

CAUSE PEOPLE GOTTA READ

THE GAZETTE

VOLUME 124 NUMBER 13

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY • HALIFAX, N.S.

JANUARY 9, 1992



NEW THE PRESIDENT'S CLOTHES

We at THE GAZETTE have been wondering how Howard Clark spends his free time. We were hoping you could help. Draw Dr. Clark's apparel and environment and then drop them off at THE GAZETTE office 3rd floor Student Union Building. You could win a lovely new GAZETTE T-shirt. The best entries will be published in an upcoming GAZETTE or, barring publishability, will be on display in THE GAZETTE office.



Notice to Students Regarding Board of Governors Consideration of Tuition Fees for 1992/93

The Board of Governors and its Committees will be holding the following open meetings to discuss proposed tuition fees for 1992/93 and their implications for students and the University.

Committees

Financial Strategy Committee

Monday, January 13, 1992 • 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 Noon
Board and Senate Room, A&A Building

(The Committee will reconsider the policy that Dalhousie University tuition fees should be 105%-110% of the Nova Scotia average, and will review the allocation of last year's increase in tuition fees and its impact on the quality of education at Dalhousie.)

Student Relations and Residences Committee

Tuesday, January 14, 1992 • 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Board and Senate Room, A&A Building

(The Committee will assess the extent to which the University bursary programme is meeting the needs of students, consider the anticipated impact on students' finances of an additional 10% tuition fee increase, and investigate the ability of student aid programmes to accommodate the proposed increase in tuition.)

Finance and Budget Committee

Friday January 17, 1992 • 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Board and Senate Room, A&A Building

(The Committee will examine what is generally considered to be the estimated rate of inflation for the next year, the probable increase in tuition fees at other Nova Scotia universities and the impact of this on the inflation component of the proposed tuition fee increase for 1992/93.)

Board of Governors

Tuesday, January 21, 1992 • 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
McInnes Room, Student Union Building

(The board will hear submissions from interested students and organizations, and discuss the proposed tuition fees for 1992/93.)

Thursday, January 23, 1992 • 4:00 P.M.

McInnes Room, Student Union Building

(The Board will decide upon tuition fees for 1992/93, and conduct other business.)

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P R E S E N T S

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 / 9 PM

EAST COAST MUSIC AWARD NOMINEE 1991-92

BRETT RYAN

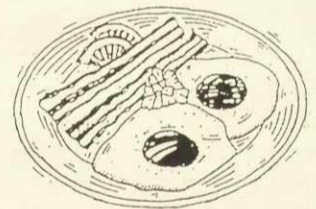


NO COVER!

SATURDAY

BRUNCH

12 NOON - 2:30 PM



THURSDAY NIGHT

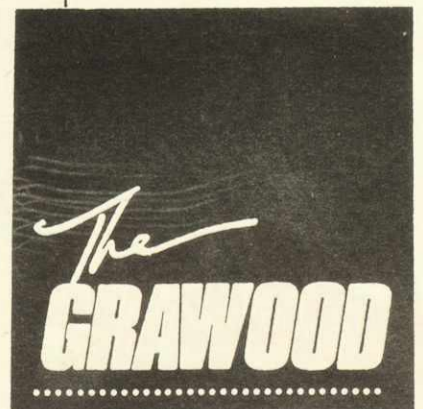
DANCE

W I T H
D.J. JAMES WEBSTER

SUNDAY NIGHT / 8 PM

MOVIE

N I G H T
NON-ALCOHOLIC ALL
AGES WELCOME



DOWNSTAIRS IN
THE DALHOUSIE
STUDENT UNION
BUILDING

NEWS

DSU says freeze the fees in campaign

BY LILLI JU

Yes, the Dalhousie Student Union does have a spine. So claims a DSU pamphlet distributed at a "Study-In" held on December 10, 1991 at the same time as a Board of Governors (BoG) meeting. Since the November 20 BoG meeting, the DSU Council has maintained a firm "tuition freeze" position. And with this "new spine," they began an intensive "Freeze the Fees Campaign."

The threatened 10 per cent tuition hike was not on the agenda of the December 10 BoG meeting. The purpose of the Study-In, part of the DSU's campaign, was to let the BoG know that, yes, Dal students are keeping tabs on what the BoG is doing with our university.

With this campaign, the DSU hopes to maintain and mobilize

the energy and determination that came from the November 20 BoG meeting where over 800 students stormed the Board Room in the A&A Building and succeeded in temporarily stopping the tuition hike.

Realizing that such demonstrations will not decidedly convince BoG members to vote down the tuition hike, the DSU formed five committees to serve as the key functional units of its Freeze the Fees Campaign. The Accessibility Assessment Committee, headed by Beth Beattie, is working to identify how access to Dal is inhibited, how the Administration is trying to improve accessibility, and how they have failed at this task (and other "financial horror stories").

The Quality Audit Committee's goals, under Joanne Smythe, are to evaluate the quality of education

at Dal in terms of numbers of classes, profs, resources, and so on. This committee plans to document how the quality of education is not improving even though students are paying more.

The Lobbying Committee, chaired by Lâle Kasebi and Hilary Wells, are attempting to gain public support, contacting alumni, community groups, and other universities. They hope to increase awareness across the country of the dire financial situation of post-secondary institutions. The Actions Committee, headed by Alex Boston, is responsible for planning student activities, demonstrations, and other assorted things such as "Guerrilla Theatre" (which performed in some classes at the end of last term). The committee already has one more major rally in the works right now.

The Student Awareness Committee, under Stavros Vretakos, compiles all the current information on what has happened, is happening, and is going to happen, as well as other pertinent information and shocking statistics and stories. The committee is then responsible for the distribution and dissemination of this information to the students of Dalhousie, so that they are kept informed.

The DSU's Freeze the Fees Campaign is geared towards preparing a collection of data and facts that will demonstrate and convince BoG members that the 10 per cent tuition hike is not best for this university. Last year's 25 per cent tuition increase (as well as the additional fee that science students pay) has not improved the quality of education. Instead, this university is seeing a horrifying decline in

the number of faculty, availability of courses, financial support for students, and accessibility to this university. Students feel they do not deserve any tuition hike until this dire situation is rectified and things are turned around.

The DSU encourages all students to find out how they can get involved (and there are many ways) by calling 494-1106 or dropping by at the Council offices on the second floor of the SUB. On November 20, 1991, students succeeded in grabbing the attention of Governors of Dalhousie with their concerns. On January 21 and 23, when the BoG convenes to decide on the 10 per cent tuition increase, students plan to make BoG members not only acknowledge their concerns, but make them realize them, and convince them to vote down the proposed tuition hike.

Mature students association speaks out

BY NEIL MELLORS AND MARIBEL REYES

Since the controversy over room 314 of the SUB, the Dalhousie Mature Students Association (DMSA) have welcomed the Arts Society and the Women's Group into the room. Including the Mature Students there are now four societies conducting their affairs from the society room.

"Room 314 serves as an area to discuss concerns and ideas of mature students in a relaxed and informal setting."

The DMSA vice-president, Tay Landry said "the association has had a very busy year so far... with many activities going on such as the very successful wine and cheese party held on Oct. 4 at Henson College."

The DMSA is the fastest growing society on campus

On Oct. 5, the mature students participated for the first time in the President's Sports Festival, where they completed only half of the events and still managed to come in thirteenth place out of 20 teams.

Pelvin also mentioned that on Oct. 26 the DMSA held a pool party at Dalplex, in which a number of members and their families participated. Later that evening, after the pool party, members put on costumes for the annual Halifax Mardi Gras.

