks and shake my hand all the while thinking, "who is this drunk loser?"

From there it was more beer, shots, and music. Tupelo Honey finished of the night and they were pretty good. I

enjoyed Christian Hansen and the Autistics more, but they still did a great job. The night was awesome; I had a great time that

night and a terrible day at work on Saturday. I hope the Nest has more events like this in the future!



Photos by Rose Martin Baumgartner

Matt Landry of Tupelo Honey performs at Empty the Nest last Friday.



NAITSA Events Co-ordinator Fe Maquinay shows off a Jack Daniels guitar that went to one lucky winner at Empty the Nest.



Empty the Nesters whoop it up as they wait in line to get into the Nest.

Talent galore

By **LANDON HOMMY**
and **BRITTANY BLACK**

This just in ... NAIT'S got talent. Major talent, unreal talent, like ... make-this-person-a-sex-tape talent.

We can now raise our NAIT flag high in the air, and say "Glory be to the NAIT Gods." Last Wednesday, The Nest held the very first annual NAIT'S Got Talent show. NAITSA VP of Campus Life Michelle Goulet hosted as 13 contestants ranging from singers to musicians, dancers, glow stick twirlers and magical magicians graced the stage.

To bring this epic night to an even higher level, the judges were no regular Joes. Oh no ... it was the one and only NAITSA President Brent Constantin, along with the one and only radio DJ Rick Lee and the one and only Cirque du Soleil performer, Jeff Mortenson.

The night was filled with wide-eyed entertainment, and tears of joy. After a long but electrifying night (I was shocked by the skills), the top three were finally decided upon.

Third Place (\$100 prize) – The *Nugget*'s very own Brittany Black and Colleen Nuc performed their original music video *We're So Sexy*. Let me tell you, if you haven't seen this dynamic duo's music video, drop everything you are doing and go over to a computer, type in *We're So Sexy* in YouTube, and then fall in love. Forever.

Second Place (\$250 prize) – Ruth Gill from the NAIT's women's basketball team. She gave us a taste of her Barbados home with some killer popping aka hip-hop moves. And although she only graced the stage for 30 seconds, it reminded me of the 30 seconds of ecstasy I'm used to.

First Place (\$500 prize) – Went to the incredibly talented Mr. Brad Bayley: A local singer/songwriter who performed his version of the popular song *Hurt* by Nine Inch Nails. If the vision of God could be expressed in song, this would've been it – hence his winning of the Holy Grail.

Catching up with the judges after the show, Rick Lee admitted to being afraid of losing his job due to the off-the-charts talent exploding out of NAIT. And Constantin had nothing but positive comments: "NAIT's Got Talent was one of the best events I've seen during my four years on campus. NAIT students are all stars and I think the audience was the real winner. I feel lucky to be representing such talented students. Watch out Hollywood, looks like your talented NAIT students are headed your way."

Aside from that bullshit answer, Brent summed up what the few thousand in attendance felt – perfection. If you missed it, well, you know what they say about karma. However, because of the great success, there is talk of this incredible night coming back, year after year.



Photo by Ashley Urban

Local singer-songwriter Brad Bayley performs last Wednesday at NAIT's Got Talent on his way to winning the first prize of \$500.

**The Nugget
wants you!**

Nugget alert!



LEANNE TRUONG
Assistant Entertainment Editor

I want you, yes that's right YOU!

Hopefully, throughout this past year, I was able to satisfy the reader's appetite with my subtle yet whimsical articles that I thought would catch your eye (and curiosity). I made efforts to cover most headline news and the major events that occurred at NAIT, but you know what? I can't do it alone.

What is the secret to a successful and strong foundation? What is the brick and mortar – in this case, that would be you. The *Nugget* wouldn't be anything if it weren't for the key-stone of readers, writers and contributors.

Well, everyone wants their voices heard, and for them to be amplified through the *Nugget*. So many events and issues happen throughout the school year and we want the best coverage and reviews readily available for you to read. Not only that, your input is essential to us.

The *Nugget* offers so many possibilities for NAIT students to input their thoughts, ideas and views on everything that happens inside and outside of school.

Contributors are always welcome at the *Nugget* door, so that any issue that is out there can be addressed and the institution can be informed. If there is any ambiguity or any reader takes exception to any *Nugget* article, he or she should feel free to submit a letter to the editor.

