

# I'm not lion

by Arnold Mosher

An estimated 99.99 percent of Dalhousie students did not attend the lecture of October 20th in the Psychology department entitled "The Serengeti Lion: Behavior and Ecology".

Obviously the majority of Dalhousie students noticed that the lecture was actually called a "colloquium". To the great mass of exacting minds, the word colloquium presumably had the medieval connotation of moribund.

The lecture was given by Dr. David Bygott and Dr. Jeanette Harby who have done field research on lions for a number of years in Tanzania. A

number of interesting facts came out of the lecture for the neophyte to lion society.

For example, lions are the only social members of the cat family. The basic social group is called the pride, and is made up of genetically related females.

This, the reporter notes, is in complete contrast to the male dominated Engineering society at Dalhousie.

More reminiscent of the Engineers is the fact that male lions are portrayed as scavengers.

The male lions usually move in a group from pride to pride to mate with the females. The

larger and stronger an incoming group of male lions, the more likely it is to take over a pride.

The male lions only hunt when absolutely necessary, usually scavenging animals brought down by a pride.

It was not mentioned whether male lions drink large quantities of beer.

The pride does not have a permanent territory, said Bygott, but it does keep to itself and is hostile to neighboring prides.

Thus as with lions, the reporter also notes, Dalhousie's fraternities and societies continue a tradition

of groupism. At Dalhousie however there is a territorial pride among groups that finds its zenith in frat houses. Bygott said that the individual pride shows close bonds among its members, with even older and more helpless members being kept up by the pride.

Life outside the pride for an individual generally means death, said Bygott, so if younger members leave a pride they leave as a group of brothers and sisters, the sisters being the nucleus of a new pride.

Questions posed about the lecture centred around the

seasonality of births and deaths, and the colour of lion's manes.

The great majority of Dalhousie students missed a lecture of direct application to Dalhousie society, as well as a scientific discussion.

It is advised by most seasoned lecture goers, however, that students check out whether free coffee and donuts are served after the lecture. These items usually mean that 1) the lecture is of considerable academic importance, and 2) the department is blowing its lecture budget to impress the guest lecturer. It is best to avoid such lectures and go to the luncheon afterwards.

## Tiger falls in line of duty

Last week's *Gazette* informed readers of the 1958 creation of a paper maché tiger. The rather large creature was conceived by Dalhousie engineers as a mascot for the university's athletes, themselves Tigers of a different sort. For some time the newcomer attended Dalhousie sports events and helped fire enthusiasm within Tiger fans.

At one such function, the beast, to the grief of all who knew it, suffered a premature and violent death. Its demise began when, for the second time within several months, it was kidnapped and spirited away from the university. The abductors were scoundrels from Nova Scotia Technical College, intent upon sadistically torturing the animal, and flaunting their grisly handiwork.

With further details here is an exclusive report from the *Gazette* of January 21, 1959.

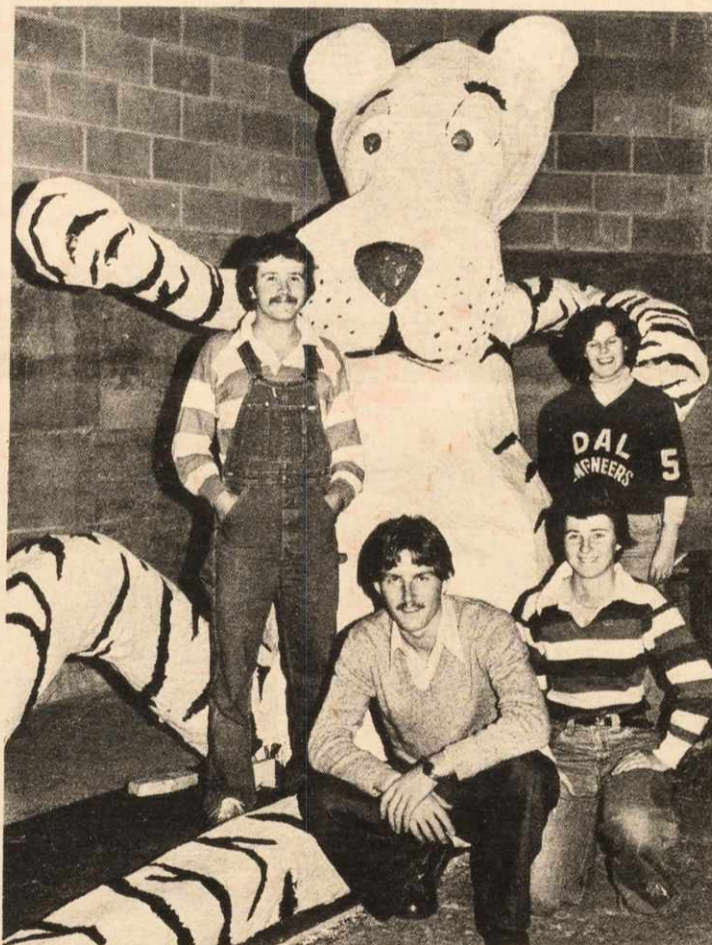
"Last Saturday night was fight night at the Dalhousie rink as amazed spectators witnessed a student free-for-all that rivalled the bitter hazings of a generation ago.

