

## Dr. Gonz

I have not become openly hostile to the coffee house in the SUB basement. However, should I find that the shuffleboard table is not going to be made available to all students somewhere, I'm afraid a severe blow has been dealt to the student body. Like as not, the SRC probably decided it was a suitable honorarium for one of its own kind, and you'll see it lost in the shuffle. Things move more smoothly when a little grease is applied to the wheels, be it free tickets, or nominal pay for a lot of work down. It's hard to establish any policing system, and by in large you must trust the integrity of the powers that be. As my esteemed colleague, J. David Miller pointed out, [actually I've met the lad] this trust is sometimes mislaid. But I draw the line at shuffleboard tables.

A word for nervous young virgin co-eds. If you want some "hands on" experience before trying the real thing, modern technology has come to the rescue. Just pop on down to any department store and pick up Joey Spruck, Archie's grandson, a "physically correct" boy doll. Since most doll manufacturers have caught on to the fact the dolls should have two arms, two legs, one nose, etc, it seems safe to assume that "physically correct" must include some very suggestive detail. I hear next year's model comes circumsized.

By my calculations, Silent Movie should be hitting Fred town soon. Acclaimed by critics to be not one of Mel Brooks' finest, it is definitely Mel Brooks' finest. Except perhaps for The Producers, but the dunderheads that select movies for around here have not the wit to appreciate that. Only one word is uttered throughout Silent Movie. At first, I thought this to be largely a gimmick, but the calculated understatement of the captions actually enlarge the movie's comic scope. Brooks' has added a galaxy of cameos throughout the movie, including Burt Reynolds, James Caan, Marcel Marceau and Brooks' wife, Ann Bancroft. It is a movie of a movie. Mel Funn [Brooks] tries to save the studio from the grips of the Engulf and Devour corporation, by making a smash hit of a silent movie. Aided by his sidekicks Marty Feldman and Dom DeLuise. He spends pretty much the rest of the movie assembling the cast [hence the cameos] and thwarting evil agents of Engulf and Devour. A lot of the jokes you've seen before, but Brooks dons them so well, you'll laugh again.

Handy Household Hint # 4 - There seems to be a lot of black h\*sh around. I prefer spliffs for the nicotine buzz, but there is a certain elan about smoking it straight. One method, which you rarely see out here, is especially suitable for impromptu smoking. Simply make a cup out of your hands, as if you were scooping water out of a basin. Hold a lit cigarette between your fingers such that the glowing portion is in the centre. Place a small chunk of h\*sh on the ember. Some people will squash their cigarette to obtain a flat area to place the h\*sh. Within a few seconds the h\*sh starts smouldering and you're off to the races. This method requires coordination you may not have at the moment, but does not require any rolling or paraphernalia except for a lit cigarette.

The more astute reader will probably wonder how the hell they drop the h\*sh on the cigarette if they just made a cup out of their hands. Well actually you place the h\*sh on the cigarette, then make the cup. The h\*sh will undoubtedly fall off. Well, practise makes purpose. If the h\*sh falls off while it's burning, one is faced with a dilemma. Here a tiny chunk of something very valuable is burning through your hand. The choice of solution must be left to the individual reader.

## A dog gone story

By RON WARD

It shouldn't happen to a dog. "Why does it have to happen to me?" he may have asked. He is a German Shepherd dog named Buck in the movie Call of the Wild, which was taken from a book by Jack London. People look down on a dog's life, but the life Buck led in his happy California home was far from unpleasant. Then things changed for the house pet Buck as he was stolen from his paradise by an unhappy, greedy man servant and sold.

This marked a time when the dog would have to learn to live in a harsh world and become independent in order to survive. The time was that of the rush to Alaska for gold. Men were desperate with greed for quick fortunes which they hoped to find in the North and dogs, which became very valuable in that region for their use in dog sleds, the only logical method of transportation for the region, became merely tools to be used and or sacrificed for the all important cause.

After being sold by his abductor, he was immediately subjected to extreme punishment by at first

cruel, malicious teasing to the point of injury and afterwards, feeling a necessity to defend himself, being severely beaten for doing so. Fortunately, for him, he was then bought by a man named John, played by Charlton Heston, who was to become Buck's closest human friend. Not only was John a man who knew and understood dogs but he was not as desperate or ruthless as others for his interests in Alaska were not in gold, he was going to run a mail route, bringing supplies to the stranded fortune seekers in northern snow. Still this was only the beginning of Buck's life.

Call of the Wild is a very stimulating film emotionally. As is very often the case, the film followed the book only somewhat. The major reason in this case seems to have been the ratio of the exposition of the lives of the people to those of the dogs, was greater in the film than in the book, which was greatly detrimental to the film.

