

the Gazette

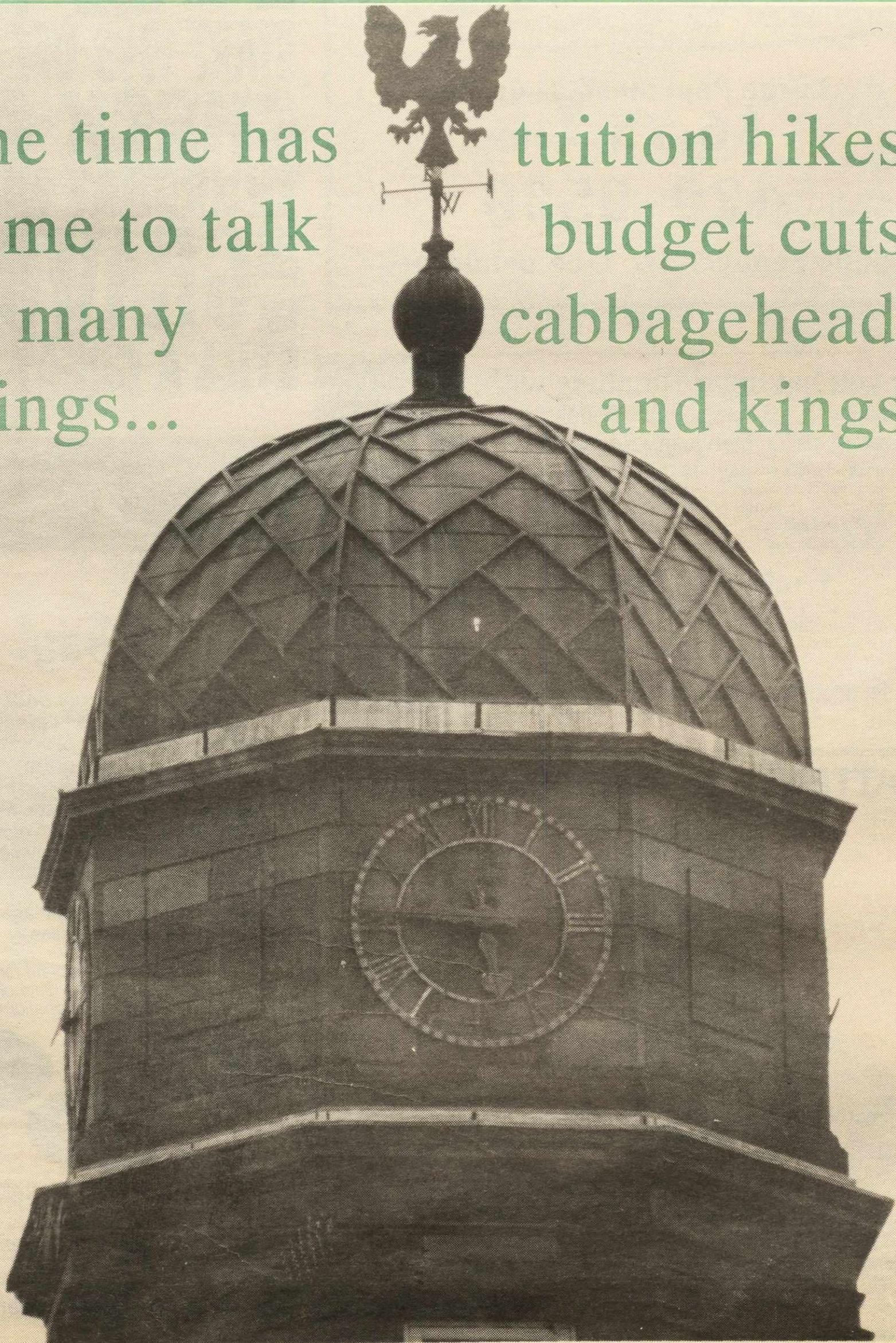
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January 14, 1993

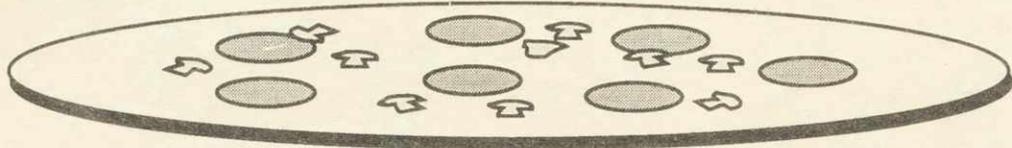
The time has
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The Ombud will advise you on procedures of redress or mediation and will work toward achieving equitable solutions.

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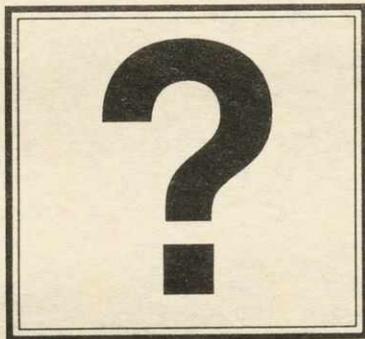
Room 403
Student Union Building

494-6583

Don't let needless complications ruin your year



ATTENTION ALL 1993 GRADS



Joan Who?.....BA
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Deadline for submitting graduating photos to Pharos Yearbook has been extended until

MARCH 5 1993

If you have any questions please call the
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the  Bay

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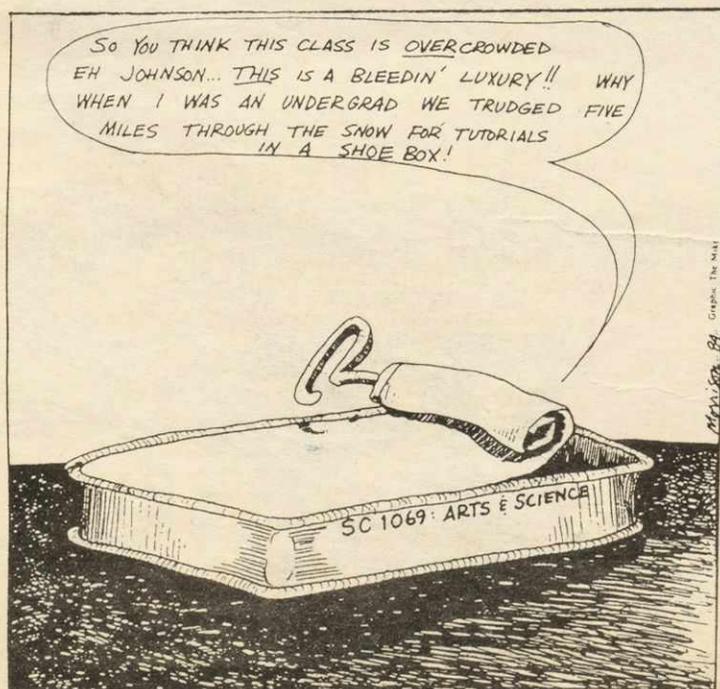
A visit to us is essential!

stuff

WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE!

Because Dalhousie students are facing another 10% tuition fee increase and have already taken a 37.5% increase over the last two years and because Nova Scotia Student Aid hasn't increased since 1985 and because the proposed changes to the Canada Student Loans Program will severely limit accessibility to universities and if students can find a summer job the wages are shitty and if we can afford the cost of child care there are no spaces available and if we're poor it's okay because we're "just" students and because Kraft Dinner isn't a meal and cutting programs isn't the answer and because between 1991 and 1995 the Feds will have slashed \$5 Billion from post-secondary education and it's not that we're not smart enough but that we're not rich enough and because our classes are overcrowded or aren't offered at all and if women are silenced in the classroom it's because gender issues don't apply to everyone and if racism in the classroom is sanctioned by the university we're told it's in the name of academic freedom and if we question the traditional curriculum they tell us not to mess with the canon and if lesbian and gay students are harassed on campus it's because they're deviants and if Commerce Co-op students can't get a placement they're told they have the option of failing and if a university degree means nothing in the job market we just didn't get the right degree and if we demand that the federal government immediately develop a policy on higher education we're just being selfish and if we complain that Dalhousie is becoming accessible only to a small elite we're radical students and if we say that education is a right and not a privilege and for lots and lots of other reasons ... **It's about time we had a tuition freeze at Dalhousie.**

- Candida Rifkind



Schedule for the Freeze the Fees Campaign

Thursday Jan 14

Go to the President's office and pick up your ticket for the Board of Governors meeting (only 80 tickets available) 494-2511

Monday Jan 18

4:30-6:30 pm Pizza Party in the Grawood Board of Governors will be there. This is a chance to voice your concerns to individual members regarding the proposed 10% increase in tuition.

Thursday Jan 21

3:00 pm Rally in lobby of SUB

4:00 pm March from rally to the Board of Governors meeting (at the McDonald Building).

* Please come out and show your disapproval of the proposed 10% tuition increase. It will affect everyone.

We need information regarding problems with getting into classes, etc. Leave your "academic anecdote" at the Enquiry Desk, or call 422-3978 and leave a message.

If you need anymore information please call Mausumi, Candida or Caroline at 494-1281.

news

Committee commits to community

by Gazette Staff

Developments continue around Dalhousie's proposed Statement on Discriminatory Harassment. The draft statement was presented at a public forum in the Green Room on November 4th, 1992 (*Gazette* October 22, November 12) and has since sparked a growing dialogue within the university community. Articles have appeared in the *Gazette*, in *Dalhousie News*, and the *DFA Dialogue*, and public discussions have included a meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in December, and a meeting of the Dalhousie Faculty Association on January 13th.

Eric McKee, Vice President (Student Services) and chair of the ad hoc Committee to Develop a Policy on Racism and Sexism, says that the version of the policy presented in November gave rise to a fair amount of comment and controversy. "The committee has received a lot of feedback and will be meeting this week to decide what to take back to Senate."

Response has centred in a large part around a perceived conflict between the importance of maintain-

ing academic freedom, and the need to address the damaging effects of sexism, racism, homophobia, and all forms of discriminatory harassment. The quantity and nature of feedback has apparently produced a slight hold-up in the committee's timeframe. The proposed Statement, originally slated for presentation before Senate in January, will not be presented before February, although "March is more likely", says McKee.

"The fact that there's been a lot of debate is basically a good thing", he continued. Given the importance of the issues it addresses, McKee feels that this kind of policy requires a great deal of public interest and input.

The policy has also drawn attention from outside the Dalhousie community. Nina Butlin, the DSU representative on the six-member drafting committee, points out that "Other universities are aware that this draft policy is pending and have requested copies of it. It stands to be very influential."

Butlin also pointed out the necessity for students to remain aware of developments. "Students may not be

aware of the amount of resistance which exists against even discussing matters of discrimination, let alone the establishment of a policy to provide education and community response to them." Underlining differing perceptions of this policy, Butlin further indicated that "Students might view it as an obvious, necessary and timely step in the university's evolution. They should know, however, that the passing of this policy is not a *fait accompli* and

dialogue reveals that it faces a certain amount of resistance, notably among faculty."

Butlin sees one important aspect of the policy lying in its provision through education for on-going discussion of the kind the draft statement has begun. "The policy creates a space for this dialogue, and develops a forum for working out these important issues in the university community."

Commenting on the evolution of

the policy, McKee remarked that he feels the work of the committee is "at a point where some decisions need to be taken at a community level." Foreseeing further developments, he stated that "The committee is committed to completing its task and bringing it to some kind of conclusion", with possible changes to be brought to the policy in the near future.

Chilly classroom continuim

by Gazette staff

The Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) Council of Representatives gathered for a lunch-time meeting open to all DFA members Weldon Library this Wednesday to talk about the Discriminatory Harassment Policy. Debate about the nature of DFA's response to the policy was rigorous.

Dr. Sue Sherwin, Chair of the ad hoc Committee to Develop a Policy

on Racism and Sexism was available to answer questions.

Concern was expressed when considering the committee's mandate to recommend action in situations whereby mediation has gone to formal investigation and the decision was made that the person was guilty of discrimination. Some felt the internal mechanism of dealing with this kind of complaints established by the policy was an important part of its function.

"Most agree that since we are a university, we have to protect academic interests," said Peter Edwards, a part-time instructor in the French department. "In a worst case scenario, I personally feel academic interests would be safer placed in the hands of a committee raised from within the university community than in the hands of a judicial panel struck under an outside mechanism such as the Human Rights Act."

THE NORTHERN PIKES



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Achieving a balance

by Judy Reid

Until recently, this year's reporters, photographers, editors, cartoonists and entire staff of the *Gazette* all had one thing in common.

They are all white.

When asked why racial representation on the *Dal Gazette* is important, Sean Foyn, a Dalhousie student simply answered, "Shiny happy people." This title of an R.E.M. song was the headline accompanying a photo of a group of black students in the September 10, 1992 issue of the *Gazette*. After publishing the article, the *Gazette* received complaints that the headline was offensive. "Black people are always supposed to be these smiling, happy, dancing people," Foyn explained.

This is not the first incident that the *Dal Gazette* has angered black students with their printing decisions. The 1991 Afro-centricity Supplement printed on February 28, was probably the most picked up issue ever of the *Gazette*. But Tracy Ash, a third year Arts student argues that the *Gazette* staff's decision to run the controversial "Gay Man's Guide to Erotic Safer Sex" in the same issue as the supplement, completely sabotaged all the work she and other students put into making the Afro-centricity Supplement. Ash believes that the supplement was completely ignored as debate centered on the safer sex article soared.

When asked if such an error in judgement would have occurred had a black student been on the *Gazette* staff, she adamantly answers no. "A black student would have picked up on it right away."

