



# Dal shines for cystic fibrosis

Gwendolyn Otto and E. MacQueen

On Thursday, September 8, 1994, there will be hundreds of Dalhousie Frosh in and around the Student Union Building. Clutching small boxes, they load onto buses and run in all directions. What's all the excitement? It's Dalhousie Shinerama!

Yes, once again it's time for Canada's largest student fundraising campaign. The Shinerama campaign is active on over 60 Canadian campuses in support of Cystic Fibrosis research. 20,000 students from across Canada will be shining shoes, strollers, cars, heads, babies... anything they can get their shiners on to raise money... lots of money. The national goal this year is \$665,500. Last year Dalhousie raised the most it had ever raised in its 29 years of involvement of with Shinerama. This year it hopes to surpass that amount with a target set at \$25,000.

Cystic Fibrosis is a hereditary disease which affects mainly the lungs and digestive system. Thick mucus clogs the airway passages of the lungs, inhibiting breathing. Although the gene for CF was discovered in 1989, CF remains fatal, taking the lives of

more Canadian children and young adults than any other inherited disease. Thanks to medical research helped made possible by Shinerama campaigns, Canada can boast its first grandmother with CF!

Headed by Gwendolyn Otto and Lilli Ju, the Shinerama committee

support of Dalhousie Shinerama and Cystic Fibrosis research.

On September 1, Dalhousie Shinerama is hosting the 5th Annual Maritime Dalhousie Press Reception & Luncheon. This event is the only Shinerama Press Conference to be held in Canada this year. Speaking at the press reception are Jane Corkum, National Chairperson of Shinerama, David Ripley, President of the Halifax Chapter of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and Ira Redwood and his daughter, Terra. Redwood, a student at Dal, will speak about living with CF in the family.

Kodak Canada will be on hand to present the national sponsorship cheque, as well as a cheque to David Lin, the winner of the national Shinerama poster concept design competition.

If you are participating in Shinerama on Thursday, September 8, remember what and who you are doing this for. And when you see shiners on Thursday, September 8, please give them your support. Remember: each shine brings us one step closer to a cure. For more information, call 494-1247.

*What's all the excitement? It's Dalhousie Shinerama*

has been busy all summer raising both money and public awareness. You may have seen the Shinerama clowns on channel 10 in the Halifax and Dartmouth Natal Day parades or in the Bedford Days parade. There have also been car washes, mall displays and a benefit concert — all in

## Canada student loan changes—good or bad?

by Stacey Young

TORONTO (CUP) — The federal government says it will increase the amount available in student loans by \$60 a week as part of broad changes to the Canada Student Loans program.

But Ontario government officials and student groups say the changes are not all good news.

Starting in fall, federal student loans will be made available for the first time to part-time students. Full-time students will see the maximum amount they can borrow increased from \$105 a week to \$165.

Some grants will be made available to students with disabilities and women in doctoral programs who often face financial obstacles in attending university.

But student groups say the federal government's changes to the program means students will pay a greater percentage of the costs of education financed by future debt.

"Students who qualify for the maximum loan allowance will end up with a greater debt load than before," says Louise Carriere of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

The federal government is also planning a pilot loan program for next year that makes repayment contingent on level of income.

Income-contingent repayment plans have been advocated by most university administrators and all three of Ontario's political parties.

But income-contingency is merely a way of offloading the expense of education on students, according to an Ontario student leader.

"It [income-contingency] leaves the way open for the [government] to increase tuition dramatically," said Jason Hunt, CFS-Ontario chairperson.

"We are in the very early stages of development [of the new loan repayment program]," says Godsoe, policy chief for the federal government's Student Assistance Branch.

"Since the provinces have the option of participating, we don't know which of the provinces are participating in the pilot project."

There are other problems. Although Ottawa says it will increase the amount given out to students by almost 60 per cent, Marco Santaguida, university affairs commissioner

at the University of Toronto's student council, says that figure is misleading.

"It may not mean that many of students actually get more money," he said. "[The changes] have more to do with the federal-provincial ratio [in contributions to students' educational costs]."

Carriere said students in the few provinces that still have grants may suffer.

"Provincial grants will constitute a smaller percentage of student assistance. The federal loan portion will be increased," said Carriere.

Student groups are also worried the government plans to give banks greater administrative control in collecting the loans.

Under the proposed changes, the government intends to offload the costs of covering loan defaulters by handing all the collection responsibilities over to the banks.

SAC and CFS say this will lead to bank's getting control of who gets loans.

"The banks would not be interested in this if there wasn't anything in it for them," said Santaguida. "Either way, they [the banks] win."

"If the government introduces [the new repayment program] and pay the interest in periods of under- or unemployment, then the banks are assured of continuous interest payment. The longer a person takes to pay back the loan, the more the banks make in interest," said Santaguida.

Carriere warns against the situation in Nova Scotia, where the CIBC already has more control over who gets loans. Last year, 900

students were initially turned down by the bank on the basis of credit history.

"When banks have this much control, they may be able to refuse the loan if you are studying in a non-profitable discipline, or on the basis of past credit abuse," she said.

But the federal government says they have no intention of letting the banks decide who qualifies for assistance.

"All eligible students will have access to loans," Godsoe said. "Even though the international experience in income contingent repayment programs is limited, we want to make the repayment program more flexible."

## Manitoba campus police wants steel batons

by Corey J. Russell

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Campus police at the University of Manitoba are currently considering the purchase of retractable, 21-inch steel batons.

Campus Police Chief Don Peters says he needs the batons to "defend" his constables.

Peters says that in order to reduce crime, the police department needs an aggressive approach.

"The direction of the department in the past has been one of a reaction department. We have changed that to a more proactive focus. The goal is to totally reduce crime, therefore we have to take a different outlook," he says.

On most Canadian campuses, guards are not permitted to carry

weapons. Though they call themselves police, they generally have not received substantial police training.

Manitoba student council vice-president Blessing Rugara questions the effectiveness of bearing arms.

"It could escalate the amount of violence on this campus, where we have been told [by Peters] that actual acts of violence on campus are on the decrease," he says.

Peters claims the batons will only be used in selected circumstances.

"[Constables] don't use it at their own discretion. Times when they can use it have been set out for them."

The campus officers would only receive two weeks of training on the baton, compared to 10 months of overall training city police officers get.

"We're not satisfied that they have adequate training to handle this equipment," Rugara says. "I'm not a doctor just because I know CPR."

At present, there is no formal proposal before the university's administration concerning the purchase of the defender batons. According to university vice-president Terry Falconer, the circumstances in which the batons would be carried have to be reviewed.

Rugara noted that Manitoba students, like most Canadian university students, have little control over the actions of their guardians.

"Campus police are in no way accountable to the students. We form the majority on the campus, and we have no reason to believe that the university community trusts the campus police to be armed."

**GAZETTE STAFF MEETINGS**  
**MONDAYS,**  
**4:00 PM**  
**ROOM 312,**  
**STUDENT UNION BUILDING**