

Outreach Tutoring Needs Volunteers

Susan Hayes

Dalhousie students have usually been very helpful in providing volunteers to Outreach Tutoring, until now.

Gary Tanner, the co-ordinator of Outreach Tutoring, said that the program is already underway, and so far they only have fifteen tutors whereas at least sixty are needed.

Outreach Tutoring is a program whereby volunteers tutor students experiencing trouble with schoolwork at the grade school level. Tutoring is on a one-to-one basis for one or two hours per week. Workshops are available to help the tutor approach the student in tested and approved methods.

The students themselves are referred mainly by their teachers, but can be referred by their parents. Tanner said that the student has to want tutoring though, because it would be useless to try and help an unwilling student.

He said that the students seem to be missing the simple foundations. They lack basics such as reading comprehension. The students are matched with the tutors according to preferences such as age, sex, and in what subject the tutor wishes to help.

Tutoring benefits the student not only scholastically, but the students begin to use

their tutors as a role model. Gary Tanner also pointed out the benefits of volunteering. Along with the personal satisfaction gained by such an experience, the volunteering itself looks good to potential

employers. Outreach Tutoring will provide letters of acknowledgement to tutors who meet their obligations. Tanner also said that the tutoring could provide an opportunity for Dalhousie students to test out

studies and methods they have learned. For example, someone in the education department could test out theories on slow learners.

To be a volunteer tutor, you will be asked to fill out an ap-

plication and then will be assigned a child to tutor. For more information on Outreach Tutoring, contact Gary Tanner at 453-4320, or go down to Veith House at 3115 Veith Street in Halifax.



Outreach Tutoring needs 60 tutors but so far only have 15.

COMMENTARY

Thoughts on the women's residence

In many ways, it is a pity that residence is a first impression of university for so many freshmen. It can hardly be considered the fertile soil needed to produce a budding intellect, nor is it an environment that would be conducive to broadening one's social horizons. Rather than providing stimulation or worthwhile social interaction, the only advantage of residence is that it is accommodation on campus.

When I arrived at Shirreff Hall, I was disturbed to find that rules would prevent me from having my younger brothers from visiting me. It seems strange that if I had been a male, my younger brother would have been able to visit the university that he might be attending next year. However, it is not my intention to dwell on the disparities between the rules at Shirreff Hall and Howe Hall. They exist, for no seemingly logical reason, and it would appear that they are likely to remain. More importantly, I want to discuss the aspects of residence that ought to offend anyone who arrives at university with a view to personal development.

Residence conversation is

conducted on a basis that lacks significance. It stifles individual expression. Anyone who uses a word that has more than three syllables in it, (the term is "polysyllabic"), becomes the brunt of a tremendous joke. The only word that I have heard with four syllables in it is "virginity". This word, and all of its nasty connotations, seems to be the issue of greatest importance in the building. Freshmen impressions of people who spend their time talking, in monosyllables, about someone else's sexuality, are to say the least, negative.

Either one conforms or is ostracized. Either speculation about what someone did at Howe Hall is of great concern to me, or I am socially unacceptable. On the other hand, either I tell everyone what I did at Howe Hall, branding myself a harlot, or I become unacceptable to the other cliché. There are, of course, exceptions, some of us certainly don't feel that we belong to either of the two dichotomies: the tell-it-all (to everyone within earshot), or the vestals, (who have sworn off sex—probably until they get a "suitable oppor-

tunity"). I hope and pray that there are other things for budding intellects to talk about. Gossip is certainly important, but I have my doubts as to whether it formed the mind of Voltaire.

If one chooses to see residence as a way of becoming active, socially, politically or culturally, disillusionment is certain. The inter-residence activities are not widely attended, they're no place for intelligent discussion, and they often result in "unsuitable opportunities". Residence politics is a joke: no posted agendas, "friendly letters" are hung on bathroom walls to tell us what was on the previous week's agenda, meetings run by someone unfamiliar with procedure regarding motions and organizational chaos. Culturally, you can see make-up demonstrations, watch the soaps and listen to your stereo, (or that of your neighbour).

In short, the female resident receives no stimulation, mental or otherwise, and seeks solace in apathy.

(The author, who wished to remain anonymous, is in her first year of residence at Shirreff Hall.)

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir:

As President of the Halifax-Dartmouth Chapter of the Kidney Foundation of Canada, and as Producer (amateur, as your "reviewer" is at such pains to point out) of A Man for All Seasons, I feel obliged to comment on what you bill as a "review" of the play in the Dec. 11 Dalhousie Gazette.

Mr. Frank McGinn, your "critic," chose not to mention that this play was put on voluntarily, for a worthy cause, at very considerable time and effort by the many kind-hearted people who received not a single cent for their work. In this sense they were most certainly amateur, to their everlasting credit. Under these circumstances, if Mr. McGinn doesn't happen to like the quality of the work he sees, which is his undisputed right, one might have hoped that he would keep his comments to himself. But no, his conduct is, rather, akin to gratuitously insulting an unattractive girl for being unattractive. Mr. McGinn, it seems, is a destroyer, not a builder. One must, I suppose, retain the hope that when (or if) he matures he may become a contributing member of society rather than a wrecker of the work of his betters.

I have no idea of Mr. McGinn's qualifications to review plays since he chose not to do so in this instance. He appears, on the contrary, to have misused his responsi-

ty to do so for a personal, rude and juvenile attack on Jeremy Akerman. Why do I say his "responsibility?" Because someone from the Gazette contacted me to request two complimentary tickets to the play for that purpose. I am sorry I provided them. Don't bother to ask again.

Yours truly,
Diane Andrewes
President

Dear Sir,

The Inter-Health Professions Variety Show "For The Health Of It" was an exciting new venture for the health professions at Dalhousie this year.

Certainly, in an undertaking of this kind, there must be involvement from all participating; the Schools of Physical Education, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy and Nursing were actively involved!

We acknowledge that outstanding contributions were made and justly recognized. However, we observed that Nursing's support and interest was inadvertently overlooked.

In light of the fact that this was the first undertaking of its kind for the health professions, it is hoped that the above statement will be taken as constructive criticism.

We all look forward to next year's show!
Sincerely,
Dalhousie Nursing Society