

the Gazette

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Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

January 13, 1994



DALPHOTO: MICHAEL DEVONPORT

Education students kept in the dark

by Jennifer Peddle and Jacqueline Roberts

Jefferson Rappell wonders where the future of the university lies after proposed cuts to the education program were leaked to the public Monday evening.

"It's [rationalization] a theory and to put it into practice is a hard thing to do," said the president of the Dalhousie Student Union, referring to a provincial government plan to reduce duplication of programs at Nova Scotia Universities.

The proposal, drafted by the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education (NSCHE), advises the Nova Scotia Teachers College, St. Mary's, St. Francis Xavier, and Dalhousie uni-

versities to eliminate their education departments. Mount St. Vincent, Acadia, and Université Ste. Anne would be the only institutions to keep their teacher-training programs.

The current draft of the proposal is the first stage of three, says Students' Union of Nova Scotia chair, Allison Young. The first stage involves broad public discussion, the second involves consultation with affected groups, and the third is more specific recommendations.

"It's a draft report. It needs a lot of consideration and a lot of discussion," Dalhousie President Howard Clark told *The Chronicle Herald* on Tuesday.

He and the presidents of 13 other

universities affected by rationalization had ongoing discussion with the NSCHE. Sources in Dalhousie's Public Relations Department said that before the release of the draft, Clark had no idea of the content in the document.

The final draft is expected sometime in early February.

Keith Sullivan, Director of the School of Education, said he was left in the dark until Sunday. He plans to hold meetings to inform students of the details of the report.

"There will be some reassurance from the document," says Sullivan. "All programs will be honoured so that if we close before the students finish, programs and students will be

transferred to other universities."

Even Clark only received the first draft of the proposal from NSCHE last Friday, according to Sullivan.

The students and professors were in a state of disbelief Tuesday afternoon. By that time, all had heard rumours of what the report entailed, but were unsure of their truth. Many had unanswered questions.

Kim Leonard, a student in the one-year education program, says after rationalization, entrance competition will be stiffer. When she was accepted there was a one-in-seven chance of getting into the program. But now acceptance rates may fall to one-in-fifteen, she says.

The chances of acceptance are worse than your chances of becoming a doctor or a lawyer, says Leonard.

Allison Cooper had hoped to enter education in two years' time. The latest news has forced her to reconsider her career plans.

Cooper is not sure if she wants to attend those universities keeping their programs because she's comfortable with Dalhousie.

"Once you get to know a school and get to know a program it's nice to be able to stay."

Some education students aren't as worried about their future, especially the one-year students and the graduating class.

"It's good for us but bad for Dalhousie!" a graduate student shouted while running to make a class.

The education students weren't the only ones who were not told about NSCHE's proposal.

As of 11 am Tuesday, Rappell still hadn't heard from either Clark or the Council. All of his knowledge had come from the media.

"I haven't had any messages waiting for me and there hasn't been anything in my mailbox," he says. "Maybe I'm not that quick, but I'm going to call the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education and find out what I can find out."

Leaving students out of the rationalization process is a big mistake, says Rappell.

"If this is the way the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education is going to do things I see it as being a very frustrating and disturbing way for students to be a part of the process. It's like this is the way we'll do things and then we can all talk about it and then you can agree with us."

DSU reps drop the ball

by Robert Drinkwater

For the second meeting in a row, the Dalhousie Student Union could not hold an official meeting because not enough councillors showed up, and the DSU may soon take action against its absentee members.

Only 27 councillors showed up for last Sunday's meeting, the first of the new term. The DSU constitution requires at least two-thirds, or 32, of the 48 councillors be present for a meeting to proceed.

The councillors who did show up decided to hold a meeting anyway, on the condition that any decisions would have to be ratified at the next meeting.

DSU President Jefferson Rappell expressed his frustration with the poor attendance.

"It's absolutely ridiculous and wastes a lot of time," said Rappell. "We need to increase our efforts this term, and that includes showing up at meetings."

After the meeting, Rappell said some student unions print their meeting attendance in the student paper to embarrass councillors into showing up. He said he might suggest *The Gazette* do the same.

Rappell said another option is to have absentee councillors recalled. Under DSU rules, any councillor who misses three meetings in a row without an acceptable excuse can be removed from the council by the chair.

However, DSU chair Gwynedd Morgan told *The Gazette* this may be difficult, as attendance records show that even the councillors who miss most of the meetings do not miss three consecutive meetings in a row. She will meet with DSU executive this week to discuss recalling councillors.

The non-official status of Sunday's meeting left a number of clubs and societies in limbo, as decisions on whether or not they would receive grants from the DSU had to be postponed until next week. How-

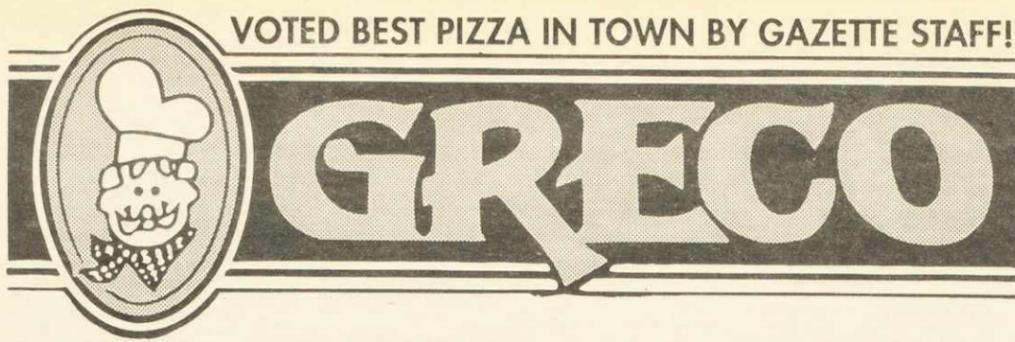
ever, the need for a DSU elections returning officer was deemed too urgent to wait until next meeting. While the councillors did choose an ERO, the chair warned the councillors that their decision may need to be ratified next week.

INSIDE:

Dal's censorship habit pp 3 & 11

Yaqzan saga wraps up p 3

Society sludge p 10



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Yaqzan calls it quits American feminist defends UNB prof

by G. Bruce Rolston

TORONTO (CUP) — Matin Yaqzan, the professor whose published views on campus date rape led to his suspension from the University of New Brunswick faculty last November, has quietly retired from his teaching position.

An assistant professor of mathematics at UNB, Yaqzan retired effective Jan. 1. In a prepared statement, the UNB teachers' association and administration said Yaqzan had "exercised an early retirement option available to him."

The professor had been suspended for two months, but was recently reinstated. He had been expected to resume teaching when UNB classes resumed on Jan. 10. Administration spokesperson Susan Montague said new instructors had been found to teach Yaqzan's math classes. She declined to comment further on the settlement.

"The matter is dead. Professor Yaqzan is now a retired member of the faculty."

Montague said no further action by the UNB administration was anticipated.

"No further investigation of any kind is contemplated."

The severance package may include a period of retirement with full pay as well as a pension. Teachers' association president Jack Vanderlinde said professors with Yaqzan's 27 years of service would be eligible for a full pension worth just over half of their current salary. Yaqzan's salary in his final year of teaching was roughly \$60,000.

Vanderlinde stressed that Yaqzan was not pushed into retirement.

"It was an option that was available to him. It was his choice."

Yaqzan received international attention for an opinion piece he wrote for the UNB student newspaper, *The Brunswickan*.

In the article, Yaqzan said college women as well as men bore blame if they were sexually assaulted by acquaintances.

"When a boy invites a girl to his bedroom, especially after meeting her for the first time, she should consider it as an invitation for sexual intercourse," he wrote.

Following the article, the student council demanded Yaqzan's resignation. University vice-president Tom Traves suspended Yaqzan from teaching when the furor over the article first erupted last November, but was forced to backpedal a week later when university lawyers concluded UNB did not have the legal authority to arbitrarily suspend a professor.

Despite being opposed to the ruling, Yaqzan agreed not to resume teaching for the remainder of the term.

Yaqzan, who has declined to comment on the incident from the beginning, continues his silence.

by Karen Burgess

FREDERICTON (CUP)—Feminist critic and controversial author Camille Paglia has condemned the University of New Brunswick for suspending assistant professor Matin Yaqzan.

Paglia, whose most recent book *Sex, Art and American Culture* includes essays on date rape and other issues of sex and sexuality, called the university's move "fascist" and accused the administration of infringing on Yaqzan's civil liberties.

"It seems to me that in a democracy, free speech must be our paramount principle. It must supersede all questions of ideology," she said in an interview with *The Brunswickan*. "I believe the more offensive the speech, the more it's in the best interests of a democracy."

Yaqzan, an assistant math professor, received a suspension after arguing in a Nov. 5 opinion piece that date rape is the fault of the woman, not the man, and should not be considered a crime. The suspension was later revoked but he was forbidden to teach for the rest of the year. Yaqzan has since retired from teaching.

Paglia called for UNB President Robin Armstrong to be removed from office. "He's a totalitarian and has no business running a university which should be about free inquiry," she said.

"But he's consistent," she continued. "His behavior is consistent with this whole master class of administrators that rose up after World War II. It is a problem that afflicts North American education. These administrators in this post-war era are servile to the parents and their cheque

books. They think of the faculty as merely their pawns."

Since Yaqzan was not on probation with the university, and had not previously been warned not to openly express his views, "then this is a clear case of fascism," she said.

"It's like the Salem witch trials, where a scapegoat is being made just so the college administration can appear to take a pious position," she said.

"It's absolutely outrageous. All students should be outraged by this, because this is the kind of thing that in another climate would lead to a gay professor getting penalized for expressing opinions about gay rights."

Many of the views expressed in Yaqzan's article are similar to those espoused by Paglia. She said she is familiar with the criticisms of Yaqzan's opinions, as the same arguments have been used in the past to refute her views.

"I have been called pro-rape because of my positions. Pro-rape! This is how mad everything is. It just seems to me that we need more articles like Yaqzan's at this point."

She said she sees nothing wrong with Yaqzan signing the piece as an employee of the university.

"Whenever a professor speaks his personal views he is allowed to put his post, his position within the university, at the bottom," she said. "Everyone does that."

According to Paglia, opinions like Yaqzan's should be widely disseminated.

"It seems to me that one should have a million articles like this, not just one, because it's only when we get the stuff on paper that we force these issues, and most of what he says in that article is completely true."

Banner finds new home

by Jen Horsey

The show must go on for staff and students in Dal's threatened fine arts programs.

On Friday January 7 a press conference was held in the Green Room of the Student Union Building to announce the remounting of the 20 x 30 foot sign bearing the "Dalhousie HeARTless Imagine" slogan — this time, on the wall of the Dalhousie SUB.

The conference attracted the attention of many members of the local media, and about 150 students and staff of the Theatre Department were present to show their opposition to the proposed cuts.

In September Dalhousie President Howard Clark called for the closure of the theatre, music and costume studies programs as a way to save the university money.

