

**Name:** Catherine MacKinnon

**Age:** 20

BY TIM RICHARD

**What are you studying at Dal?**

Sociology and social anthropology.

**Have you ever felt any discrimination because you are deaf?**

Sadly, yes. A hospital once refused to call an interpreter in case of emergency because it was too costly. Since I am able to speak well, people assume I am only hard of hearing.

**What are some of the annoyances that you confront everyday?**

It's irritating when people yell or ignore me; speak clearly and if I don't understand I will let you know.

**Have you done any work for deaf advocacy?**

Yes, I'm a strong deaf rights advocate and I am involved in various deaf organizational groups, such as Deaf Drama. Also, I'm involved in the political debate over deaf awareness.

**How has being deaf affected your life?**

When I was in junior high it bothered me a lot, I wished I could hear like everyone else. Today, I have a totally different perspective and I have gradually accepted who I am.

**What can society do to make the lives of the deaf easier?**

It would be wonderful if people would accept us for who we are. More access to interpreters, more opportunities (jobs etc.), closed captioned videos, etc.

**What do you never leave home without?**

Hearing aid batteries.

**What ticks you off?**

People who do not have the patience to repeat themselves.

**What is your greatest fear?**

Falling in love or losing my hand to a slicer.

**Ambitions?**

To become a legal advisor for the deaf community or a criminologist.

**What are your most treasured possessions?**

My hearing aid!! and hands.

**Do you have any mottos that you live your life by?**

Think positive and go for it, always believe in destiny.

**Where do you see yourself in 20 years?**

Probably still single (with a child), and involved in a prestigious career.

**What ambitions have you already given up?**

Figure skating and dance.

**If you were reincarnated, what would you come back as in the next life?**

Probably a psychopath.

**What is your idea of a good time?**

Going out with friends, dancing, movies, dinners, etc.

**Most treasured photograph?**

My Grandmother.

**What food do you crave regularly?**

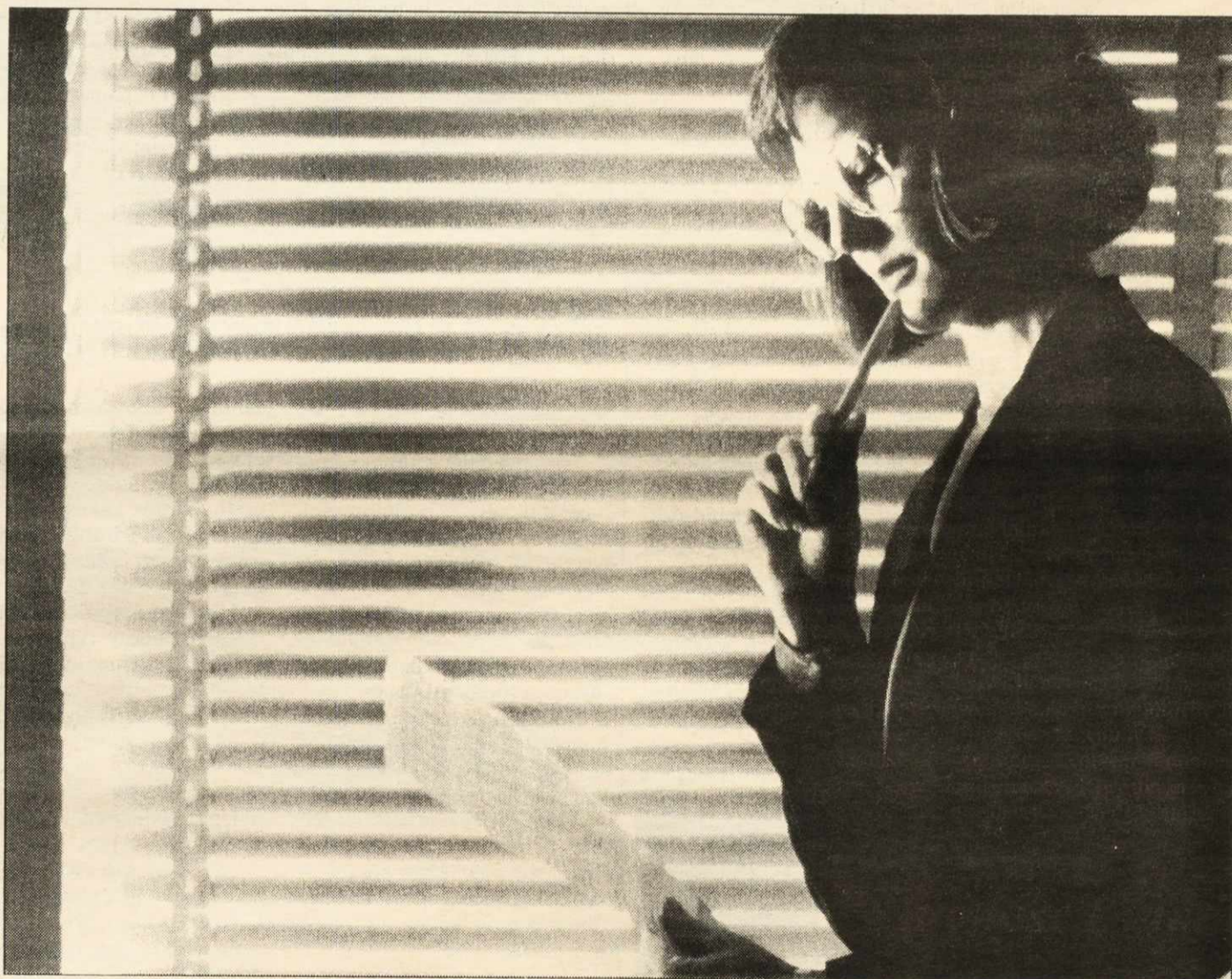
Egg-rolls and vegetarian pizza.

**If you could be famous for something, what would it be?**

Probably an actress (working with Andy Garcia).



GAZETTE PHOTO BY TIM RICHARD



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