

Sports fan violence researched at Boston U.

In their efforts to control raucous fans at sporting events, college officials have tried everything from public pleas for rationality to beefing up security to threatening to play major games in an empty arena.

Now a Boston U. research team says that careful study of crowd reaction at sporting events show most fan violence is predictable. It can be controlled on a short-term basis and greatly reduced over the long run.

One premise of the recommendations offered by Education Professor John Cheffers and Sociologist Jay Meehan is that fans at a game tend to unconsciously act as one unit - without instigation by individuals or fueling by alcoholic beverages. "We found that when you put people into stands that are crowded, uncomfortable and often dirty, they tend to act as one," says Cheffers. This herd-like behavior can be used to control crowds as well as incite them, he points out. Often, it takes only a distraction - such as a quick explanation of a controversial play on the stadium scoreboard, Cheffers says.

The best security force at a game is an obvious, but friendly one, says Cheffers, since fans immediately oppose any kind of authority. He favors the "neighbourhood cop" ap-

proach over heavily armed riot police, but says any security force should be out in the open from the start, "while fans are still in a rational mind."

Making arenas more pleasant, cleaner and less crowded would help eliminate fan misbehavior, he adds. Planting flower beds and dividing seats into smaller sections can help. "Care and rationality begets care and rationality," Cheffers

comments. "If you watch a game in relative comfort, you're less likely to be destructive."

Cheffers disagrees with those who say eliminating the sale of alcohol or reducing violence within the sports themselves will help stop fan disruptions. An alcohol ban is "a bandaid cur that punishes 98 percent of the people for the 2 percent that can't hold it," he says, while pointing out that there is actually less fan violence at those sporting events - such as hockey - which traditionally are more violent themselves. "A fight is expected in a hockey game," he says. "When it happens, fans stop and watch."

CAREERS in Defence Science

Department of National Defence

The department of National Defence has an ongoing requirement for graduates interested in civilian careers, in scientific research and development and in social and strategic analysis and operational research. National Defence presently employs 550 Defence Scientists, two-thirds of whom possess advanced degrees with specializations in:

Physical Sciences
Mathematics
Biological Sciences
Social Sciences

or degrees in:

Engineering
Computer Sciences or Applied Math

Defence Scientist recruiters will be visiting your campus soon to interview graduates. For information and application forms, see your campus placement officer or contact:

The Recruitment Officer
Directorate of Defence Scientist Careers
National Defence Headquarters
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K2

Telephone: (613) 995-6906

Open to both men and women.



Public Service Canada
Fonction publique Canada

CARRIÈRES dans les sciences de la défense

Ministère de la Défense nationale

Le Ministère de la Défense nationale a un besoin constant de finissants intéressés dans les carrières civiles dans le domaine de la recherche et du développement scientifique, et dans l'analyse sociale et stratégique ainsi que la recherche opérationnelle. Environ les deux tiers des 550 Scientifiques de la défense présentement à l'emploi du Ministère de la Défense nationale possèdent des diplômes supérieurs spécialisés en:

sciences physiques
mathématiques
sciences biologiques
sciences sociales

ou des diplômes universitaires en:

génie
informatique ou mathématiques appliquées

Les recruteurs pour le groupe des Scientifiques de la défense visiteront votre université bientôt pour rencontrer les finissants. Pour des formulaires ou de plus amples renseignements voir votre agent de placement ou communiquer avec:

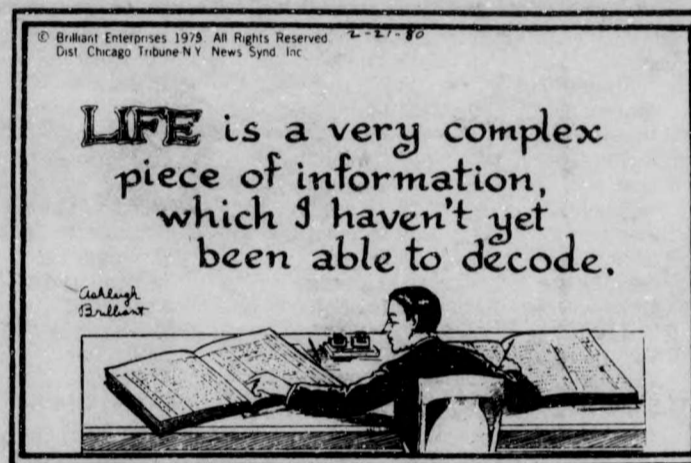
L'Agent de recrutement
Direction des Carrières scientifiques (Défense)
Quartier général de la Défense nationale
Ottawa (Ontario)
K1A 0K2

téléphone: (613) 995-6906

Ouvert aux hommes et aux femmes.



Fonction publique Canada
Public Service Canada



Civil, Mechanical and Electrical
engineering grads:
Let's talk about your future.



Who we are. We are Canada's third-largest electrical utility, generating, transmitting and distributing electricity across British Columbia. We also operate Canada's third-largest natural gas distribution system, and run a modern industrial railway.

We're one of the biggest companies in Canada and a provincial Crown Corporation of 9,500 people committed to providing efficient energy to British Columbians—today, and far into tomorrow.

We need engineering graduates interested in the challenging environment of energy resource development and management.

We offer a stimulating work environment with some of the best professionals in the business. And exposure to high-technology solutions for moving energy over vast distances and rugged terrain.

You receive excellent training and the opportunity to determine your own career path. You'll also get competitive salaries and a benefit package that includes 17 days off each year in addition to three weeks annual vacation, plus the recreational and lifestyle opportunities of Vancouver and other fabulous regions of British Columbia.

Interested? Our recruiters will be on your campus in October to talk with you and receive applications. Watch for dates on your bulletin boards or check with your student representative. Personal interviews will be scheduled for sometime in November.

Let's talk about your future

