

6 Species at risk

15 Plumtree grows up

22 A year of sports

Mind game... pg.12

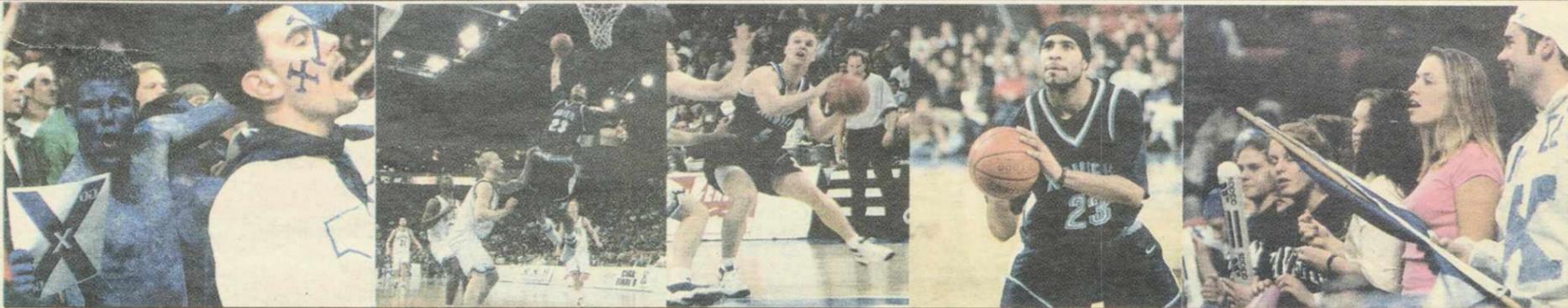


THE GAZETTE

Volume 132, Number 22.

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Thursday, March 23, 2000.



St. FX takes CIAU Championship at the Metro Centre last weekend in a spoonful of great basketball.

photos by Robin Kuniski

The United States 'genocidal' sanctions

Foreign Affairs critic Svend Robinson speaks the truth on Iraq

BY JON ELMER

In late February 1991, when after more than a month of intensive round-the-clock, play-by-play coverage CNN analysts announced the end of the allied bombing campaign in Iraq, for the overwhelming majority, the Persian Gulf War was complete — another point in a

history lesson.

But alas, this assessment is wrong on two counts.

When NDP MP Svend Robinson dived through Halifax this past Thursday, he bore a message which is virtually unknown to Canadians: the war in Iraq is not over. In fact, the war in Iraq becomes more devastating with each

successive day in a process that has been compounding since first sorties of Operation Desert Storm struck Iraq more than nine years ago.

Speaking to a casual setting of a classroom, Robinson was stark about his firsthand account of the sanctions impact. "The situation in Iraq is one that I react to with ur-

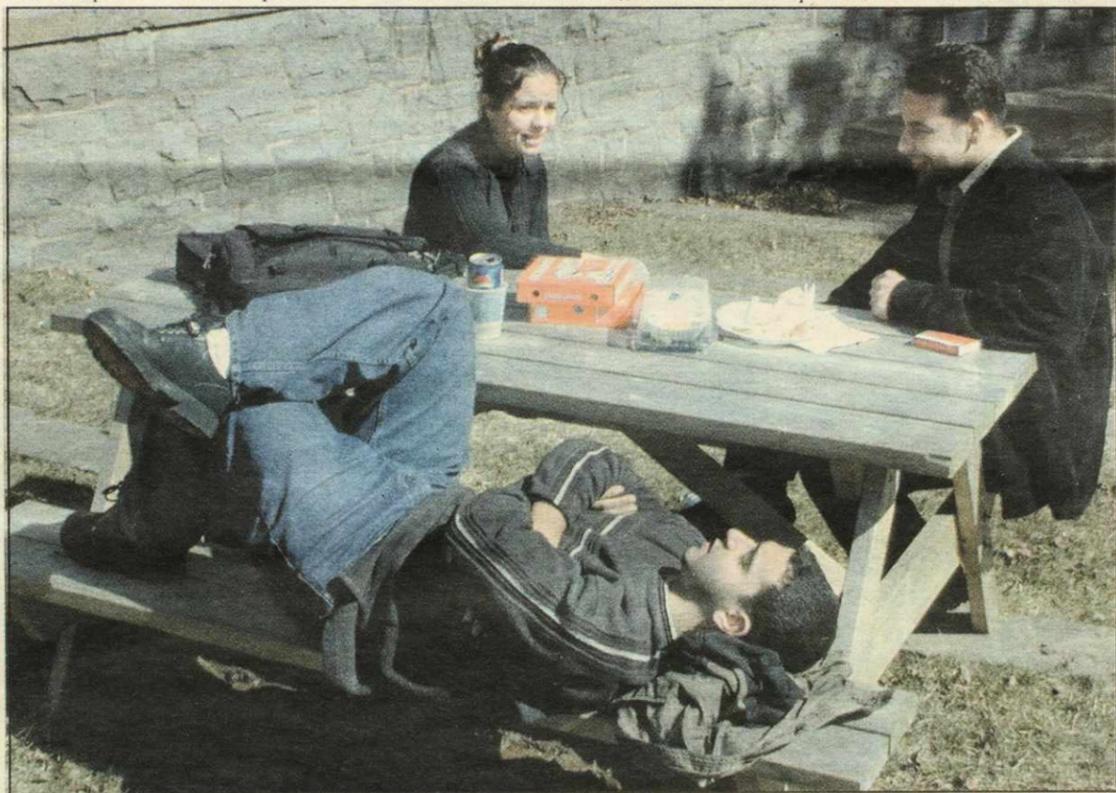
gency, anguish, anger...and shame, as a Canadian that my government is a part of this."

