

Zagette

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we lost count

dalhorsie university's student newspaper

Dal pres a muppet

by Theresa Rowel

Muppet creator Jim Henson has been awarded the contract for the Howard Clark puppet for the 1990-91 semester. In a close price war with Kroft Puppets Inc. and Spitting Image Corporation, Henson's bid of \$2.1 million won out.

Henson comes to Dalhorsie after an eight-year stint at the White House where he worked on the Ronald Reagan puppet.

"It's an honour and a challenge," said Henson at a recent luncheon where drawings for the

Clark puppet were unveiled. "Making him seem real will take all sorts of special effects."

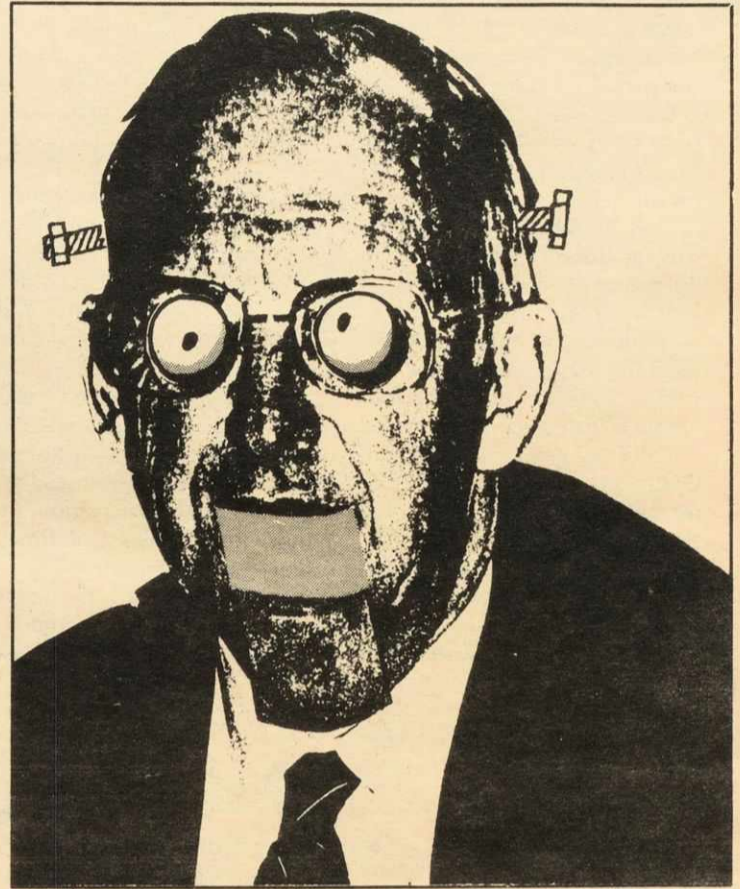
Administration representative Ann Informer explained Henson's duties to the university's inner sanctum at the luncheon. Saying Henson's team will operate the puppet from the basement of Clark's large house, she explained that the sensitive electronic equipment needed to make the model work will be written off as renovations.

"There is no puppet — Clark is as real as me," contradicted Dalhousie Public Relations officer

Fred Mularkey. Informer confirmed the Zagette's suspicions that Mularkey was indeed a pet project of Henson's puppeteers.

When asked about Clark's role at the university, Henson described it as a safety measure. "Should enraged students mob the puppet, no one will be hurt. It's for the students' own good." Besides, added Joseph Scuttle, Vice President of puppeteering, "this way, there's no problem with personality. Other universities' presidents sometimes complain to government and private industry about lack of funding. Our system eliminates this."

Scuttle refused to comment on the possibility of replacing professors with puppets next semester, saying only that it was "fiscally and financially attractive and under scrutiny by an administrative sub-committee."



LSC resuscitated

by Sandy MacKay

Everyone who is making a buck off research was pleased to hear that financing has been found to continue life in the Life Sciences Building. A corporate sponsor finally came forward and breathed life into the sagging LSC budget.

Nice-Nice Chemical (formerly Dow Chemical) has promised \$40 million a year in exchange for research to be done by faculty and students on their new projects.

"At first, we were worried, what with old Dow Chemical's reputation," said Dean of Sciences Cork Smoker, "but they have since changed their name, and we are proud to be part of Nice-Nice Chemical's holdings."

