

the Dalhousie Gazette

Ralph English
Martin Tomlinson
Geoff Martin
Philip Doucette
Catherine Eisenhower
Martin Thibedeau
Elias Letelier-Ruz,
A.D. Wright
Ginger Ellison

Brian Cox
Mark Walker
Siobhan McRae
Elizabeth Donovan
David Lutes
Rusty and Dave
Mieu Sandstrom
Rana Ali
Gary P. Leblanc
KimRida Leblanc
Alex Weaver
Paul Deagle
Ronald Macdonald
Twila Ernst

Editor Catherine Ricketts
Advertising/Business Manager Steve McGregor
News Editors Samantha Brennan
Ken Burke
CUP Editor Bob Morrison
Sports Editors Lisa Timpf
Mark Alberstat
Copy Editor Siobhen Macrae
Gazette/Dal Photo Liaison Peter Katsihtis
Production Managers Elizabeth Donovan
Mark Walker
Office Manager Judy Steele
Arts Editor Bryan Fantie

The *Dalhousie Gazette* is Canada's oldest college newspaper. Published weekly through the Dalhousie Student Union, which also comprises its membership, the *Gazette* has a circulation of 10,000.

As a founding member of Canadian University Press, the *Gazette* adheres to the CUP Statement of Principles and reserves the right to refuse any material submitted of a libelous, sexist or racist nature. Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor and announcements is noon on Monday. Submissions may be left at the SUB Enquiry Desk c/o *Dal Gazette*.

Commentary should not exceed 700 words, letters should not exceed 300 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted on request.

Advertising copy deadline is noon Friday before publication. The *Gazette* offices are located on the 3rd Floor SUB. Come up and have a coffee and tell us what's going on.

The views expressed in the *Gazette* are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the editor or the collective staff.

Subscription rates are \$15 per year (25 issues) and our ISSN number is 0011-5816. The *Gazette's* mailing address is 6136 University Avenue, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 4J2, telephone (902) 424-2507 or (902) 424-2055. The business office may be reached at (902) 424-6532.

editorial

Weak reaction to week

National Universities Week, Oct. 2-6, has been in the planning stages since early this year.

What is National Universities Week you might ask? Good question, A.J.

This was the week when universities all across the country were to organize special events to invite the public to come and see what post-secondary education is all about. B.C., Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba had extensive programs involving symphony orchestras, football teams (both university and CFL), ballet troupes and theatre production. As well, a Cut-Backs tour of university campuses to see the cumulative effects of underfunding, and Alumni homecomings to bring graduates back to the alma mater.

There is a paucity of this kind of activity at Dalhousie. Sure there was the President's Sports festival, the Student Leadership conference and a music department recital. But these events would have gone on anyway. The public really wasn't invited to participate in them.

There was a panel discussion on Oct. 4 which was intended to convince the general public that universities in Halifax have a cultural contribution to make to the larger Halifax community. Few, if any, of the general public were there to hear the message. Five university presidents successfully argued their case to a bunch of academics. And maybe a few students, but no student representatives.

