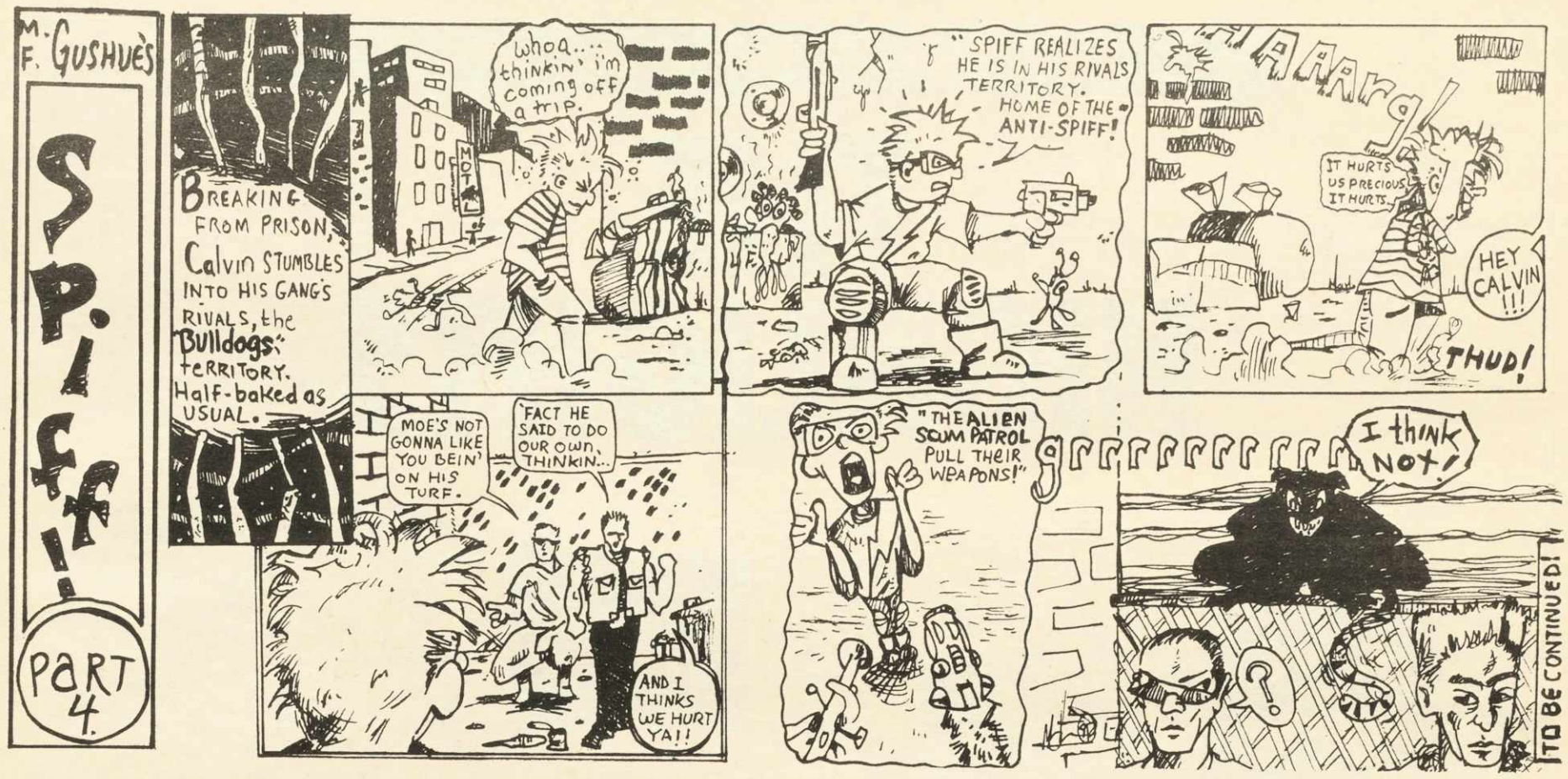
arts



Welcome to Spiff Part 4: A reality where even demi-demons fear to stomp. Last week's Spiff featured our hero turning his roomate into reticular Rocco. This week: Spiff meets a gang of stupid thinking tough guys.

Eclectic exhibit emanates energy

by P. Edwards

On October 5th and 6th, a small but important art show was held in the Green Room of the Dal SUB as part of B-GLAD Week, a celebration of Dalhousie's gay and lesbian and bisexual student organization. The exhibit brought together works of various media, including photography, video and human hair, with the opening ceremonies including a poetry reading and performance pieces.

