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roll to you, p.10-11.

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the Gazette

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, HALIFAX, N.S.

Thursday, March 21, 1996

East Timor tales of horror

BY WAYNE GROSZKO

"How many of you have heard of East Timor?" asked Isabel Galhos, an East Timorese woman who spoke at Law Hour last Thursday, March 14.

Over half the people in the audience raised their hands.

"Good," said Galhos, "so I don't have to explain to you where is East Timor."

The former Portuguese colony of East Timor declared independence in November, 1975. Two weeks later, the country was invaded by the Indonesian military.

Galhos was three years old at the time. She said Indonesian troops entered her home and raped and killed several members of her family.

The killing of East Timorese people by the Indonesian military has continued unabated since that day, said Galhos, and one third of the East Timorese population has been killed through war and famine.

Galhos said she trained in the Indonesian army. She was judged politically safe enough to participate in a cultural exchange program called Canada World Youth.

She defected as soon as she reached Canada, and despite threats by the Indonesian army to her family still living in East Timor, she is telling her story.

"Here in Canada I can tell the truth about my country," said Galhos. "Because I tell the truth, I cannot go back to East Timor. They kill me."

She described some of the conditions in East Timor under the ongoing Indonesian occupation.

"We are not allowed to get together more than two people at a time, and not allowed to leave home after eight o'clock at night," she said. "Every pro-independence family is required to adopt two members of the Indonesian military to keep in their home."

"In school, one day, they took the men out of the class and lined up the women and gave them an injection, without any explanation," said Galhos.

She later discovered that she had been subjected to sterilization.

Bill Owen, of the East Timor Alert Network (ETAN), provided background information about the situation in East Timor and showed a short video clip on the Dili massacre of 1991.

On Oct. 28, 1991, an unarmed East Timorese student was shot dead by the Indonesian military. A few weeks later, several thousand East Timorese people walked to the Santa Cruz cemetery in the capital city of Dili to mourn and protest his death.

Indonesian soldiers opened fire on the unarmed crowd, killing an estimated 300 people. Indonesian

Tuition going up...again

BY DANIEL CLARK

The motion concerning next year's fee increase passed with little opposition at the Board of Governors (BOG) meeting on Tuesday, March 19.

John Risley, the BOG's honorary treasurer, made the presentation. Contrary to numbers published in previous reports of the president's Budget Advisory Committee (BAC), next year's financial shortfall will be 7% of the total budget, or approximately

Board of Governors passes fee hike

\$11 million.

To combat this, and to help maximize profits from tuition, Risley proposed that tuition fees be increased by 12% for arts students and by 9.7% for science students. Fee hikes for the other faculties will vary, however none will exceed a 12% increase, he said.

Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) president David Cox voiced

his opposition.

"As an arts student, I find it very aggravating that arts students are charged a lot more than students in other programs which cost considerably more to run," he said. "Especially seeing as these people [science students] will go out into the world and later earn that much more."

Joan Crawford, a Senate rep-

resentative on the BOG, defended the increases.

"The students are our customers... and as much as I hate to see tuition go up, I realize that it is impossible to cut any deeper into departmental budgets," she said. "In my own department, we have seen fewer electives, and larger classes, and soon it will be difficult to offer a viable education."

The tuition increase means that the average arts student will be paying almost \$375 more next year, bringing their total fee to almost \$3,700. For science students, the cost will jump from below \$3,800 to over \$4,100. And if classes start earlier next year, summer jobs may be cut short.

"It really worries me that with them moving next year's start date forward, that more than just Frosh week is being sacrificed," said Howe Hall President John Killam. "This is time that the student needs to earn this extra money."

Fee increases will make Dalhousie one of the three most expensive universities in the country.

"This decision [how much to increase fees] may be premature," said Colin Stuttard, Chair of the Senate and a BOG representative. "With Ontario changing their fee structure, we might want to see if the rest of the country will follow."

Dalhousie president Dr. Tom Traves disagreed.

"We have to make a decision at some point, and I think we have as much information as we are going to get," he said.

Also at the meeting, Dr. Traves gave the president's report to the BOG. In it, he congratulated Dalhousie's sports teams.

"We would like to express our appreciation and congratulations to all of the sports teams at Dalhousie," he said.

"As most of you probably know, our basketball team was recently in the national championships. In addition, of the 13 teams we have playing at the inter-collegiate level, 11 [were] regional champions, which is probably a record for the university."

Dr. Traves also offered his congratulations to those students who participated in last week's elections.

"We had an excellent turnout, I believe, of over 2,000 students," he said. "I think this is a significant increase in the level of participation over past years, and I think credit is due to you [President Cox] and the other members of the DSU who have made this avenue available to students."

Traves acknowledged that the student's capital campaign contribution of \$1.3 million is still the highest of any individual organization. This was a point that Cox later reiterated in his own presentation to the BOG.

The capital campaign program is a new fundraising program which involves the alumni and the current Dalhousie community.



GAZETTE PHOTO BY DANIELLE BOUDREAU

Springtime, and the living's easy... well, not quite yet.

Students here take time out to enjoy the balmy weather that swept over Hallowtown last week. One energetic student was even seen sporting shorts. The vegetarian hot dog guy from in front of the SUB, seen here at right, was reportedly doing brisk business.

A case for anti-censorship

BY KATHARINE DUNN

SO what does he look like?" Jane asks, fervently tugging at Karen's sleeve. Karen hesitates and sighs, visibly frustrated. "Well? It's not a difficult question."

She's right, the question is not a tough one. However, Karen is uncertain of how to answer. The man she attempts to describe is black. Or is he African-American? Or Afro-Canadian? Or coloured?

Karen searches for the correct response — the politically correct response, that is. But when it comes to political correctness, the answers to such questions are usually obsolete by the time people get around to using them.

"He's tall, dark, and handsome," Karen finally concedes, successfully dodging a reference to his "colour."

Originally, it was due to good intentions that people were conscious of the language they used. However, this language is ephemeral, and our choice of words which may be acceptable today might not be tomorrow. In a democratic society where individuals of every class, race, sex, and ability are deemed equal, we have espoused terminology which we believe best accommodates each others' "societal status."

feature

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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DSU Dalhousie Student Union

Dalhousie Student Union 1996 Spring By-Election
Nominations from March 18th (10am) to Sunday March 24th (8pm)
Campaign Period from Monday March 25th (8am) to Sunday March 31st (8pm)
Candidate voting days: April 1st & 2nd
Referendum voting days: April 1st - 3rd

Voting Days (9AM to 5PM)

- ▲ Dunn Building
- ▲ Student Union Building
- ▲ Life Science Centre
- ▲ Howe Hall
- ▲ Killam Library
- ▲ Arts & Administration Bldg.
- ▲ Shirreff Hall
- ▲ Weldon Law Building
- ▲ Tupper Building
- ▲ Dalplex
- ▲ Forrest Building
- ▲ School of Business Administration

Positions available
one (1) Board of Governor Representative

Referendum Question

Whereas a mandatory health plan for all full time students at Dalhousie will cost \$55.
Whereas this plan offers the option to opt-out of this plan and be reimbursed \$50 with proof of coverage.
Do you wish to have a mandatory full time DSU Health Plan?
YES or NO

Please remember that you must present your valid Dalhousie ID Card in order to receive a ballot

CALL THE DSU INFOLINE 494-2146, ACCESS CODE 900
for election form and candidate information!

PRESIDENT/EXECUTIVE VP RACE

BALLOT	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Boudreau/Howe	98	103	118	120	-	-
Cullen/Simpson	60	62	67	-	-	-
Killam/Knowles	740	744	748	764	808	922
MacKay/Hannah	829	831	835	852	891	979
Pederson/Monroe	40	-	-	-	-	-
Poirier/Farrant	136	141	158	158	203	-
Tratnik/Beddington	53	58	-	-	-	-

VP ACADEMIC/EXTERNAL

Lopes 834
Lydon 995

VP COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Barteaux 898
Boyd 365
McNeil 237
Parsons 368

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Cartmill YES - 1654 NO - 246

SENATE

Adams YES - 1600 NO - 209

Clark YES - 1339 NO - 436

Smoking permitted in SUB Cafeteria

YES - 981 NO - 1091

continue membership in CASA

YES - 1240 NO - 710

Football Team fee

YES - 1131 NO - 922

Mandatory Health Plan

YES - 1024 NO - 1024

Health Plan Question is invalid in the case of this tie. The DSU Constitution states that the CRO may vote to break ties in candidate elections but plebisites and referenda must have a plurality of votes. Please note the Health Plan Question is back to referendum in the upcoming By-election.

DSU World Wide Web Site
<http://ac.dal.ca/~dsu/homepage.html>

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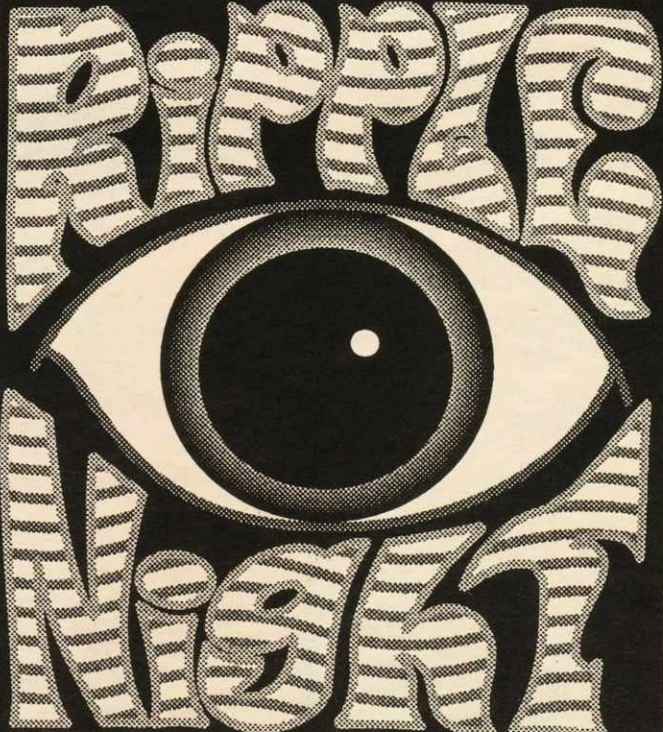
at the dal s.u.b. enquiry desk
and cousin smoothy's, park lane

tickets: \$18.00

N.S. I.D. or Student I.D. Required. Those under 19 years of age will be admitted only with valid Dalhousie I.D.

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IN THE CRAWWOOD

cross-canada briefs

U of A students don't think Klein deserves honorary degree

BY JULIET WILLIAMS

EDMONTON (CUP) — Students at the University of Alberta are upset with plans to offer Premier Ralph Klein an honorary degree at this year's spring convocation.

University administrators have been flooded with hundreds of calls and letters of protest from students and alumni in response to the Senate's offer of an honorary Doctorate of Laws.

The degree is being offered to reward Klein for his community service and role in reducing the province's deficit.

"It's an insult to anybody who's actually worked for their degree," said English student Jasmine Rault.

"Not only is he such a flop in his own work, but that he would make such a point of cutting back support for our education, and then that he should be rewarded for his own non-education is sick."

Klein, who didn't finish high school, has cut funding to post-secondary education by over \$200 million since he's been in office.

Earlier this year, he referred to university students who interrupted a government function as "jackasses."

Klein has said that he may not accept the degree, "if students are not in favour of it," but he hasn't decided yet.

"I don't think Klein really cares [about the effects of the education cutbacks]. I mean, a guy with a grade ten education, who never had to go to university...he's not suffering right now," said recent zoology graduate Aaron Freed.

Freed added that if Klein were giving the convocation address at his graduation he'd "be bringing along some tomatoes."

His sentiments are not unique. In fact, the threat of a disruption at spring convocation led the U of A's student council to urge Klein to decline the degree, at least for now.

"At no other point in time as a student representative have I faced such extensive protest," student council vice president Matthew Hough wrote in a letter to Klein.

"Based on the input I have received from students, many will be willing to actively protest your presence at the time of Convocation...This would be an embarrassment for yourself, for the University and for students."

Chancellor of the U of A Senate and former Tory MLA Lou Hyndman said that the degree was being offered to commend the premier for his community service in reducing Alberta's deficit, and in promoting the so-called "Alberta Advantage."

Acadia students pay to join information age

BY MICHAEL PLATO

TORONTO (CUP) — The information age is coming to Acadia University — and students are paying for it.

The university has plans to upgrade their computer system by providing each student with an IBM personal laptop computer.

But to pay for the program, Acadia students will see a \$1,000 to \$1,200 jump in their tuition fees in mandatory computer leasing costs. Tuition at Acadia currently costs \$3,495.

Acadia's student union president Kate Jenkins says although the price of the program is a huge concern for students, a bursary is being set up to help offset the cost.

And she says the students like the idea of upgrading the computer system at Acadia.

"Students like a lot of it," she said. "Our present computer system is inadequate."

Jenkins adds she has not heard of any complaints from students about the plan.

Approximately 400 new students in the business, computer science, and physics programs will begin leasing the computers next year, with all new students acquiring laptops by the fall of the following year.

Foreign aid plummets

BY SAMER MUSCATI

OTTAWA (CUP) — The true victims of this year's federal budget cuts will not organize protests, wave placards, or hold press conferences — they will simply continue to die in silence.

They are the anonymous third-world victims of war, poverty, disease, and hunger, and their plight took a turn for the worse with Canada's announcement to slash another \$150 million from its foreign-aid budget in 1998-99.

Finance Minister Paul Martin announced the cuts on March 6 that will see foreign aid slump to its lowest level since the mid-1960's. The Liberals have slashed Canada's aid budget by more than 34 per cent — from \$2.9 billion to \$1.9 billion — since taking office in 1993.

"The cuts show a wholesale abandonment of poor people," said Erika Rosenfeld, spokesperson for the Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC), an umbrella organization representing over 100 non-profit humanitarian groups.

"The government does not see aid as a priority issue and has targeted it disproportionately. It's especially shocking because it's a such small amount of money to begin with."

The cuts will place Canada, a traditional leader in aid donation, near the bottom of the generosity list for developed countries providing assistance.

Election results

BY PATTI WALLER

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) elections came to a close for another year, with only two issues left undecided.

Andy Doyle, Chief Returning Officer, said he is generally pleased with the voter turnout produced during these elections.

"I think it went really well," he said. "We got more voters out than usual for us, somewhere between 20 and 21%."

Doyle attributed the significant turnout to measures taken by the Elections Committee. He also said much of the success was due to the mail-out pamphlets that informed voters of the issues, and individual efforts on the part of members of the DSU executive,

like outgoing president David Cox. Cox had addressed classes and had encouraged students to participate in student politics.

Any problems that were encountered were "very quickly dealt with by the committee...and they were able to get fixed before they interfered with the outcome of the elections," said Doyle.

Vice President-elect Katherine Hannah maintained that although the election process was nerve-racking, she and president-elect Brad MacKay are already working on plans for next year.

"My personal one is the student apathy problem," she said. "Shirreff Hall was the same way, and we managed to turn that around. During our own elections we had almost 90% voter turn-

out, and that's something that on a wider scale I would like to bring to Dalhousie."

The new VP is keen on following through such election promises as implementing a public bus which would shuttle students further away from campus than the current one and which could even hook up with Saint Mary's campus. She also wants to start a student research grant program.

Outgoing VP executive, Lilli Ju, said the smoking referendum question was resolved in the most democratic way.

"When the council first passed the smoking policy and it created an uproar, students came to me demanding that every student should have a say in it," she said.

As of May 1st, the whole cafeteria will be non-smoking.

The CASA referendum question was passed by a margin of 1240 to 710.

NSPIRG board member Aaron Poirier contended that this result does not necessarily reflect the opinion of all students.

"I don't think the DSU has told students enough about what CASA is, or what CASA means for this campus," he said. "There were several people in the DSU that were very committed to having the CASA vote pass, and I think they're certainly going to use it as an opportunity to say that students support our membership in CASA."

Outgoing VP Community Affairs, James Dann, was pleased that the football question passed.

Ju said there are now t-shirts for sale toting "Dalhousie Football" on the front and "Undeclared since 1976" on the back.