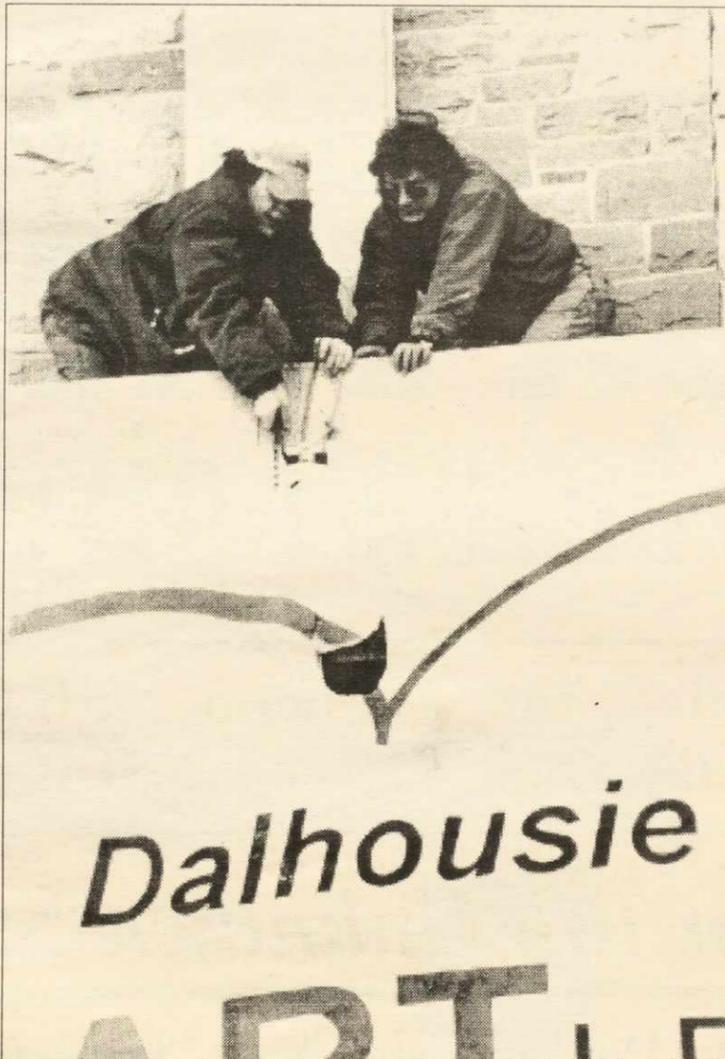
On October 27 Theatre Department staff hung the sign on the wall of the Arts Centre, in a spot normally used to advertise departmental activities, shows and events. However, it was removed on November 7 on the orders of Bryan Mason, Vice-President (Finance and Administration). The Theatre Department was never consulted.

The department took the matter to the Dalhousie Faculty Association and launched a formal grievance against the university, arguing that this was an infringement of academic freedom. The department failed to resolve the matter informally with Deborah Hobson, the university's Vice-President (Academic and Research).

Students say they hope the sign will stand as a reminder that the decision has not yet been made, and that they are still fighting.

"No decision has yet been reached...and undoubtedly discussion about the future of our department will continue at various administrative levels for several additional months," said Lynn Sorge, the Chair of the Theatre Department.

The heARTless sign is intended to remain on the Student Union Building until the grievance is resolved, and the sign can be replaced on the Arts Centre. "The Student Union Building is basically our building," said DSU President



A sign of the times.

PHOTO: LISA WAMBOLDT

Jefferson Rappell.

"There would be an awful fight if [the administration] wanted to tell us what to do."

Ryan Rogerson, a third-year acting student, is pleased that the sign is back up. "The SUB is a very visible building. People are going to start seeing us again...[and] if people forget about us, we're not going to achieve anything."

It is not only students in the threatened departments who object to the proposed cuts. "To date, 9,000 signatures protesting the [Dalhousie] president's recommendations have been collected on petitions which were circulated all across Canada," said Sorge.

Sorge said she is concerned about the effects of the controversy on enrolment. "It is difficult to assess

whether the president's announcement will have a significant effect on next year's enrolment," said Sorge, adding that national and provincial recruitment campaigns are underway.

"Students who enroll here will be able to finish," she said.

Once the group moved outside to look at the newly mounted sign, several passers-by joined the group in a show of their support. Joanne Merriam, a third-year math major, said, "It's appalling that they're trying to close down the fine arts."

Staff and students in the threatened departments are still waiting anxiously for a conclusion to the controversy that surrounds them, but are, as first-year student Matt Kennedy says, "trying to fight our damndest to keep ourselves alive."

Student federation hopes Dal won't go away

by Robert Drinkwater

The chair of the Canadian Federation of Students says his organization plans to campaign in Dalhousie's upcoming referendum on whether to remain in CFS.

Carl Gillis says CFS usually tries to step up awareness of the organization whenever there's a membership referendum on a campus.

"It's like an election," Gillis explained, and said there would be people putting up posters around campus. He said they would probably be coordinated by Nova Scotia's representative on CFS's national executive, and that the CFS fieldworker for Nova Scotia and Newfoundland would also be involved.

Gillis made the remarks after speaking to Dalhousie Student Union councillors about the importance of CFS. He pointed out that the

national federation operates a variety of services, such as Travel Cuts, the Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP), and a national health program. He said it also lobbies government on behalf of students.

Currently, all Dalhousie students are members of CFS, and pay a \$4 membership fee collected along with their regular student union fee. However, CFS came under fire on campus last fall when it proposed increasing its per-student fee from four to six dollars. Some DSU councillors said the CFS political wing was wasting time and money fighting NAFTA and cuts to the CBC rather than focusing on issues of more direct concern to students.

The DSU voted in October to ask students in a referendum whether or not they wanted to remain members of CFS. The referendum is slated to take place from March 29 to 31, 1994.

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4:00 PM Board of Governors Meeting at MacDonald Building

Black Armbands will be available at SUB Enquiry Desk

Contacts at DSU: Lilli or Lisa, Room 220, SUB or at 494-1106

Students push responsible drinking

by Judy Reid

On a busy stairwell, over one hundred people stopped to scrawl on the wall leading to the second floor of the Student Union Building.

"Drinking and getting drunk in the early '80s made me sexually irresponsible and negligent," wrote one person. "As a result, I am HIV positive. I no longer drink, but will be reminded everyday of what alcohol has done to me and others like myself."

On December 6, 1993, a twenty-foot paper wall was posted asking, "How has alcohol affected your life?" By the time the wall was removed eleven days later, hundreds of students had paused to read the collection of stories, quips and plain truths that filled almost every block of the poster.

Karol Derry and Krista Yetman are two students who helped create the wall.

"I was really impressed with how many people made comments," said Yetman.

Derry said the wall was a success even if some people took the question lightly. "They were still there and they still saw the serious quotes," she said. "Who am I to say whether or not it affected them?"

Yetman and Derry are both members of PARTY — Promoting Alcohol Responsibility Throughout the Year. The purpose behind the wall was to make people aware of the role alcohol has played in people's lives,

as well as to encourage responsible drinking.

Both Derry and Yetman stressed that PARTY is not about prohibition, but offering students alternatives to drinking and teaching them to drink responsibly.

"If you drink, know your limits," explained Derry.

PARTY was formed by members of the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Committee (ADAC) who thought that a group made up of and run by students would be a more effective way to encourage responsible drinking.

Susan McIntyre, Director of Student Resources and Assistant to the Vice President, Student Services, is a member of the ADAC who encouraged the development of PARTY.

"Alcohol and drug education is very important," said McIntyre. "But I don't think I'm in as good a position as students are to design programs to suit their needs."

In 1990, McIntyre did research into the drinking patterns of first-year Dalhousie students. The study showed that approximately one-third of first-year students passed out at least once during the year, and almost a quarter blacked out a few times.

Four years later the biggest obstacle to responsible drinking still appears to be the party attitude found on most campuses.

Many people used the wall as an opportunity to get a laugh. "Made a ton of money for my kids," wrote one

person who signed 'Alexander Keith'. "I couldn't tell you," scribbled another. "I'm still drunk."

Derry said she found it odd that attitudes changed so much as people got older. "When you are thirty or forty years old and get tanked every weekend, people would think you had a problem," she said. "But when you do it at residence, it's cool."

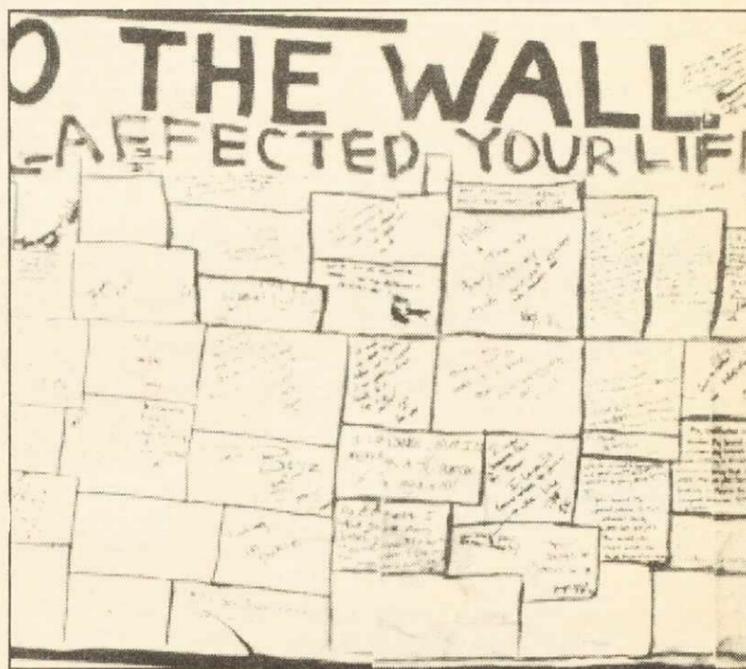
The changes may be slow, but the idea of responsible drinking is growing.

"In today's society it's one of the biggest things that's going," said Grawood manager Debbie Brown. "Even the breweries are promoting the fact of being responsible." A mocktail menu, non-alcoholic beer and a trained staff are all part of the Grawood's commitment to responsible use of alcohol.

PARTY has many plans for the future including a yellow ribbon campaign to remember those who died in alcohol-related deaths, an all night broomball tournament and maybe a talk show on CKDU.

Seeing all the writing on the wall was not the only time Yetman was surprised by Dalhousie students. Last November Yetman asked students to take part in an informal survey about alcohol, and couldn't believe how few students were aware of possible side-effects of alcohol. One of her favourite wall writings was a response to someone who said alcohol wasn't dangerous.

"Alcohol is just as lethal as jello," warned Yetman, "if used incorrectly."



TELL IT TO THE WALL - PARTYers share alcohol-related stories.

DALPHOTO: KENNETH KAM

DAL STUDENT UNION General Elections 1994

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NOMINATIONS

Open Monday, January 17, 1994
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10:00 am. sharp.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

Will run from Thursday, February
3, 1994 at 10:00 am. to Monday,
February 14, 1994 at 8:00 pm.

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MORE INFO

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Education priorities

Dalhousie may have to bite the bullet on education.

A report leaked Monday advocating that only three post-secondary schools in the province continue to offer teacher training is coming under attack. But the report should be carefully looked at before it is dismissed out of hand.

The report, written by Bernard Shapiro, a long-time civil servant now at Montreal's McGill University, recommends that only Acadia, Mount St. Vincent and Université Sainte Anne in Pointe de l'Eglise retain Schools of Education. Dalhousie, Saint Mary's, St. Francis Xavier, the Nova Scotia Teacher's College, University College of Cape Breton and the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design would all lose theirs. The report will be studied by the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education.

Although it would be easy to say that Dal shouldn't lose its program, it may be for the best that it does.

