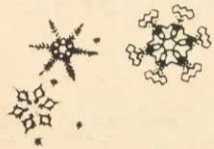


# 1987 SKI WEEK MONT STE. ANNE

from **\$299**



**TRAVEL CUTS HALIFAX**  
Student Union Building  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4J2  
**424-2054**

THE TRAVEL COMPANY OF THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

**TRAVEL CUTS**  
**Going Your Way!**



What's happening in downtown Halifax?

## SENIOR FROG'S

1669 Argyle Street  
(next door to the Carleton Hotel)

- Large screen videos
- Dancing nightly 'til 2:00 a.m.
- Specials all week long

**CHECK IT OUT!**

Halifax's newest is really hopping!

## OPINION

# Women doctors only

By JUDY MILLS

After a rape — what next? for a woman who goes to the Dartmouth General Emergency Department, the answer is simple. Not much. Emergency room physicians in Dartmouth do not accept cases of sexual assault. The Dartmouth physicians will attend to any acute physical injuries, but if a woman wishes to undergo a complete examination, she has to arrange her own transportation to Halifax.

Is a woman in Halifax much better off? At first glance, the answer may appear to be "yes". She can go to the Halifax Infirmary or the Victoria general, confident that she will be seen by a doctor in either emergency department. However, there is no guarantee that the doctor will be female. For many women, the experiences following sexual assault — namely, interrogation by male police officers and examination by male doctors — constitute what have been coined as the "second and third violations".

This is the situation in Halifax and Dartmouth today. Fortunately, fundamental changes are just around the corner. On both sides of the MacDonald Bridge, local women physicians are organizing themselves as on-call teams ready to respond, 24 hours

a day, 7 days a week to requests for assessment and medical care of victims of rape or other forms of sexual assault. They hope to be based at the Dartmouth General and Halifax Infirmary, respectively.

Carol Wackett of the Service for Sexual Assault Victims (SSAV), a local voluntary agency, has been dreaming of such a setup for the past two years, ever since she learned of a rape victim who went home after being sent away from the Dartmouth General. Last spring, Carol was approached by Fionella Crombie, a family physician at the Dalhousie Family Medicine Centre in Halifax. "We were absolutely thrilled", said Carol. "This represents a major change in attitude on the part of medical personnel. We anticipate that more women will come forward for medical examination as the new services become available."

On average, three sexual assault victims are medically examined each month in Halifax. During the same period, more than twice that number contact the SSAV. Besides the intimidation women face from male doctors and noisy, crowded emergency departments, many simply do not believe that a medical examination following sexual assault is important. Those involved in

organizing the new services agree that ongoing programs of public education are essential to the projects' success.

"After a Rape — What Next?" is the theme of a panel discussion on sexual assault scheduled for Saturday, October 25, 1-3 p.m., Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building. Co-sponsored by the Nova Scotia Branch of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada and Dalhousie University Department of Family Medicine, the event brings together members of the medical, legal and social work professions, as well as a rape victim to discuss all aspects of sexual assault.

Saturday's forum gives women of Halifax-Dartmouth a chance to let the professionals know what the potential users of the new system have to say about it. The women doctors who have committed themselves to the project are presently undergoing training. They are learning the technical details of how to gather data through interview and physical examination in a manner acceptable to the courts. On Saturday, women in the community can show their support of the women doctors' initiative by attending the seminar and sharing their personal views of what they consider to be acceptable medical care.

## No neutrality at NSCAD

By RICK JANSON

The strike at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design has created a quandary of positions among students at the college.

While some join the faculty on the picket lines, others continue to cross the picket and attend what classes remain.

In between there are a plethora of individuals who claim neutrality, who sometimes join the picket lines, and at other times cross it.

To expect a unified position among students would be naive — even at an art college. The numbers who have jumped on the "neutral" bandwagon is surprising simply because rationally there is no such position left for students at the college.

If you are inclined to point out to a "neutral" that crossing a picket line does constitute taking a stand, one is in for a dose of self-righteous indignation.

The biggest battle cry among the "neutrals" is that "we're just anti-strike." Well, okay, it's all well and fine to say you don't like strikes, after all, who does? But the strike is not going to go away by itself. It involves two negotiating parties — the administration and the union. There are positions staked out by both parties. They have to be resolved. If the "neutrals" intend to exercise any form of power — as they propose — then it will have to be directed somewhere. You can't picket an abstract called a strike.

The biggest weapon students have is the power to close the school down. At present tax payers can rest assured that Johnny (or Mary) can continue on with

most of his (or her) studies — albeit under somewhat more arduous conditions — and let the union go hang if they so choose.

An empty building clears the decks for nothing but resolution of the dispute and increases public pressure.

But it is stated by some that this would be unwise for it would mean that students would no longer have a place to debate their helplessness (ironically) and stage the weekly ritual of circuses supposedly aimed at resolving the strike. By continuing to meet there they forget they are automatically excluding one significant group of students — those who support the faculty and refuse to cross the picket line and enter the building.

The fallaciousness of their position gets ridiculous at times. At one meeting it was proposed that a support rally/dance be held in the school. It would be ironic that the union would not be able to enter the building to attend their own support rally put on by students. Are the students mixed-up? I should think so.

The sad thing is that most students I have heard speak have more or less supported the union's position. The issue of job security in particular is necessary now or there may be little of a union left next time around if full-time faculty continue to be replaced by non-union part-time and sessional instructors.

The list of good instructors who have left the school in the last year and a half is alarming. It calls into question the continuing quality of education at the college and leaves many doubts about the future.

It is disheartening to see the kind of commitment the faculty have given to the school betrayed by those who wave the flag of self-interest.

The justifications of students crossing the picket lines are inventive. Some who continue to work in their studio spaces claim that they have already paid their tuition fees... um... er... rent. I think I missed the rent table at registration. All I wrote out was a promissory note for tuition fees — not rent.

Others attend classes claiming their credits are at peril. True, all of our credits are at peril, including those of us who had our classes cancelled in the strike contingency plan. The union also loses credits, on the balance side of their bank statement as the strike goes on.

To fight for a principle — in this case the future of the college — requires some element of commitment that goes beyond making fashionable statements of support and then crossing the picket line.

True, we may lose this term — four months. But by channelling energies into supporting our faculty's bid for a fair and secure contract may be among the best four months we may ever spend at the college.

The short-term loss of a possible term seems minimal when the opportunity presents itself for all of us to pull together to create a real future for NSCAD, and inevitably for us.

*Rick Janson is a full-time studio student at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.*