



THE

VOICE

OF

HALIFAX

AUGUST



INSIDE:




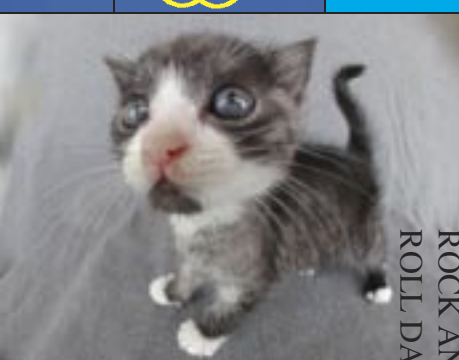


HOROSCOPES

THE VOICE: COAST TO COAST

TOP 25 IN HALIFAX

HALIFAX VOICE

AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 NATIONAL KIDS TALL SHIPS DAY 	2	3	4 NATAL DAY	5 Buskers	6 CIVIC HOLIDAY	7 Kid Rock 
8	9	10 REWARD 	11	12 Olympics START! Hfx. Flower show 	13 NATIONAL FLET HANDERS DAY	14
15 STOP NO MORE BUSKERS	16	17 BILLY THE KID KILLED FIRST VICTIM	18			
22 MICHAEL JACKSON B-DAY (46) 	23 KOBE BRYANT B-DAY (26)	24	25 Cher farewell tour			
29	30 CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW 	31	ROCK AND ROLL DAY			

The Voice: Coast to Coast

Yesterday, I had a talk with Andrew Safer and my Co-op teacher Mr. Cochrane about getting my grade 12 credit to graduate, getting my diploma, and then heading off to Europe!

Last night I had ideas on making my own magazine, sort of like *The Voice* (www.youthnewsletter.net). That's a newsletter about youth in foster care and/or group homes talking about "the system" and how it benefits and negates us (youth). It's published once a year, and it takes a lot of hard work and motivation to make this a big success. *The Voice* only talks about youth under the protection of Children's Aid Society (CAS), but in my mind that is only a small block

or piece of the puzzle. There are other groups, generally classified as "Teens", who are not under CAS, and have everyday difficulties, or they are enjoying their lives every day even though they have a tense environment around them (like myself).

The future I envision for *The Voice* is that it would expand into every type of youth classified as "teens", so that any teen could open the magazine and it would relate to them. It would not necessarily talk about the system, but it would have sections like sports, health, upcoming events in local areas, things to do, best places to eat...etc. It would be like any magazine, but for teens in general. Unlike *The Voice*, my dream is for this to be published every month. The only variable to this equation is time. It would take time to get this project to where I want it: across Canada.

In the next three weeks I will be a guinea pig, experimenting how to make *The Voice* a success, finding its way into the hands of thousands of teens across Canada in the future. Every day I will write what I find running around the city, unfolding this dream. Everything from the cover layout and pictures to the very last word will be created from my mind, with the help of others, i.e., Allegra Print and Imaging, Children's Aid, and Andrew Safer,

The outcome of this three-week project will be to give *The Voice* a shell to work with in the future. This project will show me and others if there is a demand for this type of magazine called *The Voice*.

-Lucas Kreft

Halifax Voice

On July 1st I went around Halifax asking youth about themselves and about Halifax. I went around downtown Halifax, and there was no lack of youth on the streets. There were many in fact; they were all celebrating Canada Day, like the rest of the country. After an hour I had surveyed 43, and by the time I finished I had spoken to 135 youth, ages 14 to 20! The survey included questions ranging from their age, to the best place you can get coffee. Here we go!

The streets were flooded.

People were wearing everything from a Canadian flag cape to a maple leaf

on their forehead. I went up to a few individuals asking for a few minutes of their time. It looked to me like they had time to spare, sitting down watching the festivities, their noses covered with sun screen. I am doing all of this to get a knowledge of youth

and their issues for future ideas for *The Voice*.

I asked the youth if they were employed and 93 said they were. Of them, 66 are full time for the summer. Seventy-two are in high school, 22 have graduated, 13 are in post-secondary school, and 12 are in junior high and 16 dropped out. In the HRM, there are 64,243 youth aged from 0-18. That's 17% of the population of 377,900 citizens, as of 2003.

This indicates that youth seem to be in a good situation with their education. They realize that education is the future. Amy Hall, 20, said:

"I've seen many people fail in their life because of a lack of education, that's why I'm at my second year at Dal."

Chris Reid, 18, said:

"I quit school in grade 11 because I thought it was stupid, and now I have a job at Sobeys."

With education a key to success in the future I often dream if I'll be a CEO of a major company or if I'll be jammed into a 4x4 cubicle thinking, why did I pick this job where

I have artificial light pounding onto me for seven hours a day? With that as an example poured into other youths' minds, most of them told me they were optimists, with a few pessimists trying to convince me that Bush Jr. is going to start WWII. All of the 135 told me their future, if they control it. Some want to travel the world, find a cure for cancer, be an actor, play in the NBA and get off probation. With all of that in mind, I realize that I'm not the only person in the world who dreams for success.

I went on to ask them: "What's holding you back from your dreams?"

They responded by giving various answers.. John Smith 16, said:

"Drugs were keeping me back because I got depressed and lost family, quit school. So now it's going to take a long time for me to get back at par."

Some other responses were from peers, not knowing where

to start, receiving no help from others, and being lazy. This told me that youth

realize their problems;

some need influence to get started, while others are having their own

adventure, and it will take time to get results.