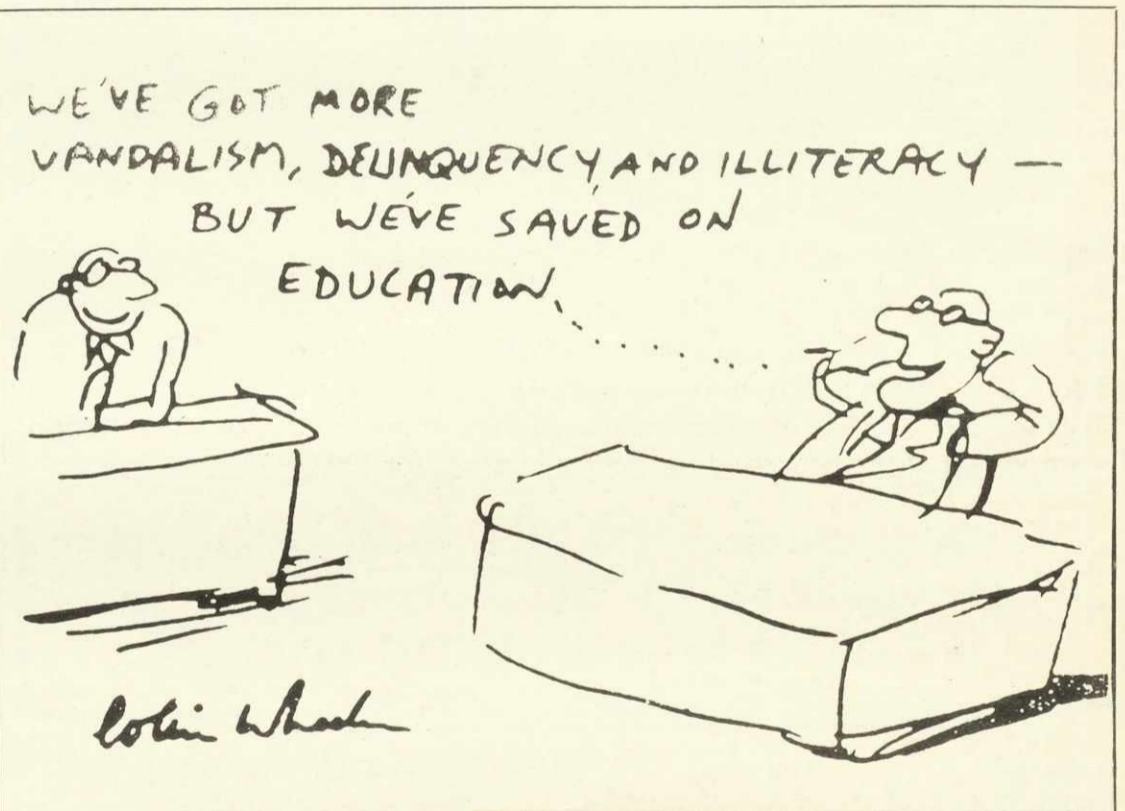
The mature students participated in the society challenge for the Parapalegic Association to facilitate public awareness. This entailed having an association member navigate the campus grounds to raise funds, while in a wheelchair.

The mature students would like to make people aware that for ongoing activities the DMSA meets every second Friday at Dalplex for a recreation program, involving things such as coed volleyball and a weight training clinic.

Details on Dalplex activities are posted in room 314. The DMSA has a general meeting the second Wednesday of every month to discuss activities and policies. Landry went on to say "the mature students meet at the Grad House every Friday at 2:30 p.m., using their associate memberships compliments of DMSA. Members find this a good time to wind down after a stressful week."

There is a mature student handbook, *Returning to Learning*, available in the office, free to all mature students.

"The DMSA has been called 'the fastest growing society on campus' due to the large number of new members joining each week," said Pelvin. Over one hundred new members have joined this year. But Pelvin stressed, "this is a very small percentage of the total of 5700 mature students on campus." The DMSA president said "though the year has been successful for the mature students, we are looking for more involvement and participation of members in association activities in the new year."



Students can't afford 10% tuition hike

BY GAYLE HEINRICH

"The level of tuition fees has little if any direct effect on accessibility," wrote the President of Dalhousie University, Howard Clarke, in a letter to the Board of Governors.

Dalhousie students disagree with him. After an unprecedented turnout at the November 19 BOG meeting, over 60 people once again demonstrated their frustrations over the proposed 10 per cent tuition hike during a "study in" on December 10, 1991.

"Considering the time of the year, I'm really pleased with the turnout," said its organizer Alex Boston. "I only hope that BOG members are listening."

Students are not alone in their concern over the issue. A letter from John Holm, NDP Education critic, to Clark states with particular concern "your statement seems to say that Dalhousie will shift an even greater share of its costs onto students in the form of tuition and other fees."

The Maritime Provinces Higher Education Committee also disagrees with the tuition hike. The MPHEC recommended to government a three per cent increase in provincial funding for Nova Scotia's universities.

Tories have hinted at a zero per cent increase, believing instead that tuition fees must rise. But this year has seen increases in rent and food, a three per cent tax on stu-

dent loans, GST charged to texts. With recent cuts to the Nova Scotia bursary program, summer employment programs, and educational research, an increase in tuition threatens to push many students over the post-secondary edge.

The Dalhousie Finance and Budget Committee, as well as the Financial Strategy Committee, and the Student Relations and Residence Committee are meeting next week to discuss strategy. The meetings are open to all students.

The 10 per cent tuition hike proposal will be voted on January 23, 1992. Prior to this the BOG will hold an open meeting on January 21 in the McInnes Room where all students are invited to express their concerns.

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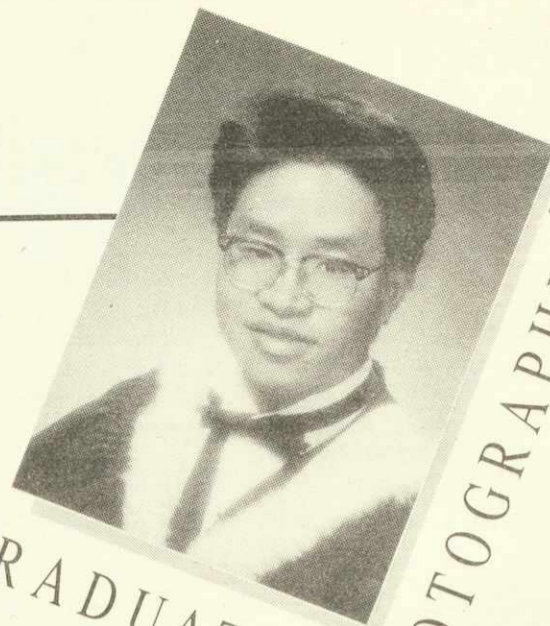
Students: Problems with January registration of B classes?

First, try the following:

- a) For difficulties getting into B classes required for your honours or major programme, of to graduate in May, contact the department offering the class. Ask to speak to the Undergraduate Co-ordinator of the Department Chair.
- b) Contact the Assistant Dean - Student Affairs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (494-1440) or in the Faculty of Science (494-2373), Third Floor, A&A Building, or the Director of your School if you are in the Faculty of Health Professions or the Faculty of Management, whichever is appropriate.

If you have tried these steps and are not satisfied, or if you are not sure what to do next, contact the Student Services Office, 494-2404, SUB, Room 410.

As a University, we have a commitment to providing the best service to our students. While we cannot guarantee a solution to every student problem or concern, we will do everything we reasonably can. Please ask!



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	July 29 - Sept 23, 1992	Oct 3, 1992
	Aug 1 - Sept 26, 1992	Oct 3, 1992
LSAT Fee	\$745 + GST	
MCAT	Jan 28 - Mar 24, 1992	Apr 4, 1992
	Jul 16 - Sept 10, 1992	Sept 19, 1992
	July 11 - Sept 5, 1992	Sept 19, 1992
MCAT Fee	\$695 + GST	
GMAT	Jan 23 - Mar 19, 1992	Mar 21, 1992
	Apr 16 - June 11, 1992	June 20, 1992
	Aug 11 - Oct 6, 1992	Oct 17, 1992
GMAT Fee	\$695 + GST	
GRE	Feb 8 - Apr 4, 1992	Apr 11, 1992
	April 4 - May 30, 1992	June 6, 1992
	Aug 1 - Oct 3, 1992	Oct 10, 1992
GRE Fee	\$625 + GST	

Class times: Weekdays 6 - 10pm / Saturdays 9am - 1pm



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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

ED/OP

Sucking all the fun out of X-mas

No good balls?