There are approximately 600 students graduating each year in Nova Scotia with teaching credentials, at a time when only about 100 places are available for them each year in the province. It makes little sense having nine institutions offering this when so few can get jobs. Doesn't it make sense to have fewer graduates with a more realistic chance of using the skills they have learned?

There is a belief that a university should offer all things to all people. Although universities, like secondary schools, should offer a basic grounding in undergraduate courses to students, the question remains whether so many schools should offer the same postgraduate programs.

Even though Dalhousie's education program would be eliminated if the report is recommended, the university should think seriously about agreeing with the report in the interests of avoiding duplication.

As a university with a long and prestigious history in Canadian education, Dalhousie should continue to try and be innovative and unique rather than just another university.

The health care system manages to avoid the kind of redundancy from which Nova Scotia universities suffer. Not every hospital tries to offer services such as open heart surgery or organ transplants and neither should every school try to offer every graduate program.

For instance, Dalhousie offers only one of three law degrees in the Maritimes (the other two are at l'Université de Moncton and the University of New Brunswick) and the only medical degree. It's a system that seems to work for students in those disciplines. Why can't it be the same for education?

Dalhousie should concentrate on what makes it special.

Some things which make it unique are programs the university wants to cut, such as: music, theatre, costume studies, public administration and library and information studies.

The administration should show some vision and accept the report. It should also take another look at its plans to cut programs which make the university an institution different from the rest.

Frank MacEachern



LETTERS

The Dalhousie *Gazette* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 300 words in length and should be typed and double-spaced. The deadline for letters is Monday noon before publication. Letters may be submitted on MacIntosh or IBM-compatible 3.5" disk.

Help centre

To the editor:

The Dalhousie Women's Centre is scheduled to renew its lease with Dalhousie University on February 1, 1994. At present the contract is for a one-year period. It is the hope of the Women's Centre to extend this contract to a three year lease. This would allow the Centre to make long term plans and improve the services currently available to all women at Dalhousie... students, faculty, staff and administration, as well as the surrounding Halifax community.

One of the chief concerns of the Women's Centre is that it is not physically accessible. This issue is very important to the Women's Centre as it does not allow all members of the community to use its resources. With a three year lease, we will have the means to make the necessary changes to the Centre, and this will ensure a long-term physically accessible environment.

The Dalhousie Women's Centre is located at 6143 South Street. This location has many assets: it is situated next to the Security Building, it is convenient and well-known to both the Dalhousie and the Halifax community, and is located on a major bus route. These attributes have made the Centre safe and available.

Over the past year, the Dalhousie Women's Centre has made a place for itself at its present location. The Centre provides a drop-in and referral service, a resource library, special events programming, as well as a safe environment for any woman in need of a quiet space. We believe that these services have been enhanced by the space currently used. A longer term lease will allow us to continue to improve the services offered, enabling us to reach a wider circle of people within the community.

The Dalhousie Women's Centre is asking for the support of all students, faculty, staff, and administrators in its goal of attaining a three year lease. The Centre will have a table in the Student Union Building from Thursday, January 13 to Tuesday, January 18 where everyone can sign a postcard supporting a three-year lease that will be delivered personally to President Howard Clark. Please take the time to visit the table and show your support!

Dalhousie Women's Centre
Management Collective

chord in my heart of the hardships that we face as women. It is always heart-warming to feel that I am not alone in this male-dominated society. We as women have to stand up and let our voices be known. We are equal and deserve the respect and adulation that you (men) give yourselves. The tragedy at Ecole Polytechnique serves to remind us of the atrocities we still face as women. The latest murder of a woman in Montreal, who was pushed from a train platform by a Polytechnique student because he was turned down for a grant by a woman, reminds us that we still have a long way to go before the rights of women are fully recognized. I would like to say thank you for your effort in bringing our plight to the attention of readers. Hopefully, the Week of Reflection has touched the hearts of many and will spark a concern for women's issues all-over this land.

Carrie Toussaint

Dear Mr. or Ms. 'Concerned Student':

Thanks for your submission, but after a careful reading we went out on a limb and guessed that that is not your real name. Please come back and sign your letter for real.

The eds

Great section

To the editor:

Thank you for the full-page section in *The Gazette* on the Week of Reflection. The poetry displayed touched a

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, *the Gazette* is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, *the Gazette* is published weekly through the Dalhousie Student Union by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all Dalhousie University students are members. • *The Gazette* exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. Editorial decisions are made by staff collectively. Individuals who contribute to three issues consecutively become voting staff members. • Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor, and announcements is 4:00 pm on Monday before publication (Thursday of each week). Commentary should not exceed 800 words. Letters should not exceed 300 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted upon request. Submissions may be left at the SUB Enquiry Desk c/o *the Gazette*. • Advertising copy deadline is noon on Monday before publication. • *The Gazette* offices are located on the third floor of the SUB, Room 312. • The views expressed in *the Gazette* are not necessarily those of the Dalhousie Student Union, the editors or the collective staff.

the Gazette

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feature

Centuries of exploitation prelude guerrilla uprising

by Angel Figueroa

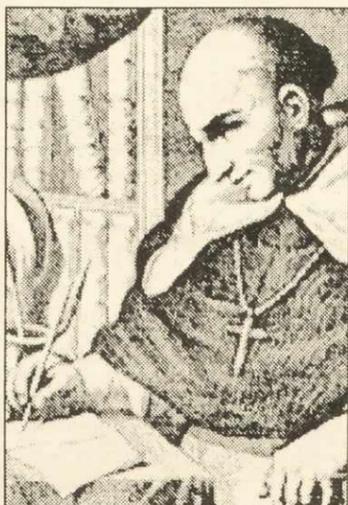
It was March, 1544, when the Spanish Dominican missionary Bartolomé de Las Casas was appointed bishop of Chiapas, then a large province in the expanding colony of New Spain, but now among the 31 states of modern Mexico — a state that has received sudden worldwide attention ever since an Indigenous guerrilla group declared war on the Mexican government on New Year's Day.

The two events, separated by 450 years, are related.

In fact, an understanding of the recent bloodshed in Chiapas demands a historical flash-back to the Spanish Conquest — hitherto mostly ignored by the media — when Indigenous peoples were slaughtered and enslaved under the Conquistadors' banner of 'Gold, Glory, and God.' As an accompanying missionary who first championed the Conquest, de Las Casas grew disenchanted with the greed and savagery of his 'Christian' compatriots. He became the most prolific critic of the oppression of the Indians, taking up their cause by demanding that the Crown abolish slavery and treat the Indians justly, arguing that once they were converted to Christianity they should be free from exploitation.

After many years of defending the Indian cause, both in the Americas and at the Spanish court, his influence strengthened and he became known as 'Protector of the Indians.' His constant petitioning succeeded with the decree by Charles V that the laws which granted land and slaves to Conquistadors be reformed, and de Las Casas was given the bishopric of Chiapas to oversee the enforcement of the New Laws.

He failed in his mission, however, as he could not overcome the unyielding position of the new landowners, and was forced to return to Spain in 1547. With the servitude of the Indians irreversibly established, the significance of de Las Casas is that he became the first to discern the injustice of the colonial system imposed by Europeans in the Americas. As such, he is also the earliest



Bartolomé de Las Casas

important critic of what has become a long and tragic history of human rights abuses in Mexico and Latin America.

While slavery was eventually abolished, the oppression of the now dispossessed Indians has continued ever since, uninterrupted by independence in 1821, when Spanish lords were merely replaced by wealthy and powerful Creoles. Debt-peonage became the mark of the Indian peasants who lived and died on *latifundios*,

Indian exploitation was the status quo of the 16th century, human rights abuses among the Indians of the region — indeed, across the country — are extensive in modern Mexico. Both Amnesty International and Americas Watch have revealed that violent evictions of peasant families from communal lands and the disappearances of peasant and Indian leaders have been frequent occurrences over the years. (Other reported abuses include torture and extrajudicial killings by the police and military).

The severity of these human rights violations is magnified in the fact that they are in direct violation of Mexico's 1917 Constitution, wherein communal ownership of lands, known as *ejidos*, is enshrined as an inalienable right of the peasant class. It is not for any trivial reason that the guerrillas name themselves after Emiliano Zapata, the peasant-revolutionary who fought for this and other principles of agrarian reform, now ignored and betrayed by the Mexican government, just as Zapata himself was betrayed and killed by his enemies in an ambush.

As agrarian reform was the heart of Zapata's movement, and thus carried with it the arrest of four centuries of oppressive policies, Zapata has been considered, over time, the heart of the Mexican Revolution. While the other players in the bloody infighting — Pancho Villa, Venustiano Carranza, Alvaro Obregón — mixed politics with a stubborn pursuit for power, it was Zapata who was the only revolutionary force to develop an integrated plan for economic, social, and political reform.

Although Zapata's forces did not win the revolution (an extended conflict from 1910 to 1917 that killed more than a million people and laid waste to the countryside) they strongly influenced its outcome, and the wording in the Constitution is testament to this. Still, agrarian re-



Emiliano Zapata

form and the promise for social change have never been completed. Peasants still make demands for land, and extreme poverty continues to characterize their plight, much to the detriment of Mexico's attempts at industrializing its economy.

Industrialization imposed extreme hardships on the underprivileged peasants and Indians, as exemplified in Chiapas when large oil deposits were discovered in the 1960s. As the oil industry became a national priority, amendments to the Constitution granted PEMEX (the government-owned oil company) the power to no longer require permission from the Secretariat of Agrarian Reform in

order to explore for oil. This allowed for the mass expropriation of *ejidos*, often without compensation, and in direct contradiction of one of the basic principles of the Constitution. Urban growth resulting from the oil boom caused housing shortages and food scarcities, and further exacerbated the already poor living standards of its residents. Chiapas to this day remains among the most impoverished states of Mexico, and Indigenous groups are among the most disadvantaged sectors of the population.

NAFTA's implications for this disadvantaged class are severe. While the guerrillas' call to arms coincides with the first day of the trade agreement, it is only the latest strain in a long and tragic history of social injustices that has plagued Mexico since de Las Casas first took note of it 450 years ago. Lacking the sort of social charter that is fundamental to the European Community — where there is a commitment to raising the living standards of its poorest members — NAFTA seems poised to exacerbate Mexico's grim record on human rights, pushing to the brink an already exhausted class of the exploited and impoverished. This is witnessed as much in the advent of the guerrilla group as in the reaction of the Mexican Army to crush it. Elsewhere in the country, there continues the norm of government corruption, arbitrary imprisonment, political disappearances, and child labour.

Canada has a role in all this. Just as NAFTA's implementation has sparked the latest bloodshed, Canada can use its position as a partner in NAFTA to improve Mexico's human rights record by pressuring it to abide by its own Constitution. Americas Watch put it best: "If Mexico adhered to its Constitution, instead of ignoring its laws, its human rights record would be exemplary."

Just as in the 16th century, human rights abuses are extensive in Mexico of the 20th

enriching their masters' coffers and brutally suppressed whenever calls for justice were made.

