

Canadians face the Blue Dawn

The election is over, the new Tory government has been sworn in, and Canada now lives in the afterglow of the Blue Dawn.

For some it's a time for hope—a new party with new promises. Others fear the worst. But we're hoping that no one forgets the promises that lured Canadians to the polls, especially the Conservatives themselves.

These promises include a \$285 million job creation program for unemployed youth, continuation of the existing Canada Student Loans program, twice the amount of funding for research and development

and a new era in provincial-federal cooperation.

The huge Conservative majority means that neither the Liberals nor the New Democrats will have much effect on policy decisions in the coming four years. The best we can hope for is that the Tories live up to the glowing promises in their campaign for office.

Students will have to keep their MP's on their toes—phone if you have problems or questions. Remind Stewart McInnes of his leader's promises. We may come to remember this time in Canadian politics as the years when the Canadian people formed the official opposition to the government.

Students plead for more time

It may be only September, but Senate is already talking, talking, about a study break between last day of classes and first day of exams ... but we won't see it happen this school year. Administrators haven't yet figured out how to coordinate this break since students take courses from different faculties.

Response from students about the proposed change is varied.

Some students worry about writing exams right up until Christmas. Others don't want to be late in the race for summer employment.

But for many students, three days to prepare for exams would be

a welcome reprieve. It's naive to think students attending university have the luxury to spend all their waking moments studying. What about those students who have part time jobs?? Exams are often scheduled in blocks, so that a student may be required to write all their exams in the first week. Burnout is not only an ailment of those who cram.

Last April, many students were running frantic—not only preparing for exams, but preparation for moving, and filling out applications for jobs all coincide.

Those days would certainly be well spent.

CKDU to where it is today.

3) Shawn Houlihan's term on our Board of Directors has expired.

4) Regarding Keith's financial record: in the year that Keith was Station Manager, CKDU spent less than was budgeted. After Keith's financial behaviour was questioned last spring, the General Manager of the Dalhousie Student Union Building conducted an informal audit of CKDU's accounts and found there had been no financial wrongdoing or irresponsibility.

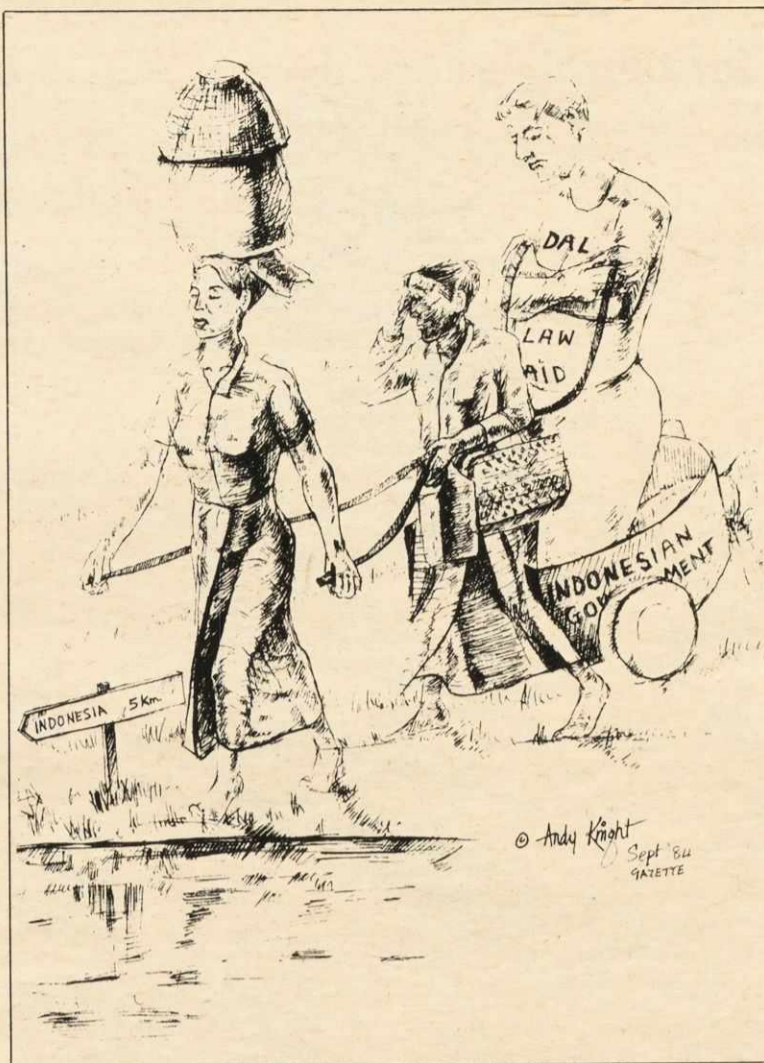
I am surprised with the degree of research, planning, and hard work that has preceded CKDU's imminent move to the FM band, and I recognize Keith's involvement. However, if I felt that he could not be trusted, he would not still be here.