To the editor:

I find it very difficult to follow the bunkum argued by Gayle Heinrich in "The Power of Genitals." The irony of her response is laughable if it were not meant to be honest. Excusing the primitive language please allow me to cite Heinrich "...an individual who wields most of his power by virtue of his genitals... The victim is innocent. One who is innocent suffers at the power and force of another; a powerful and forceful Other... In order for our society to be free of bias and prejudice it is necessary that those who wield power relinquish it." Or in other words, again excusing my language, but this time echoing the political satirist Orwell, "two balls bad; no balls good." To relinquish power to the "good" is to make your hate love, your war peace and your slavery freedom. Rather than determining a persons worth by what disadvantaged group they belong to and dividing us into antagonistic groups who never know whether we've failed or succeeded because of what sex we are, let us live together as people. Rather than pontificating in vile language remember that it is only the learned who care to learn, the ignorant who prefer to teach, or in many cases preach. How about living in a world where love is love, peace is peace and freedom is freedom?

P.E. James

As a youngster, there was no question about the fact that Christmas was the best time of the year; helping decorate the tree weeks before; watching the presents gradually increase underneath; drinking egg nog on Christmas eve; waking up on that wondrous day to find the cookies and milk gone, believing that Santa had actually, somehow, gotten down the chimney and refreshed himself while delivering his quota of presents. Ignorance truly was bliss.

When I got older, however, the Santa myth was nullified, and as I had no ties to the Christian faith, I began to question what and why I was celebrating. This year a non-Christian friend of mine asked what Christmas meant to me and why I considered that day to be a special event. Unfortunately, the only answer I could muster was, "Tradition. Because I've always celebrated it." This of course led to a philosophical debate with the outcome for me being "Why do I celebrate the supposed birth of Christ?"

The more I pondered, the more it became apparent that I

have no reason, and am a hypocrite to celebrate this day. As the days to Christmas became fewer, the more contempt I felt for this government-regulated holiday.

As usual, I was bombarded with advertising for things I should buy, and I began to wonder why this religion is so economy-oriented on its supposedly most holy of days. The paraphernalia surrounding the Christmas "spirit" made me cringe: bows, ribbons, cards, wrapping paper, tags, tape, coloured light-bulbs etc. (I don't think that Jesus intended for garbage to be a by-product of his existence.)

Then the "plastic factor" struck me. While walking through my neighbourhood, I could not believe the overwhelming majority of houses that had the exact same plastic candle ornament in the window. Some houses had upwards of six of these beauties, strategically placed in every window of the house.

Add to this the three-foot high, plastic Noel candles outside of some of these houses, plastic Santas on rooftops, plastic wreaths, plastic snowmen singing carols, and a complete plastic nativity scene illuminated like a Las Vegas casino, and

one gets the impression that no spirituality remains in this once religious celebration. I got the impression that neighbours were trying to outdo each other via their plastic ornaments, each one making the statement that "I am proving my religious beliefs!" I must assume though that, like me, many of these people do not go to church and probably do not believe either. So why do they celebrate the birth of Christ? Tradition.

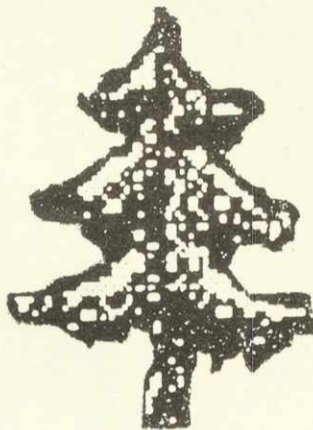
Having visited some friends during the school break, I was next appalled by the fact that my generation is propagating this consumerist tradition without ever questioning their own motives. I saw Christmas trees and mistletoe and

holly (some real, some plastic) and presents and all the aforementioned disposable paraphernalia, and I felt like running away and sitting on top of a mountain, free from all the gimmicks and commercialism.

The final straw for me this holiday season was that I found out two very interesting tidbits of information. Firstly, that the use of trees covered in ornaments originated as a pagan tradition, and, secondly, that our present day version of Santa Claus, that jolly fat elf in red, was an invention of the Coca-Cola company sixty years ago. What this says to me is that Christians have usurped a tradition from heathens (whom they despised and condemned), and that their Christmas representative has the spiritual equivalent of the Pillsbury dough boy.

I have learned much this past Christmas by merely opening my eyes and being receptive and critical to what I have seen. Next year I plan to celebrate a non-traditional holiday which has a real meaning to me. Like my dog's birthday.

Steve Mills



GRAPHIC: JANET LARKMAN

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EDITORIAL

The right to die

Once, a powerful judge who sat on the Superior Court in Quebec ruled that a 25 year-old woman could have her life support respirator disconnected. That decision, in favor of the woman's right to die has brought forth legal, ethical, and moral dilemmas.

The woman, Nancy B., is paralyzed from the neck down with Guillane-Barre syndrome. Her quality of life cannot necessarily be described as human because she can no longer feel sensations, and she has lost all motor skills. All she can do is think and watch T.V.

Nancy B.'s court case revolved around her assertion that the removal of her respirator would not be the cause of her death, but rather that she would die from the consequences of her illness.

So the issue boiled down to who has the jurisdiction over ending someone's life. Is it the patient, the doctor, the judge or society. Deciding whose responsibility it is requires a reconciliation between the rights of the individual and those of society.

Nancy B.'s predicament shows us that the natural evolution of humanity does not guarantee quality of life. Sometimes living is the most painful and inhumane thing.

But that assessment is a difficult one to make. The best thing to do is to allow a person to die. But would giving this right out freely to anyone who judges that they can no longer go on would lead to a miscarriage?

Certain guidelines, until now, have been considered the rules for euthanasia. The most important being that the patient be terminal within a short period of time with no possible medical recourse.

The problem arises with people like Nancy B. or others who are afflicted with diseases which leave them bedridden indefinitely. Technology can keep them alive, when perhaps the best thing it could do would be to let them die.

It is difficult to have one definitive solution to this problem. Each case has its own story and merits. So where does that leave us. Apparently at the mercy of a paternalistic judicial and moral system. It may appear like a bad compromise to have such stringent safeguards, but without them we also might have Dr. Kervorkians offering their services to anyone willing to pay.

Marie-France LeBlanc



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 Friday noon before publication. Letters may be submitted on Mac or IBM-compatible 3.5" disk.

Letter from Spryfield

To the editor:

Well, after attending Dal for four years (this is my fifth), I'm finally upset enough about an article to write about it. The piece I'm referring to is "How Dal (Dis)Functionz" in the Nov. 21/91 issue.

To summarize my comments, get down off your high horse.

I hate to break the news to you, but you aren't the last Defenders of Western Democracy. Inciting violence (Molotov cocktails indeed) is the usual way to get yourself written off as a fringe group and lose almost all of the respect you once had. Maligning the CFS as being "restrained by liberals" smacks of even more bias than I usually associate with this publication and, I'm sure, members of SUNS will not appreciate the "misdirection" comments.

The characterization of the Provincial Government is totally unfair. Stating that the money from education goes to pave roads in Tory ridings is incorrect. I know — I live in what was Senator Buchanan's

riding, and some of the roads out here are absolutely horrible. I would be interested in seeing your proof of this allegation. One more governmental note: as any good political science or Canadian history student can tell you, the only person on the list of Federal representatives who can be addressed as "Rt. Hon." is Mulroney, as only Prime Ministers and ex-Prime Ministers can be addressed as such. I may be wrong — the Governor General might be addressed as this as well.

Finally, guys, where does the government money for education come from? Taxes. Government is not a bottomless money pit. I'll bet that you also complain about how people in Canada are over-taxed. Personally, I'd rather, to use words from this piece, be screwed up front for tuition than be screwed indirectly for the rest of my life.

Sean Smith

Don't trust the press

To the editor:

Once again I find myself sitting at my computer at-

tempting the colossal task of correcting misinformation spread about the Canadian Federation of Students. The culprit this time, Jeff Harrington in his article "Fear and Loathing at the CFS National." (Nov. 28).

