

# the Dalhousie Gazette

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The Dalhousie Gazette is Canada's oldest college newspaper. Published weekly through the Dalhousie Student Union, which also comprises its membership, the Gazette has a circulation of 10,000.

As a founding member of the Canadian University Press, the Gazette adheres to the CUP Statement of Principles and reserves the right to refuse any material submitted of a libelous, sexist or racist nature. Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor and announcements is noon on Monday. Submissions may be left at the SUB Enquiry Desk c/o Dal Gazette.

Commentary should not exceed 700 words, letters should not exceed 300 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted on request.

Advertising copy deadline is noon Friday before publication. The Gazette offices are located on the 3rd Floor SUB. Come up and have a coffee and tell us what's going on.

The views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the editor or the collective staff.

Subscription rates are \$15 per year (25 issues) and our ISSN number is 0011-5816. The Gazette's mailing address is 6136 University Avenue, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 4J2, telephone (902) 424-2507 or (902) 424-2055. The business office may be reached at (902) 424-6532.

## CKDU - F.M.?

It's that time again - the biannual CKDU Yes or No referendum is going to be held next week on November 22 and 23, in conjunction with DSU by-elections for Senator rep.

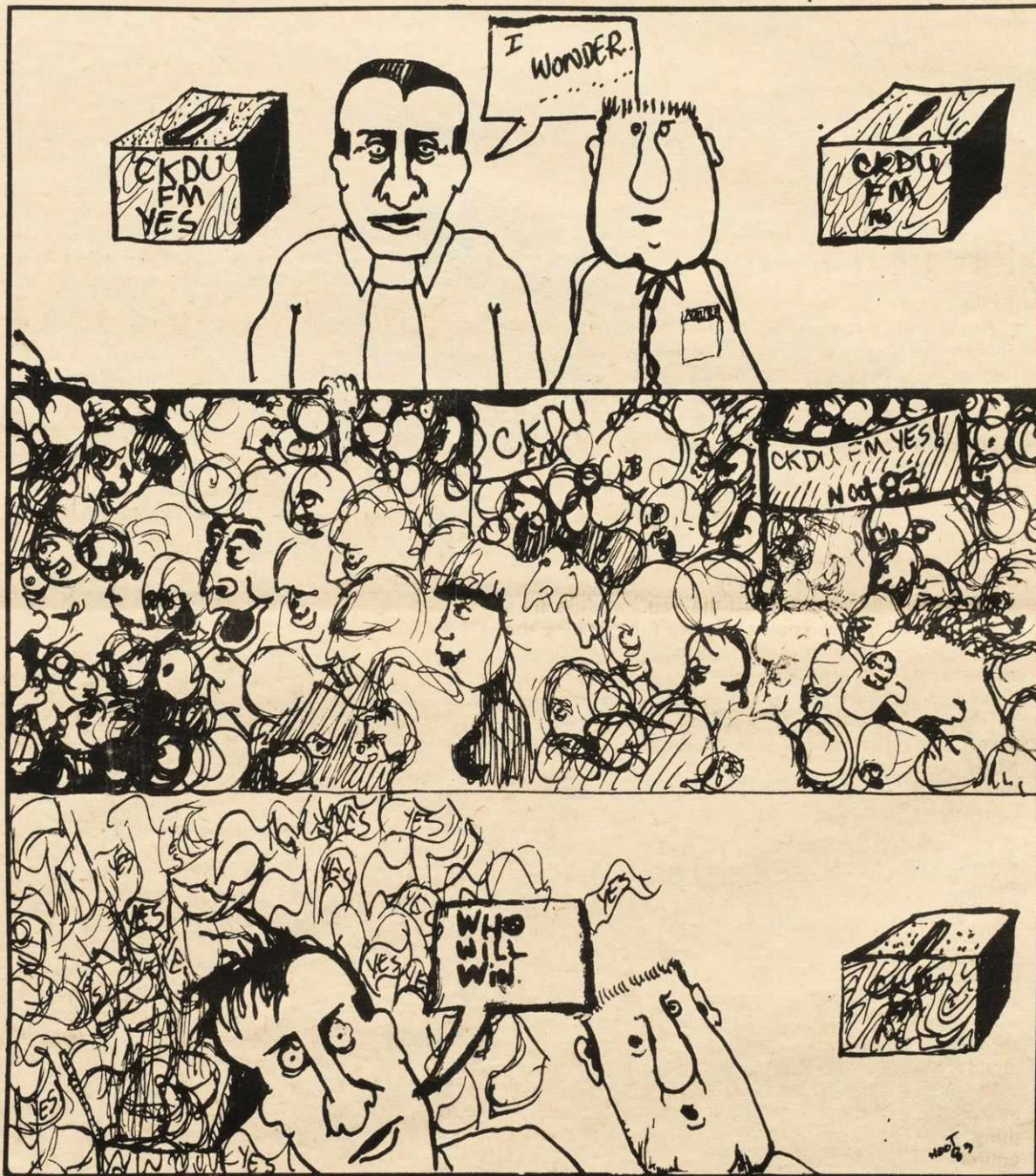
There's been a lot of work in this latest effort to take the station off the PA system and out into "the real world". Reports, redrafts of reports, applications and reapplications, meetings, restructuring, slog and flog and slog.