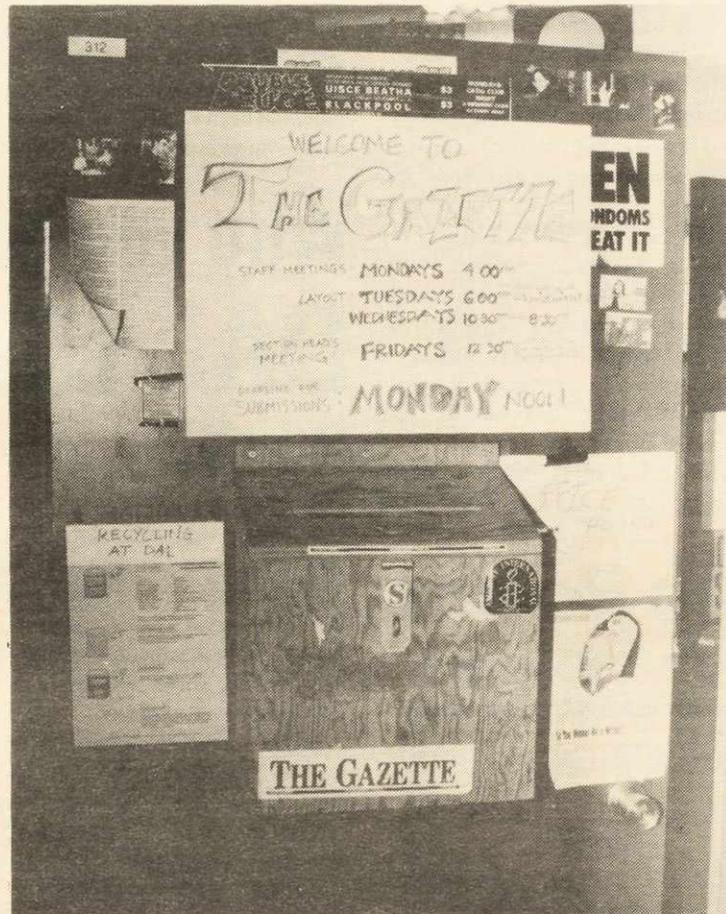
Lynn Atwell, Dalhousie's International Student Advisor as well as Advisor to Students with Disabilities, says that the lack of representation of international students on the paper is shown in the stories that the *Gazette* does not cover. "Does the *Gazette* write issues on Bosnia? It was reported that 22 000 women were raped. Is this not worth the *Gazette* talking about?"

Jenn Beck, co-editor of the *Dal Gazette* sees the consequences of a paper that doesn't have proper representation on staff. "There's going to be a bias within the paper. And that bias is of a white middle-class Anglo Saxon."

But if racial representation is important, why aren't any of the *Gazette* staff people of colour? "A lot of organizations are not designed to make people feel comfortable," explains Tracy Ash. "Coming up against a whole crew of whites, it's going to be your instinct to back off."

"What does the *Gazette* want to do with these students? You have to have some kind of planning. There's going to be some direction," says Lynn Atwell. "Maybe the students don't join the *Gazette* because it just doesn't relate to them."

When asked why the *Dal Gazette* isn't racially representative, Sean



Open sez-me!

Foyn answered, "I think that question is best answered by the staff members of the *Gazette*."

Miriam Korn is not sure what is keeping people out of the *Gazette*. "Maybe we still haven't made enough of an effort," she admits. "We thought of writing letters to all the societies but it's been done in the past and it didn't seem to work."

Ash feels that ensuring representation is the responsibility of the individual. "If we want to be represented we have to get in there and get the information. You have to dig your heels in and get your views across." She adds, "But it's up to the students

up Tuesday nights to put together the pieces which make up the paper).

"Interaction of the staff is needed," states Tracy Ash. "You can't write something and put it in someone else's hands and expect it to come across exactly the way you expected."

"As a staff member you have so much more control on the way the paper is run. The casual writer has limited power," says Beck. "A staff member can lobby for anything."

Korn too thinks that joining the *Gazette* and communicating with other staff members is necessary. "It is a forum where people can present their ideas and get feedback." She

continues, "It's not supposed to sound like one lone person presenting their case to a jury of *Gazette* staff."

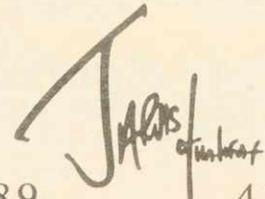
So how can the *Gazette* encourage people of colour to contribute to the paper? Sean Foyn suggests an information package to be made available to interested students and at the very least a full page ad in the *Gazette*. But he questions what the *Gazette* means by 'representation'. "It's not enough to have one black person on the paper and say the paper is racially representative."

Lynn Atwell stresses the importance of putting out a paper that makes students react. "If you're trying to be over politically correct, then you'll have nothing to say, then your paper is neutral. You have to be daring without being offensive," says Atwell.

Korn hopes the Open House that the *Gazette* is hosting from 2pm to 5pm on Thursday, January 13 will encourage students to take part in the *Gazette*. "Open House is a way for people to drop in and check out the *Gazette* without commitment."

DAL PHOTO: GEOFF INESON & MICHAEL GRAHAM

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UNIVERSITY BREAK WEEK

FEB. 20/21 1993 DIRECT SUN SPOTS

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"The entire paper is your space"
-J. Beck

to do that."

While Beck believes that it's important that the *Gazette* staff reflects the diversity of Dalhousie's student population, if a student does not want to become a member of the paper, she feels it can not be stressed enough that students are free to submit their writings whenever they want. "The entire paper is your space. We're not saving page one for our best friends."

Although any and all contributions are welcome, there is a definite advantage to becoming a staff member (ie. a person who has contributed to the *Gazette* at least three times either by writing articles or showing

feature

Lighting society's search for truth and meaning

by Kristin Janz

Everyone seems to be looking for Truth these days, often without success. Many people question or deny that an absolute Truth even exists.

Dalhousie Christian Fellowship is sponsoring a series of lectures from January 18 to January 22. They are entitled, collectively: "Unlocking the Truth", in light of our society's search for truth and meaning.

John Bowen, a staff member with Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (I.V.C.F.), will be delivering the twelve lectures. He holds a Master's degree in English from Oxford University, and has been an integral part of I.V.C.F since 1973. John Bowen

has spoken on many Canadian campuses already, relating faith in Jesus Christ and assurances of an absolute Truth to daily, contemporary life.

Dal Christian Fellowship wants to eliminate false stereotypes of our beliefs and of our God. Women and men all have to make up their own minds in the end, as to what they'll believe, or whether they will believe in anything at all. The purpose of our January lecture series is to ensure that everyone has a chance to hear about the Christian option and to consider what it is saying. We, as Christians, believe that we know something exciting about the real, absolute Truth, and we want to share it. Jesus said, "Here I am! I stand at

the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." (Rev. 3:20)

I guess you could say that we want to help people unlock the door.

The members of Dal Christian Fellowship, through all parts of this lecture series, are hoping to share truth, as they see it, with the rest of their university community. Hopefully, the talks will help other individuals in their quest for truth. I've heard people, in many situations, blame the Christian Faith and traditions for many of the ills that our planet and cultures are embroiled in, without having a more than a vague, foggy notion of what those beliefs

and traditions really are. Dal Christian Fellowship encourages everyone to attend a lecture or two next week. Sweep away some of that fog. The society's perspective on Christianity has been so distorted by television pictures and other forms of me-

dia. It's easier in media, though to delineate everyone with the same brush, to prepare a stereotypical composite that (supposedly) describes one segment of humanity, and say, "Look, all the (insert humanity segment here) are like this."

Who you gonna call..? DAL INFO Line

by Caroline Kolompár

I suspect that upon looking at these two seven (7) digit numbers many faces of faithful Gazette readers are flushed with wonder and confusion. Why is someone writing an article about these numbers? Are they numerically obsessed? Is it some kind of numerical addiction that will one day become a class "A" Carcinogen? Could it be the anticipated amount of tuition in the year 1995? Are they room numbers for a new wing in the life science centre? Although these are entirely plausible explanations, the truth about these mysterious numbers is less colourful yet will prove to be powerfully enlightening.

Commit these numbers to memory - 425-2255 (8000) & 494-2146.

494-2146

494-2146 is the number for the

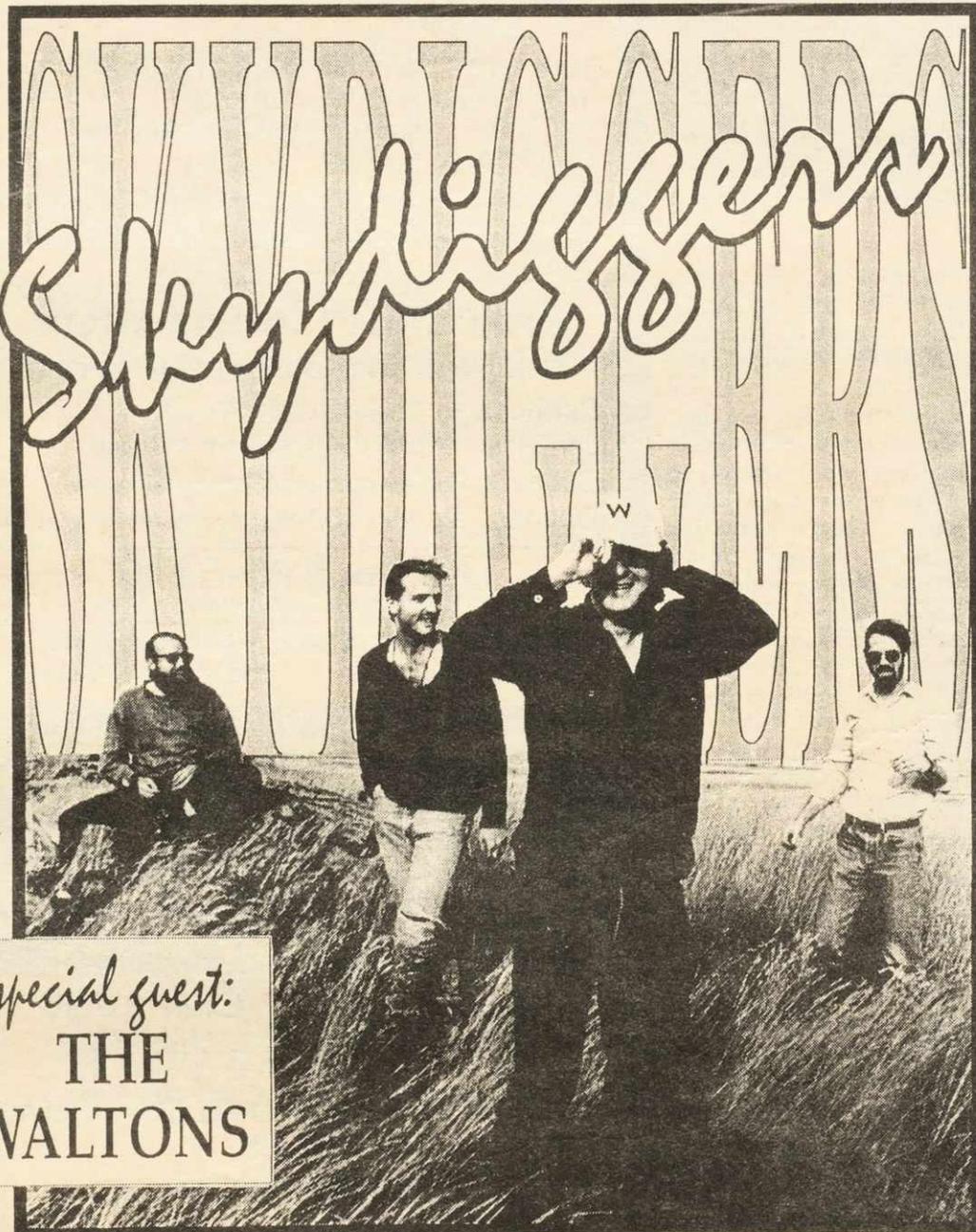
Dalhousie Info Line. When you need to know what is happening on Campus this phone number will come in handy. The Dalhousie Info Line, a service provided by the DSU, offers information on Varsity Sports, Student Council meeting times and Campaigns, concerts, special events, Grawood Lounge, and the Arts.

425-2255

425-2255 ex 8000 is a number provided by the Halifax Herald - along with soap updates, horoscope readings, etc. An information centre is provided for St. Mary's, The Mount, and, of course, Dalhousie. This service is constantly updated by the Student Union and is as equally informative as the Dal Info Line.

Both services are important information bases - use them, abuse them. When you want up-to-date, accurate information GET INVOLVED. BE INFORMED. CALL 425-2255 ex 8000 or 494-2146.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 16TH
AT THE GRAWOOD



AN EVENING
OF COMEDY AND
HYPNOSIS

feature

Afta the NAFTA

by Adam Newman

How do 26 million Canadians, 86 million Mexicans, and 250 million Americans agree on something? Our governments would have us believe we already do. The North American Free Trade Agreement is touted as being good for all. NAFTA provides the framework for an increase in private investment which will make businesses more competitive and efficient.

Sounds good, but won't we lose our jobs? 500,000 Canadians lost theirs after we signed a Free Trade Agreement with the United States in 1989. Thomas d'Aquinas, president of the Business Council on National Issues, estimates that Free Trade cost Canadians 50,000 jobs. The Canadian Labour Congress puts it at over 160,000. Most people believe the FTA has not helped our economy. The government claims that it has. But even the Prime Minister has changed his mind about it over the years. "Free Trade with the US is like sleeping with an elephant. If it rolls over, you're a dead man," said Brian Mulroney, campaigning for election in 1983.

