## **Student Council antics**

by Blair Dwyer COUNCIL NOTES

Here are a few interesting tidbits from last Sunday evening's meeting of Student Council:

Allan MacHughen, Lunch Bucket #1 of last year, dropped in from Oxford University and chatted with Lunch Bucket #2 of this year, Sheilagh Beal. Whether or not they came up with any plans to overthrow SAGA Foods could not be determined.

As well, the Dalhousie Student Council Knitting Circle gained another member Sunday night. Founder of the Circle is Sheriff Hall Representative April D'Aubin, who at most Council meetings so far this year could be seen, placid and passive at her Council seat, knitting to her heart's content. The second and newest member of the group is Pharmacy Representative Judy Van Dine. Ms Van Dine, it must be said, is not the confirmed knitter that Ms D'Aubin is -- at least, not yet. Ms D'Aubin made excellent progress on what appears to be the start of a glove or mitten; it's still too early to tell for sure, but it is definitely not a gavel cover for Chairperson Sandy Ball, as has been speculated for some time. Perhaps the article is a glove for one of her constituents, but that's another matter. Hopefully, how-ever, the knitting craze will not spread to other members of Council --at least, not during Council sessions.

In somewhat more serious vein, Arts Representative Fred Schmidt is to be commended for his effort to work out a reasonable solution to the question of emergency funding for the Atlantic Federation of Students. Council was polarized very strongly on the matter, into those who wanted to give the AFS \$1000, plus a loan of \$1000 (total Dalhousie contribution: \$2000), and those opposed to such a large contribution from Dalhousie coffers. With the latter group plainly in the majority, it was easy to see that the

motion was on its way to defeat.
It was here that Mr. Schmidt made his commendable suggestion. Not wishing to see the AFS completely rejected by Dalhousie, yet seeing no need for Dalhousie to make such a large contribution to the emergency funding, he proposed the following very reasonable compromise: that Dalhousie grant the AFS \$250, plus a loan of \$500--in all, a sum of \$750. Since the Federation would be approaching the 12 other Universities in the Atlantic Area (Mount St. Vincent has already granted \$1000) AFS could very easily obtain the \$7,500 it needs to survive until the Spring Referendum on fee structure, simply on the basis of a \$500 loan or

## Euthanasia practised

WINNIPEG (CUP) -- Euthanasia, mercy killing, is now regularly practiced in Canada Dr. David Skelton revealed at the University of Manitoba recently. Skelton is from the department of geriatrics at St. Boniface hospital here.

Both active euthanasia, acutally taking the life of a suffering patient, and passive euthanasia, not striving to maintain a life, are practiced, he said.

An example of active euthanasia would be administering "marginally high" doses of morphine to patients in great suffering. This can be defended on legal grounds while still producing the desired effect -- a quick and painless death. Technically, it was pointed out, this is first degree murder.

Passive euthanasia is much more common. In consultation with relatives of the patient, a decision is reached on whether a terminally ill patient should be resusitated upon suffering a relaps of any sort. A special notation on the patients' chart indicates that resusitation is not to be undertaken should the patient be near death.

"We're all in favor of euthanasia," Skelton said, if the word is taken in its literal sense, meaning "good death." However, the question of exactly when, how or by whose decision euthanasia should be performed remains unanswered. According to Skelton, the Canadian Medical Association has no formal position on euthanasia at present.

## Engineering 'fun' Engineers funny

To the Gazette:

I was really surprised to see the letter written by an anonymous Gazette reader, last week (2 December 1976), referring to the so-called 'Hyjaking' of our paper by the Engineers. Doesn't he (or she) have any University Spirit? The Engineering Society is one faculty, at Dal, that would like to keep the spirit alive by holding onto its fun and traditions.

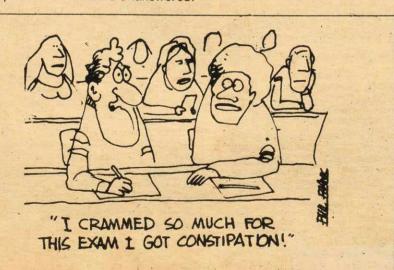
I certainly would not say that they defaced the Dalhousie Gazette with their stamp. Their purpose was to announce one of the most successful formal events on campus, in a fun-lovingly traditional way.

This year's Ball, which was open to all Dalhousie students, was a great success with good music, fantastic atmosphere and lost of fun. As an impartial Biology major, who enjoyed the Ball (to say the least), I would like to congratulate the Engineering Society on the successful evening and say "keep up the tradition".

Jan Harwood (Bio 2)

P.S. Was the anonymous writer on the Gazette Staff, by any chance?

Editor's note: No.



## Comment

Comment is an opinion column open to members of the university community who wish to present an informed opinion on a topic of their selection.

grant from each of the other Student councils.

Unfortunately, Schmidt's proposed amendment was defeated. Once the amendment had been defeated, it was as plain as day that the original motion was also going to be voted down. Had Bernie MacDonnel accepted the plain fact that his motion in its original form was not going to be passed, and gone for the amendment, it is

possible that the AFS would have received some emergency funding from Dalhousie. The end result, though, is that the AFS must now go to other Atlantic area University Student Councils with a complete rejection from Dal on their hands-exactly what Fred Schmidt's Amendment would have avoided.

At least you tried, Fred. It's nice to see that someone can keep their cool in a heated debate.