Who knows, maybe you're not the only one who doesn't agree with what was written. And what good would a story be without a picture? Photographers can also join in the fun and submit photos taken at any NAITSA or NAIT events. I'm sure we're going to have some amazing events like Indie Night, Freeze-over, etc., to look forward to in the 2009-2010 school year and if you're going to be around, why not come hop on the *Nugget* bus and get in on all the action!

From one editor's experience, I'm glad I've gotten to express my views and occasionally rant about what was on my mind. Not only that, I've gotten to know and work with some phenomenal people. There's quite a social scene going on in the *Nugget* office! So with that in mind for the upcoming school year, remember, the *Nugget* wants you!

**Contributors
are always
welcome at
the *Nugget*
door.**

HOT SINGLE OF THE WEEK



Photo by Bobbi Ryan

Brent Constantin NAITSA president, 24 years old

Hot Single: What are three words you would use to describe yourself?

Brent: Brent Alexander Constantin

H.S.: What is your favourite body part?

B: My insides, like ... my organs. I have a strong liver and I have nice heart symmetry.

H.S.: Where would you go on a first date, if you could actually get one?

B: I don't like to think about that. I'm depressed and lonely.

H.S.: What's the first thing you notice about a girl?

B: Her eyes ... when she wakes up.

H.S.: When was your last girlfriend – and what happened?

B: A year and a half ago ... she broke up with me because she couldn't handle the fact that I am married to Lady NAITSA.

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Designed by: Dorian Woods
dward@nait.com



Your horoscope



MADAME O

April 9-15

(Warning: Nugget horoscopes are not written by an accredited astrologer; however, believe them if you like, as they are absolute and unquestionable.)

Aries (March 21-April 19)

You will charge small children and eat the glue off tin can wrappers. Be wary of a hoof issue that may spread to your horns.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Look out, your opportunity to be on centre stage surrounded by cheering fans will become a nightmare when they start throwing spears at you.

Red is not your colour. Ever.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Problems in your life are caused by your evil twin. Be sure to alert your friends to note the differences between you, such as a goatee, heavy, perpetually angry eyebrows and gritted teeth.

Turn off the dimensional rift generator when you have the opportunity.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Cheer up. Why are you so crabby all the time?

Oh, really? I'm so sorry! When did you find out? How long do you have?

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Now is not the time to try a vegetarian diet. Your thick hair is unmanageable. Maul a zebra to celebrate.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Time to let go and experience life. What are you saving yourself for? Get it out of the way. Go to Squires this weekend and find some sleazebag. You'll be glad you did.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You will pick things up and see how heavy they are. This is very useful while shopping in the bulk section. \$2.39 for 100 grams of dried cranberries? You better be sure.

Beware endomorphs.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Your love life is complicated by your venomous sting and pincer clawed hands. Try a new outfit.

Remember that in the desert water could be inside cacti.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Remember to aim high, and that if you hit the smallest circle in the middle you get the most points. If someone has already hit the smallest circle try and shoot their arrow out of the way.

This will not get you any more points, but looks really cool.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Your fortune is half Taurus and half Pisces. Pick the bits you like.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Although the job is thankless, always keep your pitcher full and look for empty glasses. But don't let them fill up on water before the meal, that will cut into profits.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

It may be time to upgrade from the skull to the castle.

Treat yourself to some exotic food, in flake form.

Don't be embarrassed by the string of excrement stuck to you, that's just who you are.

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For More Information:
Call Catherine 780-966-1207 Email, catherineryan@telus.net

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CLUBS CORNER

Upcoming events ...

Petroleum Club

Event: Beer Garden

When: Wednesday April 15; 3 p.m.

Where: The Annex Dock

...

In our second year of the Campus Clubs Centre, we are proud to announce that our 55 active students' clubs put on 184 events for our student body that raised awareness and money for charities in the city, provided opportunities to gather socially, and to work collectively to raise funds for grad.

The Club Centre is open during the summer months. We encourage clubs to continue activities (community services or grad fundraising) throughout the summer months if you chose to get ahead ... hint, hint: Giver Points.

Also to give your club a head start for next year, encourage your first-year students to get involved at the executive level. Send them to the Campus Clubs office (E-133) before they leave for the summer.

Once again, we thank the clubs for all of their hard work this past year and it was an honour to help them reach their goals.

We wish you all the best, and look forward to seeing those who are coming back next year.



Photo by Rose Martin Baumgartner

A MIGHTY SWIPE FOR C.O.P.S.

