

# you were saying

## NSCAD complains

### To the Editor:

When the NSCAD student council was temporarily dissolved on November 26, 1983, in lieu of January 1984 elections, the *Gazette* unfortunately could not cover the issue as a result of a concerted effort of a large portion of its staff having been exhausted from trying to commit libel against its Editor, Catherine Ricketts. Once the pseudo-coup had subsided, we requested coverage. Had we been aware we were to receive the "Gumby and Pokey of student journalism," we would have simply issued a press release.

We are not the "Art College," as the title of your article of January 12 indicates; we are the "College of Art and Design." The majority of students attending NSCAD are not enrolled predominantly in courses of the Fine Arts. Furthermore, our Chair, Charles Grantmyre, has been misrepresented. He did not refer to our Council's problems as originating from "mismanagement," and he feels "undue stress has been placed upon comments of lesser importance."

If your reporters had spent their time writing notes rather than writing their questions, perhaps they would not have made the error of stating that a two-thirds plenary majority could have defeated Mr. Grantmyre's notice of dissolution. Dissolution was not a motion, but rather a decision of the Chair, who possesses autonomy in such cases. We are presently making Constitutional amendments such that, in the future, the plenary may construct a motion to over-rule a notice of dissolution with a two-thirds majority, however, no such provisions presently exist. Furthermore, in regards to "Woodward and Bersteins' (sic)" remarks concerning the current state of our union, they were informed that although as of January 11 we were short of nominees for vacant positions, that we were expecting more before the deadline of January 18. Such has been the case, and as of January 15, there are only five of a possible eighteen positions without nominees.

Your reporters, Messrs. Wright and Cox, are inept. We are forced to agree with our Treasurer, Robert Tonk, in saying "intellectual beggars take what they can get."

Sincerely,  
Roger Lewis  
NSCAD Student Union

*Editor's note: Our reporters were incorrect in referring to the chair's ruling as a "motion". They maintain the chair was not misrepresented. The source of the chair's quotes was a telephone interview Jan. 10. These quotes should have been prefaced "in a later interview". The reporters contend the story reflects the information given.*

## Students are pigs

### To the Editor:

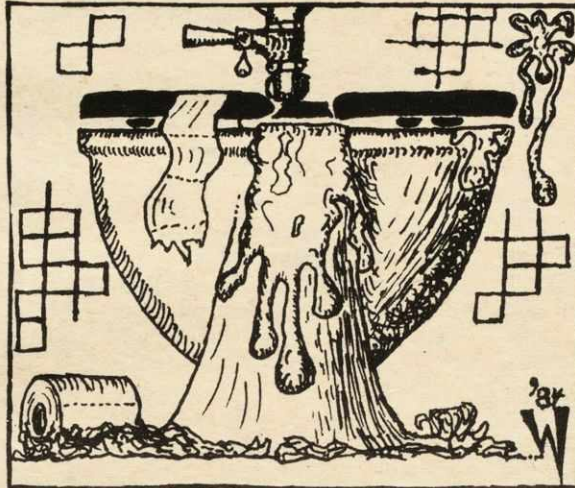
To many students at this university the topic of wash-room facilities will cause a smile, even a laugh. But to this disgusted student the facilities are nothing to laugh at. The best example of this is in the Student Union Building. Speaking only of the men's washrooms (and thereby confining this judgement to male students), they are both offensive visually and a threat to an individual's health. The graffiti there does not reflect an institution of higher learning, instead it reflects a haven for racists and women-haters. (Such generalizations are far common practise for this paper I feel no inhibitions from using them.) There is a point where this stuff can no longer be tolerated. These are not the writings of a few misguided youths, this is numerous and common bigotry. Why should the other students using the facilities be subjected to these surroundings?

Another problem is the hygiene of these facilities. Quite frankly, students here, the male ones anyway, are 'pigs'. Toilets are never flushed, seats are always soaked and the floor has a fine layer of yellow liquid covering it. The word vomit comes to mind. Diseases are easily transmitted in this environment. It is clear that individual consideration at this university is both non-existent and careless. Nobody gives a damn about anybody here because this university is so impersonal.

Perhaps the Student Union should consider closing down the facilities until the washrooms are treated with more consideration for others who use them. Although this type of action might seem child-like it is no less child-like than the actions of students here whose manners closely resemble a two-year old. Child-like

behaviour deserves child-like discipline and perhaps a substantial period of closure (during which time the bathrooms can be cleaned) might convince students not to take washrooms for granted.

signed in frustration,  
Kevin Charles Little



## The power of football



### To the Editor:

Forty-three, fifty-four, hike!