The Canada-US Free Trade Agreement is now in its fifth year. It allows for the gradual removal of a 6% tariff on 20% of our trade with the US over a period of 10 years. The FTA is one of many factors affecting Canada's economy; it cannot be held completely responsible for the current recession, which is the third-worst of all 24 industrialized countries, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE FTA

Perhaps the worst thing for Canada about the FTA is how it affects energy policy. We have entered the US-Canada agreement with a fixed proportion of its energy reserves at a fixed price to the US, who is under no obligation to buy it. The US must offer Canada the same. This agreement is of great benefit to the US whose population is roughly ten times greater than ours, and lives in a smaller country with dwindling energy reserves. It is of no benefit to those concerned with saving our natural resources. It is interesting to note that Mexico was able to abstain from this clause during the NAFTA negotiations.

The FTA seems to have failed because Canada and the US are incompatible. The problem is that the US is a more productive "free enterprise" state, while Canada remains mired in uncompetitive semi-socialist policies, such as Medicare, and the Student Loan program. We must change to fit the new global economy, says Mulroney. As citizens of the largest country in the world, and the UN's top pick for a place to live

in 1992, we might wonder if we have to do just that.

If we choose to operate within the existing capitalist system, we must increase efficiency and competitiveness. These buzzwords of Free Trade have inevitably meant a loss of jobs, at least in the short term. However, many of these job losses have been permanent.

THROWING SHOES IS FUTILE

When the French introduced machinery into textile factories two hundred years ago, they were met with great resistance. Workers, fearing they would lose their jobs, threw their wooden sandals, or sabots, into the machinery. Some workers did lose their jobs, but machinery has ultimately made possible jobs with much higher productivity and pay. The sandal-hurlers were called *saboteurs*; they sabotaged technology. Many French people were permanently displaced, but society became more productive.

Free Trade with the U.S. is like sleeping with an elephant

It is this same goal of productivity, and profit, that the engineers of the FTA and NAFTA are aiming for. They have included no mechanism to ensure that wealth will be distributed equitably, but adhere instead to the "trickle down" theory of economics, which many people believe does not work; many fear NAFTA will lead to a growth in the gap between rich and poor, and insist that tax systems be reformed. Canada has the third-lowest rate of corporate income tax in the world, at 8.4%.

While transnational corporations are among the biggest supporters of the deal, labour groups are outspoken in their opposition. It is fair to say that many workers will be permanently displaced if NAFTA takes effect, as levels of production and consumption rise.

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?

Do we really need to consume more or are we just being greedy? The US accounts for 5% of the world's population, but consumes 80% of its resources. For every dollar Canada spends on the development of non-renewable natural resources. With NAFTA, affluent Mexicans are targeted as a market for Canadian and American products. Consumption is encouraged.

NAFTA: MEXICO'S IDEA

Since the debt crisis of 1982, Mexico has undertaken a series of economic reforms which has cut inflation, reduced its debt, and prepared the country for more foreign investment. Meanwhile real wages fell by 50% between 1982 and 1988 as the population continued to grow. (*Pro-Canada Dossier*) Illegal immigration of Mexican workers to the US increased, exacerbating an already delicate political situation.

A Harvard-educated economist, Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari launched the free trade initiative mainly to help resolve his country's most pressing need: to provide a million jobs a year for Mexico's rapidly growing population.

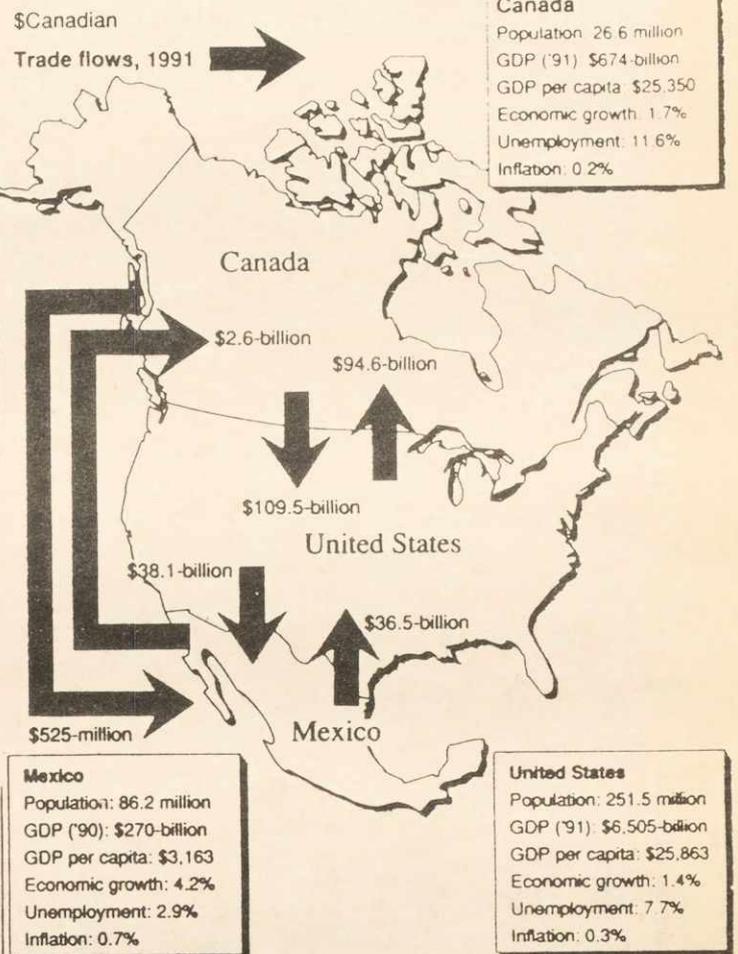
But Mexico's leaders do not always act in the interests of its people. The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) has controlled Mexican politics since 1929. Most independent observers maintain that the 1988 election, in which Salinas was elected, was fraudulent.

There is a good deal of corruption in Mexico, and elsewhere; NAFTA can be seen as a means of serving government and corporate interest.

Salinas's plea for free trade was heard loud and clear by the Bush administration. They realized that if Mexico couldn't import capital it would have to export people, flooding the southern American states. (*Macleans*, Aug. 17, 1992, p.30) Bush agreed to negotiations, and championed NAFTA under the banner "trade, not aid".

CONT'D ON PAGE 14

NAFTA ECONOMIES



Sources: IMF, New York Times, Statistics Canada

(DIANA CLIFFORD/The Globe and Mail)

NAFTA - SIMPLIFIED EVOLUTION

- 1) Mexican President Carlos Salinas seeks jobs for growing population, and money for corporate allies
- 2) Bush fears tidal wave of illegal immigration, sees profit, enters negotiations
- 3) Mulroney joins to avoid "hub and wheel" scenario-NAFTA popular with big business.



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1721 BRUNSWICK STREET IN HALIFAX

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HALIFAX'S NIGHTLY ENTERTAINMENT HOTSPOTS

SLEEPING BEAUTIES SMELL THE COFFEE

"University can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. If you work at it." The poster promoting Dalhousie should say "If you can pay for it."

Only a few years ago, this latter caveat did not seem of great consequence to me. I had a classic case of middle-class narrow thinking. Mom and Dad would not object to contributing a little more to my education. But not all students are as fortunate as I was to come from such a financially stable background. Nor are all students single and fresh-out-of high school. Many have to support families as well as themselves as they go through school.

Indeed, as I scrape together my wages and student loan to live and pay for school, the reality of others' circumstances strikes closer to home. I look around and wonder "What are we paying for?" Classes are overcrowded. Facilities are lacking. Entire programs are being cut. Last year, the tuition increased by over 25% and the quality of services we are receiving is only getting worse. Indeed, students are the ultimate easy-to-please consumers. Increase the price, lower the quality and the customers still keep coming back. Universities have a monopoly on 'higher education'. They control the pre-requisite for just about any livelihood these days.

"Many students, especially those who are poor intuitively know what the schools do for them," said Ivan Illich, a well-known critic of the education system. "They school them to confuse process and substance. The pupil is "schooled" to confuse grade advancement with education, a diploma with competence and fluency with the ability to say something new."

After sixteen years of institutionalized education, I followed up on my suspicion that university is not the only, let alone best, form of learning. A year-long romp about the Old World, in search of wisdom and (you guessed it) the meaning of life, introduced me to so many wise, well-read, contemplative people doing so many wonderful interesting things with their lives that I returned very much doubting the validity of ever returning to school, a place which seemed to narrow thinking not broaden it.

"It's hard to tell which is more exciting—what you'll learn about the world, or what you'll learn about yourself," the poster's text continues amid pretty photos of people around the Dalhousie campus. "At Dalhousie, we help you discover that you can't really have one without the other."

Wow. Dalhousie must be wonderful.

It reminds me of a Doonesbury cartoon I cut out as a frosh. It showed a lecturer addressing a group of graduates bemoaning the superficiality and banality of formal education. He ended with a command to remember only "sweet gauzy scenes" after he snapped his fingers. In the cartoon's final frame, onlookers come out of their trance, shake their heads and ask what happened.

"I don't know. I just remember sweet gauzy scenes."

Wake up. Ten thousand dollars later, you'll realize how outrageous the hypnotist's bill really is.

Miriam Korn

the Gazette

vol 125 no 14 January 14, 1993

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STUDENT UNION BUILDING, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
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Stop the snowball

The 348 students in history 1050 have their class in Dunn 117, a room which seats only 234.

43% of the economics classes described in the calendar are offered only some years.

Enrollment in 3rd and 4th year biology classes has increased by an average of 34% from last year.

As a Dalhousie student, can you identify with any of the above mentioned problems? These were some of the examples cited a year ago this month to demonstrate that quality of education at Dalhousie University, in spite of the increasing tuition every year, continues to deteriorate. The members of the Board of Governors acknowledged the existing shortfalls in quality and felt compelled to vote in favour of the 10% tuition increase so that improvements could be made. Unfortunately, their plan does not work—their logic does not hold. Even with a 37.5% increase in tuition over the last three years, the University does remain in an abyss of financial hardship. Tuition hikes are not the solution.

Over the last few months, the Dalhousie Student Union has continued its quality audit of the university and the decline of the course offerings remains to be the biggest

problem. In a survey done on enrollment in September, it was found that between 30–40% of the respondents were not registered for the desired number of courses. There were students who waited in line all through a dark night to get into a psychology class. Many commerce students not in the co-op programme are unable to take certain courses, because they are no longer offered during the regular session. Co-op stu-

Can you identify with any of the above problems?

dents are basically left on their own to find a job for their work term. These are only some of the problems regarding quality education faced by students this year.

In a report from the Senate Financial Planning Committee last summer, programme reductions and increased tuition were among the recommendations. While anonymous donations to the tune of a

million dollars have gone towards offices in what used to be a library, students are faced with a trilemma: increased tuition, program cuts, faculty complement reduction. A Senate Academic Review Committee, created over the summer, has the mandate to prioritize programmes in preparations for reductions. Surely in a university of Dalhousie's capacity, direct academic units ought not to be the first to stand on trial.

Of course, there also remains a tendency to separate the issues of quality and accessibility. Economists, even at the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, have agreed that tuition impedes accessibility of education. This has profound effects on the socio-economic mix of students. Certainly, the presence of students from a broad range of backgrounds is a quality issue. There is no improvements in quality of academic programmes while an integral and increasing fraction of the student body is becoming marginalized. This is not just a once-for-all 10% hike. Hikes are cumulative—a snowball effect. JANUARY 1993 IS NOT TIME 0. EDUCATION IS A RIGHT—FIGHT BACK!

Mausumi Banerjee



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 Mac or IBM-compatible 3.5" disk.

The Right wants might

To the editor:

Right wing politicians have whipped up demands for military intervention in Bosnia (—and most unfortunately are supported in this by a number of people traditionally on the Left).

Months ago Mulroney asserted that force was necessary to stop the bloodshed and suffering, as did US President-elect Bill Clinton. Britain's Prime Minister John Major and Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl likewise champion the use of military force. Further war cries issue from the likes of Margaret Thatcher, Germany's Tory Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, and "our very own" External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall.

They all claim force can stop the war.

The situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina is certainly desperate. The sieges go unbroken, the atrocities continue and winter tightens its grip. Two million Serb, Croat and Muslim refugees await proper shelter.

Everyone wants the war over. But Western intervention is not the answer. It would necessarily mean US planes and Canadian troops taking one side against the other. In practice they would go to war against the Serbs. Under the flag of

the United Nations they would fight alongside Croats who have themselves committed atrocities (—like the setting up of detention camps) and seized a third of Bosnia.

The likes of Brian Mulroney have no sympathy for the victims of the war, any more than they cared for those slaughtered in the Gulf. They care only for their own positions. It would be a terrible mistake to back their use of force.

What would Western military intervention mean? To enforce a "no fly zone" US, British or Canadian planes would have to bomb and strafe Serbs throughout the region. US Secretary of State Eagleburger admits as much by conceding the aid effort would be suspended and aid workers withdrawn in order to do ahead with this. We know from the Gulf War what could happen—though nothing in Bosnia so far has equalled the horror of the February 1991 massacre on the Basra Road.

If Western forces attempt to drive Serbs out of certain areas they would be practising their own version of "ethnic cleansing", for Serbs have lived in Bosnia for years. Many have fallen for the lies of unscrupulous politicians, but it is their genuine fears for the future which have allowed them to be used in the killings. They would undoubtedly resist Western forces.

The war would not end, but take on a new character like Russia's war in

Afghanistan—with well armed Western troops and aircraft pitched against an entrenched local population.

We are witnessing moves in a grotesque politicians' game:

- Serbia's Milosevic led the way, but he was supported by the West up to the middle of last year.

- Croatia's President Tudjman agreed to partition Bosnia with Milosevic long before the war began.

- The European Community's sanction of this carve-up and its own demand for the "cantonization" of Bosnia according to ethnic groups encouraged the barbarity of "ethnic cleansing".

- Now Milosevic's and Tudjman's respective puppets in Bosnia are suing for peace because the partition is almost complete.

