

# EDITORIAL

## Cram for exams

IT SEEMS THAT AROUND this time every year students, especially first year students, begin to become more melancholy, nervous and exasperated.

This 'pressure' stems from the fact that Christmas exams are less than two weeks away.

It isn't any wonder that a lot of students drop out of university after Christmas when marks for their courses depend entirely on how well they do on these exams.

It is the general opinion that the first year of university is the hardest.

Students come to Dalhousie knowing this, but do they realize just how tough it's going to be?

From September to the end of November these first-year students get by doing the minimum amount of work, relishing the fact that, for a majority of them, it is their first year away from home.

Then the bombshell hits. It's time for Christmas exams and these people are so bogged down with work that suicide is one alternative given due consideration.

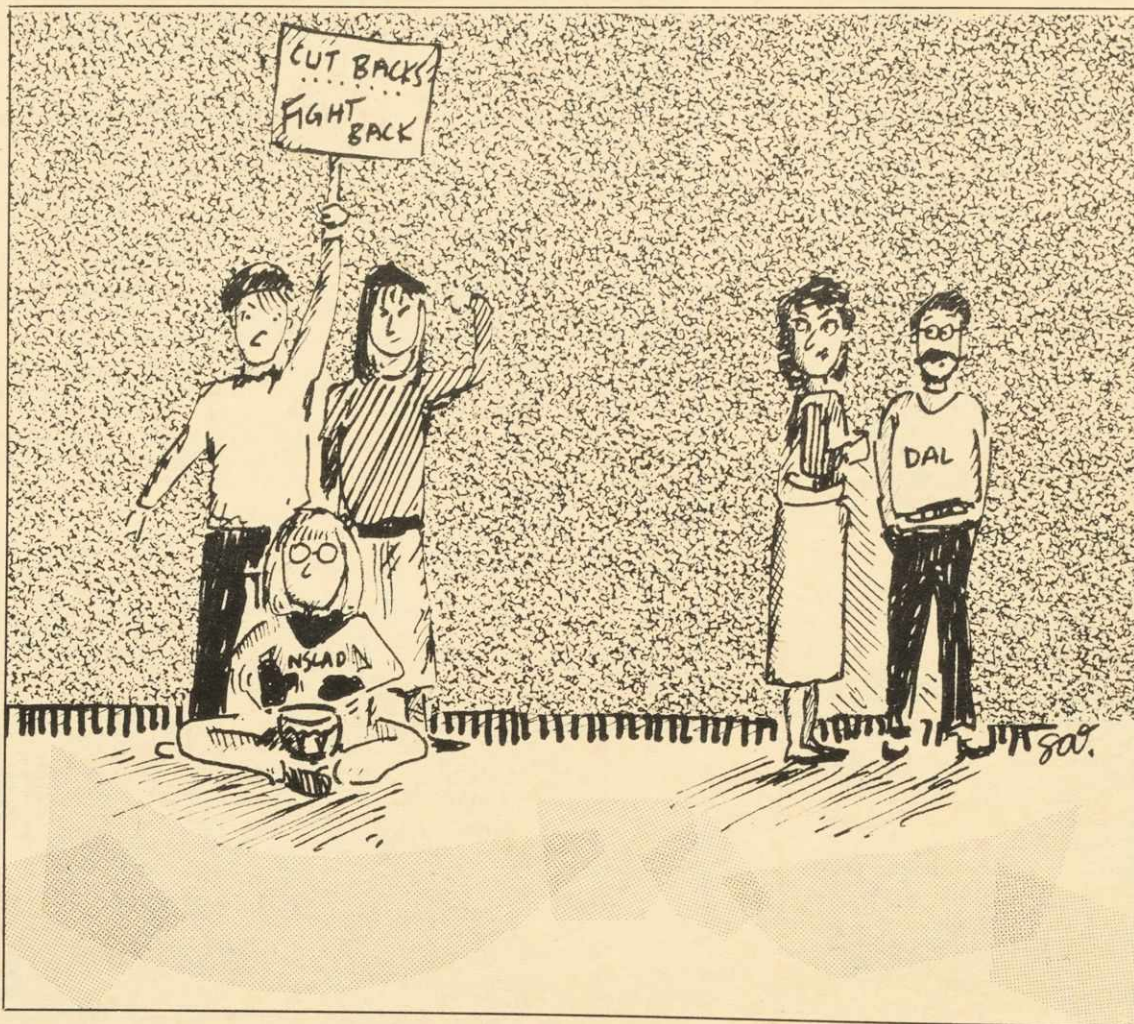
Some students work day and night and run themselves ragged so that by the time they write the exam they are so wiped out their brain malfunctions.

