

Tuition increase obvious Let's act now

The administrators of Maritime Universities are anticipating that government grants will once again fall far short of their requests. Already, at Dalhousie, the administration has offered what amounts to a reduction in salary for the Staff Association and Faculty. Indications are that students will be next. The administration will soon be asking us to contribute a larger percentage to the overall university budget.

Students at Maritime institutions already pay the highest tuition in the country. Last March we protested education cutbacks and demanded that the government pay more so that students would not face increase.

Unfortunately, further action did not follow. We returned in the fall to face a 6 percent tuition hike. This was accepted as a "fait accompli" and student life at Dalhousie went on undisturbed. However, this was not the case elsewhere. Students at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design unsuccessfully tried to boycott their fees. At the Université de Montreal, students have been more successful. To date they have withheld their fees in protest of high summer unemployment and tuition increases.

Atlantic students must once again organize. Students must take the initiative before it is too late. Last year's march has shown us that intermittent expressions of outrage cannot hope to counter the attacks against us.

Continuous and sustained pressure is needed and it must begin now.

by Valerie Mansour and Marc Allain



Letters

Disco-Dilemma

To the Gazette:

In response to the letter from "a bored student—Peter Hayes," the Programming Department would like to thank him for his comment—it's about time we started hearing from the student body regarding entertainment. Unfortunately, Peter is wrong when he says "discos always sell out." In actual fact, all through the summer and earlier this Fall, Friday night discos **never** sold out. For some reason they always play to capacity (400 people) on Saturdays, but on Fridays there are usually 200 people or less. (The last Friday night disco was attended by 236 people; the following Saturday was filled to capacity with people being turned away.)

Students traditionally don't like events that are half-filled so the majority seem to think that it's better to come on Saturday night because that's when "everybody goes." Which leaves us to conclude that for some reason the majority of students don't want events on Friday nights.

The Student Council Entertainment Committee, made up of Anita Lathigee, Shauna Sullivan, and Andras Vamos, are presently looking into "the Friday night dilemma." If any students have opinions or suggestions—on any aspect of entertainment programming—please let them know.

Yours sincerely,
Fiona Perina
Programming Director

Hats off

To the Gazette:

Kudos to the **Gazette** for its editorial concerning Bob Coates' support for South Africa. Editorials of this sort may be commonplace for the regular media elsewhere in Canada. But thanks to the paucity of Atlantic newspapers with guts, here it falls upon our student papers to take up the role.

Another article in the October 27th **Gazette** highlights the dangers when an Atlantic student paper relinquishes its watchdog role to become a sort of 'house organ' for

its Student Council. Last week, UNB students narrowly voted to leave the National Union of Students (NUS). That is their right. But it appears many have been influenced by anti-NUS information supplied to the student paper, **The BRUNSWICKAN**, by the Student Council President. The paper didn't check out that information as to its accuracy. That information was wrong; badly wrong.

So too, it would be wrong if some forced the **Gazette** to become a PR "puff piece" for the Student Council, much as **UNIVERSITY NEWS** is for the Administration. It would be ironic if the university community, dedicated to the ideal of freedom within the larger society, could not allow a truly free and fearless student paper. The Maritime Higher Education Commission (MPHEC), the Universities and our student unions have control over enormous amounts of students and taxpayers' money. The \$3.21 each student gives to support the **Gazette** is a small price to ensure that that control is exercised for the full benefit of student, university and society.

Respectfully yours,
Mike Marshall

Two prices

To the Gazette:

While browsing in the Dalhousie Bookstore the other day, I noticed two publisher's editions of the same book (*The Loved One* by Evelyn Waugh) being offered for sale. The Penguin edition in the English 227 section was selling at \$1.75 (the price under the sticker was \$1.15 suggested retail) while the Dell edition was priced at \$.95 in the other section of the store where miscellaneous books of a more popular nature are sold.

Although this may be an isolated example, it is probably true that cheaper editions are available in many cases. In these days of severe inflation and unemployment, the already straitened student budget should not be further taxed by needless expense. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jim Young

the dalhousie
gazette

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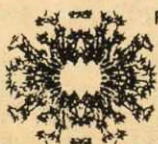
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