I am perfectly willing to admit CFS' shortfalls and there are many but I can not take statements like, "what passes for a student movement," and "any success CFS has had — and that isn't much" lightly. Perhaps Mr. Harrington has not noticed that there is no GST on tuition, that the weekly allowance for student aid has increased to \$85, that the employment centres on campuses remained open long after they were scheduled to close, that the SEED employment program is existing now when it hadn't for four years. All a direct result of CFS lobbying.

If Mr. Harrington would have taken the time while in the national Office to actually observe the happenings of a regular work day he would have noticed the many phone calls from the media, Ministers, opposition critics and organizations. All asking for

CFS' advice, comments, research, etc. All tapping in to that National Student Voice that obviously Mr. Harrington does not hear.

This past general meeting was very stressful and at times unpleasant, but I was also very satisfied with the amount of work and the quality of work that did get done. If Mr. Harrington expected the general meeting to be one big happy party I think it is his idea of a student movement that needs adjusting.

This article only reaffirms my distrust in the press and their ability to record events accurately. In his reference to "so-called special interest groups" (the term actually being constituency groups, Mr. Harrington must feel that being a student of colour or being a student with a disability is just a special interest and nothing to be taken seriously). Mr. Harrington forgets the Fine Arts Constituency Group. Perhaps he should have been paying more attention to what actually occurred at the general meeting instead of getting stuck on the gossip wheel.

In his account of the Acadia

LETTERS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

THE GAZETTE

JANUARY 9, 1992 • VOL. 124, NO. 13

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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 Friday 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.

LETTERS CONTINUED

delegate demanding the resignation of the Treasurer, Mr. Harrington fails to mention that the Acadia delegate did not get a seconder for his motion. Mr. Harrington also forgets to mention that an individual delegate does not have the right to demand an at large officer's resignation, that impeachment can only be instigated through a petition signed by three member associations. Instead of slamming the Chairperson of the plenary for not knowing the rules Mr. Harrington should access his own knowledge of the CFS Constitution and By-Laws.

I had the pleasure of being one of the Nova Scotians sharing a table with Mr. Harrington at the 10th Anniversary benefit. May I suggest next time Mr. Harrington that if you are unsatisfied with your meal that you consider the vegetarian plate, it was quite lovely. Remember you are what you eat, and if I recall you had chicken did you not Mr. Harrington?

Right the wrongs.

Kristine Anderson
CFS National Executive
Rep. for Nova Scotia

Woof
woof



Bad Dog

drawn between a two bit, bike thieving hood, and the selfless aspirations of Lockesley, escapes me. Please tell, does the bike peddler donate his vast earnings to charitable organizations, or is he more of the freelance operator, leaving errant twenties in mailboxes of the needy? Well, at least if I find myself without work in the future, I can thank the *Gazette* for teaching me a new skill.

It just seems to me, that the stance taken by the editorial staff is one of forced conflict. As a forum, the *Gazette*, albeit provides a voice often unheard, God strike me deaf. However, rarely have I seen a non-hype article that does not rely on the dichotomizing of an issue, and thus peoples. Not to bring up your coup on standards, the heralded guide to Gay Sex, but it only illustrates the point. Hey, that's another thing I learnt, too! You're a veritable fountain of knowledge, if one can weed through the hype. The hemp article of late, was a genuinely pleasant change in reporting. Were the editors on vacation?

Please don't assume this article is a tirade on the talented, contributing writers, merely a query on the priorities and thrust of the staff. Don't worry, when the vast majority of your readers realize the base tactics you employ, and move on to journals of higher esteem, I'm sure the *Gazette* could find a place at any supermarket checkout line, near you.

Editor's Note: The hemp article of Nov. 7, 91 was an editorial.

A blow to our organic egos

To the editor:

This is a response letter to the article "Have a Chemical Christmas" (Nov. 28/91).

Consumers buying anything this past Christmas might also be buying into landfills, synthetic chemicals and products that are used only to meet this holiday demand. It is unfortunate that very little garbage seems to decompose rapidly in landfill sites. Christmas trees in this situation react in a similar manner to the natural processes one would find under a mature coniferous forest. Needles and branches fall to the ground where, due to cooler, shaded conditions, they remain for long pe-

riods of time creating methane and acidic fluids. I personally fear, much less the presence of Christmas trees in landfills when compared to the indecomposables (sic) found in a single bag of domestic garbage.

Another blow to our organic egos is the undisputed fact that everything is chemically-based. According to Bruce N. Ames, Director of the NIEHS Environmental Health Sciences Center at the University of California, Berkeley, we ingest 10,000 times more natural pesticides, by weight, than man-made or synthetic pesticides. Our fear of synthetic chemicals borders on the ridiculous and is exemplified by the banning of saccharin, which is approximately nine million times less potent, as an animal carcinogen, than aflatoxin, a natural chemical that may occur in peanut products (Source: *What Everyone Should Know About Food Safety*, from the Ontario Institute of Professional Agrolologists). We would be more justified in concerns about the natural pesticides found in wood products than the minute traces of sprayed residue in tree lots. As you walk to work or school today, remember not to breathe the air as it is filled with those deadly internal combustion emissions. I think it is important to remember that it is the dose that makes the poison, everything is potentially harmful or toxic.

After examining the Christmas tree farming industry in Nova Scotia, I found that old agricultural land is considered old because it will no longer support the demands of intensive annual production. Natural forest growth in Nova Scotia is rare and would be impossible to achieve naturally, on such fields. In our time, the growing of any renewable crop which replenishes oxygen and buffers the earth from the elements can hardly be considered "shameful."

The association of Christmas trees and chemicals is but another example of our misunderstanding of ourselves in relation to our ecosystem. *Their needles won't hurt you.*

Jason D. Wright

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Spanish Recipes/Warner ♣ 52/C/Joni Mitchell/Night Ride Home/DGC/MCA ♣ 53/
C/Lillian Allen/Nothing But A Hero/Verse To Vinyl ♣ 54/C/The Rose Vaughn
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Examining the country connection

BY MATTHEW MURPHY

IN HALIFAX THERE is one station that is always static: Country 101.9.

Why it has remained programmed on my truck's radio, and is the only station in my brother's car, are mysteries to me. Sometimes country music can provide great insight into the meaning of life while other times it seems to mutter along to an old family photo album.



Country has always been conservative but it has never before been in such a strategic position to flatten the minds of its listeners.

The question is: what's attractive about country music and can we separate the wheat from the chaf?

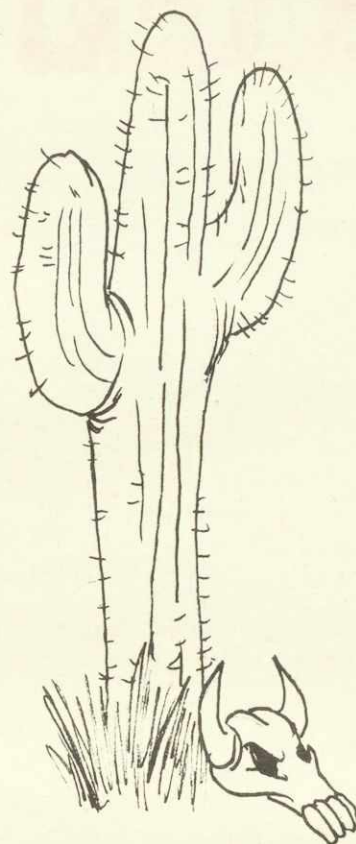
You can divide new country artists into two groups: Those who think they live country (Randy Travis, Travis Trent and Alabama) and those that use country music as a musical style (Dwight Yokum, Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood).

It is the former who have led this wonderful musical art form down a perilous garden path.

For most listeners, country living as expressed through recent country music is merely an illusion — a fanciful departure from the real world. Urbanization has displaced country music from its roots and it has been struggling to establish its authenticity since the early 1970s. Songs from the 70s and 80s,

like "I was Country when Country wasn't cool," "A Country Boy Can Survive" and "Country Boy," all try to root the artist and listener in time period that is gone and its value only imaginable.

