

**SPORTS** → Dal beats Acadia, again! p.19.

**ARTS** → I was a video game junkie, p.14.

**FOCUS** → Dal Profiles is back, baby, p.10.

# the Gazette

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## Executive Review Committee under review

BY KAVERI GUPTA

The body which is responsible for reviewing the Dalhousie Student Union executive's performance, and which is late in getting its fall report out, is itself under review.

Alix Dostal, one of the Executive Review Committee members, resigned from the committee at the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) council meeting on Monday evening.

"I see two main problems: one, that the committee doesn't have a chair, and two, the lack of non-councillors on the committee," Dostal said.

The tardy report is one of two that the committee is responsible for compiling. Each report is a review of the DSU executive members' performances over one of the two main terms.

There is potential for the reports to be biased and misused since so far the committee is made

up of only council members; it is possible that some could use the report as an opportunity to settle personal differences.

Dostal feels that the committee needs non-councillors to provide readers of the report with the security of knowing that the document is unbiased.

"I felt I should resign since I know many of the executive on a personal level. It might be detrimental to the point of the review," said Dostal, an Arts Society representative.

Dostal put forth an amendment at Monday's meeting that two non-councillors be included on the committee. This was an amendment to one already put forth by DSU president Brad MacKay in which he wanted a chair to be included in the committee's structure.

"A review of the executive serves a good purpose, but certain structural impediments must be taken into account," MacKay said.

MacKay would also like to see the committee's report structure expanded to include suggestions from the committee on how to improve the executive's performance and increase their effectiveness.

The amendments put forth in Monday's council meeting were carried and will be taken to the DSU Annual General Meeting to be held on February 4. There, they will be voted on by the student body, and if passed, will become integrated into the DSU constitution.

The Executive Review Committee started their work in November to make the fall review deadline of December 5, but were overwhelmed with the amount of information that had to be reviewed.

"It is too much work for just three people to handle," committee member Jessica Michael said. The committee consists of Dostal, Michael and Bridgette McCaig.

"It's not anyone's fault that the report is late," said Chris Lydon, DSU vice-president Academic/External. "The idea for the committee was put in the Constitution last year but no one put in any guidelines or structure on how the group should go about doing the review."

The fall report is expected to come out in a couple of weeks, which will make it two months overdue.

Dostal said that despite the lateness, the report will still be of use to students and to the executive.

"I think students will appreciate knowing what's going on; and the executive do have time to make changes if the review indicates that changes should be made," she commented.

The Gazette, in this issue, is publishing the survey questions by which the student body can comment on the performance of this year's executive.



Alana Coffin pulls up for a jump against St. Mary's in women's basketball action. For the story, see p.19.

## Dal students kept clueless

BY SHELLEY ROBINSON

Dalhousie students looking for up-to-date information about their student union are finally in luck, unless they want it over the phone.

For the first time in six months, the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) web page has been updated. It has also been redesigned. DSU vice-president community affairs Carman Barteaux, whose portfolio includes communications, says he wants "to do this right, so hopefully this catches people's attention and gets them excited."

The web page is not the only thing that has recently been brought up-to-date.

The electronic signboard above the elevators in the Student Union Building lobby was blank, and the council minutes board outside the cafeteria was a year out of date until last week.

Citing time as one reason communications has been slipping, Carl Getto, executive assistant to the DSU, says, "Everybody knows [Barteaux's] done an outstanding job in the community affairs department...but he began to realize that he didn't have the time to do the whole communications thing."

The amalgamation of the v.p. community affairs and the v.p. communications portfolios has made one person responsible for what was previously two jobs.

The term of the combined position is now 12 months.

"I'm a guinea pig for [the joint position]," explains Barteaux. "It's the first time it has been amalgamated and obviously things aren't getting done."

"I don't know if it's a two person job but I think to take it to the next level...something's got to change."

A communications coordinator has been hired to help with the extra work.

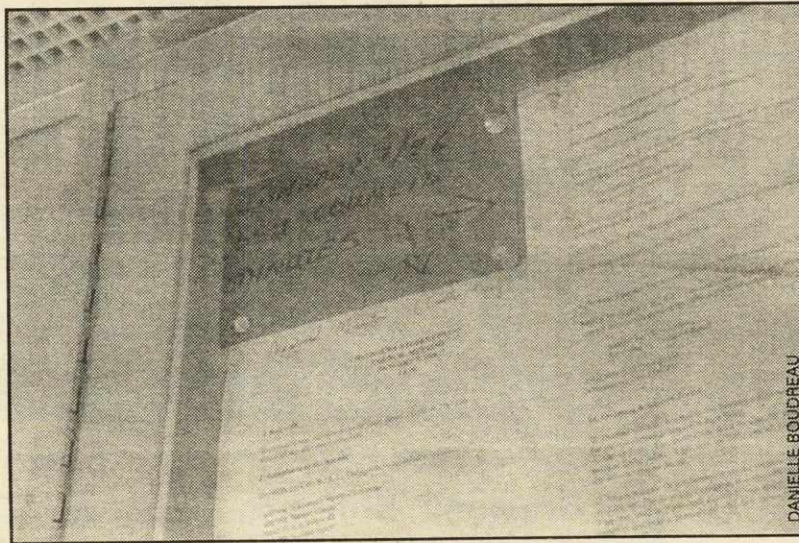
Andrea Smith, the new coordinator, says her job is to get things done on time — updating the web page every few weeks, posting mass e-mails, doing society mailouts and the DSU's Gazette advertisement as well as using "a more in your face attitude" to promote DSU communications.

"I think [Barteaux] should be commended on all he's done with the time he's had. [The position] just needs to be redefined," said Smith.

Not all DSU communications are up-to-date though. The DSU info-line telephone service remains unchanged since last March.

Barteaux is bound by the DSU constitution to "be responsible for overseeing, coordinating, and promoting the...phone information service...on a regular basis."

"I think [the info-line] sucks,"



The DSU cafeteria bulletin board as it was two weeks ago. The information was a year old.

says Barteaux. "I think it's outdated, I think it's early eighties. I decided to say, 'I'm not going to do it; I'm going to focus on other things because I do have limited time.'"

Smith says, "[The DSU is] thinking of getting rid of the line because it's \$100 a month and it's so rarely used even when they tried to pump it up."

Barteaux feels that the communications portfolio is "still in the test run."

"There's still apathy," he says. "A lot of it. I don't think anything in communications yet has really struck it home with a lot of people."

## Business students in wet T-shirt contest

MONTREAL (CUP) — Business students from across the country showed their commitment to academic excellence by shaking their wet breasts and damp penises in front of a crowded Montreal bar last weekend.

The Sixth Annual Undergraduate Business Games brought over 800 students from 11 universities to Montreal to bring future Canadian business leaders together for academic

and sporting competitions. One of the "highlights" of the sporting competitions was a wet T-shirt and boxer short competition held in Montreal's Colosseum dance club.

Not surprisingly, the competition resulted in widespread condemnation of the games organizers.

"I think wet T-shirt contests are degrading," said Sharon Selkirk, the secretary of the

Cont'd on page 3: "Wet"