

## CROSS CANADA

## AIDS home

WINNIPEG (CUP) — A one-of-a-kind AIDS home-care group has been granted \$140,000 by the federal department of health and welfare in an unprecedented show of support.

The volunteer group Kali-Shiva — named for the ancient gods of life and death — will use the money to make a video and document its work since it started in 1986.

Budget coordinator Jessica Wood said the group's main objective is to help those living with AIDS to live at home. Volunteers work in shifts preparing meals, helping with housework or personal care. They also cover for family members who need a break.

They are currently tending to 12 people, she said.

The volunteers are trained in the aspects of care for a person with AIDS, she said. But they aren't just caretakers — they often become the family of someone who has been abandoned, she added.

"Many a time the afflicted person will be gay, and families and friends may not be able to cope with that, and will not respond well when that person becomes sick," Wood said.

Kali-Shiva founding member Matthew Lawrence said it is important to allow people to die in a comfortable setting.

"The group helps patients maintain their dignity and have more control in their lives than if they were in a sanitized, less personal environment in a hospital which may make them sicker," he said.

## Boycotting mastercard

VICTORIA (CUP) — Victoria feminists are urging a boycott of the Bank of Montreal for providing a credit card which funds an anti-choice group.

The bank offers an affinity card, a special Mastercard that any association can apply for. Whenever a card holder makes a purchase using the card, the bank gives a percentage of the total sale to the organization. Affinity card users also benefit through a reduced MasterCard interest rate.

The fundraising card was previously available only to universities, but is now used by 200 organizations, including the anti-choice group, Alliance for Life, and the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC).

The Victoria Status of Women Action Group (SWAG) is urging women to cut up their Mastercards and mail them back to the Bank of Montreal, with a letter of explanation.

## The rich get smarter

HALIFAX (CUP) — University students in Nova Scotia tend to come from high-income families from counties with higher-than-average incomes, according to a recent study.

The survey of university students, conducted by the Students' Union of Nova Scotia, confirmed there is a "strong relationship" between enrolment in university and family income.

SUNS chair Scott McCrossin said he is excited about the findings.

"We now have proof that people from above-average-income families are getting into university (more so than those from lower-income families)," he said. "We have data to prove what we have been saying for years and the government has no argument against us now."

According to the study, 32 per cent of financially dependent students and 36 per cent of independent students — as defined by the Canada Student Loan program — had an accumulated student loan debt of \$6,001 to \$12,000 at the end of the 1990-91 academic year.

Giffin said the provincial student aid advisory committee will review the report, and forward recommendations to cabinet.

Survey results were based on responses from 3,270 students at nine universities in Nova Scotia.

- Half of the students 30 and under who did not live with a spouse reported combined parental income of over \$45,000. 17 per cent reported parental income of over \$75,000
- 64 per cent of students from low income families (under \$20,000) and 47 per cent of students from moderate income families cited student loans as their largest source of income
- 22 per cent of survey respondents said they would be in debt between \$6,000 and \$12,000 after 1990-91. 10 per cent said they would be over \$12,000 in debt
- 67 per cent of women and 59 per cent of men will incur debt for their educational costs, and women overall will have a higher total debt.

## NEWS

## History is shifting, Dyer says

BY ANGEL FIGUEROA

Military historian Gwynne Dyer explained that if he had predicted the political events that have overturned Europe in the past three years, he "would have been carted off in a straight jacket, frothing quietly at the lips."

The noted Memorial graduate and internationally-acclaimed essayist spoke to more than 400 people at St. Mary's theatre auditorium on Thursday, October 24. Speaking of the startling phenomenon that has dissolved half a dozen communist regimes in less than five years, Dyer professed a new political theory that goes beyond the elusive concept of a New World Order. His lecture was entitled "After the Wars," wherein he discussed a very new, if compelling, international political system that is developing in the wake of the Gulf War.

"There may be underway a large scale shift in the way we do international politics, a change from our traditional policies of interaction between countries. But what is extraordinary [and related to this shift] is that the very manner in which historical change has occurred in the past is in itself now changing."

Dyer explained that in the past, radical changes in the history of nations — such as internal revolutions or cross-border conflicts — have always been at the cost of tremendous bloodshed. With the recent events in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, where major changes in internal structures have occurred with "a minimal cost in lives", he suggests there is ample proof a new formula is developing in the very way human history will henceforth shape itself.

