

# Bright Prospects for NSCAD

by Colin Smith

Mr. Garry Kennedy, the president of the "Nova Scotia School of Art and Design", (NSCAD) will be one of the major speakers at the annual meeting of the National Council of Art Administrators in Florida on November 7 and 8. He will present a case study of NSCAD, covering its philosophies, programs and the environmental aspects of the college's move downtown.

The American NCAA has some 230 members and is holding its annual conference in the University of South Florida. These conferences provide an opportunity to exchange ideas and formulate corporate stands on issue in visual arts programs. The Council recently cited Kennedy as the key administrator from an institution making a significant contribution to art education, and has therefore invited him to make a

presentation.

Kennedy believes that this remarkable interest in NSCAD is due to its growing international reputation. Since taking over as president in 1968, Kennedy has introduced many innovative ideas. His object: to make NSCAD the best art school in North America. The progress in this direction is attested to by this invitation to Tampa. Another school, with which Kennedy maintains close contact and professes the same nonpareil policy, the California Institute of the Arts, has also been cited by the Council. A comparison is being made, said Kennedy, of North America's two most interesting art schools.

Kennedy, 39, is unpretentious and perceptive. Outlining his intended presentation to the Council, he talked enthusiastically about NSCAD's move from Coburg Road to the waterfront, now in progress. The college has

assumed what must be a uniquely influential role in the city, he said, by using its mighty 'tenant power' to save four historically significant blocks in the downtown area. The renovated storefronts and warehouses are becoming the schools, classrooms, workshops and studios.

The idea is to get the college into the community, he said, and the benefit will be mutual. The college will give a lift to the area; there will be a public gallery and the lithography workshop will front onto the street. The library will also be open to the public. And for our part, said Kennedy, we'll escape the cloistered atmosphere of a traditional art academy. Herein lies the key to his philosophy, which is as he puts it, "to be open and keep in touch any way you can." Downtown the college can maintain interaction with the community and move with

new ideas as they arise, outside the confines of educational biases and systems.

The school's energy, Kennedy attributes to the faculty's professional aliveness. This is maintained by keeping the flow of ideas into the school at a maximum, which is accomplished in a variety of ways. The lithography workshop attracts professional print-makers and is a fully operational business. A large visitors' budget is maintained to accommodate visiting artists, critics and curators. And finally, NSCAD has a co-publishing relationship with the New York University Press. Under editor Kasper König, 'Source Materials of Contemporary Arts' are being published. These are comprehensive studies produced mainly by the artists themselves.

The aim, then, is to create a professional work centre in

the school, which thus provides a natural learning facility to the students. To promote even more outside interaction for the students the World Encounter program encourages international travel. A loft is leased in New York where members of the college community can stay or work while visiting major museums and galleries, and another one is under consideration in Amsterdam.

Kennedy was at pains to stress that his trip to Florida was in no way a PR effort. Enough publicity accrues from the enterprises already described he said, as well as by word of mouth. A fact, he added, that has been reflected in student enrollment, where the number of Maritime student admissions has declined in face of an increasing number of outside applications. This situation, however, he said was under examination.

## The Undersea World of Dalhousie

by Debra Bezanson

The Dal Scuba Club, after many aches and pains is gradually getting on its feet - or should we say fins! There is definitely no question as to the increasing number of students attending Dalhousie

and its affiliated campuses, who show serious interest in the sport. The club began in 1972-73 as a response to this interest. However, a lack of organization forced the club to somewhat of a standstill until this year.

It has been the philosophy of the Scuba Club to offer to



ary pool as well.

Membership in the Club also gives each individual a membership in the NSUC (Nova Scotia Underwater Council). Dal Scuba Club members are receiving 'Dive Nova Scotia' journals every month. Those who have their certification can dive with the club each and every week. Dives are scheduled on weekends alternating on Saturdays and Sundays. The club meets for these dives at 10:00 a.m. in front of the SUB, so if you're interested and you are a certified diver, come along - we'd love to have you.

As a surprise affair coming up on December 13 - A BREWERY TOUR! There'll be a couple of films and it promises to be a good time. So get excited!

Operating costs of the club have been quite high. A \$500.00 grant from Student Council has enabled us to pay for three complete sets of Scuba gear. So these will be available for our active divers to use from now on.

Those interested in the club should come to our

general meetings held on Wednesdays. There's a poster by the SUB cafeteria with more information. Enquiries can be made by contacting Mike Ervin (Director) at 423-9773, or Debra Bezanson (secretary) at 422-9548.

The next course will be offered after Christmas, so here's your chance to join in the sport of diving.



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those interested, a certified course in basic Scuba at a fraction of the cost one would pay elsewhere. In this we have been successful. A course is now being run under the direction of Chipper Budreski. It runs for a duration of about 10 weeks. Theory classes are held once a week at Dal with pool training sessions taking place at the Halifax Infirm-

## Murder Reveals Sinister Group

FT. COLLINS, Co. (CPS-CUP) - There's not much for high school boys to do when they play hooky in the quiet town of Ft. Collins. So, on September 27, five of them allegedly took Dennis Lee Miller, 18, into the nearby foothills and shot him.

Miller's death uncovered the existence of a sinister right-wing paramilitary group called the American Youth Forces. Four of the teenagers involved in the shooting death are believed to be part of this group which has an estimated thirty

members in the northern Colorado area.

"It's kind of bizarre," said District Attorney Studart A. Van Meveren, "and it's unknown how many members (of the group) are really active."

According to Van Meveren, the American Youth Armed Forces may be part of a larger, nationwide organization. "But how organized it is, or how widespread it is, is still under investigation."

Ed Rupert of the Larimer County sheriff's office reported that the purpose of

the group "is to protect the national border against infiltration." He didn't elaborate on which national border they "protect" or who the infiltrators might be.

"As far as we know, there are no adults leading the group," he said. "A young person who came here from another state may have brought the idea in."

Rupert described the youths as clean-cut "straight types." Some of them he added, are Boy Scouts.