Country music is best when it sings from the heart — love, heart-aches, and cheatin'.



There are other subject matters which have been fused into the tradition like gunfighting ballads and truckin', but most new country panders to the false Utopian country model.

This myth of goodness associated with the country is what sells

a lot of records today. The urban dweller is sick of city problems and happily finds solace in the illusions of a simple rural life.

The result is a very bland and pathetic justification for making money.

Most new country is no longer connected to the past by land. The myth of country living is a false and empty touchstone.

When performers take this new direction, the congruent inspiration is lost and the music suffers. They have even come to be manipulated by conservative forces in the U.S. For example, George Bush recently commissioned Randy Travis to write a song called "Points of Light" that became a huge hit.

This trend might be tolerable were it not in the context of a capitalist music industry and the destructive capability of videos. Both these phenomena exacerbate and reinforce country music's plight.

These days, the best country musicians aren't wasting their time by shamming a mock authenticity; they are building on the musical tradition.

These valid country performers call on past motifs to reinforce the emotions they wish to express. They use the music and recognize the limits of its vocabulary.



For instance they don't do country covers of Sam Cooke songs or write about the little lady who works two desks down. These traditionalists have the right idea about country music and are the key to country survival.

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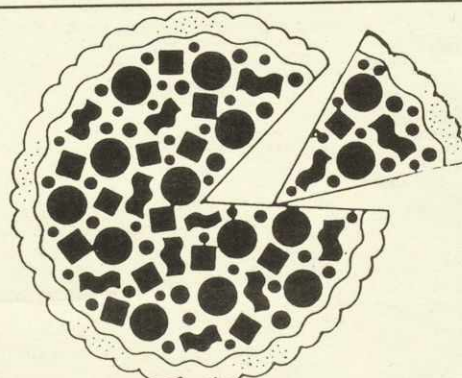
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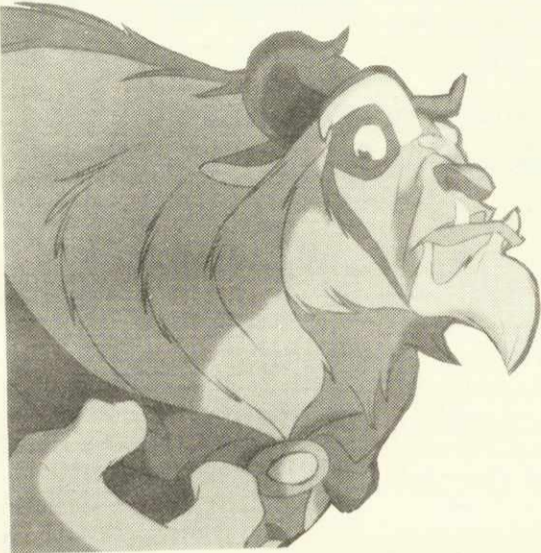
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BY JAMES STEVENSON

IT'S PRETTY TOUGH to sit down and write a review of a Walt Disney cartoon without sounding like my sappy, lip-stick covered grade two teacher, but, honestly, this movie deserves nothing but praise.

FILM

Beauty and the Beast
Park Lane

Beauty and the Beast instantly joins the ranks of other timeless Disney classics such as *Sleeping Beauty* and *Snow White*. The animation is standard Disney brilliance, but with noticeable improvements. There are the typical Disney-style characters, music, and universal appeal, yet the *Snow White* sexism has been replaced with modern independence and values.

BEAUTEOUS

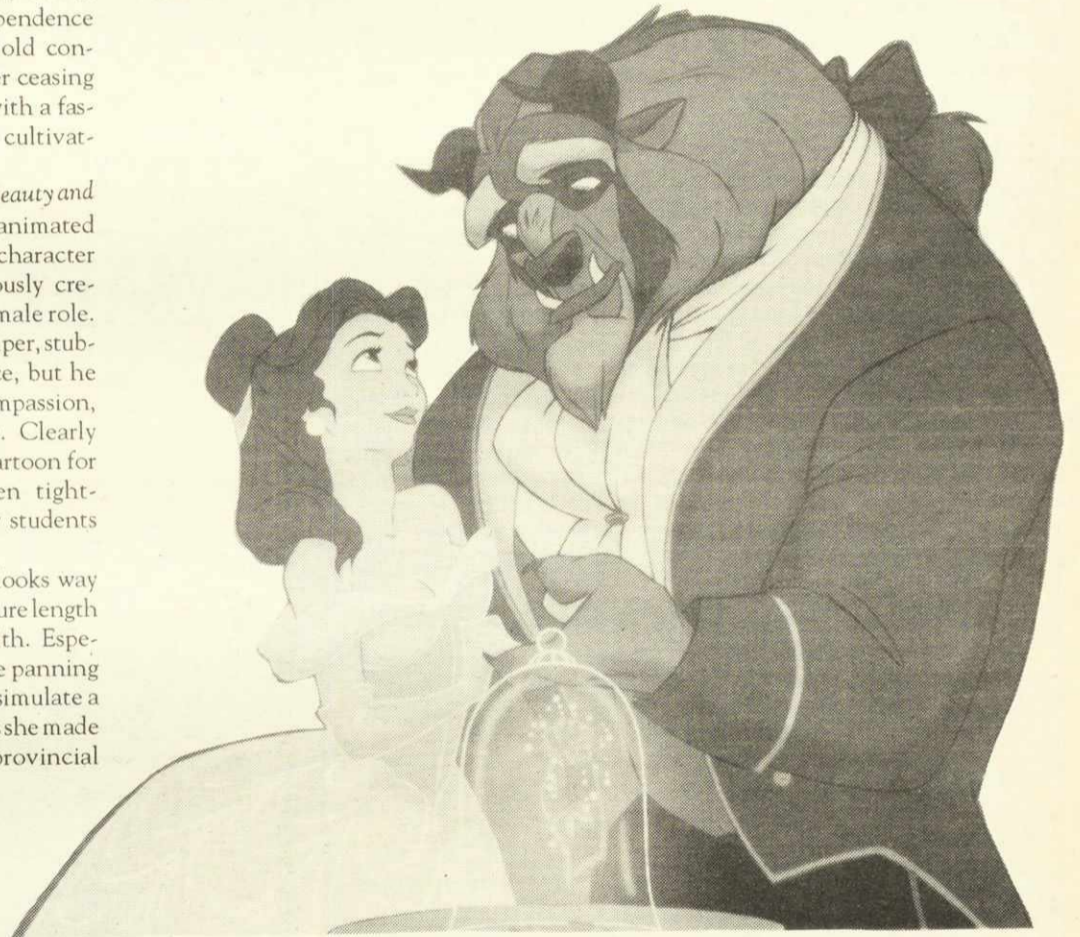
The heroine Belle is far removed from any previous helpless, simpering Disney women waiting for rescue by their Princes. Prince Charming does show up offering marriage, in the form of the ridiculous ego-maniac Gaston, but is flatly refused. Belle's independence from the stereotypes of old contrasts with Gaston's never ceasing manliness — complete with a fascination for hunting and cultivating his hairy chest.

This is not to say that *Beauty and the Beast* is merely an animated *Thelma and Louise*. The character of the Beast is marvellously created, showing a positive male role. True, he possesses bad temper, stubbornness, and intolerance, but he is also able to find compassion, understanding and love. Clearly what we have here is a cartoon for everyone to enjoy, even tight-fisted, cynical university students like myself.

Technically the film looks way better than any of the feature length animation I grew up with. Especially spectacular was the panning used at the beginning to simulate a camera following Belle as she made her way through the provincial town.

Basically, there is nothing bad to say about this movie, and for the first time ever, it is possible to agree with other movie critics in predicting that this one will be a sure contender for the best picture Oscar.

"If it's possible to fall in love with a cartoon character I have fallen for the beast," said a woman with a faraway look in her eye as she left the theatre.



The Nancy Rowell Jackman Chair in Women's Studies Presents:



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A public lecture by
Ellen Gabriel

Ellen Gabriel is known internationally for her role as spokesperson for Iroquois people during the "Oka Crisis." She is admired for her direct approach and her ability to make complex issues clear.

