

Council fails to attract Sherriff Hall observers

by Heather Roseveare

Despite a hungover president, Dalhousie Student Council ploughed through its agenda last Sunday evening. Few came out to witness the ritual which was held at Shirreff Hall in an attempt to attract student observers.

Vanity prevailed as council initially passed a motion to withhold a \$300 grant to Dal Photo until the photographers completed the council picture board above the telephones in the SUB lobby. This masterpiece has been the victim of a moustache artist(s) of late.

Board of Governors rep, Geoffrey Seymour, demanded action be taken on the \$8000 debt owed to the Student Union by Domis Legis, the Law Society, for unpaid liquor bills.

Seymour feels this money can "almost be considered a loss." President Logan says liquor cannot be cut off to the lawyers as this is synonymous with writing off a bad debt, although he says the solution is "cash sales at least."

President Logan urged councillors to rescind a previous council motion to hold a stripper referendum during the March general election, hoping to call the question with minimal debate. Logan feels the referendum concerning the allowance

of strippers at SUB events would be useless as those parties in favour of the referendum (feminists, Newman Society) "seem less keen because they feel they won't win it."

Member-at-large, Robert Stanley, suggests a council policy concerning strippers should be developed. Graduate student Peter Rans believes the controversial nature of the referendum would "demean serious items at election time." The referendum should be more broadly based, according to Geoff Seymour, who suggested pornography as a whole should be put to the students. Science rep, Caroline Zayid, suggested further action be taken including the banning of pornographic magazines in the Dal Bookstore.

A suggestion to have a plebiscite instead of a referendum, which would be advisory instead of binding on council, was not accepted.

After much debate, this referendum will be held in March, as council voted against rescinding the original motion 6-14-3.

The referendum debate sparked the most profound comment of the evening, issued by Greg Fitzgerald. "This is a democracy," declared Greg, concerning the tolerance of a stripper referendum.

Council battled over the

motion to rebate the School of Social Work \$1000 although no agreement was reached. John Logan says he will take care of the matter on Thursday, as "we do everything arbitrarily on Thursdays." This lump sum would compensate the student union fees paid by the students of this school who do not use the SUB facilities.

The Dal Music Society was denied a request for \$440 towards its graduation ceremonies on the basis that their lack of funds was in the realm of administrative, rather than student union, concern.

However, the Dal Rugby Club managed to squeeze \$390 from council to cover a loss incurred from a club sponsored Hallo-we'en party last term. The council chairperson voted in favour of the grant to break a tie on the basis that council has a responsibility to protect its societies in all circumstances.

Science rep Dave Rideout feels that council should discourage itself from "giving bailing-out money."

John "Idi Amin" Logan offered to review the council honorariums himself as "every position (including the presidency) could use a raise." Logan reported that the Student Handbook is "worth next to nothing" and offered himself as hand-



book editor as a summer job.

Council procedures were loosely intact as complaints concerning the agenda led the chairperson to admit "The agenda was done properly, by the proper date, but not as well as it should have been." Treasurer Kevin Feindel's arrival halfway through the meeting caused a skirmish as to whether he was entitled to vote or not for the remainder of the meeting.

Vice-President Jim Logan expressed concern for the pres-

ent policy whereby "B" societies holding cultural events are entitled to one free McInnes Room rental per year. The Chinese Students Society, along with the African Students Society have both taken advantage of this "freebie" while the student union is left with the \$210 cleaning bill each time.

Ravagely "putting back" cups of coffee, John Logan often took time out to mutter pleas of salvation including "I can't remember the last time I felt this way. I'm ready for the hospital."

Mind control isn't grounds to refuse cult society status

MONTREAL (CUP) - The moonies have landed at McGill University and the students' society doesn't know what to do about them.

The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (HSA-UWC), one of the 120 names for the Unification Church, commonly known as the moonies, has applied to the McGill students' society for recognition as a student club.

According to Mike Kropveld,

rector of the Cult Project at McGill Hillel, the Unification Church "is a cult. It uses mind control to gain recruits, takes away their free will and basic freedoms, and works towards regression of the personality of the member rather than the growth of the individual."