Two issues remain unresolved at this point in the election process. There is still one space for a Board of Governors (BOG) representative, so a by-election is planned for April 1-3. Also, as the health plan referendum question resulted in an exact tie, a by-election is scheduled for April 1-2.

Final Election & Referenda Results

President/VP Executive	1st ballot	6th ballot
Boudreau/Howe	98	-
Cullen/Simpson	60	-
Killam/Knowles	740	922
MacKay/Hannah	829	979
Pederson/Monroe	40	-
Poirier/Farrant	136	-
Tratnik/Beddington	53	-

VP Academic/External	VP Community Affairs
Lopes 834	Barteaux 898
Lydon 995	Boyd 365
	McNeil 237
	Parsons 368

Board of Governors	Smoking permitted in SUB cafeteria
Cartmill Yes 1654	Yes 981 No 1091
No 246	

Senate	Continue CASA membership
Adams Yes 1600	Yes 1240 No 710
No 209	
Clark Yes 1339	
No 436	

Football team fee	Mandatory health plan
Yes 1131 No 922	Yes 1024 No 1024

CBC radio host visits Dal

BY KRISTIN MCNEILL

"Boring as batshit." That's how CBC Radio host Ian Brown described Canada's national newspaper to Political Science students last week.

Brown breezed through Dalhousie campus to give the first year class a lecture entitled "Journalism and Communication: from Theory to Reality."

One of Canada's leading journalists, Brown indulges in a reporting style which diverts from mainstream journalism. Sunday Morning, his three hour current affairs program which airs every Sunday morning, is controversial in nature and, as he admitted, bound to raise some eyebrows.

Brown graduated from University of Toronto with an English degree. In 1976, at the age of 22, he became involved in journalism. Most of his career as a journalist has been in print media, working for the Globe and Mail and the Financial Post. He has also been a host on a TV Ontario program, a host for a drive-home CBC Radio show, and was frequently a panelist and guest host on CBC Radio's Morningside.

"I'm gonna talk about how we break the rules," was Brown's way of introducing his lecture.

By rules, Brown was referring to the way most media institutions go about selecting stories and how they present them to the public.

What these programs or articles depict is a kind of information that people think they should know about. He said the content of Sunday Morning is information people don't think they want to know about, but really do.

What he chooses to convey across the airwaves must be quirky enough to satisfy his curiosity. He pursues a story when "some worm of interest starts eating away" at his brain.

Brown became the new host of Sunday Morning in September, 1994. The show became more "host-driven" and assumed a hip, urban appeal. Under previous host Mary-Lou Finlay, Sunday Morning had been dominated by documentaries and issues-based reporting.

The freedom to personalize the content of the show suited Brown's style of commentary. In an interview with the Globe and Mail in December, 1994, Brown shared some letters from critical listeners.

"My actual favourite described me as a 'young windbag,' which I thought was great," he said.

His talent as a communicator was apparent in his speech to the political science class. He kept the audience in stitches for most of the hour with self-deprecating stories about his journalism career and frequent jabs at the boringness of the mainstream media.

He said people who consume daily news coverage such as the kind found in the Globe and Mail,

"do not choose to have [their] asses bored off [their] bodies."

Despite the criticism he has of mainstream media, he maintains that the media represents the most powerful institution in the world.

"Media has all the power and none of the responsibility, and the politicians have all the responsibility and none of the power," he said.

He commented that many people are discontented with the media these days. He said when journalism becomes an "establishment," what he terms as the "big agenda" dominates what people read, hear, and see. The sense of alienation that many feel stems from being force-fed certain information.

Brown claims he tries to remove that sense of alienation by choosing stories that do not conform to typical "political journalism."

"When we find a story that has not been touched by mainstream media, we figure we are onto something," he said.

Some listeners are not used to his reporting style, which is much more personalized and engaging than mainstream reporting.

Critics that call in "cannot liberate themselves from their own points of view," Brown said.

He concluded his lecture with the insistence that people can choose to get away from the top-down approach to journalism and concentrate on stories that are told in a clever and stylish way.

CENSORSHIP

"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Policing our thoughts or thought police?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, "political correctness" has broadened its sphere of inappropriate expressions to such an extent that we have the potential of significantly narrowing our thought base. Women are now "womyn," we refer to people who are deaf as "hearing impaired," and mentally challenged has metamorphosed into the vague "community living." People are consistently screening their thoughts before voicing opinions. Many people feel that this sensitivity has resulted in censorship.

Clearly, there is a point when

language verges on offensive vulgarity for a particular portion of society. But whose responsibility is it to draw the line where people feel their rights are being violated? Most people would rather pass off the responsibility of defining the boundaries to a higher authority, such as the church or the government.

...cont'd from page one: "EAST TIMOR"



Galhos describes atrocities in East Timor

officials called the event an "isolated aberration."

Owen claimed that other similar attacks have been committed, but this was the only one that foreign journalists were able to record on tape.

Galhos was present at the scene of the massacre in 1991, hiding among the gravestones to avoid being shot.

"We fight for freedom, for twenty years, with no help from other countries," she said. "We fight alone."

Galhos said she personally asked Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to speak out publicly about East Timor during his recent Canadian trade mission to Southeast Asia. She said he did not make any public statements, instead, "He prefers to whisper in Suharto's ears behind closed doors." Suharto is the ruler of Indonesia.

Owen said that not only has the Canadian government ignored the issue of East Timor, but Dalhousie University has, too.

"We have university publications which list East Timor as the twenty-seventh province of Indonesia, even though the occupation is illegal, and the Indonesian claim of East Timor as a province has never been recognized by the UN," he said.

Somebody asked Galhos if she is afraid of what the Indonesian military might do to her.

"Am I afraid?" she said. "It's too late now. I could be afraid before I defected. Now it's like I've taken a shower. I'm wet already."

For more information about East Timor, contact the East Timor Alert Network by email at aa088@chebucto.ns.ca, or by phone at 422-1265.

A university campus is an environment which encourages the censorship debate — it is a place where advocates and critics of censorship may argue their cases. In fact, university is considered a place where students have a responsibility to question and challenge everything around them. Campus papers often become the focal point of controversy since their unique position allows students to take risks that mainstream papers simply cannot attempt.

Mount Saint Vincent University's student paper, the *Picaro*, encountered protest on January 30, 1996 after publishing several articles with alleged sexist and homophobic content. About 12 students removed papers from several newsstands on campus and dumped them in front of the *Picaro* office. *Picaro* staff members hand-delivered the papers to students two days later.

A forum entitled "So What's Offensive?" was held a week later, assembling several *Picaro* staff members as well as those who protested the distribution of the papers.

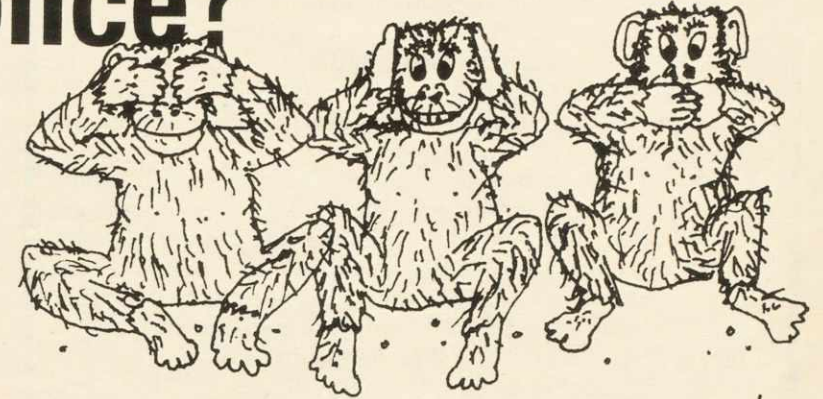
The protesters raised objections over the use of the word "fag" in one of the articles, and objected to the title of another article, "Drunk and Stupid in a Skirt," which they regarded as sexist towards women.

Two of the protesters claimed that they "do not believe in censorship," but that "...in a university that is supposed to represent 84% female views..." their opinions were not being communicated.

The question is, do these women resist the voice of the "minority" simply because it does not advocate their own beliefs?

The forum came to a close and "So What's Offensive?" remained unresolved. Such is the nebulous nature of the censorship debate.

Larry Amey, a professor at Dalhousie's School of Library and Information Studies, takes a special interest in intellectual free-



See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil...
...then evil does not exist??

dom as a former editor of his university paper and in light of his contention that "libraries have been attacked from the very first time that something came off the printing press."

He believes that the *Picaro* incident is at most an example of "polite censorship" because the protesters did not go so far as to destroy the newspapers.

Last month, Dalhousie faced its own censorship controversy. Some students at Howe Hall created t-shirts whose message was deemed misogynist. The shirts were discovered, confiscated, and subsequently destroyed. Many people called the women's centre and contacted the residence administration, and their complaints resounded throughout the campus: "Never Trust Anything That Can Bleed for Four to Five Days and Not Die" was simply not an acceptable message in a supposed intellectual community that espouses common respect and decency. The originators of the t-shirts did not defend their message, as no one complained when the t-shirts were destroyed.

Yet will confiscation and destruction of a particular voice right the wrongs in our society?

Amey did not agree with the administration's action. He views the t-shirts as a "typical, vulgar campus prank," but "the university should not be mixed up in [the dispute] at all" because the message on the shirts, albeit sexist and degrading to women, is a form of free expression.

"The places where people can't do that, we remember what happens to them there," said Amey. "This is a student matter. If the women students disapprove and

would like to let the gentlemen know of their disapproval, that is free expression too, and I support that 100%."

"It is not as though by somebody expressing this that it is validated, or that we believe it," said Amey. "And what an opportunity! Somebody comes down the street wearing that, and you get an excellent opportunity to express your opinion to them."

It is evident that racism, sexism, and the growing militancy of political correctness are themselves forms of censorship.

What can people do to protest what they claim is a violation of their rights?

"If someone publishes something that you disapprove of, the course of action seems obvious," said Amey. "You write a letter, you do a demonstration out in front of the place, you go to student council and complain and make a noise. You make sure that your point of view is expressed."

As for intellectual freedom, "this is a university," said Amey. "If you don't express your views here, where are you going to do it?"

Ideas do cause action; that is undeniable. But the action may be of a negative or a positive nature. So can this action be anticipated?

The fascist and communist countries of recent history are proof that censoring thoughts will inevitably lead to censoring people. However, is absolute intellectual freedom feasible? In a world that is not black and white, censorship is a conundrum that perplexes society on a regular basis because each situation we encounter is unique and requires thoughtful deliberation.

The Gazette is hiring a Typesetting Manager to begin working in the fall of 1996.

- The job requires experience in PageMaker 6.0; a well developed knowledge of the Macintosh environment; and, the ability to work with Photoshop, Freehand, and scanning software.
- The main duties include: doing on-screen layout and design of text and graphical elements of the *Gazette*; troubleshooting and maintaining Macintosh hardware, software; and, Appletalk networks.
- The Typesetting Manager is also required to provide technical support and training to volunteers and staff.
- Experience within a volunteer environment is an asset.
- For more information, please contact Jennifer Horsey at 494-2507.

The Gazette is hiring a Business/Advertising Manager to begin working in August of 1996.

- The main duties include: soliciting advertisements for the *Gazette* from sources on campus and around the metro Halifax area; designing ads to client specifications; and, financial administration of the *Gazette*.
- Accounting experience and experience within a volunteer environment are assets.
- For more information, please contact Jennifer Horsey at 494-2507.

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letters

Freaks of revolution

To the Editor:

Stuart and Colin did raise in their letter a couple of things that did matter.

If the United Nations rate Canada the best place to live in the world, then what's our beef?

Hmm, let's see...U.N. "peace-keepers" murdered Congolese leader Patricio Lumumba in 1964; oversaw the genocide of the East Timorese (with Canada's help) from 1975 - present; devastated Iraq (1991 - present); tortured and murdered thousands in Somalia (1993); and, these are only the crimes that come immediately to mind as I write. The U.N.'s record of murder and betrayal is a long one indeed.

The status of women in Canada has dropped from 2nd in the world (1978) to 9th (1995).

Over 1 child in 5 in Canada lives in poverty and Canada has the highest unemployment rate in the industrialized world. The winter cold is killing homeless people in the streets and the income support programs the unemployed desperately need are being dismantled.

Are you proud of this, boys?

As for revolution, learn your history. If human beings are anything, they are freaks of revolution. The continual striving to better our social situation is very much part of who we are.

Cape Breton Labour Leader J.B. MacLaughlin once stated, "Under capitalism you have but two choices. You can crawl or you can fight."

What sets us apart from you, Stuart and Colin, is that we chose to fight.

Stephen Ellis
International Socialists

Intramural refs lacking

To the Editor:

I recently took in an intramural 'A' hockey game between Smith/Bronson and Cameron house. It is unfortunate that the biggest impression that was left with me as I exited the arena, and that is still on my mind, is the quality of the officiating in the game.

To say the least, the on-ice officials were lacking in training, and did not possess the ability to control a game. Throughout the year I have found that this phenomenon is not limited to the sport of hockey.

Almost every single intramural sport I have played or watched this year has been officiated by young men and women who have either no desire, or lack the ability to keep up with the play. During the games it appears that the officials simply don't care about the job they are doing.

This attitude on the part of the officials, if it is allowed to continue, will inevitably lead to serious injury of one or several players. It is not fair to the players, the spectators, or the officials themselves to allow this trend to continue.

The organizers of intramural sports, as hard-headed as their reputation makes them out to be, should open their eyes and implement mandatory official training programs in the fall of each academic year for any student who wishes to officiate any sport during the coming school year.

Throughout the year the student-officials should be closely supervised, and scrutinized by a suitable senior official, who holds no allegiances to any one house or faculty on campus.

I do not write this letter as a criticism of the intramural program that brings about immeasurable house pride and campus spirit, but I do hope that this issue will be taken under consideration by the organizers of intramural sports.

Sincerely,

Mark Scott
Howe Hall Resident



editorial

That's the news(paper) and I am outa here...

This is the end, beautiful friend
This is the end, my only friend, the end
of our elaborate plans. The end,
of everything that stands, the end,
No safety or surprise the end.
I'll never look into your eyes again.

— Jim Morrison

Almost.

We've actually got two more issues after this one, but as this will probably be my last editorial, and the new copy editor (hi, Tim) will soon be ready to take over, it represents a kind of end, for me anyhow.

Looking back, it becomes immediately evident that I did not accomplish everything I wanted to do this year. I take some solace in the fact that Gazette editors say that every year, but it's still disappointing.

One of my goals with the Gazette this year was to de-stigmatize it. Having lived in residence for three years, I saw and heard a lot of (sometimes deserved) negative things about the Gazette. A lot of people wouldn't pick up the Gazette because someone might see them reading it. Hopefully, that small-mindedness has all but disappeared. I'm sure some of it still goes on; it's common for a university newspaper to be seen by much of the student body as a refuge for freaks, lefty pinkos, militants, and losers. My first year as a writer, I basically just dropped off a sports article, said 'hi' to a couple of people, and left. And I'll readily admit that there were some people that hung around the office that I classified as weirdos. But, as I got sucked into the paper and crossed paths with these people more often, I started noticing the similarities that we shared as opposed to the things that made us different. Familiarity has bred friendship and tolerance. To use a 90's catchphrase, my awareness has been raised.

I hope more of you decide to come up to room 312 of the SUB and check us out. Give us a chance; don't

be scared away by rumours — find out what we're about for yourself. I'm sorry that I spent three years as a Dal student before I gave the Gazette a shot.

But back to my initial point. Over the past three years, I think I have witnessed a growing student approval for the Gazette. Not to say that the goal of the paper should for students to simply like it, but if more people can tolerate it enough to pick it up, then maybe more people are reading it and, hopefully, thinking about what they've read. This is a stretch, I know, but it is something that the paper should be shooting for.

