

Gazette monopoly challenged

'Mirror' publishes first edition

by Anne McLellan



Jahmeel Rahaman

Last week the first edition of a new weekly newspaper, The Dalhousie Mirror, appeared on campus. Speculation began immediately as to whether the new paper was being run in opposition to Dal's present newspaper, the Gazette.

"Absolutely not," say Jahmeel Rahaman, Chitra Chopra, and Dave Chan, members of the paper's editorial board. "We are not trying to run the Gazette out of business, but we are trying to provide coverage of those events the Gazette seems to ignore or finds unimportant."

However, Rahaman did say that he hoped the presence of another paper on campus might encourage the staff of the Gazette to improve the quality of their paper.

The idea of publishing the Mirror began when a number of students approached the members of the present editorial board and asked them to start a newspaper. These students were not happy with the Gazette's coverage of campus events.

Rahaman said various departments, particularly sports, had been complaining about the coverage given to them in the Gazette. The hopes that the Mirror will have all departments submitting articles and notices of upcoming events to it.

The Mirror's aim is to present all points of view on various issues affecting student life, such as housing, the Administration, and the Students' Council. They also hope to get the faculty in-

involved by having them submit articles which they feel might be of interest to students.

Most of the Mirror's articles will be coming directly from interested students. The response has reportedly been good so far.

Although the editorial board is composed entirely of members

of the International Students' Association, they do not wish the Mirror to be considered solely a publication of that organization. It is not their intention to use the Mirror as a means of furthering the ends of the I.S.A. Although the paper will contain information in I.S.A., the editors hope to be able to present features that will be of interest to all students.

At present the paper is eight pages, but there are plans to expand it to 12 or 16 pages if funds can be found. The paper will not be run at a loss and the size will be limited to the financing available through donations and advertising. The first issue was partly financed by a donation from an undisclosed organization on campus.

Rahaman expressed the opinion that the Gazette was too involved with the S.U.B., and seemed to be separated from the rest of campus life.

"Many students believe a small clique is writing for the Gazette and they are not adequately representing the opinions of the student body," he said. "The Mirror wants students to feel everyone on campus can write



Dave Chan

for them and that their opinions will be published."

The Gazette recognizes the coming of the Mirror and hopes both papers will profit from any competition that may develop.



THE DALHOUSIE MIRROR

Toward coordinated media

Cochran takes exec post

by Julia McMahon

"This is not a political position, but a working position," remarked Andrew Cochran on his new office as Information Services Secretary for the Student Union.

Cochran was offered and accepted the position over the holidays, taking over from Steve Ar-

chibald and is now in the midst of getting organized.

According to Cochran, the department will be organized along new lines and will be re-named the Communications Dept. His predecessors made themselves responsible for the overall administration of the department, but Cochran has planned a little more for himself. He will be a liaison

between the external communications media, providing it with a specific office to contact within the Union and helping the students' relations with the press.

"Having things come through this office and making those things accountable to this office will avoid conflicting reports which have emanated in the past."

The new secretary is making the position responsible for all communications matters which concern the whole Union and to act as a communications consultant to any recognized organization of the Union.

"I don't think that it is expected that the Secretary be responsible for publicising all the events of all the student organizations, but he should be available to advise them on how to best approach the communications problem."

Cochran also plans to have a close-working relationship with the President, Executive and Council, to enable him to be an information resource on matters pertinent to the Union.

"I am doing this job to try to improve communications both in and outside of the Union with the media. I don't want to get mixed up in political hassles because it basically comes down to a conflict - of - interest situation. That is, as I see my position, I should be communicating what decisions are made and not necessarily making those decisions. It seems that the present mediums of communication on campus have great potential. I want to use them to a better advantage to let students know what's going on."



\$35,000 toy rudderless Radio chief quits

"The first time we knew for sure that he was quitting was when we got that notice," complained a Dal Radio Staffer about the recent resignation of Dal Radio Director Gerry Dubinsky. The notice, from the Student Council Office announced that nominations were open for the President of Dal Radio, whose term of office normally expires March 1.


The reason for Dubinsky's departure, which had been rumored since early December, remains unclear. Mr. Dubinsky was unavailable for comment, and most staff members at the station claimed not to know. They complained however that he had not been around since the early fall to run the operation. "He was the director, but once things got going we didn't need him. Anyway he was gone." Most were just as glad that he had quit.

Dal Radio will be run mostly by Department heads, until a new director is appointed says In-

formation Services Secretary Andrew Cochran, with Bruce Grant assuming more responsibility for the internal operation.

Meanwhile the staff of Dal Radio, mostly first year students, are reported ready to fight to prevent announcer George Mack from becoming Director of Dal Radio in the upcoming Council vote. Mack, currently under suspension for unauthorized use of the facilities, was called an "authoritarian" by announcers who asked to remain unidentified. They say if Mack applies, they will put up their own candidate to oppose him.

An outside observer of the operations at Dal Radio declared that it didn't really matter who was appointed if they came from within the ranks. "They're all the same," he said, "artsy fartsy guys who try to be cool - they don't know anything about radio, though. That radio station is just a \$35,000 toy."



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