- Eagleburger and the UN negotiators merely want to contain the war, freeze the boundaries and stem the flow of refugees. (That the UN is not there to help the victims of war was highlighted recently in a New York Times story which reported UN forces in Croatia, acting under orders of Tudjman, forcing Muslim refugees from Bosnia to return back across the border.)

Horror at what is happening leads

CONT'D ON PAGE 16

The Dalhousie Gazette is Canada's oldest college newspaper. Published weekly through the Dalhousie Student Union, which also comprises its membership, the Gazette has a circulation of 10,000. As a founding member of Canadian University Press, the Gazette adheres to the CUP Statement of Principles and reserves the right to refuse any material submitted of a racist, sexist, homophobic or libelous nature. Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor, and announcements is noon on Monday before publication (Thursday of each week). Submissions may be left at the SUB Enquiry Desk c/o the Gazette. Commentary should not exceed 500 words. Letters should not exceed 300 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted upon request. Advertising copy deadline is noon Monday before publication. The Gazette offices are located on the third floor of the SUB. Come up and have a coffee and tell us what's going on. The views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the Students' Union, the editors or the collective staff.

opinions

Pissed off post-modernist

Nature versus Nurture? Is it even appropriate to place the two against each other? Are we to gain any insight into queer identity by doing so? Why do we feel compelled to accept this struggle in the first place? Are we "playing the game" by doing so and falling into the trap that patriarchal capitalism has designed? Are we going to play by those rules? Are we going to accept two very limited and absolute categories to explain our sexual orientation and our sexuality?

Not too long ago a friend called me a "pissed off post modernist". I liked it so much I've been using it ever since. I question and deconstruct categories wherever they rear their ugly heads and I must say I usually do it with the knowledge that these categories are part of what is oppressing us. As a result I'm usually not very happy about the whole process.

Essentialists and Social Constructionists have given us two options: our sexual orientation is genetic or it is the result of our environment. Not very good options as far as I can tell. I do not feel as if they either adequately or completely qualify or explain my notions and concerns surrounding sexual categories and

orientation. Interactionism, which combines the two and gives them equal consideration, may help to alleviate the problem but it is very new (of about the past five years I think) and unfortunately seems also to have its limitations.

What also concerns me is the fact that adhering to these explanations of sexual orientation com-

It is difficult to oppress the queer population unless you identify it first

partmentalizes sexual expression into categories of heterosexual and homosexual (and occasionally bisexual). We set up yet another binary system in which only two options exist and where your membership in one category excludes you from membership in the other.

So should we direct our focus towards determining absolutely the

basis for sexual orientation? Firstly, it is a bit naive to assume that we can ever absolutely resolve this conflict, although many people seem to think it is possible. A book I recently read did just that. It ended by concluding that we must wait for more conclusive evidence to persuade us that sexuality is biologically determined (obviously the author was slanted towards the Essentialist argument). Secondly, do we wish to wait for our lives to be determined or do we wish to take control of our destiny and lives?

It seems that we need to think of why it is that we feel obliged to categorize people according to sexual orientation. I think it is done for the purposes of oppression. It is difficult to oppress the queer population if you don't identify it first. Often queer people are quite content to allow this fragmentation and categorization. Gaining pride in their membership in the category "homosexual".

So do we need to question the origin of our sexual orientation or do we need to tell those in power that we are not willing to accept this alienation and separation? The message we need to send is all too clear to me.

Anthony Roberts BGLAD!

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Debunking tuition hike myths

by Alex Boston

"Tuition hikes, not taxes, should feed universities." This headline from *The Financial Times* takes a back seat as the university community launches itself into the ritualistic tuition fee debate. While the tuition/tax question is obscured and in fact never played out at these energetic local quarrels, the Feds are atop Parliament Hill sacrificing pawns with cool calculation on Canada's social chess board.

FEDERAL SNOWJOBS

Unfortunately little energy is expended in challenging the yearly cuts imposed by Ottawa. Since '86 the cumulative loss to post-secondary education is \$4.8 billion. The university constituencies, and the general public for that matter, have reconciled themselves with the government "fiscal responsibility" snowjob.

Canadians are led to believe social programs and education have generated a \$445 billion debt. However, a Stats Can study of federal spending and revenue over 15 years challenges this notion. This 1991 study explains that 44 per cent of the debt is the cumulative result of tax breaks to the rich and corporate sector, 50 per cent is due to excessive interest payments set by the federal

As this corporate mentality dominates daily discourse, the assertions begin to be embraced at face value and the theology of competition manifests itself in every dimension of our lives.

CANADA & THE WORLD

It is broadly accepted that global competition is dictating Canadian taxes are too high and social/education spending needs to be reduced. Canada spends the equivalent of 21 per cent of its GDP (Gross Domestic Product) on social programs compared to a 25.6 per cent average within the rest of the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development—the industrialized countries). Thirty per cent is the average in the European community.

Expectations by the board for restored funding to universities are fantasy

The pressure to cut social spending is imposed by the corporate sector which aspires to greater profits and bigger markets and has chosen to integrate Canada into the US economy which spends less on social programs. If the current pattern continues social spending will be reduced to 17.3 per cent of GDP by the year 2000, only slightly above US projected levels of 16.4 per cent. France and Germany are forecasted to be spending twice that percentage at the turn of the century. Several provinces have already accepted the reality that by this time transfer payments from which education and health are financed will have disappeared. The expectations by members of the board of governors for restored funding to universities are fantasy, especially considering the lethargic manner in which the Feds are challenged by their institutions.

FREE TRADE & EDUCATION

It would be too easy, too unoriginal and deceitful to blame every Canadian problem entirely on the Free Trade Agreement. Yet, this horror show currently being played, and its equally offensive sequel, the North American Free Trade Agreement, are part of a much broader trend which transfers ordinary peoples' remaining political influence to the corporate sector and relinquishes all facets of society to the whims of market forces.

Canada has established a relationship which necessitates companies operating here to compete on a level playing field with those in the US. Because "the land of the free" has chosen a "survival of the fittest" ap-

proach to social development, one in which broad social well being is not a value, less money is needed to maintain their system. As the US dictates the terms to our relationship and their social programs cost less, environmental, safety and health standards are lower, we have entered a process which will tend to harmonize the two systems.

It is predominantly in this way education is indirectly but very strongly influenced by the deals. The effects, however, should be understood as part of a much broader structural process which manifests itself through the theology of competition. Like any religion, in practice it is full of contradictions, especially for the rich and powerful.

BOG POWER

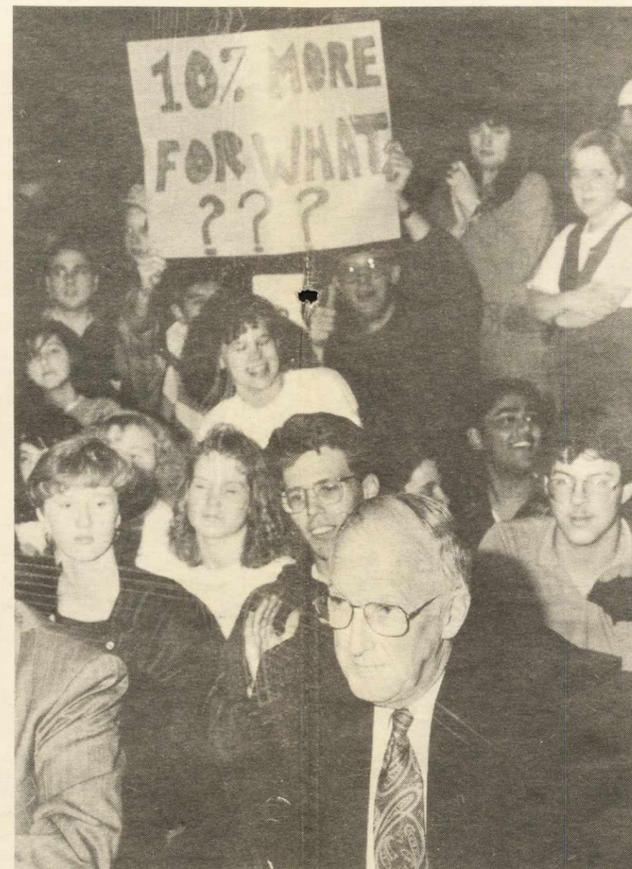
It is not shocking therefore, when members of the board of governors look cockeyed at students stoutly explaining their financial hardship. Most of the BOG are from the upper income group which has had a five percent increase in their national share of the income in the last 15 years. A National Council of Welfare study indicates that in the last decade they have also received a six percent cut in taxes. Middle income earners in contrast have had a 10 percent increase in taxes, and the working poor have had a 44 percent increase. On top of that the salary of an average worker has declined by three percent in the last 15 years.

It is sadly ironic as lower and middle income earners are subsidizing government programs at greater and greater rates they are less and less able to access them. Attempts by university dictrators (a hybrid cross between a dictator and administrator) to construe tuition experiences here, in other parts of Canada or the rest of the world in such a way to suggest fees have a negligible impact on accessibility are sheer manipulation.

DEBUNKING ADMIN MYTHS

There is one lesson clearly written in brown and white which shatters the myth, tuition is not a barrier. Just twenty years ago when Canada totally undermined its treaty obligation to provide education to natives, it would be a wicked challenge to find one of the fewer than one thousand native students studying at Canadian universities. In the early seventies Canada implemented a program to cover post-secondary costs. Today, although the Feds are beginning to shirk their responsibility, there are over 22 000 natives presently enrolled. Certainly, social barriers can not be ignored and in fact are much more destructive, yet the financial ones are identifiable, significant and more easily broken.

The assertion by dictrators that raising tuition fees will only ensure students pay the percentage recommended by various commissions and



...redesigning post-secondary education to fit into a sterile, efficient, upwardly mobile, sci-fi romantic vision of the future.

reports, most unnotably the Stuart Smith of last year, is at best a partial truth, at worst a partial lie. Smith and other snivel servants also recommended student financial assistance be significantly increased. As bursaries in this province have gone up 35 per cent to \$2 300 in the last 12 years (almost enough to pay for full time fees in arts in 1991 fees) tuition has increased 296%. Of course you only get this amount if you qualify for a full student loan of \$3360 which is assessed '84 cost of living levels.

CORPORATE FREELoad

The dominant rationale behind tuition fees, is students, as the ben-

ally in line with our free (traid partner, but lower than Britain (9.8 per cent) and substantially less than Japan (23.6 per cent).

To borrow from the rhetoric of the theology of competition, the market (corporate sector) is receiving a highly value-added product (students) for which it did not pay. Someone's getting ripped off—Canadians! Above being unfair and contrary to the spirit of capitalism, it is outrageous when assessing the political influence of the corporate sector on public policy, especially education.

PRIVATE POLICY OR PUBLIC PAGEANTRY

The phlegm which last year's Tory Crown speech coughed up was about a "cradle to grave learning culture" which Canadians must foster to remain "globally competitive". These cliches were paving the way for the "Prosperity Initiative", an inquiry into

As bursaries have gone up 35% tuition has increased 296%

how Canadians "can not merely survive in the new global economy but to thrive in it; not to turn from competition but to engage in it."

I participated in Halifax's "broad" consultative process with a group of 35 others, predominantly lawyers and business people from large regional firms. Except for the one female lawyer, they all sported really nice suits. Their average age was a mean 40. After redesigning grade school and post secondary education to fit into a sterile, efficient, upwardly mobile, sci-fi romantic vision of the future, the largest stock broker this side of Montreal expressed his pleasure with the discussion, the people and commented on the amazing diversity represented in the group. I thought out loud, "he must be talking about the colour of their ties."

This charade was another way in which the implementation of a corporate vision of Canada could be justified. Although Secretary of State takes care of education, this initiative came under Michael Wilson's Trade and Industry portfolio. It was co-chaired by David McCamus, head of Xerox Canada. He also chairs the Corporate Higher Education Forum, a national coalition of 32 university presidents and the CEOs of 38 major corporations. Its manifesto "Partnership for Growth" has no qualms about government underfunding policies—they allow free market forces to link business with the university.

SELLING OUT THE IVORY TOWERS

Because of a federally imposed funding crisis, supported by the corporate sector, university dictrators are increasingly cooperative in conforming to their interests. Its a sad statement when a university em-

braces Hydro Quebec as it pops \$2 million for their environmental research chair. The only more perverse move University of Quebec could have made was offer them a chair in Cree studies.

Attributing responsibility to the crisis in university funding and its



companion corporatization is not merely a Tory bashing exercise. In fact the Liberals initiated the trend. And perhaps the single most outrageous encroachment of the private sector into post secondary education has been supported by the NDP in Ontario. While slashing student assistance and operational grants to universities, it offered \$15 million and a smaller amount of permanent funding for the establishment of Canada's first private university. Tuition for the 200 elite students at the International Space University would run at \$25 000. It is bankrolled by the US arms industry and also supported by some of Canada's biggest arms contractors. Its board resembles a *Who's Who* to the US military industrial complex, including former secretary of the US Air Force and president of arms giant, MITRE. Other members include representatives of the Business Higher Education Forum. This is the US model on which "Canada's" Corporate Higher Education Forum was based.

Its disappointing, that even in its manipulative expression Canada can not be original. The Business Council on National Issues which bought last election's pro free trade advertising campaign is strikingly similar to the Corporate Higher Education Forum which is a copycat of the US Business Roundtable. Even the "Prosperity Initiative" was based on "America's Competitive Challenge" released in '83. It was incidentally chaired by the former head of Xerox USA.

WINDS OF CHANGE

Just like the Cold War, in which all the bloody battles were fought on Third World fields, a similar strategy is employed at Canadian universities to keep Ottawa sanitized and incite students to duke it out with the board and ultimately their dictrators. Certainly our universities must be administered with greater care, faculty have to make a greater commitment to teaching and thinking critically, students to learning and effecting change; however, to confine the tuition fee debate to what is happening at this university and pointing big fingers is pissing in the wind.

