

Dear Editor,

I know that Dodgeball is not considered a serious sport by most people, but it involves a fair amount of skill, endurance and sometimes luck. Not many are aware, but it is one of the most popular sports on campus. The Dodgeball Society has existed for several years and currently has close to one hundred members, making it one of the largest student societies currently active at UPEI.

Despite its perceived semi-sport status, like any sport, it can be dangerous. Injuries are not frequent and are almost never serious, but every now and then, sadly, lady luck gets vindictive. Last week one of our dedicated members, was accidently kicked in the hand. Not something that one would consider a serious injury, but nonetheless it required him to stop playing and go home. The worst part of this is that the gym had ice on hand in the locked physiotherapy room, and they had a key, but the girl at the desk said that she was not allowed to open it. Needless to say this was a little frustrating. If something like this happened to any university sports team I'm pretty sure that the proverbial shit would hit the proverbial fan, but because we're a lowly student society no one cared that much.

It turned out that instead of a bruised hand, the injured student had shattered his right wrist in four places. He required surgery and a metal plate was placed in his hand. He is right handed and as a result can't write or do his job working in a bakery.

This is by no means letter placing blame on the gym staff, it written with the hope that problems like this won't happen in the future. I'm sure that it would have been just as easy to go to the rink and get some ice, but hindsight is 20-20 and it's sometimes hard to think of all the possible options when you have to deal with the pain of broken bones.

Sincerely,

Dodgeball enthusiast and Society Co-president  
Devin Gillis

## Politics and Youth: Green Party candidate Haida Arsenault-Antolick

Stacey Murray  
Reporter

Haida Arsenault-Antolick is a name that stuck out during the recent federal election. At only 19 years old, the Green Party Candidate for the Cardigan riding was the youngest candidate in the province. But don't let her age fool you; she's been dedicated to her cause for years.

Haida became concerned about the environment when she became a vegetarian at age thirteen. It was the first time she really thought about the food she was eating, and the pesticides that are present in produce. Ever since, she's been passionate for both health and environment because she says, "our health is connected to our environment's health."

Haida has also been deeply rooted in politics. During high school, Haida was a member of the political science club, was a page in the PEI Page Program in grade eleven, and participated in a Model UN conference.

She first began to work with the Green party as a volunteer in May of 2004, when the Green party began to see promising numbers across the country. She also worked on a campaign for the Green Party in New Zealand, while participating in the WWOOF program, or World-Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms. From this experience, she not only learned about the importance of organic farming, but also the international influence of the Green Party.

When discussing the election, she beamed at the support for her and the Green Party. "I had a lot of support. Because PEI is traditionally so close to the land, people are concerned."

She said, "Some people are not coming to PEI because they have allergic



reactions [to the pesticides]."

Despite this growing concern, though, she found that many people were wary of supporting the Green Party. "In Cardigan [it seems] as if a lot of peoples job rely on who is in power," she said, "Politicians should not have control of how we participate in democracy."

She also found that youth were big supporters in her campaign. She believes it's because they look more at the issues and less at the party lines. She also talked about the fact that there was no poll on campus, and that there should have been. "It just makes sense."

Her favourite experience during the campaign was a function to meet the candidates and support creativity on the Island. "So many people came out to show their support and their talent," she said. The function was meant to show that the Green party is trying to represent the grass roots movement, and all its components, because that is essentially the ideology behind the party.

So where is she planning on going from here? In the fall, she is planning on moving to BC to study, and is looking forward to the change in the political landscape and culture. She also plans on continuing to work with the Green Party. "The first-past-the-post system is a strong barrier to us, and we need proportional representation. But we're building our support. With each vote in the election, the party was given \$1.75 of funding. Once we elect an MP, support will take off for the Green Party."

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