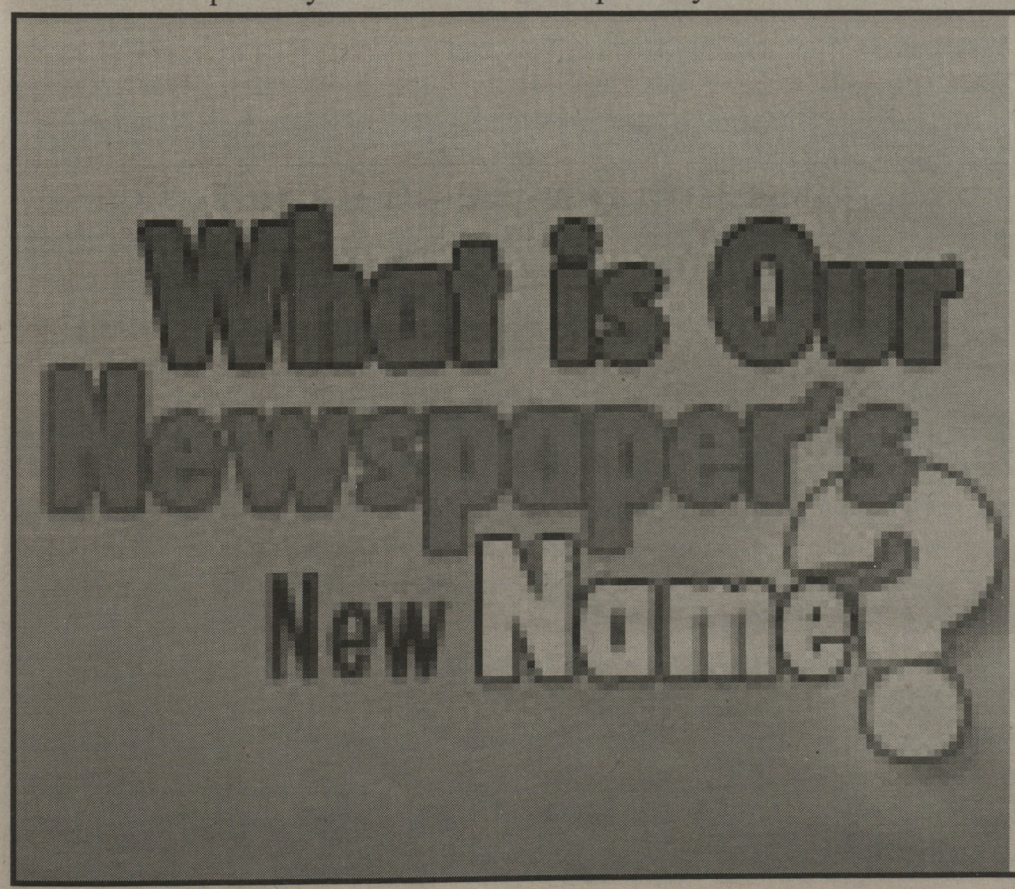
Close to the Coast Festival rocks Baba's

Showcase featured top acts like Pat Deighan and the Orb Weavers and Dog Day

By Whitney Bysterveldt
The Cadre

Close to the Coast festival, Charlottetown's ode to indie rock got under way last week, beginning August 19th through to the 23rd. Throughout the week notable acts such as Paper Lions, Smothered in Hugs, Nathan Wiley and The Lodge graced the stage at Baba's Lounge but it was the fifth and final night that showcased the most promising and anticipated acts of this annual occurrence. Inaugurating Saturday night's lineup was a late but welcomed entry to the festival as Bosko the Drawback stepped up, followed by locals The Robots. The night was one of interim cessation for The Robots as band members part ways for the time being in order to pursue individual interests. Succeeding The Robots onstage were scene favourites Pat Deighan and the Orb Weavers, delivering a number of tracks including Los Diablos from their latest album "In A Fever In A Dream." Not only are the Orb Weavers a fixed institution at Baba's and Close to the Coast but also front man Pat Deighan acts as a central organizer for the festival. The night seemed to be monopolized by local acts as Collagen rockers The Danks finalized a hat trick of Island bands. A strong lead up to CTTC's headliners, Dog Day and Mardeen, The Danks delivered crowd pleasers such as In Alright and Treaty Connector. Unfortunately, the rise spawned by The Danks would be hampered by a dichotomous set put on by the highly anticipated Halifax group Dog Day. Although instrumentals were coming in loud and clear there was a lack of clarity regarding vocals which did a disservice to lead singer Seth Smith. Technical problems appeared to be the least of the band's worries as their performance became marred due to the adverse behavior displayed by keyboardist Crystal Thili. Technical problems could have been easily overlooked by the audience but it was impossible to ignore the detached and uninvolved Thili as she appeared to sulk in the corner of the stage. Tarnishing the overall performance she continued her immature actions by blindly taking random pictures of the audience only to examine the fruits of her labour with exasperated contempt. Amid technical and internal issues Dog Day still managed to shine especially on their track Lydia; it would be fallacious to discount the entire band's performance due to a single member's egocentrism. Thankfully, Halifax heroes Mardeen took over after Dog Day's anomalous set concluding CTTC as Baba's teemed with hot bodies by the end of the night. Starting off with Moving Eyes a number from their recently released and mercilessly appealing album "Read Less Minds" Mardeen made the aberrant performance of Dog Day worth sitting through. Every song was punctuated with the enthusiasm of the crowd but by the middle of the set it would seem as though Mardeen became plagued by difficulties reminiscent of Dog Day. First, vocalist and bassist Matthew Ellis lost all sound from his mic during Pretty Smart only to compensate by sharing with bandmate Jon Pearo in order to pull off the rest of the song. After that issue was fixed it was followed by an unexplained loss of sound from vocalist and guitarist Travis Ellis's guitar. Despite a few distinct technical issues Mardeen still managed to appease the crowd as they resurrected Talkin Talkin, a rarity that had not been played live in over three years to conclude their set.

A legacy worth continuing, Close to the Coast harboured a number of east coast indie hits and will continue to for years to come.



Throughout the years, UPEI's student newspaper has had its ups and downs and it has been decided it is time to start anew.
That's why The Cadre and the UPEI Student Council has decided to have a contest.

What is Our Newspaper's New Name? gives students the opportunity to cast their vote on what they feel would be the best name for UPEI's student newspaper.

Ballots for the contest are located around the school.

All entries must include your name, your email and your suggestion for the new student paper name.

Prizes will be awared to the **What is Our Newspaper's Name** contest winner
Deadline for the contest is September 26, 2008