## Six pack at 7-11

BY MARIE-FRANCE LEBLANC

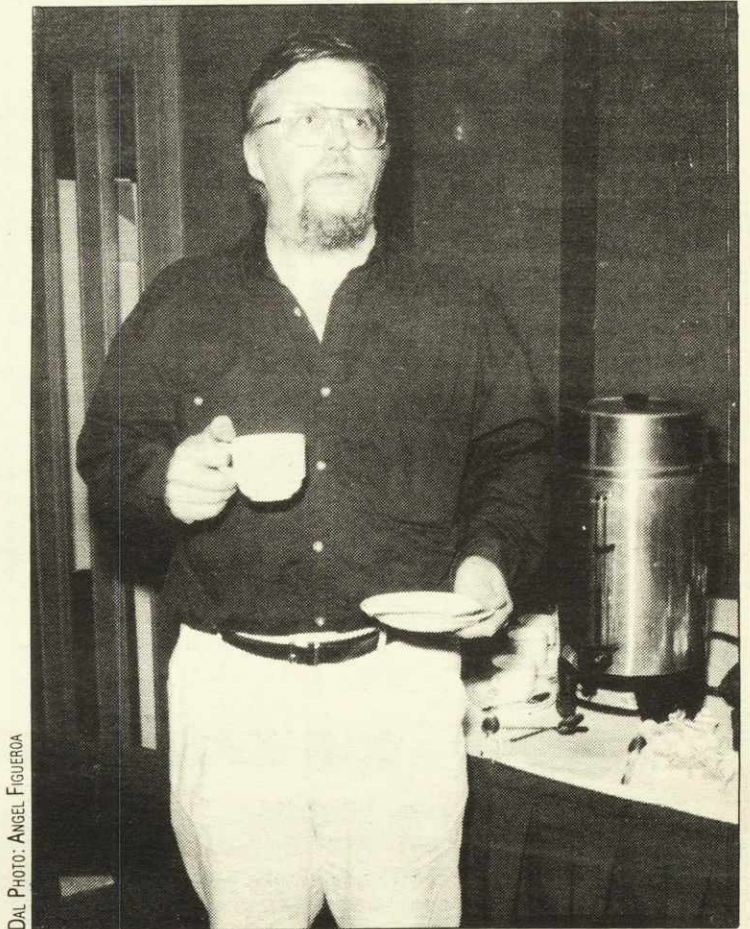
Premier Donald Cameron wants wine and beer to be sold in convenience stores. He said the implementation of this would be part of an effort to cut government spending.

Corner store merchants welcomed this new initiative. They feel the addition of alcohol to their stores will increase revenues.

"Once they come in to buy beer, they will also want cigarettes or potato chips," says Danny McDonald, co-owner of Tony's, a Halifax corner store.

He says accessibility is the key. Liquor stores are few and far between. They have limited hours, and are never open on Sundays.

"Easier accessibility to alcohol is exactly what we are concerned about," says Vincent Jones, Project Coordinator for Concerned Citi-



DAL PHOTO: ANGEL FIGUEROA

Newfoundland essayist Gwynne Dyer thinks he knows everything about politics, the environment, and coffee.

zens Against Drugs. He says that his program, funded by Health and Welfare Canada, is concerned about the message having beer and wine in corner stores will send out to the community. "Our society does not understand that alcohol is a major social problem," Jones says. "It destroys communities and families." He says that greater availability will simply aggravate the use of alcohol as an abused drug. Jones also says he is worried that youths will have an easier time getting alcohol. "Neighbourhood stores get to know their customers. It would be easy for teenagers to abuse a store owner's trust and claim the beer or wine was for a parent." McDonald says he does not foresee this as being a problem. "It's the same as selling cigarettes, you just have to make sure you follow the law."

The key phrase in his examples is that "no one predicted" these changes would occur; in fact no one fathomed their possibility of happening. All three of these profoundly influential events happened quickly in a world accustomed to voluminous bloodletting whenever a serious shift in the *status quo* occurred.

The last major shift, World War Two, cost 45 million lives, and the pre-Gorbachev era that grew out of it fore-warned a global nuclear catastrophe. Yet, in a major political shift that is just as influential in the scope of a new political atmosphere, less than 5,000 lives have been claimed.

"So," argues Dyer to a very attentive, if partly skeptical audience, "the reason for change happening differently — but still in such a radical way — is that the growing trend in the manner in which humans interact (namely a rapidly advancing technology), is coming to terms with the inadequacy of its political structures."

What results, he claims, is a new mass psychology affecting many spectrums of our relationships within the global village.

Refocusing his lecture to encompass a future now nominally-predictable, he presented a picture not as sweet as one might assume from such ostensibly good news that "only 5,000 lives were lost in the last shift of the global *status quo*."

Pointing out that in 75 years, one-fifth of the earth's population (those countries which are industrialized) have produced serious en-

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