Dalhousie students, some 100 strong, fought bitterly and unsuccessfully against students of Nova Scotia Tech for repossession of their beloved tiger.

The tiger, a 100 pound ten-foot paper maché beast, and the residual of Dalhousie spirit, was utterly destroyed in the conflict. The spark that touched off the expensive fray was the parading by Techmen of the tiger, repainted blue and sporting "TECH" in white letters on its side, in between periods of the Dal-Tech hockey game.

Incensed Dalhousians, led by the engineers who had built the animal, poured from the stands to wrest the tiger (stolen from the Engineers' Shack the day before) out of the grasp of its captors. Cost of the loss of tiger has been figured as high as \$100.

There is considerable suspicion that King's College and Tech collaborated in the stealing of the cat. Tiger has died materially, but Dalhousians will not rest until they have been avenged upon the perpetrators of the foul deed...



Our tiger has passed into the Great Beyond. He died as he had lived, clinging to whatever self-respect a tiger can claim. Now he is but a few baskets of newspaper, a handful of nails, a pile of two-by-fours."

Thus concluded the career of one of Dalhousie's most colorful sports figures (black and yellow stripes, remember?) Yet perhaps there is no Great Beyond for tigers. Maybe the spirit of the beast still roams the bleachers watching Dalhousie's athletes in competition, and stirring them with "TIGER" spirit.

## Exploding the myths about Daycare at Dal

by Maura Green

Under the rumors that the Dalhousie daycare centers are overcrowded and understaffed one finds the truth.

The Halifax Student Housing Society has been operating a center at Peter Green Hall for 13 years. The center has 75 children, with the staff/child ratio being 1-3 for infants and 1-7 or toddlers (18 months to 5 years old). The staff/child ratio is not a problem but space is. There are five classrooms — one containing nine infants and three staff and the remaining four con-

taining 16 to 17 toddlers and three staff in each.

The new center, operating in the old education annex, is capable of handling 60 children but only has an enrollment of 28 at the present time. The staff/child ratio remains the same with the exception of the 6 to 11 year old groups. Here the ratio is 1-15. These children don't arrive at the center until after school.

The centers employ twenty-five people — twenty sitters, four cooks, two assistant directors and the director, Mrs. Ginette Purser. All staff must

have at least one year of post secondary education. As in most daycares there is a high staff turnover among the sitters, due to poor salaries although some of the girls at Peter Green Hall have worked there for three and four years.

The daycares are for the children of Dalhousie students, faculty and members of the Dalhousie community. They are a non-profit organization with a cost to the parents of \$8.25 per day.

So the rumors are partially dismissed. Understaffed — no, but just a bit overcrowded.



### Classified ads

#### THE IDEAL PET FOR A STUDENT!

I have gerbils to give away. Perfect for students in apartments or in residence. Clean! Quiet! Almost maintenance free! For information or to reserve your new pet, call Dave anytime at 429-2568.

Care to have an overseas correspondence. Write:

Nazir Ahmed  
C-172 Block D.  
North Nazimbad  
Karachi-33  
Pakistan

Abdul Waheed  
199-2B Block No. 2  
P.E.C.H.S.  
Karachi-29  
Sind  
Pakistan

Hostess wanted for the Newsroom Restaurant. Apply Carleton Hotel, 1685 Argyle Street, Room 124.

#### Lost

A gold pen was lost last Wednesday night, October 8, in either, or between, the computer centre and the Graywood. Great personal value—reward to the returner. Call Peter 429-0144.