Three works in the exhibit merited particular attention. First of these is an untitled photograph by Troy Forbes, taken from a larger woork entitled "Snapshots From a Dream". A visual understatement, this photo features a priestly figure gripping a dagger-like cross in a hand that barely controls a seemingly latent desire to strike out. Suggestive of the anonymous and inherent violence of some manifestations of Christianity, this work cuts away glitter and pomp of ecclesiastic matters to reveal a stark, faceless and lonely underside.

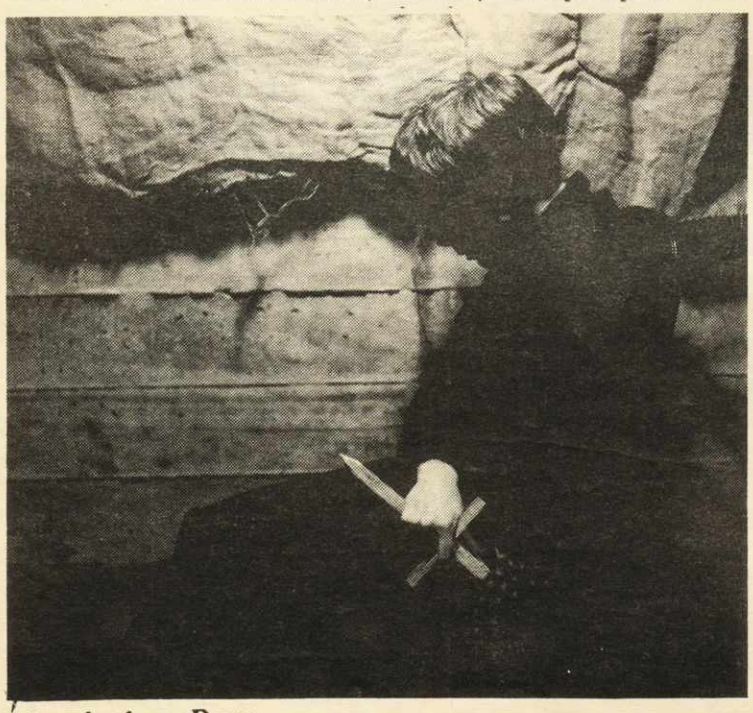
Another black and white photo, "Yosemite Falls" by Anthony Roberts, creates a space of barren serenity, the passage of a moment captured in the fall of water, the precariousness of life clinging to an impassive rock face which remains partially shadowed in spite of, or because of, the day's light.

Finally - and perhaps the most disturbing piece of the dozen or so works - is a box woven of textile and human hair by Megan Holtz. What could be kept in this box? What can pieces of the human – cut off, reworked and re-constructed, rendered utilitarian – be used to hold? After the hair, what next? Does no part of the body, or of humanity remain sacred? Many events of our century seem to provide equally disturbing answers to these questions. Artisinal suggestion or representation of this calls us perhaps to re-examine these ideas.

Aside from these works, the show carried pieces of a charm and freshness that bordered on the entertaining, including a re-oriented children's science book from the Halifax bookmobile that turned dusty ideas inside out to give them a new comic finish.

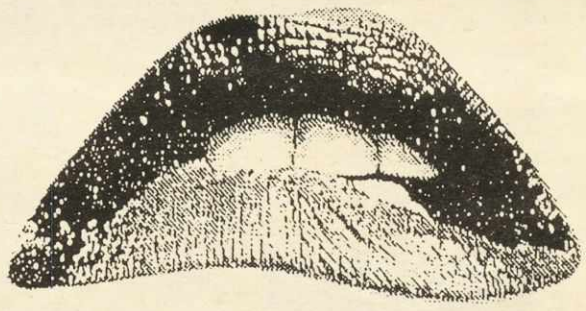
Candida Rifkind, V.P. External for the D.S.U., commented on the show: "I think it's important to see all forms of gay and lesbian expression both as a means and as an end to overcoming silencing. It's also especially important to have people using art in an academic enviroment that through too much focus on formal expression contributes to the silencing of human beings."

What can be said about art in the Green Room? Let's have more of it, and hopefully we can look forward to more to more student oriented and organized shows in the SUB. It can only serve to improve our quality of life as we pass through these halls. God only knows it couldn't hurt to have more people feeling like they have something to bring to our community.



Snapshot from a Dream

Before the MardiGras... Come to the



THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

SATURDAY OCTOBER 31ST
7:30 P.M.
MCINNES ROOM DAL SUB
ADMISSION $3