

APATHY!

Tuesday October 16 is probably not a day that will live in infamy. However, it may be remembered as the day Dalhousie students got what they deserved.

Tuesday was the day the Dalhousie Board of Governors (BOG), in its entirety (excluding the four student representatives) voted to increase tuition fees by 25-40 percent.

Does it anger you that you will have to pay between \$300 and \$800 more next year for tuition?

Are you frustrated that you're going to have to go further into debt to stay university next year?

Are you prepared to explain to your parents why they have to fork out more cash for your edu-

cation than they expected?

Well, before you start pointing fingers, take a long, hard look in the mirror.

You (and you know who you are) were the ones who elected a Student Leaders who admitted during their campaigns that a 16 percent increase in tuition fees was reasonable.

You elected BOG representatives who don't seem to object to a 25 percent increase in fees, as long as it is fazed in over a three year period.

Speaking of BOG representatives, I must admit I had some difficulty, on Tuesday, telling the student representatives apart from

the other members of the Board. It seems everyone can afford \$600 suites these days.

You were the ones who did not bother attending the numerous forums held for students to express their opposition to the new fees.

You were the ones who failed to make any effort at all to stop, change, or effect in any way the tuition fee increases.

Yes, the Board and the Administration (not to mention the Federal and Provincial governments) are largely to blame.

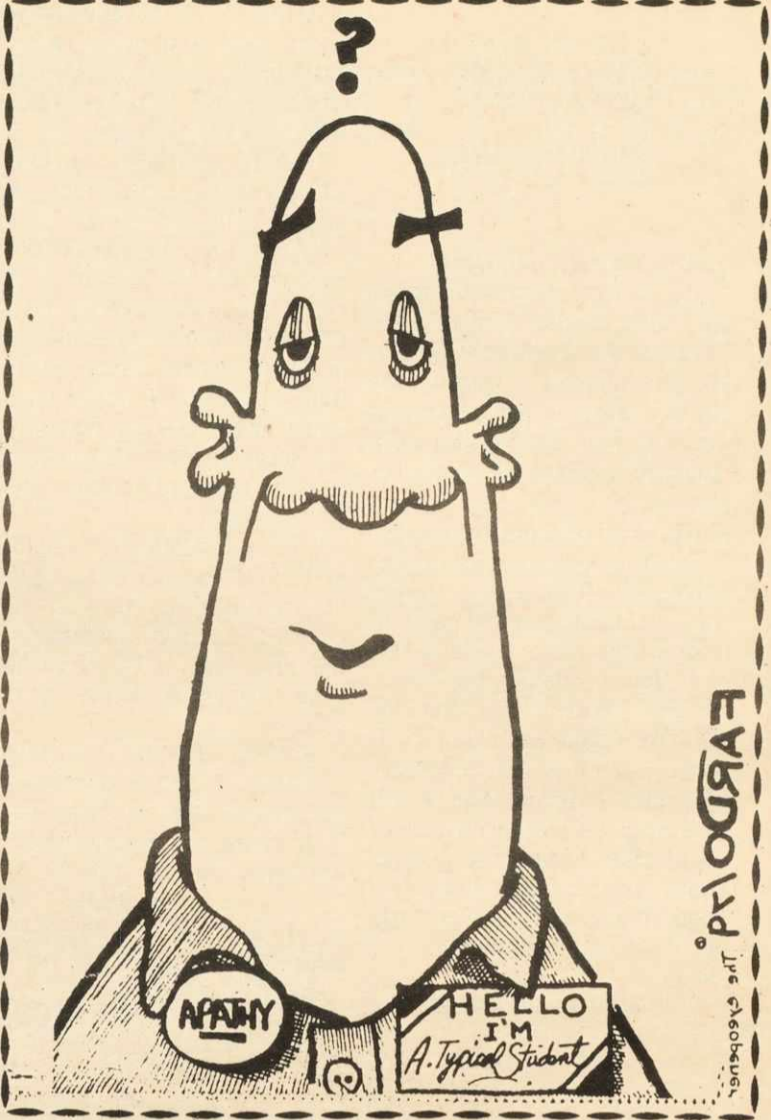
No, they didn't listen to the students who did speak out against the increases Howard Clark was seen falling asleep during the debate about tuition fees on Tuesday).

Maybe making a lot of noise wouldn't have made a difference in the end, but that is something we will never know.

We will never know because students were "too busy" to take a little time out and let the powers that be know that they really weren't to keen about the idea of fees increasing.

So, congratulations Dalhousie, and good luck in looking for that high paying summer job next year - your going to need it.

As for me? I'll probably keep going to rallies, signing petitions,



and generally making a nuisance of myself.

I'll keep writing these editorials (even though it seems no one ever listens to them) in the hope that one day Dalhousie's luck will change and our "fine" institution will be blessed with people who

care about something more than self interest.

Well done folks, you got what you deserve. Oh, and don't worry about those who won't be able to afford to come here in the future - you don't miss what you can't see.