Keith Hennessy, students' society vice-president internal, is responsible for accepting applications from groups asking for club status. Hennessy does

not believe the HSA-UWC should be given club status, but is unsure on which grounds they can be refused.

"We want a way to refuse them without being accused of discrimination on the basis of religion," said Hennessy. "I don't think there is some general rule we could use for cults."

"It will be great if we could say that you can't come in because you use mind control and other horrible stuff, but we can't prove these things. We might be able to refuse them on the basis of their proposed constitution, since their membership is not really open to all students," said Hennessy.

The association's proposed constitution states "individuals attending club meetings must display a sincere desire to exchange religious values. Failure to display such desire, or instigation of disruptive activities, will cause that individual to be barred from further meetings, which will be the coordinator's prerogative."

According to the constitution, the coordinator, the only officer of the group, has to be a member in good standing of the International HSA-UWC organization, and would present their ideas to the McGill group.

Kropveld does not believe the constitution's irregularities will prevent the group from establishing itself on campus, as the constitution can always be changed to meet the students' society specifications. He sees the only grounds for refusal being that the group's goal consists of removing students from

the university.

"They are a very destructive force on campus," said Kropveld, "but it's hard to nail them as a cult because recruiting isn't usually done on campus. The contacts are made there and then used outside the university."

At the University of Toronto a Unification Church group is a recognized student club, operating under the name of the Collegiate Association for the

Research of Principles.

And back at McGill, a recognized club called McGill New Age is associated with a cult led by Elizabeth Claire Prophet, according to the Council on Mind Abuse (COMA) in Toronto.

When asked if New Age should be permitted to retain its club status, Hennessy said the students' society "will have to get more information on this group."

Moonies peddle jewelry at 200 stores

(RNR/CUP) - A Minnesota newspaper says Sears, Roebuck has unwittingly allowed a company controlled by the Reverend Sun Myung Moon to sell novelties and glass jewellery at about 200 Sears stores in the United States.

The Twin Cities Reader reports Sears signed a contract with Original World Products, a moonie-run company, allowing them to hire their own clerks and sell products made by essentially unpaid moonie labour.

A Sears spokesperson said the company had no knowledge of the moonie connection when the chain began its association with Original World last year. "It's not a standard practice for us to ask about the religion of people we do business with,"

she said.

Last summer Sears began receiving letters inquiring about the jewellery concession, and the company says an investigation prompted the decision not to renew the contract with Original World when it expires later this year.

Original World has been an integral part of the Unification Church business empire, with its revenue totalling an estimated quarter million dollars a year, much of that coming from moonie fundraising teams who peddle jewellery on the street.

Linda Pine, a former accountant for the moonie businesses, estimates Original World makes 80 to 90 per cent profit on its jewellery items. "They pay no labour," she said. "They make up the cheques and members return it to the church."

Holiday Inn's the latest in student housing

(RNR/CUP) -- After checking out the housing situation at the University of Missouri's Rolla campus, a number of students checked into a motel.

Faced with a severe campus housing shortage, more than a hundred students have taken up residence at a local Holiday Inn. They have a whole wing to themselves, and, for \$110 a month, the students get all the comfort of motel life, minus maid service.

So far, everything seems to have worked out well: the motel gets a high occupancy rate, the students get a nice place to live and the school gets relief from the housing crunch.

A similar program has been started at Eastern Illinois University where one senior says seeing that green and yellow sign is "just like coming home".

Cult deprogrammer uses rape

(RNR/CUP) -- A Cincinnati grand jury has indicted well-known deprogrammer Ted Patrick and three others on kidnapping and sexual assault charges, in connection with an attempt to change the lifestyle of a woman whose mother suspected she was a lesbian.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* reported the mother paid Patrick \$8,000 to lead a deprogramming team, which allegedly raped the woman repeatedly in an attempt to break her of her suspected lesbian habit.

An *Enquirer* reporter, Sue MacDonald, says the young woman "is not even a lesbian".