

SMU savages storm Studley

by Ken MacDougall

Dalhousie University became the recipient of a bleachers and paint-dumping debacle, courtesy of a well-organized group of St. Mary's University residence students on October 29.

At 1 a.m., someone pulled the fire alarm in the SMU high-rise residence, to get things rolling. Approximately 300 males and five or six Myra Breckenridge counterparts soon converged on the Dal football field and did their "thing".

They then decided to converge on Shirreff Hall for a rousing "Penis Power" demonstration. Forty Dal Campus Police met them at the stone wall in front of the building, and did an admirable job containing the group.

Displeased with the insignificance of the welcoming committee, however, the crowd headed for the Student Union Building, only to be stopped again by campus police at the gymnasium. At this point several SMU scholars grabbed a wooden platform and attempted to batter their way across the track and through CP lines. Two police were forced to jump on the platform to avoid injury.

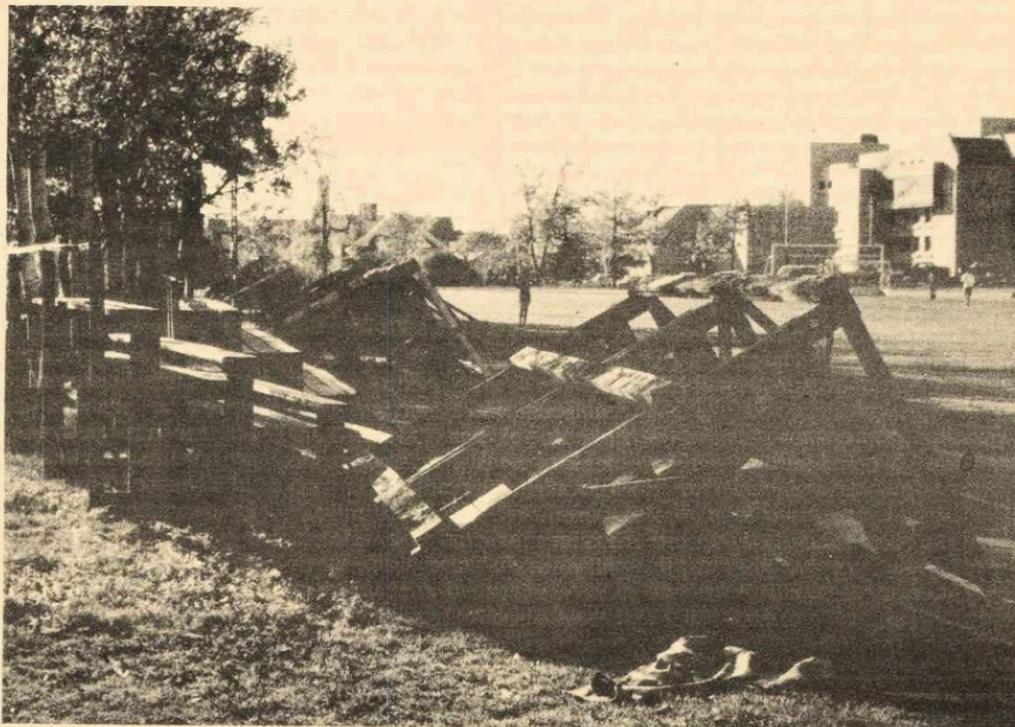
In the ensuing melee one CP had an artery in his hand broken and his back injured, another suffered a separated shoulder and still another had a \$200 watch stolen. A wallet was lifted as well and is presently being held for ransom, by the "Saint Mary's Commandos".

Three SMU students were detained and later released in the custody of Ken Bendelier, SMU Dean of Men. It is understood that these three will face charges before the SMU Student Judicial Board.

Bendelier said he wanted the incident kept quiet.

During this time, the Halifax Police Department, arriving only one hour after being called, leaned on the South St. fence and shouted encouragement. For their efforts the Chronicle-Herald credited them with stopping the incident.

The remainder reads like a war game: Over to Howe Hall, back towards the SUB, to the auditorium and back to the SUB before the SMU intellectuals called it a day. Damage to campus facilities was estimated at \$2600, which SMU has promised to repay. \$5.25 went to each of the CP's in return for three and one-half hours of hassles and potential injury. In



(art mckay/dal)

future the Dal and SMU police are going to co-operate in crowd control involving both campuses.