For over three years now, I have become increasingly disengaged from any serious political activity in and around our beloved Student Union. Why, just last year, I wrote a savage denunciation of the "pols" in the SUB right here in these pages, and I'm still convinced that what I said then still holds (under the pseudonym Adolf Verloc). Now, a year later, after a careful and thoughtful consideration of the problems an active student political body faces when confronted with the, ahem, unwashed masses, I offer a solution. A veritable cure-all for the ills inherent in what is, after all, a laughably backward political system.

How can any self-respecting post-secondary institution call itself a University without a football team? A football team is the very lifeblood, the pulse, nay the essence of a University's heart. The excitement and drama of a football game cannot be matched by the stagnant outpourings of the *Gazette's* stable of rhetoricians. A football team provides a genuine, worthy cause to support, rather than the half-baked media fluff the *Gazette* insists "is important". What could be more important than a unified student body, drunk and happy, roaring with primeval enthusiasm as a Dal Tiger halfback scoots around the left side of the line and breaks away for a long gainer?

If politics is your thing, surely you realize that cramming the issues, legitimate or otherwise, down the throats of the uninformed is the wrong way to go about

it. One starts with a unified, single-voiced student body, and whether you wish to expound left-wing prattle or right-wing gobbledegook, you will have no effect at all unless there is a viable method of reaching The Folks. Football provides the medium; why, a giant electric screen/scoreboard can display your message (for a nominal fee) to the Football Hordes: "Ban the Cruise", it may say, or "Down with Andropov" - whatever! And the roaring crowd, of which I would be a member, would look up from the bristling excitement on the field to see **your message** twenty-feet tall. No other student activity can hope to duplicate the sheer power of such an event.

Of course, this is only one of the many advantages a Dalhousie football team would have to offer. But until we have one, battling away for inter-conference supremacy and **our hearts**, we should stop calling ourselves a University: we should call ourselves a Disgraceful Hodgepodge of Not Much of Anything.

Hike!  
Hike! Hike! Hike!

Yours sincerely,  
Lex Gigeroff

## Security responds

### To the Editor:

In response to Ms. Horne's letter (January 9th issue) regarding Campus Escort, we wish to clarify the objectives of this service.

The Escort Service was initiated in response to an expressed need of increased security for students walking on campus. Current social perceptions are that women are safer travelling with men. Indeed, this perception was expressed by the students we wished to serve. In order to provide an effective service, we felt it necessary to acknowledge these perceptions. For this reason, the Escort Service employed two male volunteers.

Our aim was to utilize the male volunteers as a catalyst in promoting the service and by no means were male escorts to be used exclusively. Our main objective is to encourage women to travel in groups, hence our theme "safety in numbers". Presently, we are considering employing both male and female volunteer escorts. As well, we are considering rearrangement of the schedule to better utilize the first run to Shirreff Hall and possibly expanding the service to include Fenwick.

Furthermore, we recognize Ms. Horne's concerns about the advertising of the service and are considering appropriate modifications.

We hope that this letter can clear up some concerns about the Campus Escort Service. Any form of student feedback regarding this service would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
DSU Security Committee  
Philip Barnstead (Chair)  
Anne Cunningham  
Karin Fowler  
Jenny Fearon  
Sunil Sharma  
Christina Woods

## Thanks to Ring

### To the Editor:

In these latter days of increasing costs and decreasing services, it would be a real shame not to offer praise where praise is due to someone in business who really gives the customer a break and who still believes the old adage: "The customer is always right!" Mr. Gary Ring, Food Services Manager at Howe Hall, catered the 1984 Atlantic Regional Newman Conference on January 13-15 and did such a tremendous job that I feel it warrants recognition. Not only did Mr. Ring do everything in his power to cut costs for the Newman Society, he also went out of his way to ensure that all the preparations and the execution of the catering were entirely to our satisfaction. I would be doing the other Societies on campus a great disservice were I not to point to Mr. Ring as the man to deal with for catering meals, etc. It should be noted that because Mr. Ring can use excess food from catered events to serve in the residence proper, he is able to substantially reduce the charges for catering. Also, the Cameron Dining Hall in the Men's Residence can be completely closed off from the rest of Howe Hall and makes for an excellent meal environment. Other Societies would be well-advised to see Mr. Ring first, before making any other catering arrangements.

Sincerely,  
David G. C. McCann, Chairman,  
1984 Atlantic Regional Newman Conference