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Suspect arrested

by Jen Horsey

Students are in a state of disbelief regarding the bizarre shooting involving two female students on the Dalhousie campus just before noon on Friday 13.

The incident occurred on Seymour Street where several department houses are located. The accused is 26 year old Lisa Corra, a Dalhousie student, who allegedly fired an undetermined number of random shots, and then aimed her shotgun at another student, 28 year old Nusya Campbell.

Witnesses who saw the shooting claim that Campbell appeared to have two wounds, one to the face, and another to the arm. The victim was taken to the Victoria General Hospital. The injuries are not life-threatening.

Immediately following the shooting, the suspect ran to the next block, Henry Street, where she was apprehended without resistance.

Due to the time of day, there were numerous eye-witnesses. Martin Beaver, a physical plant employee, saw the suspect's capture. He saw the woman sitting on the verandah of the English Department house on

Henry Street with a shotgun beside her.

"The woman that was sitting on the verandah. She just walked down the steps, walked over to the police car and she talked to him for a minute and he put the handcuffs on her," he said.

Corra's lawyer, Joel Pink, said

*"She just waltzed
down the steps,
walked over to the
police car..."*

that Corra has been under a doctor's care for manic depression for five years.

In an interview with the Chronicle Herald, Corra's mother said that her daughter had tried to get psychiatric help at Abbie Lane, part of the Camp Hill Medical Centre complex, over the holidays, but couldn't be admitted.

Judge Joseph Kennedy remanded Corra to the Provincial Forensic Psychiatry Service in Dartmouth for a 30-day psychiatric evaluation to assess whether she is fit for trial.

Campbell and Corra were roommates, and prior to this incident had been involved in several minor disputes. The shooting was allegedly over the disappearance of Corra's cat.

Halifax police took several items of evidence from the scene, including shot-gun shells and a guitar case which was removed from the boulevard in front of the Dal SUB, less than a block away. It is believed that the guitar case had been used to conceal the gun. Several students report having seen the suspect carrying the case in the SUB earlier Friday morning.

Constable Gary Martin said that the police have a good idea where the gun came from, and that it was not stolen, but borrowed.

It is illegal to lend a gun to someone without a firearms acquisition certificate.

Dalhousie's Counselling and Psychological Services is offering special sessions for those affected by the incident.



A police officer holds a shotgun shell found after Friday's shooting on Seymour Street.

PHOTO: PETER BOGACZEWICZ

No school on January 25?

OTTAWA (CUP) — Up to 100,000 Canadians are expected to participate in a Jan. 25 student strike against the federal government's proposed reforms of social programs.

"Students are mobilizing across the country," said Pam Frache, national strike co-ordinator for the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). "Even non-member campuses are doing something. There is a phenomenal resonance of action to show the government."

The Jan. 25 strike is one of a series of tactics to pressure the Liberal government to withdraw its plans to eliminate Ottawa's \$2.6 billion provincial transfer payments, which help fund post-secondary education.

If the proposed cut becomes government legislation, it will send tuition fees through the roof and force students to support heavy debt burdens.

Demonstrations are scheduled for Vancouver, Victoria, Lethbridge, Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Toronto, Guelph, Sudbury, Windsor, Kingston, Peterborough, Kitchener-Waterloo, Montreal, Halifax, Fredericton and St. John's.

That afternoon, seven universities and colleges in Vancouver will be converging on the Vancouver Art Gallery to march through downtown on a 'treasure hunt' to look for places like corporate offices where the government could find money to fund education.

In Toronto, students are expected to join in a 'solidarity rally' with members from the National Action Committee on the Status of Women and the Unemployed Workers' Council, among other supporters.

In Ottawa, a protest on Parlia-

ment Hill is scheduled for noon. The CFS is also planning a march to the headquarters of Canada's largest bank, Royal Bank, to protest its record profits this year, and to the Business Council on National Issues, a big-business lobby group.

But some say the time has passed for student protests.

"Another protest would be detrimental," said Chris Lennon, a Carleton student union director. "Protests have a place, but we have already had a protest [on Nov. 16]. To repeat that is pointless."

Lennon said the student movement should concentrate on negotiating with the federal government to make federal reforms of social programs better for students.

"It [another protest] would be a big photo-op," he said. "We got the attention of the government in November, and we got the attention of the Canadian people."

But Jean-François Venne, president of the University of Ottawa student council, says formal consultations have not worked.

At a Nov. 21 meeting with Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy, only about 35 student leaders had access to the minister during a 45-minute discussion, Venne said.

"If they start a real consultation, we'll stop all the protests and we'll work through the channels that are put in place," he said.

McGill Social Work student Melissa Redmond, a member of Students for Social Justice to Educate McGill Students about the Axworthy Reforms, believes the Ministry's consultation methods — like a workbook students are meant to fill out —

are a smokescreen for the fact that basic decisions have already been made without regard for public opinion.

"The workbook is a perfect example of someone else defining the agenda," said Redmond. "Someone else is asking the questions and telling you what to answer. It says, 'Here's my vision of Canada. You tell me

which parts you like.' Turn it into your own form of protest. Don't answer the questions because they're going to be used to shoot you in the foot."

Keith Patterson, also a member of Students for Social Justice, sees protests like the one planned for Jan. 25 as a crucial part of the "consultation process."

"I think that the demonstration is not separate from — it's in addition to the consultation process. Challenging policy reform at a Parliamentary committee level is not enough. We need to challenge their rhetoric, their ideology, their faulty logic and their vision of this country

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DSU responds to SSR

by Lisa Lachance

Student response to the proposed Social Security Reform (SSR) continues.

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) in particular has made a number of presentations to different bodies. DSU President Rod MacLeod outlined the road trip he took on behalf of Dal through various presentations. They started with the Finance Committee on November 1, 1994 through Province House, the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council (APEC) and ending at the Human Resources Development Committee on December 13, 1994.

Mr. MacLeod outlined some of the questions he posed to the Committee.

"How much out of cash expenditures is the government going to take away to reduce the deficit? They've never given us a straight answer."

As well, Mr. MacLeod talked about accessibility.

"They say the system is accessible because everyone can qualify for a loan. But will people want huge debt loads? Debt is an issue of accessibility."

When asked about the reactions he has received, MacLeod commented that the response was basically the same across the board. An Income Contingent Loan Repayment Program (ICLRP) is necessary because cash for education will disappear by the year 2006.

"But what they don't consider," said MacLeod, "is that the money could keep growing with the economy... and not add to the deficit."

In addition to this type of action, a group of Dalhousie students have organized the Dal Strike and Action Committee. This group is hoping to mobilize Dal students to support the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) National Student Strike on January 25. Schools from across Nova Scotia will gather in Grand Parade Square in Halifax on this day. Dal students interested in going to the strike as a group can meet at 2 p.m. in the SUB Lobby.

Aaron Poirier, chair of the committee, has secured support from Dalhousie President Howard Clark in the form of a promise that students would not be penalized for

missing class on this day.

The Strike and Action Committee has planned a number of events to raise students' awareness. At an information table in the SUB, Committee member Corilea Hagkull was busy greeting people with pamphlets that contained information on ICLRPs, students and the deficit, and the strike.

Regarding people's reactions she commented, "People have a lot of basic questions. [They're] just talking about the Green Paper ... let alone about ICLRPs. People have to find out somehow."

The DSU has chosen to recognize an individual student's right to strike but not to officially support the action on January 25. DSU Vice-President External, Hal Maclean, commented in correspondence that while a strike is a good idea, it is one "that has caused so much division in the student movement [and therefore] is a bad idea." However, MacLean assured DSU Council that he will be there on January 25.