

An insider's look at the DSU elections

BY JOHN CULLEN

The DSU popularity contest is over for another year, but not without its little scandals. This time around I got to be a part of it, and before I air my views, I'll tell you what led Andrew and I to run for that treasured position of Coolest and Vice Coolest at Dal.

We were sitting in the SUB cafeteria smoking section, pondering student politics, when one of our editors came up and said, "Why don't you run?" That was that. We flipped a coin to see who would be Prez, and luck was on my side that day. We put up no posters, attended no forums, yet came fifth out of seven teams. Not bad for two guys with no qualifications who know nothing about student politics.

After last year's fiasco with the voting procedure, the idea of elections was stale as croutons to the general population. No one wanted an encore. Thank god those not-too-apatetic-to-vote did it right the first time. While

the regular people voted and went on with their lives, the rest of us, bogged down in the muck of student politics, had a week-and-a-half of the rumour mill. Since all rumours find themselves some way or another in the hands of the media, I got to hear them all. Most seemed centred around the Killam/Knowles ticket. At one of the forums, someone tried to portray Killam as a shady character. Another time, someone said they were sleeping together. Also, someone else said Knowles almost dropped off the ballot the day before the campaign. I highly doubt any of this is true; the best way to ruin a serious contender's chances is to pull out the big guns and start shooting at anything that moves. All the same, this rumour stuff shocked me. Who cares if so-and-so is sleeping with their running mate. Politics is not about one's private life, it's about who can do the best job. Just because someone inhaled doesn't mean they can't be a leader.

Another beef I had about the

whole campaign was the idea of poster violations. I didn't know these pieces of paper had to follow so many rules. You can't put them on doors or windows and you can't touch another candidate's poster with your own. Trivial rules, don't you think? Apparently not, as one group was almost disqualified for it. The majority of people may not know this, but if a candidate gets over 10% of the vote, they are entitled to be reimbursed for their campaign expenditures. If you thought those spiffy laser printed posters were coming straight from the candidate's pocket, think again. They knew they'd get their money back, so why not make it look good? I was complaining about this to



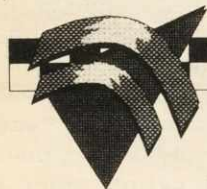
another person running, and I got a response that blew my naivety away: "the DSU has an operating budget of \$700,000. What's a 300 dollar reimbursement? The DSU can afford it". That's the type

of view that bankrupts companies. *Scanlan's Monthly*, a magazine in the 70's, folded because they were citing cocaine as a legitimate business expense. If this year's candidates wanted to win, why couldn't they be in charge of their expenses instead of getting hand-outs from the DSU?

Ah, but as I found out, that's politics.

The whole campaign resembled the Republican party's recent leadership battle. All that backstabbing and 'talking shit' should be left to our scary neighbours to the south. We certainly don't want to turn into them now, do we?

No matter. We still elected some level-headed candidates that will most likely do a fine job. However, let it be known that just as many people will complain about Mr. MacKay as they did about Mr. Cox. No one can please everyone, and if they could, the SUB would be empty of all those irate students, and I'd have nothing to write about. So screw up a few times Brad, because I'm almost out of ideas.



Check Us Out!



The Internet Food Court

RESTAURANTS • PUBS & BARS • MENUS • CONTESTS

<http://www.checkusout.com/letseat/>



The Internet Party Patrol

BANDS • CONCERTS • SPECIAL EVENTS • PARTY INFO

<http://www.checkusout.com/letsparty/>



Grand Opening April 1st



Students get some recognition

BY GAZETTE STAFF

If you are a SUB rat, you may have gotten an invitation to the Sub Rat Ball (a.k.a. Student Appreciation Night), taking place this Friday starting at 6:30 p.m. in the McInnes Room.

Student Appreciation Night is dedicated to all those who have made a contribution to the Dalhousie community in some form or another over the past year.

Board of Governor's Awards are given to graduating students who have volunteered their time and skills to the school. Categories include Best Academic, Unsung Hero, Society Member of the Year, and Society of the Year.

Tickets for the evening are not on sale, but are given to all societies that are recognized by the university. The night features

a banquet put on by the wonderful folks at Beaver Foods; musical stylings by DJ Graham Kitson; and, what is sure to be a very moving speech by our very own University president, Dr. Tom Traves.

The tickets are available from the head of your campus group, so if you are a member of a society and would like to go, contact your leader. The organizers are expecting a turnout of 400 students, mostly because of the cash bar and musical entertainment. Or maybe, the hordes of students want to hear our president waffle away about how 'the future is in our hands' and how 'we can make a difference.'

As mentioned, the doors open at 6:30 p.m., so bring an appetite and a penchant for drink. Get there early...rumour has it John Cullen will be performing a table dance as only he can.

dalhousie student employment centre Room 446, Student Union Building, 494-3537

Summer Job Opportunities — CorporaTel is now offering summer employment for the position of Teleservice Representative. Previous customer service, and telephone experience is an asset. This individual must have a knowledge of Nova Scotia as a travel destination, and computer/typing experience. Applications are available at the centre, deadline date is May 31/96. Several job positions are available with Sackville Recreation as well. These positions are suited for students in recreation, physical education, and education. First aid training is a prerequisite for all positions offered. A listing of the positions, and applications are available at the centre. A copy of the job descriptions is available for reference only. Application deadlines vary, because of the different positions available, so visit the centre soon. Murphy's on the Water is also offering various job opportunities for the summer. For more information on these jobs, check the summer job board at the centre. The registrar's office is accepting resumes for a various number of full time, summer positions. For further information on these jobs, check the summer job board. A description of these positions is also available for reference only, deadline March 29, by noon. Applications are to be submitted to the centre. The deadline date for Dartmouth Parks and Recreation is Friday March 22/96. Applications are still available at the centre. These are just a few of the several summer employment opportunities posted at the centre. If you are still seeking summer employment the job boards should be checked at least weekly. Our office hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Dalhousie Student Union Employment Opportunities — The DSU is now offering various part-time positions, starting in May, and continuing until September, 1996. Applications being accepted are for the following jobs: Sub Staff; Information Centre Staff; Technical Services Staff; Student Reservations Coordinator; Student Night Manager; Grawood/Bar Services; and Corner Pocket Staff. Applications are available at the centre, deadline March 29, by 4:30 p.m.

On-Campus employment — Tiger Patrol and Student Security positions are once again being offered. These are part-time positions, the majority being filled from Sept./96 - Apr./97. Applications are available at the centre, deadline date, March 29/96.

CIBC — The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce is offering summer employment positions as Junior Information Representatives. For a complete list of qualifications, and job description, copies are available at the employment centre, deadline April 1/96.

Junior Professional Officer Programme — UNICEF is now recruiting for Oct./96 interested young Canadian graduates wishing to obtain experience in UNICEF's developing countries. More information and applications are available at the employment centre, deadline date, March 31/96.

National Graduate Register — Information about the National Graduate Register is now available at the Student Employment Centre. This provides students graduating from post-secondary institutions better access to employment opportunities.

Federal Summer Student Employment Program — FSSEP applications are still available at the centre, please pick them up as soon as possible.

Part-time Positions — Part-time employment opportunities are posted daily. There are a number of various positions being offered, the boards should be checked at least weekly.