

Kidnapping attempt poorly engineered

by C. Ricketts

Eight Dalhousie engineers kidnapped John Godfrey, President of King's College, briefly on Friday, September 24, but failed in their attempt to collect any ransom for his release.

"I'd say the whole thing was poorly engineered," chuckled Godfrey. "I'd hate to entrust them with the building of a bridge."

Posing as King's journalism students who had earlier made an appointment with the president, the engineers strode into the office. Within seconds they had handcuffed the hapless Godfrey to his chair and secured the doors with wire and nails.

"I should have suspected them from the start," said Godfrey. "Journalism students do not wear

suits and ties." Five of his captors had dressed in gangland attire.

A passing King's student noticed the ransom note posted on the wall and immediately recruited ten students from the King's cafeteria to rescue their President. They burst through the doors with little difficulty, just as the kidnappers were about to torture their victim with lunch. "They were very civil," noted Godfrey. "But turkey salad is pretty bad, and the white bread was worse."

Carrie Bernard, president of the Engineering Society, said the kidnapping was in retaliation for the foiled panty raid on Alexandria Hall. An annual event, it was thwarted this year by the presence of Halifax police hired by King's College to stand guard at the doors

of the residence.

Bernard considered the whole affair to be a harmless prank. "Godfrey went along with it very well," she said.



Upon liberation, Godfrey invited both captors and rescuers to his quarters to enjoy a drink. An engineering text was left behind for his reading enjoyment.

The Sunday Dal Student Council

by C. Ricketts

The head office of the Bank of Montreal sent a letter to Student Council responding to accusations that students were being used as pawns in the bank's feud with the federal government over student aid.

President Peter Rans read from the letter, and stated, "It was regrettable students have to suffer because of centralization," a policy which the bank says is aimed at long term efficiency.

Rans announced the by-elections for student senator will be held in early November. The seat was left vacant after Greg Fitzgerald was impeached on 19 September.

The Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS) and Treasurer Shawn Houlihan had in the interim made minor changes to the DAGS budget. The budget and contract as amended passed with little discussion.

A motion made by Summer Council to support expelled Uni-

versity de Moncton students was ratified upon further explanation of the situation by Rans. Council approved a contribution of up to \$500 to help offset legal costs U de M students will incur in upcoming court appearances for arrests made during the U of M occupation last April.

The tiger issue padded silently out of consideration when George Fraser, co-chairperson of the Orientation Committee, withdrew his motion to reverse the decision of Summer Council forbidding the tiger cub's appearance on Dalhousie Campus.

The Student Union is examining the objectivity of its legal counsel.

Chris Hartt introduced a motion directing student council to find a new lawyer. Barry Ward, the lawyer presently retained by the Student Union, had been involved with Student Council during his studies at the law school and has since been advising Council for a number of years. Hartt contended Ward did

not always give a strict interpretation of the law and constitution and "has his own opinions". He cited as examples Ward's unwillingness to advise Council to press charges against members of the student union guilty of theft or forgery in this and years past.

Houlihan countered that Ward's fees were far less expensive than those of a new lawyer. He added Ward's experience with the Student Union was to be considered an asset and not a conflict of interest.

Hartt's motion was defeated soundly.

Rans gave notice of a motion to arrange for alternate counsel at the Council's approval on issues it deemed to be of a sensitive nature, i.e., those which might bias Ward's normally sound legal advice.

Hartt forwarded another motion to refer all incidences of theft from the student union, its clubs and societies, directly to the Halifax police for prosecution. He said his intent was to prevent Council from determining guilt or innocence in a political forum - "a decision it is both not equipped and loath to do".

A number of friendly amendments followed. Houlihan termed the original motion as "dangerous" and "not well thought out". He reasoned it might lead to John arrest on the basis of rumour. Fahn Russell, VP Internal, voiced the opinion that Council had no legal recourse in such a situation. Rans recurred in the motion tabled to the next meeting.

Sharon Davis, International Student Rep, asked for and received support from Council for the international students. They face particular difficulties as a result of university president MacKay's imposition of registration quotas for this year.

Despite the university's efforts to balance the budget last year, the deficit refuses to be reduced.

A report from Board of Governors representative, Jay Doucet, informed Council the university showed a debt of \$10 million for 1982 after the annual audit. He added the deficit might reach \$14 million by the end of next year.

Security

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Only two security personnel work the night shift, one of whom must remain constantly at the dispatch desk. If an emergency occurs, extra men must be called in. These extra guards are paid overtime, which adds strain to the budget.

This situation has caused concern among Dal students, particularly women. A recent survey conducted among residents of Shirreff Hall indicated many women in the residence were deterred from taking night classes or participating in extracurricular activities from fear of walking around campus at night. The survey was conducted by the Dalhousie Security Committee.

Graham said he understood this fear, but thought the risk involved in travelling on-campus at night was being overplayed.

"There are well-lit corridors across the campus," Graham said. Complete security of the women could not be assured even if there were twice as many security guards, he added.

Graham pointed out there have not been assaults reported any-

where on campus in the last year.

Diane Gifford, a member of Dalhousie's Security Committee, disagrees. She maintains that assaults not being reported does not indicate that none took place. Some incidents have simply not been reported by the victims, says Gifford.

One thing is certain: the full time security staff at Dalhousie is not going to be increased in size in the near future. For their own protection, Keeping urged students to stick to "the old standbys", which are:

- Avoid travelling anywhere alone at night.
- Avoid studying alone in empty classrooms or in poorly lit areas.
- If you must go anywhere alone at night, stay on the best-lit and most frequented pathways.

Gifford advises that any incidents be reported as soon as possible to Dal Security at 424-6400 or the Halifax Police at 424-4205.

"Administration must be made aware if there is a problem," said Gifford.

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