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Winter Carnival loses money – poor turnouts

by Brian Cox

Winter Carnival has come and gone; however this year's carnival has left the student council out in the cold due to a five thousand dollar deficit incurred due to poor turnouts at most carnival events.

This is the largest loss by a winter carnival to date, says DSU treasurer Shawn Houlihan. Houlihan blames poor ticket sales for the large loss. He cites lottery ticket sales as an example. "We forecast lottery ticket sales as a major money maker, but sales were very bad," Houlihan said. The lottery, which offered a first prize of a trip for two to Florida ended up costing student council 1,100 dollars.

The sponsoring of two super subs during the week-long carnival proved to be financially disastrous. The combined loss for both events rings in at 3,200 dollars. "We had hoped to increase attendance at the super subs by selling week long carnival passes which included the super subs, but the passes didn't sell. Only 24 of a projected 500 passes sold," Houlihan said.

Houlihan blames operational problems for the poor ticket sales and poor turnout at carnival events. "People didn't put in the work they said they would," said Houlihan. "Rusty over-estimated what he could do in the week," Houlihan said.

Winter carnival chair Rusty James agrees one week is not enough in which to organize the carnival. "The carnival chair should be appointed in September in order to have lots of time to get things geared up and coordinated for the winter carnival," James said. James blamed poor ticket sales on distribution



problems. "People didn't sell as many tickets as we thought they would," he said.

James cited poor scheduling of events as another reason for poor turnout at the carnival events. He explained that the first super sub was scheduled for the

first Saturday night during carnival week therefore all other events had to be planned around this, which left the early week nights for other events such as the black and gold review and movie night. "I'd have liked to have seen all other events lead up to a big Super sub. We'd

hoped to get the ball rolling, and to get people caught up in the spirit of the carnival but unfortunately that didn't happen," James said.

The winter carnival usually loses money, last year the winter carnival cost student council

4,000 dollars. James has submitted a report to council in which he makes a number of recommendations.

Included in the report are suggestions that the carnival chair be appointed in September, and a shortened four-day carnival.

DSU wins new lease on life for Ardmore Hall

by Evangeline Sadler

Contrary to recent rumours, Ardmore Hall will not close next year. In light of the steadily increasing urgency of first-year single females seeking residence at Dalhousie, the housing administrative group has decided to continue renting Ardmore Hall.

The decision comes as a result of the Student Services Review Committee's serious consideration of increased female enrollment. Since 1977-78 female enrollment increase has been surpassing that of males to the extent that in 1983-84 it accounts for 49% of the total figure, as

compared with 46% in 1979-80. But at the same time, housing for this sector has remained virtually unchanging.

At present Ardmore Hall provides 57 units, while Sherriff Hall, already with a substantial waiting list, provides 428. Though in the future, things will be different. "There will be waiting lists for everything, with all residences being assigned," says Christine Irvine, Dalhousie's Dean of Women. "Even in February names are already being put on lists."

Because there are presently

less students in high schools, university enrollment is predicted to decrease. In addition, the present recession keeps people in school, thus creating an artificial bubble in enrollment. As a result, housing services are faced with a dilemma: Is it logical to provide more housing to accommodate the present high demand if in a few years time these additions will be empty?

John Graham, Director of Student Housing, feels that housing with flexibility will be necessary in future developments. "I wouldn't build another Sherriff or Howe Hall. Housing must be

adapted so that if need be it can be rented to, say, faculty or be suitable to family living." This type of housing would be similar to Glengary Apartments. Irvine is in agreement with the choice of this type of housing and its efficiency. "There is a need for housing similar to Ardmore Hall since with kitchen facilities in each unit, students can save money," says Irvine. "This increase in female enrollment is felt on demand," comments Graham. "Wherever we have flexibility we put into female housing."

The one great difficulty with housing is that the funding is

self-generated. When housing is provided, a conventional mortgage must be taken out. There is no government or university funding involved.

At present there are approximately 35 students housed in Pine Hill and nearly 250 students have been housed in the past at St. Mary's University.

While housing facilities remain limited, unlucky students will be forced to enroll in alternative universities, but continued usage of Ardmore Hall for at least two more years will certainly cause a sigh of relief for at least 57 students.