

Controversy of many shapes and sizes among Law students

by Heather Roseveare

Dalhousie law students, having gotten over their alienation crisis of last year, are now occupied with the rocky relationship between the Law Society and Domus Legis, and a rift between male and female law students.

Last spring, the Law Society talked of a divorce from the student union. However, this year's student union president, John Logan, says the problem was "a function of last year's executive."

Student Council Executive, Ian MacKay, can understand why law students don't feel they get their \$67 (student fees) worth. The Weldon Building has its own cafeteria, lounge areas, and meeting rooms. SUB entertainment "isn't the type of entertainment they're looking for...law students are a little bit older than the average student."

Paul Scovil, president of the Law Society, says that the \$6200 grant from the Student Union is used largely to fund academic projects, including the Speakers Committee, the **Weldon Times**, the John Read Society, the International Society, and the Women and the Law Society.

Conversely, Domus Legis, the law fraternity, owes Dal Student Union \$7300 for unpaid liquor bills.

Kevin Feindel, student union treasurer, says Domus Legis always had a \$3000-\$4000 balance each month last term. The fraternity missed their November payment which sparked council's concern.

Jamie Campbell resigned as president of Domus Legis in October.

Council is negotiating repayment terms with the fraternity. Feindel is hopeful that at least one-third of the debt will be recovered by April 30 so that the remainder can be carried over to next year.

Domus' unofficial income statement of January 25, 1982, indicates that the debt was largely incurred by band fees, cleaner bills, and bartender fees.

Winston Cole, House Manager at Domus Legis, says bands were brought in last term to make money but "only a very small crowd showed up that didn't drink very much."

Dal Student Union has recently received a \$100 payment from Domus which indicates to Logan that "...they are willing to pay off the debt."

Liquor is now being sold to Domus Legis on a cash-basis only. Bartenders are no longer paid, and only inexpensive bands are hired.

Cole says Domus' financial troubles are a function of its bar prices. Since becoming licensed one year ago, it has to charge Bar Services prices. He says students can drink cheaper downtown.

"We have to have more appeal other than our prices," says Cole, "which is hard to do."

Cole explains that Domus Legis was originally set up as a non-profit establishment. It has been "impossible to round up cash to renovate," and so the house has "gotten progressively in poor shape." Cole says no one wants to drink in a "beat-up hole."

The Grad House, with its sleeker decor, has about 50 law memberships compared to 30 last year, reports Bob Bagg, manager of the Grad House, membership

costs \$20 compared to Domus' \$27.

A merger between the Law Society and Domus Legis has been under discussion at the Law School for some time.

"It seems to make sense on the surface," says MacKay, although "not all students want to be part of Domus."

Scovil doesn't know if it would be in the best interest of students to unite the two bodies. He adds "It's an internal decision to Domus as to what they want to do."

Logan, a law student, says the amalgamation is perhaps a question of "whether Domus will survive or not."

Cole indicates that Domus' present executive supports a liaison with the Law Society. Not only would all law students be a part of Domus, but Domus would be "a social committee of the Law Society."

Weldon Times Sexist?

Last week's edition of the **Weldon Times** revealed what some believe to be a growing degree of sexism at the law school.

The paper was "the last straw", says Kathleen Beall, of the Nova Scotia Association of Women and the Law (NSAWL).

The cover daringly displayed four male law students, primarily nude except for cardboard taped to their waists. Each sported a word to make up "Men and the Law." An accompanying caption read "Not a Law Story."

As a parody of the NSAWL, which has its home base at the law school, the women of this group were not amused.

Lois Hoegg of NSAWL says the paper was "blatantly offensive" and suggested that the Law Society impose a code of journalistic ethics upon the **Weldon Times**.

The law society council decided not to dictate a code but suggested an editorial policy be printed in the next issue.