That the guerrilla movement has reared its head in the same area where de Las Casas centered his cause shows more than just interesting historical coincidence (indeed, it is hardly coincidental). Now, as then, most of Mexico's Indigenous population is concentrated in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (where the modern-day states of Chiapas, Tabasco, Oaxaca, and Vera Cruz are located). Just as



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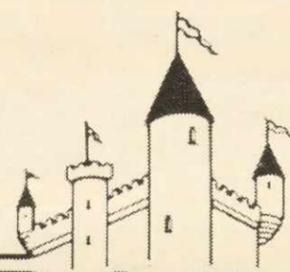


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opinions

Holidays pose challenge for some

I'd like to welcome everyone back from the vacation. I'm very happy to be back and I'm sure you are too, right?? This Christmas I had a lot of time to think and I realized a few things about 'Christmas' and the lesbian, bisexual, and gay community/

ies. I'd like to share a few of my thoughts with you. When I say Christmas I mean the season. You may not celebrate it as Christmas so please don't be offended or excluded when I call it that. Christmas, Yuletide, Hanukkah... I have to

write this for the general Dalhousie type reader and ya'll know what Christmas means, I hope...

This time of year is difficult for almost everyone, with emotional and spiritual peaks and the added financial pressures of Christmas shopping and tuition. Many people spend Christmas alone. Many of those people are lesbians, bisexuals, and gay men. Many of us must choose between our 'families' and our partners/boy or girl friends/lovers. Of those who spend the season with family (meaning parents and siblings, or people you grew up with), many of them feel alienated or disempowered or belittled or insulted (etc.) to some degree.

Some people have redefined Christmas as a time to celebrate, to love, to be with family and friends, and to share. As we all know, many people are homo/bi/anything-other-than-traditional-het phobic. I bet you know one. So, keeping this in mind, if one were to go home and announce "I'm a dyke!" or "I'm a fag!" or "I'm a lesbian-identified lady who only sleeps with guys if they have pink hair!" the reaction may not be very pleasant.

Often the person is alienated, harassed, oppressed, (fill in almost

any unpleasant verb), and sometimes even kicked out or disowned or both. This time of year inevitably reminds them of the people who raised them — their families, or possibly the families they've never had. Most of these people will spend their Christmas either alone or not, drinking away their loneliness.

For those who are not kicked out or disowned Christmas may be difficult as well due to family pressures. Many lesbians, bisexuals, and gays are not permitted to talk about "that stuff" around relatives. Their partners/boy or girl friends/lovers may not be welcome for Christmas dinner. They may be shunned and alienated enough to wish they were 'anywhere but there' with a case of beer.

For those of us who are not out or who are 'everyone-in-the-world-knows-except-my-family' out (that's me!) there usually are problems too...

We end up biting our tongues not to scream or cry. We clench our teeth as relatives laugh at homophobic and anti-gay 'humour' on the television. We try not to yawn as each 'unmarried' gushes about their new potential (YAWN!!). We must try not to use the same 'same-gender' name over and over again 'cause then they might get suspicious. We must censor our vocabulary. My relatives must have thought there was something wrong with me. I must have said "And then (any woman's name) and her girlfriends-friend..." a million times. It's difficult being 'in' after a whole term of being 'out'. Oh well, I made it through and I'm still alive.

So if you are lesbian, gay, or bisexual, welcome back. I'm glad you made it. If you are straight, welcome back, and please keep in mind We Are Everywhere.

Rita Baker

First Baptist Church Halifax

1300 Oxford Street (across from Shirreff Hall)

January 16; 10:30 a.m. Worship

Sermon: *When God Calls You*

- Rev. John E. Boyd

Music: Wells, Willan, Bach

January 23; 10:30 a.m. Worship

Sermon: Rev. Adele Crowell

Music: Bach, Oldroyd

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Neptune douses the flames of Fire

by Leslie Furlong

There are two kinds of people in this world: those who like musicals and people like me. Take *Cats*. No, really, take *Cats*. I saw *Cats* when it breezed into town a couple of years ago. Nice costumes, but I guess they didn't have enough room to pack a plot when they left New York. And don't even get me started on *Health*.

The problem for me is that all the additional elements involved with a musical production allows for that much more to go wrong. It's the cynic in me. Regardless, I still tried to keep an open mind and not be unfairly

critical when I saw *Fire* this past Friday.

The best part about this musical is that it isn't really a musical at all, no more than *The Doors* was, anyway. The music acts to develop character and doesn't seek to be the dominant force on the stage. Rather, it acts as a counterweight to the bible-thumping sermons, enhancing both the differences and the similarities of the main leads.

The line between evangelical religion and rock 'n' roll is one that often blurs. Both utilize the same dynamics of presentation and charisma to reach their audiences. *Fire* uses this as a starting point to tell the

story of two brothers that follow these two divergent roads. Brother Herchel (David Storch) sticks to the path of the preacher while Cale (Michael McManus), believing his musical ability a gift from God, sells his soul to rock 'n' roll. In the middle is young Molly (Sabrina Grdevich), who is drawn to both men and watches them as they are transformed by the paths they each chose to follow. Cale is pulled down by his indulgences, perhaps even his honesty, while Herchel is corrupted by the power that the media has given him, tempting him to blend together a volatile mix of Church and State.

Technically, the play has a few problems. For the most part, the cast doesn't seem comfortable with their lines, at times almost bordering on dictation, and while McManus can bang on a piano fine enough, he just doesn't have the voice to belt out the Jerry Lee Lewis numbers. In fact, with the exception of Sabrina's set of pipes, there is a definite lack of good vocals on stage. Ms. Grdevich is easily the best thing about this play. Without her, this play would have lacked an emotional focus for the audience. She fulfils the role marvellously, capturing her character from teenybopper to mature adult.

I also find it unfortunate that no effort was made to make the election issues in the final act more contemporary. I know the big questions the play ask are timeless ones, the influence of religious leaders in the political arena and all that, but with the end of the Cold War I found the ending and all its talk about nuclear armageddon and the Communist threat lacking a certain amount of immediacy.

Still, as entertainment, *Fire* managed to hold its own. It won't change your life, but it doesn't waste your time either.

Wolf (re)ignites feminism

by Judy Reid

You're doing your homework with the volume to the TV turned down. Glancing up you see different women flash on the screen: a house wife, an executive, a student, a senior citizen. You're thinking it's a new ad for fabric softener or a sports car when Jodie Foster appears on the screen. Curious you turn up the volume in time to hear, "...brought to you by the American Feminist Movement."

You won't find this commercial on any station. But if enough people, or the right people read Naomi Wolf's *Fire with Fire; the New Female Power and How it will Change the 21st Century*, a feminist ad campaign and more could become a reality.

Fire with Fire is Wolf's second book. Her first was *the Beauty Myth*, an international best seller. Already dubbed by some critics as a "feminist babe" selling "lite" feminism, Wolf has generated negative reaction from readers who find fault with her attempt to broaden the definition of feminism to simply, "More for women."

The book is divided in five sections. Wolf begins by informing readers that we have reached the point

where women can now shift the balance of power so that equality is achieved. The proof Wolf cites ranges from a Timex commercial featuring a woman who saved her husband from a grizzly bear, to a record number of women elected in American government.

In the remaining four chapters, Wolf explains why so few women don't call themselves feminists, contrasts victim feminism with power feminism, shows how women must change their thinking so they won't fear power, and finally, outlines strategies of power feminism in action.

The main premise behind power feminism is "more for women." That does not mean more than men, or more because women are better than men. It means that whatever it is women are not getting enough of, whether it's respect, safety or money, women deserve more simply because they are human beings.

During the final two weeks before Christmas break, *Fire with Fire* became my study break and cup of inspiration. I was constantly reminded how far women have come and encouraged to keep pushing ahead.

Wolf's writing is almost conversational which makes it a breeze to

read. The most helpful aspect of the book is the concrete and detailed examples of power feminism Wolf gives. The feminist ad campaign is only one suggestion of how to erase the stigma attached to the "F" word. "It must establish that feminism is antisexist and not antimale," writes Wolf.

Although most of the statistics, politicians and organizations listed are American, the ideas Wolf presents cuts across national boundaries. How to improve rape crisis shelters, pairing young women with mentors and outlining how female students can control their tuition payments are strategies that can work in almost any country.

If Naomi Wolf's goal was to empower readers and show men and women the value of the feminist movement, then she has succeeded. Step by step, drawing from experience, countless sources and imagination, Wolf shows readers that everyone can reclaim the "F" word. Enough women have the determination and political clout to bring change, but Wolf cautions that all work and no play makes feminism a dead movement.

Naomi Wolf's motto? "If I can't dance, it's not my revolution."

GAZETTE PICKS '93

OUR SUBJECTIVE LOOK BACK AT THE YEAR'S BEST AND WORST

MUSIC

Björk - Debut
The Breeders - Last Splash
Nirvana - In Utero
Julian Cope - Jehovahkill
Matthew Sweet - Altered Beast
The Tea Party - Splendor Solis
13 Engines - Perpetual Motion Machine
Radiohead - Pablo Honey
Catherine Wheel - Chrome
White Zombie - La Sexorcisto
Frank Black - Frank Black
Urge Overkill - Saturation
Dinner is Ruined - Lovesongs from the Lubratorium
Various - Judgement Night Soundtrack

BOOKS

Virtual Light - William Gibson
Understanding Comics - Scott McCloud
An Affair With the Moon - David Gilmour
The Eternal Act of Creation - Northrop Frye
The English Patient - Michael Ondaatje
News from a Foreign Country Came - Alberto Manguel
The Robber Bride - Margaret Atwood

MOVIES

Shortcuts
Hard Target
Manhattan Murder Mystery
Perfect World
Like Water for Chocolate
The Piano
Shadowlands
The Joy Luck Club
Age of Innocence
Remains of the Day
True Romance
Kafka's It's a Wonderful Life

TV

Northern Exposure
This Hour has
22 Minutes
Kids in the Hall
The Simpsons
City Limits
The Larry Sanders Show
Homicide
Seinfeld
ENG
The Computer Chronicles

MAGS

Canadian Living
Wired
raygun
Sassy
New Musical Express
EC&I
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BOING BOING

CRAP

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Jurassic Park
Savage and Clark
American Photo's "Erotic Edition"
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CHECK! IT OUT!

