

## An expensive pill to swallow

by Victoria Harding

The Dalhousie student prescription drug plan does not cover birth control pills. In an attempt to find the cheapest source to fill a pill prescription, many pharmacies were contacted. The findings are as follows:

The price of a pack of pills fluctuates greatly depending on the brand name of the pill and the pharmacy's price for that brand. With pharmacies able to mark up the price of pills by whatever percent they choose, it's worth your while to phone a few pharmacies and find out how much you'll pay.

All pharmacies operate under a system by which they charge a dispensing fee for the process of filling a prescription. Dispensing fees for birth control pills are not the same as the fee charged to dispense other prescription drugs. This is a fee that you pay ON TOP of the price of your prescription. The dispensing fee and the number of packs of pills you can get per single dispensing fee varies greatly from store to store.

Prices increase twice yearly - January and July - so you should get as

many packages of pills as possible before the new year... or, put them on your Christmas list.

An alternative to purchasing your pills at a pharmacy is the Metro Area Family Planning Clinic on 5541 Russell St., Halifax. They are a non-profit organization and charge \$10.00

per pack of pills (this fee includes pill price and dispensing fee). If you're short on cash one week, they have a policy that they will not deny anyone her pills because she is unable to pay. You do have to make an appointment to see one of their (all female) physicians before they will

fill your prescription (you can also get condoms, foam, and medication for various STD's from these folks).

If you are a woman who chooses to use birth control pills, exercise your choice about which pharmacy to patronize. Give your drug store a call and find out how much you'll pay.

Shop around.

Footnote: It was interesting to see how reluctant pharmacies are to disclose their dispensing fee.

DRUG STORE	FEE	# PACKS /VISIT	DRUG STORE	FEE	# PACKS /VISIT
Albro Lake Prescription Centre 107 Albro Lake Rd., Dartmouth	4.75	1	MacKay Pharmacy 2959 Oxford St., Halifax	6.40	1
Armdale Prescription Centre 7193 Quinpool Rd., Halifax	6.80	1	MacKay Pharmasave 205 Pleasant St., Dartmouth	5.25	decreases a bit the more you buy
Buckley's Drug Store 6247 Jubilee Rd., Halifax	6.80	unlimited	Moffat's Pharmasave Ltd. 184 Portland St., Dartmouth	6.55	1
Community Pharmacy Prospect Rd., Halifax County	6.00	unlimited	Northwood Clinical Pharmacy 2615 Northwood Terr., Halifax	6.00	1
Connaught Pharmacy 6589 Chebucto Rd., Halifax			Owl Drug Store 71 Portland St., Dartmouth	6.50	1
Crowells Pharmacy Ltd. 349 Herring Cove Rd., Halifax	5.90	unlimited	Pharmasave Drugs 900 Cole Harbour Rd., Halifax	6.40	1
Dunsworth E.J. Ltd. 6413 Quinpool Rd., Halifax	6.45	1	McQuinn's Drug Store 5697 Almon St., Halifax	6.70	1
Fader's Pharmacy 6085 Coburg Rd., Halifax	6.00	1	Scotia Drug Centre Ltd. 2151 Gottingen St., Halifax	6.40	1
Family Drug Centre 382 Portland St., Dartmouth	3.00	1	Shopper's Drug Mart many locations...	7.00**	1
Withrow's Guardian Drug Store 2203 Gottingen St., Halifax	Would not disclose	dispensing fee	The Real Atlantic Superstore 745 Sackville Dr., Sackville	5.20	1
IGA Store (Boland's Ltd.) 751 Bayers Rd., Halifax	6.55	1	Woolco Pharmacy Penhorn Mall, Dartmouth	5.55	decreases a bit the more you buy
K-Mart Drugs 50 Tacoma Dr., Dartmouth	5.00	1	Zeller's 7001 Bayers Rd., Halifax	6.80	3
Lawtons Drug Stores Ltd. many locations...	6.80**	1			** may vary slightly between stores

## Cin ball simply sinful

by Anthony Roberts, BGLAD!

This past Friday November 20th saw the first ever "Homo Hop" organized by BGLAD! The theme for the dance was "Cin Ball" playing on the words "sin" and "Cinderella". Cinderella being the epitome of purity, innocence and naivety while sin conjures up thoughts of lust, sensuality and concupiscence.

The dance was well attended with approximately 100 people taking part. People from other parts of the province, such as the Annapolis Valley, came to take advantage of this event.

The event was more than a dance. It represented an opportunity for an expression of our very being. Sexual categories in this event were not prioritized. Judgements were not made about sexual orientation and desires. It was an open environment for people to feel complete in who they are as individuals and persons. A time to be free in themselves without the worry of being judged. It provided an environment of respect and support liberating feelings of shame and deficiency.

This made the dance a unique experience. One where all were to be left without the need to justify and explain themselves. One where all were to be seen as agents in their own lives and simultaneously part of a greater whole.

BGLAD! hopes to be active in organizing and supporting events in the future. We are hoping to achieve an environment of mutual respect, admiration and consideration and will continue to strive to that end.

## Westray

CONT'D FROM PAGE 7



set by the Act which enabled the now "unconstitutional" inquiry to be established. Lets look at the politics behind this deal. For example: When Curragh Resources did not get the desired, initial response from the federal government, they went to the New York Stock Exchange and tried to raise capital. They failed miserably. No investors were interested in a thinly capitalized, resource-venture company. So back Curragh went to Donald Cameron.

That is when his government came up with the now infamous "Take or

Pay Agreement," a contract by which it incredibly agreed to pay Curragh every year, whether Curragh took the coal out of the ground and sold it, or not. But, Premier Cameron told the law hour audience, the contract was so extravagantly designed merely to get federal funding. He insists Curragh "said" to him that it would never have asked his government to follow through on its legal obligations - even if the explosion hadn't happened. No "rumour." Honest.

Stewart Lewis

## THE BLACK MARKET

Jewelry  
•  
Clothing  
•  
Masks  
•  
Beads  
•  
New Age  
Items  
•  
Books  
•  
Tarot Card  
Readings  
•  
and more.



Mexico  
•  
Canada  
•  
Nepal  
•  
France  
•  
Indonesia  
•  
Brazil  
•  
India  
•  
Thailand  
•  
Ireland

Fashion accessories & unusual items from around the world.

New Merchandise for Christmas arriving daily!  
Many Gifts for under \$10.00!

1545 GRAFTON ST.  
HALIFAX, N.S. (902) 423-5724