Students, faculty, board members (not an unreasonable amount of

whom express a genuine note of concern), and perhaps even enlightened administrators need to redefine the university's role in the realm of social, not corporate development. By consolidating energy and resources and joining broader efforts with organizations and individuals across the

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- Reduce the Bank of Canada rate by 2 per cent \$3.5 B (still leaving it higher than its US counterpart)
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- Stop tax subsidies to business for government lobbying costs \$ Ms
- Stop tax subsidies to political party, particularly campaign donations \$ Ms

"Those who have more than they need are thieves." -Gandhi



I'm so sorry parasites... I mean, students. The government simply has no money. Heh.

government and to which they borrowed against, and a paltry six percent of the debt can be attributed to social spending. Since '88 federal policy which maintained interest rates five per cent above US levels added \$40 billion to our debt.

Playing the role of obedient bishops preaching the "theology of competition" the moves of our politicians are largely shaped by corporate kings. Global competition, efficiency, prosperity are entrenched in this gospel which permeates the political economic fabric of Canada, in fact the entire continent, right through to its Ivory Towers. Even most academics seem to have accepted the faith which is strikingly narrower than their pointy heads.

arts

Tennessee Williams plays cat's cradle at Neptune

by Jennifer Beck

I had high expectations when I went to Neptune Theatre to see *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by Tennessee Williams. I'm afraid my expectations had no specific form or focus but I can attest that they were very high.

Neptune Theatre
Cat on a Hot Tin Roof
January 8 to 31

The play started off slowly with the broad Southern accent of Maggie, played by Caroline Gillis, assaulting a full house of frozen Northerners to little effect. This lack of reaction was roughly paralleled by her husband

Brick, stoically played by Ted Atherton. I began to fear that this was it, three acts of Maggie strutting around in her slip, desperately trying to arouse Brick from his drunken lethargy to lash out with any reaction at all. I decided both of them were overacting. I considered leaving at intermission (not seriously though).

The set was a gauzy recreation of a

room in a Southern plantation manor house, complete with a big brass bed hung with mosquito netting. Every single member of the cast flung themselves on that bed at least twice, and in the case of Maggie, maybe thirty times. No one could keep their hands off it! I swear, it looked like nobody knew what to do with their hands, so they fondled the bed or pulled themselves around by hanging off it. That prop will be a heap of toothpicks by the end of the run.

Maybe, just maybe, the point of these self-induced bedsores was to illustrate graphically how the hidden passions of the family members were roiling near the surface of their genteel Southern lives. For this was a passionate show, full of fireworks and lightning, with subplots of homosexuality judged too risqué for public consumption when the play was incarnated as a movie starring Eliza-

beth Taylor and Paul Newman so many years ago.

The second act saw the introduction of the larger than life characters Big Mama and Big Daddy, played by Marguerite McNeil and Jack Belt. The rest of the family also reached the stage at this point, and I found that this interaction created a much better atmosphere for developing the plot(s).

Altogether (and without giving too much of the story away), I felt the play was well done, dynamic and moving and surprisingly funny and tender without degenerating into sappiness. The performers gave their all in the opening night show, and time will only allow the cast to become more comfortable with the characters they play. I recommend that one and all go see this (don't bother renting the movie, go straight to the source).

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"Boom" goes another year

by Geoff Ineson

My love affair with the Hook's music began about three years ago. I was slightly intoxicated (shopping for my tombstone), and stumbled into a SAM'S. I ended up on the jazz/blues floor. I guess, somehow, I figured that blues music was the only salvation that I had left. I sobered up eventually and discovered that what I had bought was actually half-bad. Shortly thereafter, blues guitarist John Lee Hooker soon became a favourite for the stereo.

Of course, three years later, I was exhilarated to hear of the 1992 release of some more songs by this artist that has long since become an icon for great contemporary musicians. And I am indeed proud to tote that the Hook's music has matured better than most French wine does.

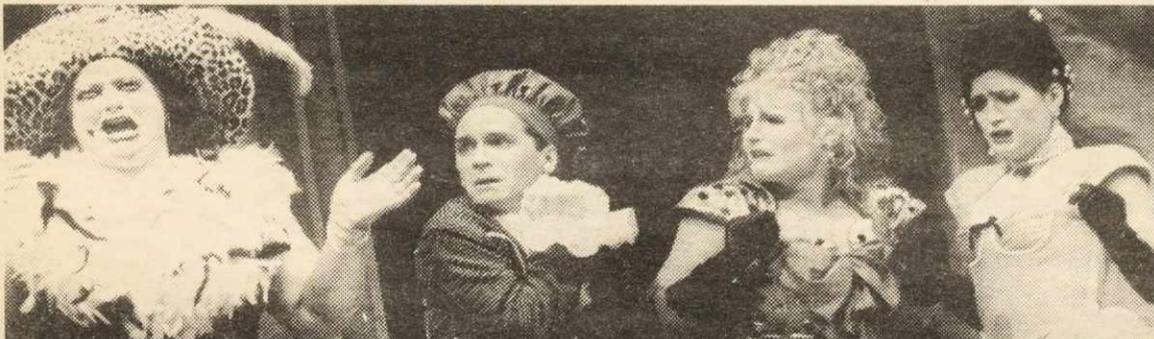
As with his last two albums, *The Healer* and *Mr. Lucky's*, John Lee Hooker has some first rate sell-outs backing him up. Robert Cray plays guitar; Charlie Musselwhite on harmonica; Deacon Jones on organ; and Jimmy Vaughan appears courtesy of Epic Associated Records, and others.

The title track, "Boom Boom", is a revision of a simply transplendid



1961 song. Most may remember the Hook from the Blues Brothers movie, or may have heard his recent soundtrack for the Lee jeans company. Anyway, you should try to catch these slow variations on the blues theme, some very slow, and one very hip "Boogie At Russian Hill". He's bad (like Jesse James), and it's sometimes nice to know that you're not alone in being alone.

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Johnny Rotten contemplates the circus which the Sex Pistols had become. They went up in flames that night in San Francisco, Jan 14, 1978

arts



MIKE

Memory: reflection, repetition, fragmentation

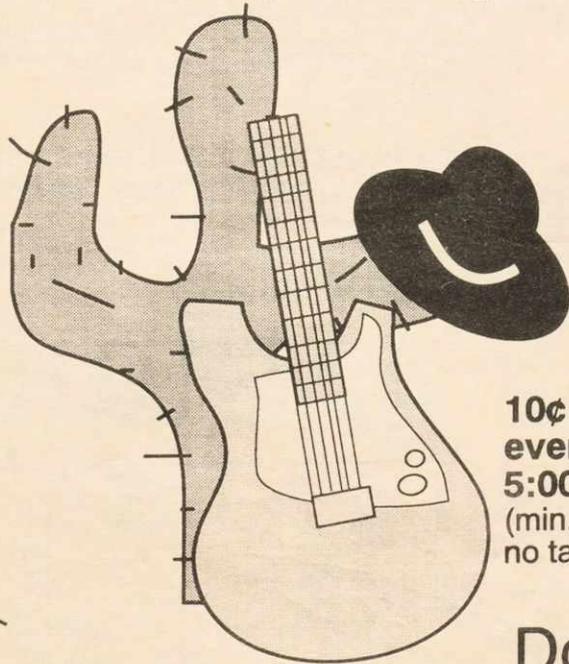
An art exhibit with a difference. Created by NSCAD's own Michael Gushue and Krista Patterson. Using traditional painting and drawing techniques, and a special emphasis on portraiture, Gushue explores how simple objects can store and ignite vivid memories in those who observe them. Patterson, a metal and woodworker, handcrafts what she calls "close personal jewelry" that is representative of her views of memories and their transference from simple objects. To quote Michael: "I hope people go and when they view the works I would like them to get ideas, and to notice the transference between mediums and gain a feeling of memories, those personal, and those shared in all pasts." Memory: reflection, repetition, fragmentation opens February 8th at the Ann Leonowens Gallery, 1891 Granville St. Halifax. Mike also promises that it has nothing to do with Spiff. - BG



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Afta da NAFTA

CONT'D FROM PAGE 7
THE US ACCEPTS

According to the economic hub and spoke theory, the US is the hub, and any free-trade agreements it makes are largely in its own interest. Accordingly, the US secured cheap access to Canada's energy and natural resources with the FTA, and now it is going after cheap labour and the ability to exploit workers and make a profit in Mexico under the NAFTA. In the future it hopes to create a free-trade zone "from Alaska to Argentina" in the words of George Bush. Colonialism is no longer fashionable

**over 90% of
Canada's trade
is with the U.S.**

or practical and, as the US economy sinks, it will try to hold on to its imperial power; the US will seek to maintain its high level of consumption by signing free-trade deals with poorer countries, and economic bullying. The Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI), and the frequent charges of unfair trade the US has levied against Canada under the FTA provide a clear example.

According to the hub and spoke theory, it would not benefit the US to include Canada in the NAFTA. However, this concession by our superpower neighbour can be seen as a reward for supporting its foreign policy. Canada has supported US policy in Granada and Panama. NAFTA was allowed to join the NAFTA negotiations at a time when it supported the US effort during the first weeks of the Gulf War.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR CANADA

Over 90% of Canada's trade is with the US (*Statistics Canada*), the world's largest consumer market. The US does not have to worry as much about Canada- trade with Canada comprises only 20% of the US total. (*US Dept. of Commerce*)

Another attraction for Canada in the NAFTA is the opening of the Mexican market; however, because of that country's poverty, we cannot expect many Mexicans to buy our products. Trade between Canada and Mexico was a mere \$3 billion in 1991, compared to over \$200 billion in bilateral Canada/US trade that same year. (*The Globe and Mail*, Aug. 13, 1992, p.B6) With NAFTA, Canada also maintains its position as part of the North American market, and, according to the government, protects its ability to attract off-shore

investment. While Mexico has an advantage in cheap labour and production, Canada has an advantage in skills and infrastructure.

Disadvantages for Canada include the almost certain loss of unskilled manufacturing jobs to low-wage maquiladora plants in Mexico, and the threat to sovereignty implied by an increase in foreign investment. Other problems will be addressed next week.

SOME PRELIMINARY DETAILS

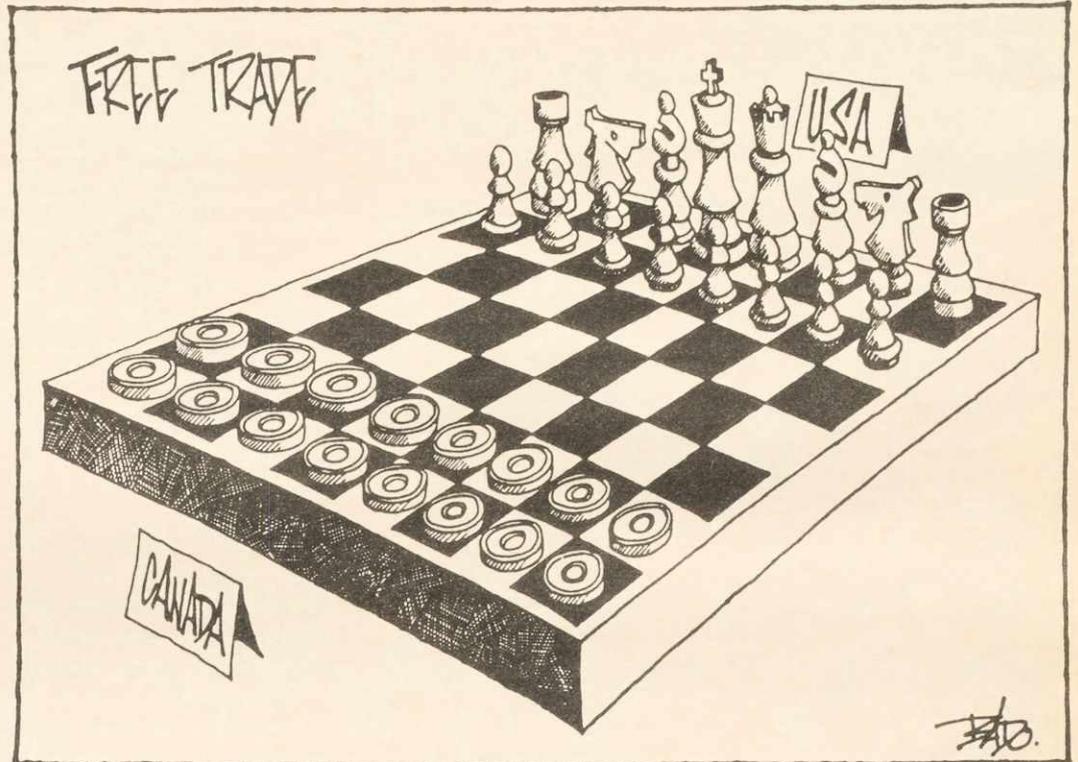
NAFTA allows for the gradual removal of an average 10% tariff on 20% of Mexican exports entering Canada over 15 years. It is therefore unreasonable to expect that we will be flooded by inexpensive Mexican products which could harm Canadian industries, although Mexican exports to Canada will increase.