The film is only partly realistic in its portrayal of the lives of the dogs, and from here the film dives steeply downhill. Frankly, the acting is terrible. It is difficult to establish a sense of believability

in a film and become thoughtfully involved when people over act (This was done to the extent that Charles Dickens over writes) and Charlton Heston, no less guilty than the other actors and actresses, yells his "damnit" that he must use in every movie he stars in accompanied by a couple of his teeth breaking, he-man style closed mouth kisses.

The book was entitled "Call of the Wild". It is doubtful that the film could have the same title had it not obtained it from the book. The book played largely on the idea of the howl of the wolves being a call for Buck to seek a life in the wild and the conflict within him between his desire for the wild and his love for his master. This played, actually, a very little part in the movie.

Even with these deviations in mind, the basic ideas of the book and the film were identical, the struggles of a particular dogs hard life as he was forceably matured to a level at which he could cope with the realities of a harsh existence. The movie portrayed this idea very well. It is unfortunate that sometimes people are not as good at acting as dogs.

## Drama Society to do Brecht

The major production of the UNB Drama Society this Fall is "Caucasian Chalk Circle," presently in rehearsal. This production is calling on the resources of many persons, including the director, twenty-four actors, costumers, designers, lighting technicians, make-up artists and a composer. "Caucasian Chalk Circle" will open on Wednesday, November 24 in Memorial Hall on Campus, and will run until Saturday, November 27. Performance time is 8:00 p.m.

Directing this production is Ilkay Silk. Her experience with acting and directing is varied. She has acted with the TNB Young Company, as well as having been involved with costuming and back-stage work at TNB. She attended "The New College of Speech and Drama" in England and, also in England, taught drama in the schools. She is used to all aspects of theatre work, and she is versed in guiding the inexperienced in their first attempts at acting.

Mrs. Silk chose "Caucasian Chalk Circle" because she liked it, and because it provides a multitude of parts, an especially welcome feature, because it means a large group of students can be given a chance at acting. Ms. Silk points out that, due to the large cast actually called for in the play (approximately sixty) cast members have a chance to be in two or three different roles, which allows them to test themselves in various modes of acting.

Patrick Clark, who has been involved with the Drama Society in the past, has designed the set and the costumes. For this production, the set has been divided into five acting spaces, one of which is a raised platform to the rear of the stage, another is a slanted area at front stage centre on which the "circle" is placed. The costumes are basic cuts, with flourishing designs painted on by Mr. Clark and his assistants.

The costume-mistress for this

play is Melanie North. She will be in charge of making-up the costumes and fitting them to the actors involved.

Lighting for "Caucasian Chalk Circle" promises to be a spectacular show. Ian F. Karkner, associated with TNB, has kindly undertaken to arrange lighting. Various parts of the stage will be highlighted as important action is progressing in that area. The lighting will play over metallic sheets situated in the roof of the stage to create various special effects such as snow falling or the city in flames. While Mr. Karkner will be arranging the lighting,

John McKee of the UNB Drama Society, will be operating the performances.

Lorna Ferrari, a Fredericton resident, has written a musical score for this performance. Her music will enhance the mood reflected by the lighting, as in the song for the falling snow.

This production of "Caucasian Chalk Circle" promises to be lavish and exciting. Actors and technical persons alike are putting a lot of effort into this performance. All they ask is that Fredericton residents show an interest and attend — November 24, 25, 26, 27 Memorial Hall.

## New Relations and Publicity

### Director for Neptune Theater

John Wood, Artistic Director of the Neptune Theatre Company, is pleased to announce the appointment of Laura Bennet as Public Relations and Publicity Director.

A native of Montreal, Laura Bennet has been associated with a variety of organizations -- including the Programming Department of C.B.C. Television, Halifax. While bringing up a family of four, she devoted much of her time to volunteer work for groups such as the Junior League of Halifax, the Isaac Walton Killam Hospital and the Canadian Association for the Mentally Retarded. In addition, Mrs. Bennet has acted as a freelance consultant for the Nova Scotia Festival of the Arts, Dance Canada, and publishers McClelland and Stewart Ltd. She also belongs to the Canadian Public Relations Society and is a

member of the Board of Governors of the Isaac Walton Killam Hospital.

For more than two years, Mrs. Bennet has been Public Relations Officer and publicist for Dalhousie University's Department of Cultural Activities. Her duties there have included promotion for all facets of the performing arts and the Dalhousie Art Gallery.

Mrs. Bennet's extensive background and skills in her field will be a valuable asset as the Neptune prepares for the 1977 season which opens on January 10 with "King Lear". She will assume her new post early in November, assisted by Corinne Hartley-Robinson, who remains with the theatre.