

A 13-year-old is facing charges of break and enter and trespassing at night after police say two male youths were spotted in the backyards of the 7000 block of Churchill Drive at 1:30 a.m. The 13-year-old is due in court at a later date. METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

EARTH DAY The Halifax Regional Municipality is holding several events to recognize Earth Day tomorrow. Beginning at 10:30 a.m. on the Dartmouth waterfront, HRM will be hosting a stroll between the Dartmouth and Woodside ferry terminals, encouraging people to take a quick break from work and enjoy the fresh air. Festivities will continue with a community bike ride at noon, back and forth from Grand Parade to Dalhousie University's new bike centre. Before the bike ride, HRM Mayor Peter Kelly will announce \$1,000 in funding for the Ecology Action Centre's community gardens initiative, for soil and supplies. In addition to the funding, HRM will also help build a potato tower at Findley Community Centre in Dartmouth. Less delicious than it sounds, a "potato tower" is a vertical structure that houses a potato garden, cutting down on the real estate required to grow the tu-

bers. Festivities will round up with an interpretive nature walk at the Adventure Earth Centre in Flemming Park from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Groups will depart from the AEC in small groups for 45-minute walks, and then return to the AEC for local and organic refreshments. **ALEX BOUTILIER/ FOR METRO HALIFAX**
PLEA A Belmont man accused of stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from three district health authorities has pleaded guilty to three charges. Cary Lee Hollett appeared in provincial court Monday on three counts of fraud over \$5,000. Late last year the Annapolis Valley, South Shore and South West Nova health authorities reported that \$400,000 was missing from their joint accounts. Hollett was employed as an accounts payable clerk at the time. He will be back in court July 21 for sentencing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Faster, bigger, stronger

Scotiabank Blue Nose Marathon keeps growing, on pace for record numbers again

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The Scotiabank Blue Nose Marathon is on pace for yet another registration record.

With this year's annual event still a month away, there are already 3,836 adults and 315 youth signed up, roughly 1,000 more than had registered at this time last year. The Blue Nose has increased its numbers each year since 3,500 turned out for the inaugural run in 2004.

Last year, a record 8,073 participated.

"We were aiming for a total of 9,000 and we're well on our way," said Lauren Leal, co-chair of the event's marketing and communications committee.

"We're actually over target."

Leal said organizers aren't sure what caused the early success but suggested contributing factors could be the warm early April weather, extra marketing and a popular



Runners take off from the start line during last year's Scotiabank Blue Nose Marathon. The Blue Nose has around 1,000 more runners signed up for the marathon compared to this point last year.

Facebook group with almost 2,000 members.

"It's very exciting and it's proving people in Halifax love to run and almost feel like they're missing out if they're not taking part," Leal said.

"We can't pinpoint what's causing the in-

crease but it's certainly incredible."

The youth run is on Saturday, May 22, in Halifax, while the half and full marathons and five- and 10-kilometre events will be held in Halifax and Dartmouth on Sunday, May 23.

Blue Nose

Marathon runners by year

- 2004: 3,500
- 2005: 5,200
- 2006: 6,300
- 2007: 7,000
- 2008: 7,800
- 2009: 8,073

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Haligonian filmmaker headed to Cannes

FILM Up-and-coming Halifax filmmaker Noah Pink says he's "thrilled, humbled and excited" to take his 44-minute hip-hop movie ZedCrew to the Cannes International Film Festival next month.

Pink, 26, will screen the movie in the festival's Directors' Fortnight program, where Quebec wunderkind Xavier Dolan made a splash last year with I Killed My Mother (J'ai tue ma mere).

"Gosh ... I don't use the word 'awesome' lightly, but it's pretty awesome," Pink said in a telephone in-



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Filmmaker Noah Pink on the Cannes International Film Festival

terview.

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ZedCrew examines a group of urban Zambian hip-hop musicians trying to make it to New York City. When one of them, Hong (Alvin Fungo), can't get an entry visa, he finds

an alternative solution.

The genesis of the film came about as Pink was about to leave home to shoot a promotional documentary for an NGO in Zambia. He spotted a news story about six stowaways discovered arriving in Halifax.

He went on to shoot ZedCrew in Zambia last June.

Post-production was done in Halifax and a version of the movie was screened at the Atlantic Film Festival, but Pink says Cannes will be the "real premiere."

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