Most Canadian goods and services entering Mexico face tariffs on

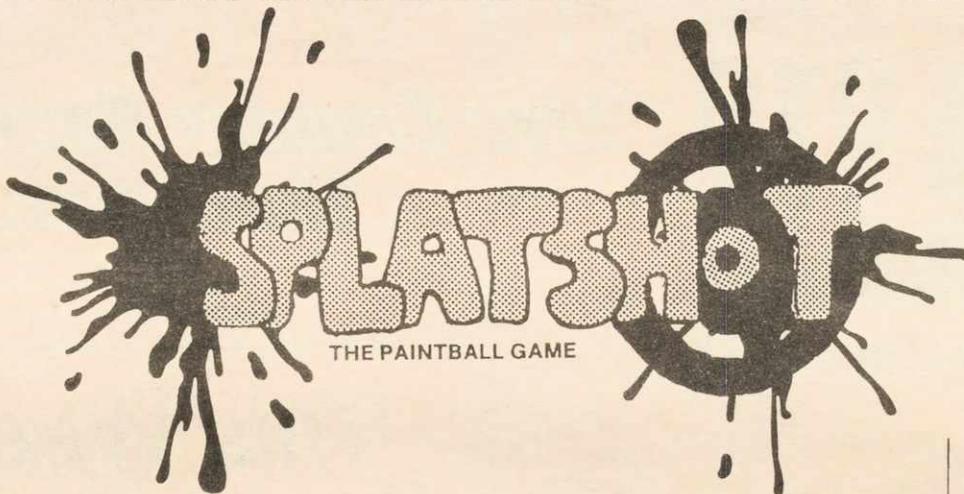
average twice as high as Canadian tariffs on Mexican goods. These will be phased out over the same time period; therefore, Canadian exports to Mexico will increase.

NAFTA will establish trilateral trade panels with the authority to challenge domestic policy. The Progressive Conservatives support NAFTA, the Liberals want to renegotiate, and the NDP are opposed.

Next week: report on the maquiladoras, and some problems with the deal



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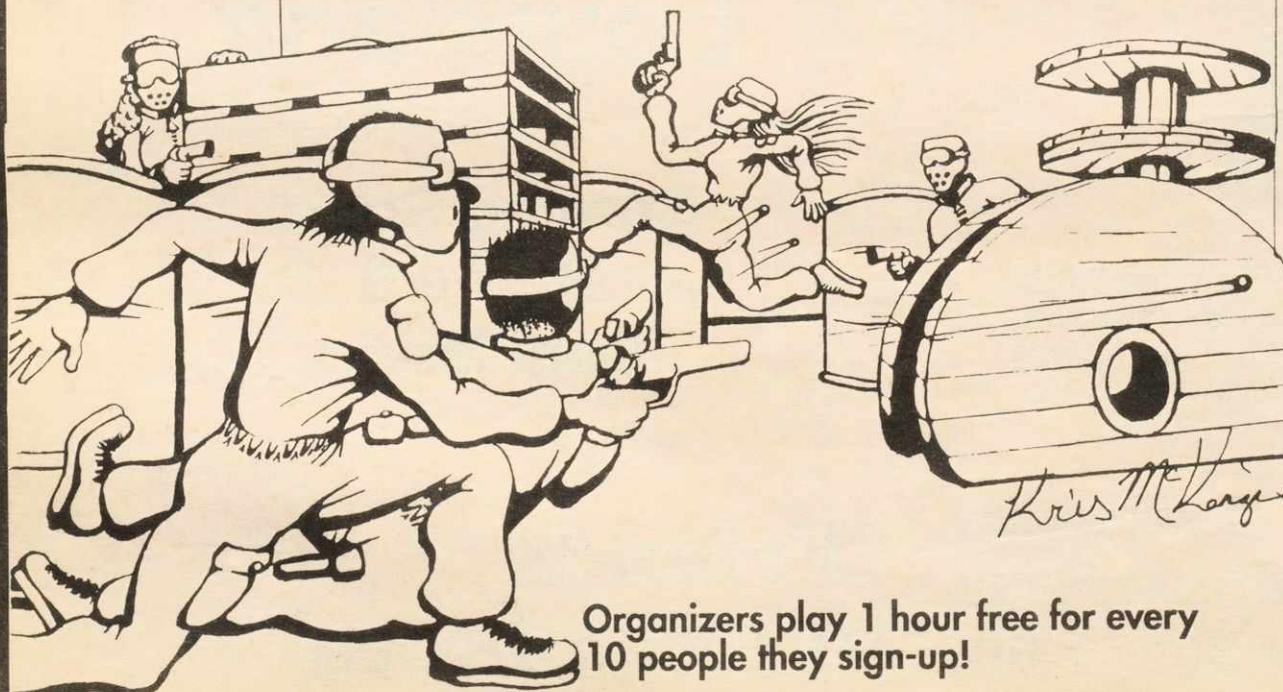
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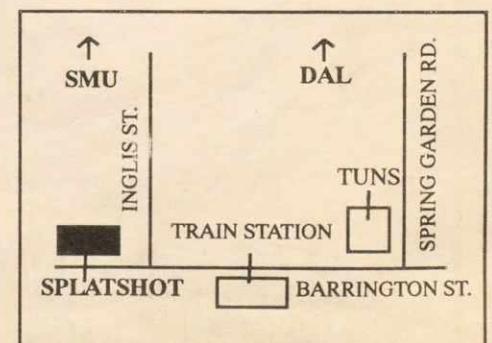
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feature

Universitarios play host to the three amigos

by Adam Newman

In November of last year I attended a continental meeting of students and young people opposed to the North American Free Trade Agreement. I knew virtually nothing of NAFTA at the time; I had never studied economics and felt generally overwhelmed by the conflicting bits of information which I had encountered.

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) supports fair trade, and opposes the type of free trade offered by our government. NAFTA was negotiated by middle-aged men behind closed doors. If passed, it will be implemented over 40 years, profoundly affecting your future and mine, and the future of 360 million people on this continent.

STEPPING ON CULTURAL TOES / NOTES FROM THE MEETING

The International Student Trade and Environmental Alternatives Development (INSTEAD) was established in the fall of 1991 by American students concerned with the effects of free trade. INSTEAD held its first organizing meeting in San Diego in June 1992, linking student groups

from Canada, the US and Mexico. Together they planned a larger meeting, hosted by the Mexican *Federacion de Estudiantes Universitarios* (FEU) last November.

I arrived in Guadalajara on a Friday night, amidst discussion of the agenda, which had been set by the Coordinating Committee, composed of two representatives from each country.

Saturday we were presented with folders emblazoned with the flags of our three countries, and the logo *Encuentro Continental de Estudiantes* (Continental Student Meeting).

The three flags were, in order: the US, Canada, and Mexico. Many of us tried to figure out why. Geographically it made no sense - the US should have been in the middle. Did it have to do with the size of each country's population? Then Canada should have been last. Clearly if the ranking of the flags signified anything, it was a ranking of the countries in terms of economic power.

We had come to Guadalajara to overcome precisely that kind of thinking. We saw ourselves not as members of superior and inferior countries, competing for scarce resources, but as people united in our support for each other and the environment. It was our goal to ensure

that existing problems be addressed. If a trade agreement threatened to increase inequality, as I learned NAFTA does, we should demand it be stopped.

There was a mariachi band, dancing, and plenty of tequila

The folder contained a poster, again displaying the three-flag logo, but no material explaining the position of the Mexican students. I began to wonder if it was not insignificant that we were being billeted in a posh hotel, owned by the University of Guadalajara, and financed by the federal government of Mexico.

Later conversations with several Mexican students and a professor from Mexico City assured me that where we were staying, and courtesy of whom, were unimportant facts. Mexican universities have tradition-

ally been autonomous, and able to oppose the government. However, if your criticism of the government in Mexico gets too specific, you may disappear, the professor said. Many journalists have been killed.

WORKING TOGETHER

On the eve of the second day of the conference we piled into a room and were given headsets for simultaneous translation. National statements were read aloud at this press conference. I did not see any press, but was assured they were "in the other room". Nevertheless, I was quite pleased to see the Mexicans had taken the same strong stand against NAFTA as the Americans and Canadians. Now we would be able to work together.

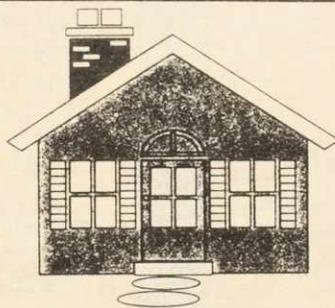
That night the Mexicans hosted a party. There was a mariachi band, dancing, and plenty of tequila. The next morning, at 6:30 am, an American ran and knocked on all the *cabanas* (cabins), shouting, "Are

there any Americans here?" The US students had called an emergency meeting to consolidate the many dissenting factions within their contingent. There were about 70 Americans, representing 42 different groups, and many ethnic and racial minorities. However, they failed to notify the Coordinating Committee of their action plan. As a result, the Canadians, who were also up and meeting reasonably early, held a caucus of their own. Meanwhile the Mexicans slept.

The most important differences were ideological, and not necessarily along country lines. There was an extremely sharp contrast in the opinion of youth from different organizations in Mexico. Because of that country's history and the conditions forced upon them, Mexican youth have traditionally been politically active to a larger extent than their northern neighbours.

CONT'D ON PAGE 16

Looking for Housing?



Dalhousie's Department of Housing and Conference Services wishes to advise students of vacancies in our residence properties for the current academic term. A limited number of single and double spaces are available:

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Howe Hall (Bronson House/Smith House)
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For Males

Eliza Ritchie Hall
Howe Hall

There are also some spaces in student shared apartments in Fenwick Place.

For additional information and applications please contact:

Residence Office
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Accommodation Office
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JOURNAL GRAPHICS

opinions

Letters CONT'D FROM PAGE 8

people to wish for intervention regardless of the fact that it will come via US planes.

But there is an answer--and the elections in Serbia pointed to it. The hundreds of thousands who flocked to Panic's rallies in Belgrade did so because they wanted the war over. The 100,000 Serbs who have dodged the draft testify to the same feeling. Panic and his sponsor Kopic are themselves unscrupulous politicians. But they know hundreds of thousands of people are desperate for peace.

It is these masses alone who can stop the fighting.

Peace cannot be imposed by force from outside. It cannot be brokered by Western powers pursuing their own ends. None of these will address the economic collapse that preceded the war and has been completed by it.

None will cut through the hate that now exists.

Only the mass of ordinary people can stop the war as they grow sick of its consequences and realize their true interests lie in unity against the rulers that have used them. *Even the most rampant nationalism can give way to simple solidarity.*

The soldiers of the First World War saw that each Christmas in the trenches. And they saw it most gloriously in the revolts that ended the war.

Paula Cornwall
International Socialists

When apathy turns to anger

Many people despair of achieving socialism because they believe that

workers are too passive and apathetic to ever fight for real change. On the face of things there seems to be plenty of evidence to confirm this pessimistic prediction. For example, in the recent American election it was considered a great triumph when 54% of the electorate cast votes. Usually only about 50% of the population vote in presidential elections. How can you expect workers to transform society, the pessimists argue, if they are so apathetic that they do not even bother to vote? This argument is mistaken on a number of counts.

First it is dangerous to generalize from voter behaviour to what people might do in other circumstances. Voting in elections under capitalism is a profoundly passive exercise. Workers are not asked to decide on things that really matter to them - whether they have work, proper housing and health care, how to distribute society's wealth and so on.

Instead they are asked to choose between politicians who, regardless of their political stripes, cater to the interests of the wealthy and powerful. It is hardly surprising to find wide spread cynicism and apathy among workers regarding the political process. But there is a more important reason why such generalizations about workers' apathy are mistaken.

The dictionary defines apathy as indifference and indolence. But the majority of workers are not indifferent about the conditions of their lives. They may lack a sense of confidence that they can actually change their lives for the better. But that is

far from a permanent condition. Apathy can turn to anger very rapidly. We need to ask what causes this sense of powerlessness among workers and how can it be overcome?

Marx traced the apathy and alienation experienced under capitalism to what goes on in the workplace. The majority of workers have no control and very little autonomy at work. Marx pointed out that workers control neither the labour process itself, the things their labour produces nor their relations with other workers. Such conditions are bound to produce a deep sense of alienation and lack of control over the central activity which dominates people's lives.

Nor do workers leave these feelings of powerlessness behind when they leave work. People carry the experience of alienation with them into their social and family lives. These feelings can erupt into acts of blind violence in the home or even in mental breakdown. Most often they simply breed a sense of hopelessness and lack of confidence in the possibility that life could be better.

If this was the end of the story the pessimists would surely have a point. But as much as Marx recognized the reality of alienation he also saw that workers could overcome it through their own activity.

Capitalism dominates workers' lives. But workers are also forced to fight their bosses in order to hold onto what they have won in the past. Usually the class struggle between workers and capitalists can be kept within manageable bounds, providing bosses are willing to grant occasional concessions on wages and working conditions. But capitalism is also a system which breeds economic crises.

When profits are falling bosses are less willing to grant concessions. In fact, they often want workers to make concessions. They will demand that workers take lower wages and that governments spend less on social serv-

ices. They will try to turn the screw one extra turn in the hope that their profit levels will revive. But that extra turn of the screw can produce an explosion of anger among workers.

The class struggle then spills out into the open and workers begin to connect their own fight with that of other workers hundreds of miles away. What seemed impossible only days before - that workers share a common struggle - now becomes the common sense of millions. In moments like this, when masses of workers are thrown into struggle, they begin to change not just their circumstances but themselves. With each victory against their bosses they gain a new confidence in their own ability to take control of their lives.

All great revolutions have usually begun with struggles over some apparently minor aspect of life. In the Russian Revolution it was the price of bread which sparked demonstrations which eventually lead to the seizure of power by workers. There is strong evidence that we are entering a period which will see much greater levels of class struggle than in the recent past. Capitalism is caught in an intractable crisis from which there is little likelihood it can escape in a short term. In countries like Italy, Greece and Britain, workers have already been forced into struggle on a scale not seen in twenty years. In the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union, many have lost faith in the ability of workers to change the world. A huge political vacuum has opened up as traditional working class parties have abandoned the ideas of socialism. In the great battles that lie ahead, that vacuum can be filled by the forces of the right. But it need not be if enough socialists remember that workers are not merely passive pawns in a game controlled from above. As apathy turns to anger and anger to action, those pessimists who crow about workers' apathy today may be forced to eat crow tomorrow.