Dal students were not totally blameless. Four students from this campus went to SMU and burned holes in the practice field there. Yet the administrations of both univer-

sities felt that "things COULD have been worse".

John Graham, SUB Building Manager, wasn't sure why this had occurred. He had difficulty "bringing myself down to the level" of the rock-throwers to form some meaningful relationship.

Carl Thomas, Dal top-con,

was more direct. In a similar incident by 150 SMU students on October 14 he took aside one of the crowd and asked why he was there. According to Thomas the student, his eyes moist with tears of frustration, replied, "There's always more chicks up here, and we wanted to find out why."

Nova Scotia discriminates against women

by Emmi Duffy

Nova Scotia discriminates against women, according to Gail Mason, Nova Scotia Human Rights officer.

Mason was a guest on a panel discussion "Women In Nova Scotia" held October 27 in the Dalhousie Student Union Building. She is currently writing a brief, documenting incidents of discrimination against women to assess the situation and if necessary to recommend sex legislation. At present, a person in N.S. may not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, colour, creed, ethnic or national origin.

GETTING THE JOB

Sometimes women are refused employment by employers who make their decisions on the basis of stereotyped characterizations of the sexes. One such complaint was made by a woman with several years sales experience.

"I was referred by Manpower for the position of salesperson at a Halifax store. During my interview with the manager he confided to me that as far as he was concerned, men made better salesmen. However he admitted that his one female employee was doing very well and gave me the impression that my chances of getting the job were good. When I called him back he apologized for wasting my time and said 'We had a (executive) meeting and I was told I wasn't supposed to be looking for a woman. We want to have an all-male staff'."

Mason pointed out that the N.S. Minimum Wage Act does not require a differential. The

Minimum Wage board in N.S. decided to set it up so women receive fifteen cents less than men.

PREGNANCY MAJOR PROBLEM

There is no regulation in the Nova Scotia Labour Law requiring the employer to permit pregnant employees to take a leave of absence without a loss of seniority during the period immediately before and after childbirth or requiring reinstatement. There are, as a result, quite a few inconsistencies.

"Dartmouth has no maternity policy except for teachers and does not feel there should be a policy. Halifax county has maternity benefits only for unionized female employees. St. Mary's and Dalhousie universities have no formal maternity policies. This is a decision left up to the department heads.

"In the provincial department of labour sixteen out of twenty hospitals and seventy-eight out of eighty-six manufacturing industries provide no maternity benefits," said Mason.

The Federal Unemployment Insurance Act covers women whose jobs have been interrupted by pregnancy. However, one must have paid into this scheme for a specified length of time. As of January, 1972, everyone will have to pay into the plan.

CHANGE THE LAWS

Popular opinion and pressure are the only ways to change laws. "It has to be politically attractive for provincial action to be taken," stated Ruth

Taillon, a member of the Young Socialists who organized the meeting.

More than thirty people, including six men, partially as a result of the discussion, indicated their interest in forming a Women's Liberation group in order to plan action on relevant issues. Some of these include a) legislating sex under the Human Rights Code, b) abortion rights, c) equal pay — minimum wage, d) maternity leave, e) day care centres, and f) consciousness raising.

Taillon advised starting on "gut issues" that people can really relate to, like equal pay, rather than desegregation of ferries and taverns, as some people suggested.

Jackie Barkley, a member of

the audience, expressed concern that Women's Lib seems to be exclusively professional women in the 18-25 year old group.

"Their issues are birth control and abortion because that's where the crunch comes. When you have your kid, you can't apply for that job and being married limits your mobility. Women's Lib should be concerned with women whose options are closed, women who are married and have kids. They are stuck at home and can't get out to organize and fight for co-op day care centres. They are the ones who need liberation. They can't even come to Women's Lib meetings."

Another woman added

"Divorced middle-aged women with kids are up against it coming back into the labour market. You have to take what they give you."

Interested women are invited to attend meetings held Wednesday evenings in the Dal SUB.



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