-LK



TOP 25 IN HALIFAX

25. **Best sports team**
Halifax Mooseheads



24. **Best corner store**
Needs

23. **Best city trend**
Biking

22. **Best Chinese food**

Kings Palace; What to get: salt and pepper squid (Mmmmmm)

21. **Best Movie in**

theatres

Spiderman 2

20. **Best cup of coffee**
Second Cup

19. **Best cheap haircuts**
First Choice

18. **Best not-so-cheap haircuts**
Head Shoppe

17. **Best place to play pool**
Dooly's

16. **Best video rental store**
Blockbuster

15. **Best place to get married**
Public Gardens

14. **Best place in Halifax**
Waterfront

13. **Best bank**
Royal Bank

12. **Best Halifax success 03'**

Co-opportunity durring Hurricane Juan

11. **Best Halifax success 04'**

" White Juan

10. **Best spa**
Summit Day Spa

9. **Best gallery**
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia
Best place to get a slice of pizza
KOD

7. **Best Donair**
Mia's Pizza

6. **Best place to get road rage**
Armdale Rotary

5. **Best news**
CBC Canada

4. **Best project in Halifax**
Harbour Cleanup

3. **Best reason to stay in Halifax for a bit longer**

The smell of the air

2. **Best street**
Spring Garden Rd.

1. **Best way to meet people**

1st place: Walking, 2nd place taking the bus

-LK

Warning: These horoscopes were not professionally done!

Aries: You have an outgoing attitude. Summer is finally here, and it's time to take that sweater off and jump in the lake. Who cares what others think, you'll show 'em by your cannon ball.

Your lucky days will be on the 11th and 17th.... Good luck!

Taurus: What's under the hood doesn't impress the ladies; it's the person driving the car that they pay attention to. Stop joyriding with your friends, and take a walk. You'll get more attention that way.

Lucky days 3rd and 16th

P.S. – Bet it all on red.

Gemini: Summer is your favourite season; you're happy with the life you live. You've been meaning to do something in the last two months, but haven't had the time to do it... Show 'em what you're made of, Tiger!

P.S. – On the 17th, think positive thoughts, for it shall come.... If you think hard enough!

Cancer: You feel a little bit down. Turn that frown upside down. You've been going through a few rough times lately. Friends and family are there to back **cont'd. on top...**

Another Day In City Hall

On July, 8, 2004 I got a chance to talk to the Mayor of Halifax, Mr. Peter Kelly. I had a chance to meet him in his office in City Hall. As the Mayor, he is the big cheese. He's the



-The Mayor and myself

you up; just accept their help. If you're happy on the other hand, keep up the good work. You're doing better than half the rest of us!

Go away from your usual routine on the 22nd. Use that day to escape.

Leo: There is this commercial that comes up in my mind when I think of you, Leo. I'm thinking of the Viagra commercial, where the music is playing, and the actors have the biggest smile on their faces; nothing can stop them...now! Where's your smile, Leo? Not enough romance, is that it? Every human needs romance; it's part of every human's genetic makeup. It's time you get romantically happy. You've been thinking of that, haven't you?

Romance: Needs more improvement. 13 is an unlucky number. But for you, it's the teen equivalent of Viagra.

Virgo: Are you looking for money, Virgo? If so, call 1-800-save-your-money. Please don't call that number, but I hope you get the picture. Money is a problem in your life right now... so what you have to do is Lotto 649! You might think I'm cracked, but that's not what you'll say when you don't buy the ticket and find out your numbers **cont'd. on top...**

one who makes the decisions around the HRM. From his decisions and the public's, he makes what Halifax is right now. Excellent job, Mr. Kelly! (on the behalf of the citizens of HRM).

While interviewing the Mayor about youth issues, he told me about his past, and how he screwed up in life and turned his life around. It was very inspiring. At that point I wanted to give him a hug and call him Pete. With his busy schedule, it was time to go.

This was the first time I met the Mayor. He has a very humorous personality. He answered my questions without rushing, and showed awareness of my issues about youth. He also offered future sponsorship of *The Voice of Youth in Care*—the Newsletter that inspired *The Voice of Halifax*. Once again, thanks Mr. Kelly. You showed that youth do have a voice. -LK

that you normally pick, won, and then you think that Mr. Horoscope Guy was right. Take my advice now before it's too late.

What, you want me to predict numbers for you? You think I'm THAT EASY? Yeah, you're right.... 4, 11, and 23. You pick the rest.

Libra: Time has finally caught up with you. Libra, you have done what you planned to do and you shall be rewarded in the future. It might be one week or it might be the rest of your life... Only you will know.

Scorpio: Summer is here. Don't be next Ebenezer Scrooge that stole everyone's summer. In other words, share the wealth. Wealth is more than just gold and silver; it could be a glass of water on a hot day. If others were in your possession they'd do the same.

Sagittarius: The almighty "horoscope guy" sees a problem in your relationship with a significant other. You're trying to be the dominant one, when that's not good at all. Talk and share because that's your answer to fix this problem.

Capricorn: I see you going man places in the future. Do what you have to do to get the job done. As an example, look at this column like it's Dr. Phil. I'm helping the many readers who read this column. My work will be done even if it touches only a single person.

Aquarius: From your sign you must like water. Heck you're an Aquarius, if you don't like the Di-hydrogen oxide, go somewhere where there is no water, or just wish hard enough that you could be born a month later so you'll be another sign.

Pisces: The last one of the bunch... Would you like me to say you're happy, or maybe you'll meet the mate of your dreams? I've had it up to here (top of my head) with this horoscope column.... I'm getting so angry right now I need something to calm me down... Maybe that's what you need. I think I'll read the Leo horoscope.