It's easy to get caught up in the mindset of the masses. You know, the "mob mentality." In residences, in societies, and in your circle of friends, the collective mind often clouds the decision-making capabilities of the individual. One of the strengths of university (or any educational facility) is that there is the opportunity and encouragement to think for yourself, to form your own opinions. Usually, university is a totally new scene for first year students — a new beginning; a rebirth, if you will. You may see the world one way, but you come here and are exposed to many other viewpoints. The worst thing you can do is not give any of these other ideas a chance. You might not agree with the concept being expressed, but at least consider it and examine why you disagree. Then put yourself in the other person's position and imagine how you would react to the given set of circumstances. Ultimately, you might still disagree — and you have every right to do so — but hopefully, you'll come out of the experience with a greater understanding of what makes somebody else tick.

While you're here, you'll be exposed to countless ideologies. Don't accept them blindly; don't dismiss them in one fell swoop. Most people walk out of here after four years with a degree and an education, but it's a shame if they're one in the same.

SAM MCCAIG

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opinion

More election crap

THANKFULLY, it's all over!!! The elections, I mean. We can all go back to our ordinary lives, and perhaps, save a few trees. For one solid week, we had our lives completely disrupted by the rantings of far too many people using the same old tired lines that were old when Moses used them. More accessibility, more this, more that. More crap is more like it.

I mean, we all know why they do it. They just want to improve their résumé so they can get a job when they leave. And, the \$18,000 isn't too bad a package, is it?

But, who have you all elected this time? Probably just another Ken and Barbie. Who knows? We shall see. Maybe they'll be really open and above board, or maybe they'll be just like this year's executive. The rumours that I've heard surround the return of David Cox, this year's outgoing President, who could be reincarnated as DSU treasurer. From what I've heard, he wants to make sure that his vision is carried on. But then again, this is only rumour. I'm sure that Brad and Katherine won't make any rash decisions based on some strange notion of patronage. I'm sure they will choose with the interests of the students they serve being foremost in their minds.

If there is one wish that I have for the coming DSU administration, it would be for them to keep quiet, do their job, and don't hold any more private meetings. You know, those infamous "In Camera" sessions that were so popular with the outgoing administration. I begin to get antsy when any organization with the power of the DSU doesn't let people know what they are doing.

I also hope that the incoming President doesn't follow the example set by the outgoing Prez when the next elections come around. This year's Prez thought it might be funny to use his authority to bully the Elections Returning Officer into letting him appear at the All Candidates' Meeting, posing as a candidate for office. Now, I don't exactly know what the Prez's drunken appearance was supposed to do, but it appeared to be a vain attempt to intimidate some of the candidates.

I don't know about the rest of you, but to me, his actions were inappropriate and constitute an abuse of power. But then, I expect a certain level of decorum from the person who represents my Student Union to the outside world.

Maybe I'm asking for too much.

Maybe I should just keep my mouth shut.

Hello, whatever!

As if!

JOSEF TRATNIK
Candidate for Godhood!

Only two issues left!

English on the brink

WOW, it's amazing how time flies when your department is dying.

It seems like just yesterday that English at Dalhousie was among the best undergraduate programmes in the country. In fact, a scant three or four years ago, one of the most prestigious degrees a student could land in this university-centric city was that of Dal English Honours. Yet today, the department is a mere shadow of its former self, and the possibility of its resources being further depleted looms large.

Much hard work has been invested by various members of faculty in hopes of restructuring the department, and yet a brief survey of the damage done shows that there is still a long road ahead. Also, recovery will partially depend on us, the collective student body, to ensure the continuing survival of this essential facet of our university.

Drastic alterations in the make-up of the English department have recently been made in order to accommodate an increasingly dwindling budget, and although these are nowhere near finished, the effects have already been devastating.

The previously illustrious honours program has been hit particularly hard. The number of seminars in the 1995-96 session have been reduced to three from a former low of eight, and as a result many honours students are now fulfilling their credits in classes of more than ninety people, instead of the customary fifteen or so in seminars. While it could be argued that reductions of this kind to a department's limited-enrollment programmes are to be expected in the present economic climate, the sad fact is that entry-level courses have had to undergo similar changes. The single most fundamental class offered at the undergraduate level, English 1000, is now taught by more part-time and contracted instructors than it is by permanent faculty members. In addition, the increasing shortage of professors is now forcing the department to consider the possibility of expanding its first year classes to such unthinkable numbers as 150 students. With all of these problems, and the fact that further downsizing is an imminent reality, it is all too clear that the department has indeed fallen upon hard times.

Well la-de-da, you say, our entire university is currently suffering from tremendous hardship, and this type of situation is hardly unique to English. What is unique, however, is the extent to which the department has taken the brunt of some of the most severe blows levelled at Dalhousie. For example, in the spring of 1995, the faculty of Arts and Sciences was instructed to reduce its number of positions by 9.5; more than half of these were shouldered by English, which reluctantly lost five professors. While this continuing decimation of the department has obvious implications upon its ability to entice future majors and honours students, it also has severe ramifications on the quality of instruction available to the hundreds of students who every year choose English as their writing require-

English
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ment. There is now talk of removing this requirement altogether, but even if it remains, it is quite possible that the same student who less than three years ago would have received invaluable attention in bettering their ability to communicate, might tomorrow be attending their classes at the Dalplex gym. And although immense enrollment may be acceptable for other first year classes, skills as rudimentary as reading and writing can in no way afford to be jeopardised in the name of fiscal responsibility.

One concerned group of students attempting to confront these circumstances is the Dalhousie English society, and we need your help. An integral step on the long road ahead is the promotion of a heightened awareness concerning the critical nature of the situation, and this is an avenue that the society has targeted in its efforts to save the department. More help than the work of any society, however, is the voice and opinion of us all-too-often silent types. As a collective student body concerned about our quality and access to education, we must empower ourselves through insisting upon our basic rights and needs. One of these is the ability to capably communicate and understand our own language, which is precisely what the English department has, and must continue to, offer.

If you have ever been touched by the profundity of poetry, or been invigorated by the inspiration of a novel, or even simply believe in the need for varied avenues of expression, then you also believe in the importance of protecting what remains of the Dalhousie English Department. What you now need to do is voice this belief, in any way you can.

MATTHEW COHEN

Please E-mail us at english-society@tuweb.ucis.dal.ca or drop by one of our meetings, Wednesday at 3:30, 1434 Henry St.

blacks on black

A WEEKLY COLUMN BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BLACK UNITED STUDENTS

The making of a 'Tom'

(The following comment was made to me by a young Halifax brother, currently attending Dal. He is at the moment involved with four white females and has received numerous gifts in exchange for his sexual 'services').

"Man, white women will do all sorts o' stuff for you. I get the lovin' whenever I want and they'll buy me anything. I ain't forgotten where I'm at. I'm gonna get me a Black woman when it comes time to settle down..."

The practice of interracial coupling, more commonly known as 'Jungle Fever,' has found a loving home here in Halifax. This is an indisputable fact. However, if we are to truly understand why it occurs with such disturbing regularity, we must first climb inside the mind of this young black man and critically examine how he was created, and then analyze how the presence of the interracial relationship within the black community is of benefit to white power and privilege.

Allow me to set the scene...

The young brother (let's call him 'Tom') enters kindergarten. His mind is sharp and malleable; his interest is high and his potential is great. He opens his first book. 'See Dick jump, see Sally run.' He reads 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,' 'Alice in Wonderland,' 'Cinderella,' and 'Sleeping Beauty.' Nobody in any of his readings looks like him.

The class is assigned a task called 'Trace your family tree.' Some of Tom's white classmates can trace their line to the 12th century. He can only go back to his great-grandmother. Nobody told him about slavery and how it destabilized his Black family. Tom travels home to East Preston on the Metro Transit bus. As the bus rumbles down Gottingen street, he peers out of the soot-covered window and sees the faces of Black men who look just like him standing on the corner.

He arrives home and is greeted by his mother and father. His parents remember the racist attack on

Africville during the 60's; his parents also know that Halifax has changed very little since that time, and yet they tell the boy none of this. February is greeted as Black History Month. Tom's classmates and teachers expect him, as a Black person, to be fully aware of his culture. However, Black history does not appear in the curriculum. All Tom knows is what is fed to him on television — that is, Black people starving, playing sports, and committing crimes.

By the time Tom is nine years old, he honestly believes that white people own everything, create everything, and are more intelligent. He views his own culture through the corrupting lenses of white racism; thus, he sees his people as savage and contributing nothing to the world, besides drugs and crime. By age nine, Tom has a strong unconscious hatred for all things Black, including himself. He has been overwhelmed by the eurocentric propaganda machine which is the education system, as well as the failure of his parents (and the larger Black community) to provide him with a counteractive ideology of Black mental emancipation, groomed to negate the psychological terrorism caused by white racism.

Fast forward to grade nine. Tom is now 14 years old. He is discovering his sexuality and is beginning to see the female form in a different light. His ideal woman is a white woman, not because they are what he sees all around him, but because racism decrees that the white woman is the ultimate representation of all that is beautiful and pure. Racist mythology also misrepresents the Black male in white minds as a brute with an enormous penis, who has the sexual stamina of ten white men; and, in a culture obsessed with sex, this myth makes the Black male a very desirable sex partner. Tom begins to view himself as a sexual being, whose sole 'raison d'être' is to ejaculate inside a white woman. He is now ready for his first interracial relationship, whose existence is a necessary factor in the subjugation of Black people in Halifax (and indeed, throughout the world).

To be continued in next week's Gazette.

C. BURCHALL

A sensitive New age

It never ceases to amaze me that we've made it this far. We've come close to extinction as a people many times; our ability to survive on this planet is incredible. With all of the social problems our society faces, from poverty to the acceptance of homosexuals, and from racial equality to trying to find a decent pizza, the most dangerous social trend in history has arisen. It is the New Man and New Woman movements.

It has swept across North America in a tidal wave of tears and feminism. Fifty Thousand New Men gathered at the Minneapolis Metrodome for a cry-in, and women's liberation conferences have arisen in every major city.

For women, the fight against male oppression is a never-ending battle. All around them, there is oppression. No New Woman would ever grace the male-dominated delivery room where the fruit of the woman's womb is ripped from her. For the New Woman, the only place to have a child is at home or in a birthing clinic where they can be at one with their pain, and not have the experience forced away from them by male epidurals.

New Men on the other hand have gone in the opposite direction. Every man has been abused as a child, and every man's father is a bastard. The ability to be in touch with our feelings is the hallmark of the New Men's movement. One New Man proclaimed that he has always been sexually aggressive because he never saw his father's penis (I don't understand the rationale either).

The New Woman's movement stems from the highly successful Women's Liberation movement of the first eighty years of this century. What started out as a place for disgruntled wives to explore the problems of their marriage has, in just ten years, turned into a major religious force.

Every major North American university (including Dalhousie) has a women's studies program. At Oberlin college in the U.S., it is a mandatory course for all arts students (male and female), and any person who dares criticize the position taken by this program is written off as disillusioned and in need of education (male or female).

The New Man's movement is primarily stocked with unattractive, overweight, balding, middle-aged men (resembling George from Seinfeld), all of whom are trying to find a place to belong and explanations as to why their life has been so terrible. These men are encouraged to blame anyone and everyone else for their problems and seek solace in their own emotions.

New Man's meetings are remarkable, for almost every session begins with therapeutic breathing and stretching routines (ten thousand overweight men showing the crack of their collective asses at the same time — Oh! Joy!), and ends with a vigorous turn of tears.

Allow me to state my position. Women and men must be equal. Because a woman is strong she should not be mistaken as lesbian, and because a man can cry does not mean that he is gay (these are the stereotypes of Homosexuals and Heterosexuals that are ripping our society apart).

That aside, I don't believe that women need to devote their entire existence to kicking ass and taking numbers, or conversely, to cooking and cleaning. Men should not feel the need to cry every time an operatic Aria strikes an especially solemn tone, or even to fight every time we get drunk. As a people we shouldn't need to blame everyone else for our problems. Take responsibility for your actions and dispositions.

There is a happy medium. Men can cry and not be any less masculine, and women can be tough without becoming Lorena Bobbitt! I am not a New Man. I am not an Old Man. I am me. I cry when I need to. I get depressed. I have never laid a hand in anger on a woman, and I never will. I am far from perfect (I actually look like a New Man, but with all his hair). What I am is a Daniel Clark, and that is my identity.

DANIEL CLARK

An insider's look at the DSU elections

BY JOHN CULLEN

The DSU popularity contest is over for another year, but not without its little scandals. This time around I got to be a part of it, and before I air my views, I'll tell you what led Andrew and I to run for that treasured position of Coolest and Vice Coolest at Dal.

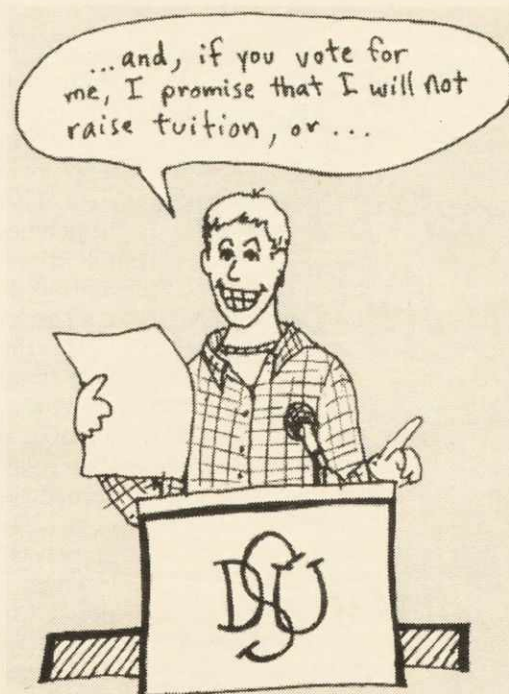
We were sitting in the SUB cafeteria smoking section, pondering student politics, when one of our editors came up and said, "Why don't you run?" That was that. We flipped a coin to see who would be Prez, and luck was on my side that day. We put up no posters, attended no forums, yet came fifth out of seven teams. Not bad for two guys with no qualifications who know nothing about student politics.

After last year's fiasco with the voting procedure, the idea of elections was stale as croutons to the general population. No one wanted an encore. Thank god those not-too-apatetic-to-vote did it right the first time. While

the regular people voted and went on with their lives, the rest of us, bogged down in the muck of student politics, had a week-and-a-half of the rumour mill. Since all rumours find themselves some way or another in the hands of the media, I got to hear them all. Most seemed centred around the Killam/Knowles ticket. At one of the forums, someone tried to portray Killam as a shady character. Another time, someone said they were sleeping together. Also, someone else said Knowles almost dropped off the ballot the day before the campaign. I highly doubt any of this is true; the best way to ruin a serious contender's chances is to pull out the big guns and start shooting at anything that moves. All the same, this rumour stuff shocked me. Who cares if so-and-so is sleeping with their running mate. Politics is not about one's private life, it's about who can do the best job. Just because someone inhaled doesn't mean they can't be a leader.

Another beef I had about the

whole campaign was the idea of poster violations. I didn't know these pieces of paper had to follow so many rules. You can't put them on doors or windows and you can't touch another candidate's poster with your own. Trivial rules, don't you think? Apparently not, as one group was almost disqualified for it. The majority of people may not know this, but if a candidate gets over 10% of the vote, they are entitled to be reimbursed for their campaign expenditures. If you thought those spiffy laser printed posters were coming straight from the candidate's pocket, think again. They knew they'd get their money back, so why not make it look good? I was complaining about this to



another person running, and I got a response that blew my naivety away: "the DSU has an operating budget of \$700,000. What's a 300 dollar reimbursement? The DSU can afford it". That's the type

of view that bankrupts companies. *Scanlan's Monthly*, a magazine in the 70's, folded because they were citing cocaine as a legitimate business expense. If this year's candidates wanted to win, why couldn't they be in charge of their expenses instead of getting hand-outs from the DSU?

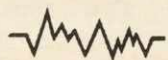
Ah, but as I found out, that's politics.

The whole campaign resembled the Republican party's recent leadership battle. All that backstabbing and 'talking shit' should be left to our scary neighbours to the south. We certainly don't want to turn into them now, do we?

No matter. We still elected some level-headed candidates that will most likely do a fine job. However, let it be known that just as many people will complain about Mr. MacKay as they did about Mr. Cox. No one can please everyone, and if they could, the SUB would be empty of all those irate students, and I'd have nothing to write about. So screw up a few times Brad, because I'm almost out of ideas.



