

# Rans speaks out.

## Reviewing the last

### few months of student politics . . .

looking at the possibility of getting a lighted corridor — a route, prepared, planned and properly lighted — for people to follow at night.

With regard to lower campus, the area around the Tupper Building, we are planning to establish booths at which we will post council affairs and sell tickets for specific events. Through the use of these booths, we hope to improve relations between upper and lower campus.

**Gazette:** What are the outstanding problems facing the students' council in the months ahead?

**Peter Rans:** I think co-operative housing for students is something we are going to have to look at in the future. The reason the graduate students were not able to buy houses for student residence this year was simply that the federal government froze funds. When those funds become un-frozen, I think we should work to have some form of co-operative housing achieved.

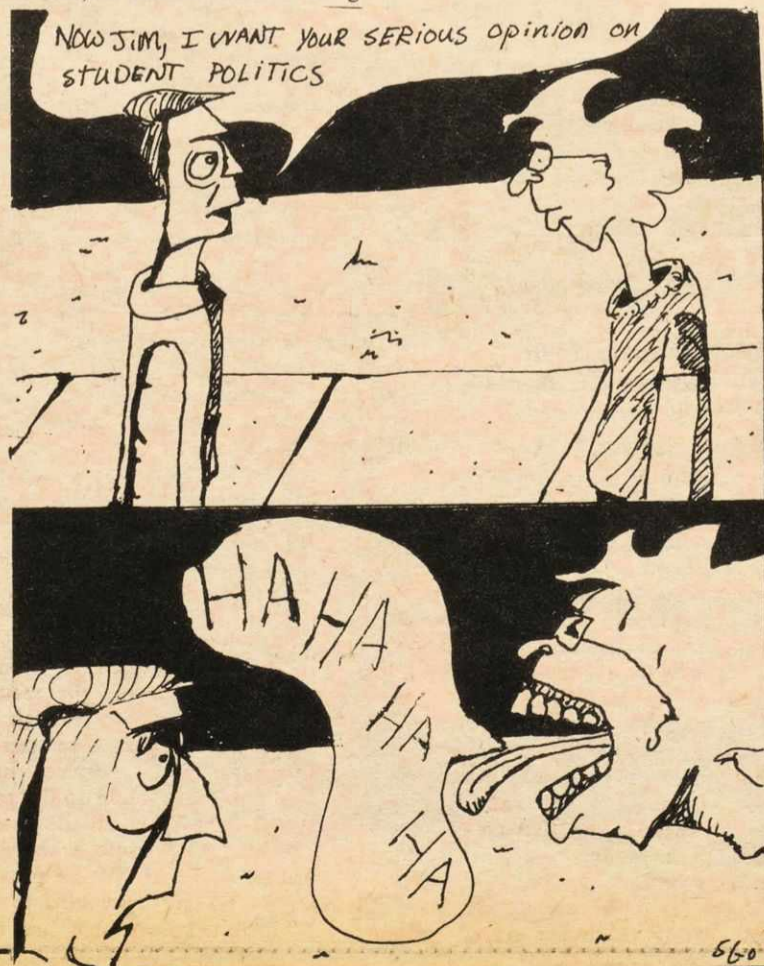
As to course evaluation, it is very clear it must be done at the departmental level. Any attempt to establish course evaluation from here — from the students' council — would be meaningless. What we have to do right now is put pressure on those individual departments that do evaluate their courses to release that information to the students.

As for CKDU, I must admit I am extremely disappointed with the progress of the situation. I was one of those people who for the last two years thought the only way CKDU could justify its existence to the majority of students was by transforming into either an FM station or an extremely good AM station. when I say 'good' I mean not only in its programming but in its efforts to reach a bigger audience. As it is, the station is still not being

heard by more than a fraction of students on this campus. Money was set aside for CKDU to conduct a study which would show how the station would achieve this growth; but the study was never done. Unless that study is done, I believe there will be a movement on this campus to abolish the station precisely because it doesn't serve nearly enough students.

**Gazette:** One final question, Peter. We've been hearing a lot recently about student apathy. I'm not sure this is fair — still, the student week of information earlier in the term was not a resounding success at Dalhousie. The march on province house in October was so tiny Peter Butler, (Terry Donahoe's senior policy advisor) called the group a "rabble" who did alot of "ranting and raving." Do you think students at this university are basically apathetic when it comes to student issues?

**Peter Rans:** It's a two-way street. Until more communication takes place about what actual things are being addressed, and why, then there is going to be less interest in certain issues. It is very easy for a student politician to say: well I can't do anything, because everybody out there is apathetic. I don't believe that. I believe that apathy is just a funcation of non-communication. If you say to somebody: look what they did to your student aid package — they've just cut your bursary by \$300 — then he's going to react. If he doesn't then he's just stupid. But what we have to do is target specific issues for students to consider. Having communicated these issues, we have to motivate students into thinking about what can be done.



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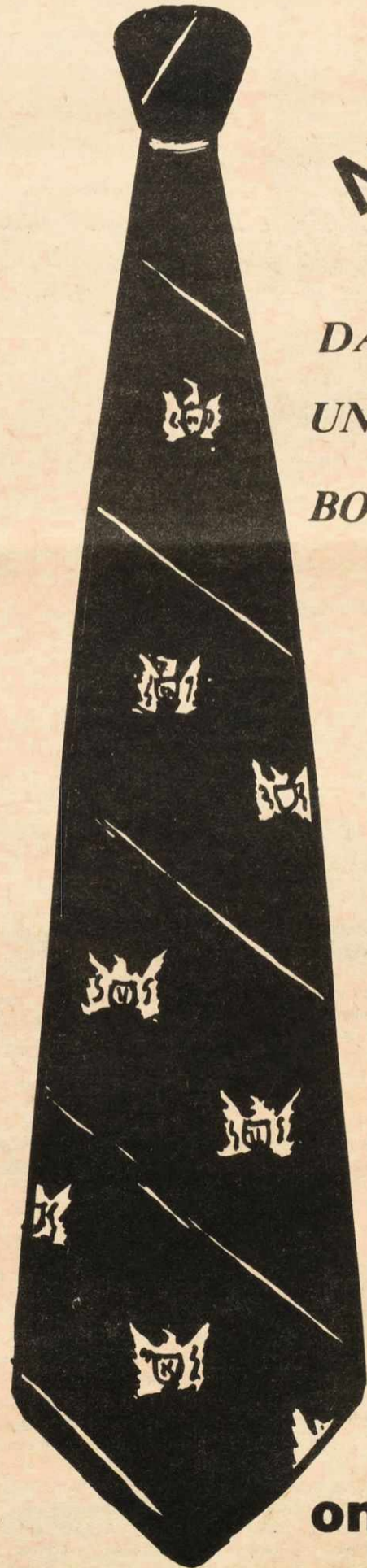
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