DALHOUSIE ABORIGINAL LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Weldon Law School, c/o Law Students' Society, 6061 Univ. Ave. *Mtgs on Thur

ACTION COMMITTEE

This student group addresses such issues as daycare, tuition, campus assault, etc. *Mtgs on Mon

AFRICAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2140 *Monthly mtgs

AIIESEC DALHOUSIE

(International Assoc. of Commerce, Economics and Computing Science Students) School of Business Admin, #103 *Mtgs on Wed (3 times/term)

DALHOUSIE ARTS SOCIETY

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-1313 *Bi-weekly mtgs on Thur

BGLAD! (BISEXUAL, GAY AND LESBIAN ASSOCIATION OF DALHOUSIE)

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2140 *Mtgs on Thur

ATLANTIC PROVINCE JEWISH STUDENTS FEDERATION

Atlantic Jewish Council, 1515 South Park St, #305

ARMENIAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

*Bimonthly mtgs

ASSOCIATION FOR BHAI STUDIES AT DALHOUSIE

*Mtgs on Fri

DALHOUSIE BADMINTON CLUB

Dalplex, 423-5972 *Practices on Fri and Sun

DALHOUSIE ASSOCIATION OF BIOLOGY STUDENT

Box 68, Biology Dept, LSC, 494-3515 *Biweekly mtgs on Sun

BLACK CANADIAN STUDENT'S ASSOCIATION

c/o DSU Council Offices

BLACK MARTIAL ARTISTS AT DALHOUSIE

c/o Black United Students, SUB Enquiry Desk *Mtgs on Mon

BLACK UNITED STUDENTS' SOCIETY

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-6648 *Mtgs on Thur

THE DAL-MOUNT CARIBBEAN SOCIETY

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2140 *Monthly mtgs on Thur

CHEMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA - DALHOUSIE UNIV. STUDENT CHAPTER

Chemistry Dept., 494-3305 *Biweekly mtgs on Thur

DALHOUSIE CHESS CLUB

*Mtgs on Wed

DALHOUSIE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Chaplain's Office, SUB, 494-2287 *Mtgs on Fri

DALHOUSIE UNIV. UNDERGRAD CLASSICS SOCIETY

Classics Dept., Lemarchant St., 494-3468 *Biweekly mtgs on Wed

COMMERCE SOCIETY

School of Business Admin. *Biweekly mtgs on Mon

COMPARATIVE RELIGION SOCIETY

*Mtg 2nd Tues of each month

DALHOUSIE CURLING CLUB

Department of Athletics and Recreational Services, 422-0645 *Practices on Sun

DAWSON GEOLOGY CLUB

Dept. of Earth Sciences, LSC, 494-2358

DALHOUSIE DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENT'S SOCIETY

5981 Univ. Avenue *Monthly mtgs on Wed

DUNMUNS (DALHOUSIE-KING'S NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS SOCIETY)

Political Science Dept, A&A Building, 494-2396 *Mtgs on Wed

DALHOUSIE ECONOMIC UNIV. UNDERGRAD STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Economics Dept, Univ. Ave, 494-2026

DALHOUSIE BACHELOR OF EDUCATION STUDENT SOCIETY

School of Education, 494-3724

ELIZA RITCHIE HALL RESIDENCE COUNCIL

Eliza Ritchie Hall

ENGINEERING UNIV. UNDERGRAD SOCIETY

Room 309, Dunn Building *Mtgs on Sun

DALHOUSIE ENGLISH UNIV. UNDERGRAD SOCIETY

Dept of English, 1434 Henry Street, 494-3384 *Mtgs on Wed

DALHOUSIE ENTREPRENEURS SOCIETY

*Biweekly mtgs on Wed

DALHOUSIE FENCING CLUB

Dalplex, 494-2558 *3 times/week on Mon, Thur and Sun

DALHOUSIE-KING'S FIGURE SKATING CLUB

Dalplex, 494-2558 *3 times/week on Tues, Wed and Sat

FRENCH SOCIETY

Dept. of French, 1315 Lemarchant St, 494-2430 *Mtgs on Tues

GAZETTE PUBLISHING SOCIETY

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2507 *Mtgs on Mon

DALHOUSIE GERMAN CLUB

Dept of German, 1355 Lemarchant St, 494-2161 *Monthly mtgs on Thur

DALHOUSIE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Graduate House, 422-6943

ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION STUDENTS

1234 Seymour Street, 494-7097 *Monthly mtgs on 3rd Thur

DALHOUSIE HISTORY UNIV. UNDERGRAD STUDENT SOCIETY

History Department, 1444 Seymour Street, 494-2011 *Monthly mtgs on 1st Fri

HOWE HALL RESIDENCE COUNCIL

Howe Hall *Biweekly mtgs on Sun

INTERNATIONAL INSIGHTS

Weldon Law Building *Biweekly mtgs

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-7077 *Monthly mtgs

DALHOUSIE INVESTMENT SOCIETY

*Monthly mtgs

DALHOUSIE JUDO CLUB

Box 182, Howe Hall *Mtgs on Thur and Sun

LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Faculty of Law, 494-1039 *Monthly mtgs

MALAYSIAN, INDONESIAN, SINGAPOREAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2140 *Bi-weekly mtgs on Sat

MATH SOCIETY

*Biweekly mtgs

MEDICAL STUDENTS SOCIETY

Box 101, Tupper Building *Mtgs every 3rd Thur

METRO SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY

*Mtgs every Sat

DALHOUSIE ASPIRING MICROBIOLOGISTS

Dept. of Microbiology & Immunology, Tupper Building, 494-3587 *Mtg 1st Thur of each month

SOCIETY DALHOUSIE MUSIC STUDENTS

Dalhousie Arts Centre, Music Department, 494-2418 *Mtgs on Fri

DALHOUSIE-KING'S COLLEGE YOUNG NEW DEMOCRATS

*Mtgs every 3 weeks

DALHOUSIE UNIV. NURSING SOCIETY

School of Nursing, 5869 Univ. Ave. *Biweekly mtgs

DALHOUSIE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENT SOCIETY

Forrest Building, Rm 208 *Mtgs on Wed

DALHOUSIE OPTAMUS

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2140 *Next general mtg Feb/Mar

DALHOUSIE STUDENT PHARMACY SOCIETY

College of Pharmacy, Burbidge Bldg, College St. *Regular mtgs

DALHOUSIE PHILOSOPHY UNIV. UNDERGRAD SOCIETY

Philosophy Department, 1400 Henry St, 494-3810 *Mtgs on Fri

DALHOUSIE PHYSICS UNIV. UNDERGRAD SOCIETY

Physics Department, Dunn Bldg, 494-2337 *Mtgs on Tues

DALHOUSIE PHYSIOTHERAPY STUDENTS' SOCIETY

School of Physiotherapy, Forrest Building *Monthly mtgs

POLICY ACTION LEAGUE (PAL)

Howe Hall, Box 17 *Monthly mtgs

POLITICAL SCIENCE SOCIETY

Political Science Dept, A&A Bldg, 494-2396 *Mtgs on Thur

DALHOUSIE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE YOUTH

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION STUDENT SOCIETY

School of Public Administration, 1229 Lemarchant St, 494-3742 *Monthly mtgs on 3rd Mon

DALHOUSIE UNIV. ROWING CLUB

Dept. of Political Science, 494-2558 *Bimonthly mtgs

DALHOUSIE SIMULATIONS (DALSIM)

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SOCIOLOGY/SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENT SOCIETY

SSA Complex, 494-6593 *Biweekly mtgs on Tues

SODALES

Debating club. SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2140 *Weekly mtgs

S.A.H.P.E.R. STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION

School of Recreation, 6230 South Street *Mtgs on Tues

DALHOUSIE SCIENCE SOCIETY

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-64710 *Bi-weekly mtgs on Mon

SHIRREFF HALL RESIDENCE COUNCIL

Shirreff Hall *Biweekly mtgs on Sun

DALHOUSIE STUDENT OUTREACH SOCIETY

Social education group addressing sexuality. *Biweekly mtgs on Wed

DALHOUSIE THEATRE STUDENT SOCIETY

Theatre Department, Dal Arts Centre, 494-2233 *Mtgs on Wed

TIERS CHEERLEADING/PEP CLUB

Dalplex, 434-2929

TOOLS FOR PEACE

*Monthly mtgs on 3rd Mon

DALHOUSIE WATERPOLO CLUB

Dalplex, 494-2558 *Mtgs on Thur

DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S CENTRE

6143 South Street, 494-2432 *Working Collective Mtgs every 3 weeks

DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE

SUB Enquiry Desk, 494-2432 *Mtgs on Thur

WOMEN'S STUDIES STUDENT SOCIETY

Multidisciplinary Center, 1444 Seymour St, 494-3814 *Biweekly mtgs

ZIMBABWE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

1394 Edward St, 494-7077 *Bimonthly mtgs

Society information available at Council Offices, rm 222, 2nd fl, SUB (494-1106).

DOWNTOWN DAL

SOCIETY FAIR

This is your chance to find out what societies and clubs are active at Dal this year. Drop by and pick up some info!

Jan. 19th
10 am. - 4 pm.

MCINNES ROOM S.U.B.

For info call 494 - 1106 or
e-mail DSU@AC.DAL.CA



"MAKE A CHANGE" VOLUNTEER FAIR

Gain relevant job experience!
Give something back to the
community!

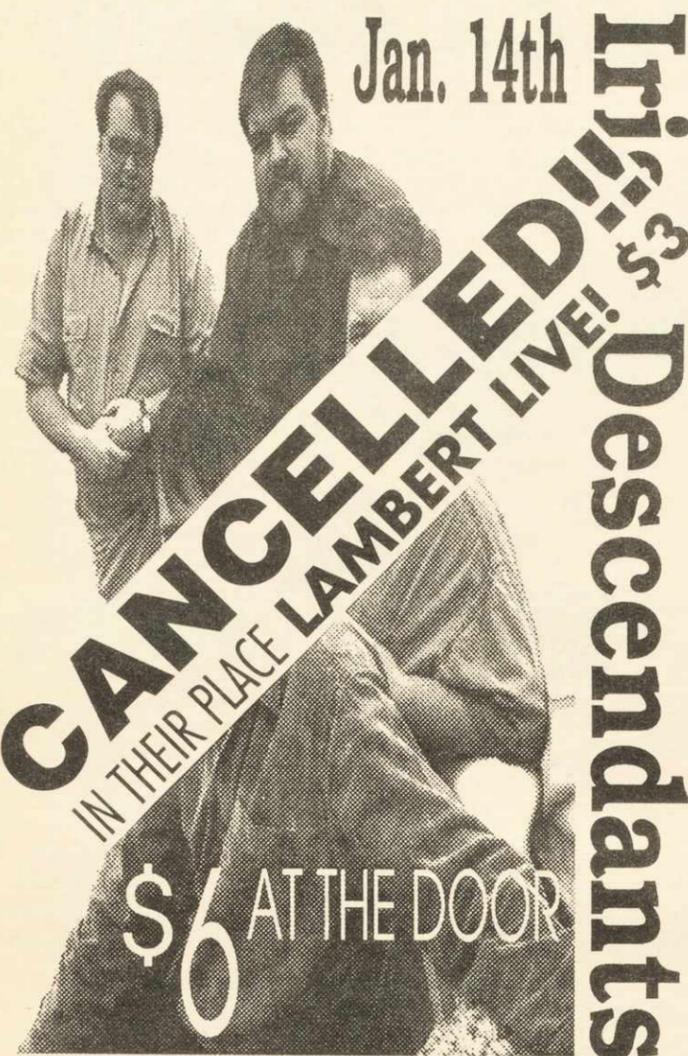
Wednesday, January 19

10 am- 4 pm
Green Room, SUB

Brought to you by:
the Student Volunteer Bureau,
Student Services, Dalhousie University.

THEY'RE BAACK

Jan. 14th



Cancelled!
IN THEIR PLACE LAMBERT LIVE!
\$6 AT THE DOOR
Iris's Descendants

GRAWOOD '94 BETTER THAN EVER

Malaysian Indonesian Singaporean
Students' Association

**MISSA
Cultural
Night
1994**



The Pride of the Orient

January 29, 1994

McInnes Room, SUB Dalhousie University

Every year, all our members would gather together and organize an event known as MISSA Cultural Night. On the evening itself, we provide various kinds of traditional food and entertainment. In doing so, we hope that you will come to know more about our association, and hopefully gain some insight into our cultures.

Tickets are available now at SUB Dalhousie University...

You might win 2 tickets to Montreal and many more prizes!!!

Before January 29:
*Adults \$15
Kids under 12 \$8

*on the 29:
Adults \$17

Ticket Sales: Kim 496-0678

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science

The trouble with progress

There are times when I have to ask myself if we are too smart for our own good. Do people always have to design, create, and market faster and better technologies, ideas or labour-saving devices? The reason for the above question all harkens back to some rotten apples.

