



Thursday - Saturday

"A Tribute to the Police"

Platinum Blonde

All Next Week

Straight from Montreal

CRAZE

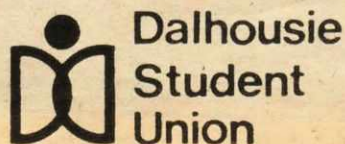
Dalhousie Student Union

Applications are now being accepted for the following non-counsellor committee appointments. Try your hand at

Communications
Entertainment
Constitution
Finance
Discipline
and Interpretation

Forms and information may be obtained in the Student Council Offices, Room 222, SUB, or contact Susan McIntyre at 424-2416.

Appointments will be made at the Council Meeting on Sunday, April 17 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.



Leader of crippled student organization cynical and sad

by Glenn Sanford
for Canadian University Press

VANCOUVER — Almost a year and thousands of miles ago, cops wielding billy clubs herded Brenda Cote and 200 other students into the pre-dawn New Brunswick snow. It was 4:00 am Easter Sunday, and Canada's most dramatic student protest in a decade — a week-long occupation of the Université de Moncton administration building — had just come to an abrupt end.

Two months later Cote was elected to chair the new improved national student organization, the fledgling Canadian Federation of Students.

Now she's sitting on a sunny Vancouver porch, a couple of days after the federation got creamed in membership referenda at the University of Toronto and the University of Victoria.

It's a warm, West coast day — a perfect time to relax after a week of playing politics on the road; a perfect time to forget for a moment she's the leader of a crippled organization.

But a reporter from the student press is there, poking at her with questions about the fate of the federation and asking her to describe a year of frustration as a stifled leader of the student movement.

"I wouldn't have gone for CFS chair if I had known the year would have been like this," she says. "I had such high hopes when I started. Now I'm just so cynical."

Cotes is a francophone, grassroots-style activist at the helm of a mostly anglophone, top-heavy organization of moderates.

Cote was elected on the activist ticket. She was president of the Moncton student society and played a large role in organizing the U de M occupation, an angry

response to a proposed 25 per cent tuition fee increase. Twenty-eight people were arrested while others, like Cote, were permanently expelled.

"I thought the occupation was supposed to be a leading point in organizing direct actions on campuses around the country. But even the most progressive people freak out on Moncton. CFS had made no attempt to recommend that kind of action."

In fact, CFS has tried to stifle discussion of the Moncton occupation. At its August meeting, the



Brenda Côté, chairperson of the CFS national executive

federation's Central Committee passed a motion that Cote could not speak publicly about the occupation. Cote has ignored the motion but it typifies the alienation between her and other leaders of the federation.

"Instead, I had to put my militant interests aside for a year and play chair for a year."

And during that year Cote has watched student councils across the country swing to the right. "CFS right now has lost all its militants.

They're with the unemployed.

"If the student population is becoming more middle class, then getting organized doesn't matter to them. These people will always have education because they're the ones who can afford it.

"If people are waiting for the effects of cutbacks to happen they're blind — or bourgeois."

Cote says if CFS is to survive and remain politically relevant it must become more high profile. "People want to turn CFS into a lobbying organization and are hoping to get a high profile through that. Lobbying is important but you've got to go further." She sighs and suddenly looks tired.

"When you're always talking in another language..." she starts. "I don't know, it's hard to explain. I just don't want CFS to become a friggin' bureaucratic organization."

She insists there is still hope for CFS. She says the organization must become more vocal and outspoken if it is to capture the imagination and support of students. She admits the federation is currently bogged down in internal structural debates and has isolated itself from students.

But despite a frustrating year at the top of such an organization, Cote's eyes still sparkle when she talks about Moncton.

She has been permanently expelled from the university, some of her friends now have criminal records, and Moncton students have just elected a right-wing executive for their student council — including the education minister's son. But while the council takes a right-wing line, other students have started organizing an anniversary march to celebrate last year's occupation.

"I'd do it again any time," Cote says. "I'll do it again."

Commerce society opens it up

by Elaine Mosher

A last minute referendum forum packed the SUB Green Rom with Commerce students at noon on April 6, to hear the pros and cons of buying a society house through student fees.

The referendum asks Commerce students to support a fee increase of \$20, from \$10 to \$30. The increase is broken down into \$17 for a house, and \$3 for general society revenue.

Leanne Todd and Mike Solway championed the "yes" side, urging students to approve the increase in fees to get a house fund rolling. A large sum is needed to negotiate with the administration they said.

More students will take part in society functions, both academic and social, if there is a house as a focal point, they said. To back up the legitimacy of their appeal, Robbie Shaw, Vice President of

Finance, gave his support for need to get a large sum of money up front, before negotiations can begin between the administration and students over a future purchase. Shaw stated in a memo that a house was already set aside with the Commerce Society in mind.

The 'no' side represented by Paul Morris and Mike Kayes, did not agree with the need for a house, but felt other fund-raising activities are more appropriate than an outright fee increase. They cited the Law students as a case in point, where significant funds were raised.

Morris said sources of funds were Alumni and the business community.

The 'no' side agreed to help fund-raising, whatever the outcome of Wednesday's vote.

One commerce student posed the question of how the \$17 figure was determined. The 'yes' side said it

just seemed to be a good figure.

The current Commerce House is being reclaimed by the administration to generate more revenue. Commerce students voted on Wednesday, April 6.

Commerce Society Referendum Outcome

Yes 179

No 147

Male pill a far-off dream

MONTREAL (CUP) — A male birth control pill may not be developed for another 20 years, according to one of the inventors of oral contraception for women.

"All the women in this audience will probably be past menopause by the time a male pill is available," said Dr. Carl Djerassi in a discussion on "The Bitter Pill" at McGill

University March 14.

He said a 'once-a-month' pill for women is closer, but this would probably be an early form of chemical abortion, making it illegal in Canada and the US.

Djerassi listed the necessary features in a contraceptive:

- a focus on women;
- not to be involved with coitus;

- not requiring medical back-up;
- easily applicable;
- not requiring literacy.

A male pill would have to have the features of rapid onset, reliability and reversibility, said Djerassi.

"And if it were a libido enhancer as well there's no question that it would be a success."