

# Chancellor enlisted to help win Superport bid

BY SALLY THOMAS

The superport may or may not be coming! The superport may or may not be coming!

And Dalhousie's chancellor has a hand in it.

Maersk Sealines, a multinational shipping company, asked for bids on a so-called "superport" that will take in cargo ships too big for the Panama Canal. Halifax made a bid and has made the short list. It's up against Baltimore and New York.

The provincial government has asked Sir Graham Day, Dalhousie's chancellor, to negotiate the terms of Halifax's bid with Maersk.

The chancellor is a voluntary and largely ceremonial position.

Dalhousie president Tom Traves says he is pleased for Day and doesn't see any conflict of interest between Day's work on the superport and his work for the university.

"He has a life. He has to carry on with personal affairs."

Day, a native Nova Scotian, says he is proud and pleased to be chosen to negotiate this deal. The call came out of the blue by the government and he says he quickly accepted the offer.

"I'd like to think I'm a good citizen. It's part of a larger community responsibility."

Don Downe, the provincial Finance Minister, says he is pleased with the addition of Day to the negotiations. He said the government felt Day was the most qualified person to represent the province because of his vast

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experience in shipping and water laws.

"He has an international reputation as an individual who gets the job done. We're doing everything to be successful," Downe said. "He's a world-class kind of guy."

In 1983, Day was hand-picked by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to revitalize the nation's shipbuilding industry. And during his time in England, Day gained a reputation from unionists as a "hatchet man".

In his first three years as chairman of the British Shipbuilders, he cut the workforce from 60,000 to 9,000. He also sold off or closed 30 shipyards.

Just two months after his arrival at British Shipbuilders, 37 union members threatened to go on strike. Day ended up firing 1,300 people.

The superport is being seen by many as a saving grace to the Nova Scotian economy.

Proponents says the port would create about two thousand unionized jobs and a further three thousand spin-off jobs.

The port's location is expected to be made public by the end of February.

Day is meeting with the provincial government, the Halifax Regional Municipality and the Halifax Port Commission to discuss issues involved in the superport bid like labour and the environment.

And all Day's work is free. If the bid is unsuccessful he won't charge for his services. But if the bid goes through he'll donate his fee to the Hantsport Fire Department and the Hantsport Community Centre, in the community where he lives.

Day says he believes this is part of his civil duty.

"It is the good and proper thing to do something for the larger community and not get paid for it. If life's been good to you, you give something back to the community."

# 20 years ago this week

## "Hot Nasties" leads way for obscenity charge

Officers from the morality squad confiscated two movies, *Calendar Girls* and *Love Slaves*, from the Cove Cinema on Gottingen Street.

The owner was charged with knowingly and without lawful excuse selling obscene matter to the public — the dominant characteristic of which was the exploitation of sex.

The charges followed an earlier charge and fine in Sydney, NS for the movie *Hot Nasties*.

The police superintendent said the movies were in poor taste.

"If you had seen these films you would know what I mean," he said. In the end charges were only laid in connection with *Love Slaves*, but police kept both movies. In the two years before the charges were laid restricted movies accounted for 67 percent of all movies shown in Nova Scotia.

## Pot promised quickie decriminalization

Possession of marijuana was expected to be decriminalized within a few months.

Representatives of all three major parties said they would be willing to give speedy passage to a bill proposing decriminalizing possession of pot and hash.

The bill was similar to one a few years earlier that would have brought marijuana and hashish under the Food and Drug Act rather than the Narcotics Control Act. No word was released on whether the House of Commons had to break because members had the "munchies".

## Anti-government group blew up pop can

An underground group at the University of Toronto claimed responsibility for a series of small explosions on campus.

DRAG — or Direct Revolt Against Government — said it wanted to "bomb out cutbacks".

A filing cabinet, desk and pop can were found booby-trapped with an explosive iodine mixture.

The bombs were discovered when a university employee tried to unlock a filing cabinet.

She heard a loud bang, saw a cloud of smoke and her hand and wrist were covered in a yellowish substance.

The substance was also later found on a desk and in a soft drink can which rolled out of a machine and exploded.

The Toronto Emergency Task Force and Bomb Squad were called in.

# Dal rolling in budget surplus

## Computer science and Killam profit — but library wants more

BY JEFF DESJARDINS

Dalhousie has an \$800,000 surplus.

Which, if you're a student scrounging for the necessities of life — food, shelter, clothing and beer — is a lot

But Dal economics professor Michael Bradfield says that isn't a lot for a university as large as Dal.

"Eight hundred thousand dollars will have about an eight hundred thousand dollar impact," he said. "Unfortunately that's not that much."

In past years, budget surpluses have gone to pay down Dal's accumulated debt.

But vice-president finance and administration, Bryan Mason, says the school's debt is projected to be reduced by more than half by the end of this fiscal year.

So with the debt no longer perceived as an issue, the university administration was free to spend the \$800,000 surplus on three "high priority needs".

\$250,000 was given to the Killam Library for acquisitions. The University also earmarked \$275,000 to upgrade teaching facilities in the field of Information Technology.

And the faculty of Computer Science got \$225,000. Which, according to the administration, was an attempt to partially deal with the 34-percent increase in that

development] and more money should have been given to the library," Prof. Bradfield said.

Because the current academic year is more than half over, he says there's no way that those departments could spend the money they've been given this academic year.

And while University librarian Bill Maes says he was glad to get the money, he also says the library needs more money — soon.

80 percent of the Killam's journals are purchased in US dollars, so the deflation of the Canadian dollar has resulted in huge price increases.

The \$250,000 the Killam received is just enough to cover these increases.

And since the Canadian dollar doesn't look like it will make any sort of comeback in the near future, and the \$250,000 is a one-time payment, Maes says the administration is just buying time before the library will not have the funds to buy necessary materials, like books and other equipment.

"We're just forestalling the inevitable."



department's enrollment.

\$50,000 of the \$800,000 surplus was held back to compensate for a possible discrepancy between the projected surplus and the actual surplus at the end of this fiscal year.

But some say the only place the extra money will make an impact is in library acquisitions.

"Less money should have been given to the Faculty of Computer Science, and [Information Technology



CAMPUS CASANOVAS: Jim Prentice and Mike Power show off the styles of the 1970s at a student organizational meeting.

photo by Doyal