

# Frosh Week: Educating the new elite

BY GAZETTE STAFF

Are we having fun yet?

Orientation leaders and first-year students (more commonly referred to as Frosh leaders and frosh) have, once again, enthusiastically jumped into the first few days of the week's activities.

Opening ceremonies, the Dalhousie Welcome Fair, a Big Ticket concert featuring the watchmen, a rescheduled Playfair, early morning marches, and Captain Shinerama were all part of the first half of Frosh week.

Though Frosh leaders and frosh have not always seen eye to eye on the merits of Frosh week, this year's participants seem to at least partly concur on the big picture of what is going on.

"It's a chance to meet new people and to see some new things that you've never seen before. I think it shows how great Dalhousie is — we're really good at getting things together, like

this week and the people involved in running it," said Adam Walker, a second-year Political Science student and Cameron Frosh leader.

Tamara Halporn, a second-year Biology student and Chairperson of Sherriff Hall, agreed.

"It's a real chance to meet and get to know people that you'll be living with. It's a bonding experience. It allows people to get to know Dalhousie and the Halifax community. Others have been through this already, so if you're new, don't be afraid to ask questions."

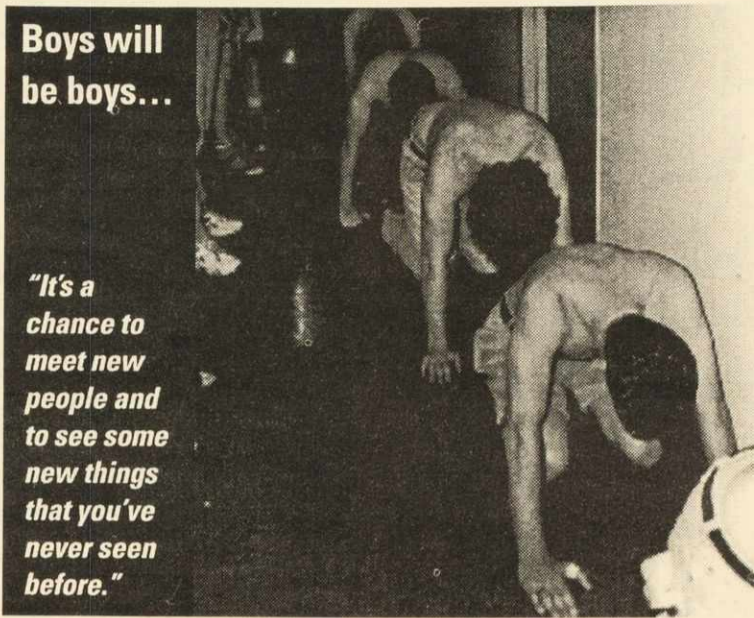
"Don't be too nervous. Everyone goes through it once; we did it last year, now it's their turn," added Walker.

Some first-year Shirreff Hall residents agreed that it was a time to meet new people and get acquainted with new surroundings.

"It's pretty much like I expected. It's not that bad right now.

**Boys will be boys...**

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There's a lot of spirit; everything is spirit, spirit, spirit. We're getting spirit shoved into our brains," said Joanne Champion.

She continued, "I'm nervous for the rest of the week, though.

There's something called The Walk that we keep hearing about." (Ed. note: The Walk is a residence tradition in which frosh are awakened in the middle of the night by their Frosh leaders and

taken on an extended tour of downtown Halifax.)

Clare Montgomery, a first-year student hailing from Barrie, Ontario, agreed that Frosh Week thus far had been "cool", but that she had some apprehensions concerning upcoming events.

"I didn't expect to be so busy, especially on the first day. I just hope that initiation doesn't get too bad," she said.

Lori Smith, a third-year Psychology student and Vice President of Sherriff Hall, stressed that the importance of Frosh Week was getting involved and meeting people.

"From a residence point of view, it's an important bonding week, both within the house and for brother-sister relations. We want the new residents to realize that Sherriff Hall is their new home and also, to give them some knowledge of the Dalhousie community," she said.

## Grad House gets new coat of paint

*All decked out and still nowhere to go*

BY JEN HORSEY

Graduate students can expect to see their pub with a new image this fall.

This past summer, the Graduate House Social Club (commonly referred to as "The Grad House") underwent a series of improvements. The changes are intended to make it "...the civilized place to be on campus", according to Sandy Ross, president of the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS).

The pub has added two new decks, totalling 1000 additional square feet (seating 70), and has also purchased a coin-operated pool table for the main floor. Additionally, the building has been given a new coat of paint, the labour for which was supplied by DAGS volunteers.

The intent behind the changes is to make the Grad House an alternative to the services already provided by the Student Union and the university. With the new

**"Undergraduates are welcome. If they can keep up with the conversation, they can come in."**

— DAGS President Sandy Ross

Robin's Donuts in the Student Union Building (SUB), and the University's plans for a coffee shop in the Killam, DAGS saw a need for a place with a pub-like atmosphere. It is hoped that the renovations will provide this.

The funding for these improvements have been negotiated in a long-term agreement with Dalhousie University.

"These renovations have been done at no added expense," said

Ross. "they were all financed out of the revenue of the house."

It is hoped that they will pay for themselves, and in order to do this, The Grad House will have to increase business by a small margin. Ross does not anticipate that this will pose a problem.

Although The Grad House is run by DAGS, the pub is responsible for its own financial affairs. It is intended to "...cover its own costs, and make a small profit for DAGS," said Ross, "but of course we'll bail it out if it's in trouble."

The Grad House has also hired eight additional staff members, and anticipates that they will be doing some additional hiring in the future. Staff will continue to be comprised entirely of Graduate students; however, the Grad House is completely accessible to undergraduate clients.

"Undergraduates are welcome," said Ross with a smile on his face. "If they can keep up with the conversation, they can come in."

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