Outlining the role of women in Iroquois society, Gabriel will highlight the work of women during the Oka Crisis."

Trials resulting from the Oka conflict begin in March. Find out what is not reported in the news; the struggle to obtain an English speaking jury, the confusion resulting from conflicting testimonies, outstanding land claims. Ellen Gabriel will also discuss the new constitution put forward by the assembly of first Nations under the leadership of Ovide Mercredi.

Mount Saint Vincent University, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday January 14,
Seton Academic Centre, Aud. B



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Music without much plot

BY JULIE LUOMA

FRIENDLY SINCERITY IS about the last thing you'll find in the latest Neptune Theatre production, *Sincerely, a Friend*. The cabaret show features the garish, sex-obsessed, artsy underworld of Leonard Cohen, a Montreal poet and songwriter. Despite what could be considered vulgar subject matter, Cohen's lyrics are graceful, with their own brand of chivalry.

THEATRE
Sincerely, A Friend
 Neptune Theatre

Sincerely, a Friend, like Cohen's poetry, is big on romantic irony, decadence, overturned religious references and self-mockery. Ghoulish lighting and the sparse set, littered with dried flowers and garbage including a TV, a tire, and the headboard off a brass bed, accent the clownish costuming — grey wool socks crammed into gold slippers, a nightie covered by a black leather jacket, and tattoos and torn stockings.

The musicians, calling themselves the jazz police, underpin the strong performances of the singers who received a standing ovation opening night.

In *Sincerely, a Friend*, outcasts hold court dressed as caricatures that bring to mind the players in the film *Cabaret*. Indeed, the biggest crowd pleaser opening night was an effeminate and high-heeled



Leonard Cohen doesn't look like this anymore

rendition of "Sisters of Mercy," "Don't Go Home With Your Hard On" and the use of sign language in a delicately un-Jennifer Warnes version of "First We Take Manhattan."

Mary Kelly peaked with a gentle but scorching "Comin' Back To You." She also gave ironic and emotion-filled performances of "Bernadette" and "I Came So Far For Beauty."

Liz Gilroy's Broadway also gleamed in the brutal ecstasy of "Dance Me To The End Of Love" and the punchy "Everybody Knows."

Peter Moreau, the show's sensitive balladeer, looked as though he'd just surfed in to do the show, and his performance lacked the scraggly, burdened feel of the other characters. Still, his golden voice was a crowd pleaser in "Suzanne" and "Joan of Arc."

Don't go to see *Sincerely, a Friend* searching for a plot or character development. Toward the end, the staging and gestures get repetitive. And while a bitter edge sometimes adds to Cohen's romantic irony, the gut wrenching screams in some of the numbers seem overly dramatic for the tired passion of Cohen's beautiful losers.

"Don't go... searching for a plot or character development."

Cliff Le Jeune, whose character resembles Joel Grey's MC in *Cabaret*, singing "I'm Your Man." And despite his sheer top and high heels, Le Jeune had a convincing macho side that saved his character from going off into a flight of camp.

If applause is any indication, the audience loved Carroll Godsman's

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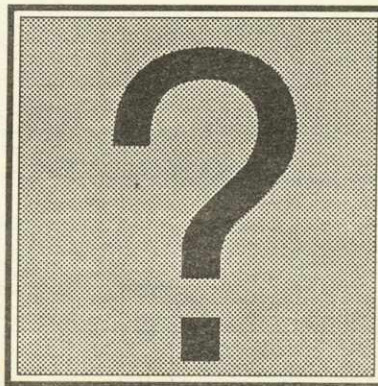
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Joan Who?.....BA
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SPORTS

Busy holiday for women's basketball

BY KEN HWANG

At the end of November, the Dal women's basketball team travelled to Antigonish for the final game of 1991 which counted in AUAA standings. The X-ettes led at the half 48-25, and won the game 88-58. Melita Belyea led St. F-X with 18 points, 14 of which came from free throws. X-ette captain Donna Barton had 13 points and 15 rebounds. Theresa MacCuish also played a strong game, with 15 points. Jackie Hebert led the Tigers with 16 points. The X-ettes had a 45 field goal percentage, while the Tigers shot only 28 per cent. St. F-X had a record of 1-3 in AUAA standings.

While Dal students were enjoying their Christmas vacation, the Tigers hit the road. They played in the Rodd Invitational Tournament at UPEI at the end of December, and they travelled to Montreal in the new year for the McGill Invitational Tournament.

Dal played three games in PEI over the weekend of December 27. They lost to Images East 76-62, and then won their next two games, beating Ottawa 65-45 and York 71-60. Dal's own Jennifer Clark was one of the five tournament All-Stars.

The Tigers were in Montreal for

the weekend of January 4. On Friday night, they beat the McGill Martlets 75-64. They lost to UNB the following evening, and they beat Acadia 56-44 on Sunday. This gave the Tigers third place. The University of Toronto Blues took the gold medal, and UNB the silver. Once again, Jennifer Clark was a tournament All-Star. The other teams participating in the tournament were Queens, Concordia and Bishop's.

Angie McLeod, who missed the first part of the season because of a broken leg, returned to the Dal lineup for both tournaments, but Krista Forde sprained her ankle before the McGill tournament and will be out for a couple of weeks.

Tigers' head coach Carolyn Savoy said, "I'm very pleased with the team's performance on the whole. It was good to have Angie McLeod back in the lineup; she provides more experience in the perimeter. [However,] we still have to improve from the foul line. I'm looking forward to the second half of the season."

On January 10 the Tigers will visit UPEI for their fifth AUAA game. The UNB team will come to Halifax the following week for an afternoon game at Studley Gym on January 18.

