



THE GAZETTE

Volume 132, Number 12.

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Thursday, December 2, 1999.



This is what the inside of a cataract looks like.

photo by Jon Bon Elmer

Sextant article criticizes DSU

Student union responds to allegations

BY AMY DURANT

A recent article in DalTech's newspaper *The Sextant*, written by the paper's Editor-in-Chief Andrew Woods, hints at problems between the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) and DalTech students.

The article, published in the

paper's November 12 issue, criticizes several decisions made by the DSU.

It raises concerns about the DSU's involvement with raising prices at the TRoom, (DalTech's bar), removal of the DalTech yearbook, and what DalTech students feel is the DSU's unjust control over

DalTech issues.

Woods says his article was written in response to actions of the DSU executive.

"The DSU executive is what makes me so angry. It's like [the DSU executive] don't do anything," said Woods. "I have a problem with a school of 1,000 people being swal-

lowed up and lost in the crowd of 14,000 students."

Woods also feels that there is an increasing communication problem between the DSU and DalTech students.

"They're really not addressing our concerns," said Woods.

Steven Cote, DSU vice-presi-

dent internal, admits that there are communication problems but despite what Woods and other DalTech students feel, the DSU is trying to accommodate DalTech students.

"They feel as though we're

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WTO draws more protest

Rally held to raise awareness

BY PATRICK BLACKIE AND DANIEL MCKILLOP

A coalition of local groups and organizations vocalized their opposition to certain practices taken by the World Trade Organization (WTO). Called the 'Citizens Tour,' the event took place throughout downtown Halifax on November 30 to coincide with the international day of action against the WTO.

The WTO met in Seattle on November 29, which became known as the Millennium Round meeting, in order to discuss proposals for trade negotiations.

The march, which started at the North End Community Centre and ended at a rally at the Spring Garden Road library, included members of the Canadian Federation of Students, Oxfam, The Sierra Youth Coalition, Youth for Environmental Action, International Socialists, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, the Council of Canadians and the Nova Scotia Union of Public Employees.

About 30 to 40 people marched to the library where, among pedestrians and observers, the group began highlighting their objections to the WTO and its international trade policies. Their criticisms ranged from health care to genetically altered foods.

The rally featured speeches from members of the various participating groups, including representation from the NDP party of Nova Scotia.

The speeches thanked people

for investing their time into these events, and also commended people for their awareness-creating campaigns, including that of several Nova Scotians who had taken their protest to Seattle, (the site of the WTO conference).

Penny Howard, a representative of the Canadian Federation of Students, said that "fifteen bus loads of students from Vancouver and Calgary traveled to Seattle" to voice their opinions on matters concerning the WTO.

The Seattle WTO talks attracted a total of 39 buses of students from all over North America.

"There would have been even more," said Howard, "but, as it turned out, there were very few buses left to rent."

The rally also included numerous short skits which illustrated a distrust of the WTO and corporations affiliated with the organization.

One of the skits featured one of the attending demonstrators running throughout the crowd trying to pass off a banana, when a woman emerged to protest the sale of this 'genetically altered' fruit. The performance ended with a man clad in a blue spandex suit with WTO written on the front, jumping out from the back of the crowd proclaiming to be WTO-Man and telling the crowd to disperse.

"We're trying to create awareness in the community," said Shannon Lynch — WTO-Man — after the rally.

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Protesters gathered for a rally to raise awareness of the World Trade Organization last week.

Ten years later, and still uncertain

Panel discusses progress since Montreal Massacre

BY DONNA LEE

It was a tragedy that further inspired people to act towards ending violence against women.

But 10 years after the Montreal Massacre occurred, there remains uncertainty over whether much progress has been made.

A four-person panel met on November 24 to discuss the issue of violence against women. The panel discussion entitled "Ten Years and Counting: Have We Made Progress?" was organized by the Dalhousie Women's Centre, as part of their Week of Reflection.

The panel's first speaker,

Marie Paturel, represents Nova Scotia in the National Association of Women and the Law's working group on violence against women. She asked the audience for a show of hands: "how many people think we have made progress?"

Three people raised their hands.

"How many think we haven't made progress?"

Several more people raised their hands.

"How many really don't know?"

The room was filled with waving hands.

Paturel noted some improve-

ments which have been made in recent years including increased public education about violence against women, the increase in transition houses for battered women, and the overall advances in the status of women in society.

"It's human nature to look back and say we've made progress," said Paturel.

Yet Paturel says that while these advances have been very positive, there's still a long way to go.

"It doesn't necessarily mean we've made progress. It doesn't mean we're not in constant threat

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