

# Paper under fire

by Marc Allain

The university's weekly publication, **University News**, has come under attack for its coverage of the CUPE strike.

History professor Michael Cross says last week's issue of the **University News** adopted "a partisan and slanted view of the strike" and thereby violated their goal of representing the views of the university community.

Cross said he believed that **University News** had "destroyed its credibility" with many members of faculty and he thought it would be difficult for them (faculty members) to cooperate with **University News** in the future.

Cross raised his criticism at

a meeting between the administration, the Dalhousie Faculty Association, the Dalhousie Staff Association, and the Dalhousie local of the International Union of Operating Engineers.

According to Cross, **University News** editor Derek Mann responded by criticizing the **Gazette's** coverage and stated that the role of **University News** was to "combat the **Gazette**".

Mann told the **Gazette** that he did not make such a statement. He said, the **University News** was founded seven years ago because of student unrest and other problems on campus. At that

time, he said, those outside the university community needed to be told the administration's side of the story.

He said university president Henry Hicks stated at the founding of **University News** that it was not the administration's response to the **Gazette**.

Mann said that the union had been getting far more outside coverage than the university in the past few weeks. He said he did not think that there was anything inaccurate in **University News**, although he conceded that the slanting of headlines indicated a particular line.



## Forcing doors?

# Administration snoops busted

by Alan Adams

An early morning incident at Shirreff Hall appears to have led to the dismissal of Evidence Research Associates, the firm employed by the University at the beginning of the CUPE strike to

bolster its security service.

At approximately 6 a.m. on November 26, two men entered Shirreff Hall and proceeded to harass residents of the building.

Two residents of the Hall said that they were awakened

by the men knocking on their doors. The men identified themselves as being from Dal Security and asked to be let in.

When the women refused to open their doors the men then tried to force their way into the rooms. At this point the women contacted security at the front desk registering a complaint. Upon hearing this the two would be visitors fled into the early morning dawn.

According to the women, the security man at the front desk identified the intruders as members of Evidence Research. When asked why in

fact he had let them into the building at this hour he replied "I had little choice to let them in, they are my superiors."

Director of Security and Traffic, Art O'Connell, refused to comment on the incident saying "I don't want any of this nonsense." He stated he hadn't any opinion on it and referred the **Gazette** to Vice-President Vagianos or Physical Plant Co-Ordinator Roger Jollimore.

Vice-President Vagianos explained that the Shirreff Hall incident had something to do with the decision to dismiss

Evidence Research, but added "overall we weren't satisfied with their work."

Roger Jollimore agreed with Vagianos and added that the incident had "a lot of measure" in the decision to fire the company. Jollimore felt that Dalhousie really didn't require their services anymore but added "we have hired temporary personnel assigned to security" to aid in the policing of the campus. He added that the new men would be "directly under our control" and answerable to Dal Security.



# Human rights on the rocks in Nicaragua

by Glenn Walton

A talk on Nicaragua, scene of a recent bloody uprising against the Somoza regime, was held on Tuesday afternoon in the SUB. Michael Czerny, a Jesuit priest, spent 4 days there this November with a group representing the Interchurch Committee on Human Rights, and his report was hardly heartening.

The disturbances were a natural outgrowth of dissatisfaction with the corrupt regime, headed by a family (Somoza) that has held power for 40 years, Czerny said. The extent of corruption in the state can hardly be realized by outsiders; such terms as "cancer", "pestilence" and "pollution", are used by the populace to describe it, he said. The recent uprising, eventually suppressed, was thus not in the nature of an invading army, but the work of "our sons and daughters", in one native's words.

Since then, Somoza has agreed to a plebiscite on his rule, but in a move interpreted by the opposition as stonewalling, attached the condition that he will only give up his power to a successor chosen by a specially convoked constituent assembly, a process that could take some time indeed.

The role of a three nation mediation team made up of representatives from the

Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and (guess who?) the

U.S. of A. has somehow managed to maintain the status quo for the time being.

Czerny said any change of government or the status quo is seen by the U.S. State Department as a destabilizing factor.

Canada he said has adopted the stand of accepting the U.S. position on foreign policy matters in this hemisphere without question. Czerny singled out the involvement of two Canadian corporations, Noranda Mines and the Royal Bank, as being beneficial to the Somoza regime.

The rebels in Nicaragua, said Czerny have no concrete plan for any post-Somoza period. Anyone concerned with human rights, however, and Nicaragua offers plenty of violations (cutting off of arms was one punishment mentioned, without a trial, of course) can understand their aims.

# Acadia faculty may strike

by Valerie Mansour  
Canadian University Press

The Acadia University Faculty Association (AUFA) decided overwhelmingly Tuesday to take a strike vote to back their salary demands. The strike vote took place yesterday and the results will be given to the university's negotiating team.

The faculty association is requesting a 9.3% increase, while the administration is offering 7%. The difference would be \$75,000.

Michael Behiels, AUFA executive representative on the faculty negotiating committee, said it is hard right now to

predict if there will be a strike. He said chances of a strike will diminish if there is any move by the administration. "But", said Behiels, "if they don't do anything now, in the new year we will proceed to a series of stages that could result in a complete withdrawal of services."

Tactics by the faculty will begin with publicity, an open forum with students and administration, withholding marks, and a gradual slow-down of obligations in their contract.

"By the end of January if there is no change, we'll ask the faculty membership to go

for a complete walk-out. We'll try to avoid that, but it is a possibility," Behiels said.

The faculty feels the university has enough money to afford the increase. "Some money in the professorial budget has been used for other purposes" said Behiels. The university's former president received a gratuity from that fund.

Salaries at Acadia range from \$11,000 for a lecturer to \$23,000 as the base rate for a full professor.

Administration representatives on the negotiating committee were unavailable for comment Wednesday.

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