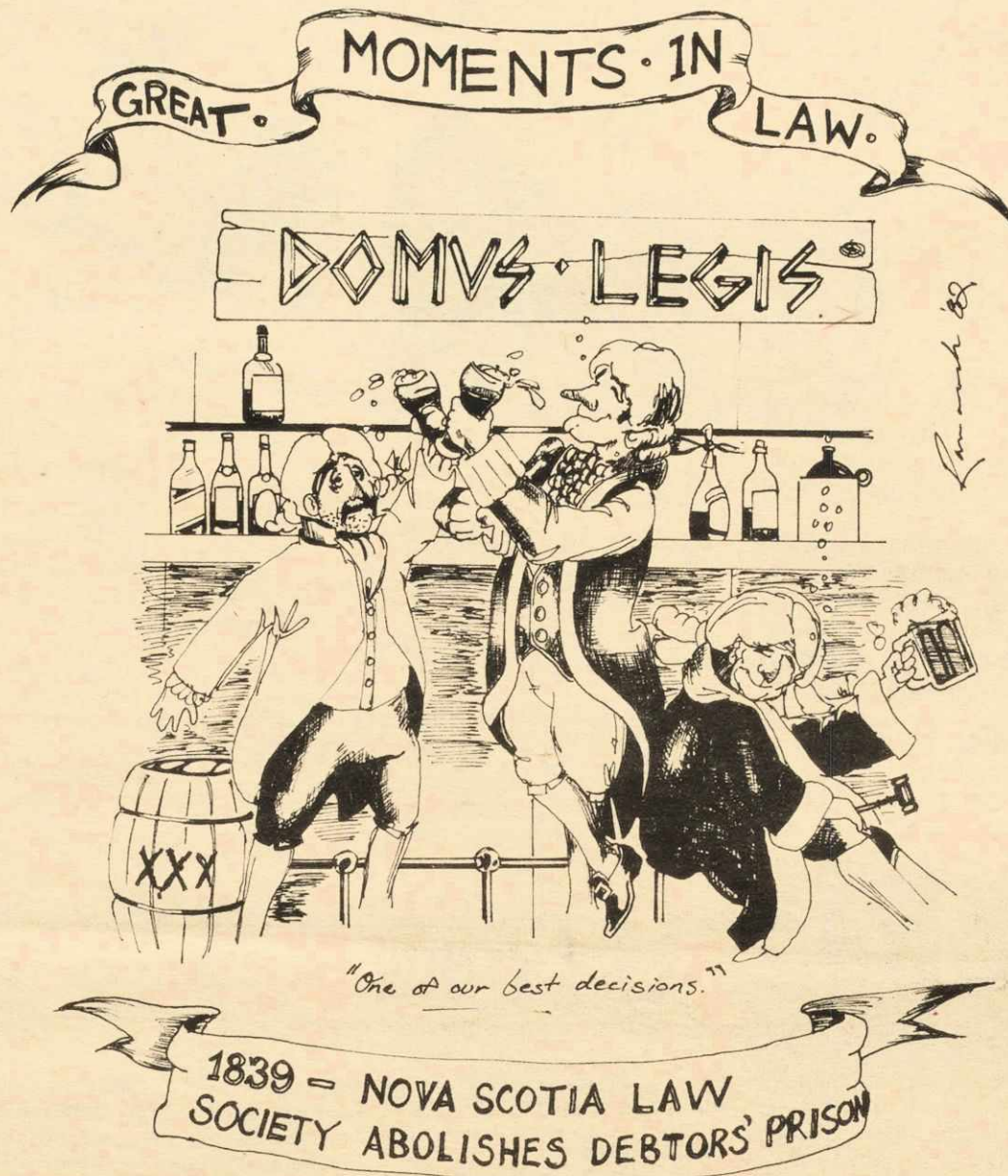
Editor of the paper, Gregg Yeadon, says "it is too bad if some find the humour unacceptable." Disclaiming any responsibility for the content of the paper, he said any submissions received were printed.

The edition also contained other sexist remarks and pictures.

Meanwhile, William Charles, Dean of Law, supports the work of the NSAWL and denies ever seeing the **Weldon Times** latest edition.

Cole, one of the men on the cover picture, believes the paper goes beyond the sexism issue. "This one was a protest."

The paper also condemned law professors for not getting Christmas marks out in reasonable time. A cartoon suggested that the professors are becoming less approachable and responsible to law students because of their many other commitments.



Dal not accessible to low income students

by Cathy McDonald

Close to 50 percent of students attending Dalhousie come from parents who make over \$30,000 a year, according to a survey undertaken by the Dalhousie student union.

Compared to the 21 percent of families in the general Atlantic population that makes this level of income, the 48 percentage shows Dalhousie students have backgrounds that are twice as wealthy as the average family. The survey shows that among other things, cost of education is a serious hindrance to accessibility of lower income students.

A further breakdown shows that one fifth of students' families have incomes exceeding \$50,000.

The increasing financial cost of education is hampering students ability to attend university according to the authors of the report. While tuition increases have generally been moderate the report claims students' financial resources have not kept pace with inflation. Low income students, who depend on student aid and have less family resources upon which to draw, are also the ones most adversely affected by a poor summer job market.

As well as their financial back-

ground, Caroline Zayid, one of the coordinators of the survey said socialization factors play a role in determining who will attend university. Responses to a survey question concerning the level of parents' education show that a full 43 percent had a parent with a university degree.

Zayid said she was alarmed by the results. Only students are concerned about accessibility, she said. Neither the administration, faculty or government are concerned, which is shown by the argument put forward by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, and

endorsed by Dalhousie President Andrew MacKay, that students should pay a higher percentage of their education.

The report calls for more consideration of accessibility when setting tuition fees in the future.

Zayid said although the situation is probably similar in other universities, it should be noted that the Maritimes has the highest tuition fees in the country, while it is also Canada's poorest region.

Participation rates in Nova Scotia, or the percentage that attends post secondary institutions, is among the lowest in the

country. From a high in 1975/76 of 19.5 percent, compared to the national average of 19.9 percent, the rate has dropped to 17.1 percent in 1979/80 while the national only dropped to 19.3 percent. Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick are further behind with rates of 12.3 and 12.5 percent respectively.

Dalhousie President Andrew MacKay drew attention to the fact that although fees went up this year, enrollment has also increased, calling into question the belief that students cannot pay higher tuition. They don't imagine that the university can

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