

Benefit film to raise money for aid to Cuba

Showing at Wormwood's Cinema on Sunday, October 25 at 2:00 pm, is a benefit presentation of the Cuban film *Hello Hemingway*. Proceeds will go towards the "Milk and Medicine For Cuba Campaign," which is being coordinated by the Nova Scotia Cuba Association. A special guest appearance will be made by Maida Royero, the scriptwriter, to answer questions on this award-winning 1990 film. The following film review ran in the *Dalhousie Gazette* during the 1991 Atlantic Film Festival:

by Angel Figueroa

Cuban film-maker Fernando Pérez, director of the award-winning film *Hello Hemingway* at the 11th annual Atlantic Film Festival, describes his alluring film as an affinity between the influences of his father, his wife, and a deeply touching theme found in the classic short novel, *The Old Man and The Sea*.

"My father was a great dreamer. At one time he wanted to be an astronomer. At another time, a geographer, and also a film director. But all he could ever become was a mailman, due to the economic reality of Cuba at the time. This film is dedicated to him, and to all those who have a dream in life. But it is also a tribute to Ernest Hemingway and his universal message: *a human being can be broken, but never overcome.*"

Sentiment such as this is not new to Pérez, reputed as among the most acclaimed of Latin America's newest film-makers. His sole other film, *Los Clandestinos*, is a gripping portrayal of Cuban students organizing the urban rebellion against the dictator Batista. *Hello Hemingway* lies on a less political vein, yet the intuition and insight into human emotion remains omnipresent, uplifting, and forever touching. Based on a short story by Maida Royero, his wife, *Hello Hemingway* won best picture at the 1991 Festival of New Latin American Cinema, and tied for two awards at the 1991 Atlantic Film Festival here in Halifax — one for 'best script-writing' and one for 'best leading role.'

Such awards are indicative of the magic and beauty of a film that offers a lucid glimpse into the vibrant, passionate island which for decades has been hidden in obscurity due to the ominous blockade by the United States. As a mesmerizing opening sequence convinces you that this film will offer more than just slices of Cuban life, a story unravels to touch your entire being.

Dreams and an undying ambition are what take hold of Larita, a spirited but poor young girl who is trying to finish high school and win a scholarship to attend university. While doing so, she is prompted by an aged book-seller to read *The Old Man and the Sea*. Caught in the throes of first love with Victor, her boyfriend, she is also at the same time touched by the sad story of Santiago the fisherman. But her ambition to study abroad and the effects of the revolutionary spirit tears her love apart, and she finds herself lonely and overwhelmed by the forces infringing on her dreams.

A new understanding of Hemingway's story then broadens her maturity. She undergoes a poignant transformation where she realizes the cruelty life can bring, and then finds a striking parallel between her and Santiago, as both must battle austerity, adversity, and what she fittingly describes as "bad luck." Broken but not overcome, a faithful diary and the security of a solitary ocean are what accompanies her as she comes of age in a world she realizes is unfair but which she begins to understand — a world in which she must

forge a new life, and where dreams will always be dreams.

Larita holds a sentiment found in all of us, one which we immediately recognize and eternally share. There is a grace of character forever glinting from her eye, one which discloses the deep core of her powerful being, one not unlike the quiet humility of Santiago himself. She is a sublime character that captures your spell and moves you to share her joys and tears, her pride and struggle. The beauty in her is what drives you to understand that dreams are but an element of the human condition; another is its tenacity and vigour, and ultimately the make of its own happiness.

Gifted acting by a cast of real-life characters present the vitality of Cuban social dynamics in all its fervour. This spills out of the screen and leaves you drenched with the passion and merriness of the distinct culture and lifestyle that Hemingway himself fell in love with. Coupled with an original photographic style, this film leaves you enchanted with an experience hard to find from Hollywood. An ethereal soundtrack interplays with the beauty apparent to Cuba itself, and what lingers in your mind are the vivid scenes of languid afternoons on the beach by an endless, emerald ocean.

Dreams are what Pérez himself once had, when at the age of 14 his father took him to the cinema for the very first time. There began a passion for the silver screen which has resulted in his second brilliant film. Aptly enough, it leaves you dreaming.

SAVE \$\$\$ **JACKETS** SAVE \$\$\$

Stylish Taslan Nylon Jackets at manufacturers's clearance price

Fantastic Savings Our Price Only **49⁹⁹**

This is just one of the Fabulous Savings

Shop Early Limited Supply
MARITIME CAMPUS STORE
 6238 Quinpool Road, Hfx.
 423-6523
 OPEN THURS. & FRI. 'TIL 8 P.M., SAT. 10-5 P.M.



FREE TUITION SECOND TERM

SECRETARY'S

"The Pub with a Touch of Class"

present Student I.D. for

Meal purchase
 (price includes Draught)
 Monday through Friday
 &
 Get Student I.D. # into
 box for the big draw!

Be the LUCKY STUDENT who won't be paying tuition second term!

only at

SECRETARY'S

Corner Sackville at Barrington
 below the Moon
422-7477

ALL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Letters

cont'd from page 6

don't you agree Ms. Niles? Again, the reality is that at no time was my leadership as the President of DAGS ever questioned up until the July 28th meeting when I resigned. It seems quite odd that the orchestrated "impeachment" proceedings spearheaded by Ms. Niles coincided with the successful introduction of the petition for the referendum. The real minutes will show that less than eight people attended that fateful meeting and of them at least four had an active interest in overturning last year's council decision. No wonder there were sour grapes. By then I realized that 5 or 6 people had persistently ignored due process and

basic democratic principles, and would continue to do so until their personal goals were met, I had no choice but to resign.

That is disheartening.

Adam Wellstead

Females for Frats

To the editor:

On behalf of the members of Alpha Gamma Delta, the only Women's fraternity on Dalhousie's campus, I would like to state my discontentment with an article which recently appeared in the *Gazette*.

Originating from Montreal, it warned women on campus to avoid fraternity house parties, thereby avoiding the possibility of being assaulted by

fraternity men. My problem with this assumption is twofold; it frightens women into steering clear of all fraternities, even those composed of women, and since many of our social and charity events involve collaboration with male fraternities, it may deter women from inquiring about Alpha Gamma Delta.

Your article was published during the first week of school, also known as "rush week" to fraternity members and it's the time we devote to attracting women to our organization. Negative publicity such as this is largely responsible for the image problem of fraternities.

Alpha Gamma Delta's Halifax Chapter believes in the positive motivation of its members by setting goals in the areas of scholarship, philanthropy, and leadership.

Fraternities are not all about parties and excessive drinking. This month alone we have organized a food drive with the Brothers of Sigma Chi to benefit the Metro Food Bank and a Halloween Party for the physically and mentally challenged children to be hosted by the Brothers of Phi Kappa Pi.

Of course we are concerned about the safety of women but to suggest that every female who associates with a fraternity is in danger is not only detrimental to the strengthening of our organization, it is untrue.

Donna Redmond

Publicity Chairperson
 Alpha Gamma Delta Fraternity

ROSWELL COMPUTER BOOKS

STUDENT DISCOUNT
 on thousands of computer books

1587 Brunswick St.
 (Cambridge Suites Hotel)

