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down, after which classes and salaries simply resumed where they left off, it would certainly not be a cost-free event for students, any more than the recent strike was. It is they who would have to maintain themselves during the extension of the school year, they who would have less time available for vacation jobs, and so on. By its very nature a strike is intended to be disruptive, either by diminishing the profits of employers or by causing difficulties for clients after lead to a return to the bargaining table. Here, of course, the clients — the captive clients — are the students.

Were I a student, I would not find it self-evident that those faculty members who continued offering their services to students were less concerned with the welfare of students than those who withdrew them.

No administration is perfect. Every administration needs to be watched, interrogated, and if necessary resisted. But during my twenty-seven years here I have never been pressured from above to do anything that went against my professional conscience, nor has it ever been intimidated, nor that I should feel grateful for such monies as have been paid to me. I find it ironical that it should be fellow academics who are now claiming both a moral and a financial hegemony over me — and that "academics" should be for them a term of contempt.

John Fraser,
Dept. of English

Letter 'Ludicrous'

To the Editors:

This is in response to the vindictive letter by some of the striking faculty (Cross, Gamberg, Laidlaw, Kamra et al.) which appeared in the Dec. 8 Gazette. They sardonically suggest that non-striking faculty members should forgo the salary raise the DFA "won" and donate the money instead to a scholarship

fund. The letter also jeers at these faculty members' altruism and high principles.

I find this a shockingly unwarranted attack on those faculty who with much soul-searching followed their conscience even though it was distasteful and offensive to them to cross a picket line. It is also ludicrous in light of the tactics and questionable conduct of the DFA. The obvious point which was completely missed was that binding arbitration, which was rejected by the DFA almost out of hand (because, among other reasons, it would have taken too long; 3 weeks. The strike was 2½ weeks), may have achieved as high or perhaps a higher salary increase as that attained by you "Soldiers of Justice" in the DFA and with *unspeakably* less hardship for everyone concerned. While many strikers continuously argued that the strike was "for the good of the students" (cough, cough), this became increasingly harder to believe when such offers as binding arbitration were dismissed without much consideration.

You accuse non-striking faculty of "disregarding the public consequences of their actions". Perhaps these teachers merely felt that the likely consequences would be fewer new faculty appointments, greater workload, poorer faculty: student ratios, less funds for teaching supplies, higher student tuitions, not to mention a probable drop in public esteem for professors (who used to be often considered rational and reasonable citizens) — a burden they felt was too great to bear for an increase in salary. And yes, many felt it unfair to offer up the students as sacrificial lambs for their own problems.

Undoubtedly, there were some faculty members who went on strike for higher moral reasons then some who continued to teach. However, any credibility or belief in your higher ideals I and others may have had was severely compromised by this vicious and callous letter. The "respect and forbearance" you flatter yourselves with graciously showing to your poor misguided idealist col-

leagues who chose to teach, was difficult to find. In fact, I confess my baser emotions lead me to wonder why you are teaching at all when filled with such an inability to tolerate a respected colleague's (or student's) point of view. Universities have long been regarded as centres where free thinkers and idealists can find refuge. Sadly, this no longer seems the case. Instead, striking faculty (who signed this letter) have been reduced to sneering and mocking, tearing at those personal values which their fellow workers hold to be an essential part of their moral integrity and self-respect. (Incidentally, your words of non-striking faculty having "sown confusion" among the students rings remarkable similar to how totalitarian regimes politely refer to dissension, and is in fact, merely voicing a different point of view.)

So, don't be too quick to congratulate yourselves, standing there with bloody sword after having vanquished the Evil Forces, for some people don't have the thirst for blood and felt that the sacrificial lambs that were required were too numerous to warrant a battle. Your letter, meant to commend yourselves for your tolerance and reasonableness, has mightily backfired. May your strike in the long run not do he same.

Sincerely,
Linda Weigart
(Grad. Student)

Students the big losers

Dear DFA,

Previous to the recent faculty strike at Dalhousie University, I heard with sympathetic ears the concerns of several DFA members, namely those of my professors. As I am studying to be an educator, I supported their efforts to obtain smaller classes with better professor-student ratios. During the strike I refused to cross picket lines with the rea-

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pain-killers. There are no laws in existence requiring researchers to administer these drugs, and due to the fact that they would simply add to the cost of production, they are not used. What gives humans the right to cause such hurt and torment to other species for our own selfish wants?

Certain ignorant people use the argument that animals cannot think and exist principally for human service. In several experiments, however, apes have proven that they are capable of learning the use of sign language for the formation of basic sentences. Moreover, dolphins and whales have also demonstrated intelligence, being easily trained to aid humans in underwater projects. Many other animals also have developed complex societies within their species. And even if animals are unable to reason, that does not make them unsusceptive to pain and discomfort.

Consequently, animal experiments to test cosmetics have

proven to be unnecessary. The Body Shop, a British-owned retail franchise that markets skin and hair-care products, has more than sixty stores in Canada. None of their chain's wide-spread goods are tested on animals, and their stores are all the more successful. Seeing that other manufacturers even find reason to test their cosmetics leaves doubt at the amount of trust they place in the safety of their own products.

There is no denying that stricter law should be legislated limiting cosmetics experimentation involving animals, if not banning it all together. Imagine yourself in the place of a lab rabbit, locked in at the neck, your eyes being coated in burning corrosive chemicals. None of us would dare even think of enduring such torture, and to prevent it from reoccurring with lab animals, we must lobby our M.P.'s to work towards the creation of a law protecting them. Just think of the many lives you'll be saving.

Richard Janik kicks off winter season at the Grawood!

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WEEKEND!

Back once again by popular demand, Richard Janik kicks off another season at the Grawood. Two entertaining shows tonight (Friday) at 3 pm and 9 pm, Richard Janik plays the kind of music you want to hear!

Plus!

Saturday
Society Night

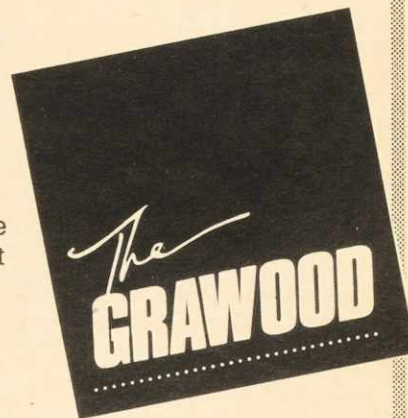
Monday
VIA's Game of the Week

Tuesday
Games, Games, Games

Wednesday
CKDU Club Night
Broadcast Live!

Thursday
The Grawood rocks
with the sound of
frantic dancing every
Thursday night!

Good food and great
friends meet at the
Grawood!



Opinion

by Chantal Boudreau

In the United States, sixty-four million animals per year are heartlessly slaughtered for the sake of research. Canadian figures are comparable in view of population, with an overwhelming number of animals being butchered for medical research, the testing of pharmaceuticals and, the most controversial, the testing of cosmetics. Such unproductive testing is extremely cruel to attentive and feeling creatures, and is entirely unnecessary.

Avon, a large producer of cosmetics, has been known for thoughtlessly conducting painful and blinding eye make-up tests, where the make-up is applied directly to the rabbits' eyes. Avon has massacred thousands of guinea pigs and rats during acute-toxicity. These unfortunate animals are not even spared from suffering through the usage of

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