Dodd

## WORDS FROM THE WISE

#### Senators. take note!

To the GAZETTE:

One of the most interesting things about this year's student elections was the number of students contesting the two positions of student Senator. The fact that no less than eleven students ran for a traditionally unattractive position deserves honourable mention.

Hopefully this much competition has resulted in the election of two senators of the caliber so badly needed by Dalhousie. For the two elected students, along with the president of the Student Council, are the only two representatives we have on a body which decides the policies of this university.

By now most of you have probably heard that tuition may be going up another \$100 next year. Whether or not tuition will finally be raised cannot be

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stated at this time but one thing can be said; unless the expenditures of this university's administration come under serious scrutiny from the student Senators, you can probably expect that raise in tuition.

To avoid criticism of the fact that Dalhousie tuition is the highest in Canada, the Administration has put much of the blame on the inadequate amounts of money fed by the provincial government to Dal.

This argument holds little water when one considers the tuition of other universities in Nova Scotia. The real issue at stake isn't the poor government grant to Dalhousie but the grossly extravagant and incompetent manner in which the Dalhousie administration has handled its financial affairs.

For example, is it true that plans to construct, during the past few years, the Arts Centre, Killam Library, and Life Sciences Building, were approved before all the facts were

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known about the operating costs of these buildings?

Is it true that this university loses a great deal of money annually through inefficient management of Dal's residence building?

Is it true, as a senior member of the Psychology department said earlier this year, that Dalhousie has been more interested in expansion than the quality of education you and I receive?

While these are by no means the only examples of how Dalhousie students are being short-changed they do illustrate the urgent need for questions to

be asked. If not, you and I are going to lose out.

If this year's student Senators are to be effective they must immediately start asking such questions and demand answers. If tuition goes up again many students will be forced to leave this university, not because they want to, but rather because they will be forced to, due to extra the financial burden. Change must come.

You, the elected students, are the only ones who can affect the policies of this university.

Let's have it!

Don Retson

#### A reply to Winter Carnival critics

To the GAZETTE:

In the last edition of the GAZETTE, an anonymous, apparently concerned student, again took it upon himself to criticize Winter Carnival, both in respect to entertainment and to cost of tickets for events. That the student concerned does have a valid point when he remarks upon Dalhousie policy to shy away from big name entertainment is undeniable.

If one looks, however, at the facilities available in Halifax, one will realize that the breakeven cost per ticket will be

deterrently high. A name performer, for instance charging \$15,000 per performance, which, incidently, refers to one 45-minute set, which means generally that some back-up entertainment must also be provided, will require people to pay prices of \$15 to \$20 per single seat in the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium or the McInnes Room and about \$10 to \$12 in the Capitol Theatre.

tremendous There

discrepancy in what constitutes a "name performer" even in that price range, and this induces a high amount of risk. The Dalhousie Student Union in general, and Winter Carnival in particular, have chosen a more feasible alternative, namely to provide entertainment over a longer period of time at a relatively reduced cost for a greater number of events, the total cost of attending all events of course becomes enormously

The student is therefore faced with making a rational economic decision, namely to select those events from which he thinks he will receive the most enjoyment. Due to the great number of students now enrolled at Dalhousie who are expecting an increasingly greater quality and variety of

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