

Rant & rave...

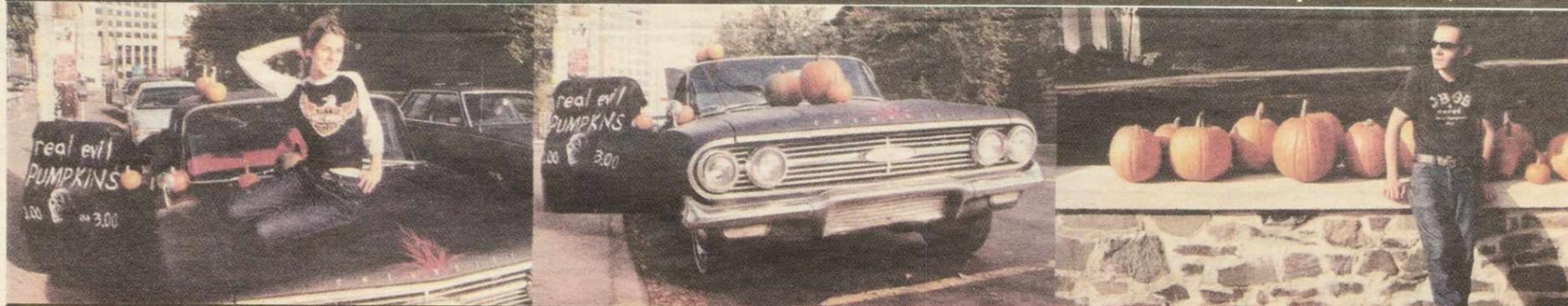
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THE GAZETTE

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Thursday, October 21, 1999.



When veggies go real bad: they get sold off. Real evil pumpkins for sale on Spring Garden Road.

photos by Robin Kuniski

21st annual Take Back the Night March a success

Halifax residents march in unison

BY SALLY THOMAS

It wasn't just a walk down some city streets on a Friday night. Over 200 women, men, and

children met in the Grand Parade to pay tribute to women hurt or killed, and to ask for safety in their streets.

It was the annual Take Back the Night March.

There were different people at the march, everyone from professional women to mothers with children, older women and several teenaged girls. One woman said she brought her toddler daughter to the march in hopes that she would grow up in a safe society.

Before the actual march, there were speakers and singers who warmed up the chilled crowd. After more than an hour of song and speeches, the march took place.

Although men attended the pre-march festivities, they were not allowed to march in the streets with the women. The men respected this and walked on the sidewalks instead of with the wives, sisters and friends they came with.

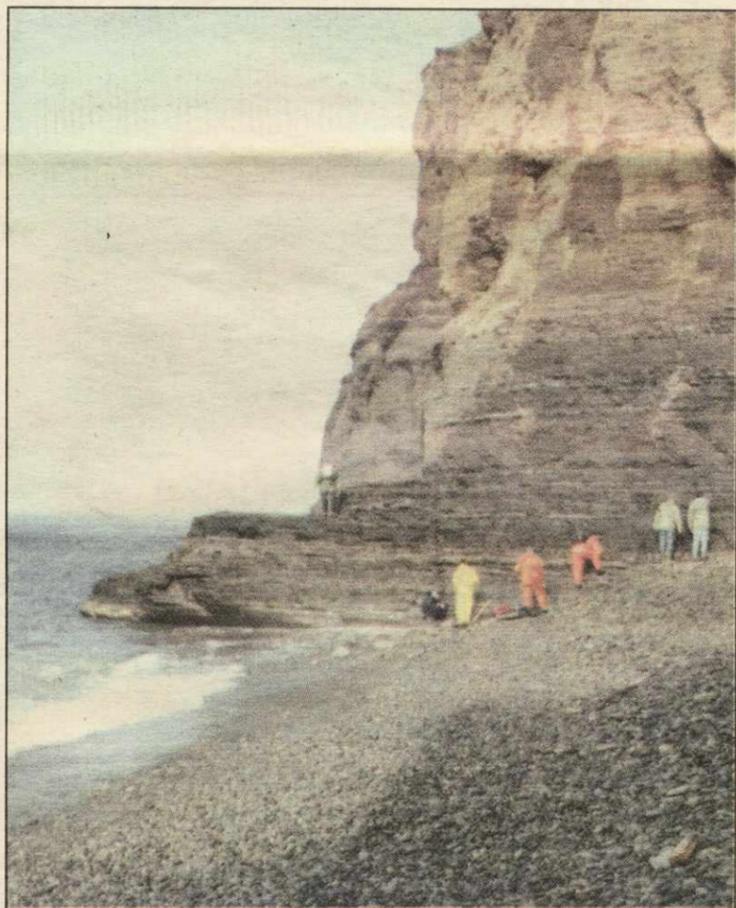
The march was escorted by police and went along Argyle