A contestant in SIFE NAIT's Hockey Skills Challenge sees how hard he can hit a slap shot as a police officer gets a speed from a radar gun. The C.O.P.S. event (Career Opportunities in Police Services) offered prizes to winners in several categories and encouraged participants to investigate a police career.

TOP 10 TIPS

The push to final exams



MARGARET MAREAN
NAIT Student Counselling

By this time of year most students are feeling exhausted and just counting down the days until school ends. Unfortunately there are still several important weeks to go. Incorporating the following tips should help:

1. Focus on self-care as much as possible.

Adequate sleep, eating regularly and taking time to relax are even more important with the added end-of-semester stressors. If you are into an exercise routine, this is not the time to

quit although you might want to modify your routine a bit due to time pressures. If you don't exercise, incorporating a brisk daily 10-minute walk can help reduce stress, get blood flowing to your brain and perk you up.

2. Write up a schedule for the weeks before and during exams. Having a plan helps to reduce stress and ensures that you are effective at allocating time to all subjects. A plan will hopefully eliminate last-minute cramming. Allow enough time to study each subject thoroughly.

3. Make a study guide for yourself. Include lists of key points, terms and ideas, as well as any other important information you find difficult to remember.

4. Learn information in the same format that you need to remember it for exams. For example, brainstorming questions from your notes and making up a mock test similar to the one you expect

will be given is one of the most effective ways to study. Ask instructors if they have practice tests available.

5. Schedule breaks. Taking a short break every 30 to 50 minutes is recommended. Your brain cannot learn effectively without breaks.

6. Vary what you study. You will learn best when you alternate courses while studying. For example if you start with a math-based course, take a break and then move to a theory-based course.

7. Use short periods for review. When waiting for the bus or in the shower, recall and review material that you have studied. Remember, the more frequently you review material the more easily you will remember it and the more it will broaden your understanding.

8. Think positively about your abilities. Don't allow yourself to get down on yourself about all the studying you should

have done in the past, or to compare yourself to others whom you perceive to be smarter or more organized than you are.

9. Plan a reward for the end of term ... and maybe some smaller rewards for sticking with your study schedule along the way. Having something to look forward to can be motivating.

10. Book an appointment with a counsellor at Student Counselling if you are feeling anxious or overwhelmed. Whether it is study tips, relaxation techniques or feeling positive about your abilities, we will do our best to assist with your success.

The NAIT Student Counselling Centre is located in Room O-117 in the Main South Lobby. To schedule an appointment phone 780-378-6135 or drop by the office. Hours are 8:00 to 4:30 Monday to Friday. NAIT Student Counselling will remain open during spring and summer sessions.

Reel Minutes Movie Club Reviews Monsters vs Aliens



The 3-dimensional effects, the characters were surprisingly 2-dimensional with no depth. *Monsters vs Aliens* failed and was a huge step down from such Dreamworks epics as *Kung Fu Panda* and ... well, I guess the first two Shreks were good ... hmmm ... Well, I guess they aimed for exactly what they could get, sub-mediocrity. But then again with "stars" like Reese Witherspoon and Seth Rogen, what more could be expected? I give Dreamworks' *Monsters vs Aliens* a download only.

— Jared

...

It was good if you were five years old. For sure a kids' movie but some parts did make me laugh. It would have been a lot better if we could have seen it in 3-D. But had a pretty easy to follow story line (of course since it's a kids' movie). But for feeling like a kid again, 4 out of 5 stars. Being realistic, 2 out of 5 stars.

— Bruce Wayne

...

Monsters vs Aliens was pretty cute. If I had a younger brother or sister I would for sure take them to it. It was funny, but a child's type of humour. All in all, it was a good movie and I do recommend it to anyone who does like these animated films.

— Mrs. Marvel

NAITSA Frosh Leader wanted

Want the BEST volunteer job ever? Become a NAITSA Frosh Leader! It will look great on your resume, you'll meet a lot of cool people and you will have the time of your life. Stop by NAITSA for more details or e-mail naitsaevents@nait.ca.

wanting to have fun. Must attend a NAITSA Leadership Retreat (no cost to volunteer) Aug. 28-30, and be available to help during the first month of school.

...

Requirements: Outgoing personality, enrolled in a NAIT program in September, Resumes can be sent to naitsaevents@nait.ca or dropped off at the NAITSA office at E-131.

Want to volunteer?