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Grand Opening April 1st



Students get some recognition

BY GAZETTE STAFF

If you are a SUB rat, you may have gotten an invitation to the Sub Rat Ball (a.k.a. Student Appreciation Night), taking place this Friday starting at 6:30 p.m. in the McInnes Room.

Student Appreciation Night is dedicated to all those who have made a contribution to the Dalhousie community in some form or another over the past year.

Board of Governor's Awards are given to graduating students who have volunteered their time and skills to the school. Categories include Best Academic, Unsung Hero, Society Member of the Year, and Society of the Year.

Tickets for the evening are not on sale, but are given to all societies that are recognized by the university. The night features

a banquet put on by the wonderful folks at Beaver Foods; musical stylings by DJ Graham Kitson; and, what is sure to be a very moving speech by our very own University president, Dr. Tom Traves.

The tickets are available from the head of your campus group, so if you are a member of a society and would like to go, contact your leader. The organizers are expecting a turnout of 400 students, mostly because of the cash bar and musical entertainment. Or maybe, the hordes of students want to hear our president waffle away about how 'the future is in our hands' and how 'we can make a difference.'

As mentioned, the doors open at 6:30 p.m., so bring an appetite and a penchant for drink. Get there early...rumour has it John Cullen will be performing a table dance as only he can.

dalhousie student employment centre Room 446, Student Union Building, 494-3537

Summer Job Opportunities — CorporaTel is now offering summer employment for the position of Teleservice Representative. Previous customer service, and telephone experience is an asset. This individual must have a knowledge of Nova Scotia as a travel destination, and computer/typing experience. Applications are available at the centre, deadline date is May 31/96. Several job positions are available with Sackville Recreation as well. These positions are suited for students in recreation, physical education, and education. First aid training is a prerequisite for all positions offered. A listing of the positions, and applications are available at the centre. A copy of the job descriptions is available for reference only. Application deadlines vary, because of the different positions available, so visit the centre soon. Murphy's on the Water is also offering various job opportunities for the summer. For more information on these jobs, check the summer job board at the centre. The registrar's office is accepting resumes for a various number of full time, summer positions. For further information on these jobs, check the summer job board. A description of these positions is also available for reference only, deadline March 29, by noon. Applications are to be submitted to the centre. The deadline date for Dartmouth Parks and Recreation is Friday March 22/96. Applications are still available at the centre. These are just a few of the several summer employment opportunities posted at the centre. If you are still seeking summer employment the job boards should be checked at least weekly. Our office hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Dalhousie Student Union Employment Opportunities — The DSU is now offering various part-time positions, starting in May, and continuing until September, 1996. Applications being accepted are for the following jobs: Sub Staff; Information Centre Staff; Technical Services Staff; Student Reservations Coordinator; Student Night Manager; Grawood/Bar Services; and Corner Pocket Staff. Applications are available at the centre, deadline March 29, by 4:30 p.m.

On-Campus employment — Tiger Patrol and Student Security positions are once again being offered. These are part-time positions, the majority being filled from Sept./96 - Apr./97. Applications are available at the centre, deadline date, March 29/96.

CIBC — The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce is offering summer employment positions as Junior Information Representatives. For a complete list of qualifications, and job description, copies are available at the employment centre, deadline April 1/96.

Junior Professional Officer Programme — UNICEF is now recruiting for Oct./96 interested young Canadian graduates wishing to obtain experience in UNICEF's developing countries. More information and applications are available at the employment centre, deadline date, March 31/96.

National Graduate Register — Information about the National Graduate Register is now available at the Student Employment Centre. This provides students graduating from post-secondary institutions better access to employment opportunities.

Federal Summer Student Employment Program — FSSEP applications are still available at the centre, please pick them up as soon as possible.

Part-time Positions — Part-time employment opportunities are posted daily. There are a number of various positions being offered, the boards should be checked at least weekly.

Dal Profile BY TIM RICHARD

Aaron Spanik, Studying Philosophy and English, 19

At the end of Grade 12, you were offered a four year scholarship (full tuition, room and board) to Washington and Lee University, in Virginia. You dropped out before you even finished your first year. What happened?

First, let me give you a slight bio of the school option: 2,000 students, only co-ed for 10 years, small Southern school, 60% guys, one of the top three most conservative schools in the United States, one of the top three school's for alcohol consumption per capita in the United States. So it was basically a big drink party. It was old Southern style, so there was a lot of racism, a lot of sexism, stupid stuff like that.

So how did you fit in the picture?

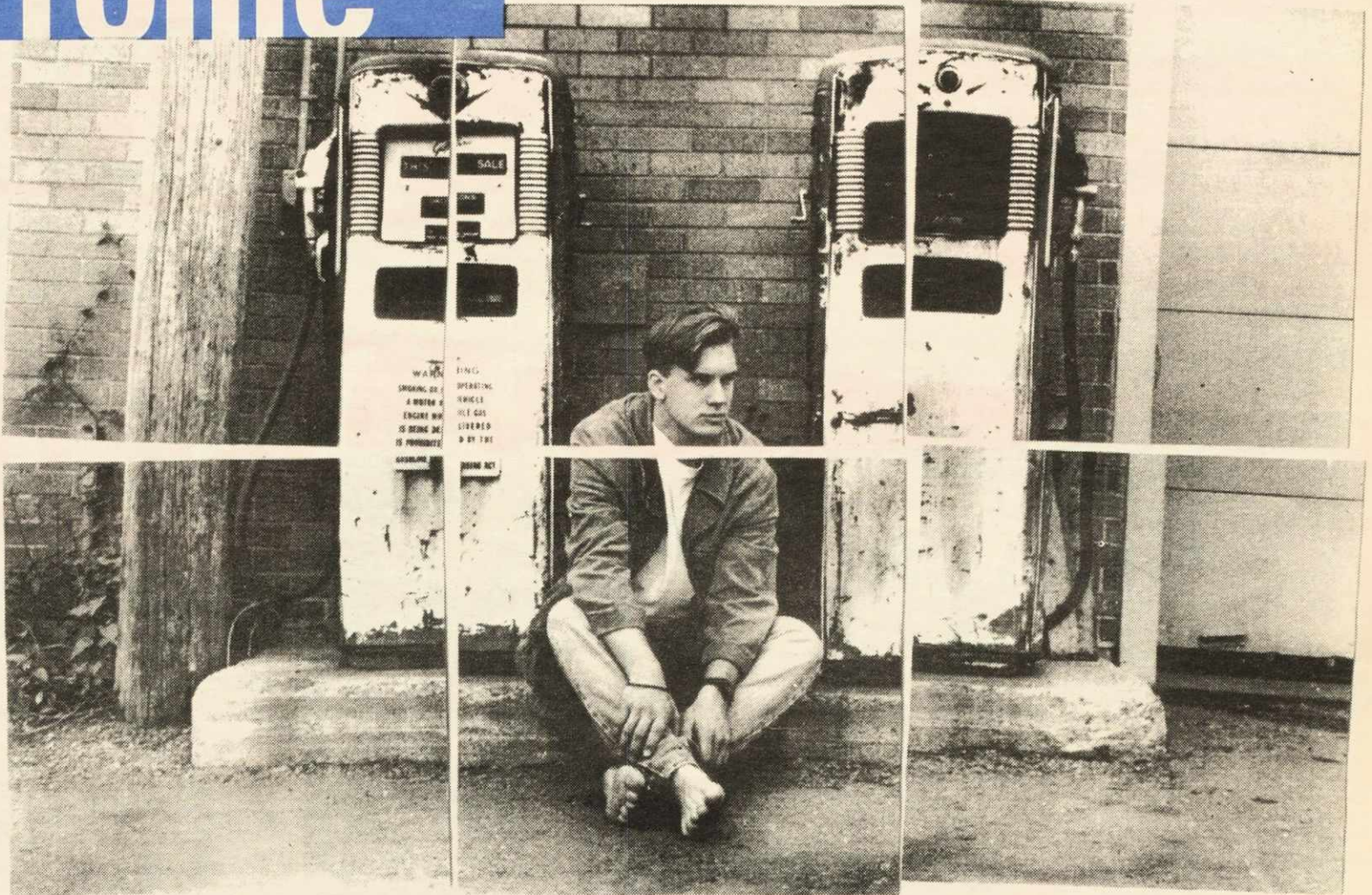
I didn't. I think they offered me the scholarship because they were trying to go for a more diverse population instead of getting guys from the same 20 different prep schools. The admissions/scholarship guy who was trying to implement diversity left before I got there and the school was reverting back to the days before him; supporting sameness. They wanted you to be like them and it was really hard for me because I didn't have the money that they did. I mean, there were five BMWs in the freshman parking lot. There were a lot of pompous, racist bastards.

Did you witness any of these racist attitudes first hand?

Yeah, one of my pledge brothers in my fraternity got in a fight with a black guy one night and the next day our pledge trainer went up to him and said, "Mr. —, I'd like to shake your hand. I hear you got in a fight with some niggers last night." It was at that point I decided to leave the fraternity.

How do the fraternities down there compare with Dal's?

The pledge period down there is 8 months long, so you spend your entire freshman year as a pledge. And it was hell. But I don't think my fraternity was as bad as some of the others. One of the big men on campus fraternities apparently fed their pledges acid. You couldn't pledge unless you had received a black eye at the hands of one of the brothers. Stupid stuff. They made you drink and drink and drink. One time they forced us to drink until we threw up over the balcony and then they put us at the top of the stairs and threw us down the stairs into the mass of our pledge brothers. Then they ripped off our shirts and put on the fraternity shirt. At Washington and Lee, fraternities were part of the culture. A lot of guys joined fraternities to buy friends and meet chicks. There were five girl schools within an hour's drive of the university and one of the goals of the fraternity members was to become



a "five star general" by the end of the four years.

Were you involved in any extra-curricular activities at Washington and Lee?

I played football. That was probably the most school-related fun I had all year.

How would you sum up your experience at Washington and Lee?

I learned how to smoke pot and drink. I missed home. I missed being around people I liked. I had turned into a total pothead. I was dabbling in acid and mushrooms, just making a mess of things, I didn't go to class. Sometimes I do think I should have stuck it out though.

Can you recall your worst drinking experience?

18 beers, 30 minutes.

What do you hope to get out of your time at Dal?

A piece of paper that I can put on my wall. By taking English, you learn to read other styles and I don't think anybody who writes has that much natural ability that they can go without reading what other people are writing and getting ideas from other people. Phi-

losophy helps you learn to think in ways that you're not used to thinking in. So far the professors I've had here at Dal have been top notch.

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

Either really successful, with book contracts and stuff, or wasting away in a gutter.

What ticks you off?

People who refuse to think for themselves. People who don't take credit for what they did. I can't stand racism.

I ask a couple of Aaron's friends to sum him up for me. A friend commented "He's brilliant, but he likes to think he's this fucked up, crazy, drug and drinking man. He likes to play the counter-culture."

What do you never leave home without?

My little blue book. I'm always writing down ideas for stories, song lyrics, poetry.

Aaron pulls the book out of his pocket and tells me he is often described as a sketchy person. He then reads the *Elements of Being Sketchy* from his journal.

1. Come from two places at once.
2. Scream randomly. Remain silent.
3. Grow unsuccessful facial hair.
4. Sing along with different words.
5. Question everything.
6. Refuse to share your food.
7. Share everything else.
8. Kiss very well, converse poorly.
9. Torture yourself over nothing.
10. Bare your soul, hide your body.
11. Ask who threw that chicken.
12. Two words, tighty whities.
13. Be excessive in a minimalistic way.
14. Be pretentious with integrity.
15. Devalue yourself, then brag.
16. Resist definition.
17. Be everyone's one and only.
18. Resist temptation for the wrong reasons.
19. Compare it to a fall day.
20. Claim nothing as your own.

Vegan, meat eater break bread

Lots of meat to eat

BY JOHN CULLEN.

Last night, in our neverending search for story ideas, my editor and I went out for dinner to do a critique on food. Since she is a vegetarian, I naturally decided on Hogie's Kick-a-Boo, the only restaurant in Halifax with a huge neon cow on their sign. This is a steak house *par excellence*—meat and testosterone. We ordered two of their specialty drinks, the 'kick-a-boo,' fruit punch with vodka. A fine beverage to start the meal, although beer always goes well with steak. I ordered the Celebration Special which contained salad, a 12 oz. rib eye steak, a baked potato, and fresh sourdough bread. Quite a meal for the hungry human, but that is what you must expect at a place like this; huge portions and waitresses who call you dear. My editor ordered a baked potato. The waitress laughed and called her dear.

The bread at Hogie's is perfect — fresh out of the oven with two different types of butter. It's hard to stop eating it, but I advise against filling up before the main course. The steak is not the best cut of meat, and the salad doesn't contain the freshest lettuce, but students shouldn't be too picky. All that food for \$11.45 is a steal anywhere, even if it isn't the best in the world.

If you're looking for a place to go that doesn't cost too much and doesn't have someone asking "would you like fries with that?" then check out Hogie's on Quinpool across from McDonald's. Mind you, this is a place that has no alternative food items from meat. For all you vegetarians, it does serve very large potatoes.

Ambient Sizzling

BY SHELLEY ROBINSON

The first year of my vegetarianism I relished the exclusivity, the self-righteous zealotry. Quite a few years later, most of my friends are vegetarian, and I miss, not so much the meat, but the meat culture. Rest assured Hogie's is just such a place, with pizza being the most continental of their dishes. I'm not sure what kick-a-boo means, but I liken it to hideaway, and it serves its function well. With bogus windows that add to the chalet/lodge atmosphere, the perception is one of being able to look in, and being shielded from being looked at.

So supposedly, the most important part of any meal is the food. The bread was incredible, neverending, free, and stayed warm for a staggeringly long period of time. The potato was enormous; in fact, I didn't even finish it all, having chowed on so much bread. Finally, the kick-a-boo punch was largely punch with, to my taste buds, not so much as a hint of vodka. My entire meal was \$3.50, with only a dollar going towards the baked potato. Think of it, they'll charge you \$5.95 at some places — that on closer inspection probably also have primavera something or other on the menu — just for cutting it in half, drizzling a bit of cheese and sprinkling a couple of soy bacon bits on top.

By far, the best part of the meal was when our waitress brought us a complete set of 'designation cows.' They're these little, differently coloured, plastic cows that stick in the steaks — although they didn't come to the table with John's, so maybe they're for kitchen purposes only — to designate if the cow is cooked rare, medium rare, and so on, right on up the range of charbroiled-ness.

Not to cast aspersions on the frequenters of such steak houses, but the clientele seemed blissfully unaware of the outside world as we know it. There was a line up to get into the smoking section and a parking lot full of pickups. I liked it, there was none of that New Country, chicken fajita thang going on. Honest people, chowing down with relish on their cow.

hip, hard-hittin', & Haligonian



Hardhitters
Madhat
No Records

If you're a fan of Lunenburg quartet Madhat, you'll know that this band is long overdue for a recording (1993's *Freak* was the band's last effort). While the band's new disc, *Hardhitters*, isn't out until March 30, Madhat fans will soon hear that it was worth the wait.

Perhaps part of the reason *Hardhitters* is such a good disc is that the band played the songs live for quite awhile before hitting the 24-track. Although *Freak* was a lot of fun to listen to, in places you kind of got the impression that the

songs were taking over the band. The new disc, however, displays a band that is very tight, and thus in constant control of the music.

"The Ride" is the first single off *Hardhitters*, and is perhaps the best song that the band has written to date. Although the recorded version loses some of the energy of the live performance, it allows the listener to hear the really great lead guitar parts that aren't always easy to make out at the shows. Quite honestly, "The Ride" could very well be one of the best singles to come out of the local music scene in awhile.

An integral part of *Hardhitters'* groove is Jordi Comstock's drumming. While very technically proficient, Comstock's earlier drum parts relied on too many jazzy fills and playing around the beat, and thus the songs sometimes tended to lose direction. His approach is much more straightforward on the new disc, although he still manages to play accomplished parts. This balance really adds to the new songs.

Despite cheesy song titles (like "Got Me Some" and "Cool Guy"), *Hardhitters* is a great new cd. It should also be mentioned that despite its bad title, "Cool Guy" features guitarist Phil Zwicker doing a great job on lead vocals. So pick up *Hardhitters* — in it you'll find a collection of focused songs by a band that has come into its own.

