

Blasting concerns residents

South Street homes damaged

by Mary Hamblin

Blasting for the Dalhousie Sports Complex has incurred damage to residential homes in the South St. area. Residents are complaining of the noise and intensity of some of the blasts.

The construction began on October 26, 1976, and until Christmas the residents suffered 10-12 blasts per day. Though the building permit obtained by Dalhousie University specified that no blasting was to occur before 8 a.m., residents have complained of some as early as 7 a.m. Resident demands that Halifax City Police enforce this ruling by ticketing were futile.

Residents who have opposed the construction site since 1973 are now faced with such results as cracking plaster which causes buckling wallpaper, unsettled foundations, loosening joints in woodwork and unbalanced doors. One resident has noticed extreme loss of heat and fears that the blasting has jarred the insulation of her home, causing it to settle. Another resident lost an entire set of dishes which fell during one strong blast. The effects extend as far as Robie St. where a resident has reported cracked ceilings.

Before construction began, the contractors' insurance representatives surveyed the houses in close proximity to the site. This was done in order to take inventory of the original state of each residence and assure proper compensation. One family, however dissatisfied with the copy of the survey of their house, secured their own agent to verify the original state of their house. Other residents have taken similar precautions. Compensation cannot be made until the project is finished. Damage to the homes must remain unrepaired until it is assessed.

A resident stated her dissatisfaction with the site construction by saying, "We have always tried to maintain our house well. Seeing the damage occur in every part of the house affects my nerves more than



The Dalhousie Sports Complex is underway, but residents have complained of home damage due to the blasts.

Dal Photo/Langille

anything else. Sometimes the cracks in the plaster move an inch per day.

Even more unsettling is the fact that, when the construction began Dalhousie had not yet received the

funding approval for the project. Many Dalhousie graduates and closely affiliated families live in or near the South St. area. When asked how the Sports Complex project would affect Dalhousie's

image in the community a resident replied, "The University will probably lose much of its' local support. The lack of good public relations will only result in a loss of reputation and financial support."

the dalhousie gazette

27 January 1977

Volume 109

Number 18

Student Union robbed

by Harvey MacKinnon

Eighteen purchase orders were stolen from the Dalhousie Student Union sometime between the hours of 5 pm on Monday evening and 9 am Tuesday morning.

The purchase orders have an inestimable value since they can be used to purchase anything from eighteen color tv's to eighteen cars. "they are as good as cash", according to Student Union treasurer Pat Stewart.

Stewart expects that "the most someone could get away with would be two or three thousand dollars worth of goods. The problem is that

we have no guarantee that companies will check with the Student Union before cashing them."

Stewart said, "the union is checking with all the companies which we regularly deal with and so far none have been cashed". He added that, "We hope to God they're not used."

The purchase orders were taken from the locked Student Council offices, which leads Stewart to believe that the crime was committed by "someone who knows the operation of the Student Union, but we can't say for sure."



Council Treasurer Patrick Stewart is concerned that stolen purchase orders will be cashed.

Dal Photo/Walsh

The purchase orders were "concealed" but not locked away according to Stewart. It would not have been hard to look through the various desks in the office to find the orders.

The eighteen purchase orders were the only ones which were accessible. The remaining PO's were locked up. Blank cheques were also 'loose' in the office but were not stolen. The purchase orders are numbered from 10887 to 10904 inclusive. The five figure purchase orders stolen were the last of the series. A new series of purchase orders are to be used immediately and this should make it easier to stop anyone from cashing the purchase orders according to Stewart.

City police are investigating.

Student Aid Appeals extended

by Eric Lawson

The deadline for applications to Student Aid Appeals has recently been extended by one month, to March 15. Student Council President Gord Neal, involved in bringing about the decision, was interviewed last Friday in the Gazette office.

According to Neal, most appeals are generally reviewed by early January, with the deadline for application being February 15. However, the office of the Minister of Education currently has approxi-

mately five thousand appeals pending. As a result, many students are not sure if their Student Loans will be going through.

When asked what he thought was the cause of the disorganization, Neal was quoted as saying that he felt it was due to "slackness" in the Minister's office. Neal also felt that the move itself was an act of good faith on the part of the government office, as no penalties for lateness of application will be levied due to the extension of the deadline.

Inside This Week

The Dalhousie International

Your worst best friend

Coming Next Week

Election news