Having a campus FM radio station is not just a matter of dollar costs in Student Union fees. It's a matter of what is the purpose of student media, to whom should it be directed and how. Student council has already decided it's time to go out into the community with its sponsorship of "Inside the Ivory Tower" on Cable 10 despite the fact that station has poor reception and not an overlarge viewing audience.

Student Council said it was time to go to the community last year when it gave the Gazette money to cover postage costs to get the paper out to the members of the Dalhousie Board of Governors so they could get to know what is going on with students. This year's executive was heavily involved with the commercial media in its role with SUNS this past summer, lobbying the provincial government for summer jobs and relaxing the student aid regulations.

There's a cultural angle to media as well. There's always a chance for alternative and Canadian content, a forum for creativity in a world becoming increasingly culturally stifled through cutbacks. Art does not always equal money - talk to the BC artist who nearly burned his art pieces because Revenue Canada threatened to tax them for their potential monetary value.

When you go to vote in the referendum, don't think of CKDU in terms of four beer you might have had in the Grawood. Think of voting in terms of whether students need a campus radio station that truly is a campus and community radio station, not just piped PA.



C.R.

### commentary

## Common misperceptions about war and peace

by Martin Tomlinson

With rising public awareness of nuclear weapons strategy, a number of common misperceptions about these issues have developed, by both the peace movement and its opponents.

Perhaps the greatest misperceptions are those "left-over" from earlier attempts to define the role of nuclear weapons as useful policy making tools. To

further confuse matters there exists a great deal of jargon which clouds and complicates these issues. Finally, the rhetorical justification of nuclear strategy by cold warriors from East and West generates even more distorted views about the way that they feel the world is, or the way it should be.

One misperception, from which the whole nature and rela-

tion of strategic weapons is based, is that "deterrence works." Nuclear deterrence is the theory that if a nation possesses an arsenal of nuclear weapons then no other nation would dare to attack it because the attacker would face annihilation. The Soviets and the Americans are in a situation of mutual deterrence—they both deter each other from attacking. And

so, the common perception is that because there has been no nuclear war, as of yet, then deterrence is working.

This is a dangerous assumption to make. It lends a degree of rationality to the existence of nuclear weapons in large numbers, and is thus a justification for the arms race. All that has been proved is that there has not yet been a nuclear war, and

not that deterrence works. The theory that deterrence works has been defeated throughout history.

A perfect example of this is the great battleship building race before World War I. The British felt that their new super battleship, that overwhelming instrument of destruction—the Dreadnought—would deter

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