The sanctions have been in place on Iraq since their invasion of Kuwait, and affect all aspects of Iraq as a nation. Both military and non-military the sanctions ban import of such bare basics as soap, paper, pencils, rubber balls, and food in a

country that imported 70 percent of its food in the 1980s.

The sanctions are widely held as the most brutal ever enforced upon a civilian population; recent UNICEF studies show that the death toll among children has leveled off at 5000 per month, a direct result of

continued on page 10



Spring weather: Dema Cakash, Mohammed Sahe and Essam Faarag (lying down), take advantage of the beginnings of spring's warmer weather to enjoy lunch outdoors at the SUB last Tuesday.

photo by Will Roberts

Science library to be amalgamated

Students, faculty up in arms

BY AMY DURANT

Killam library administration has announced they plan to go ahead with a plan to amalgamate the science library with other sections of the library, despite intense opposition.

Administration at the Killam library received a recommendation from the external committee that the service available to science students should be integrated with other aspects of the library back in first semester.

The Dalhousie Science Society (DSS) responded by sending an e-mail out to science students informing them of the situation and encouraging students to discuss the issue.

"I think library services has forgotten why they're here — they shouldn't forget who they're geared towards," said DSS President Kathleen Terroux.

Despite such sentiments as Terroux's, library administration say the change is meant to help Dal students.

"This change will allow for the opportunity to use staff time more effectively during both core and non core service hours," said University Librarian William Maes. "The change will bring some core services in closer proximity to one another and facilitate the handling of multi-disciplinary and inter disciplinary questions."

Students have not been the only individuals to complain about the amalgamation.

Dean of Science, Warwick Kimmens, says the change will result in inefficiency.

"It's extremely fool-hardy," said Kimmens. "The message is very clear [to me], the present system is one that suits [students]. The amalgamation is one that will deteriorate the services."

Stuart Gossert, a Dal chemistry professor agrees the amalgamation is "bad news."

"It's going to make a huge influence on [the library's] efficiency," said Gossert. "The material and procedures are completely different between science and humanities. Students will continually have to go back and forth."

Maes responded to these complaints by saying that progress is not always met with favour.

"We would not be doing our job if we did not, despite opposition, proceed with broad changes which the majority agreed were sound and necessary to take advantage of the new technologies and the new ways in which scholarly communication is being conducted," said Maes.

Yet as well as commenting on the overall efficiency, both students and science administrators remain concerned by their own role in the decision.

Kimmens noted that no student or faculty were included in the decision to amalgamate.

"The process leaves much to be desired," said Kimmens. "The recommendations are ones which I have yet to find either students or faculty supporting. All administrators are here to provide for students and staff... That just isn't happening here."

continued on page 3

Dalhousie students can register on line

BY RACHELLE DUMAS

This upcoming school year, students at Dal will be able to register on-line for the first time.

Registrar workers say the change was needed.

Dalhousie's registrar, Dr. Curri, says the "mail system was too slow." Students can now immediately find out if they were accepted to a class without leaving their computer. Dr. Curri also thinks it will be "less frustrating" than the old first come, first served.

The on-line registration will

be done through the Dal Banner system and is as easy as looking through the Calendar. It will be done in stages, beginning with the first and fourth year students since they have summer advising sessions. Then it will be progressively open to second and third year students since their needs are not as restricted.

The web registration only applies to undergraduate and health profession students. All others will continue with the mail-in system.

As previously done, registration packages will be sent out in late

June.

Dr. Curri says it is very important for returning students leaving for the summer to select their program of study. Otherwise, Curri says, the computer will check your enrolled degree and enrollment is restricted for many of these classes.

Students are generally impressed with the idea of Dal's new on-line services.

Jeannine Gravel, a first year Dal student, is happy with the change.

continued on page 3