AARON DHIR

To find out about Madhat, contact Wayne Mason at No Records — 423 1755.

South Shore skaters talk tunes

BY TIM COVERT

MINUTES before they were to leave in the face of a blizzard for Toronto, Lunenburg quartet Madhat stopped by the Gazette. Their new CD, *Hardhitters*, is due for release March 30 and is getting rave reviews. Phil Zwicker (guitar and vocals), Kirk Comstock (vocals and guitar), Hugh Morse (bass), and Jordi Comstock (drums and vocals) settled tiredly into the Gazette's big orange sofa with relief.

Gaz: How does a rock band get started in Lunenburg?

Hughie: Coincidence. We're friends — we used to skate together.

Gaz: So you just happened to meet skating somewhere and then just formed a band?

Phil: It was just like one of those things where we were out skating and I heard that he played drums.

Jordi: So we'd say let's just go jam in his basement. We'd skate up to his house 'cause it was just up the hill, and I'd bring my drums and we'd play and stuff. Then we'd skateboard around town and then come back and play some more.

Hughie: Phil used to bug me to buy a bass for Christmas and I got a bass and then we thought about drummers. We went to Jordi's house and Kirk was just about to leave and we sat down and sang that special song — "Sweet Child of Mine" (laughter).

Madhat grew up with Joel Plaskett and the guys from Thrush Hermit and played Strawberry Jam, which was their very first real show. Their first

tape, recorded by their friend Terry, was self-titled, and after that came the self-recorded *Crave*. Then *Waye Mason*, of then-fledgling No Records, approached Madhat to be on No's No Class Compilation.

Jordi: *Freak* [our third tape] was a little bit of an experiment for them [No Records] 'cause we were really one of their first releases. We started getting on the indie charts at Sam's and on CKDU.

Gaz: What's a big gig for you guys, one that makes you realize how successful the band is?

Hughie: We had some really big shows in Lunenburg that we put on ourselves. We'd rent a system and attract 400 people. Everybody

ers "Halifax's Madhat."

Phil: People were always like, 'I've had great experiences with Halifax bands,' and 'Oh, you're from near Halifax.'

Gaz: Are you guys gonna move into town?

Hughie: I live in the city and go to Dal, but everybody's pretty much doing their own thing right now.

Jordi: I'd miss my mom too much.

Hughie: Yeah, we're all momma's boys. I'm in university, Phil's working for the government; we're all pretty much taking care of our own business kind of thing.

Gaz: *Hardhitters* sounds a lot smoother than I expected. Is that what you wanted?

Kirk: That smoothness is

was groovin' and really into the music and just freakin' out.

Gaz: How did it feel when people started coming to gigs knowing your songs?

Kirk: Whenever someone comes up and compliments you on your music, it's totally unexpected.

Phil: It's one thing for somebody to say, 'You guys were good tonight.' A lot of people do that just to be nice.

Kirk: But if they actually write you letters...lots of people wrote us letters.

Gaz: When did you first tour outside the province?

Phil: Our first gig out of Nova Scotia was in Ottawa in the summer of '94. Ottawa was our first show after oodles of driving and we were opening for the Ripcordz. We did seven shows that tour, including one in New Brunswick.

Kirk: We had to go during the summer because we were in high school then, too. We went out when we could. So we had to wait a while after *Freak* was released — almost a year before we went out to Ontario. The number of bands when you go out there that are as popular as you are here...at the time we were more of a force around here. When we went to Ontario, there were just so many bands.

Jordi: The one thing when we did the tour was that no one really knew who we were, and the best thing was that people who didn't know us reacted well to the music.

Phil: When you get out there, it's sort of an advantage being from the east coast. We said we were from Halifax.

Kirk: If you're from anywhere around here they put on the post-

Laurence Currie.

Jordi: He just threw up the mikes and we just played, like we always do. We've been playing for so many years, we've gotten really tight that way.

Phil: He's a good engineer and a good player, too.

Gaz: You guys are going up to Toronto to do a video for "The Ride." Have you ever done any type of video before?

Phil: We tried doing one, but it didn't turn out.

Gaz: Who's doing this video?

Hugh: A friend of ours, Marc Costanza from Len. He's hookin' us up with some super 8 film, and we're just getting a bunch of cameras and stuff and we'll just go around. He'll give us ideas and we'll say what we like and stuff.

Gaz: What's it like being on a small label like No Records?

Kirk: We're sort of grown as a band as they've grown as a label.

Phil: Wayne was in university when the label started. Now they've all sort of quit their jobs and are in it for "The Ride."

Gaz: Do you see that the whole east coast scene, the buzz, will survive and not die out?

Kirk: Just when you think it's gone, it comes right back.

Jordi: Before, not many people on the east coast knew how to get in on the whole music industry thing. But now, they're all learning, they're getting their foot in the door. Now they're all gonna stay there 'cause they have the knowledge to get going.

Gaz: What do you think about all ages shows?

Hughie: Our best memories are of dry shows.

Phil: Kids are more enthusiastic than bar shows.

Plumtree Blooms and Booms

BY JOANNE MERRIAM

REMEMBER seeing Plumtree for the first time when they opened for Cub at the old Double Deuce. They played songs that were a little too ambitious for their skill, but did a mean cover of Joan Jett's "I Love Rock 'n' Roll." Months later, at the release party for their *Flutterboard* cassette in the NSCAD cafeteria, they totally rawked out, but seemed a little nervous of the audience.

Listening to them at the official release of their new CD at the Birdland last Thursday, I couldn't help thinking that they've more than grown into the band they showed the promise to be that night at the Deuce.

Plumtree is: Amanda Braden (guitars, voice), Carla Gillis (guitars, voice), Lynette Gillis (drums), and Catriona Sturton (bass), who replaces founding member Nina Martin, now studying at McGill University. Their new CD is entitled *Mass Teen Fainting* and was recorded at Sound of One Hand in Ottawa. I

talked to the quartet before their show Thursday.

Recently, Plumtree won a YTV Achievement Award. The prize was three thousand dollars and a week-long trip to Toronto to play at the awards show (airs April 28).

The band members say it's weird dealing with a corporate body like YTV.

"They want us to be totally animated, yet totally boring!" they comment.

Overall, though, the band is very positive about the whole experience, saying that the people at YTV have been very nice, and that they've been getting lots of exposure because of the award.

"One cool thing about the YTV Award is that the Smugglers also won it," said Catriona.

I asked the band what it's like being an all-girl band in the male-dominated alternative music scene. In the beginning, they explain, they got a lot of attention because they were all female, and were frequently referred to as "Halifax's other all-girl band."

"It's something different," said Amanda. "You get that immediate attention, but then you have to work to maintain it. It works both ways."

Are audience members ever rude?

"That used to happen a lot," said Amanda. "Some guy would yell 'fuck me.' But that doesn't happen anymore."

The other band members nod, and attribute the change to the band's increased confidence and professionalism on stage.

"What bothers me more is stuff like people assuming we don't know how to do a soundcheck, even though we've been doing this for years," said Carla.

Upcoming plans for the band include a summer tour westward, and their label, Cinnamon Toast, is pushing them to tour in the United States as well. They're also starting to record again.

"We couldn't be very prolific since Nina left," said Amanda.

Lynette explained, "We were always having to teach everybody new bass lines."

Dreams awake

Waster

Christopher Robin Device
Independent

CHRISTOPHER Robin Device consists of Marcus Boudreau and Marcus Webster, both on guitar and vocals. I saw them perform at the Deep Nine Recording Studios in January as a sort of CD release thing that the multiuse space was having for some of its artists.

The performance was in the recording space, metres away from the dozen or so listeners in attendance. Oozing with atmosphere, the space was a perfect place to hear Christopher Robin Device. While they played in the darkened room, a projector ran an old educational clip about the water cycle on a wall behind the band.

For this show the CRD enlisted the help of a drummer and a keyboardist/sampler. The sample artist was none other than Hal Harbour (aka Doug Barron) who recorded and co-produced Waster. Christopher Robin Device's full length tape. He contributed some well placed samples of wind, thunder, frogs, and jet airplanes.

The mood of the performance was much the same as the mood on *Waster*. There were some nice moments in the performance that emphasized the mournful, haunting tone of the group. The original songs consist mainly of simple strumming of guitars, electric and acoustic, that climax and occasionally break into rough distortion. Some effects are used to create the viscous sound of CRD's music, including some fine delay, reverb, and wah work. Notable songs include "Inside," and "Wish the Sky was White" which is not on the tape.

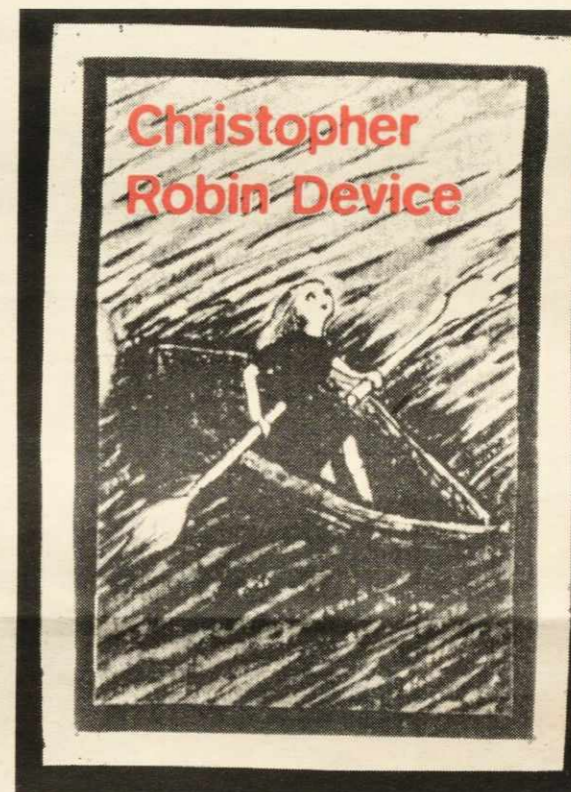
Some songs mildly rocked out at the performance: "Wish..." contained an interesting techno-drum/real drum bridge. But for the most part, the guitars stay clean and the power of the tunes come from the harmonies of the two Marcuses as they slide into what could loosely be described as choruses.

The vocals are echo-heavy; the voice tracks often sound like they were recorded while hopelessly lost in an endless series of caverns. The songs sometimes take on a folk-like feel, but that impression is altered by the chaotic passages.

The pieces coast from start to finish with a sort of heavy fluidity. Sometimes the beat was lost in the tunes when the band strayed too much from format, but the songs that worked made up for this.

The songs on *Waster* are not mosh tunes or happy pop tunes, but have a place all their own. It is an introspective place, one for reflection and dreams awake.

I have been at some parties where CRD would fit nicely between Pink Floyd and Portishead on the stereo, maybe to be followed by Leonard Cohen. The band still has some work to do in solidifying their sound and their skills, and in mak-



ing full use of the potential of samples in their music. When the band reaches its full potential, they will be producing some fine mood-inducing and altering music. But for the moment, CRD's *Waster* cassette is an excellent teaser and a fine first effort.

TIM COVERT

Rome Plows Bountiful harvest

ON Sunday, March 10, the Rome Plows raised the roof at Café Olé. Their aggressive and almost overwhelming sound made them a tough act to follow. The rhythm shifts and cross-cutting structure of the songs really stood out, creating a sort of chaotic elegance.

The Rome Plows are newcomers to the Halifax music scene. They are a three-piece alternative rock band who are certainly worth seeing. Together for just over four months, they've already caught the attention of a music rep. Never plain, never contrived or predictable, songs such as "Two-Twenty, Give Me Back My Book" and "Liar" yield an abstruse quality which is rare and refreshing.

"We looked in the mirror for five years and came up with our own style," joked Mike Begin, who fronts the group.

The sounds and style of the Rome Plows are comparable to the Tea Party. Maybe there's some recent Catherine Wheel-ish angst, and perhaps an added Jazz Butcher

aloofness can be cited here as well. It's not your typical grunge or wannabe quirky music.

It's hard to pinpoint and talk about the music of the Rome Plows objectively. I'm just trying to alert students to entertainment which they can afford. Artful blending and individual talents will tend to speak for themselves.

The Rome Plows consists of Mike Begin, Andy Miller, and Lenny Bowles. They describe themselves jokingly as: "trash-rock," "kinda alternative," "trashers from the old days," and "loud." But they aren't too concerned with whatever's in vogue. Each of these guys have been playing for at least ten years — they are promising chemistry as the Rome Plows. A chance meeting brought them together and their shared expectations cemented them as a group.

There are tentative plans for touring in the summer, but for now it's all up in the air. Financing and transportation are a hurdle as they are for every new group.

"It's kind of like this idealistic

hope that we all have in the back of our minds that we're going to play a show one day with a band who's going to say, 'We got a tour and we want you guys to come with us,'" said Begin. "That would be the ultimate."

Meanwhile, they're compiling phone numbers and looking realistically toward getting a van.

My impression of the Rome Plows was that they take their music seriously but aren't pretentious about their talent. They're good-humoured, and surprisingly mellow compared to the music they play. Humble and personable in the interview, they were sceptical when talking about their music. For instance, they wondered if their words could replace the experience of actually hearing them.

Well, obviously not, but I needed a quote...

On Friday March 29, the Rome Plows are opening for Hardship Post and the Supervillains at the Birdland Cabaret. Showtime is around 10 p.m. with tickets going for \$6.

GEOFF INESON

They finally found their new bass player in Catriona. She's in the King's College Foundation Year Program with Amanda, and started playing with Plumtree in February. Now they are ready to start recording again, hoping to put out a single on the Inbreds' label, PE.

Any major label interest? "Tonnes," they laugh. "It's kind of a funny thing," said Carla. "People say such-and-such from this label will be at the concert this evening, and then nothing happens."



Plumtree
Cinnamon Toast Records

PLUMTREE's *Mass Teen Fainting* is at turns exuberant, thoughtful, and funny. In keeping with its Hitchcock/Psycho/B-horror movie theme, it contains thirteen songs, of which four have been previously released. "In The Sink" and "Good Time to Tell Me" are on their *Flutterboard* EP and "Sodium Chloride" and "The Phone, The Phone" appeared on their *water had leaked into my suit 7* inch. These four songs were, previously, my favourite tracks by Plumtree. How could anybody not love the nostalgia-evoking "In The Sink" or the catchy "The Phone, The Phone?"

Now I've heard *Mass Teen Fainting*. The CD starts off with "Tropical" — which will stick in your head like "Sugar Sugar" and "You Are My Sunshine," only without the annoyance — and ends with Ventures-style guitar picking. "Only In The Movies" has a wonderful all-over-the-place vocal line and funky rhythm. "Shoot to Scoop" hints at a Liz Phair influence and slows their usually enthusiastic pace down a bit, as does "Aquarius" and "Good Time to Tell Me." The new versions of the old songs like "Good Time..." are pretty sharp, too.

Since three of the band members sing, there's quite a bit of variation in the vocals on this record. Amanda's high soprano lead in "3:30 On The Hill" and "Open The Window," and the occasional alto from drummer Lynette on songs like "In The Sink," balance Carla's second-soprano vocals. Carla's singing has a refreshing edge to it in this day of little girl vocalists as in the case of Jewel and the Cardigans.

The only complaint I have about *Mass Teen Fainting* is in its packaging. Call me picky, but the Psycho-influenced shower photo inside misses the point. The band just doesn't look scared, which makes it just another wet t-shirt shot. Combined with the "aren't they cute" media attention that this band usually receives (and, I gather from talking to them, doesn't like), I wonder who's promoting this image — and what they could be thinking.

Mass Teen Fainting can be bought directly from Cinnamon Toast Records, or from most local music stores.

JOANNE MERRIAM

Oh joy, oh bliss

BY TIM COVERT

PENELOPE Evans has danced and choreographed in England, the United States, and even Thailand. She has been the head of the Contemporary Jazz Department at Halifax Dance for many years and has been involved with the organization since before its inception. So where does she get the energy to work six months on the annual Jazz Bliss show, taking place next Friday and Saturday in the McInnes Room of the Dalhousie Student Union Building?