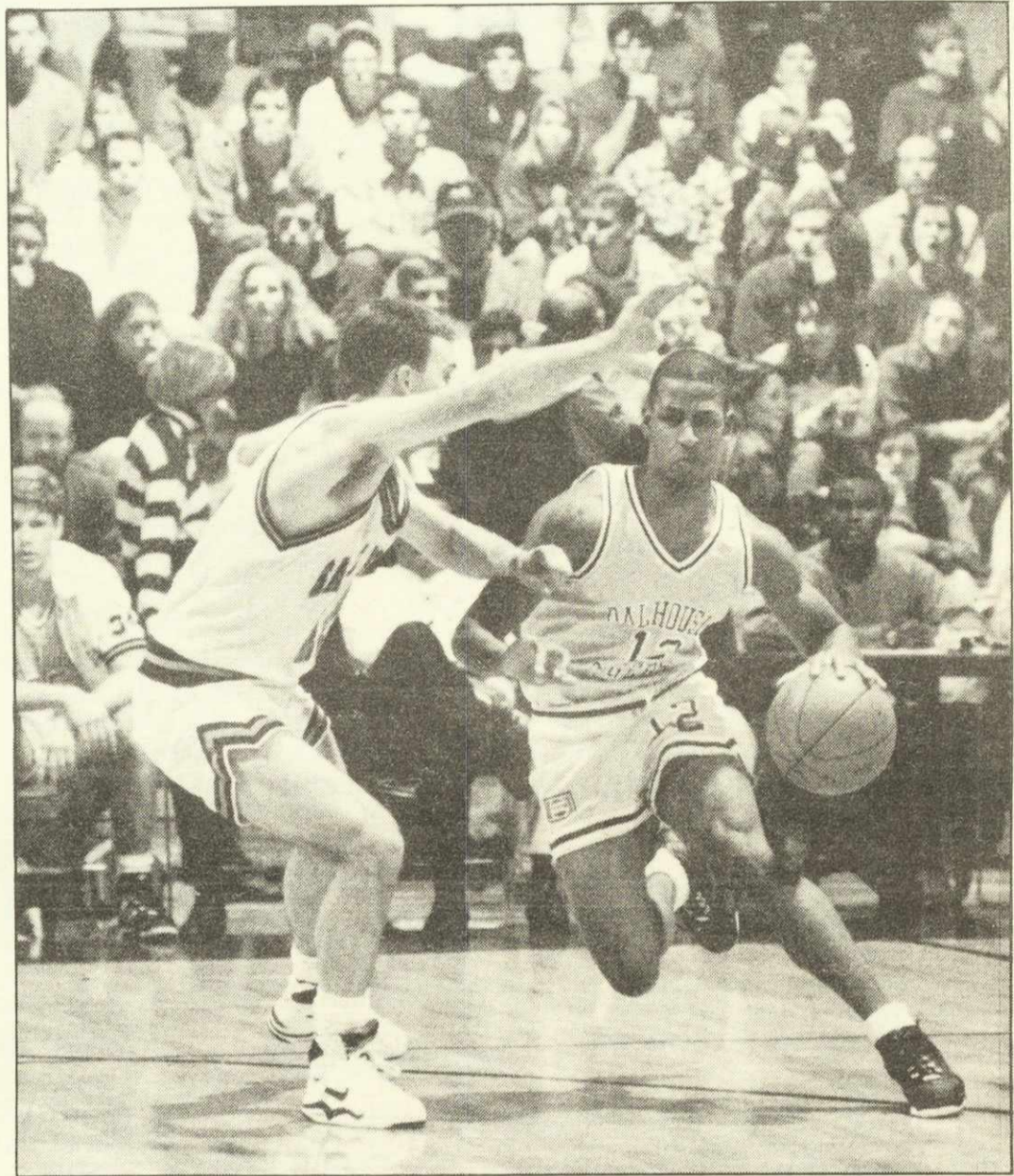


PHOTO: BILL JENSEN

The Dal Men's B-ball team downed the Laurentian Voyageurs and the Nova Scotia All-Stars in the weekend's Rod Shoveller Memorial tournament, but lost the final 78-75 at the hands of St. Mary's

NHL bosses unwilling to pioneer HIV testing

Once again hockey fans cannot just 'sit back and enjoy the game.' We have been asked to consider a new controversy, but this time the issue does not concern the future of the NHL as much as it does the lives and of the players themselves.

Two recent incidents have sparked a debate about mandatory testing of all professional athletes for the HIV virus. In November, Magic Johnson's brave admittance to the world that he tested HIV positive sent waves of panic throughout the sports community. Following this, a direct blow of reality struck the NHL last month when a Montreal doctor revealed a former patient who died from AIDS related complications and had confessed to having sexual relations with at least fifty NHL players.

Some NHL players — Wayne Gretzky being the most quoted — are calling on the league to implement mandatory AIDS testing. It has been pointed out laboriously that hockey is a bloody sport (second only to boxing) and that when a lot of blood is exchanged the chance of contracting the virus

increases tremendously. Although this is true, doctors agree that Hepatitis B is more likely to be exchanged during a hockey fight than is HIV. To date in the NHL there has not been one case of Hepatitis B which can be attributed to blood exchange on the ice.

Ever since the movie Slapshot hit the big screen, wild stories about player promiscuity have sporadically grabbed headlines. Stories of Montreal Canadiens sleeping with minors and of multiple love nests on the road have enticed gossip starved fans for years. Before the threat of AIDS, no league bigwig could see any reason to educate young players about the problems that can arise from unprotected sex. Hey, what's wrong with getting a sixteen year old groupie pregnant when you have a wife and two kids at home? But now AIDS puts the players' life directly in danger, and when it's "me, myself and I" who's at risk, immediate action must be taken.

Wayne Gretzky has enjoyed his share of passionate harangues campaigning to have fighting banned

in the league. So far, it has appeared that only Janet was listening. Some insiders claim that Wayne's wish will be granted because even the NHL's gruesome goons won't think it worth risking their lives for the sake of a round of fisticuffs. Fans in Detroit, of course, would beg to differ.

For the sake of argument, as-

Sports EDITORIAL

sume that today the NHL implements a mandatory AIDS testing statute. Tomorrow player X tests HIV positive and the league must now deal with X in a manner that satisfies the players, the league and the public. What if player X is a 21 year old all-star who had 57 goals last season? Will his team gladly say, "We know that he has a 5 million dollar guaranteed contract, was traded for three of our veterans

and is the team leader, BUT having the virus is good enough reason for us to give him up." Don't bet the farm on it.

Finally, if a player is expelled from the league what will stop him from following the examples of many other HIV carriers fired from their jobs by challenging the NHL in court using the Charter of Rights and Freedoms or the Human Rights code. When does one player's "freedoms from..." take precedence over another's "freedoms to..."?

Many important issues which seemed on the verge of gaining recognition by the league's controllers are in jeopardy of being shelved and replaced by the more lively, and in some ways less controversial, topic of AIDS. Owners and presidents have been anxiously awaiting for an excuse to ignore the explosive debates which have arisen over fighting, drug testing and American television accessibility.

The NHL is notorious for its failure to implement a successful — or even comprehensible — policy to deal with drug abuse by its

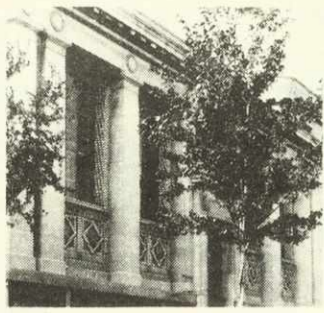
athletes. There is no definite course of action to take when a player is caught using drugs. The owners constantly cower behind players when they are confronted with this ambiguity and with the prospect of instituting mandatory drug testing. If the NHL cannot properly deal with a problem as unjustifiable and detrimental to the league as drug and alcohol abuse, how can they be expected to create and enforce a reasonable and effective policy about AIDS when universal confusion surrounds this epidemic?

Perhaps the chuckleheads who run the NHL should allow another professional sporting association to be the pioneers this time. The league should first address the plethora of problems which they are currently facing. Considering the state of tomfoolery that the National Hockey League finds itself in, it seems impossible that they will deal with this incredibly serious issue in a mature, sensible and effective way.

Suzu Kovinsky

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These are full credit university courses. Application deadline is January 31, 1992. For further information, call the above-listed professors or contact the Division of Continuing Education, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3C3. Phone: (902) 420-5492 Fax: (902) 420-5151

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SPORTS

Villeneuve brothers are volleyball's dynamic duo

BY GORDIE SUTHERLAND

Despite losing three first-team all-Canadians from last year, the Dalhousie men's volleyball team resumes play this weekend with a perfect 7-0 league record, a bronze medal and a ranking of ninth in the country to its credit. Brothers Eric and Paul Villeneuve have stepped forward to help the Tigers maintain their traditional first place standing.

Al Scott is in his thirteenth season as head coach of the Dalhousie men's volleyball team and he says he can't recall coaching two brothers of the Villeneuves' calibre.

"I think there's only been one other occasion when we've had a brother combination at Dal, but never two brothers who are starters and really key players for us," says Scott, who has coached the Tigers

to 11 Atlantic University Conference titles.

Paul, 21, attended the tryout camp for the National University team last June. Paul is this year's setter and captain. He replaces former captain Scott Bagnell, a 1990-91 all-Canadian.

Paul says he respects Bagnell's abilities but doesn't try to duplicate his style.

"Scott is an amazing guy and an incredible leader and he's a greater player too," says Paul, who's in his third year of a combined Bachelor of Physical Education and Bachelor of Education program. "I know I'm not going to do everything the same way he did. I have a different style of play and a different personality but you just do your best."

Coach Scott says Paul has already added a personal touch to the character of the team.

"Paul has injected his own personality into the leadership role and into running the team from the setters position," says Scott. "I consider that he'll be one of the best setters in the country."

Eric Villeneuve, 19, is in his rookie season. He replaces all-Canadian Deon Goulding as the team's middle.

Scott says it's rare to have a rookie assume such a major role.

"It's rare that you get a quality player like that who walks right into a starting position," says Scott. "Eric, like Paul, is a very good all around player with tremendous court sense. He fits right in."

This is the first time the two brothers have played together on the same team since high school volleyball in Ottawa. Even then, they were only teammates for a year.