Environmentalists were concerned that Nice-Nice's research results would probably be harmful to Nova Scotia. "We didn't think much of Dow, and we don't think much of Nice-Nice," said Dal-PIRG director Michelle Shitfobrainz. "They are probably working on pesticides that will seep directly into the groundwater. Besides that, they are capitalist scum and contrary to the revolution, I mean movement."

Nice-Nice representative James Allsmile offered proof that Nice-Nice's research material would not contaminate groundwater.

"Nice-Nice's newest product, when perfected here at Dalhorsie by well-paid faculty members, will percolate directly through all layers of soil to the bedrock below. From there, all the harmful chemicals will flow directly out to sea and be washed away

with the tides. The Atlantic Ocean is a big thing, and it will be 45 years before Nice-Nice's mildly toxic pesticide Murcuro-Leadochrome II will be harmful to anything but cod and seals."

Dalhorsie Student leaders are delighted with the outright purchase of the LSC by Nice-Nice. "We plan to rename the SUB in honour of them," said DSU president Wilf Corkrain. "The new name will be the Nice-Nice Viro-Simples, in memory of the Nice-Nice chemicals that helped stop that nasty war in Nicaragua recently."

No students could be reached for comment.

Dal cops mutants

by Zagette staff

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles will be joining Dal Security next fall as part of the university's campaign to reduce crime on campus.

The announcement came Tuesday from a university spokesperson who outlined the new security measures to be implemented on campus for next year. They will include the four turtles, an attack helicopter, several battle tanks, and assault rifles for personnel.

When asked to comment on their new job the four turtles, Leonardo, Michelangelo, Donatello and Raphael, said it was "excellent."

"We weren't too interested," said Raphael, "until they offered us unlimited free pizza as part of

our contract. We can't wait to start!"

Bill N. Force of Dal Security said there is a growing trend among universities to have specially-trained mutant animals working security. "They are easy to train and all you have to do is feed them since they don't understand what a paycheque is and most banks wouldn't let them cash one anyway," said Force. He said so far the turtles have been the most famous and successful example but rabbits and chickens also showed promise with the proper mutations.

Tenders are being called for the helicopter but the tanks will be the top of the line German Leopard II model and the personnel will be getting AK-47 assault rifles.

Corkrain prays to BoG

by Sandy MacKay

At a BoG meeting last night, Dalhorsie University's financial woes were solved by clear student thinking. A motion concerning tuition fee hikes has the whole BoG shaking each other's hands.

The motion, put to the BoG by Dalhorsie Student leader Wilf Corkrain, was to hike tuition fees

20 per cent across the board.

The motion was supported by business and administrative BoG members.

The motion reads "Be It Resolved That tuition fees will get hiked by 20 per cent this year with a freeze for next year."

Negotiations to arrange further hikes in the following years were proposed, but no single digit numbers were discussed.

"All in all, it's for the best," said Corkrain. "Dalhorsie needs money, and we agreed with the BoG that the best way to get it was through a minimal raise in tuition fees."

"I drink profusely with lots of students, so I know all my student friends can afford it. I was finally convinced that this was the best way when a BoG member reminded me that I would be graduating next year. He then offered me a \$55,000 a year job in Toronto, and I was moved by the force of his persuasion," Corkrain said.

The motion, which will force student tuition fees up to \$2,500 a semester, is considered a good move by administration BoGers.

George Eatemraw, a representative of the administration team said "this sort of move is necessary. Too many students these days can't afford to go to Dalhor-

sie. If they can't afford it, we don't want them here." He went on to say that Dalhorsie could no longer fund Maritime students if they couldn't raise the cash on their own.

"Take, for example," he said, "a student from Pictou county. There are no jobs in Pictou County that would pay a student enough over the summer to attend Dalhorsie. Sure, we could give loans to that student, but what would the net effect of that be? Upon graduation, that student would return fully educated to Pictou where the only high paying jobs are in government. We at Dalhorsie are very close with the government, and we make sure our own kids get those jobs."

"In the end, the student has a huge debt load that we and the government start charging three per cent interest on immediately. That kid will not get a good job, because he or she will have to start working at the local Burger King simply to pay off the interest. We will have wasted our money and that student's time. Wouldn't it make more sense for that student to drop out of high school at age 16 and start working at Burger King right away?"

No students could be reached for comment on the proposal.