

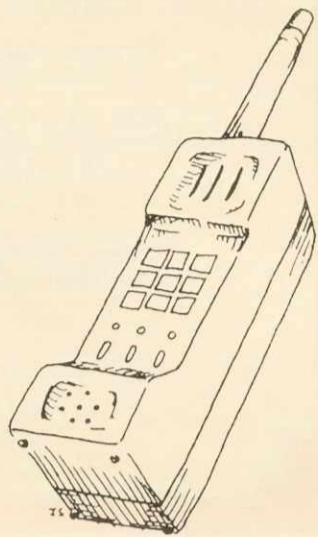
Cellular phones – gotta have 'em!

What do people think we students do—go around throwing money away? The people in big business must have got their wires crossed when they decided that students would be a good market to try and sell techno-toys to. Cellular phones, pagers, portable computers, electronic diaries. Do they really think we buy all this stuff?

How many of us really need any of these gizmos? Sure we may all want them, but how many really need them? The answer is very few. Yet everyday I see an ad aimed at selling me a pager or a cell phone or a portable computer. I haven't seen many students doing a power lunch with a cell phone in one hand and a notebook computer in the other.

Maybe they think we go around campus driving BMWs or Mercedes'. Maybe they think campus life is so fast-paced and cutthroat we need to keep in constant contact with our secretary.

Besides, could anyone pick a poorer group than students to sell high priced techno-toys to? Most of us don't have \$4,000 to drop on a new portable computer or even the low low price of 'only



\$29.00 a month' for a cell phone (plus hookup, air-time and extra options). Most of us spend our days finding money for rent. We try to scrape up enough odd jobs to cover our bills and maybe quaff a few beers at the Grawood. We don't have enough cash to splurge on something as frivolous as books let alone pagers.

We don't need a \$4,000 computer to do cost projections, market forecasting and project scheduling. We have a method for all that now. We cost project our rent next month (a constant), we market forecast our jobs prospects (we have none) and we project schedule our assignments (we do them the night before). There is no rocket science, there is no reason to try and sell us things we don't need.

My suggestion for the average student: buy a desktop computer if you need one for your courses. Get a mid-range one. Ignore the guy who says it's

out of date — the high-priced one is too. Don't get a cell phone or a pager. It's one more way for people to interrupt you. Get an electronic diary if you think you'll use it (you won't). Get a \$20 special from Radio Shack. It will

serve the purpose. Anything over \$50 is too much for an imitation pad of paper. How do I know all this? Well hell. I've bought all these things of course!

Garth Sweet

Animal research

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search should not be excessive or particularly painful to the lab animals.

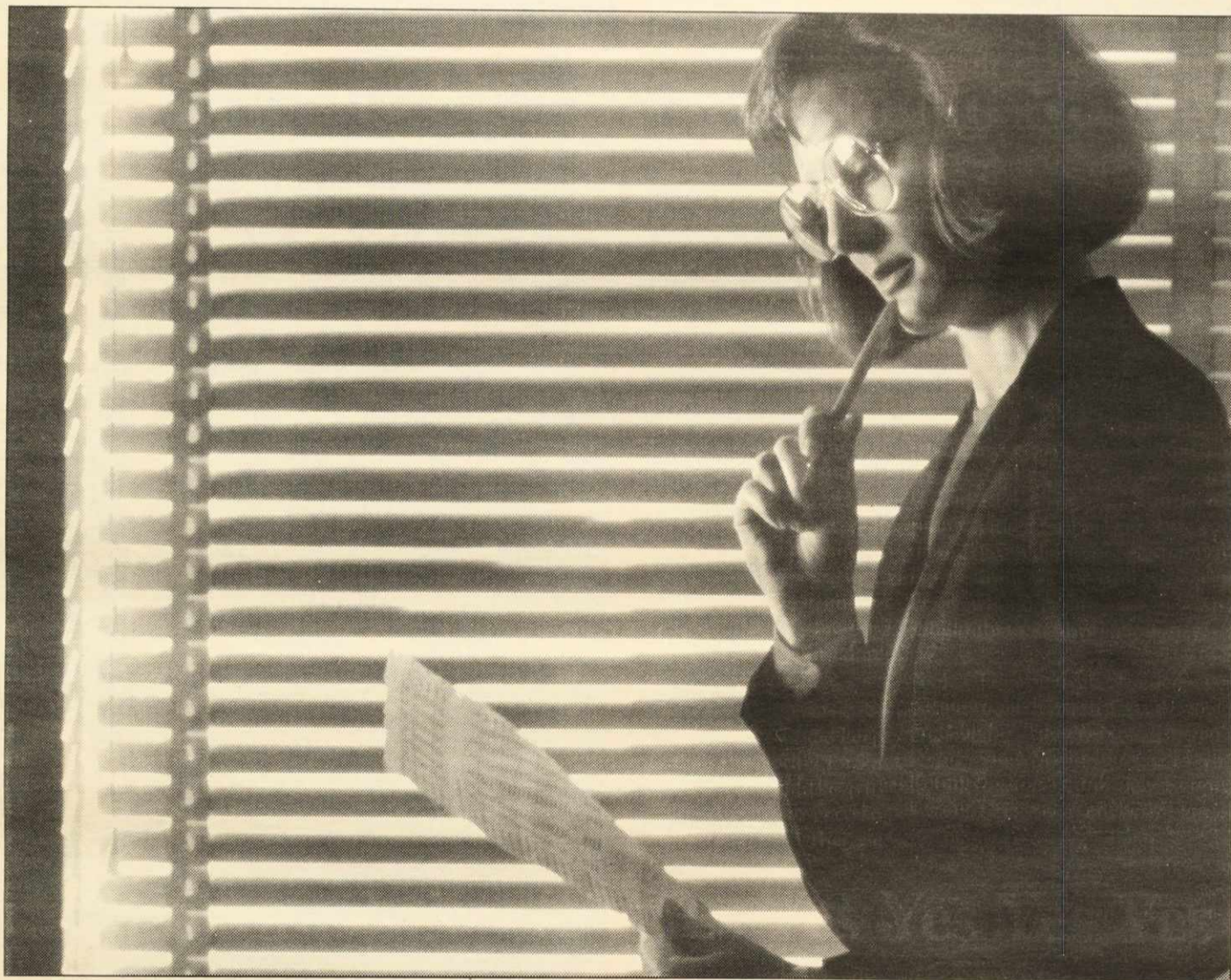
But Don Marston, the Chief Provincial Investigator for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), said Nova Scotia is sorely lacking in government regulations on animal research. "Nova Scotia has no legislation on animal research," he said. While Marston admits that some of Dal's research is quite amazing, most

strikes him as rather meaningless.

For example, over the last 30 years or so, Dal has been involved in seal research. Recently, Dal has experimented with developing birth control for seals. This research is supposed to help curb the seal population in order to help the fisheries industry.

The two types of seals that have been the main focus of this study are the grey and the harbour seals. Both are inshore seals that go to beaches to mate and are therefore easy to do research with. The two types of seals that are widely believed to affect the offshore fishing industry, however, are the hood and harp seals. These two varieties live far from shore and breed in areas that are almost inaccessible to scientists. As a result, little birth control research can be done.

While there is no denying the medical benefits of some of the research done with lab animals, the moral implications of doing research on living things that cannot verbally protest it cannot be overlooked.



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8:00 PM
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