Others just give up until a couple of days before the exam when a sudden burst of energy, fueled by panic, comes over them and they attempt to cram everything into their heads.

The result of this is that the exams are taken in some sort of robotic state with the memory bank being erased immediately upon departure from the room.

Obviously what is written on the paper does not truly represent the student's comprehension of the subject.

To study a little bit each night from the very beginning, is sound advice. This, of course, is of no comfort to students now, but solace can be taken in the fact that there is life after Christmas.



## Not enough protestors

"HEY BRIAN, WE'RE CRYING, education is dying," was the chant of the crowd of students outside the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax.

They are not wrong. Cutbacks to education have been going on long enough. It is time to fight back, "hard".

100 students of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design attempted to fight back in front of the World Trade and Convention Centre. It was their demonstration and they wanted to do it for the rest of the students across Canada who could not be there.

Great. Wonderful. But where were the students from the other

universities across the city?

Nova Scotia students' concern for education is questionable, and Dalhousie students are no exception.

Reza Rizvi, Vice-president of the DSU, one of the few representatives from other universities at the demonstration, said it was bad timing because students had to study.

There was no information given to the general population of Dalhousie about the demonstration. Had the students been told about it well in advance they, too, would probably have come and demonstrated with the NSCAD students.

Dalhousie students pay the highest tuition fees across Nova Scotia. Don't tell us they would not have spared two hours from their day to express their concern about cutbacks to education.

It's a pretty lame excuse.

## Letters

### Thanks to students who participated

To the editors,

During the last week of October and the first week of November, over 130 students participated in the Dalhousie University 1985 Annual Fund Fall Phonathon. Through the efforts of these student volunteers, a total of \$74,231 was pledged towards the 1985 Annual Fund.

This student phonathon was the first large-scale fund raising project in which students participated and the resounding success is largely due to the enthusiasm of the participants.

The Dalhousie Student Union would like to thank all those students who volunteered their time and effort in making this venture such a tremendous success. A special note of thanks to the Arts Society, AIESEC, Commerce Society, DUNMUNS, Investment Club, Science Society, SAHPER, Theatre Sports Club and the Howe Hall Residence.

Without your cooperation and support this project would not have been such a resounding success!

Sincerely

Catherine Blewett  
President

Reza Rizvi  
Executive Vice-President  
Dalhousie Student Union

## Success

To the editor,

On behalf of the students of Dalhousie, the Students' Union would like to extend congratulations to Ian Hannomansingh and Cyril Johnston for their outstanding performance at the national Debating Championships. Ian and Cyril, both third year students and representing the Dalhousie Debating Club, stole the show at the Debating Championship held recently at the University of British Columbia.

Ian won the top spot in individual debating and in the individual public speaking competition. Ian and Cyril together were rated as the best debating team in the country.

A team of Dalhousie debators are now entitled to attend the World Debating Championship in New York and we wish them the best of luck.

Sincerely yours  
Catherine Blewett  
President

Dalhousie Student Union  
Reza Rizvi  
Executive Vice-President  
Dalhousie Student Union

## An alternative

To the editors,

The front page article "Alleged Rape at Acadia" in the Gazette, Nov. 28, raised some important issues. It's a good sign that WANTS (Women's Awareness Network Team Support) is showing their concern, and also that

## SNOW patrol

JAKE AND SCOTT HAVE AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR ...

MR. LOPEZ, ARE YOU SAYING YOU JUST ARRIVED FROM NEW YORK CITY BY SUBWAY?

SURE. I GOT ON AT WEST 52<sup>ND</sup> AND TOOK THE NORTHBOUND. LIKE I ALWAYS DO.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE MR. LOPEZ?

I CAN'T TELL FOR SURE IN THIS STORM. THIS ISN'T YONKERS IS IT?

YOU'RE IN THE FRANKLIN DISTRICT OF CANADA'S NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

THE ARCTIC.

THE ARCTIC! COME TO THINK OF IT, I DID HEAR SOMETHING ABOUT THE CITY BUILDING A COUPLE OF NEW LINES. BUT I THOUGHT THEY RAN TO JERSEY.

Joel