Alex Burton

Junk mail

by Paul Webster

Junk mail has never been an especially popular item outside of the pulp and paper industry, but this week the Federal Government managed to turn a perennial waste paper problem into something considerably less benign. They spent \$1.2 million on junk mail. And they weren't advertising a deal on diapers. They were propagandizing an economic regime which, by most recent accounts, is a tragedy.

In case you didn't get the requisite 45 second opportunity to scan the government's "Important information about Canada's economic plan and how it affects you", a quick page-by-page survey is all it takes to get to the heart of the Reagan-Bush-Thatcher-Mulroney agenda and its necessary illusions as presented here.

Page one praises the Free Trade Agreement for giving us "freer and more access to the world's richest market". No mention of the fact that 138 Canadian companies have relocated to Georgia alone, or that 170,000 jobs were lost, according to the Canadian Labour Congress, directly due to the FTA in its first nine months of operation.

Page two asserts as that "A skilled work force is a major part of the economic plan". No mention of the fact that the government has cut \$3.6 billion from educational funding during its tenure in power.

Page three explains the crisis which Canada's debt and deficit pose. There is no mention of what the impact of the Central Bank's prime rate (long accepted as being artificially high) has had in inflating out interest payments on that debt. Nor is there any expla-

nation of who is getting the \$41.2 billion we are paying this year in interest. Somebody is getting rich at 13% and I suspect they vote Tory.

Page five is titled "Controlling Spending". Apparently tax dollars "are now being reassigned to the most essential programs and to needy Canadians". Women's shelters apparently don't classify as needy. Ironically, the government slashed funding last spring for women's programs (just months after the Montreal Massacre) by exactly the same amount they spent on this foray into the junk-mail world. \$1.2 million. Our (borrowed) money.

Page six talks about inflation. Much ado is made about "our rapid economic growth over the past six years". Well, yes, Ontario has grown a lot (especially in terms of political consciousness!), but the rest of the country only seems to be getting more senators.

And for the coup de grace? Page seven tells us that the GST will bring the price of manufactured goods down. Which is what these people told us would happen with free trade. So much for tax "reform". For \$1.2 million they ought to be able to invent some new li(n)es.

I suppose what we should be asking ourselves is whether we need the pamphlet, or do they? Somehow I suspect this junk, this disinformation, should be interpreted as a sign of panic. Expensive panic. Written on behalf of the Conservative Party of Canada, by the government and its lackeys, for the people. And its all on credit. Have you ever wondered how much worse this government would be if it wasn't bankrupt?

Not fair...

Games people play

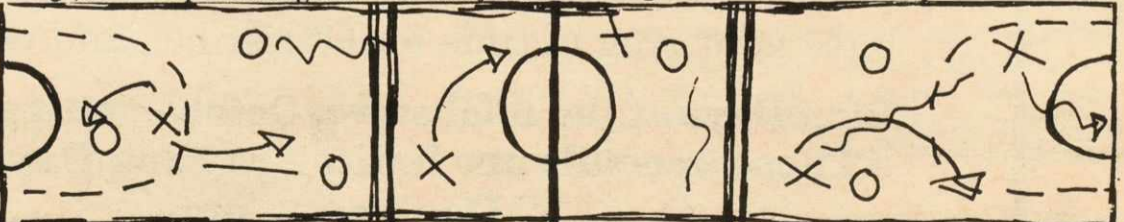
The game is tied and you have the ball. The time clock has run out and unless you pull something out of your hat the game is lost. Before you stepped onto the field you, the captain of the blue team, carefully read the rule book. Your opponents, the red team, also had a copy of the rule book. Before you even started the game all the teams (the blues, reds and oranges), and the spectators agreed

In a tie situation like you are in, the rules state that, if the referee agrees, you can stack your team. You go to the ref and ask to invoke rule 26. To not ask to invoke the rule would not be fair to your team. It wouldn't be playing to win. Invoking the rule will allow you to finish the play and win the game.

You go to the ref and the other teams cry foul. On what grounds?

To start changing the rules in the middle of the game without telling everyone is cheating. What good are rules if you agree to play by them, but when you start to lose you want to change them? Would it be fair to the spectators who support the teams? If you want to change the rules sure, we'll do that, but not until we finish this game.

The referee agrees that the rules



to play by the rules and assign an impartial referee. The tie situation emerges and you need one last play to score and lead the blues to victory. You go back to the rule book and find a never used before play. Play number 26. It's never been used before, but there it is in the rules. Surviving recent amendments where all the teams and fans reviewed the rules and agreed to abide by them.

On the grounds that the rule has never been used before and the spectators support them, not you. So? It is true that your blue team is not that popular. But most importantly, you argue, all the teams and fans agreed to play by the rules as they existed. The spectators chose the players on all the teams, and they agreed to the to play by the rules, why would they be playing the game?

were agreed to by the blues, reds, oranges and all the fans before the game began. Rule 26 is invoked. You stack the blue team and with a finesse move you win the game. Some of the spectators boo, and so do the other captains, but that's their fault isn't it? They didn't read the rule book before the game.

P.E. James