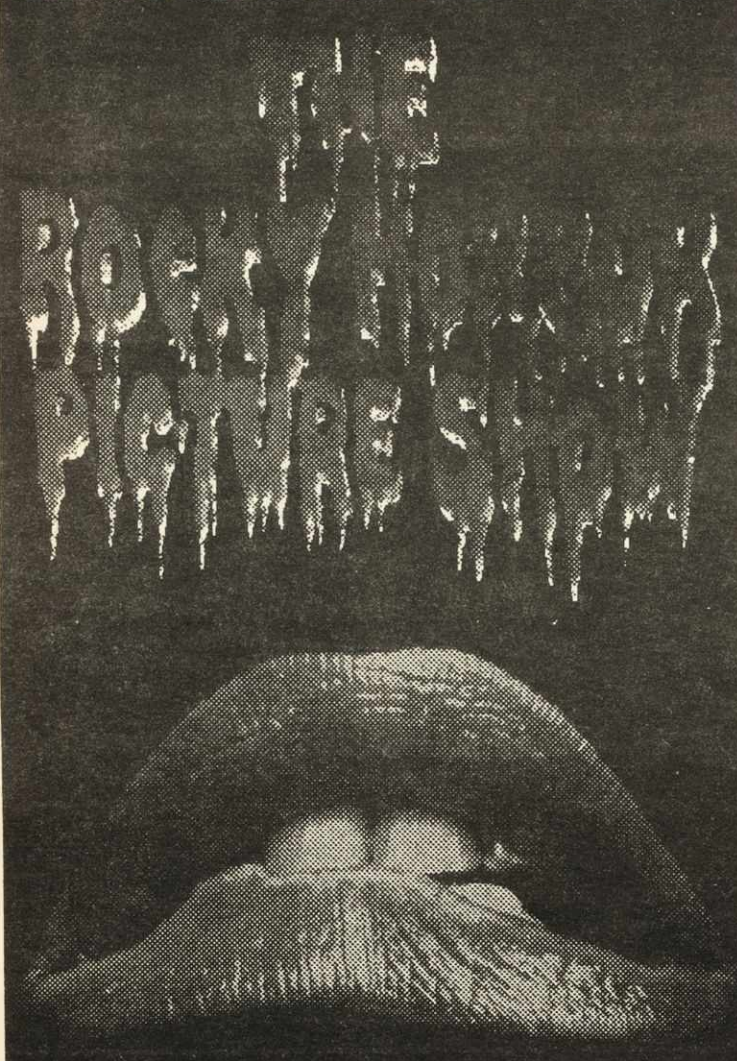
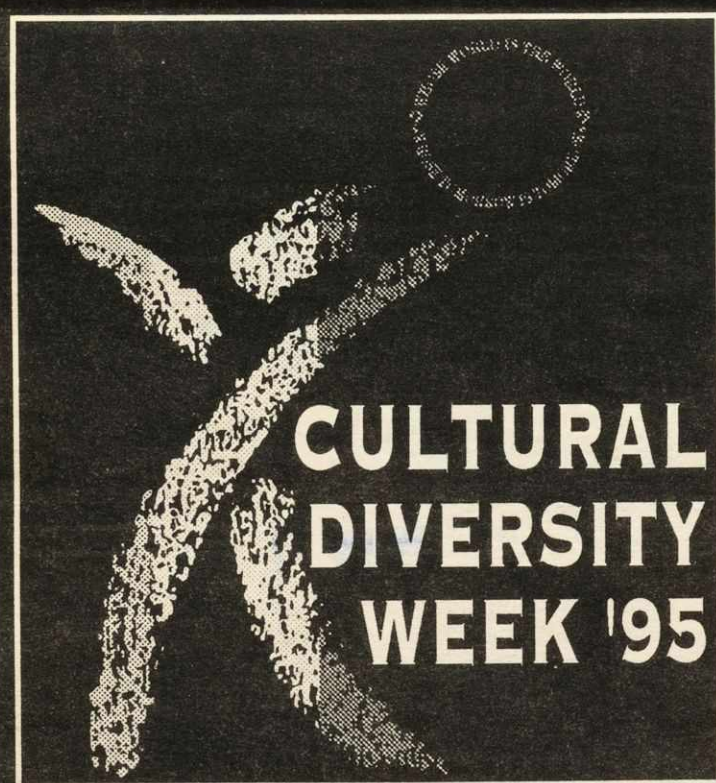


CELEBRATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF A CLASSIC!



**SPECIAL MIDNIGHT SHOWING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27TH
IN THE McINNES ROOM
DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION BUILDING**



**CULTURAL
DIVERSITY
WEEK '95**

GENERAL MEETING

**ALL STUDENTS
INTERESTED IN
PARTICIPATING AND
CO-ORDINATING
CULTURAL DIVERSITY
WEEK '95,
PLEASE DROP OFF AN
APPLICATION TO THE
EMPLOYMENT CENTRE
IN THE DAL S.U.B.
DEADLINE FOR
SUBMISSIONS IS
OCTOBER 27TH**

A new watchdog

BY SHELLEY ROBINSON

While throwing the idea of this story around, I've asked a lot of people what they think — both about the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) and the apathy running throughout campus.