"The fact that the project takes so much time, on the parts of so many committed individuals, is offset by the results produced," said Evans. "The performers are elated by their artistic expressions and performances, and bottom line — it raises money for a worthy cause that we all believe in."

The cause Evans is raising funds for is the Bliss Scholarship Fund after which the show is named. Established in 1993 by Halifax Dance, the fund is used to support the training of young dancers in need of financial assistance. The fund is named in honour of Sally Brayley-Bliss, a prominent figure in the North American Dance community who is also a consultant and honorary patron of the Halifax

Young Dance Company. Half the proceeds from this year's Jazz Bliss will go to the Bliss Scholarship Fund while the rest will go to regular Halifax Dance Association fundraising.

Asked about support for dance in Halifax, Evans stated that, "it all boils down to population base. How many people go to a football game...a hockey game...a basketball game? Now look at how many people go to art, to the theatre...symphony...modern dance. You might as well just move the decimal point over. It's just the nature of human beings."

In her experience with the Jazz Bliss shows, Evans recalls a great number of people who, after a performance, would be surprised by the quality of the show.

"People always say they can't believe this is happening in Halifax," said Evans. She adds that Jazz Bliss is accessible to everybody and that it "bridges the gap between the general populace and the dance aficionados." Jazz Bliss is not a cerebral show; it's there for fun and for the general public to have a good time.

"We like to target it towards the general public — we already have our dedicated audience," she said. "If we can make this more accessible to people who have never been to something like this before,

then they may not go to the movie theatre on Saturday night."

The show is comparatively not that expensive for its quality — especially when you consider that the money is going towards a worthwhile cause.

"What we really want to do is pay for the show and raise some money for the scholarship," said Evans.

Jazz Bliss '96 is described as having a cabaret-retro mood to it.

"This year, the show will have a different feel," said Evans. "The diversity of the choreography, the sheer energy, and talents of the performers will draw the audience into the production."

Some of the dances will be of the fast-moving, show-stopping kind, while others will be very beautiful, lyrical-pieces. The dances borrow from the styles of other cultures using latin rhythms, and oriental and indian motions. Many of the pieces will have a good dose of humour in them as well. When asked to compare the dance numbers in the show to something on film, Evans cited some similarities to the musical *Hair* and the movie *Strictly Ballroom*.

In last year's Jazz Bliss, Evans was involved in the lion's share of the choreography for the show. This year, that continues, albeit with an increased level of collabo-



ration; there are ten other choreographers besides Evans.

"I love to collaborate with people," said Evans. "I like the process of collaboration. In many pieces, I collaborated with the dancers to come up with a lot of the creative things that happened."

Notable pieces with other cho-

reographers include Le Jazz Hot by Shawn Isenor with guest artist Chuck Gillis; Jay Wells — as Marilyn Munroe — in Diamonds; and, an improvisational work by Alexis Milligan, a member of the Young Company. Evans let

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Park pleasures

Looking ahead to summer, sun, and Shakespeare

WERE you one of the 30,000 folks fortunate enough to last summer watch Puck make things right in front of the setting sun? Did you marvel at the way the antiquated fortifications of Fort Olgivie seemed to be custom built for the theatre? Did you feel the magic of nature itself pulling you into the fairy kingdom of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?

Well, you'll have the chance to do it again come July 5. That is when Shakespeare by the Sea re-mounts *Dream*. But there's more — August 6 to September 1 will see *A Comedy of Errors*, one of Shakespeare's older and most beloved comedies, performed in Cambridge Battery. Then for two weeks in September, an experimental version of *Hamlet* will be staged in Martello tower.

The roster for the Shakespeare by the Sea Company reads like the graduation rolls of the Dalhousie Theatre program. Fifteen of the 17 actors presently scheduled to perform this summer are either graduates of or students at Dalhousie while the director — Patrick Christopher — is a prominent faculty member of the Dal Theatre Department. Local students from NSCAD, headed by Heather Wilkinson, are creating original masks for this summer's production; not an easy task when the cast numbers up to 20. Stephen Osler, a local set designer who has worked with Neptune and Eastern Front Theatre productions, will design the set for the Martello *Hamlet*, and Dalhousie Graduate Michael Mewski will be adapting the play to the building.

I got a taste of what is to come last Friday when I attended a press gathering at the new Shakespeare by the Sea offices. They are located where the old restaurant at the lower entrance to Point Pleasant Park used to be. The afternoon that began with a dull press conference featuring the mayor ("Vim, vigour, and vitality" — whatever, Walter) did not seem to have much promise. But the sun came out and the snow was melting on the ground as the hodgepodge of pressies slip-slid their way up to Martello Tower. For some bizarre reason, I felt a weird combination of the thrill of fame and the cheap feeling that I was schmoozing with career reviewers.

Any ill feeling I was having disappeared instantly when the first actor leaped out from behind a tree to deliver her lines. It was a passionate rendition of one of Helena's speeches from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* that progressed, with the aid of rapidly appearing performers, into various other short scenes around the tower.

I had never been inside Martello tower before Friday, but the instant I stepped into the low-ceilinged cellar I could sense the inherent atmosphere before a word was spoken. There are so many natural theatrical spaces in the centuries old building: from the dungeon-like space in the basement to the acoustically ideal high ceilings of the middle floor. The alcove windows could not be more perfect for the inner thought

of soliloquy as was shown by Matthew Witherly's *Hamlet*. Witherly showed off the theatrical promise of the venue as he strode with rage and frustration through the throng of notebooks and video cameras, pacing the circular floor.

As the press group broke out onto the roof, the sun broke out from the clouds. One of the final bits was Ben Stone's rendition of *Henry V's* St. Crispin's Day speech, one of my personal Shakespearean favourites. When things were finally over, there was enthusiastic applause from the crowd, mostly made up of media types who I had assumed would be of the jaded, bitter type. For some reason, they seemed to be excited.

I talked to director Patrick Christopher about some of the ideas Shakespeare by the Sea will be trying out for *Hamlet*, a site-specific piece running for 12 shows Sept 3-8 and 10-15.

Dance, Dance Away

BY TIM COVERT

SMOKE filled the stage and four towers were silhouetted by multicolored lights shining through the fog. Four figures emerged, their forms echoing those of the towers. The group broke into song, reverb dripping off the speakers, voices soaring above the thundering roar of the...bodhran?

As cheesy an 80's rock scene as this is, it was how Great Big Sea took to the stage Saturday night in the McInnes room. Packed to the gills, the crowd was whipped into a dancing, cheering frenzy by the Newfoundland quartet. Voted Entertainers of the Year last month at the East Coast Music Awards, Great Big Sea showed how they earned that award, their limitless energy far outlasting that of the audience.

It has been said that as Celtic/traditional musicians, Great Big Sea are not that incredible, but that it's the showmanship and sheer entertainment value of the group that makes them so popular. There are likely many who could play as well, but few who could exude as much energy and fun.

Opening appropriately in the fog with "The Chemical Worker's Song," the band continued through songs off of their two albums, concentrating on tunes from their most recent release, *up*. The band often stopped to talk to the crowd and shamelessly promote their record. This wasn't annoying, though it would be coming from a band that took themselves more seriously than Great Big Sea.

Guitarist/vocalist Alan Doyle mentioned their tour with Blue

Rodeo that brought them to the McInnes room over a month ago, saying the rock icons had "closed" for them. Doyle talked about how the Great Big Sea had shown Ontario band around the bars on George Street in Newfoundland. He then nicely segued into "The Old Black Rum."

Sean McCann, who plays the bodhran and guitar, is the most vocally talented member of the group. This was particularly evident in his renditions of the traditional dirge "General Taylor" and the unusually honest original ballad "Fast As I Can." Doyle ripped his way with relative success through a cover of REM's "The End of the World As We Know It" as the band continued its tradition of including rock tunes in their stage shows.

Great Big Sea was celebrating an anniversary on Friday, three years to the day since their first gig. The group, which also includes bassist Darrell Power and fiddler/accordion player Bob Hallett, toasted their success and led the crowd in a "Happy Anniversary" sociable.

The band has much to celebrate. They just returned from a trip to Poland where they won awards at a folk song festival. Doyle said that the highlight of the trip was listening to 3,600 Polish singers doing a rendition of "Whadaya At?". The band immediately rocked into the song which included — "in the spirit of national unity" — the french version of the chorus.



Matthew Witherly
HAMLET



the box

The final production of the Dalhousie Theatre Department will open this coming Tuesday in the Sir James Dunn Theatre of the Dalhousie Arts Centre. Continuing the tradition of ending the season with Shakespeare, his *Love's Labour's Lost* will run until Saturday the 30th. Performances are at 8 p.m. nightly with a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at the Arts Centre box office and are \$5 for students and \$12 regular. For more information, call 494-7081 or 494-3820.

The Saint Mary's University Art Gallery will be holding an opening reception this coming Wednesday at 8 p.m. for *Painting Spirit: Recent Work* by Barbara Berry and Terri Robin Vernon. Berry and Vernon — both artists living in Nova Scotia — will talk about their work April 10 at 8 p.m. at the gallery. Berry's sculptural paintings "convey a sense of the energetic poetry and mystery of nature" while Vernon's recent work "is a record of [her] visual explorations into concepts of spirituality, symbolism, and mythology." *Painting Spirit* runs until April 28.

Baroque violinist, and master of "old-style" Cape Breton fiddling, David Greenberg leads the group Puirt a Baroque in a concert this Saturday at St. Andrew's United Church on Coburg Road. Puirt a Baroque — Scottish Gaelic for "tunes from the baroque" — represents the "juxtaposition of Scottish/Cape Breton traditional music with Baroque art music, an idea which has its precedent in eighteenth-century 'Scots drawing room music.'" The trio is rounded out by musical whirlwind Scott Macmillan on guitar and harpsichordist David Sandall. The group has recorded a CD, *Bach Meets Cape Breton*. The concert, beginning at 8 p.m., will feature music from the Baroque era and traditional Cape Breton music, as well as newly composed tunes. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students/seniors.

Gordon Laird will be showing his work *New Atlantis* at the eyelevelgallery starting this coming Tuesday. At 7 p.m. that night there will be an opening reception held at the gallery, located at 1672 Barrington Street. Laird will discuss his work on Saturday, March 30 at 8 p.m. The exhibition runs until April 13.

The final film of the Dalhousie Art Gallery's Modern Painting and Sculpture series will be screened this Wednesday at the gallery in the Dal Arts Centre. *Painters Painting* takes a look through the eyes of documentarian Emile de Antonio at the lives and work of fourteen New York artists from 1940 to 1970. Artists such as Stella, de Kooning, Pollock, Johns, Warhol, Noland, Motherwell, and Pavia are included in the film, which plays at 12:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

CONCERT REVIEW

Great Big Sea
Friday, March 15
McInnes Room

"Qu'est-ce qui c'est passé? Comment ça va, Buddy? Qu'est-ce qui c'est passé aujourd'hui?"

Great Big Sea played an extended medley of "Come Along With Me," "Cecilia," and "Tell My Ma" that seemed to last forever and almost did for the dancing crowd. They then re-energized the audience with a proud rendition of "Rant and Roar," and finished off their exhaustive first set with a version of "Mari-Mac" that reached speeds well in excess of the limits for public dancing safety.

The band was quickly back out for an encore to the rhythmic chanting of "Great Big Sea. Great Big Sea." With a reference to Monty Python's *The Search for the Holy Grail*, they launched into their hit cover "Run Runaway." After a few more songs, the band left the stage only to be called out for a second encore. I started to wonder if the audience was comprised of masochistic fools.

Bob Hallett, it was announced, was going to sing a tune his grandfather taught him. I was afraid I was going to drop dead from exhaustion if a slow tune was played. It turned out the 'ancient tune' was a Great Big Sea take on The Violent Femmes' "Blister in the Sun" that included brief digressions into "Dee Do Do Do Dee Da Da Da" by The Police and The Doors' "Break on Through." As a perfect finale, the band broke into a rollicking version of "It's the Bye."

There was no question about a third encore. The band was too tired, the crowd was way too tired, and as they emerged from the SUB, dripping, the aura was completely post-coital. So much energy expended, all in the name of pure pleasure.

Bliss

Milligan work on the piece and then collaborated to nail down the choreography. Shawn Isenor is also premiering a work at this year's Jazz Bliss — Mea Culpa — which will be seen in this year's Ribbon of Dreams Fundraiser, a show supported by Halifax Dance.

In describing the process of putting the production together, Evans called it "a very complex mechanism." She stressed how much this show is treated as a professional production while in most cases, the dancers are not professionals.

"Some people onstage have never been in this kind of production machine before and are doing not very difficult dancing; others are highly-trained people doing very technically difficult dancing," she said.

This results in a high quality product that is very rewarding to the dancers in the adult recreational jazz program.

"These people are pulled into the passion of being onstage," said Evans.

The show will often develop a camaraderie among performers that just wasn't there in classes from week to week.

"This show gets people involved with each other," enthused Evans.

Evans reassured anyone unsure of whether to come to the show that they will enjoy themselves.

"Come have a great time," she said. "You're going to have a lot of fun. You're going to laugh and you're going to see some beautiful dancing. You can sit down and have a beer."

Jazz Bliss '96 is in cabaret style and there will be a bar. So you can sit down, relax, and be safe in the knowledge that you'll like what you're about to see. Live dance is always better than the ads, and the sequels just keep getting better.

Jazz Bliss '96 will take place March 29 at 8 p.m. and at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday. The matinee on Saturday is a smoke-free family show. The show is being held in the McInnes Room of the Dalhousie Student Union Building. Tickets are \$14 adults, \$12 student/senior, and are on sale at Halifax Dance. Phone 422-2006 for more information.

Fantastically Fun

BOOK REVIEW

Fantastic Four: To free Atlantis
Nancy A. Collins
Boulevard Press

BY STACY DOOKS

ALL right, I admit it. I was (and still am) a comic book junkie. Like potato chips for the brain, comics are pretty cool. I've read them off and on for awhile, but growing older has caused my zeal for them to dim a little bit. Still, I do have my funnybook heroes: Superman, Batman...and the Fantastic Four. One can only spend so much money, however, so my comic buying has taken a backseat to other matters — like food.

So you can imagine my surprise when looking through the bookstore shelves that I came across this little gem of a book: Nancy Collins' *Fantastic Four: To free Atlantis*. The Fantastic Four in book form! Though the price

was steep — \$7.65 even with the avid reader card — I paid the sum. Despite my misgivings from the cheesy back cover blurb, I sat down and read a little...then a lot. For 305 pages, I got to be a kid again.

For those not in the know, the Fantastic Four are a group of costumed heroes whose job it is to save the world from various evil comic book menaces. Each member of this Quantum Quartet has a unique power: Mr. Fantastic, the brilliant scientist/living rubber band; the Human Torch; the Invisible Woman; and, the superstrong Thing. This might seem to be standard Power Rangers fare, but the hook of the Fantastic Four is this: they're a family. They quarrel, they worry about everyday stuff; they're basically human. They're more human than most superheroes, who tend to have no problems. Reed Richards and Susan Richards are husband and wife, and are parent figures to Johnny Storm



(Susan's brother), and Ben Grimm (Reed's best friend). Together they are perhaps the most interesting group of heroes in the comic book world. And the novel takes full advantage of this fact.

The plot of the novel is deceptively simple: the Sub-Mariner, Lord of Atlantis, has been poisoned and left for dead in a palace coup. The FF save him from death, and try to help Prince Namor save his people from the clutches of his usurping cousin. But they have to race against time before Atlantis declares all-out war on the Surface World (Gasp!). And to top that, the Fantastic Four come face to face with their arch-enemy, the dreaded Dr. Doom!! (Choke!).

At a glance, the novel seems goofy. One would think that I would condemn this in the same way I did *Doom*. But Collins is an excellent writer, and has done her homework. She manages to balance out the comic book silliness with character depth; she cares for the characters and the bonds between them. The Fantastic Four become more than a group of superheroes. In Collins' writing they become three dimensional people with real feelings. Her handling of the Thing is especially well done. She captures the pain Ben Grimm feels at being trapped inside the body of a lumbering stone creature; he's strong enough to level city blocks, yet so alien-looking he cannot lead a normal life. The scenes between the Thing and the Human Torch are a howl, as funny as dialogue between George and Jerry on *Seinfeld*.

