

Council won't give up priveleges worth \$800. in tickets per year

by Mary Pat MacKenzie

Their own privileges was the only item that inspired Council members to spirited debate at their January 26 meeting.

The issue started with concern in the Entertainment Office over the cost of admitting Council members free to events held outside the Student Union Building. After discussion the executive referred the matter to the Council.

The main cause of concern in the executive was that at any one event Council tickets could cost up to \$170.00, and that one member could use about \$800.00 worth of tickets in one year.

Members of Council seemed more concerned about the fact that since they must reserve tickets two days in advance it is difficult to know if the tickets will be needed. Dan O'Connor suggested that members could get tickets only for events they were sure to attend, and pay to enter others.

There was confusion about how much it cost the Union to let members into events held in the SUB. Two night managers present said that under the present system there is little real cost, but members of the executive had been advised by staff that another system was in use.

Finally O'Connor and Lorne Richardson moved that no member be able to use more than \$100 worth of free tickets in a year. This was defeated, with only four members in favour and many abstaining. Council voted to have Entertainment Director Vic Goldman make an oral report on the ticket system at the February 9 Council meeting.

President O'Connor reported that in response to complaints he had discuss-

ed student tickets with Doug Hargreaves. The Athletics Division now has a policy of assigning 500 free tickets for Dal students at games in the Gym, selling the rest to students of the opposing school and members of the public.

The problem is that Dal students have been allowed to buy the community tickets, which would have been free if the student got in line early enough. Hargreaves is reportedly open to suggestions for improvements that can be implemented to preserve community seats. He feels that letting Dal students get community seats for free if they are not sold is impractical.

Members-at-large Gord MacKay and O'Connor defended the athletics policy, while Mark Crossman (Commerce) and Warren Meek (Pharmacy) expressed severe dissatisfaction. Debate was cut off when MacKay and Richard Haugen began to argue the issues involved.

Later in the evening Gord MacKay and Jane Stewart (Health Professions) were appointed to the Sports and Physical Recreation Council. It will be meeting in the near future to discuss general athletics policy. O'Connor explained the recent history of athletic decision-making, including his idea that renewed Union involvement could lead to a better programme and more student interest.

Richard Haugen presented his long-delayed report on Food Service which recommended longer contract terms. He expressed dissatisfaction with the way in which the Saga contract was approved, but seemed to think that a Union takeover of the SUB cafeteria was not feasible. Specific points in the report were discussed, with some

confusion on several details and a marked lack of interest from most Council members.

Warren Meek's liquor price investigation committee's report was summed up as "Dal has the lowest prices and the highest profits thanks to Murdock Ryan, the bar manager". Treasurer Barry Ward explained that the Union probably will not have to pass on the February 3 liquor increase, but the beer increase will have to be passed on fairly soon after it goes into effect. He hoped that only governmental increases would be passed to the customer in the next year, with the Union taking nothing extra and keeping other costs low.

The committee presented a breakdown showing that in the Grawood Lounge the profit on a pint of beer is 1.1 cents, and 3.7 cents on an ounce of spirits.

Orientation '74 Chairman John Millen made his report, pointing to his own false expectations as the major problem he faced. He was disappointed that the Union only tries to give new students a good time while the university just wants to get them enrolled. He suggested less social events and more student/university co-operation to make the orientation a true welcome to Dalhousie.

Council set February 19 as the date for this year's Student Union elections. Conference reports were received, an attempt was made to better control the waiving of SUB rental fees and Grawood reservations for the Carnival pub rally were permitted. Both the Engineering Society and CUSO received a grant of \$300. The February 9 Council meeting will be the last one for the 1974-75 Council.

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of Students.

In the long run it is to be expected that this external activity will result in better government policies for university students, and a better perspective for the Dalhousie Student Council.

During the next few

months we should look for the beginnings on this campus of a national/regional student aid campaign which is aimed at substantial improvement of the existing attitudes and procedures.

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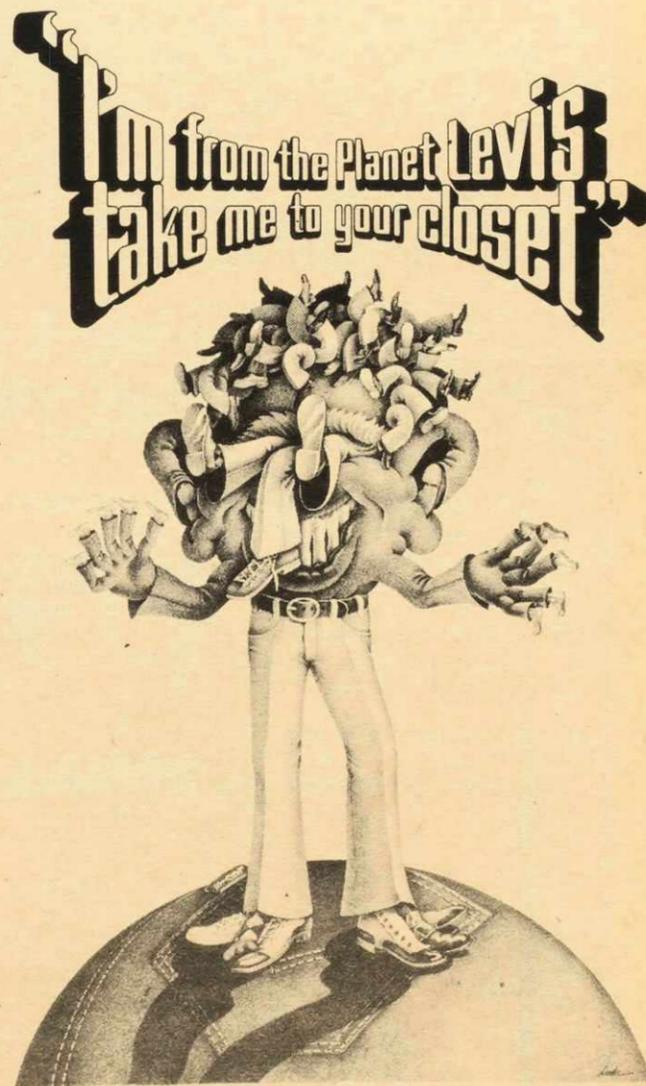
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