

# Engineers are like bulls

**To the Gazette:**

In true **Gazette** fashion, there appeared an article on the front page of the November 30th edition of the **Gazette** entitled "Engineers are Tough". The **Gazette** printed a truly magnificent one sided version of an incident that occurred on November 23, in which Engineers were portrayed as a bunch of barbaric women beaters who stormed the **Gazette** office and brutally violated a few **Gazette** Staffers. Which is, of course, untrue.

As is well known by all, the

Engineers were doing their annual prank of advertising their Ball by stamping the front page of the **Gazette**. This annual prank goes back 21 years, when in 1957 the **Gazette** discontinued giving the Engineers a free front page ad. Ever since then, the Engineers have advertised their Ball on the front page of the **Gazette** in the same manner without any actions taken against them. It is worth noting that this year, the publisher of the **Gazette** did not forwarn the Engineers that any action

would be taken against the Engineering Society for this prank.

The prank went along, as planned, and all of the **Gazettes** that were circulated to all points, other than the SUB, were stamped and put back where they came from.

The **Gazette** Staff this year, decided not to put out all of the papers, and held about 2000 copies for the SUB in the CUP (Canadian University Press) office. Being fully aware of this, and being determined not to be stimied (sic)

by the **Gazette** Staff, a party of 12 individuals awaited outside the **Gazette** office for the Staff to put out the papers.

The **Gazette** Staff tried numerous tactics to make the party leave. They informed the night auditor, Tim Pertus, who came to the corridor where the party was standing, and found that the party was doing nothing that they could be asked to leave for. Mark Simkins told the party to "fuck off" and then spat on the floor. Mr. Simkin's display failed to instill fear.

The incident in question occurred when the **Gazette** office door and the CUP office door were open at the same time (which is like showing a bull a red flag). At this point, several individuals attempted to run in the **Gazette** office and then into the CUP office, grab the papers, and run out. The individuals were stopped by members of the **Gazette** Staff. The party then left.

That is the Engineers' account of the incident. It cannot be overemphasized that entry into the **Gazette** office was not premeditated and that it occurred spontaneously when it was realized that the **Gazette** and CUP office doors were both open.

It is unfortunate that a prank which is meant to be good clean fun should turn so sour.

Sincerely,  
David Bolivar,  
President Dalhousie  
Engineering Society.

*Editor's note: What David Bolivar fails to mention in his account of the incident is that in the brief period between the Engineers entry to and departure from the Gazette offices one member of staff received a very serious concussion. Since the incident took place she has been deprived of her vision and has been confined to her residence, except for visits to Dal Student Health and the Victoria General Hospital.*

**Correction:**

In last week's story "engineers are 'tough'" the quote attributed to David Bolivar should have read "If you were treated in a rough or rude fashion I offer you my sincere apologies (sic)".

## Give us the names

**To the Gazette**

Ms. Roseanne Armitage's sad tale in the letters section of the Nov. 23 edition was severely weakened by the fact that she (or you?) did not name the good doctor. It seems to me that when doctors are encountered that display such blatant discrimination in their attitude the complaint should be aired as you did but with his name. You can't get sued for reporting facts.

Ms. Armitage might later report the doctor's name if she finds one that gives them a reasonable hearing and I would hope you print it. I would also suggest she file a formal complaint with the medical society. I would be

naive to suggest that it will get very far, but it will serve notice to the offending doctor and to a number of his colleagues that the public is dissatisfied. For that matter a formal complaint to the N.S. Human Rights Commission will force that body to face up to this all too common form of discrimination that faces men and women seeking birth control advice in Halifax. Again the formal complaint to the Human Rights Commission will not do much more than aggravate the doctor I expect but it's all part of the process—just as was Ms. Armitage's letter to the **Gazette**.

Yours Truly,  
Alan Ruffman

## Anti-apartheid in N.S.

Donald Woods, in his public lecture at Dalhousie University last week, suggested and urged that people who were concerned about events in southern Africa and who wanted to do something constructive could become involved in support groups like the Southern Africa Information Group in Nova Scotia.

S.A.I.G., a voluntary organization formed in 1976, is opposed to all forms of racial segregation and supports political movements in southern Africa which are dedicated to the political and self-determination of the majority population in each country. For information about membership, upcoming events, etc., please write to: Southern Africa Information Group, P.O. Box 3460, Halifax South, Halifax, N.S., B3J 3J1 or phone Jim Young at 423-3001.

# SPEED READING COURSE TO BE TAUGHT HERE IN HALIFAX AND DARTMOUTH

Arrangements have been made for "Excell-A-Read" Academy Ltd. of Vancouver to conduct their famous speed reading and study technique course to a limited number of qualified people here in Halifax and Dartmouth.

This course can train the average person to read five to ten times faster and with better comprehension, concentration and improved retention. The course guarantees to triple a person's reading speed, but the guarantee is a bare minimum as the average graduate will complete the course in excess of 2,000 wpm and with better understanding.

For those who would like more information, a series of FREE (hour and a half) meetings have been scheduled. These lectures are open to the public

(above age 14) and the course will be explained in complete detail, including a tuition that is far less than that of similar courses.

You only have to attend one Free meeting for complete details on entrance requirements, class schedules and classroom procedures. And there is no obligation to enroll. These free orientation lectures will be held at

**HOLIDAY INN—  
HALIFAX CENTRE  
Grand Ballroom**

**Quinpool Rd. and Robie St.**

at the following times: Thursday, November 30 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Friday, December 1 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 2 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; and Sunday, December 3 at 2:30 p.m. and 8:30

p.m.; then at

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
Life Sciences Building  
Coburg Rd. and Oxford St.**

at the following times: Monday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Tuesday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; and Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; then at

**HOLIDAY INN—DARTMOUTH  
Conference Room  
Wyse Road**

at the following times: Thursday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Friday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30; and two **final meetings** Sunday, December 10 at 2:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.