

president & vp executive

# elections

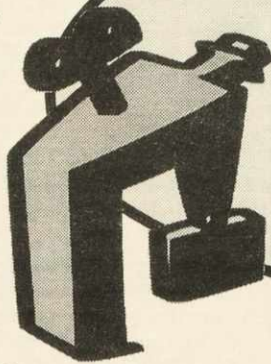
dsu

The folks on the next few pages want your support in their respective bids to run this one-horse town next year. Read about what they believe in. Go to a forum. Listen. Call their infoline. Ask your associates who

stands for what...or if anyone stands for anything. Educate yourself... 'cause *they'll* be spending your hard-earned student loan in '96-97.

**Finally, on March 11, 12, and 13...VOTE! VOTE! And VOTE again!** (at least once, anyhow)

Candidates and registered campaigners responded to a block of questions provided by *the Gazette*. We have reprinted their answers exactly (well, we spellchecked). If you disagree or are offended by what *they* have to say, take it to the top. Talk to *them*. We're busy.



## Questions

for the **President & VP Executive, VP Academic/External, and VP Community Affairs**

1. What can you offer students that sets you apart from the other candidates?
2. Do you think student politicians are taken seriously? Why or why not?
3. What has been the biggest problem in the Dalhousie Student Union this year?
4. If elected, what will be your biggest priority for next year?
5. What current celebrity would you bring to Dal? Why?

dents can hold their own (dis)-orientation in the SUB. After that we plan to play it by ear mostly; doing important things here and there, going to some important meetings, saying important things to other important people, that kind of thing.

We'd also like to promise each an every student that when we're elected and you see us in the SUB, we'll buy you a coffee and say hi. 'Cause that's the kind of thing that students need from their union leaders. And besides, the officers of the DSU get free coffee at Robin's in the SUB.

5. We would bring Pierre Trudeau because he's not afraid to tell someone to fuck off.



**John Cullen & Andrew Simpson**

1. Regularity. Who better to represent the average student than a couple of very average students? We are not the type of people who hang around the SUB all day and complain about politics. On the contrary, we will be the candidates who break with tradition and run the Student Union our way, the average student way. Our first order of business will be to introduce a high fibre menu to the SUB cafeteria...regularity for all.

2. No. Of course we are not taken seriously, but who cares? We (if elected), will have a job to do, and any job worth doing is worth doing well. We are not involved in student politics to win a popularity contest, earn the \$18,000 salary or pad our resumé's. These may be the pleasant side effects of the job, but our goal is to serve you, the average student.

3. The biggest problem is inaccessibility. What do we mean by inaccessible? We aren't quite sure because it's so damn inaccessible. But seriously...nobody knows what goes on inside the SUB and we plan to find out on behalf of you, the average student. Each year the President and Vice President come to power supported by the 8% of the students who voted for them. This kind of support would, of course, give us the right to do whatever the hell we want. But we will remember to be accessible, even to that small minority of students who don't vote for us.

4. Our biggest priority will be to involve the average student in the daily workings of the SUB. Yes, you — the average student — can play a part in how your union will be run. Lots of committees and delegating will make it possible for any student to become involved. If you are now questioning the concept of the average student doing the work of their paid politicians, congratulations, you have just grasped the beauty of our system. On a serious note, we would like to urge everyone to come out and vote on March 11, 12, 13. Vote for whomever you like, we don't care. Just make sure you have a say in who's running things next year. Otherwise, you might end up with a couple of bums controlling the SUB.

5. Neil Diamond, of course. We know he's an obvious choice, but what a wonderful inspiration for the average student.

## John Killam & Tanis Knowles

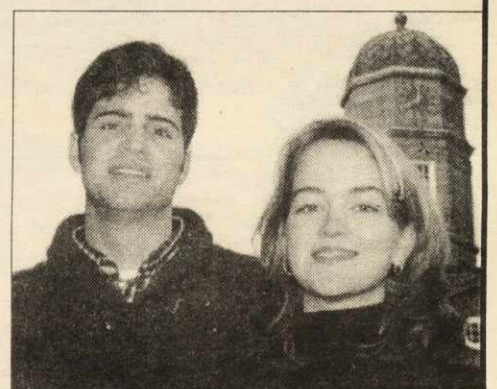
1. Our team is more representative of all students on campus. John, a Nova Scotian, has lived his residence experience to the fullest. Tanis, who transferred from a college in Alberta, has remained off campus while at Dalhousie. Not only does this bring us a diverse perspective on student life, but it has provided us with different leadership experiences. This extensive experience will be used to benefit all Dalhousie students...John is currently the President of Howe Hall Residence Council and has been President of Henderson House Council. Tanis is currently the President of the Dalhousie Student Alumni Association. While in Alberta, she was President of the Students' Association of her college and was Vice President of the provincial student organization. As well, we have both been involved with numerous DSU committees.

2. Our objective for next year is to complete each item outlined on our platform. Things like our intention to create better communication with students through our three level strategy for effective student representation. We will also implement a year-long Dal Pride Campaign that will involve participation by the entire Dal community. Expanding DSU services is our third facet of our platform, through creation of a Dalhousie Job Fair and improving the handbook.

3. We prefer to consider ourselves student leaders, not politicians. Unfortunately, student leaders/politicians are often not taken seriously at Dal. Too often, the DSU is not seen as an integral part of students' lives. Most people are here to get their education and do not have time for things that are of little interest to them. This is not due to student apathy — there are thousands of students involved in extracurricular activities. For student leaders to be taken seriously, they need to get more involved with this existing network of active students.

4. There seems to be a lack of communication of the issues. This year has seen great improvements in the area of communications, however, there is very little communication of the issues, both internal and external, that are effecting students on a daily basis. For example, most students do not know a lot about Dalhousie Senate, Board of Governors decisions, and SUB restructuring. This can be dealt with by communicating more with the students through our Biannual Reports of the executive, and through our weekly publication in the Gazette that will notify students of internal and external issues, and the actions being taken by the Union.

5. JoJo's Psychic Alliance to help students foresee cutbacks and provide a better understanding of where post-secondary education is headed.



## Danielle Boudreau & Milton Howe

1. First of all, we are fielding a female candidate for president, which we feel is an area in which the DSU is way behind the times.

Another thing that sets us apart is that we have no political experience whatsoever. Neither one of us have ever been the president or treasurer or member-at-large of any campus society of any kind whatsoever. That makes us a fresh choice for a bold new-look DSU. This is important because a lot of the SUB rats one sees around these days are getting a little long in the tooth.

2. No, we don't think student politicians are taken seriously, but that's understandable really because they really are a bunch of jerks for the most part. That's what makes us a good choice, we're not jerks at all. We don't have any silly nicknames left over from our residence days. We don't have any future political aspirations. We both come from journalistic backgrounds, and everyone knows that journalists are objective.

3. The biggest problem in the DSU this year has been the DSU itself really. It really is irrelevant to the large majority of students. That can create problems because if left unwatched, politicians inevitably stick it to the people. One of our main campaign platforms is that we won't stick it to anyone. We feel it is important for the union officers to be responsible in their dealings with the membership, and we plan to take some bold steps to ensure that our successors show the same level of responsibility as ourselves.

4. Our biggest priority will be to get a couple of cases of good scotch and crack them open in the SUB lobby during orientation week. That way, even if the administration insists on holding classes, stu-

