## Beach boys play Dal

Riding on winds of wisdom and a white horse of efficiency, Ritchie & Associates arrived at Dalhousie last summer and liked it so much they've decided to stay a month over their original estimate (so what if they get paid by the week!)

Someone should take credit for bringing an organization to Dalhousie with such notable successes to its credit as the study done at the University of British Columbia last year. Ritchie sure cleaned that place up, though not literally, since the new schedules in place allow for cleaning of some rooms at least once every two months. And imagine, they only had to put up with one staff walk-out and major labour dispute through the entire thing!

Apparently the latest thing in management techniques at Dalhousie is to have a bunch of human time clocks following employees around and timing everything from lunch to trips to the bathroom.

The Dalhousie administration is paying \$900.00 per day for the use of each Ritchie consultant, and the price tag is now approaching 1 million dollars. For people who wanted to save money, they've managed to spend it in a big way and that's not the best part.

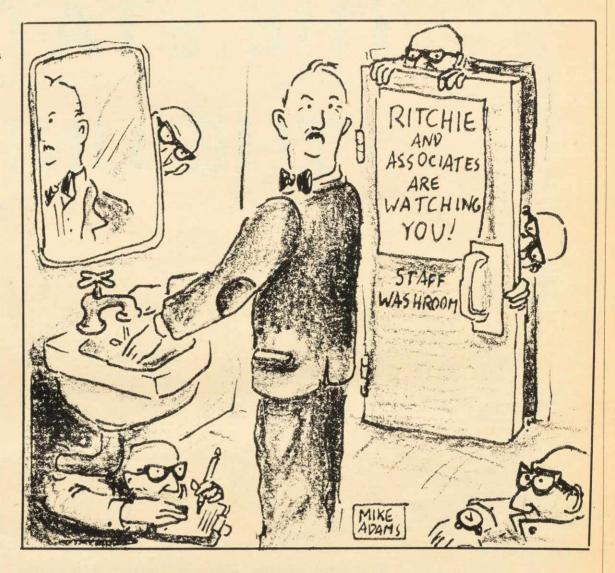
Have you heard about Dalhousie's version of unemployment insurance? If Ritchie deems an employee's job redundant (that's official talk for useless), then they give them a paid limbo for however long it takes to find them a new job. Talk about energy efficient, the employee can save his or her strength and still get paid.

Many students are frustrated over the registration process this year and they seem to think this entire efficiency idea is pretty damn inefficient. How would you like to go to a university where one-to-one contact with the students by the staff is considered an offical interruption? (Do you feel like an interruption?)

With all the alleged brains and good-will here at Dalhousie, why did Mr. Robbie Shaw and the Administration bring up Ritchie's Beach Boys from Beverly Hills to handle Dal's problems way up here in Nova Scotia?

And hey, if they offered you a million dollars to follow people around and explain how to stack paper clips more efficiently, wouldn't you take the job? I know I would have applied, but alas, the opportunity was not given. I don't come from California and can't stick an "& Associates" on the back of my name so I guess I'll remain a struggling journalist.

COLIN BAIRD



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As founding member of Canadian University Press, the Gazette adheres to the CUP statement of principles and reserves the right to refuse any material submitted of a libelous sexist, racist or homophobic nature. Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor and announcements is noon on Monday Submissions may be left at the SUB enquiry desk c/o the Gazette.

Commentary should not exceed 700 words, letters should not exceed 300 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted on request.

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The views expressed in the *Gazette* are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the editor or the collective start.

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