Sincerely,
Doug Varty
Station Manager
CKDU-FM

Accept decisions of Pope

To the Editors:

I find it interesting to read of Catholics openly criticizing our Pope concerning the ordination of



women in the Roman Catholic Church ("Don't pin hopes on Pope," Sept. 13). Often, they do not realize (or recognize) one very important issue—to be a priest is, at least in part, to accept the will and the decisions of our Holy Father.

Pope John Paul has obviously given this matter much consideration and has announced his decision.

I (and, incidentally, many of the clergy) recognize the need for increased involvement of women in church life. Open opposition to the Pope by those men and women who (supposedly) wish to follow him does not fall within these parameters.

With respect to the final paragraph of your article, I hardly think that the Dalhousie Gazette is an adequate authority on these matters, and I dearly wish you would leave decisions, however controversial they may be, up to those whose

responsibility it is to make them.

I wonder why you rarely publish articles in support of the Pope's decisions, but seem quite eager to publish criticisms? Is it possible that we have neither the courage nor the faith to even try to put aside selfishness in favour of a truly inspiring example?

Sincerely yours,
Brian J. Lyons

James Watt on the Gazette?

To the Editors:

It is with great sorrow I write this letter. The cartoon "RC Police" in the last issue refers to the current policy of the Catholic Church towards premarital sex. It is not the content I am concerned with but the dangerous precedent of using a religion or a church as a source of humour.

The use of such material appearing beside articles against sexist humour and racist graffiti makes the Gazette appear hypocritical, if not ridiculous.

In the future I hope the editors are more circumspect about such materials.

Also, is it true James Watt gives technical advice to the Gazette?

Regards,
Michael Keiver



Letters

Deadline for letters to the editor is noon, Monday before publication. Letters must be typed double-spaced and be less than 300 words. Letters can be dropped at the SUB enquiry desk or brought up to The Gazette offices, third floor, SUB.

It's Alec, not Alex!

To the Editors:

Shawn Houlihan is entitled to his opinion about my article on Keith Tufts in the August issue of Atlantic Insight ("Tufts still near the top of CKDU, The Gazette, September 13, 1984). And the editors of The Gazette are certainly entitled to run his opinions on their front page. What writer Colleen Mackey is not entitled to do is spell my name incorrectly. I am "Alec" not "Alex" Bruce.

Sincerely,
Alec Bruce

Uh, by the way Alec, that's Colleen Mackey, not Colleen ... —Ed.

Negotiations crawl along

By MICHAEL DANIELS

At opposite sides of the negotiating table sit representatives of the Dalhousie Staff Association (DSA) and Dalhousie administration, discussing and reviewing their respective proposals in an attempt to reach agreement on a new contract for Dalhousie staff.

After 19 negotiating sessions, five of the 39 proposals initially discussed are tentatively resolved.

Brian Tittle, chief negotiator for the DSA, says contract negotiating is a slow process.

"Obviously we'd like to see more," Tittle said, "but that's what we have to live with."

So far the negotiators have discussed only non-monetary proposals.

Tittle says there are no issues that are particularly more significant than others.

"If we didn't think an issue was significant, we wouldn't bring it to the table," Tittle said.

Tittle would not discuss specific proposals, saying there was a certain confidentiality in negotiations of this type.

Tittle sees the negotiations continuing for a long time.

"We've planned for sessions into the end of October," he said.

They (management's negotiating team) have been receptive to our problems," Tittle said.

Tittle adds that he believes the DSA negotiators are being equally receptive to the administration's problems and, although both sides are representing their particular groups and must act in their best interests, the negotiators are cooperating.

Tittle says the key in the discussions is to recognize the problems of both groups and put the proposals into the wording of a contract which is acceptable to both sides.

Tittle added that the main difficulty in negotiations is arriving at a proper wording.

"You can get bogged down in dealing with the wording so that it conforms to how both sides see the problem," he said. □