

Action Potential Probe

"All talk - no action"

by Dorothy Wigmore

Physical education and recreation officials were put to the test Wednesday, March 18 by Dalhousie physical education students.

Action Potential Probe, open to the public, was organized by students, to find out the whys and wherefores of questions affecting their profession.

Probing for the students were Dilly Partridge, Nick Murray, Terry Lindon, Jerry Smith, and Howard Jackson.

Answering the questions were: Jim Bayer, chief physical education consultant for Nova Scotia; Steve Cooke, director of physical education for Halifax; Clare Buckley of the Halifax YMCA; Jim MacIntosh, physical education director for Dartmouth; Greg Donovan, youth commissioner for the province; and Jesse Dillard, Halifax Recreation Commission.

It became evident as the night went on that Halifax people were not quite so eager to get out and help supervisory groups, as they were to complain.

Dillard assured various questioners that if they were willing to supervise a group of kids in a gym, they only had to come to him. If they were unsponsored, the gym would be free. At present the gyms are being used for many events and groups, he added.

In Dartmouth, more gyms were open and more parents supervise groups.

All the panelists agreed that the physical educator's load is heavy, so that parental help would lessen their burden. More facilities and equipment are needed, but the problem is money, and staff explained MacIntosh and Donovan.

Physical educators have to do more to sell their job, said Donovan.

"Unless we as a profession and everyone else in the community can find the time, facilities and leadership for all students," said Bayer. "I think our profession is on the way out."

Money was a big topic. Miss Partridge was critical of the department of education's giving money for amateur sports.

Bayer replied that reconsideration must be given to

the placing of recreation and amateur sport under the department of education.

Murray was critical of the way recreational money was handed out to local municipalities with no direction given to the way it should be spent.

The department of education provides money and consultative services to schools, and suggests aims and programs, explained Bayer.

"I think that in fact, if public monies are to be used for physical education, certain standards must be met," he added. "If local area is not going to go along with progressive programs, we don't have the authority to say 'build or else'. We should."

Bayer challenged the audience, echoing the feelings of many present. "We have got to come together," he

said: "I'll arrange a place before the end of May. Let's see who turns out."

The Action Potential Probe committee will be there, said the organizer, Bonnie MacKenzie.

It is hard to say what will come of the probe.

Miss MacKenzie was satisfied with the meeting. "I think we achieved our aim to let people know about things," she said. "Action Potential Probe can't do any more. Right now, I think it's up to the community to do anything more that has to be done."

A member of the audience, however, charged that Halifax's chronic problem is talk. No one ever takes any action.

"You won't hear anything else, he said, 'til the community gets up off their backends and does something'."



Greg Donovan

Jesse Dillard

Members at large appointed to SC

by Dorothy Wigmore

Two law students, Barrett Halderman and Don Gibson, were appointed members at large by the Students' Council March 30.

They were chosen from eight applicants after Council decided that members at large would be appointed, not elected by the general student body. Halderman presented two major suggestions for Council to deal with during the new year.

"I would like to see something really concrete done in housing," said Halderman. He suggested that the Council could make more use of CMHC and the rent control bylaws in the city. He agrees with what Council has done so far about housing.

Halderman's second major suggestion is a legal aid centre on campus for all students who have, or think they have, a legal problem. This would run five days a week, about two hours each day, he suggested. It would supplement the legal aid program law students provide to the community.

"I think if Students' Council really goes to work on these kinds of things, they'll steer clear of the problems they had last year - from the outside it looked like a grand farce," he added.

Gibson is concerned with making more and better use of campus facilities.

"The MacInnes Room is sitting there often empty on weekdays; There's no reason that it can not be used by organizations for meetings during the day," he said. These include outside groups, as well as campus organizations.

Better planning of classes all over the campus would ensure there is one time when no classes are being held in any faculty. This would mean that when meetings were held, people could attend them, Gibson stated. Scheduling of campus events should also be better planned, he added.

"I think of all the things they could be using the building (the SUB) for," said Gibson. "We should make better use of our facilities and communications".

Education and community

Encounter invites bitching

by Dorothy Wigmore

The parting remarks of the "Encounter" experts were, "now, you can do it yourself".

Educational people decided to take up that challenge and have organized an educational encounter, something the original "Encounter" missed.

Entitled, "The Educational Experience and its relation to the Community", it takes place today (April 6) at 8 p.m. in the MacInnes Room of the Dal Student Union Building.

The meeting will be as informal as possible, said Andy Winstanley, one of the resource people for the meeting. "We want people to stand up and speak". Briefs will be restricted, he added.

Open to the public; "it's an invitation to come out and bitch", said Winstanley. A panel, made up of parents, teachers, administrators government and student representatives, will be chaired by A. Findlay MacDonald.

"The most important thing it will do is get things out - for the community to come in here and say they get nothing out of this building, and 'you're milking us for it', explained Winstanley.

Dalhousie briefs will be presented by Action

Potential Probe and Winstanley, on behalf of the Council.

The encounter is being planned and run by the Volunteer Economic Planning Council.



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