

## Religious group accused of harassment

BY NATALIE MACLELLAN

The Dalhousie Student Union has received a complaint from a student who says he was harassed by a branch of the International Church of Christ, a religious group soliciting on campus.

The Halifax-Dartmouth Church of Christ has been soliciting students on-campus and around the city for the past year.

Brian Kellow, executive vice-president of the

Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), received the harassment complaint, and several complaints about students uncomfortable with being approached by the group, but says the issue is a sensitive one.

"I've had about a half a dozen students who came to me who said they'd been approached. One student had been called at home repeatedly," he said. "I [also] received a security bulletin that said a student had been har-

assed to the point that this student's family felt it necessary to call the police.

"It's a tricky business. You don't want to stifle any legitimate religion on cam-

pus, and we don't want to be deciding who's legitimate."

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## Fugitive caught at Dalhousie frat house

BY MARK REYNOLDS

An American fugitive caught while assaulting a woman in the fraternity house where he lived has been charged for a series of brutal assaults. But evidence from the frat house has gone missing.

William Shrubbsall, originally from Niagara Falls, New York, has been charged by Halifax police in connection with several



William Shrubbsall. Photo courtesy of Halifax Regional Police Dept.

sexual assaults that first occurred in October of last year, and ended on June 22 in charges of aggravated assault, unlawful confinement and attempting to strangle a woman.

The last attack was interrupted by two residents of the Sigma Chi fraternity house.

Police have returned to the fraternity house several times to locate further evi-

dence.

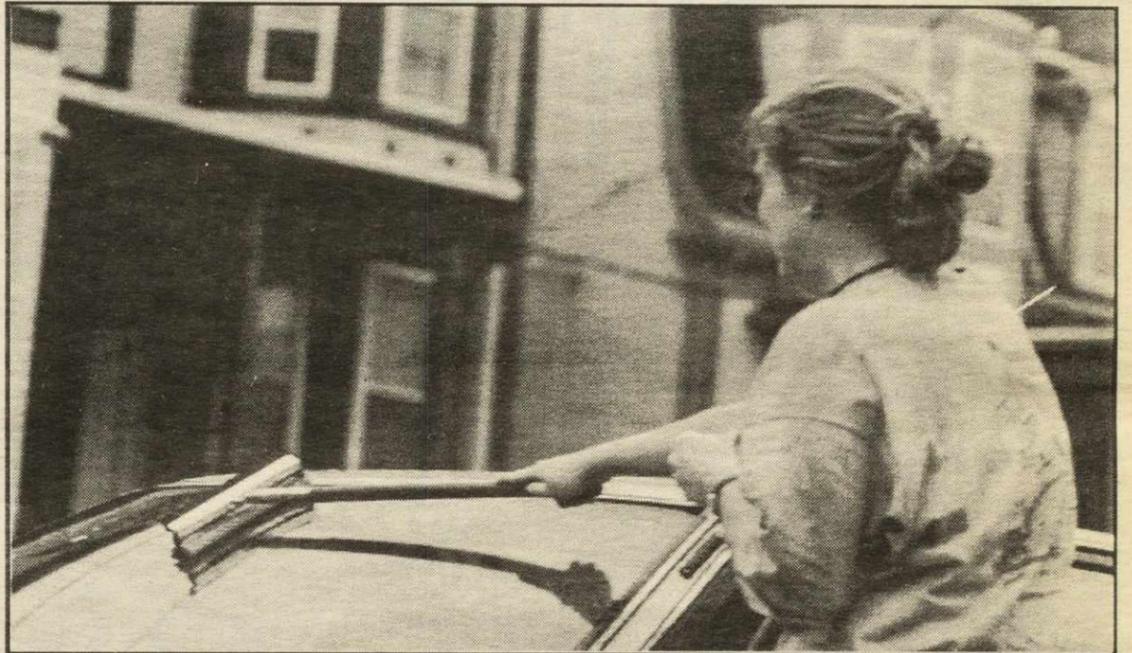
Fraternity members had moved Shrubbsall's belongings to a locker in the basement, but certain items sought by the police have gone missing.

The police were specifically looking for three pieces of evidence: a cashbox, a pair of sneakers they believe were used in the commission of one of the assaults, and a bottle of coconut rum, which they believe contained the "date rape" drug GHB.

One fraternity member was taken into custody during the last search, but he was later released and has not been charged.

None of the items were found at the frat house, though a videotape taken during an earlier search shows the rum and sneakers in his

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On Tuesday, Dal Frosh took to the streets for Shinerama, A one day event raising money for cystic fibrosis. Above, Jill Daley cleans a windshield at the corner of Robie and University. See the full story next week. (Photo by Greg McFarlane).

## Swissair tragedy coverage: parasitic or public service?

BY KARAN SHETTY

The press coverage of the Swissair Flight 111 tragedy smacks of the media frenzy surrounding the death of princess Diana.

Both events raise the same question: What is the line between good news coverage and opportunistic journalism?

The Swissair tragedy raises the question through the press' clamouring for shots of grieving family members while Diana's death raised the question in the actual cause of the incident.

Myke Leppard, a member of one of the camera crews stationed outside the Lord Nelson Hotel in the wake of the Swissair tragedy, offered a first hand perspective on the whole privacy vs. freedom of information argu-

ment. Leppard is from Halifax but was contracted to obtain footage for television stations in the USA and Europe.

**Gazette:** Do you feel like you're intruding or interrupting the grieving families' privacy?

### News Analysis

**Leppard:** We're kind of interrupting by being down here but we're trying to stay as far back from them as possible. Yesterday, people were very, very close and you could tell that the families were upset by it. I'm glad I was not here during that.

**Gazette:** Where do you

think the line is drawn between good coverage and opportunistic journalism?

**Leppard:** Good coverage is getting shots relevant to the story. Going over the line and becoming opportunistic is when you stay there after the needs of the story have been met. Right now at Peggy's Cove there are satellite trucks from all over the world... a lot of the big name reporters from the US are coming up and they're doing live shots and there is really no relevance to it. They're there just so that they can be seen at the scene of the accident. That, to me, is opportunistic journalism.

**Gazette:** Do you think the media, or the public, is to

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