

Hicks says

Sports complex on schedule



Dalhousie to build a bridge? University President Henry Hicks has said that in the future perhaps a new athletic field could be built for Dalhousie on the other side of the Northwest Arm on property the university already owns.

by Scott Gray

The Dalhousie Sports Complex, after a rough ride through its early months, is now proceeding almost exactly on schedule. It is expected that the Sports Complex will be completed by late 1978.

Early in 1977, the Sports Complex was given the nod by the Supreme Court of Canada. Many community leaders and their followers were bitter opponents of the Complex. Several people who live near the site of the construction work complained that the blasts were disturbing them. Since the Court's ruling, however, the community has kept silent about the project.

In an interview on September 27, Dalhousie University President Henry Hicks, said the concrete work will be finished by mid-March and that the roof of the structure should arrive about that time. He added that the final touches should be applied by the end of 1978.

The Complex, however, is costing more than originally projected. A financial campaign, called "Dal-

plex", will begin on October 13 to raise the funds to cover the excess costs. As well, President Hicks said "delicate negotiations" with several private individuals are also under way.

The "Physical Education and Recreational Complex", a Hicks phrase, will house the Physical Education offices and classes as well as the majority of sports facilities. Excluded will be such things as soccer, field hockey, hockey, and of course, football. Most of the traditional indoor sports facilities will be in the Complex as well as such features as an indoor track.

President Hicks said that the Complex should allow community use and still "fulfill its purposes of University service indefinitely". He also said that some of the properties held by the University on the other side of the Northwest Arm could be developed in the future to supplement and eventually replace the well-worn Studley Field. Hicks is convinced that once the present facilities, which were designed and built when the University had a population of only 700, are replaced, Dal students and the community as a whole will be the beneficiaries.

Survey determines jobless rate

by Scott Vaughan

A survey conducted by the *Gazette* at Dalhousie last week indicated that 16 per cent of the students did not find employment this past summer.

A large majority of the 174 interviewed who did find work face financial problems in attending university this year. 65 per cent said they were receiving some form of financial assistance to meet the costs of the school year.

Of those able to find work, 36 per cent said they could not find enough during the summer months.

According to the survey, only 20 per cent of those students who were employed found openings through Canada Manpower. A Graduate student said that he went to

Manpower at least twice each week for a month and a half in search of a job, and finally, on his own, found employment as a night janitor in a local warehouse.

Similar surveys conducted at various Canadian universities found the unemployment rate as follows: University of Manitoba, 3.6 per cent; University of Saskatchewan, 23 per cent; University of B.C., 16 per cent; and Loyola University in Montreal, 26 per cent.

This summer there were 33,000 people unemployed in Nova Scotia, according to Statistics Canada. More than half of those who were unemployed (16,000) were between the ages of 16 and 24. The rate of unemployment for the month of August, according to Statistics Canada, was 10.3 per cent. Canada

Manpower relies on its own unemployment figures, which, according to an official of that office, are usually higher than those quoted by Statistics Canada.

The rate of unemployment in the Halifax-Dartmouth area for the month of August was about 8.5 per cent. A spokesperson for the Maritime office of Canada Manpower said that this figure was consistent with that of August, 1976 largely because the business sector was able to employ "almost as many students this year as last despite the high rate of inflation over the past winter." Manpower said that a total of 10,898 students found work in the Halifax-Dartmouth area this summer, with almost 7,000 of the jobs stemming from the private business sector.

Unity gets warning

by Mark King

Nova Scotia Labor leaders gave the federal government's task force on national Unity a terse reminder that the possibility of a separate Quebec is not the only problem facing the Canadian confederation.

Gerald Yetman, president of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labor, told the commission the biggest problem in Canada right now is unemployment. "If you solve that problem first, your other problem will be easier to solve," he said.

The Unity Task Force opened a cross country tour in Halifax Thursday, where it heard submissions from business, secondary school students, and Nova Scotia's French minority, the Acadiennes. The Task Force is chaired by Jean Luc Pepin, former Chair of the AIB, and John Robarts, former premier of Ontario.

Yetman suggested government inaction on dealing with the economy was leading the Atlantic provinces into a reconsideration of their place within Canada. "We've waited 108 years, if something is not done about the economy soon this part of the country will separate and so will others."

Labor federation executive secretary, Leo McKay, echoed Yetman's sentiment as he said young people are not going to take the abuse working people have taken, "we are tired of policies that are dictated from outside Canada, you can't deny people the right to work."

Yetman said organized labor considers itself a voice for all working people and as such has advocated improved social services particularly in areas that are presently suffering from government cutbacks.

He said labor supports equal accessibility to higher education and wants to see tuition fees abolished. "Post-secondary education will only be fair and just when it is accessible to all those with the will and academic ability to pursue it."

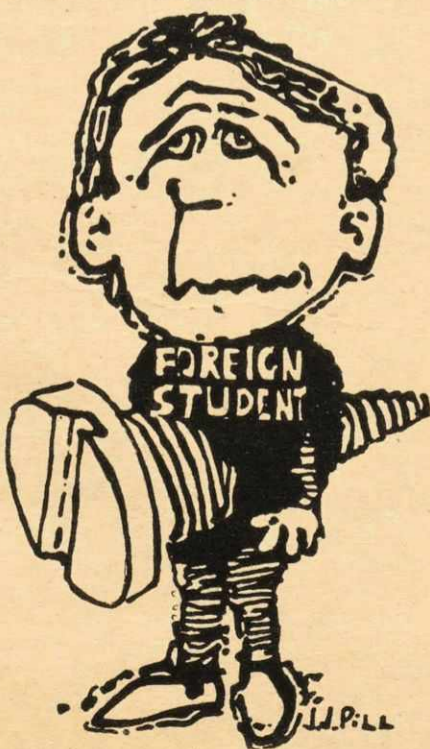
MSI considers rule change

by J.L. Round

MSI is considering a change in the regulations under the Health Services and Insurance Act which will deny grounds for legal action by the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS) and the International Students Association (ISA) against the rule which disallows MSI coverage to overseas students.

In the spring MSI set up a committee to interpret the definition of a "resident" as stated in the regulations of the act. Their interpretation, labelled "narrow and restrictive" by members of DAGS and ISA, was such as to exclude overseas students living in Nova Scotia on student visas. DAGS and ISA recently protested the decision in a joint report claiming that a holder of a student visa does fall within the intended definition of a "resident."

"Response from other overseas students has been very good," reports Mahmood Alam of ISA. "What we are considering now is having selected volunteers apply for



MSI coverage. If these applications are turned down then we propose to subsidize legal action on their behalf." Alam hopes that financial support will be coming from the Dalhousie Student Union, as well as DAGS and ISA who are already directly involved in the proposition.

Even so, legal action is planned as a last resort only. ISA would rather that the matter be settled out of court. Robert Sampson, president of the Dalhousie Student Union, is sending a brief on behalf of ISA to the president and the executive secretary of MSI to see if something can be done. "The issue still stands that if overseas students are being taxed for health services, then we should get the benefits from this," Alam explained.

"There are many overseas students coming here, including those from third world countries. These students carry an international token of good will with them and MSI is creating hard feelings and not being very helpful with their narrow view of things."