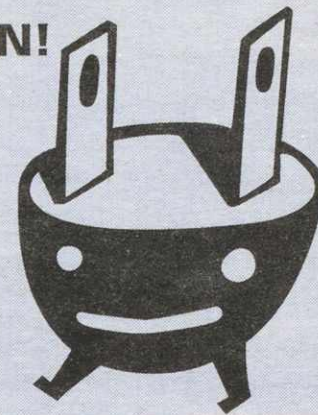
Ask a simple question. No one seems to dispute the fact though that Dal is apathetic. Well, that depends on how you define apathy. Apathy is indifference, and indifference is based on knowing something, and then, not caring. I agree, a lot of Dal students don't care about elections, about the \$132 they give to the DSU, about the Gazette, the list goes on and on, but I don't think not caring is a function of their apathy. It's a function of their ignorance.

No one knows anything, which is why I feel reasonably qualified to write this article. I know virtually nothing about the DSU. Not yet anyway. Ironic that in a place of learning, we go to class and leave the other stuff to the people who care. Care enough to run for office and put up posters, and in turn, care enough to vote for the people who care enough to put up posters. At that, it only adds up to about nine percent of us. This then, is the first in a series of articles about the DSU that I'd like to think of as an owner's

SHADOW BOXING

GET PLUGGED IN!

Introducing the Gazette anti-apathy pill. Shadow boxing will be a regular series in which we will look at what goes in our student government — like how they make decisions and spend our money.



manual. It's important to distinguish between owner and user. As a student at Dalhousie you own and therefore control, indirectly, the student government. However, chances are, you know squat. So, each week a different element of the fundamentals of the DSU will be covered. Just what you need to know — leave the dry-as-toast, dog-eared, highlighted versions of the constitution to us.

The title is Shadow Boxing for a variety of reasons. A shadowbox is a means of displaying something, in this case information, as well, shadow boxing is a means of keeping alert by sparring with yourself. Also, in federal politics, the offi-

cial opposition and in fact most parties in the house, appoint people to be responsible for the same issues as ministers, forming a shadow cabinet. The shadow cabinet presents alternatives and critiques on the government in power.

As much fun, and as easy as I suspect it might be, this won't turn into some lame excuse to blast the DSU and create conspiracies. It won't be a diluted pro-DSU column either, a way instead to know how things work. If in the end people knew, and didn't care about the details of the politics at Dal, then so be it.

I'd rather be apathetic than just plain ignorant, wouldn't you?

Monday was World Food Day

BY CAROL-ANN BROWN

On Monday, October 16, the students of Dalhousie observed World Food Day. You might wonder what World Food Day is — a big food fest? A recipe-swapping gala?

Actually, it's neither of these. World Food Day involves something fundamental to all inhabitants of the planet Earth — food, food security, and the difficulties that abound when these are threatened. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations established this day in 1979 to "heighten public awareness of the nature and dimensions of the world food problem and to develop further the sense of national and international solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty."

Why, at Dal and living in Canada, should we be concerned with these issues? We should care because the food we eat and the consumer choices we make affect our local economy, the economy of developing nations, and the Earth itself.

Let's begin with food security, which is everyone having the economic and physical means to obtain enough food for a healthy life. Food insecurity results from inequitable distribution, limited access, when food is not affordable, incomes are too low, or accessible transportation is unavailable.

Food security decreases when someone doesn't have a say where food is grown, distributed, and sold. At Dal, you might never be involved in growing your own food or raising your own animals. However, by buying that

certain brand of nachos or those yummy-looking bananas, you are directing your supermarket.

As a consumer you have tremendous power over what will be in stock; supermarkets are businesses — they respond to demand. We have the money to make choices about what we eat, others do not. There is enough to go around, it just doesn't make it. Who gets what? This applies to "poor" countries far away, or here, on our own doorsteps.

What do you eat? The idea of eating "healthily" weighs on most of our minds, so you might be eating lots of fruits and vegetables. How much of the produce you buy has been sprayed or treated with chemicals? Where are they grown? Due to falling agricultural commodity prices over the years, farmers have been forced to grow more food on the same amount of land. To do this, pesticides and chemical fertilizers are used to augment the harvest, in turn

leading soil quality to drop drastically.

This affects you directly — you're eating food of poorer quality that's laced with chemicals. Organic farming, as a sustainable farming technique without the use of chemicals, is an affordable alternative, healthier for all involved. Moreover, buying locally grown food gives you the chance to support the Nova Scotian economy, and if bought at a market, meet the people who grow your food.

This scratches the surface. For more information, or to get involved, contact the Food Issues group, a working group of the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG) located on the third floor of the Dalhousie Student Union Building. There are lots of ways to support local and organic farming — check out the Farmer's Market, Halifax's alternative food stores, or NSPIRG's food co-op. Get involved and eat for change!

**Nova Scotia Public Interest
Research Group (NSPIRG)**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on Tuesday, October 24

in the Green Room at 5 p.m.

Meet members of actual working groups, as well as the brand new executive director.

Plus, free (yummy) food. Come one, come all.