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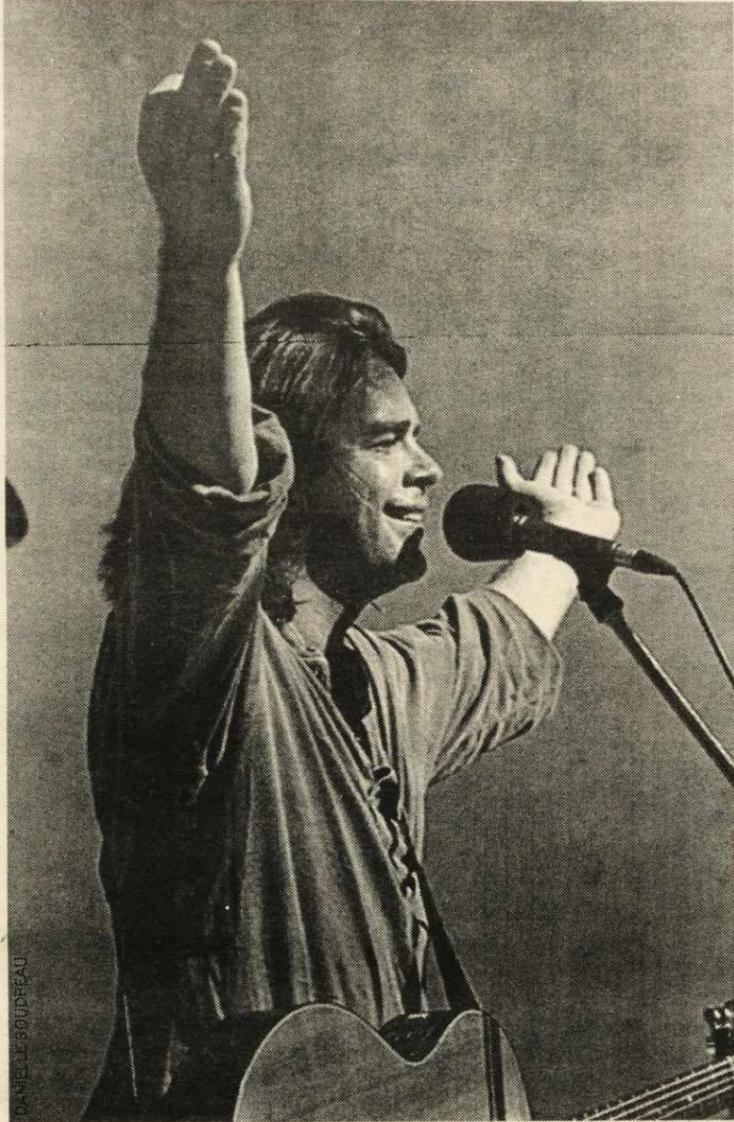
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Great Big Sea singer/guitarist Allan Doyle gestures to the crowd at Sunday's Ceilidh in the Quad. For more on the show see page 10.

Discharging Doctors

Senate makes it easier to dismiss Health students

BY JASON JOLLEY

A motion making it easier to kick out students studying in the Faculty of Health Professions was passed by Senate last Monday.

The new guidelines provide the health faculty with more control over the actions of their students. They allow the faculty to dismiss or suspend a student on the basis of being professionally unsuitable.

According to the guidelines, unsuitability may include being involved in a criminal act, alcohol or drug abuse, disability, or unethical behaviour.

Previously, students in the Faculty of Health were

subject to university regulations applied by the Senate to the entire university community. The new guidelines supersede these regulations.

Lynn McIntyre, Dean of the Faculty of Health Professions, stated that the aim of the policy

introduced by Senator Tim Lee (Faculty of Medicine), and reiterated by Duerr and Downey, was the possibility of student organized social events (i.e. pub crawls) falling under the guidelines.

To deal with this concern the regulations were modified so that

the spirit of the rules wouldn't affect activities not dealing with the practice of the health profession.

There were some at Monday's meeting who added to the debate by expressing their belief that disciplinary action by itself is not the answer.

Senator Bruce Archibald said that proactive

(i) a criminal act (e.g., assault, sexual assault, fraud, drug trafficking) which according to the established Faculty processes was determined to be of such a nature as to bring disrepute to the profession, or by which in the opinion of the Faculty, the student demonstrated poor judgement, lack of integrity or (other) unsuitability for the profession; or evidence that, on the balance of probability, the student had committed such an act;

(ii) being under the influence of alcohol or drugs while participating in client care, any other professional activity, or any activity related to the practice of the health profession;

(iii) in accordance with the provisions of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act, the occurrence of a health condition that impairs essential performance required for the health profession;

(iv) unethical behaviour as specified by the code of ethics/standard of practice of the health professions.

