



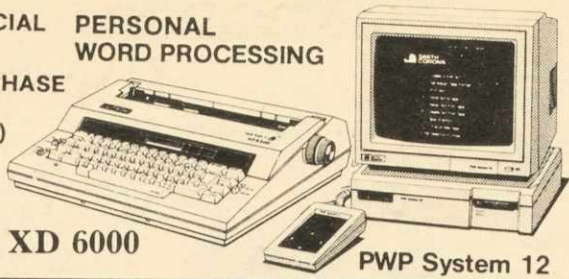
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While cuts abound DSU plans renovation

by HEATHER HUESTON

The Student Union is due for some changes in layout, said the Dalhousie Student Union, and now it's up to the students to respond.

The proposed renovations, at a cost of \$500,000, would create additional meeting room and a new basement-level Grawood with a dance floor and expanded seating and food service. There is a verbal agreement for Beaver Foods to pay for half the cost of the new food service equipment. The changes are in response to complaints about crowding and the size of the pub. Sandra Bell,

DSU Vice-President Internal, said she expects positive student feedback at the information meetings next week.

Despite the fact that more students are heading for downtown bars, DSU general manager Andrew Beckett said the main reason for improving the Grawood was not just increase revenue. "It's for a better utilization of space, not how we can make X amount of dollars," said Beckett.

The DSU has been negotiating Beckett denied that the Grawood loses money. "The Grawood makes \$15,000.00-\$20,000.00 a year" said

Beckett.

since late February for the university to secure a bank loan which the DSU would then pay off at a lower rate of interest than the Union could get on its own. "We want to be supportive if the deal is reasonable," says Vice-President of Finance and Administration Bryan Mason, "but the DSU still has to sell it to us and we have to sell it to the Board."

Beckett feels the SUB deserves the money. The DSU will continue to address student issues but there are "controllable and non-controllable factors," he said. "We can make sure the SUB is not run down."

Int'l students get together

By GEOFF STONE

International student leaders and students from Nova Scotia universities met this past weekend in Halifax, to discuss how they could have a stronger voice in international student issues.

The main issues of the conference dealt with practical concerns common to foreign student including problems with visas, work permits and campus services.

The delegates were also concerned about involvement of all students in the international community. They felt that domestic students, universities, and government are ignorant of the problems facing most international students.

Seminars for the conference included discussions on immigration, student services and a role playing workshop on how to organize students if the government raised differential fees.

But organizers were disappointed with the involvement of Dalhousie's international students, and its participants came up council rep, who organized the conference along with Tack Wong, had hoped that the students would show more interest in solving the problems they now face.

O'Brien hopes the conference will unify many of the separate international student societies into a stronger force.

Delegates were also concerned about the information that they receive from universities and government in Canada. "The problem is how administrations see international students," said one participant. They discussed many cases of students being left in the cold without accommodations and help when they arrive at university.

Delegates at this conference say they hope it will give the push needed to get apathetic or fearful

foreign students to speak up for their rights.

Also it is hoped Canadian students will get more involved in the international issues. "Politicians listen to domestic students, the politicians need their support to be elected."

The conference set up an Atlantic International Student's Association and got people from each campus responsible to send information to new students, along with the pamphlet sent by universities.

At Dalhousie, international students have begun organizing an international students' council, which would give a stronger voice to foreign students than the present International Students' Association.

A rough constitution has been drawn up by Dalhousie's International Students' Association and it is in the process of being approved by the different international student groups on campus.

ANC rep blasts Botha

by TREVOR GREENE

While social, economic and cultural strife continues to rage across South Africa, one person says the only problem to be confronted now is the racial policy of apartheid.

Yussaf Salooje, the Canadian representative for the outlawed African National Congress, spoke at King's College last week. He says the crimes of apartheid must be stopped before normalcy can return to his country.

Salooje says there are two sides to the South African story. One is the South African regime's story and the other is the truth about the crimes against humanity being committed.

"The United Nations has stated that apartheid is a crime against humanity. South Africa today is a country that the international community should be ashamed of," he says.

However, he says the massive, grinding poverty suffered by the rural South African blacks is the real crime of apartheid. Salooje says five black babies die every day in South Africa, a country rich in minerals and a world leader in agricultural exports.

He says the blacks have attempted to settle in 'shantytowns' in rural areas after being forbidden from living in the cities. The crude huts built from scraps are often bulldozed out of existence

and the blacks herded back onto desolate settlements.

Salooje claims it is the insidious, everyday things, however, that have been demoralizing the blacks and stealing their freedom for years, that is hurting their will to fight back against the oppression.

A living testimony of what apartheid can do is the case of a South African girl who grew up in a white home but was classified black upon entering primary school because of her physical appearance. She was taken from her parents and placed in a black foster home and attended a black school.

Salooje scoffs at the listless attempts at reform the government had made, including the repeal of the law restricting blacks from marrying whites. The law preventing blacks from actually living with whites, however, makes the repeal redundant.

"When we (ANC) say we are at war now . . . it is not because we love blood. We are fighting for peace. There has been war since 1652 and it must stop."

Salooje says in a violent society like South Africa, the only way to survive is through violence. He says in a country where police fired on mourners carrying white flags in an 'illegal' funeral procession in 1985, retaliation in kind is to be expected.

Salooje jokes that they are running out of rocks in Soweto, a black settlement infamous for bloody race riots. However, he predicts that black violence, already at a fever pitch, will escalate.

"If they have guns, we want guns. If they have grenades, we want grenades," he says.

Salooje says that ANC credibility has been hurt in world opinion by black violence against other blacks. He says blacks who inform against other blacks trying to organize resistance to white oppression can expect to be punished.

However, he says the gruesome method of 'necklacing' informers, in which a tire is placed around the person's neck and set alight, was banned by the ANC as a form of retribution.

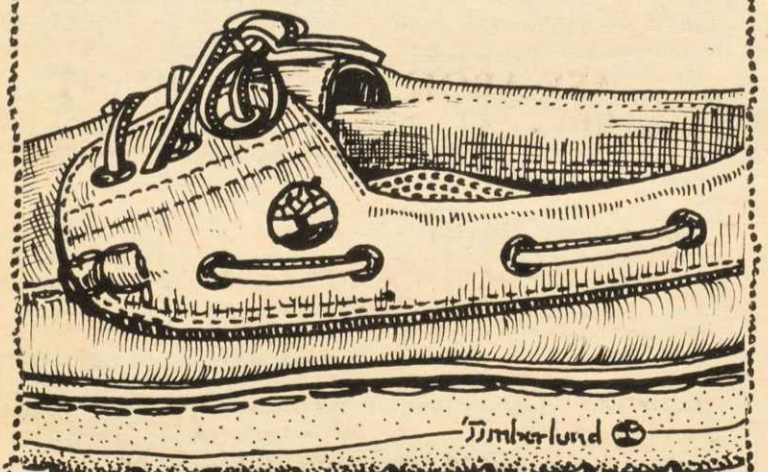
The ANC has drawn up a *Freedom Charter*, which calls for the redistribution of the land, wealth, freedom and civil rights for all South Africans.

Salooje says the charter is the antithesis of what is going on in South Africa now, where every charter of the United Nations rights charter has been violated.

He says it is hard for some South Africans to envision a future without apartheid. However, since 1960, when Nelson Mandela proposed armed struggle to fight oppression, Salooje says freedom is much closer.

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