

Graduation Portraits

by

J. Martin

Master of
Photographic
Arts

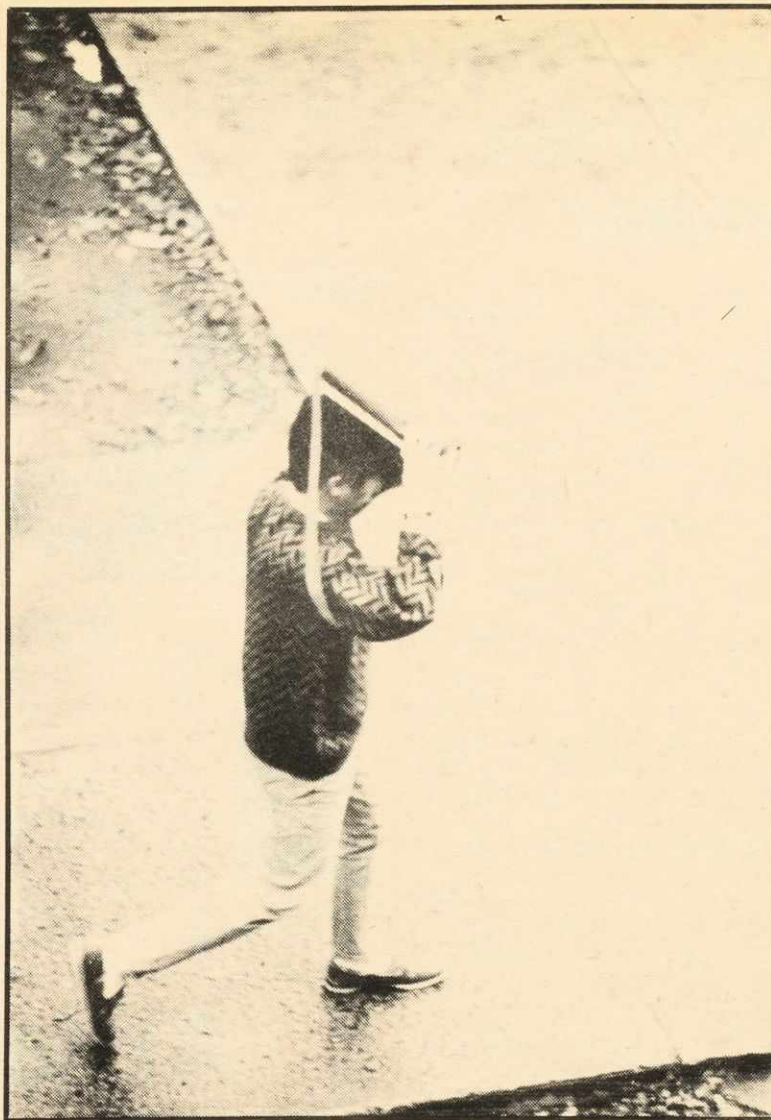
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Fee hikes keep falling on my head. . . Photo by Ariella Pahlke

Annual fund ringing

Dalhousie's Annual Fund is gearing up for this week's intense period of solicitation.

Mary Martin, the director of the fund, is looking for student volunteers to participate in the campaign. They are offering to pay students ten dollars for their societies for each night they work on the phonathon. The organizers are hoping to get twenty students a night for the nine evenings they are planning this part of the campaign.

Later stages of the campaign consist of repeat mailings to previous and potential new donors, including Dalhousie alumni and "friends."

Last year, the annual fund raised \$391,000, 27 per cent of which was designated for the faculty of medicine. This year the organizers of the campaign are hoping to raise \$408,000, an increase of four per cent over last year's level.

Martin says the increase will come from requests to previous donors to "upgrade" their gifts and from encouraging "greater participation" of new donors.

The bulk of the money goes to faculties and departments designated by the donors to give them some flexibility within their budgets.

It is only in the past four years that the fund has really started to grow, with much of the increase due to the introduction of the phonathon.