Dal Goes to Code Blue

BY AARON BLEASDALE

Dalhousie is installing seven security lamps to ease concerns regarding campus safety.

The system known as Code Blue will, at the touch of a button, flood the surrounding area with one-million candle-power of light and instantly connect to Dal security via intercom.

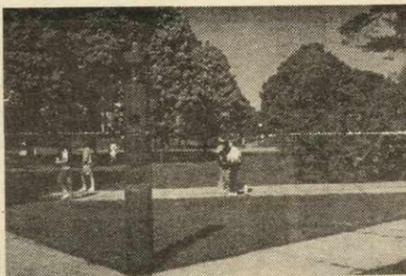
The nine-foot tall, midnight blue structures will be hard to miss. "We wanted something very obvious, so people would know they were there," explained Sandy MacDonald, Dal's Chief of Security.

This summer, on a moonless night, members of the Dalhousie Student Union, Dal security, and representatives from each of the faculties walked the campus searching for the meanest darkest, meanest areas.

Code Blue will be in the following locations: the A&A quad; Sheriff Hall, behind the Life Sciences Building; the woods between the Killam Library and Howe Hall; outside the Women's Centre; the Dalplex parking lot; the Tupper quad; and the parking lot behind the Dunn building.

The new system is the brainchild of the 1995-96 DSU executive who learned through student surveys taken last year that secu-

rity was a major concern. Although Katherine Hannah, this year's DSU executive vice-president, believes that "Dal already does an excellent job with campus security," she hopes that complet-



ing the previous executive's initiative will "provide a more secure environment for students."

Dalhousie is not the first Canadian school to adopt the new lights. MacDonald spoke to ten other institutions, most of whom have been "perfectly satisfied" with their systems.

Fifteen units have been purchased at a cost of \$150,000. This sum will be drawn from the \$300,000 raised through this year's Capital Campaign (the \$35 in extra fees paid by all full-time Dal students).

It had been hoped that the first seven Code Blue Lights could be in place by the first day of school, but minor logistical problems have pushed that date back to the end

of the month. The other eight are planned to be in place by the spring.

Misuse of the lights is the major concern for Dal Security. MacDonald is confident that if anyone does attempt to "tease the box" that "these things are vandal proof, and camera capable." The system is designed for emergency use only.

Although vandalism is also a concern, MacDonald is hopeful that the university's history of adroit behaviour will continue. Just in case, though, the lamps will bear the DSU emblem to remind students that they are a service provided for students, by students.

Four new pay phones will also be installed this fall. They, along with the other 124 pay-phones on campus, are emergency capable. This means you can dial "4109", without a quarter, and be connected to Dal Security.

The new phones will be located between the A&A and Wickwire Field, in front of the Killam, outside the Life Sciences Building facing King's College, and at the Dentistry building on University Avenue.

With the new security lights and extra telephones, the Dalhousie campus should be a much safer place this year.

is "to protect society, so that any individual who graduates from a professional program [at Dalhousie] will in fact be suitable to practice that program."

Dalhousie president Dr. Tom Traves agreed with McIntyre's views.

"Dalhousie has a social responsibility to the public to turn out graduates who are capable of working in their chosen field," said Traves. He added that in order to do this the faculty needs the measure of discretion provided by the new policy.

Most of the Senate agreed with the president as the motion passed by a wide margin. Not everyone was fully supportive, however, as student representatives were very sceptical of the guidelines.

Tyrone Duerr and Doug Downey of the Student Advocacy Service worried that the allegation of a criminal offence could be grounds for dismissal based upon what the guidelines call "balance of probability." The faculty does not need a reasonable doubt before taking action but needs only a slightly better than 50% chance of guilt.

McIntyre defended this aspect of the policy saying, "The notion of reasonable doubt is not appropriate...when safety is concerned."

Another point of concern in-

measures should be taken to tackle any difficulties students may be having. He thinks it's better to help people when they first make mistakes rather than wait until the problems get out of control.

This sentiment was echoed by Senator Daniel Clark who stated: "I worry that by creating a hostile environment for people with problems like alcoholism and drug abuse...we are teaching these people that their diseases are morally unacceptable and [they will be] therefore kept in the closet."

"Learned patterns [of hiding their illness] will develop and strengthen over the years to the point where we will have lawyers going to court drunk and surgeons entering surgery high on crystal meth. By creating a more hospitable and nurturing environment we can solve these problems before they get out of hand."

Asked about the possibility of giving suspensions to students in the hopes of rehabilitation, McIntyre said that the university does not have the capacity to offer rehab to students.

In order to enforce the new policy, any member of the university community may report unsuitable behaviour to the Directors of the Faculty, with an investigation of the allegation to follow.