Colin Moores, International Socialists

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Nominate yourself or someone you know for the Student Entrepreneur Award. For more details, phone Colleen Tobin, coordinator, toll free: 1-800-565-0880. (Nominations close at midnight, February 8, 1993). Funding assistance provided by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

P R I X
DES ENTREPRENEURS
DU CANADA ATLANTIQUE



Atlantic Canada
Opportunities
Agency

Agence de
promotion économique
du Canada atlantique

Amigos

CONT'D FROM PAGE 15

The Canadians appeared to have a superior depth of analysis. "I believe this is principally because of our own experience with the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement," said Alex Boston, an Education/International Development student at Dalhousie, "but it may also suggest that Canada's education system is superior, especially when compared to that of the US. Our system is more public than the American one, but is threatened by the trend towards privatization inherent in NAFTA."

The Americans, for their part, appeared to be steering away from their imperialist past. But the task was not always easy - it would not have been for anyone. In plenary, one American recommended that we richer countries in the North buy fax machines for our brothers and sisters in the South. His remarks were translated, and a Mexican student replied, "if you like, we can give you the number."

Unfortunately, there was not a lot of cross-cultural dialogue. Due to the

large number of delegates (150), nametags were supplied. But there was no formal introduction where everybody was introduced. Being able to communicate in Spanish, I spent most of my time talking to Mexican youth. I was told the Mexicans had had an organizational meeting, with almost everybody in attendance, at 1:30 am Saturday morning. I only learned about that because someone happened to mention it. This is an example of the haphazard communication between the youth of our three countries.

The Mexicans met at 1:30 am while we slept. We met at 8:00 am while they slept. Over half of the American and Canadian delegates were vegetarians; two Mexicans were. People of different cultures have different ways of doing things. It was a good first meeting, but we must be careful not to step on each other's toes. I was impressed by the dedication of several people at the meeting. We have formed a continental youth network.

sports

Tigers net a win

by Derek Neary

Hockey's Dalhousie Tigers split a pair of games with the Cape Breton Capers over the weekend on January 9 and 10.

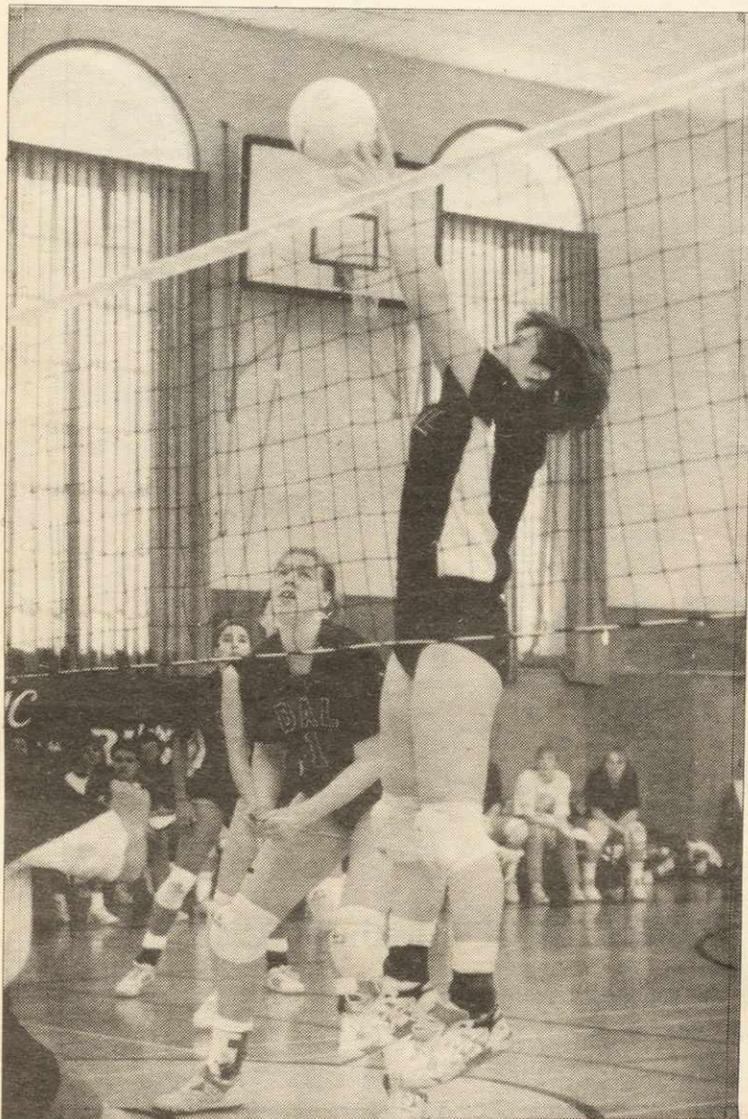
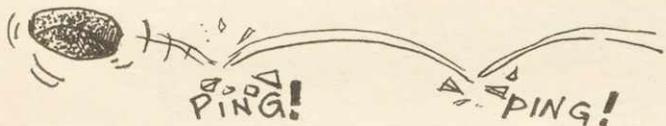
On Sunday, Cape Breton, powered by Kenny Douglas' hat trick downed the Tigers 7-3 at Canada Games Complex. Greg Smyth, Ken MacDermid, and George Wilcox had the Dal goals.

The loss left the Tigers with a 7-6-0 record and 14 points which puts them in fourth place in the Kelly Division, one point behind Saint Mary's and Cape Breton. Dal

has played two fewer games than SMU and one less than Cape Breton.

On Saturday, Joe Suk and Greg Smyth each netted a pair of goals to lead Dalhousie to a 6-2 win over the Capers. MacDermid and Andrew McVicar each added a single. Dal goalie Scott MacDonald turned aside 26 of the 28 shots that he faced.

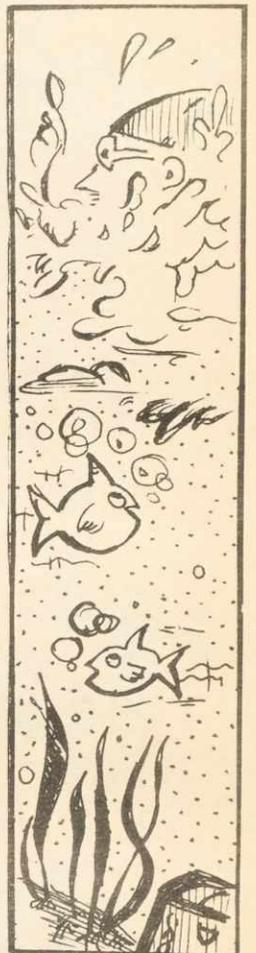
The Tigers will continue their stretch of road games when they visit St. FX on Saturday January 16th. The Tigers then face the nation's top ranked team when they play the Acadia Axemen on Wednesday January 20 in Wolfville.



DAL PHOTO: MIKE DAVENPORT



DAL PHOTO: MIKE DAVENPORT



Hot fun in the winter

by John Yip

Is there somebody tanned or sunburned in your classes? Chances are they were part of the 26 member contingent of the Dalhousie Swim Team that spent that spent the latter part of the Christmas holidays in beautiful Barbados. However, looks can be deceiving. Behind the tan is a tired swimmer. With two daily four hour practices, the team covered over 80,000 meters in an eight day period. The intense training was not without some fun in the sun where the daytime temperature rarely dipped below 27°C.

The results from the Barbados training camp were evident this past weekend at the Metro Invitational. Emerging from the 3 day event were a handful of CIAU qualifiers. Donna Phelan outpaced the pack to qualify in the 50m and 100m Free. Antigonish native Carla McDougall went under the CIAU standard in the 100m Breaststroke, proving her dominance in the event. Jason Shannon also quali-

the event. Jason Shannon also qualified in the 200m Backstroke, shaking off any competitors. Shannon, McDougall and Phelan in addition to Katharyn Dunn bring the total number of CIAU qualifiers to four.

Some other notable performances: Sean Andrews had a gutsy swim but narrowly missed the CIAU cut-off in the 100m Fly by five tenths of a second, D'Arcy Byrne missed the long standing

Dal record in the 200m Free by seven tenths of a second.

Many in season best times and personal bests were recorded by both women's and men's Tigers. The full effect of the training camp has yet to be reckoned with when the weary bodies of the swimmers are better rested. The next challenge for the Tigers happens this weekend when the swimmers travel to Mt. A and UNB to swim fast and show off their tans.

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* KIM HILCHEY *

WVB -
2 AUAA
wins



Player of the Game: 27 Kills, 6 aces

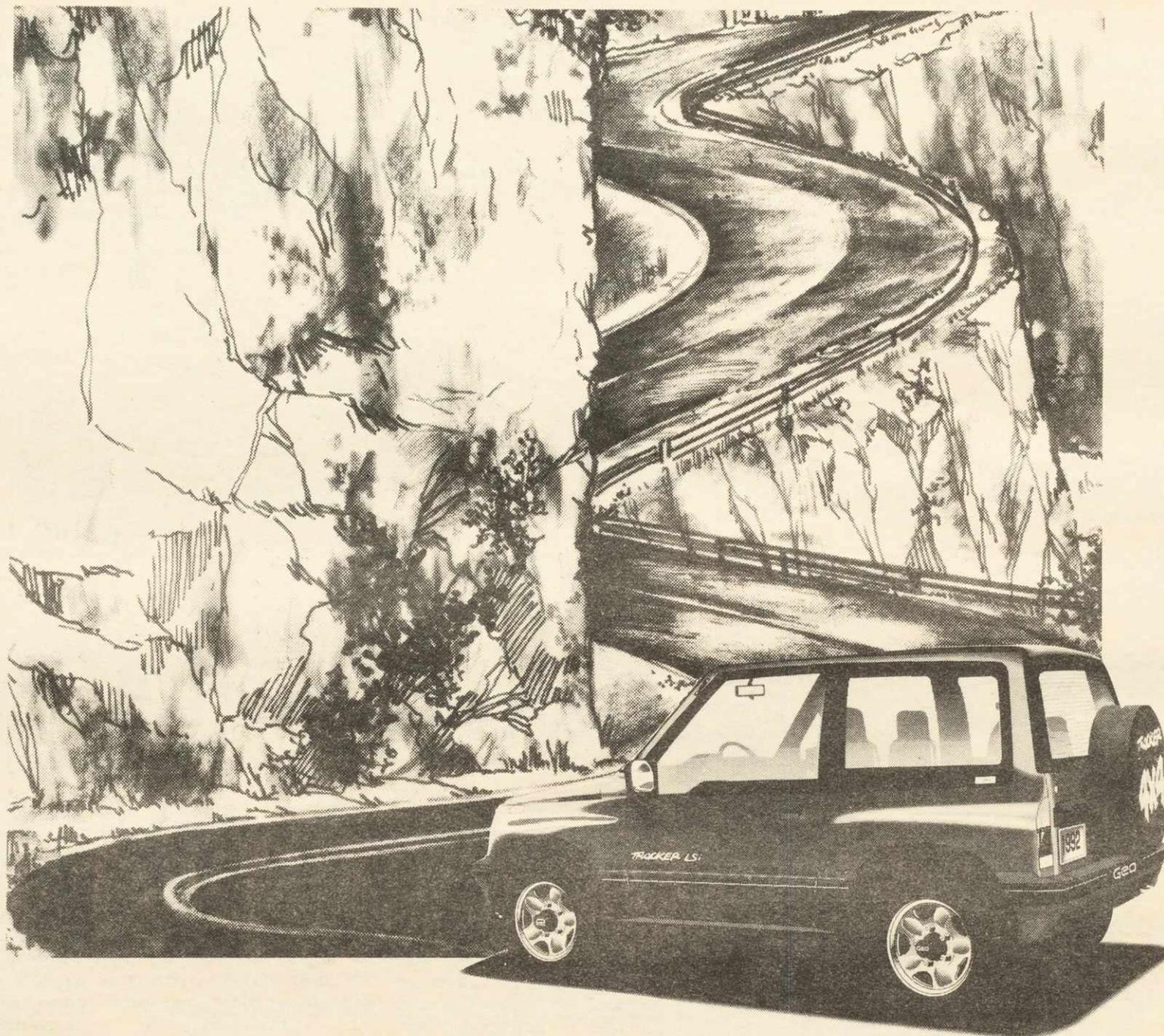
Jan. 4 - 11

DIET
PEPSI

* DEAN THIBODEAU *

The Dalhousie Men's Basketball Team defeated UNB 78-65. Dean scored 24 pts. and had 10 reb. He was also chosen as Player of the Game (no photo available)

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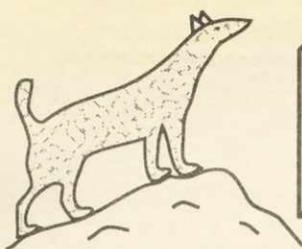
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KALENDOG

THURSDAY 14 MONDAY 18

A BAKE SALE put on by Youth Challenge International will be held in the SUB. Come and eat as well as find out more about Youth Challenge.

BGLAD! (Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Association of Dalhousie) meets every Thursday night in room 307 of the SUB at 7 pm.

Women's Centre Committee meeting every Thursday at 6 pm in room 218 of the SUB. Info: call Candida at 494-1281/1106.

Looking for some Left, alternative reading? Check out the International Socialists booktable in the SUB lobby, 11:00 am-2:00 pm.

"Black Liberation and Socialism" Tonight's International Socialists' meeting will look at various strategies developed to fight black oppression, arguing that a revolutionary struggle based on the power of united workers is what's necessary to eliminate racism, as only this force can overthrow the economic and social system that produced racism and perpetuates it to this day. Meeting at 7:30 pm, room 306, Dal SUB.