street. They chanted slogans like "no more patriarchy, no more shit" and "yes means yes and no means no".

Patty Thompson, director at the Dalhousie Women's Centre, organized the event. She says the march was a success and is still necessary 21 years after the first march. Thompson says the march

gives women the space to come together and talk about safety issues.

Women who went to the march say they were there to show support for victims of abuse and to stand up for themselves. They wanted to be able to walk the streets without threat, and walk they did.



On the rock: the Atlantic Undergraduate Geological Conference goes to Newfoundland. See page 5.

SUB renovation complete

BY AMY DURANT

There are more places to sit, stand, run and more now that the construction on the Student Union Building is completed.

Some Dal students remain happy with the changes, while others simply can't decide how it's different.

But it is different.

After two months of construction, the front entrance of the SUB is finally complete.

While the job was only expected to take three weeks, construction time was delayed because of a workers strike.

Despite the added time,

Dalhousie Student Union Vice President Brian Kellow says he is happy with the results.

"It looks a lot better," said Kellow. "There's been some really positive feedback, I haven't heard anything negative about it at all"

Kellow said they changed the layout of the entrance for both safety and aesthetic reasons.

"We thought it was really ugly and a bad use of space," he said.

He was also happy with the construction because it was within the budget.

"We were actually under budget," said Kellow.

Canadian universities attracting more women than men

BY LISA WHITTINGTON-HILL

PETERBOROUGH, ON (CUP) — The majority of university students in Canada are women, according to a new report on education by Statistics Canada.

According to the study, in 1996-97 approximately 55 percent of the full-time undergraduate students enrolled at Canadian universities were females.

During the same time frame, almost 60 percent of bachelor and first professional degrees granted, and 51 percent of all masters degrees awarded, went to women.

The number of doctorates earned by women increased from 1,000 in 1992 to 1,335 in 1996.

"Women are no longer being told 'you can't go into that field,'" said Megan Garipey, women's commissioner for the Canadian Federation of Students, Ontario division.

According to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), women account for more than 75 percent of enrolment growth over the past 15 years.

Between 1975 and 1992 the participation rate for women aged 18-21 at Canadian universities nearly doubled.

At the local level this translates to some surprising figures.

At the University of Regina there is a disproportionately large number of female graduates.

During its spring 1999 convocation, there were 886 female graduates in contrast to 479 male graduates. This follows last year's spring convocation at U of R that saw 925 female graduates and 547 male graduates.

Betty Donaldson, a University of Calgary professor in the Faculty of Education, attributes

the female enrolment rise to an increased interest among young women to pursue a career.

Donaldson, who is also a Board member for the Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women, says guidance counselors and high school teachers may be encouraging more women to enter traditionally male-dominated fields, such as engineering and medicine.

But while women may be encouraged to enter engineering and science, getting in is not always the hard part.

"My friends who are in the sciences feel like they're a huge minority and that they constantly have to prove themselves to be as good as the boys in the class," said Trent University student Krista Everett.

Female students entering

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