

# you were saying

## "When you cut us, we bleed"

To the Editor:

The Dalhousie Women's Faculty Organization, at its first meeting of the year on October 4, 1983, expressed strong support for the action taken by Student Council, disciplining SUB employees who had condoned the showing of pornographic films in the SUB. Censorship often poses a moral dilemma to civil libertarians, who would like to avoid "infringing on the civil rights" of any person; however, when the issue is the glorifying of degradation and violence against a group of people (women, in the case of pornographic films), the civil rights of the group implicitly under attack must take precedence. The Dalhousie Women's Faculty Organization applauds the Student Union for making it quite clear that Dalhousie University will not be a party to such "events".

Dr. Patricia De Meo  
President, Dalhousie Women's Faculty Organization

## R and D in ecstasy

To the Editor:

As a recent graduate of Dalhousie University and an alumni of Zeta Psi Fraternity, I would like to express my disgust with last week's "Rusty and Dave" column. This outrageous slur on fraternities merely reflects the narrowmindedness of someone on the outside glancing in. If ignorance is bliss, I'm sure Rusty and Dave are in ecstasy.

Peter Wright

## Fraternities Pilloried

To the Editor:

In reference to last week's "Rusty and Dave" column, it is apparent that many misconceptions about and negative stereotypes of fraternities still exist. One assumes that the column is an attempt at satirical humour; the problem is that satire relies on the exaggeration of fact for its effect and the "facts" quoted by Rusty and Dave do not apply to Phi Kappa Pi.

Three examples merit particular attention. Firstly, the reference to the Hitler Youth is inaccurate and demeaning. Our brotherhood incorporates a very diverse group of individuals, and there is a much smaller degree of behavioural and philosophical uniformity than the authors imply. Secondly, the suggestion that underage females are coerced into attending parties at Phi Kappa Pi is ludicrous—nobody under the age of 19 is permitted to enter the house for parties, and no one is "induced

to buy drinks." The choice of whether to drink or not is the guest's prerogative.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, friends are not "bought" at Phi Kappa Pi; the pledge period and fraternity life in general foster a genuine feeling of brotherhood and commitment. As for the Lemming ritual and the wearing of oversized windbreakers, it is important to note that these phenomena have nothing to do with Phi Kappa Pi—rituals and fashions differ from fraternity to fraternity. One ought not to assume that all fraternities are alike; specifically, the behaviour and attitudes manifested by the brothers of the most visible fraternities at Dalhousie are not necessarily typical of all fraternities. In the final conclusion, it is regrettable that Rusty and Dave pilloried all of Dalhousie's fraternities in attempt to ridicule one or two, and that this attempt may have biased the views of some readers toward fraternities. Phi Kappa Pi invites the readers of the *Gazette* to drop by, or to attend one of our parties, and judge for themselves.

Cliff Thoma:

On behalf of the brotherhood of  
Phi Kappa Pi Fraternity  
1770 Robie Street, Halifax

## Open challenge

An open letter to all Faculty:

At the Oct. 16 council meeting, the university of El Salvador Book Campaign was granted 300 dollars to help offset shipping costs of collected books.

In addition, faculty donations will be matched dollar for dollar by the Student Union to maximum of 700 dollars. To date, one hundred dollars in cheques has been received from the DFA but much more is needed.

The university of El Salvador was invaded by the Salvadorean military on July 26, 1980, resulting in structural damage and destruction of books and equipment. Since then, committed faculty and administrators have been able to continue teaching and providing degree programs using facilities made available by secondary schools, hospitals and offices of professionals.

The government has now allowed the university to reopen on the campus but is providing no funds to replace equipment and books. The university is appealing for international assistance to rebuild the libraries.

Dalhousie is responding to the call and is leading the Maritimes and possibly Canada by collecting, sorting and packing over 50 boxes of books. The costs of shipping the books is enormous - the challenge is on to collect funds to get them to El Salvador.

The DFA's academic brethren at the University of El Salvador are often risking life and limb to teach on the re-opened campus. They persist for the sake of freedom of education.

Dal professors have no such fear.

The students and staff involved in the University of El Salvador Book Campaign hope for a generous show of

support from the DFA. Cheques payable to the University of El Salvador Book Campaign may be dropped off at a table in the SUB lobby from 12-1 pm daily.

Books may still be dropped off at the SUB Inquiry Desk or the Spanish Department.