Centre for Autism

The Centre for Autism Services runs a variety of group programs for their clients. These programs range from speech, feeding, symbolic play and gross motor skills development. Group programs provide a socially stimulating environment in which you, the volunteer, can help the children to learn and play. If you would like to become a volunteer, educational support is provided on autism and you may choose from a variety of eight-week group program blocks. E-mail cbuhr@centreforautism.ab.ca or call 780-488-6600 ext. 284.

Sexual Assault Centre Crisis Line Volunteer

Crisis line volunteers are needed! The Sexual Assault Centre is recruiting volunteers for our 24-hours crisis line. Approximately one in three women and one in six men experience sexual abuse at some point in their lifetime. These statistics show that a significant portion of our community is affected by sexual assault. You can make a difference by volunteering with the 24-hour crisis line. We offer 50 hours of crisis intervention training at no charge. If you are empathetic, caring, non-judgmental, want to gain experience within this field and/or want to make a change in your community, this is an excellent opportunity for you! Please call Erin at 780-423-4102 or e-mail at erinm@sace.ab.ca for more information.

Community Park Little League

Are you a sports enthusiast? You can gain some experience and help your community by volunteering or coaching Little League teams. For more information, contact Darryl Poole at 780-984-5053.

NEW OFFICE HOURS FOR NAITSA

NAITSA has set up new, more convenient office hours for students. The Students' Association office at E-131 is now open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday. With the new hours, Continuing Education students who want to make contact can do so by dropping by before their evening classes begin. Any other students who have late afternoon classes will also be able to access the receptionist later in the day.

TUITION TAX RECEIPTS 2008

STUDENTS: The T2202A Tuition Tax Receipts for the 2008 calendar year will be available on the Student Portal at www.nait.ca/MyNait by February 27, 2009.

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 \$12.

LOOKING FOR A JOB ON CAMPUS FOR THE FALL TERM?

NAITSA (NAIT Students' Association) is now accepting applications for the following positions:

STREET TEAM

- Students needed to promo upcoming NAITSA activities to other students on the NAIT main Campus.
- You need to possess an outgoing and positive attitude, be creative, energetic and possess the ability to have fun!

VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR

- Help co-ordinate the NAITSA Volunteer Program.
- Assist with recruiting volunteers.
- Responsible for scheduling volunteers for campus events, leading volunteers during events.
- Responsible for planning all logistics associated with regular Volunteer Recognition Nights.

MOVIE NIGHT CO-ORDINATOR

Responsible for:

- Co-ordinating movies from supplier.
- Filling out monthly forms for supplier.
- Arranging for marketing for each Movie Night.
- Executing Movie Nights in the Shaw Theatre.

EVENT CO-ORDINATOR / HEAD OF SECURITY

- Assist in planning/set-up/clean-up of all NAITSA events.
- Act as the lead contact to schedule and supervise all student security (SUDS).
- Heavy lifting may be required.

SUDS SECURITY GUARDS

- Supervise and ensure student events are safe.
- Check IDs and ensure policies and procedures are followed.
- Guards will be expected to complete a training program (provided) before starting any shifts.

Application forms available in E-131, or submit a cover letter and resume to Shannon Marshall at the NAITSA office.

Are you an Aboriginal student at NAIT?

If so, there is a centre right on Main Campus designed specifically to meet your needs! The EnCana Aboriginal Student Centre is a great alternative to many of the study and work spaces available on campus. Unique features of the centre include cultural awareness workshops, mentorship programs and many business services such as fax and computer access. Even if you are not self-identified through NAIT, you may still make use of all the programs and services offered!

The EnCana Aboriginal Student Centre is available Monday to Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Room E-121. Questions? Please feel free to contact Stephanie Bean, co-ordinator of Aboriginal Student Services (780) 471-7839, or at sbean@nait.ca. Come by the centre and we would be happy to give you a tour!



5 minute Videos:

- How to be Successful at Math
- How to Get the Most Out of Reading
- Make the Most Effective Use of Study Time

Go to: www.nait.ca/counselling



NAITfye (First Year Experience) Workshop Schedule–Winter Semester

NAITfye is a new initiative developed to help students transition to life on campus. We have developed workshops on a variety of topics chosen with your specific needs in mind and theme oriented based on the time of year. Please attend as many of the following workshops as you wish. The sessions are free and no registration is required.

April-09			
15	Wed	Women in Technology Meet and Greet	12:15-1:10pm X203

QUESTIONS?? EMAIL askfye@nait.ca OR VISIT www.nait.ca/fye



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