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by Bobby Morrison

The Dalhousie engineering students made a splash with their "prank night" last Wednesday evening. Before the night was over, thousands of dollars worth of damage had been done, students were arrested and physical hazards to the public were set up across the campus.

A question of democracy

by Geoff Martin

"If we cannot achieve nuclear disarmament, we cannot achieve democracy."

Dr. Ursula Franklin of the Universary of Toronto stressed this last Friday evening in her discussion entitled "Public Perceptions of the Peace Movement" to a capacity crowd in the Killam's McMechan Room.

"We are facing a crisis in democracy in who makes decisions for us. The people of Toronto voted 4-1 for disarmament, yet the Prime Minister will not even see the Mayor of Toronto," she said.

Dr. Franklin, a Professor of Engineering, criticized Allan MacEachan, Secretary of State for External Affairs, for saying public opinion will not affect his decision on the cruise missle testing issue. "How can a Minister of the Crown refuse to listen to the electorate?" she asked.

For this reason Franklin suggested the peace movement must realize it is dealing with not only weapons, but with unresponsible authorities. "The present strength of the peace movement has come from the recent shift in priorities ... Perhaps we have the United States and Ronald Reagan to thank for

that," Franklin said.

"It is mad to think we can put so many intellectual and natural resources and weapons into an arms race within paying a price, especially in increased poverty and loss of jobs," she said.

"Thirty years of 'Cold War' has caused a loss in ability to think or talk about constructive things. This destributiveness has been institutionalized, resulting in more bombs rather than real solutions," she said.

Dr. Franklin also commented on the media's role in perpetuating hostility between states and people, citing the example of the Litton bombing which made the front pages of all the North American papers. "They never report on the peace movement, only this sort of violent action." she said.

"Nuclear weapons represent nothing other than blind rage. Civilization ought not to end in blind rage," Franklin concluded.

Engineers run rampant

Before midnight the statue of the boar on display outside of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia on Coburg Road was stolen. The statue's plexiglass encasing was broken and the boar removed. Bernard Riordon, curator of the gallery, said damage done to the display is in excess of \$2,000.

Halifax Police apprehended three people with the statue in the back of a half-ton truck. They were identified by Max Keeping of Dalhousie Security as "two male Dalhousie engineering students and a female from Mount St. Vincent". The gallery is proceeding to press criminal charges.

At 1:00 a.m. Dalhousie security guards were called to disperse about twenty engineering students who had congregated on the roof of the Dunn Building.

Because of their number and rowdy actions, the officer saw fit to merely disperse the students rather than attempt to detain them and obtain their names.

Damage done to the inside of the Dunn Building was estimated by Dr. E.N. Patterson, Head of the Engineering Department, to be in the \$300 range.

In the Engineering Department itself there were broken gyprock panels in the drafting area, fishing line was found tied across the top steps of staircases and name tags on many doors were switched.

Such "trip wires" were also found in the Life Sciences Building, the Killam Library, along walkways and across building entrances.

Dr. Patterson said he received further complaints from other departments the following Thursday morning. The Physics Department in the Dunn Building reported "minor equipment" missing. The Geology Department, in the Life Sciences Building, accused the engineering students of stringing twine "at decapitating levels" throughout the department.

Over the years, the engineering students have established a reputation as a group obsessed with having a good time through "harmless" pranks. This image, however, has been tarnished in the eyes of me t segments of the Dalhousie community due to last week's more serious pranks.

The trip wires caused the greatest concern. Peter Rans, Student Union President, expressed concern over the possible injuries that might have resulted had a blind or handicapped person tripped over such a line.

According to Keeping, one man did trip over a line in front of the Chemistry Building Thursday morning. He fell "flat on his chest" but fortunately was not seriously injured.

Dr. G.A. Klassen, Dalhousie University Vice President, echoed Rans' view, saying "things definitely got out of hand with the trip wires."

"I realize sometimes students need to let off steam, but if you're doing practical jokes, you should have sense enough to see that no real harm is done," said Klassen. He added the Administration has enough problems to deal with and does not have time to "act like a father to the students".

"Students should take over discipline within their own organizations to prevent such things from happening in the future," said Klassen. Dr. Patterson said he views the whole thing as regrettable, "It's good to have fun but it should be had in constructive projects," he said. He added it has yet to be determined what action will be taken by the University concerning the incident.

"When we get the reports from security we will meet with all parties concerned in the Dunn Building and determine what can and should be done," said Patterson.

He said one option being considered is the possibility of locking the Dunn Building after regular working hours. He added this would be a last resort, since students need access to the facilities after hours to complete their projects.

Patterson said he would much rather see "responsible engineering students provide security themselves during the evening in the Dunn Building."

Carrie Barnard, President of the Engineers Society, said the Society would be willing to consider such a possibility when the issue is discussed with the department.

What Barnard strongly objected to was "people pointing their finger at the Engineering Society as a whole" and not realizing it was "a handful of people" who did the damage.

Barnard also expressed concern about rumours she said had been circulating, to the effect that student council was considering taking away the Engineers' House in retaliation for the damage done last Wednesday.

Peter Rans firmly replied these rumours were false and had no basis. He said no such proposal was introduced in Council.

Rans added he and Council "are concerned over the incident because we want to make certain that any engineering student who wants to work is not prevented from doing so by the actions of other people."

UVic grievance procedure finally studied

VICTORIA (CUP) — On the even of accusations that a University of Victoria professor has been sexually harassing students, the UVic administration has finally set up a committee to examine sexual grievance procedures.

In early December, anonymous leaflets distributed around campus warmed women students that economics professor Ezra Mishan allegedly used his UVic office "to interview women for the purpose of using them as models in his home."

The leaflet said the modelling "may consist of obscene and degrading poses and may in fact be of danger to the women involved."

Student Wendy Warren told the Martlet student newspaper she went for an interview in Mishan's office. "Dr. Mishan said he liked to handle his models to a degree and it would be better if I enjoyed it," Warren said. "One of the last things he said to me before I left was 'well you brazen little hussy, I'll see you in a few days."

Warren said she decided not to model for Mishan.

Neither Mishan nor UVic administrators will comment on the charges. Mishan was out of town when the leaflets were posted.

Meanwhile, the UVic administration finally took action on a yearold proposal to examine sexual grievance procedures. A committee composed of students, staff, faculty and admnistrators will make recommendations for dealing with sexual harassment complaints on campus.