

Who is to blame for the Winter Carnival?

by Anne Balandis

"Hi Jinx '81", Dalhousie's winter carnival effort for this year took an approximate loss of \$5,000.

"The blame seems to reside not only with the winter carnival committee but the programming department and the entertainment committee of the Student Union", said

Leigh Lathigee, chairperson of the Winter Carnival Committee. Lathigee said she realized that she was inexperienced when it came to booking events and felt that this was used against her.

"The only word of advice I got from both the entertain-

ment committee and the programming director at that time, Faye Pickrem, was 'can't.'"

Lathigee was referring to all the suggestions put forward by her committee to programming and council.

While Lathigee was able to feature smaller events such as "Island in the Sub" and "The Black Gold Review", (which both proved to be successes), she was not able to have much input into supposed money-making events such as the two Super Subs and the double decker featuring Long John Baldry.

When asked to comment on whether she did give any

advice to Lathigee regarding Winter Carnival, Entertainment chairperson Marie Gilkinson stated that the only advice she gave Lathigee was over Long John Baldry.

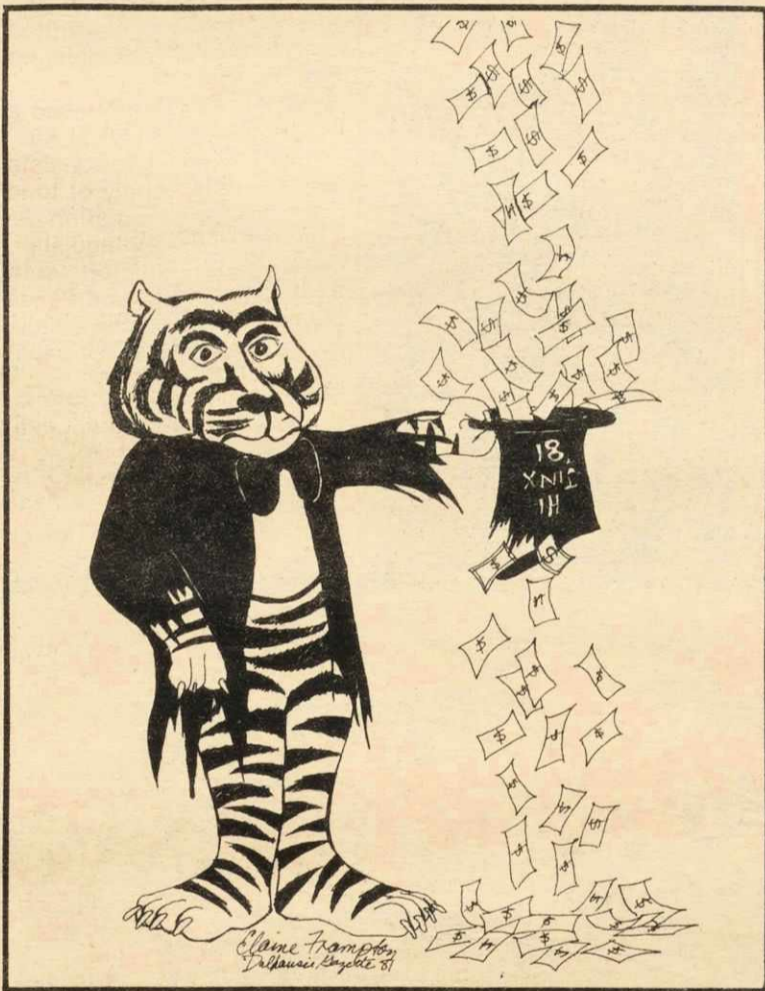
"I thought that Baldry was to be our saviour! He turned out to be a loser." According to the report made by the Winter Carnival Committee to Student Council, he lost approximately \$2,000 in revenue for Winter Carnival.

Lathigee said that although Gilkinson said that she would attend the majority of Winter Carnival meetings, she did in fact attend only one, although she knew at this point that Winter Carnival was having internal conflicts with programming that perhaps could have been resolved by the Entertainment Committee.

In her recommendations to Student Council, Lathigee stated that Council should define the following positions with regard to the Winter Carnival Committee: The Programming Director, The Events Co-ordinator and the Entertainment Staff. A motion was put forward by Gilkinson to look into this matter not only for Winter Carnival Committee but for all other special event committees in future. No motion nor recommendation was put forward as to whether more direction and guidance was needed from the Entertainment Committee, although this seemed to be a major source of contention and confusion for all those departments involved.

"So, although Winter Carnival was an enjoyable time for all those who attended, who is responsible for the deficit incurred by the Committee", said Jeff Champion, Council vice-president.

"Ultimately the responsibility lies with council executive for not taking a stronger stand."



Donahoe put on spot

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"We are only able to sustain the provincial post-secondary education by EPF payments from the federal government," said Donahoe.

"A lot of people have come to me and asked, what will happen if the federal government discontinues the federal cost-sharing program. The questioner won't have to think long to realize that Nova Scotia's post-educational system will be in total chaos. More people are going to be worried about survival than about tuition fees."

Donahoe also raised the issue of visibility and accountability of federal cost-sharing funds to the province. Stating that accusations of misuse of funds earmarked for spending on post-secondary education were entirely unfounded, Donahoe stated that all of the funds from the federal government were

spent on post-secondary education.

He also added that he would be perfectly willing to release a statement of the amount of federal funds received if the federal government could guarantee it would not renege on the cost-sharing agreement. The Minister also notes that if federal plans to re-emphasize research and library development at the cost of under-graduate programs goes ahead, then Nova Scotia will be the loser.

Peter Rans, outspoken representative on Student Council, asked a series of questions related to Donahoe's appointment of students to educational advisory committees. Calling for the resignation of the student representatives because they were chosen without consultation with SUNS or NUS, the provincial and national student unions

respectively, Rans pressed Donahoe several times for further response. Saying that there was considerable confusion in the student movement at the time he became Minister of Education, Donahoe indicated that he appointed the student representatives without knowing of the democratically elected SUNS representatives.

The problem of Nova Scotia's low rate of graduation from high schools was also discussed. Stating that at the last round of bargaining with the Nova Scotia Teacher's Union (NSTU) the issue of teacher's effectiveness had been raised, and would be again when the next round of talks were stated. Donahoe added that despite this the department's primary attempt to control this problem would be the use of industry-oriented intermediate education.

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