Fantastic Four: To free Atlantis is a fast-paced novel and just flies by — it leaves the reader with, if nothing else, a feeling of fun. The Great American Novel it ain't, but you gotta love it when Ben Grimm says that deathless line: "It's Clobberin' Time!!"

See you in the funny pages.

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BY
JAMES
COVEY

THOSE melancholy Monctonians, Eric's Trip, were finally able to play Birdland last Friday, after having their last two dates snowed out. It was their first Halifax performance since last October's Pop Explosion, and was perhaps their last ever. A band breakup seems imminent and individual members are looking toward pursuing their various side projects more seriously.

Friday's show was an amazingly heavy performance, even for Eric's Trip. After easing into the set with "My Bed Is Red," they launched into a series of five excellent, hard-rocking songs from their latest LP, *Purple Blue*, that included "Hourly," "Eyes Shut," and "Alone & Annoyed." Then it was time for more classic material. This included "Need," from *Peter*, their first CD release, and "Frame" and "Sunlight" from their debut LP *Love Tara*. The main set ended with three more tunes from the new album, including an amazing version of "Spaceship Opening" during which bassist Julie Doiron Claytor rocked out with an intensity not seen in a long time.

The encore featured guitarist Chris Thompson performing "What If The Sun Blew Up," a track featured on the new full-length Moonsocket CD, a side-project of Thompson's. Rick White put down his guitar for this song to take a turn backing up Chris on drums. Julie and regular drummer Mark Gaudet then came back on stage for a tune which sounded like "Wild Thing" on valium — it was long and slow and dragged and heavy. In other words, it was a perfect ending for

GAZETTE PHOTO BY MIKE GRAHAM



Rick White of Eric's Trip

Third time's a charm

an Eric's Trip set.

Halifax's favourite heavy rock duo, The Chinstraps, kicked off the evening with their unique, tongue-in-cheek brand of noise, not to mention their latest props — a giant rotating foot sculpture, and a rotating hypnotic plastic spiral disc.

A much-improved (from their last Halifax performance) Orange Glass were next and played an

impressive set of heavy pop. This band features Ron Bates, who has done some playing with Rick White's Elevator to Hell project, and Tara S'Appart, Rick's wife, who also played in Elevator to Hell. Orange Glass have a second 7" single release out on Sappy Records, available for sale at the gig. Also for sale was the new 12-song CD release from Broken Girl, which is Julie's side project.

CONCERT REVIEW

Eric's Trip

Birdland Cabaret
Friday, March 15

Marvin, a trio of youngsters, had the honour of playing immediately before Eric's Trip. These twelve-year-olds played covers of Nirvana, Sex Pistols, Black Sabbath, and others, showing excellent guitar skills but not much

vocal expression. They have the potential to be a pretty amazing band. Apparently their parents were on the spot to videotape their performance.

With Eric's Trip on the verge of breaking up and Marvin on the verge of something big, it seems that the old adage holds true. For every death there is, somewhere else, a birth. It even applies to bands.

Sex, thugs, and the Velvet Lizard

BY KAVERI CULLEN
& JOHN GUPTA

KAVERI, my luscious date, and I spent an evening with the arts last Thursday, taking in the Saint Mary's University Drama Group's production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Despite the fact that our half-baked Arts editor completely mixed up the day, we had a grand time.

Crazy Art Guy told us the curtains would spread for *MacBeth* at 6 p.m., when the show was actually set for 8 p.m. After dinner at the fancy "le Bistro," we returned to SMU for the show. Without tickets, we proceeded to get schmoozed by the publicity man we quickly nicknamed "the Velvet Lizard."

The cast of *MacBeth* was made up of actors from all skill levels — novices to full-blooded thespians. It opened with the theme music to "The Exorcist," and the cast assembled onstage.

On the whole, the good in this production outweighed the bad. There was a projection screen onstage that was used to show the visions of MacBeth as well as certain offstage action. This was a new way of dealing with some of the awkward staging that is ever-present in Shakespearian theatre. The technicians missed some of



"Hey... that Kaveri Cullen is a-lookin' at my bare, tattooed chest. Look at her drool. She is mine!"

their cues, but it was a noble effort overall.

The scene where the robbers murder Banquo was nicely entwined with MacBeth and Lady MacBeth's passionate discussion of their future as king and queen. Who says love and war can't share the same stage?

The actor playing MacBeth

gave a solid performance which both Miss Cullen and I enjoyed immensely. While I found the amount of leg Lady MacBeth displayed invigorating, Kaveri thought the porter came to the rescue with his outrageously funny comic relief. The robber's bare, tattooed chests had Kaveri drooling for more and me

pondering my own inadequacies in the pectoral department.

THE biggest criticism we held for the play came as a result of the scene just prior to the intermission. Hecate, the head witch, was being carried onstage in a throne hefted by a slew of men.

The leader of the procession brandished a whip which he joyfully cracked while the group moved across stage. Hecate's bright red robes & diamonds, coupled with her very exposed cleavage and platinum hair, did not ring true as Shakespearian. Although I consider myself a healthy young male, the scene where the witches give MacBeth the three prophecies by stripping off their cloaks to reveal skimpy, see-through attire, did not do anything for me. I always thought the witches should be ugly hags, not beautiful, young...

Lady MacBeth was not as strong a character as in other versions of *MacBeth* that I have seen. I believe that Lady MacBeth is the driving force behind MacBeth's murderous ways, yet this production had MacBeth dominating his wife.

In all, the SMU Drama Group's *Macbeth* was well done, and worth the free tickets. For those of you who are not in a position where you can readily schmooze free admission, it is also worth the \$6 cost of admission.

Macbeth plays at the St. Mary's University Theatre Auditorium at 8 p.m. tonight through Saturday. Tickets are available at the door. The theatre is in the McNally building, off Robie Street.

Bobcats capture fourth CIAU title

BY ANDREW COOK

The Brandon University Bobcats brought back memories of old as they powered their way over the defending champions University of Alberta by a score of 79-72 to take their first national basketball championship of the 1990's.

Brandon, who put together a three-year championship run in the late 80's, have always had the reputation for having a team loaded with gifted athletes. This year's edition was no different as

they were simply too athletic and too powerful for a seasoned U of A squad.

The Alberta Golden Bears, winners of the past two CIAU titles, looked to be the team to beat going into Sunday's final. The Bears were coming off an impressive 84-67 win over the number one seeded UBC Thunderbirds and were shooting the ball at an exceptional 58% clip over their first two games. Despite being filled with veteran championship experience and having a great mascot (GUBA), the Bears couldn't overcome the physical differences. The team had to settle for the silver medal.

The championship game was clearly the most exciting of the weekend. It was filled with clutch outside shooting and mammoth blocks. The crowd was brought to its feet late in the second half when Brandon forward Demetrius Floyd slashed through the lane to follow up a teammate's miss with a thunderous dunk. The dunk typified the afternoon for Brandon and appeared to be the final blow for an Alberta team that had already lost most of its confidence.

After falling behind midway through the second half, the Golden Bears certainly were given every opportunity to gain control. With just over five minutes remaining in the contest, All-Canadian forward Keith Vassell was whistled for his fifth foul, on what was surely a phantom call. Brandon's other starting forward, Shawn Gray, quickly followed with his fifth and things looked grim for the GPAC champions.

With two-thirds of their starting front-court watching the final

minutes, it was oft-overlooked starting guard Jason Scott who delivered. He buried two clutch bombs from three-point range to finally sink Alberta.

Brandon's potent attack came in the form of balanced scoring on Sunday afternoon. Six players marked in double figures with Scott garnering a team-high 15 points.

Alberta sharpshooters Greg Sale and Greg Devries led the way for the Bears with 21 and 18, respectively.

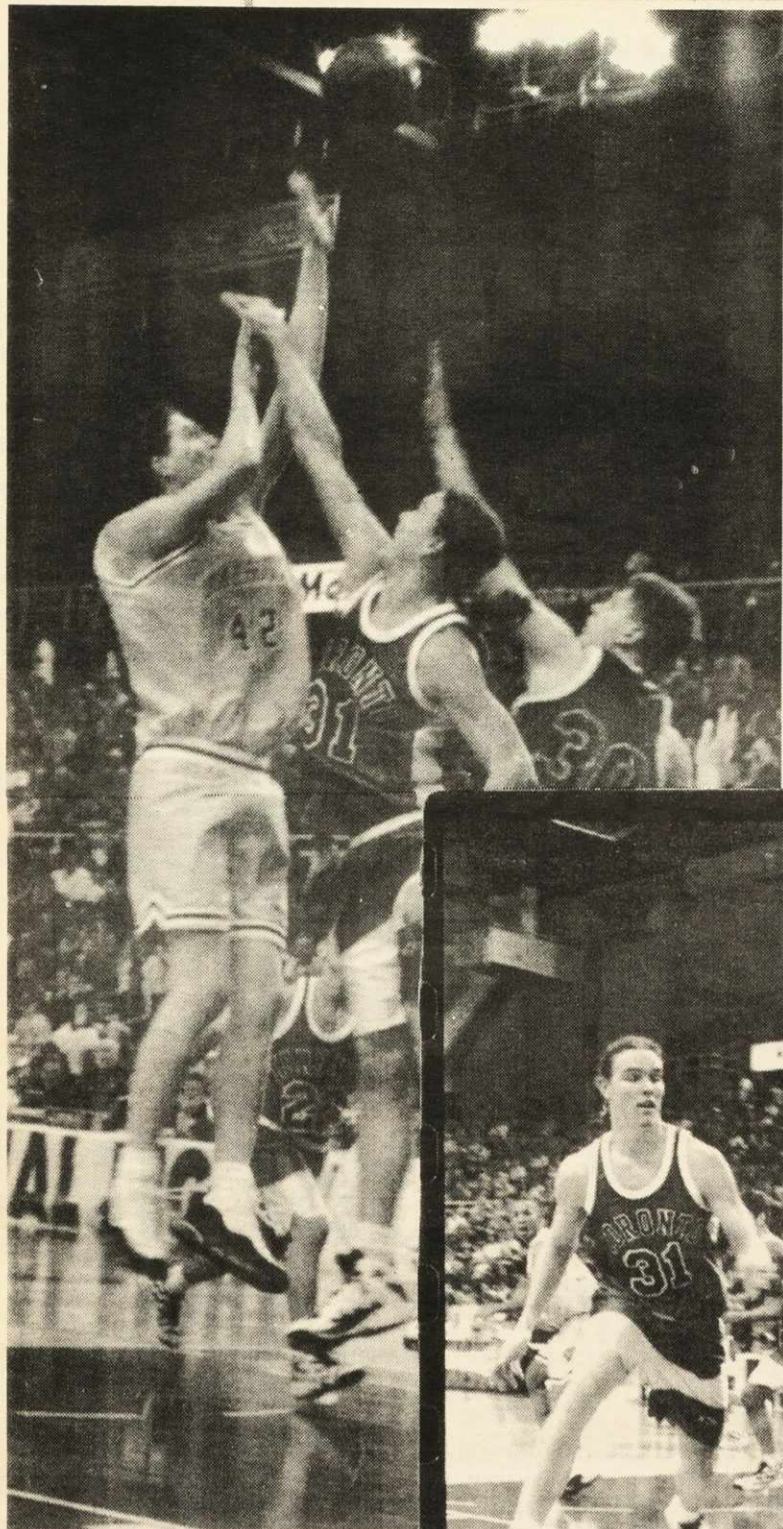
The Bobcats earned their first trip to the finals in seven years via a victory over the Varsity Blues of Toronto. Vassell came to the forefront in that game with 21 points and eight rebounds. Toronto, who put forth a solid effort, ran out of firepower down the stretch and couldn't find an answer for Vassell.

The Blues were led by guard Eddy Meguerian, who scored 15 points and grabbed 16 rebounds just one day after being hospitalized for facial injuries.

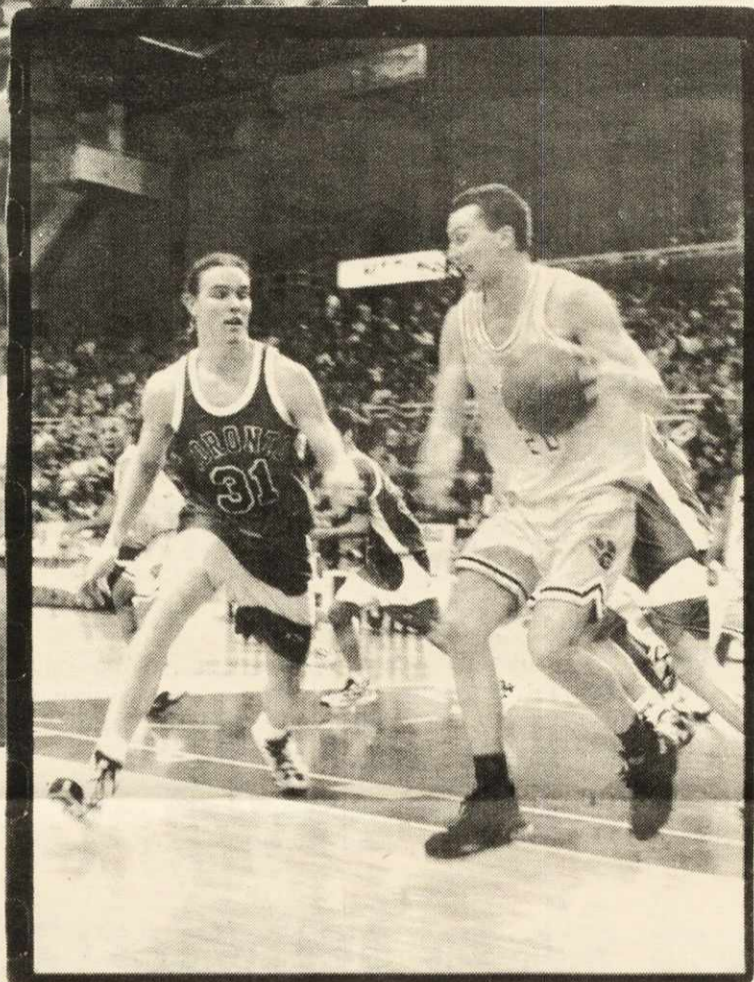
The AUSA was well represented in the consolation round as the Acadia Axeman cruised to a consolation final victory over the Concordia Stingers by a score of 84-75. Former Dalhousie guard Marcus Jamieson was given player of the game honours after a 21-point performance that included five three-pointers.

The tournament's all-star team was made up of players from four different schools: Shawn Gray (Brandon), Peter Knechtel (Alberta), Geoff Kott (Acadia), Jason Dressler (Toronto), and Greg Devries (Alberta).

Keith Vassell of Brandon was named the tournament's MVP.



GAZETTE PHOTOS BY SHANNON MORRISON



ABOVE: Dallas Shannon stops, pops ... drops.

RIGHT: Tim Elliott, right, fakes out some U of T hoopsters

Tigers lose focus — and championship dream

BY ANDREW COOK

The Dalhousie Tigers men's basketball team came out firing Friday night at the Metro Centre. With 7,800 screaming fans to get them going, the Tigers wasted no time in showing all of Canada just how good the AUSA champions really are.

Dalhousie hit on all cylinders over the first twenty minutes. Brian Parker was hitting his patented pull-up jumpers. Christian Currie was scoring on the low blocks, and Tim Maloney came off the bench with six big points, including four of four from the free throw line.

The Tigers shut down the vaunted Dressler twins and had firm control of the game's pace. Unfortunately, the game is played over forty minutes and only one team really came out of the locker room after half-time. In what seemed to be almost a repeat of the first half of the AUSA semifinal last Saturday, the Tigers appeared to be lost, lacking direction, strength, and stamina.

No longer were the lanes open for penetration, no longer were the outside shots falling, and all of a sudden there was only one team rebounding.

The Dressler twins simply took over. Their physical presence was too much for Dal forwards Currie and Dallas Shannon to handle.

