

Halifax Good for Big Brothers

By Mike Greenfield

It is not surprising to find that students generally make poor Big Brothers. The hectic, antic life of the student makes the commitment of classes often too much of a burden. However, students in Halifax have proven to be an exception to the rule. In fact, as a group Halifax student Big Brothers have done better than any other students in North America. That is one reason why the Big Brothers of Dartmouth-Halifax are especially interested in placing fatherless children with Dal students.

According to Ronald Stearn, a former Director of Big Brothers, the value of the volunteer "...lies in the volunteer's personal readiness to give love, in combination with the expectation to receive love in return. This makes the children feel valuable and valued, lifts their self-respect, and permits socialization and acculturation." Although the Big Brother cannot fully replace the role of the father, he is expected to be that precious and

necessary commodity-friend.

This concept of friendship has grown rapidly. The spread of the Big Brother program from one man in 1904 New York to over 200 agencies across North America stands as testimony to the success of the program. In 1969 the Big Brothers of Dartmouth-Halifax got started. It has steadily grown to where it now services about 140 boys. But further growth means more volunteers; with a waiting list of 90-100 kids there is much room for expansion.

However to be a Big Brother takes a strong commitment. The volunteer should plan to spend about 4 hrs. a week with his Little Brother. These 4 hrs. can be spent going to the movies or taking the kid through the park. They try to match you up to a child with similar interests. The object is to spend those 4 hours having a good time while getting to know the kid. These hours could be as good for you as it is for him. Even though it is often hard to see that far in advance, the Big Brother should plan to stay with

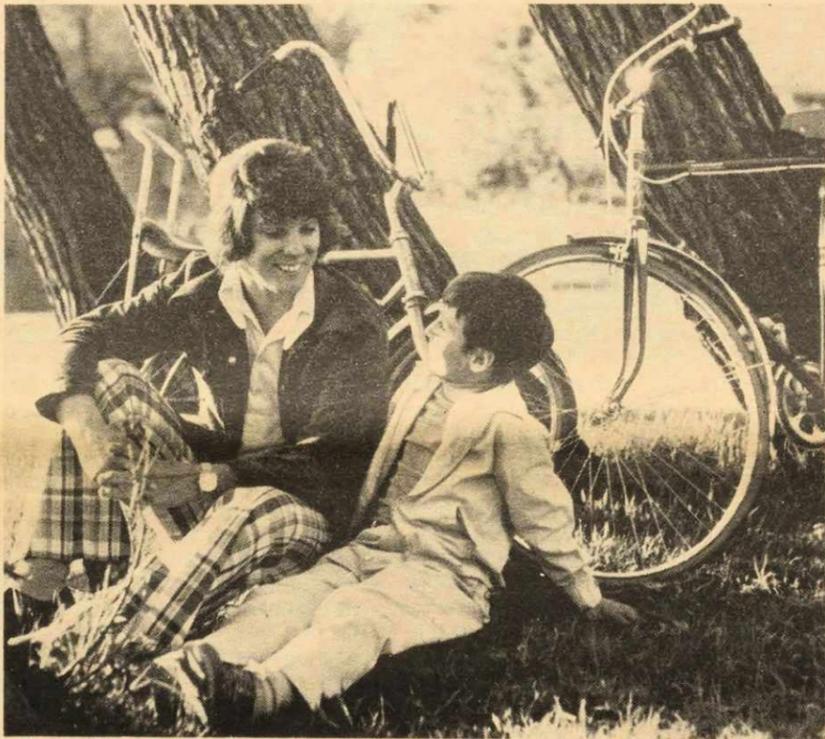
the program for at least a year.

One misbelief that should be dispelled immediately is that Little Brothers are all problem children. The fact that he is in the program simply means that he is fatherless and the mother feels that a Big Brother can give him something that she, as a working mother, cannot always provide.

Usually students have been noted for their poor performance as Big Brothers, generally lasting only about 6 months in the program. However in the Halifax-Dartmouth

area, Christine Deeble of Big Brothers informed us, most of the students last well over a year. At present there are about 15 students from Dal and St. Mary's operating as Big Brothers.

So if you're over 19 and interested in befriending a fatherless boy contact the Big Brothers of Dartmouth-Halifax. The telephone numbers to call are 466-3818 or 469-3389. If you're a female and interested in becoming a Big Sister contact the YWCA.



Percentage of Change for Boys with Different Types of Problems

Type & Agency	Date	Number Studied	Positive Change	Percentage No Change	Negative Change
Boston	1962	90			
Academic Performance			64%	33%	3%
Peer Relationships			58%	41%	1%
School Behavior			56%	35%	9%
Home Behavior			37%	56%	7%
Anti-Social Behavior			29%	54%	17%
Hawaii	1970	135			
Very few problems			100%	--	--
Minor Problems			100%	--	--
Moderately severe problems			96%	2%	2%
Severe problems			84%	8%	8%
Very severe problems			60%	20%	20%

Whales

Cont'd from page 8

of British Columbia, Oregon, Washington, and California. These studies included not only the whale, their major concern, but to her creatures of the ocean and air, intricately woven into a most complex pattern, ensuring the continuation of a living balance on this planet EARTH.

The Greenpeace vessels have investigated an underwater range of sea mounts, stretching from about fifty miles off the northern tip of Vancouver Island, in a great arc, extending to Baja California. Much to the dismay of the crew, they discovered what their ecologist, Dr.

Patrick Moore, classified as a "biological wasteland". Captain John Cormack, who has sailed these waters for forty years, remembers a time, when there were whales and birds from horizon to horizon. "the whales used to come up to the ship, like big puppies," says Capt. John.

That foreign fleets of fishing and whaling vessels, have been negligent in their respect for the delicately balanced marine eco-system, has become obvious to Greenpeace, and the Canadian Government, and has resulted in a motion on the floor of

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Sir James Dunn Theatre, 8:30 p.m.
Free Recital

October 16 **Great Romantic Composers** includes Brahms, Mendelssohn, Schubert.
Dalhousie Piano Trio
Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

October 30 **Flute, Oboe and Bassoon Recital** by Jeanne Baxtresser, Peter Bowman, David Carroll.
Sir James Dunn Theatre, 8:30 p.m.
Free Recital

November 9 **Cello and Piano Recital** by William Valleau, William Tritt.
Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, 3:00 p.m.
Free Recital

November 17 **Mass in Time of War** includes Haydn: Sinfonia Concertante, Griffiths Poem.
Dalhousie Chorale
Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

November 20 **An Evening of 20th Century Chamber Music** includes Ravel, Damasse, Haieff, Carter, Poulenc, Vaughn Williams.
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December 4 **Hommage to Ravel — Centennial Year** includes violin sonata, violin and cello duo, trio.
Dalhousie Piano Trio
Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

December 8 **Christmas Concert** includes Schutz Christmas Oratorio, J. S. Bach Magnificat, and Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols".
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