

Shinerama raises cash for cystic fibrosis research today

BY GAZETTE STAFF

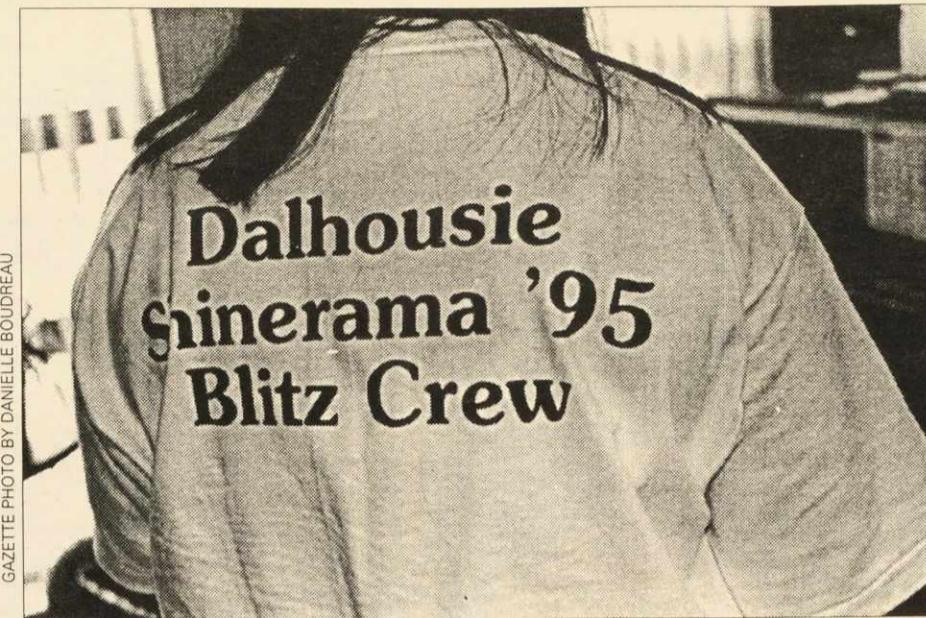
Shine a shoe, save a life.

That was the message at last Thursday's 6th Annual Atlantic Shinerama Press Conference held in the McInnes Room of the Dalhousie Student Union Building (SUB).

Today, the streets of Halifax will be jammed with first-year Dalhousie students who will be soliciting shoeshines in order to raise money for cystic fibrosis (CF) research and treatment.

Last year, over \$600,000 was raised by more than 20,000 students from 60 campuses across the country. Dalhousie's efforts totalled \$21,000 of the \$51,000 raised in Nova Scotia. This year, Shinerama organizers from the local to national levels are setting their sights even higher.

"Our goal this year is \$25,000," stated Bridgette McCaig, Shinerama Director at Dalhousie. "In fact, we have a challenge with the University of



Last year, Dalhousie raised a total of \$21,000 for CF,

New Brunswick in Fredericton. Whichever school raises the most money or reaches their goal, the other school will hoist their flag for a day. So please give generously."

"We've set the national goal at \$650,000," said David Ripley, president of the Halifax chapter of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CCFF).

Mr. Ripley spoke at length about the history of CCFF.

"It was founded 35 years ago and today is 53 chapters strong. Canadian schools started joining the fund-raising drive 31 years ago; this is Dalhousie's 30th year of involvement. The aim of the foundation is to improve the quality of life for young adults — the money raised goes to research and treatment for

CF complications," he said.

Robbie Thompson, a twenty year-old Queen's University student with CF, stressed the importance of fund-raising.

"Research enabled by money raised through efforts like Shinerama has facilitated great progress in the treatment and understanding of CF. The gene has been isolated to chromosome seven. This means that everyday we're getting closer to a cure or control. In the meantime, the money is important on a day-to-day basis for people with CF. I take over 50 pills a day just so I can eat. Each one costs about \$1.25 and that obviously adds up as the days and months and years go by."

Thompson finished, "To all the students participating — keep up the good work. Get the word out. Good luck and thanks."

The Gazette needs news writers! Come to our staff meeting next Monday at 4pm!

Tips for living off campus

BY JEN HORSEY

It's getting easier to find a home in Halifax.

If living on campus isn't your thing, and you're wondering where to find yourself a pad, the easiest thing to do would be to wander over to Dalhousie's Housing office, located on the fourth floor of the Student Union Building (SUB). There are listings up on a board of an assortment of places to live, and phones that you can use to call these places. In addition, there is a lot of information available for you: lists of temporary accommodations, leases, helpful sheets on how to actually look for an apartment... just about everything you'll need.

There are also additional listings available at other universities, though Dal's housing office is the most coherent.

Even at this time of year when students spill into the city looking for homes near the universities, there are still a lot of places out there. The horror stories of 1% vacancy rates are a thing of the past. Halifax is now a city with one of the higher rates in the country.

If you haven't lived off-campus before, here are a couple of things that you might find helpful in your new quest for independence:

Ask the person you talk to what's included. Electricity? Heat? Hot water? The place I'm living in now has electric heat and that puts my rent up by \$50-\$100 each month during the winter.

Where's the nearest laundry? If there isn't any laundry, think about how far away it is. This is important. You don't want to be lugging 40 pounds of laundry on a 15 minute walk in January. Trust me.

Groceries nearby? Same reasoning here as for the laundry.

Check to see that there's a shower. There are a lot of older apartments in Halifax that just have tubs, and no shower. Now if you're a bath person then that's not a problem, but it would drive me crazy.

Make sure that all of the doors lock. You'd be surprised...

Try to find out what kind of tenants live in the building. If you're a student with a powerful stereo, chances are, you don't want to be living with retired 80 year-

olds or a young family with babies on either side of you.

If you choose a place, but decide that you want to get additional phone service (a dedicated computer line or a line for your own room), the phone company requires that you get a letter of permission from your landlord. You might as well get that when you're signing the lease so you don't have to arrange it later.

For the most part, leases are for 12 month periods. There are the occasional places that you can get for month to month, but they tend to be few and far be-

tween. So, if you have a 12 month lease, you'll have to sublet for the summer, pay the rent yourself from wherever you are, or just stay in Halifax.

Keep in mind for the future that you have to give three months notice at the end of your tenancy, otherwise the landlord will automatically renew your lease for an additional 12 months. And that's a drag-and-a-half if you've got plans to move.

There are a lot of other things, but these are just a few that I've encountered in the past. Good luck, and happy house-hunting.

Those wonky utilities...

Phone: There's a three day wait if there was service to your residence previously and a 17 day wait if there wasn't. Basic Service is a \$30 hook-up charge plus \$19 a month for local calls. Phone rental is between \$4.65 to \$7.95 per month.

Power: Yes, you need power to run lights. There's a two day wait for hook-up. A deposit is required if you don't have a credit rating. There's a monthly base charge of \$16.42, plus 8.87¢ a kWh (kilo-

watt hour) for the first 400. Above that it's 7.98¢ a kWh. One kWh is equivalent to running using 1000W (say, ten 100W lightbulbs) for one hour.

TV: Basic cable (channels 2-13 and 23-32) costs \$12.89 a month. For channels 14-22 (including TSN and MuchMusic), it's additional \$6.99. Finally, channels 34-40 (Fox et al) can be yours for the low, low price of \$1.99. On the other hand, you could read a book for free.

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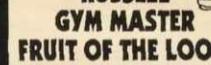
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