I was attending a Christmas Eve party that has become an annual tradition in my family. While there, I was offered some very warm, very tasty apple cider and after quaffing two or three bowls, I became involved in a conversation with a neighbour who works in the computer industry as a consultant. The discussion dealt with the ever increasing speed of computer hardware. In his job, he deals with various types of computers and a plethora of software. He told me that the advancements in computers over the last few years are much greater than those made in the previous 15-20 years. The speed of a personal computer since the early '80s has increased at least 100 times. He concluded by saying that he sometimes has to wonder how fast and powerful computers will be by the turn of the century.

All this finally brings me to this point: as an appliance works faster, a computer processes information

quicker, or a product becomes 'new and improved', the lazier we humans become. This computer consultant told me that while working with various forms of software, he has come across some rather lazy programming. Instead of making a small subroutine to do various jobs, large subroutines are being written to do individual and specific jobs. This means that while software is becoming more and more detailed, programmers are taking advantage of the faster computers and making their programs larger and more convoluted. In the late

The speed of a computer since the early '80s has increased at least 100 times

1960s, 90 per cent of computer processing power was used whereas today only 10 per cent is used. This means that even though a computer now is a much faster machine, it is not being used to anything close to its full capacity. In order to combat these larger programs, faster computers are built, which encourage larger programs, which encourage faster computers, and so on...

Every time we go to a supermarket there is something 'Now better than ever!' available to us. Well exactly how much better is it? How much better do we need it to be? Weren't the pictures of the white socks cleaned with regular Tide the same as the pictures of white socks cleaned in Ultra Tide? How many new ways do we need to burn off calories? How soon will we see the new Super Thigh Master 2000 as seen on TV, or seen possibly on a tape of a show that was recorded with our thought-activated VCR?

Some might argue that a faster computer or speedier blender or easier-to-program VCR allows us to have more leisure time. More leisure time to do what? Write larger programs, make more chocolate milkshakes and watch more movies on our VCR? Whoopee! I for one would like technology to slow down a bit. There are some things that don't need to be improved, like hot apple cider for one, because it will just make us more lazy and unimaginative (technology that is, not hot apple cider) or it will put us on a never-ending loop of attempting to improve on an already suitable technology.

Colin MacDonald

POINTLESS PONDERABLES

Answer:

Once the wrapping papers have been cleaned up (and don't think the maids-a-milkin' enjoyed being wrapped either) and the gifts returned, the number of days that have elapsed is 364. Therefore since you started on Boxing Day, you will finish up Christmas Eve the following year. Let's hope you don't get those same gifts all over again.

P.S. Factoring the postage and shipping costs, plus the cost of feeding all these 'gifts' for a year or so, it will probably turn out that you spent more than the gifts are worth. Of course can you ever really put a price on nine pipers piping?

We did receive a correct answer to the Christmas question, but unfortunately it came via e-mail. Normally this is just fine for entries or any general correspondence with *The Gazette* (our e-mail address is gazette@ac.dal.ca), but over the Christmas break we accidentally lost all our e-mail (doh!). We apologize to whoever sent the correct answer in, and we hope they continue to send in answers to the puzzles.

Question:

You're down at the Grawood one night with three of your closest friends, and you begin to suspect that the bartenders are cheating you on the draft beer by pouring it with more head on it. You quickly whip out your portable digital scale, (that you got for \$10.00 at Ron's Army Navy because it only gives imperial weights) and carefully weigh the draft against a regular beer. You discover that regular beer weighs in at exactly 10 ounces, and draught is coming it at a paltry 9 ounces. The crooks! You confront the bartender and to get you to keep your mouth shut, the manager gives you 7 trays of 24 beers each! While the bartender dishes out the trays, you notice 3 of the trays are all draught beer while the remaining 4 are all completely regular beer. Unfortunately by the time you reach your table with all this beer you've lost track of which trays contain which beer, but being benevolent you want to give at least 1 tray away to each of your 3 friends. Of course not being stupid, you'd like to give them the lighter draught beer trays. Checking your scale, you see you only have enough juice left in the batteries for one more weighing (must've got the batteries at Ron's too). With this single remaining weighing how can you determine which trays contain the draught beer in order that you can correctly shaft your friends?

Please send your answers to this week's Pointless Ponderables c/o *The Gazette*, and if you're the first correct answer we'll print your name in the next issue. This time we'll try not to lose your name too, so don't hesitate to write. E-mail or paper entries are fine, but they must be in by Monday at 4:00 pm, and must include your full name.



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A U D I T I O N S

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: FEBRUARY 15 TEL: (514) 842-7954 FAX: (514) 842-5661

sports

Rod Shoveller Memorial wrap up

by Gazette staff

Although they didn't win the big prize the Dalhousie Tigers had the pleasure of beating the Saint Mary's Huskies 79-75 to win the consolation game of the Pepsi Rod Shoveller Memorial basketball tournament last Sunday.

A collection of former university

and high school players, the Nova Scotia All-Stars, defeated the Ottawa Gee Gees 95-79 to win the tournament.

The Tigers and the Huskies were relegated to the consolation game after they were bounced in the semi-finals.

The win was a vindication for Dalhousie as they avenged an 89-62

drubbing at the hands of SMU earlier in the season. Shawn Plancke, who was selected a tournament all-star, led the Tigers with 25 points with Gary Blair adding 18 in the consolation victory. Blair notched four three-pointers in the win.

After beating the University of Toronto Blues 78-56 the Tigers lost to the All-Stars 78-73 in the semi-

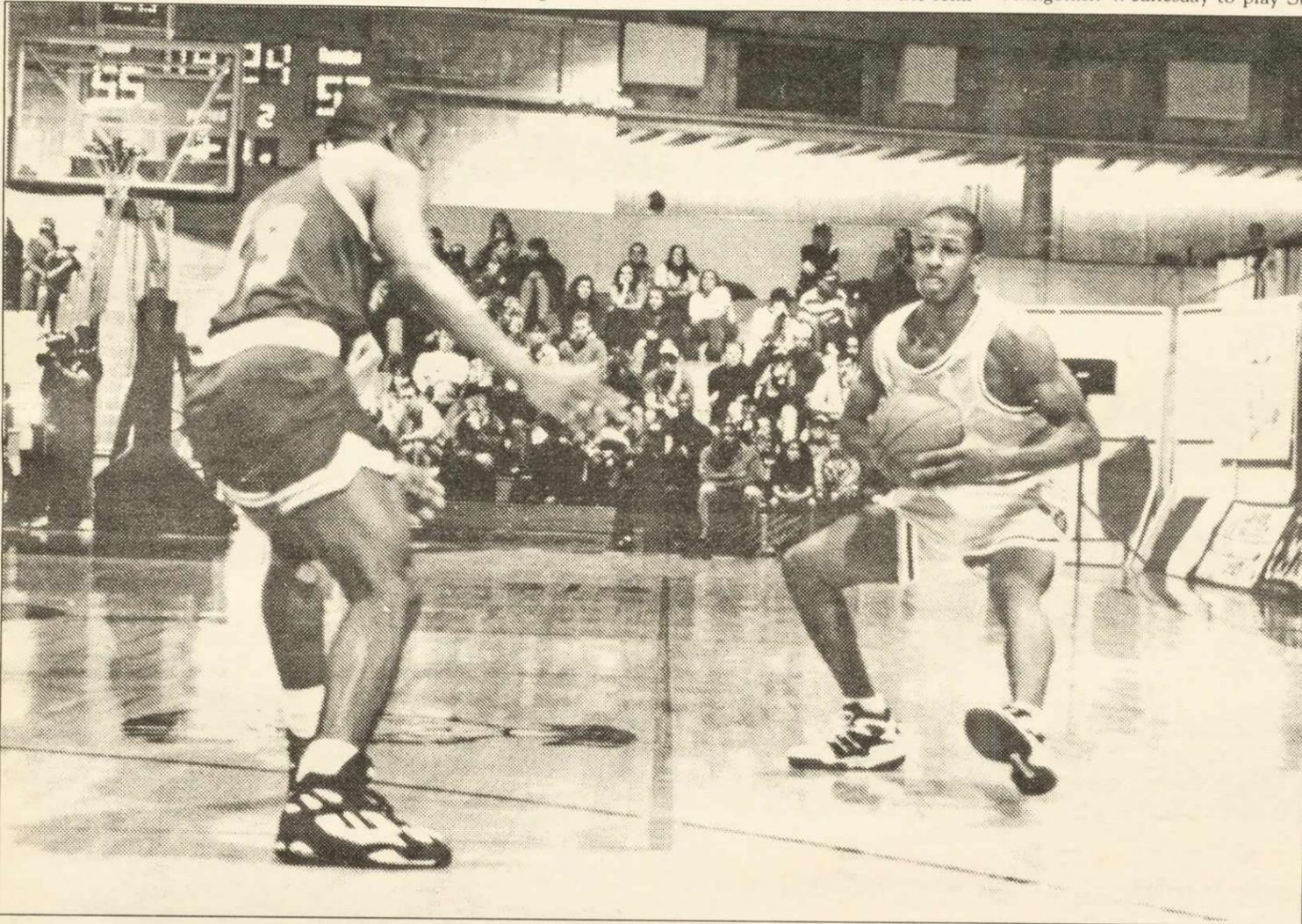
final.

The Dal women got the second half off to a good start with a 79-55 victory over the Acadia Axettes last Saturday in Wolfville. Carolyn Wares led the Tigers with a 25 points and 13 rebounds while Jennifer Offman added 21 points.

The men and women travelled to Antigonish Wednesday to play St.

FX. The results were unavailable at press time. This Saturday the Tigers host the University College of Cape Breton Capers. The women play at 6 pm with the men following at 8 pm.

The men and women travel to Acadia Tuesday.



Meeting: There will be a meeting of *Gazette* sports reporters Thursday, January 13, (tonight). The meeting will be in room 312 (Gazette office) third floor SUB at 7 p.m. The meeting is for both the current stable of writers and anyone else interested.

Yours, Frank, sports editor.

Dalhousie's Shawn Mantley takes control during weekend basketball action.

DALPHOTO: MICHAEL DEVONPORT

J.J. ROSSY'S
PRESENTS
THE IRISH DESCENDANTS

Thursday, January 20
9:00 pm - closing

Every Thursday night is
UNIVERSITY NIGHT

J.J. ROSSY'S • 422-4411
Granville Mall, Granville Street

Dalhousie Athletes of the Week

* ALISON WALKER *



WVB: 10 st. blk, 8 rej., 13 digs

* KEVIN MEISNER *



HOCKEY: 1 goal, 5 assists & 2 wins

Jan. 3 - 10/94

Follow the Tigers

Editor's Note: Thanks to Christmas holidays we have four athletes of the week.

Dalhousie Athletes of the Week

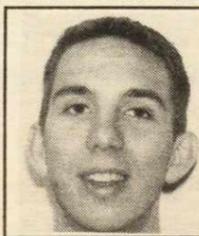
* KIM HILCHEY *



WVB defeats SFX

Player of the Game
* serve rec. 2.31

* SHAWN PLANCKE *

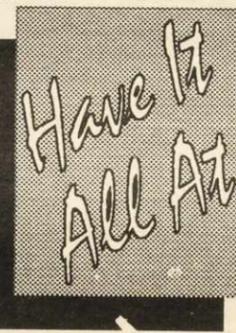


MBB: 1 win-1 loss

Player of the Game
* 46 pts. & 42 reb.