Eric says having an older brother who has already been at Dalhousie for two years has helped him adjust.

"I'm playing a position that's new to me but Paul's played it before and he has helped me out with it," says Eric. "We're close and he gives me advice. Sometimes in the heat of practice I might not respond too well but all in all it has worked out well."

This past weekend the Villeneuves helped the Tigers win a bronze medal at the York Excalibur Volleyball tournament. In the bronze medal match, the Tigers beat the Western Mustangs 3-2 and by scores of 14-16, 7-15, 15-10, 16-14 and 17-15.

This weekend the Tigers travel to Newfoundland to play a pair of matches against Memorial.

TIGER BEAT

HOCKEY:

Jan. 11 UNB @ DAL 7:30 p.m.

JAN. 12 STU @ DAL 2 p.m.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL:

Jan. 11 DAL @ MUN 6 p.m.

Jan. 12 DAL @ MUN 10 a.m.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL:

Jan. 10 DAL @ UDM 7 p.m.

Jan. 11 DAL @ MTA 2 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

Jan. 10 DAL @ PEI 6 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Jan. 10 DAL @ PEI 8 p.m.

Jan. 15 SMU @ DAL 7:30 p.m.

DALHOUSIE ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

NOV. 25 - DEC. 1

DEC. 30 - JAN. 5



Tara MacIntyre
Volleyball



David Chiasson
Basketball



Jennifer Clark
Basketball



Everett Rose
Volleyball



Varsity Action this week...

HOCKEY

Dal vs UNB Saturday, Jan. 11 7:30pm

Dal vs STU Sunday, Jan. 12 2:00pm

* Full-time Dal students admitted FREE with valid I.D.

FOLLOW THE TIGERS!

KALENDAR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The YMCA of Metro Halifax offers fitness classes in 206 Duke Tower in Scotia Square. These 40 minute lunch time classes are held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. For further info about times and classes, please call the YMCA at 423-9622. Contact person is Jean Shaw.

Vegetarian, non-smoking roommate needed Bedroom and private living room for \$250. Must love puppies. Ph. Suzy or Steve at 425-3103 or 494-2507.

Management Development for Women is a ten-month part-time program co-sponsored by Mount Saint Vincent University and St. Mary's University. For more information and application, phone 443-4450, extension 243, or 420-5639.

FRIDAY 10

This is the first day for the Formal Wear and Swap at Sackville High, running from 3 to 8 pm today and 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday. Those interested in selling their gowns or suits are asked to bring them to Sackville High between the hours of 11:30am and 8pm on January 8,9,10. Entrance fee is \$1.00 and refreshments will be available. All items are tax free. For inquiries concerning dropping off clothes prior to these dates or pick-up services for this event, phone 865-8529.

THURSDAY 9

The Dal Bridge Club is meeting tonight between 7 and 11 pm in room 304 of the SUB, all are welcome.

GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Association of Dalhousie), will be meeting tonight at 7 pm in room 307 of the SUB. New members are always welcome! For more info contact Francis at 422-5677 or Neil at 429-4170, or leave a message at the SUB inquiry desk. Confidentiality assured.

SATURDAY 11

Certification in International Business begins today. For more information and for application, call St. Mary's at the World Trade Centre, 420-5639.

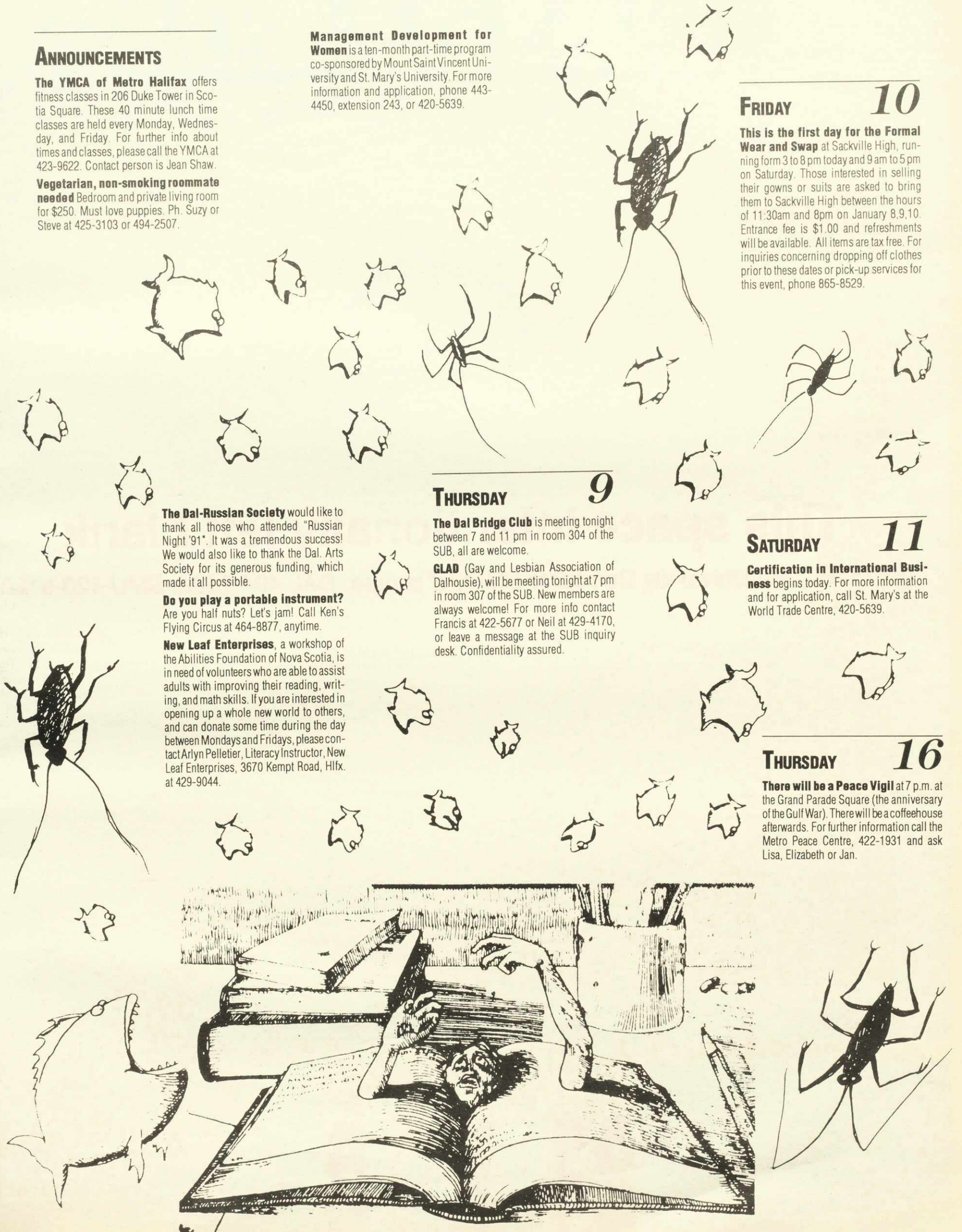
THURSDAY 16

There will be a Peace Vigil at 7 p.m. at the Grand Parade Square (the anniversary of the Gulf War). There will be a coffeehouse afterwards. For further information call the Metro Peace Centre, 422-1931 and ask Lisa, Elizabeth or Jan.

The Dal-Russian Society would like to thank all those who attended "Russian Night '91". It was a tremendous success! We would also like to thank the Dal. Arts Society for its generous funding, which made it all possible.

Do you play a portable instrument? Are you half nuts? Let's jam! Call Ken's Flying Circus at 464-8877, anytime.

New Leaf Enterprises, a workshop of the Abilities Foundation of Nova Scotia, is in need of volunteers who are able to assist adults with improving their reading, writing, and math skills. If you are interested in opening up a whole new world to others, and can donate some time during the day between Mondays and Fridays, please contact Arlyn Pelletier, Literacy Instructor, New Leaf Enterprises, 3670 Kempt Road, Hfx. at 429-9044.



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(By PCPC, the University Computer Store, of course. DAL 494-2626, SMU 420-5120)