Protest politely, please

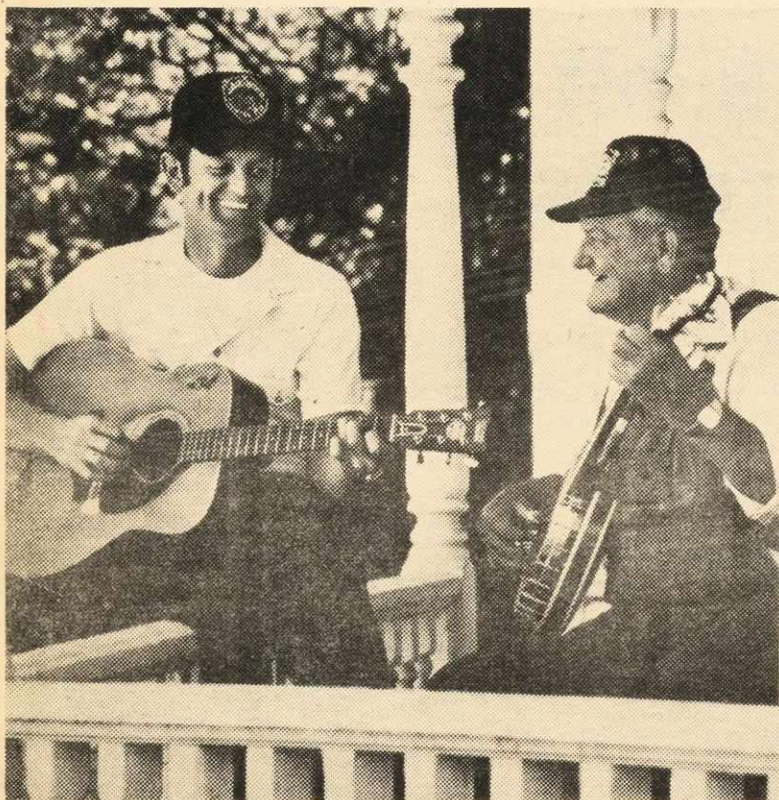
By MICHELLE LALONDE

TORONTO (CUP) — Student protests just ain't what they used to be. The presidents of Ryerson Polytechnical, York University and the University of Toronto were not the targets, but the organizers of an Oct. 16 demonstration against underfunding.

The more than 6,000 students who attended the two-hour rally at the U of T downtown campus didn't have to boycott their classes — they had already been cancelled by their presidents.

The demonstrator was notably different from protests of years past. Participants were asked to refrain from cheering, questions from the audience were planted and cut off early, and after the carefully orchestrated event was over, students were herded back onto buses returning them to overcrowded classrooms.

This "80's-style" rally is preferred by some, including Gregory Sorbara, colleges and universities minister in the Liberal government. "This is a different era," Sorbara said after the rally. "I stop listening when people start getting angry. The premier doesn't respond to displays of anger," Sorbara said.



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Decline and fall of student aid

By TOBY SANGER

Provincial support for student aid is reaching a "crisis" level, says Barney Savage, chair of the Student Union of Nova Scotia.

Average bursaries in the province increased by less than one percent over the last four years while the cost of living increased by almost 30 per cent. The average bursary granted in 1981/82 was \$1308 and only \$1319 in 1985/86. During this period, the cost for room and board in residence at Dalhousie increased from \$2310 to \$3535, a hike of 53 per cent.

"It's incredible how little support the provincial government is giving for student aid. They say it's a matter of dollars — we say it's a matter of priorities," says Savage.

While the average amount granted has declined in real terms, there has been an increase in the number of students receiving bursaries, from 7,352 to 7,745. Still, the total amount handed out by the province has dropped in real terms by 18 per cent.

The drop in support by the province has forced many stu-

dents into higher levels of debt while denying access to higher education for others.

The average amount in Canada student loans received by students in Nova Scotia increased from \$1626 in 1981/82 to \$2807 in 1985/86, with an increase of 60 per cent in students receiving loans.

Savage says this is forcing a lot of students from continuing their education.

"If the government wants to have an accessible system, then bursaries are a must. People cannot afford to keep on borrowing for the exorbitant costs of their education."

"In the past five years, every cost associated with education has risen by more than the level of inflation. The maximum bursary level has not increased by a penny," says Savage.

"A glance at participation rates by county would convince anyone of the inequity of accessibility in this province."

SUNS set up a taskforce in September to look at the student aid system in Nova Scotia and expects to present its recommendations to the government next year.

Capital Fund divided up

Continued from page 3

Casey would like to see changes to the present system of allocation of money to several specific projects. He would like to see funds channelled towards a "bigger project, instead of piddling amounts" to each faculty.

Whether or not the funds could be used for a project designed for the whole student body is questionable. Ideas for the project that would be useful to everyone are Casey's biggest stumbling block. "I will be forever grateful to see an idea for the use of the funds," he says.