

Letters to Gazette

Dalplex dilemma

To the Gazette:

As a graduate of Dalhousie, I have followed with interest the progress of the new sports complex on South Street.

When I visited Halifax on Monday, Dec. 3, I made a point of visiting the building.

At the information desk I was informed that neither my admittedly expired student card or alumni card entitled me to view the new facilities. I could buy a membership or be signed in as a guest.

Since I don't live in Halifax, I have no intention of buying a membership which I wouldn't do without a tour in any case.

At that point, a gentleman nearby generously offered to sign me in. The lady at the counter revealed that guests must pay a \$3.00 fee.

As it happens, I could no more afford that fee than the requests for donations to the building fund which the administration keeps sending me.

So I thanked the gentleman and left, somewhat surprised and more than a little angry.

I realize the need to regulate traffic but I am annoyed that the rules have denied me

the opportunity to even see the new complex, particularly in light of my years as a student at Dalhousie.

Sincerely,
Michael Garden
B.A. '75

Congrats to Medical Soc.

Dear Editor,

I would like to take the occasion of this letter to

congratulate the Dalhousie Medical Student Society for the initiative they have taken to bring Doctors John and Lyn Billings, of Melbourne, Australia, to Dalhousie University. The Society is bringing to the university two people who are internationally known for their discovery and development of the Ovulation Method of Natural Family Planning.

I think that the Medical Students should also be commended for the efforts made to share these quality people with the community at large. They have done this by making possible a public lecture to be given by the Billings at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, January 19, at the Cardinal Cushing Auditorium, Mount St. Vincent.

Again my congratulations.
Sincerely,
Father Joe Hattie, O.M.I.
R.C. Chaplain Dal

Round 5!

To the Gazette:

I'd like to take this opportunity to respond to the letter by Ms. Janet Mrenica contained in your last issue. I must admit that I am surprised to see that Ms. Mrenica feels that the elected students leaders in this province are not concerned about "student's rights" or interests. This contention is especially odd since Ms. Mrenica herself was an elected student leader at Mount St. Vincent and chose to resign to join the "students-at-large".

Most student politicians run out of a sense of concern about the events occurring around them and sacrifice a

good deal in the way of time, energy and academic performance to address those concerns. If Ms. Mrenica still has a sense of concern about student issues maybe she should make these clear to the students at the Mount and put her money where her mouth is!!

Sincerely,
Dick Matthews
President
Dalhousie Student Union

Nato article misleading

To the Editor:

In reference to the article on NATO plans to deploy new missiles in Europe in 1983 (January 10/80), views expressed that public debate is necessary are justified. However, inaccurate information as a basis for discussion, and the initial presentation of only one side of the argument, offend my sense of fair treatment.

Soviet post-World War Two strategy has emphasized the co-ordinated use of tactical nuclear weapons with a strong conventional force to create and exploit breaches in the opposing defenses. To this end, short-range missiles have been deployed. As well, in intermediate and medium range ballistic missiles are positioned to strike NATO targets

far behind the lines, such as airfields and vital communications centres. The introduction of the SS-20 means that a missile ten times as accurate as the much older SS-5 Slean and with almost twice the range, and a three warhead MIRV capability, is now in the Soviet arsenal. Compared to the SS-4 Sandal, the SS-20's specifications are even more impressive.

To counter this Warsaw Pact superiority, the Pershing II and Cruise missiles would provide NATO with the same type of medium range nuclear striking power, which the Soviets now possess. The Pershing II, for example, is extremely accurate (to within 25m), and its nuclear warhead is actually less powerful than that dropped at Hiroshima. Therefore, badly-informed disarmaments "experts" are opposing the introduction of a missile system which would decrease civilian fatalities, compared to present obsolete systems. The Soviets ostensibly opposed the enhanced radiation warhead (neutron bomb) on the grounds that it would increase civilian fatalities (falsely), whereas the knew it would blunt their wa effort. Their exploitation of the democratic process to weaken NATO was successful.

Lastly, the opinions of disarmaments activists such as Kaplan and Scoville do not hold water. Kaplan's statements that the introduction of new NATO missiles would

increase our vulnerabilities are incorrect. They do not agree with existing Soviet doctrine. And the so-called "nuclear umbrella" over Europe means that a Soviet battlefield nuclear action must be countered with very high yield strategic weapons.

