Campus News _____

Low volume debators

by Rosslyn MacKinnon

This past weekend Sodales, the Dalhousie University Debating Society, hosted its Annual Invitational Tournament. Invitations were sent to numerous Canadian universities but few sent teams. It is customary in debating tournaments that the host university does not win its own trophy. Therefore, there was only one Nova Scotian university, Mount Saint Vincent on hand to make a bid to keep the championship in the province. Indeed, the only other Maritime university in competition was Mount Allison.

As it turned out the resolution in the championship debate was defended by a team from the University of Ottawa and opposed

by two speakers representing the University of Toronto. The championship was won by the University of Ottawa and consequently, one of the finest trophies on the Canadian debating circuit is sitting in a showcase in Ottawa.

The point I am making is not that the University of Ottawa does not deserve the title-on the contrary they have some of the top debators in Canada. Rather the point I would like to make is where were the other Maritime universities? Acadia won the championship in 1975 but where were you this year? What happened to all of King's fine philosophers and logical thinkers? St. Mary's, congratulations on the Canadian

basketball championship but have you no academics on campus? The University of New Brunswick, you replied affirmatively to our invitation but failed to show up. What happened? Did you lose your snowshoes in a drift on the way? And the list goes on.

It is well past time that the students in Maritime universities concern themselves with the task of making a reputation for the academic ability of our student population. As in many intercollegiate competi-tions the "Upper Canadians" appear to have the best debators. I use the word appear because I feel the Maritime universities have plenty of untapped talen in our ranks. So next



year why don't more Maritime universities field teams in this tournament and show people that we've got more in us than herring and potatoes.

Student national unity strained

OTTAWA (CUP)-Member campuses of the National Union of Students have rejected recognition of l'Association Nationale des Etudiants de Quebec as an equal national student association and thrown into question future relations between students in Quebec and the rest of Canada.

Results of the mail ballot released March 13, indicates only eight of the 22 campuses voting supported equal national status for ANEQ and even fewer approved of Quebec's right to self-determination. The mail ballot was prompted by a workshop and debate at the most recent NUS conference in Calgary last October.

John Doherty, Ontario repre-sentative on the NUS central committee, said he was disappointed by the decision. "It will have to come up at the

next conference; I hope we can have some more ANEQ representatives at the conference and have a full discussion to turn around that vote," he said. "Meanwhile, I think we will be able to continue working together on our common concerns."

ANEQ secretary-treasurer Francois Desbien said he was surprised the vote went against recognition of the organization.

"ANEQ will never join NUS as a member-we will only accept equal relations. ANEQ considers itself a fully national association and we carry out all of our international relations on that basis," he said.

The executives of both organizations will discuss the vote and the question of future relations. ANEQ meets April 15 to discuss its continued relations with NUS and the NUS central committee meets early in April to plan the national conference to be held in St. John's in May.

"I'm really hoping we can get people to recognize reality and have ANEQ recognized as a national union at our May meeting," Doherty said

He blamed the lack of discussion at the last national conference and the lack of direction from the NUS executive for the failure of the vote by mail.

continued from page 1

meetings with them have left us nowhere.

Delegates expressed frustration trying to negotiate with the government. "The case is no different from last year," said a delegate from the College of Cape Breton. "In fact the situation is more severe because they are continuing to attack education and we can't let them get away with it just because we protested once before." Organizers of the protest are attempting this week to have classes cancelled at the universities in Halifax and to get student councils actively preparing on their campuses for the day. Nova Scotia institutions are facing funding subsidies for the 1978-79 academic year that are half grant levels recommended by the regional advisory board, the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission.

NAME PLEASE PRINT STREET			APT. NO.		
	CITY:		PROV.	POST CODE	
	TELEPHONE NO .				
		FIRST 200 TO	O RECEIVE A KODIAK		YS
	T-SHIRT SIZE:	S, M, L, XL -	MALE - FEMALE	Contest closes	April 1, 197