Nov. 29 - Dec. 6

Follow the Tigers



PART-TIME DAL STUDENTS
Pay only \$100*

(January 1 - August 31, 1994)

Dalplex has 180,000 sq. ft. of activity space designed to meet your recreational needs.

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+ training & accreditation required



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For more information phone: **494-3372**
(or drop by and pick up a brochure)

2ND SHOW!!!

AT THE McINNES ROOM DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION

Blue Rodeo

FIVE DAYS IN JULY WITH SPECIAL GUESTS: THE RHEOSTATICS

**TICKETS:
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JAN. 17**

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sports

Equality on the field

OTTAWA (CUP)—Female soccer players at the University of Ottawa can now compete against other universities, after their team threatened the school with a human rights complaint. On Nov. 22, the university announced it would grant the women's soccer team varsity status and increase its funding to comparable levels with the men's team.

The announcement, the culmination of a four-year struggle for varsity status, came only six days after

the soccer team issued a press release threatening action against the university.

"Women at the University of Ottawa who experience gender discrimination due to the great discrepancy in the funding of men's and women's programs could launch a human rights complaint against the university," the press release read. The team had planned to launch the a formal complaint with the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

Sports administrator Jean-Pierre Tibi adamantly denied the claim of sexual discrimination. The team was not granted varsity status because "a moratorium had been set, based on finances, and everybody had been refused," he explained.

Tibi said the decision to grant varsity status to the women's soccer team was made by an administration committee that oversees the overall budget of the university. "It was completely their decision," he said.

"I think the pressure we put on them played a big role," said team representative Vickie White.

The numbers in the press release show Ottawa has more men's varsity teams and these teams receive substantially more funding than the women's teams. "Perhaps looking at the numbers and the situation was enough" for the administration committee to make a final decision, White said. "I believe that the figures speak for themselves."

Rosemarie Pitfield, manager of public relations and promotions at the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union, said that unequal funding of men's and women's teams "may be a reality at a lot of schools depending on the funding coming in."

Pitfield noted that funding for teams also depends on whether sponsors decide to support a particular team. "A lot is dictated by the business world," she said.

The fight for equal sports representation and funding is not over, White said. "We have and will continue to fight," she said. White maintains that the women's soccer team "has already helped. We showed you can fight [the administration] and win."

Sports This Week

Volleyball

Men visit UNB for two games this weekend.

Hockey

The Tigers visit St. FX for a Saturday matchup. It starts at 7:30 pm Their next game is Wednesday, January 19, at Acadia. That's also a 7:30 pm start.

Basketball

Women and men host the UCCB Capers this Saturday at Dalplex. The women play at 6 pm while the men follow at 8 pm. Tuesday the two teams travel to Acadia on Tuesday, January 18.

Swimming

The Tigers host Mount Allison at Dalplex Saturday. Sunday they host the University of New Brunswick.

A Career in Orthoptics/Ophthalmic Medical Technology

Orthoptics is the clinical science of ocular motility and binocular vision, and related disorders of the eyes. An Orthoptist is an allied health professional who works with ophthalmologists, (eye physicians and surgeons) analyzing and treating patients unable to use both eyes together because of an eye muscle or sensory abnormality. An Ophthalmic Medical Technologist assists the ophthalmologist with a wide range of diagnostic tests and procedures requiring a great deal of technical expertise.

In July 1993, the Izaak Walton Killam Children's Hospital will commence an accredited twenty-four (24) month training program leading to a Certificate of Orthoptics and Ophthalmic Medical Technology. Applications are now being accepted from individuals holding a baccalaureate degree with courses in any of the following areas: psychology, physiology, biology, anatomy, physics, statistics, research methodology. Work/volunteer experience in the health care field will be considered an asset. Candidates should possess good communication skills, sound judgement, emotional maturity and a demonstrated ability to relate well to small children and adults.

Financial assistance may be available to qualified students. Deadline for application is February 28, 1994

For further information regarding a challenging, interesting and rewarding career in the health care field, please write: School of Orthoptics/Ophthalmic Medical Technology I.W.K. Children's Hospital P.O. Box 3070 Halifax, N.S. B3J 3G9

Izaak Walton Killam
**Children's
Hospital**



Student Assistance Office We're Re-Locating

(temporarily)

to the CIBC Building, 1809 Barrington
corner of Duke and Barrington
8th Floor, Suite 810
effective Monday, Dec.13, 1993

Mailing address and tel. numbers remain the same.
Sorry for any inconvenience.

Nova Scotia
 Department of
Education
Honourable John MacEachern
Minister



WE'RE DANCING AS FAST AS WE CAN...

...at the Dalhousie Art Gallery. Come and view the lively exhibition "Uses of the Vernacular in Contemporary Nova Scotia Art", opening Thursday 13 January, at 8 pm. Free Admission. Everyone welcome. The exhibition continues until 6 March. The Gallery is located on the lower level, Dal Arts Centre. Tel: 494 - 2403.

Collins Eisenhauer: *Woman and Dog Dancing* 1975
Collection: Mr. Chris Huntington

DALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN 13

B-GLAD (Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Association at Dal) meets every Thursday, 7 pm, rm. 307, SUB. Call Denise at 492-8244 for more info.

A Benefit for the **International Development Association** will be held at the Double Deuce tonight, 9 pm, with Holden Wheeling, Superfriends, and Batuque. Admission \$4 at door. Raffle prizes.

FRIDAY, JAN 14

Concerned about tuition and the grim situation at Dal? The **Dalhousie Student Union** is holding an information/strategy meeting at 1 pm, Council Chambers, 2nd fl, SUB. All students welcome. For more info, call Lisa or Lilli at 494-1281.

French Society Meeting tonight at 6 pm, French Café, Lemarchant St. All welcome! After a party will celebrate "la galette des Rois". This involves the sharing and eating of a cake and the eventual discovery of a "magic token" (la fève), which transform the finder into a king or a queen for the evening.

Department of Chemistry Seminar Series presents "Hydrogen bonding to aromatic systems: fact or fancy?" by Professor O. Knop, Dept. of Chemistry, Dalhousie University. 1:30 pm, rm 226, Chemistry Bldg.

Counselling & Psychological Services will be holding a **Résumé, Cover Letter, Application Workshop**. 10:30 am-12 pm, rm 316, SUB. For more info, call 494-2081 or drop by the Centre on the 4th fl, SUB.

The **Dalhousie Art Gallery** presents "Uses of the Vernacular in Contemporary Nova Scotian Art" which explore the question: What are the relationships between folk art and forms of contemporary art which adopt folk idioms? This exhibition will be at the Art Gallery until March 6/94. For more info, call 494-2403.

Ed Broadbent, Director, International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, will speak on "What do we mean by human rights?" This is the first presentation in the **Lecture Series on Human Rights** at the Halifax City Regional Library, Spring Garden Rd. 12-1:30 pm.

SATURDAY, JAN 15

"A Celebration of Music and Dance, Rich in Heritage from the Heart of Africa" by the Ugandan N'dere Dance Troupe at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, Dal Arts Centre. Tickets (\$10) available at the Dal Arts Centre (494-2646).

The **St. Cecilia Concert Series** presents a concert given by Norman Adams, cello and Adrienne Park, piano. 8 pm, St. Andrew's United Church, 6036 Coburg Rd. Tickets \$10/\$9. For more info, call 422-3157.

SUNDAY, JAN. 16

Chamber Music at Dalhousie presents "Pluralistic Voices", vocal chambers works with Dal faculty/alumnus Gegory Servant. 8 pm, Dal Arts Centre. Informal talk by Dr. Kemp, 7:15 pm, MacAloney Rm, rm 406, Dal Arts Centre. For more info, call 494-2646.

DAL-Outreach welcomes the N'dere Dance Troupe from Uganda and invites all to participate in a popular theatre workshop. For more info, call Karen Marchand at 494-2038.

The **Dalhousie Curling Club** will be meeting at 1 pm at the Mayflower Curling Club. This will be the start of a new season, with new teams and more trips planned. Bring your ideas and money! For more info, call Brent at 422-0645.

All are invited to attend **Weekly Sunday Morning Worship Services** at 11 am, rm 406, Dal Arts Centre. Community Bible Church is a multi-denominational church. For more info, contact Dan at 425-5929.

MONDAY, JAN. 17

The **Dalhousie Student Union** is hosting a Press Conference regarding the upcoming Board of Governors Meeting and the situation at Dal. Speakers from around the university community will be there. **NOON**, Green Room, SUB. For more info, call Lisa or Lilli at 494-1281.

Having problems or concerned about N.S. Student Loans? The **Dalhousie Student Union** is holding an **Forum on Nova Scotia Student Loans** at 4 pm, Green Room, SUB. Kathleen Thompson, Director of Student Aid, Allison Young, Chair of Students' Union of NS, and Gordon Steedman, Director of Dalhousie Awards Office, will be on hand to provide information and address students' concerns.

Bluenose Chess Club meets every Monday night in the SUB, 6:30 - 11:30 pm. Players of all levels welcome. Active/Tornado tournaments Sundays.

Dalhousie Student Union General Elections - NOMINATIONS OPEN. For more info, call Jennifer Hockey, DSU Elections Returning Officer at 494-6576/1106 or e-mail to DSUERO@AC.DALCA.

Interested in fun and unique volunteering opportunities? **DSU Clown Troupe Meeting** at 6:45 pm, rm 214, SUB. Call Tracey at 423-5847 for more info.

TUESDAY, JAN 18

SO DALES, the Dal debating club, meets every Tuesday at 6 pm, Council Chambers, 2nd fl., SUB.

A **Support Group for Women with Breast Cancer** will be held at 7 pm, rm 5110, Dickson Bldg, 5820 University Ave. For more info, call the Canadian Cancer Society at 423-6183.

L'Année Dernière à Marienbad will be shown at 7 pm at Henson College by the **French Video Club**. Admission is free for everyone!

CENSORSHIP DEBATE co-sponsored by CKDU-FM and the NS Public Interest Research Group. Panelists include: Lynn Murphy (Halifax Public Library), Bruce Wark (Halifax Daily News), rappers DJ Critical and DJ Mystro (Richard Terfrey and Gerald Sanders) and Robin Metcalfe (freelance journalist). Facilitated by Dr. Marjorie Stone, Women's Studies, Dalhousie Univ. 7 pm, McInnes Rm, SUB.

WEDNESDAY, JAN 19

Show your support for education! Come to **WAKE '94 for the Unknown Student**. Processional begins at Tupper Link at 3 pm and will go to the SUB. Gathering at SUB Lobby at 3 pm. Final farewells and eulogies at 3:45 pm outside the MacDonald Building. **Dal Board of Governors Meeting** at 4 pm. Passes required. 494-2511.

International Socialists will be hold their weekly meeting tonight, rm 306, SUB, 7:30 pm. All welcome!

Want to gain relevant job experience? Want to give something back to the community? Come to the **"MAKE A CHANGE" VOLUNTEER FAIR**, 10 am-4 pm, Green Room, SUB. Info on volunteering opportunities in the fields of health, environment, law, youth, women, seniors, and more! For info, call the Dal Student Volunteer Bureau, 494-1561 or go to rm 445, SUB.

