

CF campaign a shining success

by Lilli Ju

This year's Shinerama campaign at Dalhousie has well surpassed its goal of \$17,000. Shinerama this year was the most successful at Dal: on Friday, September 22, just over \$20,000 was collected with the help of the last fund-raising activity of this year's campaign, voluntary cover charges at the Thirsty Duck. However, collecting cover charges at various downtown bars accounted for only \$2000. About \$400 came in from car washes held by some fraternities. And of course, you can't forget those wonderful shiners! There were more than 600 shoe-shiners, sent all over the metro area on Thursday, September 7. They raised about \$18,000! What enthusiastic frosh! (Some even surpassed the \$200 mark — not bad for just shining shoes and whatnot for a day.) Prizes for the individuals who raised the most money included a trip for two to Portland, Maine, with an excursion to Freeport and \$200 spending money; a Sierra Design Gore-Tex parka jacket; and a scuba-diving course. {

Shinerama '89 at Dalhousie was kicked off by Evelyn Stewart and Ada Christopher, the co-directors, who had only from the end of May to pull this whole affair together. Since then, there was a national conference at the University of Western Ontario and a regional conference at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Truro, plus a tremendous amount of work, phone calls, late nights, phone calls, late nights, phone calls . . .

Aside from the fund-raising activities, there were displays at malls this past summer, and a very successful media reception one week before the big Shinerama day. At the reception, there were people like the other maritime university Shinerama reps; 680 CFDR's Gord Johnson, Dalhousie Shinerama's honorary chairperson; Nancy Regan, honorary chairperson for both the Mount and St. F.X.U.; Dave Shannon, DSU President; doctors and researchers from the Isaak Walton Killam Hospital; and representatives from the Halifax chapter of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. 9-year-old Natalie Pece gave a heart-stirring

account of what it was like to have CF. She also talked to the frosh at the Welcome Show. The excitement for this media reception was fuelled by the discovery only a week earlier of the specific gene that causes CF.

Shinerama is an annual fund-raising event held by universities all across Canada for the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CCFF), where almost 75 per cent of the money raised goes directly towards CF research. Shinerama generates only 9 per cent of the funds required by CCFF. This year's national goal was \$600,000; the Atlantic region's was \$150,000. This year, 64 universities from Newfoundland to B.C. participated in this huge event.

Cystic fibrosis, of CF, was first recognized in 1938 when infants and young children died as a result of malnutrition, dehydration, pneumonia or any combination of these. CF is the most common life-threatening hereditary disease in children. At present it is incurable and cannot be detected in carriers or before birth. With the discovery of the CF gene, overcoming these primary obstacles is closer than ever



photo: Depak Seth, Dal photo

The Shinerama Gang

before. Since 1938, other tremendous steps have been made. The life expectancy has been increased from 4 years to 24 years. 13 per cent of CF patients live to reach 21

— the age most of us are now. It is a sad and grim thought, but today, CF patients have a lot to look forward to thanks to efforts like Shinerama.

The discovery of the CF gene is

a direct result of fund-raising activities like Shinerama. On

August 23, 1989, researchers, led by Dr. Lap-Chee Tsui of a research group based at Toron-

to's Hospital for Sick Children, announced that they had found the particular gene out of the 50,000-100,000 in a human cell that caused CF. The potential implications are obviously astounding.

Canada increases role in new UN

by Chris Murray

"The '90s will usher in a new, streamlined version of the United Nations which will be much more effective than it was in the '80s."

This was the message presented to members of the UN Association in Canada by new executive officer Angus Archer on September 19, the same day in which the UN General Assembly opened its doors for the 44th time.

Archer said in his speech how the aims of the UN have diffused from its inception to the present

ces peacefully. "This year's agenda will have the environment as the main topic, with emphasis also being placed on development in the third world nations," said Archer.

Archer, associated with the UN for 15 years, said Canada has a very good reputation around the international community. He points to Canada's role in peace-keeping and our large aid payments to developing nations as key reasons for this. As a result,

Gorbachev "a politician with great body language."

Canada's election to the powerful Security Council by 85 per cent of the General Assembly was the largest majority in UN history.

The United States does not share Canada's reputation. The U.S. has been isolationist in the past and has become more so in present dealings with the UN. The U.S. Congress has cut U.S. funding of the UN from 33 per cent of the total budget to 25 per cent, which means the U.S. is

paying less than any other country according to a formula based on population and wealth. The U.S. has also failed to pay \$400 million of a promised \$1 billion for past budgets, and has pulled out of several UN groups like UNESCO. Archer cites the American "pioneer spirit" as a reason for their actions. "The Americans feel they can pull out of the UN at any time and make a go of it on

their own," he says. There is now something stopping the U.S. from pulling out.

The Soviet Union has become increasingly involved in the UN, and the U.S. does not want to be left out in the cold. The Soviets have paid up all their outstanding debts to the UN, a fact Archer credits to the arrival of Mikhail Gorbachev as leader of the the USSR. Archer calls Gorbachev "a

consummate politician with great body language and rapport."

The UN Association in Canada is a group which works to broaden the public's knowledge

of the UN and its actions. The Association feels that "only quiet, persistent presentation of the facts can create a real liaison between people and the vast hope that the UN represents."

Dal needs more access

by Ken Faloon

"If post-secondary education, in addition to public education at the secondary and elementary levels, is indeed a right, Dalhousie may be legally negligent and liable for suit for failure to provide equal access to all facilities for disabled students."

This quote was taken from "Access at Dalhousie 1988", written and researched by Andrew Nurse and commissioned by the Dalhousie Student Union. Although it is no more than a legalistic argument meant to encourage thought, it reveals that Dalhousie may be a virtual

"locked door" to disabled students.

Dave Shannon, Student Union President and past president of the Dalhousie Advocates for the Physically Challenged (DAPC), is a disabled student. For the past several years he has learned to adapt to Dalhousie's poor accessibility. "I can get in pretty well anywhere on campus, but it's usually through a back door," he says.

Adapting to Dalhousie's inaccessibility does not mean accepting it. This is evidenced by Nurse's report and the continued existence of the DAPC, now in its second year.

DAPC is a society of the Dalhousie Student Union addressing

the need of disabled students on campus. Currently they are completing an accessibility guide that will give new Dalhousie students the valuable information it took Shannon years to acquire on his own. It is due out some time before Christmas.

Reila Cruise, a sociology student and acting chair of DAPC, says the guide is a positive effort, but it is not enough. "The fact that we have to use back doors and at times have no access to building at all is appalling. We are treated and made to feel like second-class citizens and this is not right, or fair."

Recently there have been accessibility improvements, like new

continued on page 6



day. The UN was primarily formed as a response to World War II, so that hostile nations could meet to settle their differen-