Therefore, the introduction of new NATO missiles is increasing our safety, not the opposite. I hope that public debate in the near future will occur, and that it will enlighten people as to the true purpose of the NATO decision.

Sincerely yours,
A.H. Sandstrom

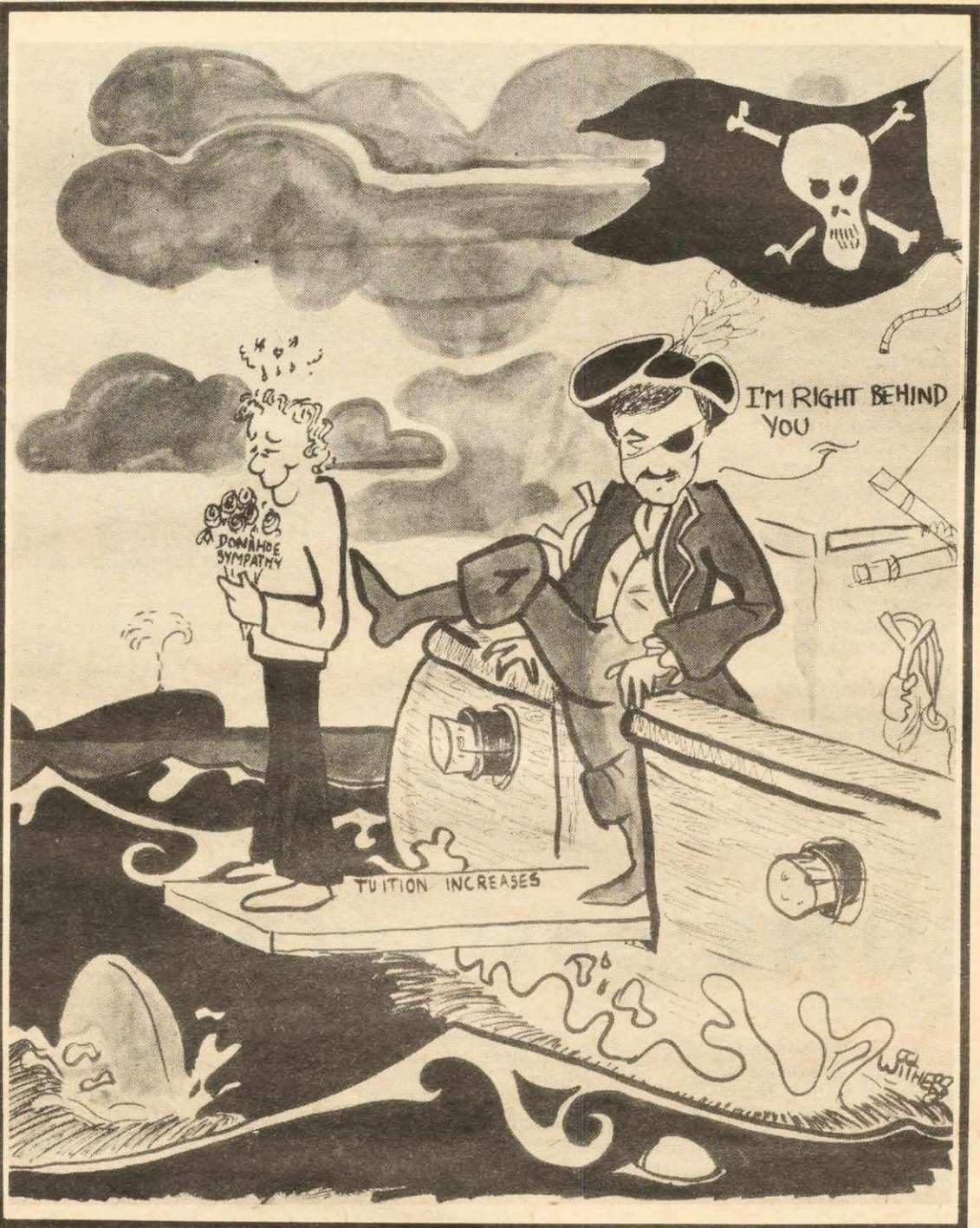
Students quiet by choice

Dear Editor:

The Gazette's editorial last week deserves a response on behalf of those students who took part in the process of selecting a new President for the University. The Presidential Search Committee had a student who was, in fact, endorsed by the student body in the person of the Vice-President of the Student Union, Graham Wells.

The students of this university were also involved in the process of meeting and evaluating the "short list" candi-

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the Dalhousie Gazette

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