FRIDAY 15

Dal Christian Fellowship meets tonight at 7:30 pm, in St. Andrew's United Church Hall on the corner of Coburg and Robie. Everyone is welcome! Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

GAZETTE Staff Meeting at 4:00 pm, room 312 of the SUB. Come up and make some noise.

Meet individual members of the Board of Governors on our turf. Here's your chance to meet and voice your concerns, as well as hear what they have to say. There'll be pizza. 4:30- 6:30 pm at the Grawood in the SUB basement.

Community Affairs Committee & Clown Troupe meeting 5- 6 pm, room 304, SUB. Interested in organizing, volunteering and having fun? Come to this meeting! We'll be planning the upcoming DSU Charity Ball and talking about the IWK. For more info, call Lilli at 494-3527.

Youth Challenge International is holding a raffle. Prizes include: tickets to the Soho and Cheers Restaurants, ski tickets, a liquor package & more...

TUESDAY 19

WE'VE JUST CHANGED OUR PIZZA SUPPLIER! Drop by and give us your opinion on: pizza, newspapers, or whatever. The Gazette needs people for layout, no experience required, no contracts to be signed. Starts at 6:00 pm, room 312, SUB.

SWEAT (Students Working on External Affairs Things) meeting every Tuesday at 7 pm in room 218. Info: Candida at 494-1281/1106.

Dal Men For Change meets every Tuesday from 8-10 in the SUB. Room # will be listed at the Inquiry Desk.

SODALES (Dalhousie Debating Society) membership drive is on! Meetings are every Tuesday at 6:30 in the Council Chambers of the SUB.

The Dalhousie Women's Collective now meets at 6 pm Tuesday at the SUB for political action and 7 pm on the third floor of the Grad House for discussion. All women welcome.

WEDNESDAY 20

The first CEAG meeting of the year will take place at 6:00 pm in room 307 of the SUB. The Campus Environmental Action Group is a great way to get involved and informed in the environmental issues that surround us today.

Women With Disabilities will meet at Bloomfield School, Agricola St., 7-9pm. ASL interpreter provided. For more information call 429-2084.

THURSDAY 21

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING 4 pm, MacDonald Building. The hot agenda item is another 10% tuition increase. Is this what you want? We've already had a 37.5% increase in the past 2 years. Come and make yourself be heard.

Youth Challenge International will be selling tickets to their semi-formal Valentine's Day Dance.

CLASSIFIEDS

Seeking to purchase a used MacIntosh computer. Call Vicki Browne at 443-7698.

Small Furnished Bachelor Apts. Henry St. near Law Building. \$297/ \$338/ \$425 per month. Utilities included. Call 422-5464 after 5 pm.

Bassist needed to fill void in eclectic, non-Seattle, alternative rock (for lack of better description) band. Must be dead serious. Contact Matt (864-6911) or Ed (864-8595).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Nova Scotia Choral Federation is on the lookout for young Nova Scotian singers to join this year's Rotary Youth Choir. The Choir is an auditioned 40-voice choir composed of N.S.'s best singers aged 16-22. Auditions will be held across the province so if you are interested or no a talented young singer please call Susan Marsh at 423-4688.

Service for Sexual Assault Victims is presently recruiting volunteers. If the issue of sexual violence is a concern to you as a woman and you want to become involved, please call 455-4240 to inquire about our program. Volunteer training begins January 11.



A modern jackal

The Dalhousie Art Gallery invites the public to attend the opening of the exhibition "Photo Sculpture" on Thursday, Jan. 14 at 8 pm. Marie Fraser, one of the organizers, will deliver the opening remarks. The exhibit will continue until February 28 and will include animation activities. For more info, call the gallery at 494-2403.

The Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation invites inquiries from individuals interested in volunteering at the Nova Scotia Cancer Centre. Help is needed in a variety of patient care and clerical areas beginning in January. A 3-hour/week donation of time and talent will help the Cancer Center provide quality care for cancer patients. Please call Gerard Murphy at 428-4268.

Don't throw those grocery tapes away! January is Alzheimer's Month. In support of the Alzheimer's Society of Nova Scotia's campaign, the Dalhousie Student Union is collecting grocery tapes (from Sobeys, Capital, and IGA). Please save your tapes and drop them off at the Inquiry Desk, SUB. For more info, call 494-3527.

Help Line is a 24-hour counselling, information and referral service. Any community service or support group who wishes to be listed with our referral service can call or write: Help Line Office, 5711 Sackville St., Halifax, B3H 2C9. 422-2048.

WANTED: old exams for the exam registry. Please leave your old exams at the SUB Inquiry Desk.

The Dalhousie Student Employment Centre (4th floor, SUB), is receiving summer employment opportunities daily. Some currently available: hotel staff, Prince of Wales Hotel, Alberta; Proctor and Gamble, Toronto; tree planting in Ontario and B.C.. COSEP (Career Oriented Summer Employment) forms have arrived- pick yours up today! Employers will be recruiting second term for new graduates. Don't forget to check our notice board regularly!

CKDU, SWEAT, and NS-PIRG are hosting a forum on "political correctness". The forum will be held on Jan. 26 at 6:30 pm in the McInnis Room, Dal SUB. Stay tuned for more details.

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. The program is free for Dalhousie students, but enrollment is limited and a preprogram meeting with a counselor is necessary. Info: 494-2081 or drop in 4th floor, SUB.



A modern wolf

SUNDAY 17

DSU Council Meeting 1 pm, Council Chambers, 2nd floor SUB. Find out what your council is doing with its "Freeze the Fees" campaign. If you don't want another 10% tuition hike, come and find out what's going on and how you can help!

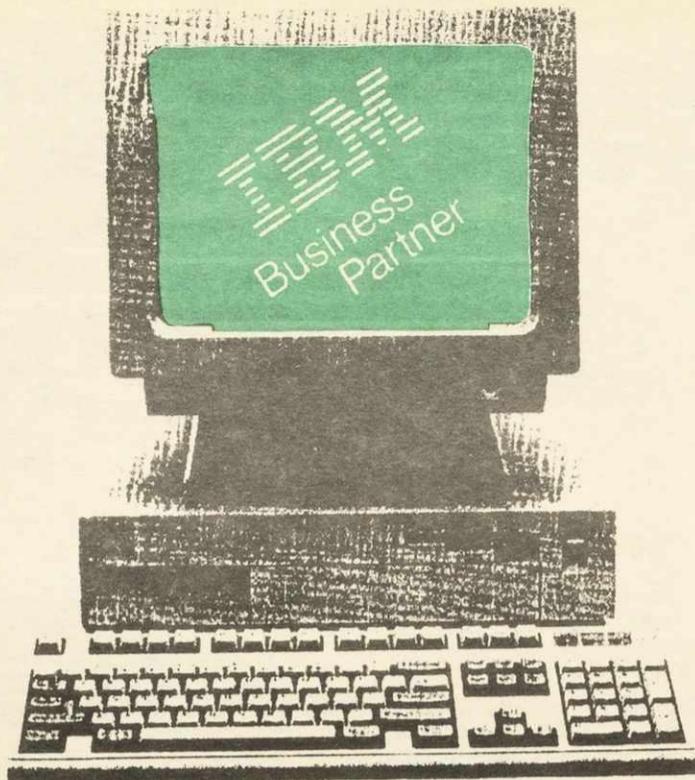
Debut Atlantic presents the extraordinary young clarinetist Michael Rusinek with pianist Robert Kortgaard. Their programme will include works by Weber, Schumann, Brahms, Daniel, Debussy, and Poulenc. Concert will take place at 8:00 pm in Saint Mary's University Art Gallery. Tickets are \$10 or \$8 for students and seniors. Info: 420-5445

"Two Years Since the Second Gulf War Began- The End of the Cold War and the New Imperialism" Today US marines are stationed throughout Somalia; there is growing talk of western military intervention in the former Yugoslavia, as well as a renewal of the (ongoing) threats being made against Iraq. After a short introduction, this is an open forum to discuss The New World Disorder and alternatives for challenging it. Noon in room 306, Dal SUB sponsored by the International Socialists.

The Registered Nurses Association of Nova Scotia (RNANS) will hold a chapter meeting on "Gender Issues: Male Perspectives" at 7:30 pm at the Grace Maternity Reception Room. This is an environmentally friendly meeting so please bring your own non-disposable mug.

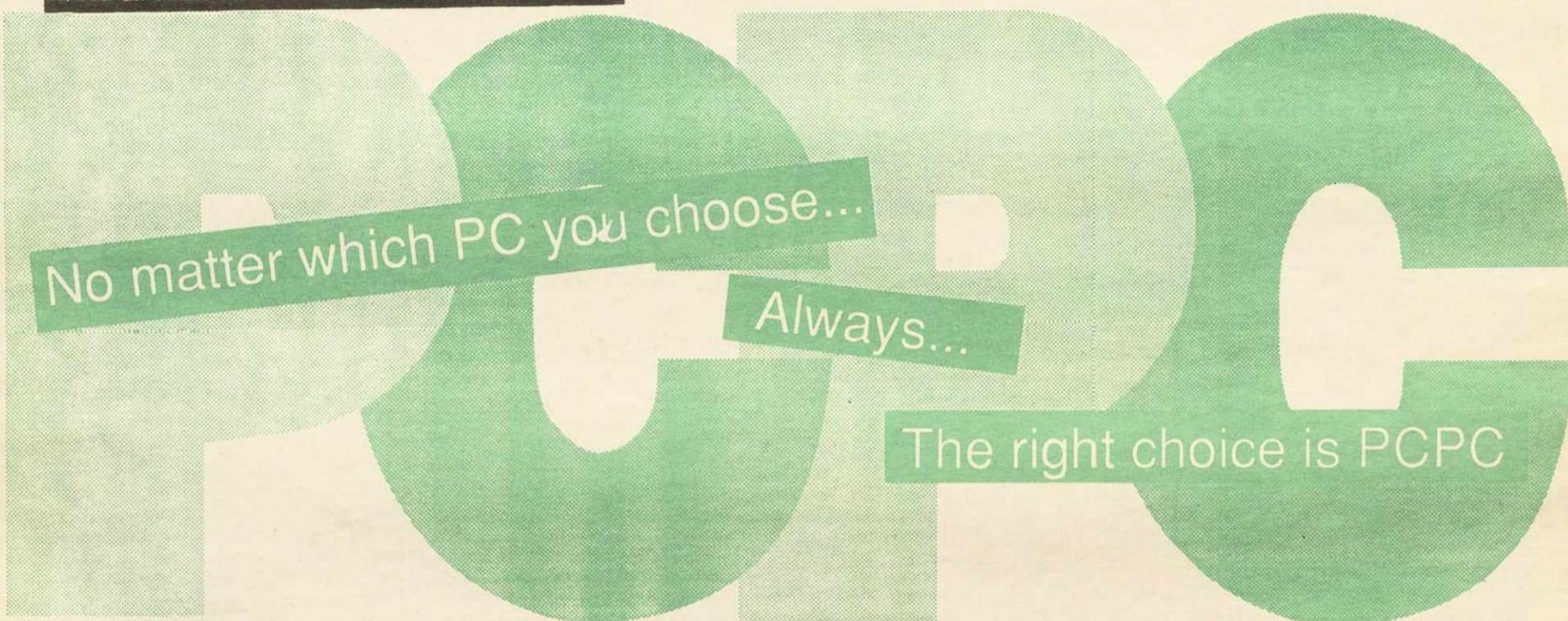


A dingo pup.



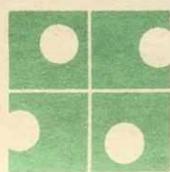
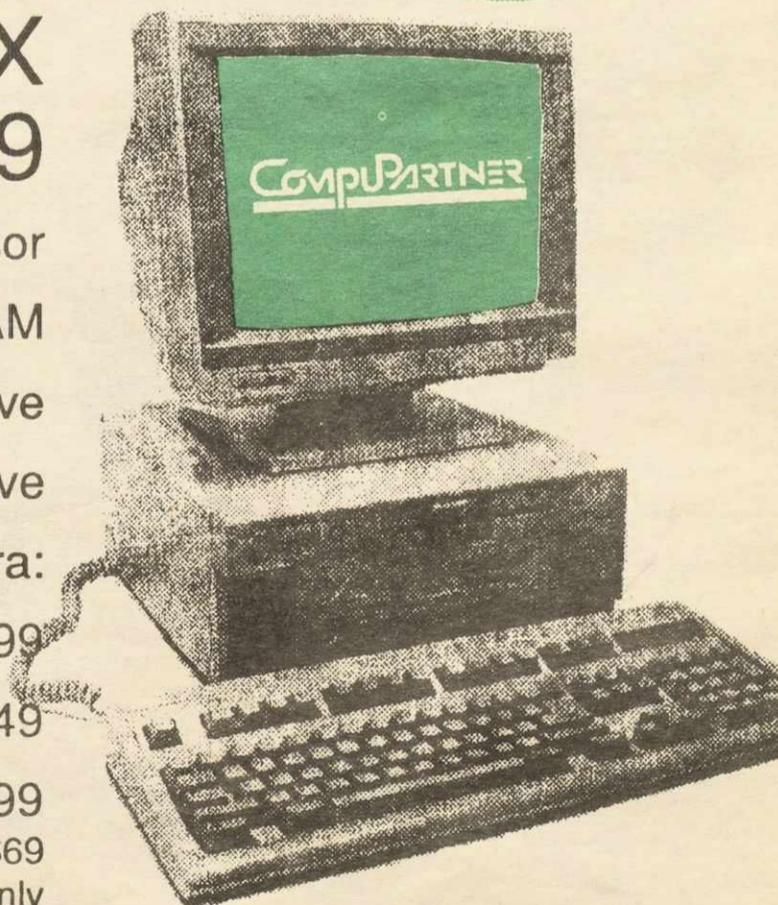
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