

The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man.

— George Bernard Shaw

## Anti-apartheid groups protest

# Dalhousie criticized for Scotiabanking

by Christina Frei

Dalhousie keeps its accounts with Scotiabank and anti-apartheid groups on campus are not happy about it.

After last month's announcement that the Bank of Nova Scotia gave a loan of \$600 million last year to the Luxembourg-based company, Minorco, a subsidiary of two of the biggest South African companies, Anglo American and De Beers, Dalhousie student Avnash Singh organized a seminar on divestment as part of last week's international students events.

At the seminar, Dalhousie's director of finance, Mike Wright, told the audience of eight people that Dalhousie had entirely divested itself of any business ties with South Africa in 1986.

But Dalhousie employees are still paid with cheques marked Bank of Nova Scotia.

Wright hesitates to say what Dalhousie will do in respect to its involvement with Scotiabank. The head of Scotiabank, Cedric Ritchie is also a member of Dal-

housie's Board of Governors.

"We have not taken any action", says Wright. "First we want to know, why did the bank do this? We shouldn't condemn the bank until it is given a chance to explain."

Meanwhile, Ritchie has not been given a deadline for responding to the university.

Canada's sanctions policy toward South Africa has been based on voluntary, rather than mandatory, compliance with government guidelines. But local anti-apartheid group, Coalition Against Apartheid, said until this latest development, they had been quite successful in influencing Canadian banking policy toward terminating private loans to South African interests.

Lynn MacKinlay, member of the support group to the African National Congress, says that Dal should take a stand in investing its money conscientiously.

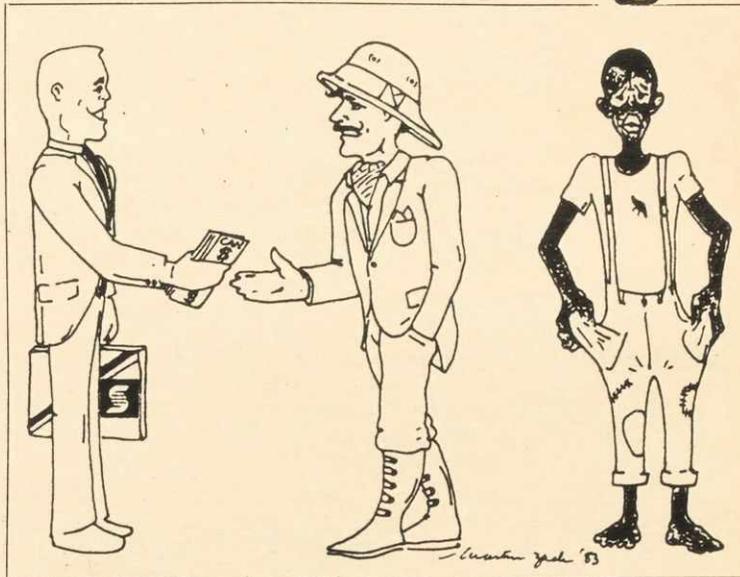
"Dalhousie has a longstanding relationship with this bank but the university also has a responsibility in it's position on invest-

ment. Dal should impose its power to invest its money ethically."

Dalhousie's own divestment in South Africa began in 1986 when a group of students lobbied the Board of Governors to protest Dal's investments in multinational corporations with holdings in South Africa. At that time, the Board of Governors promised to remove Dalhousie's holdings in South Africa, and a divestment committee was set up.

Although this committee hasn't met since they authorized selling share in the problem companies in 1986, Wright, explains that a management team is constantly reviewing Dalhousie's investments to make sure they fol-

Continued on page 14



## DSU: irresponsible allegations no reason to audit Commerce budget

by Heather Hueston

The man responsible for overseeing the financial welfare of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) and its societies says he thinks that allegations made about the management of the Dalhousie Commerce Society are unfounded and he will not audit the society's books until he is presented with concrete evidence of irregularities.

Responding to commerce student Scott Matthews' critical opinion piece in last week's *Gazette*, DSU Treasurer Frank DeMont said he talked to commerce society president for 1988-

89 Toni Arnold about the rumours he had heard regarding how the society accounted for the \$40,000 spent on commerce house renovations last year.

"People were curious about how the money was spent", confirmed DeMont, "but I was satisfied with the answers I was given. They asked me if I wanted to do an audit and I said 'no'. Until I have substantiated allegations, I have no reason to distrust you."

DeMont added that he is open to hear anyone's concerns and said he told Matthews that when he ran into him last week in the law pub.

In his opinion piece, Matthews, who ran for DSU president last year, slammed the commerce society for its "sketchy" book-keeping and said he had to criticize in public in order to ensure the "honesty and integrity" of campus societies. Matthews also took shots at the DSU Chair and an unnamed former VP of the Commerce Society, deploring the level of student "apathy" on campus.

Matthews is nonchalant about the furor his comments are causing. For example, "the law society has told me they're considering

Continued on page 14

## Awaiting verdict...

by Ruth Legge

Three Dalhousie law students Mady Brodie, Roger Proctor and Sandra Giffin appeared in Small Claims Court last week to argue their case against the university for damages they claim they incurred as a result of last fall's faculty strike.

The hearing lasted for three hours, after which the adjudicator decided to reserve judgement for the maximum allowed time in Small Claims of one month.

"We're not giving any details" says Mady Brodie, "until we get judgement because we can't interfere with the adjudicator's decision by saying things in between".

A written copy of the judgement will be mailed to the students as soon as a decision is made.

## TYP commission under pressure

by Sandy Mackay

They have little more than three months to come up with the solutions to save the Transition Year Program — a "ridiculously short time" according to the chair of a Dalhousie 5 person task force on minority accessibility. Dal Law Prof Wayne MacKay says "This is not a dismantle operation". The common perception is that the TYP is being shut down through underfunding.

The task force's job is to evaluate the TYP and to find better ways to provide access to the program. This program provides opportunities for Nova Scotian Natives and Blacks to upgrade their skills to university level.

In evaluating the program, MacKay's group will:

- Assess the transition Year Program, and other Dalhousie access programs, and compare these to other universities' programs (ie. University of Toronto).
- Go to the involved communities and get public input about access problems and any other specific problems, (this has never been done in the history of the TYP).
- Prepare and deliver a report to President Clark by June 30th.

MacKay is concerned that the lack of time involved in the study means that the data collected will only reflect a small portion of the entire picture. The result of this, says MacKay will be an inade-

quate report. The potential losers in this situation are the Natives and Blacks since they have a limited time to organize and present their ideas. Who will benefit from an inadequate report? Certainly not the people the task force is being set up to help.

The report will not recommend cutbacks, and the President's response to task force's report will signify the university's commitment to minority students. "Minority access will cost money" said MacKay. The results of the report should be available sometime after June 30th.

The Transition Year Program has been running almost 20 years and has admitted approximately 400 students.

## More voters turn out

Voter turnout for the first two days of the Dalhousie student election is way up. Although voter participation hit an all-time high of 17 per cent last year, Chief Returning officer Wayne Aspinall says turnout may reach 21 per cent this year mainly because of the controversial \$25 athletic fee question and also due to the Senate reforms which provide each faculty with their own rep. "People seem to care more in that case," says Aspinall. Another election may be necessary in order to fill the vacancy in the health professions Senate seat due to the withdrawal of the candidate last Monday.

He says that at the Tupper building poll almost twice as many people voted in one day as during the three days last year. The Law Building's poll ran out of ballots on the first day.