Volunteers for  
the University of El Salvador  
Book Campaign

## US questioned

To the Editor:

The largest peace demonstration of the year will take place on October 22, the International Day of Protest Against the War Preparations. All students regardless of their politics, race, religion, or creed should participate.

Yet there is an issue in the peace movement on the way in which we can make a contribution to the averting of world war. One view is that Canada should be declared a "nuclear free zone" and follow a more independent foreign policy within NATO. Then there is the view that Canada should become actively get out of NATO and NORAD, and oppose the war preparations of both superpowers.

I think that the "nuclear free zone within NATO" idea is the least supportable. NATO is the instrument of U.S. foreign policy in contention with the other imperialist superpower, and Canada would be collaborating with the U.S. imperialist policy of aggression even without a nuclear role. The "nuclear free zone" only deals with a particular category of weapons and not the war mongering, militarist forces behind them. It offers no guarantee that Canada would not be embroiled in a war on the side of the U.S. involving either nuclear or conventional arms. Nor would a nuclear free zone prevent us from being attacked by a foreign power.

Usually, the advocates of nuclear free zones place their hopes in the negotiations between the superpowers. But what do the two superpowers have to negotiate? The entire history of such negotiations shows that the arms race has escalated regardless. Their negotiations at most only achieve agreements on how the war preparations are to proceed. They could agree to recognize each other's "legitimate spheres of influence" or to have an arms reduction in one region in order to deploy forces elsewhere. But these negotiations cannot be relied upon to bring about peace and international security.

Only with active neutrality could we make a real contribution to world peace. This means that we will not permit Canadian territory to be used for the war preparations of the two superpowers, and that we play an active role internationally to avert the danger of world war. This includes the elimination of weapons of mass destruction from Canadian soil but it actually addresses the main cause of war, i.e. imperialism. I believe that only the policy of active neutrality is in the interest of all students to support.

Charles Spurr

## World Food Day celebrated

by Tarra Kongsrude

"If I had a choice and enough money to buy food I'd send beans, rice and asparagus to hungry people in other coun-

tries," says six-year-old Chris Watt. "And I wouldn't send asparagus just because I hate it."

Chris is one of 33 Dalhousie Elementary School children who

celebrated World Food Day, October 17, with discussion, films and an ethnic lunch at Dalhousie University campus.

World Food Day is set aside by Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations to

focus attention on the need of adequate food to meet diet requirements of increasing world populations.

Karanja Njoroge, Dalhousie international student coordinator, says he involved young children in World Food Day this year to sensitize them to world problems. "Too often we forget children are a part of the campus and that they can benefit from this learning institution," he says.

Njoroge says he believes the children learned something of value from the group discussion of world food problems and the film on life in Tanzania. He points to Chris Watt as an example. At the end of the session Chris decided he "doesn't like having countries with people that don't have enough food."

Njoroge asked the children

how they would feel if they ate only twice a week. Their responses ranged from "Nothing, because I'd die," to "I wouldn't be strong enough to lift my toys."

The children, whose average age is seven, also suggested the Canadian government give money to Unicef, send seeds and tools overseas, and help build pipes from rivers to homes.

Njoroge's discussions with the children revealed they believe Canada's biggest food exports to third world countries are hamburgers and steaks.

Actually, Canada's main food contributions to international aid in 1982-83 were wheat, wheat flour, canola oil, skim milk powder and fish, says Al Connor, Chair of the Nova World Food Day Committee.

## Council in Capsule

Dalhousie Student Council met on Sunday, October 16.

—Jill Allen, a first year law student, was elected Vice-President (Academic). In an address to council, Ms. Allen stressed the importance of student participation in academic planning during a time of fiscal restraint. She said students must have input rather than simply reacting to plans

formulated by the administration.

—Council voted to donate \$300 to the University of El Salvador Book Campaign. In addition, council will also match any faculty contributions to the campaign dollar for dollar, up to a maximum of \$700.

—Council voted to "state its support for the principles and goals of the October 22 Peace March,"

and pay for a half page ad in the *Gazette*. The DSU is a member of the Coalition Against Nuclear War.

—Council gave approval to the *University Beat* series of half-hour television programs sponsored by the DSU. The first show, an introduction to Dalhousie, will be aired on cable 10 at 7:00 pm on Monday, October 31.