DOWNTOWN DAL SOCIETY FAIR, 10 am-4 pm, McInnes Rm, SUB. This is your chance to find out what societies are active at Dal this year! Drop by and pick up some info! For more info, call Lilli at 494-1281 or e-mail to DSU@AC.DALCA.

Department of Chemistry Seminar Series presents "New approaches to metal-caronyl-phosphine complexes" by Prof. Alan N. Hughes, Chemistry Dept, Lakehead University. 1:30 pm, rm 226, Chemistry Bldg.

King's Improvisation Group will hold another night of fun at 7 pm in The Pit (under the King's Chapel). Newcomers welcome!

Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia General Meeting at 8 pm, Hancock Hall, Dalhousie Univ, corner of Coburg Rd and Oxford St (portable classroom #2). For more info, call 464-3456 or 465-2601.

WordPerfect Society (non-profit self-help group) meets tonight at 6:30 pm, Dartmouth Public Library. New members wanted. For more info, call 423-1670.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A **Speakeasy Program** on how to talk to groups calmly and confidently will begin soon at the Counselling Centre. This 5-session program will be of particular interest to students who find that anxiety makes it difficult for them to give class presentations or participate in group discussions. A \$20 deposit is required, which can be earned back by attending all the sessions. For further info, phone 494-2081, or drop by the Centre on the 4th fl, SUB.

The Politics and the Power Effects of Recycling in Metropolitan Halifax (ES 5047B) is a new reading course being offered during the second term, by the School for Resource & Environmental Studies. Starting Tues nights, 6-9 pm, starting Jan 4/94. For more info, call 494-3632.

Lesbian & Bisexual Young Women's Group meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Planned Parenthood Nova Scotia, 6156 Quinpool Rd, Halifax. Drop-in/social time, 6-7 pm; meeting at 7 pm. Come for discussion, support. For info, call Maura, 492-0444.

There will be no charge for overdue materials returned to any outlet of the **Halifax City Regional Library** during Fine-Free January. January is a Amnesty Month!

Gay & Bisexual Young Men's Group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at Planned Parenthood Nova Scotia, 6156 Quinpool Rd, Halifax. Drop-in/social time, 6-7 pm; meeting at 7 pm. Come for discussion, support. For info, call Maura at 492-0444.

Study on Sexual Assault - A female graduate student working on her Master's thesis at Dal is interested in talking to female university students who have been sexually assaulted. This research will focus on the needs of female students who have experienced such violence and will involve a one-hour interview and possibly two confidential focus groups. Female students interested in participating in the research can send their name and telephone number to: "Dalhousie Study", P.O. Box 762, Halifax Central Post Office, N.S. B3J 2V2.

A course in **WEN-DO Women's Self-Defense** will be offered at the Dal SUB on Tuesday evenings. A free demo will be held on Tue., Jan. 18, 7-8 pm, rm 224-226, SUB. The 6-week course will start Tue., Jan. 25, 7-9:30 pm. To preregister, please bring \$25 and your Dal student ID to the Dal Student Union office, rm 222, SUB.

Youth Challenge International - All interested in 3 months of volunteer work in Costa Rica, Guyana or the Solomon Islands need to apply by Friday, Jan. 21. Work in areas of scientific research, medical work and community service, with 18-25 yr olds from Canada and internationally. For info, contact the Student Volunteer Bureau (494-1561), Dal Multidisciplinary Centre, 1444 Seymour St (494-3814) or Andrew MacDonald (454-7688).

A dynamic young boy, **Korey Latta**, in Dartmouth is awaiting a 2nd liver transplant. The 1st transplanted liver is now being rejected by his young body. He badly needs a 2nd transplant to survive. A group of concerned friends have made arrangements with the Royal Bank to collect whatever they can to help. If you can give a monetary donation, please take it to any branch of the Royal Bank in the metro area: **Korey Latta Liver Transplant Fund**, Royal Bank #019430035007364.

CLASSIFIEDS

Small Furnished Bachelor Apartment on Henry St, near Weldon Law Building. \$338 to \$425 utilities included. 422-5464.

Mon. Jan. 17 is the last day to add 'B' classes and withdraw from 'C' and 'R' classes without academic penalty.

ANYTHING FOR THE DALENDAR SECTION IS DUE MONDAYS AT NOON. CLASSIFIEDS ARE \$8. PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR DATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS AT THE GAZETTE, 3RD FLOOR, SUB. THANKS! L.J.

presenting:

Campy & RAKE

by Colin Jason and Garth

#12

DATE WITH FATE

SEE YOU AT 9:00!

HMMMMM...

YEP!

NO!

NO!

NO!

GO'IN ON DATE?

CAN I GO?

CAN I GO?

CAN I GO?

CAN I GO?

ALLRIGHT!! YOU CAN GO!!

WHERE YOU GOING?

DON'T KNOW YET.

I KNOW A PLACE!

COME ON!

COME ON!

FINE! JUST \$!*&* FINE!

ICO PRO

MAC

YOU KNOW THIS ISN'T AS BAD AS I THOUGHT...

WORLD WRESTLING

WWF

ICO PRO

MAC

JOHN 3:16

HULK

I JUST WISH YOUR BROTHER WOULD STOP POKING ME WITH THAT FOAM FINGER!!

A NOTE:

HEY KIDS! SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT, DON'T THROW AWAY THOSE OLD CAMPY AND RAKE CARTOONS, COLLECT AND TRADE THEM WITH YOUR FRIENDS!

DAL

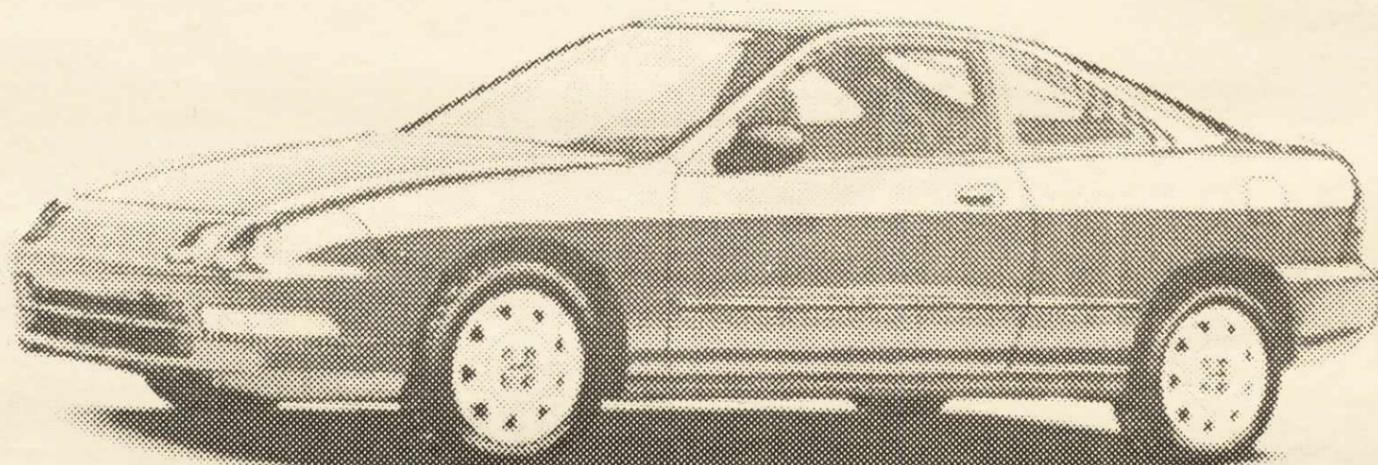
SHORT AND SWEET

SHORT

**24 MONTH
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science

Dal bans troublemakers on Internet

by Steve Tonner
with files from *The Ubysey*

Dalhousie, along with several other universities, has cut off access to a computer newsgroup dealing with the secret Ontario trial of Karla Homolka. But even this step cannot stop Dal students from reading banned information with relative ease.

The censored group, alt.fan.Karla-Homolka, dealt with the manslaughter trial of Karla Teale (formerly Homolka), who was convicted of manslaughter in the deaths of teenagers Kristen French and Leslie Mahaffy, and was sentenced to 12 years in prison.

A ban was imposed by an Ontario court on most details of the trial, allegedly to ensure a fair trial for Teale's husband, Paul. He is charged with first-degree murder and seven other offences.

Bans apply to published material, with electronic communication like the Internet occupying a grey area of the law.

While censorship of the Homolka newsgroup does prevent it from being carried on that university's news machine, it does not prevent students from getting access to the information in other ways. For anyone who is Internet-literate enough and who knows where to look, the group is still accessible.

Peter Jones of Dal's University Computer Information Services said

Dalhousie decided to drop the newsgroup because legal advice indicated they would be "in contempt of court for violating the publication ban" if they did not do so.

Dalhousie, in axing the newsgroup, only cut off access to those readers who want to connect to the Dalhousie news machine. It is a fairly simple matter to connect to other news machines, which carry the group.

Controlling electronic transfers of information is "impractical", says

and we thought it would be better to be safe than sorry because of the fact of the possible illegality of it," he said.

A Dalhousie student disagreed with the cancellation of the group.

"It shouldn't be done because everyone in Canada knows about the trial, so there should not be any censorship. You're not going to get a clean jury no matter where you go now."

A UBC chemistry graduate student was also upset at the ban.

"My thing against banning newsgroups has nothing to do with what should and shouldn't be on them," she said.

"If you haul up the [picture] files off alt.sex.bondage or whatever, you're going to get stuff which could not cross the borders and be sold in Canada in published form.

"I consider myself a feminist, and

if you're going to start banning newsgroups you shouldn't start with this one," she said.

The information from the now unavailable Homolka group has already been "cross-posted" on other newsgroups like "soc.culture.canada," which deal with a wider range of issues.

As well, a service called "ftp" (file transfer protocol) can give access to most of the information on the trial that has been published in the United States, where the publication ban is not in effect.

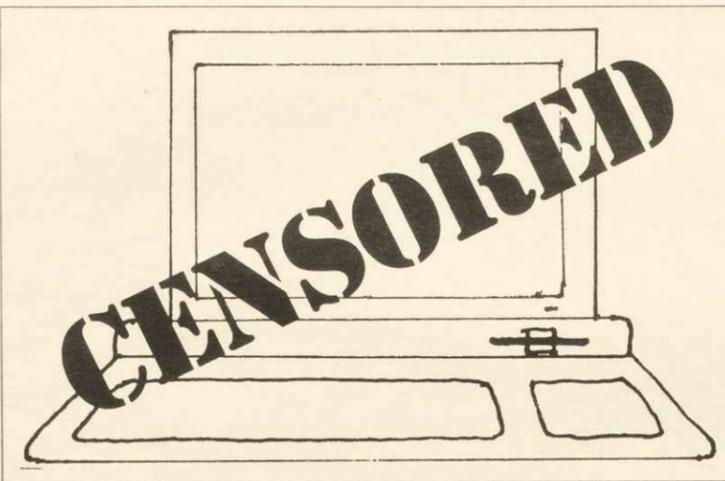
Leigh says the blacking out of the Homolka group might conceivably be just the start.

"If there's any chance of any

newsgroup being illegal we would likely remove it. We would only do that on the advice of the appropriate use group. The idea is not to censor it as such but we cannot do anything illegal," he said.

When asked if Dalhousie would

drop other groups which might carry illegal material, Peter Jones said, "Not if I can help it." He said that he would prefer to keep groups rather than arbitrarily cut everything with any mention of the Karla Homolka case.



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