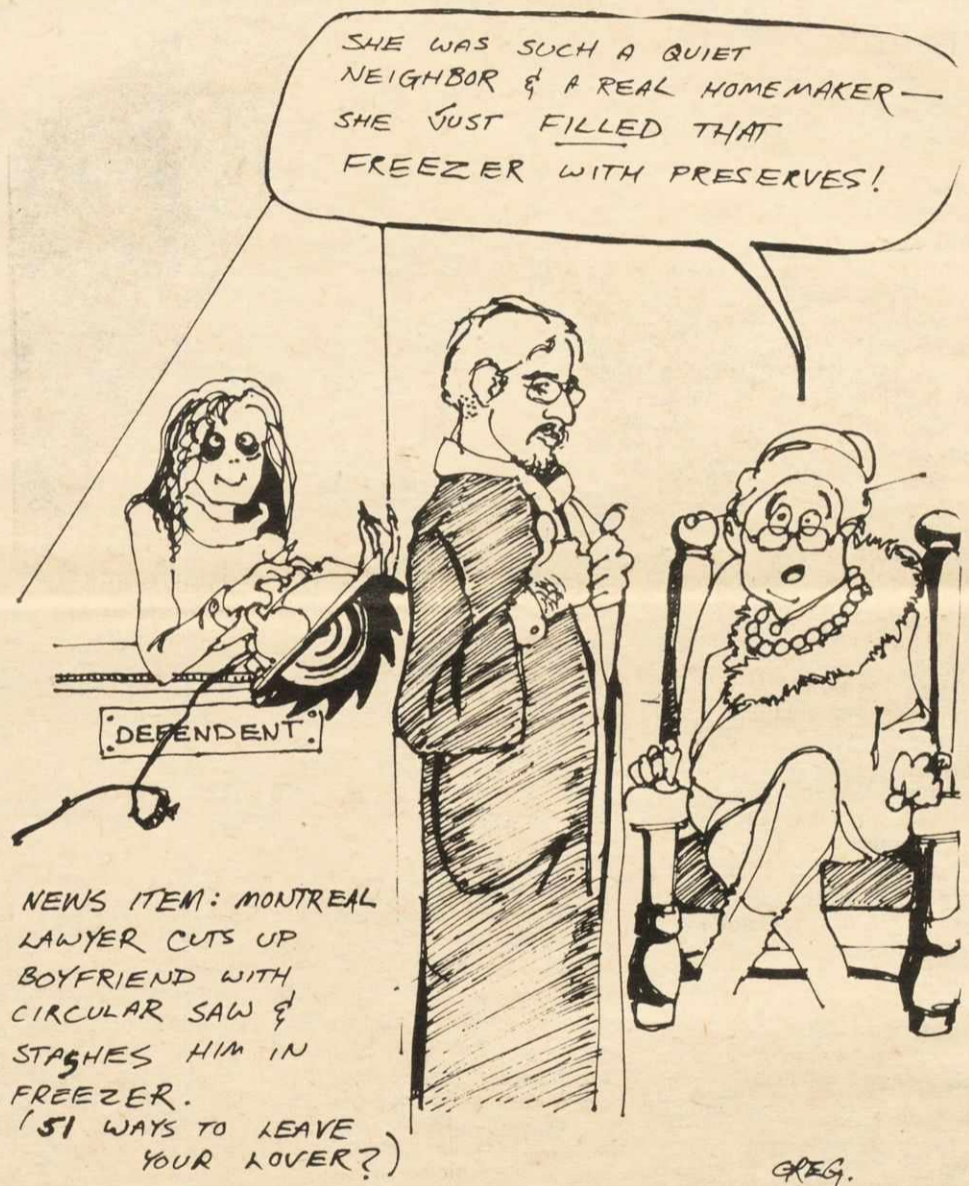
No wonder the general public regards university as a waste of time, an ivory tower, a drain on public coffers. They don't know any difference because the universities have been unable to reach them. The 'general public' reads things like the Oct. 1 editorial in the *Chronicle Herald* challenging universities to show their stuff for National Universities Week. Then, they are waiting expectantly, for coverage that doesn't come.

Or, the 'general public' reads things like the *Globe and Mail's* article on the national student movement and believe students would rather sit on pub stools than on committees. Ergo, why give the lusher loans, or freebie bursaries.

With this popular portrayal of students and student life, the Oct. 6 taping of CBC's *The Afternoon Show* will probably ask cute questions about our sex lives and whether or not Ultra-Bright improves them.

National Universities Week was the chance. This was a poor time for administration, faculty and students alike to mess up.

Catherine
Ricketts



Apologia

"The *Gazette* wishes to clarify some statements made in "Reactions To Riots Are Registered" which appeared in the September 22 issue. Certain statements in the article about Doctor Joseph G. Jabbar, Saint Mary's University Academic Vice President, were not correct. The *Gazette* apologizes to Doctor Jabbar for any embarrassment or inconvenience which he might have suffered as a result of such incorrect statements.

"The *Gazette* article repeated allegations that Doctor Jabbar caused the cancellation of a public lecture by the Canadian Palestine Association at the International Education Centre of Saint

Mary's University. The article suggested that Doctor Jabbar was a member of a Lebanese Maronite organization which ordered him to stop the lecture.

"These suggestions were not factual. Doctor Jabbar is not a member of any such Lebanese organization. The IEC could be directed to cancel a scheduled program on the direction of SMU president Kenneth Ozmon, and only after consultation with senior advisors. Dr. Jabbar, therefore, could not have ordered the CPA lecture to be either cancelled or postponed.

"Doctor Jabbar did not receive any threats from anybody. Doc-

tor Jabbar received orders from no one and did not fabricate a story of threats. The Halifax Police Department denies that threats to Saint Mary's University were reported to them by the Saint Mary's University administration. Dr. Jabbar was away from SMU for a brief period on university business. He returned on Sept. 17, several days before the *Gazette* story was published. This was not an extended leave of absence as stated in the *Gazette* article. The *Gazette* in no way intended to question Doctor Jabbar's integrity.

"The *Gazette* regrets any embarrassment the original article may have caused."