Carl Swantee, Toronto's honourable mention All-Canadian, was magnificent down the stretch in making clutch outside shots when the need arose. Back-up point guard Jason Gopaul controlled tempo and made sure the Varsity Blues got a good shot out of the half court offence.

Ironically enough, it didn't really matter because Toronto basically rebounded their misses until they scored. It was that simple.

Not lost in defeat was the sad end of the career of senior Jeff Mayo, with few remaining healthy body parts. Mayo was not able to dress for Saturday's game versus Acadia. His leadership and toughness will be sorely missed.

Saturday's game versus Acadia, only played out of a need to sell tickets, lacked the emotion and the drive normally shown by these two AUSA rivals.

With both teams suffering from an emotional hangover, the quality of play was weak at best, and Acadia knocked Dalhousie out of the consolation round by a score of 77-71.

Jan Trojanowski led the

Axemen with 17 points while Parker was Dalhousie's high man, also with 17.

For Dalhousie, the loss Friday night signalled an abrupt end to what had been a great season. The Tigers, hounded all season long by the memories of past fail-

ures, accomplished their goals in winning both the AUSA regular and postseason titles. Despite crushed hopes of a national title, there is not one player who can be disappointed with his effort over the season.

The Tigers finished the season

27-7 overall, including three exhibition tournament titles. With a 17-3 conference record, the Tigers finished with 46 points and in first place. Dalhousie swept mainland Nova Scotia and won a thrilling AUSA tournament.

Two Dalhousie players, Parker and Reggie Oblitey, were named first team all-conference while Parker was named second team All-Canadian.

High hopes will again grace the campus of champions next fall as the Tigers figure to be pre-season top five in the national rankings. With Brandon, UBC, and Alberta all suffering very significant losses, a national title may be in the very near future.

Two women wrestlers off to BC

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The Dalhousie Tigers women's wrestling team travelled to the first-ever National Freestyle Women's Festival in Oshawa, Ontario this past weekend.

This tournament was open to women from ages 17-20 and this was the first time that any women from the Nova Scotia area attended such an event.

Kim Ferris' performance was the highlight for Dalhousie as she captured a well-deserved second place to bring home Dal's only medal. Ferris ended the tournament with a record of 1-1.

Sheila Phippen wrestled very well and placed fifth, eventually defeating an Ontario wrestler who had pinned her in the first round. Phippen finished at 2-2.

Terri Rose placed sixth in the largest weight class and wrestled very well against the strong competition, compiling a record of 1-3.

Both Rose and Ferris will be attending the Canadian Senior Championships in Burnaby, BC this May. They will be the first women from the Maritimes to compete at the championships. They are attempting to qualify for the women's national team, which will travel to the World Championships in Bulgaria this September.

Congratulations

to all Dalhousie varsity athletes who competed this year.

Special mention to the 11 (yes, 11) teams that won an AUSA championship.

Also, kudos to the men's soccer team and their CIAU gold...way to kick it!

More to athletes than meets the eye

BY JAMES SULLIVAN

On a Friday morning a couple of weeks ago, a surgeon put me asleep and cut open my knee to take a peek inside. This is called orthoscopic surgery and it was my third operation in three years.

Some may say "what a pathetic loser," but others who have endured the agony of knee injuries understand the situation. Prevention is obligatory and dealing with the consequences can be painful, physically and mentally.

I've come to grips with the end of an athletic career, though I empathize with Al Bundy's reminiscences of the good old glory days.

At age five, I began to kick a soft plastic ball around the living room, and by grade three, I was playing organized indoor soccer after school with the sixth graders. Being too short to play basketball or volleyball (and I couldn't skate), I soon made the choice to play soccer.

Like any athlete, I was passionate about the game; I mean, I was obsessed. In grade nine, my club team went to Nationals in Calgary, Alberta. It was there where I really learned about the

game because we got absolutely trampled. I told myself I would never allow myself to be humiliated like that again, so I trained ten times harder.

But it was in high school where I noticed a different treatment or rather a different attitude towards athletes and athletics in general. Most of it was negative, being that we were just "dumb jocks." We weren't seen as people with families or lives of our own with unique personalities. We were the people representing the school, who were either winning or not winning. Nobody ever took notice that we love what we do and that it's a part of who we are.

Student athletes are tired all of the time and sometimes have financial stress. They are constantly reminded about "priority #1, to win," even though many coaches today don't necessarily say it in that manner. On top of that, they have mountains of schoolwork to take care of.

People sometimes say most athletes 'have it made' or that 'they own the schools they go to and that's the only reason they play sports.' Tell that ignorant crap to the doctor who has to clean up the mess in my leg. Or

how about to the kids I would like to have in the future about why I might not be able to throw a frisbee with them.

"Well son, I can't play with you because I was trying to be the big man on campus, and I destroyed my leg in the process."

Making sacrifices for the team aren't always as important as you thought they were. There is a difference between playing hard and just being stupid and reckless. Recognizing this is key if you want to live a healthy life.

I'm not looking for sympathy and I don't expect many of you to understand, or even care for that matter. But there are hordes of men and women who are in the same predicament. It should be looked upon in the same regard as a musician who might develop severe arthritis. The knowledge, the will, and the memory of skill is still there, but the ability to perform the act it is a world away.

If this freak accident happens, be prepared to make drastic changes. It's the will you used for training in sport that will be used in your rehabilitation. Only then will you truly see how strong you really are.

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The Sunseeker PLUS — \$2,324

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- Greyhound/Pioneer Coach "Sunseeker" Pass — Sydney to Cairns
- 15 nights accommodation at YHA hostels

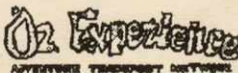
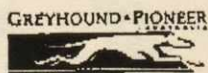
The Oz Experience — \$2,203

- Return airfare
- Oz Experience Bus Pass "Bruce Pass" — Sydney to Cairns

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SMALL PRINT — Flights must be purchased by March 31, 1996 and have a maximum stay of 1 month. After March 31, ask for new fares. Prices do not include departure taxes, HI Membership, or ISIC. Add a stop in New Zealand, Tahiti or Hawaii for just \$150. Visit Travel CUTS/Voyages Campus for complete details and conditions. Return airfares from Halifax to Sydney, return from Cairns to Halifax.



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tucker • spend Christmas Day on the beach • learn how to become a jockaroo or illaroo • bungy jump in a tropical rain forest • white water

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PLEASE PICK UP YOUR APPLICATION AT THE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICE OR THE DAL S.U.B. ENQUIRY DESK FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT: ANDREA GAGLIARDI AT 494-1282

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Discover how you can become your own boss by attending the information session for the Y.E.S. Program.

See the poster at the university career placement centre for the location and time for your on-campus session. Deadline for Y.E.S. applications is May 30, 1996. For more information about the Y.E.S. Program, call us at 1-800-565-5029.



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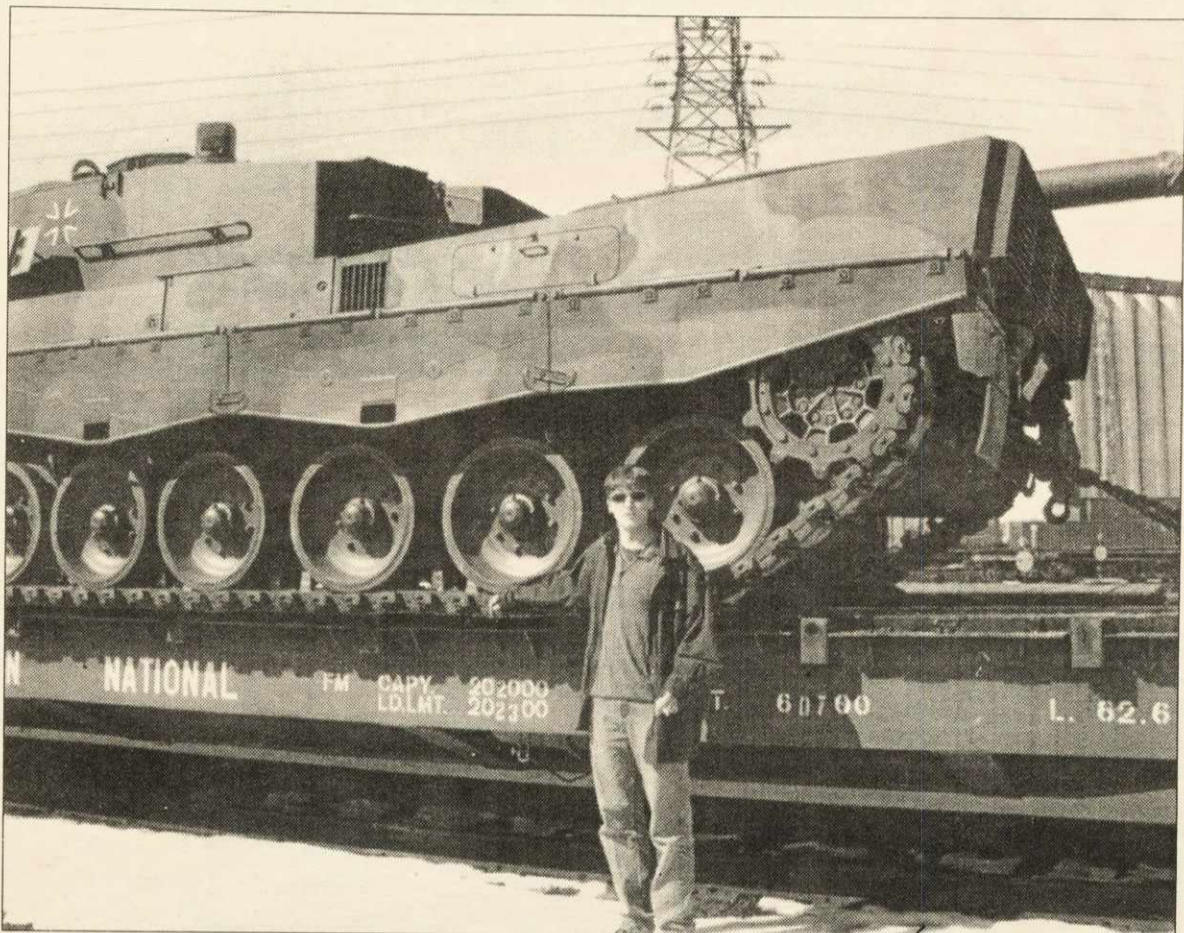
LEAP AND THE NET WILL APPEAR. BUT LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP.

*Valid until April 31.

On campus & around the city

dalendar

March 21 - March 27, 1996



GAZETTE PHOTO BY DANIELLE BOUDREAU

John Cullen prepares his rebuttal to criticism from the practitioners of the meta journalism, whatever the hell that is: "Touch my tank, please."

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

NSPIRG Food Co-op order forms are due today. This is your connection to affordable organic food. Anyone can become a member by dropping by the NSPIRG office in the SUB to pick up a form.

"Transformation of the South African Military," a lecture conducted by Gary Kynock, will be presented by African Studies and International Developmental Studies at 4:30 p.m. in the Multidisciplinary Centre Seminar Room, 1444 Seymour Street.

International Day For Elimination of Racial Discrimination **Engineering Society** meets tonight at 6 p.m. in SUB316.

The Arts Society gathers at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the SUB.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

The Psychology and Neuroscience Departments present Dr. Wolf Singer from Germany in his lecture "Temporal Coherence as an Organizing Principle of the Cerebral Cortex" at 3:30 p.m. in room 242 of the Life Sciences Centre.

Dalhousie Christian Fellowship meets this evening at 7 p.m. for zany fun, great live music with electric guitars, prayer, worship, and more fun! Interested in Christianity? Come join the circle of friends and see what it's all about. Anyone welcome at any meeting. Check Inquiry desk in SUB for room number.

"More About Sex and Mitochondrial DNA in the Blue Mussel" will be the title of the lecture given by Leutherios Zouros in this week's Biology Seminar, held at 11:30 a.m. in the fifth floor lounge of the LSC.

The Chemistry Seminar for this week is entitled "Polyarylamides, particles and surfactants"

and will be delivered by Prof. Trus Smith-Palmer of St. Francis Xavier University at 1:30 p.m. in Chem. room 226.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

DSU Council Meeting today at 2 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the SUB.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

NSPIRG's Women's Health Issues collective meets every second Monday at 5:30 p.m. at the Dalhousie Women's Centre. This week a member of the Midwifery Coalition will be speaking.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Love's Labour's Lost, a presentation of the Dalhousie Theatre Department, will be playing in the Sir James Dunn Theatre until March 30 at 8 p.m., with an additional show Saturday at 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

The Women's Studies Seminar Series presents Heather Menzies, author of *Women and the Chip*, and writer/director of video documentaries in an informal discussion on her experience as a feminist technology critic at 3:45 p.m. in the Multidisciplinary Centre, 1444 Seymour Street.

AGM The Dal Student Union will hold their annual general meeting today in the Green room of the SUB.

classified ads

FOR RENT

Large Bachelor Apt. Edward St. by Law. \$475 everything included. 492-0684. Sublet till Sept., option to renew.

3 bedroom apartment sublet. Move in as soon as April 25. Quinpool Court. \$902 / month. Call 425-3074.

Sublet super 2 bdrm loft, Southend, \$600/month incl. heat & hot water, open concept, slanted ceilings. Available end of April to August 31. MUST SEE! Call 492-0294.

Sublet: 2 bdrm apartment. Quinpool Towers. Garden view. May - Aug. Option to renew. \$600/month. Call now 425-4366.

2 Bedroom sublet. \$650 including heat, hot water, etc. (except Power.) Laundry machines on premises. Parking in rear. Across from Howe Hall on

Coburg Rd. No option to renew. Call Geoff or Yvonne 492 3043.

Fabulous 1 bdrm apt for rent. Available Apr 15. Furniture optional. Rent negotiable. Balcony/yard/laundry/dishwasher/parking. 2nd floor in old house, close to Northwest Arm, IGA, etc. Call anytime 429-8873.

Looking for **roommate to share** comfortable fully furnished apartment. Available May 1st until Sept. Option to renew. \$350. Includes all utilities, plus kitchen, parking, laundry room. Call Dan 479-0345.

Sublet. 2 bedroom apartment. Perfect location. Available April 25th. \$695 / month. Call 492-1552.

FOR SALE

Great Discounts! All items below retail prices. E.A.S. & SportPharma supplements - Promax phosphagen, creative monohydrate and much more. Call now!! 423 3832.

announcements

Inform AIDS Line toll-free and anonymous. By calling 425-2437 you will be able to access information and referrals about safer sex, testing, symptoms, women and AIDS, and support.

Are You Concerned about someone's drinking? ALANON provides information and help for family members and friends of alcoholics, whether the problem is recognised or treated. No dues or fees to pay. ALANON's primary purpose is to help its members recover from the impact of alcoholism on their own lives. Feel your personal life has been adversely affected by close contact with a problem drinker? Consider contacting ALANON at 466-7077.

Jazz Bliss, the critically acclaimed Halifax Dance production is returning for its third year in the McInnes Room of the SUB, March 29 and 30 at 8 p.m., with an additional show at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets for this cabaret performance of contemporary dance are available at Halifax Dance, 422-2006.

In Halifax, 11 women daily have no place to sleep at night. Since opening its doors in 1983, Adsum House has served over 5,500 women and 1,300 children in offering emergency, short-term shelter for homeless women. Be part of an event which will support Adsum House's efforts: "Curling Because You Care." Held March 30 from 3-7 p.m., a donation of \$200 for a team of four is required. Food, prizes, and fun. Call 422-3389 to register. Limit of 24 teams, so book your space today.

The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic hosts a variety of displays, exhibits, and presentations. This week's include: "Loglines and Leglines" on March 24 from 2-3 p.m. For more info call 424-7490.

The Choir of Saint Mary's Basilica, conducted by Dennis Farrell, Director of Music, will be performing music of Lent and Eastertide on Sunday, March 24 at 7 p.m. in the Basilica, corner of Spring Garden Road and Barrington Street. Admission is \$5. Proceeds from the concert will help defray costs of new hymn books for the parish.

The Association of Atlantic Area Artists is holding an art exhibit and sale at the Maritime Museum Centre from March 25

to April 12, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, with the exception of holidays.

Voice Students of the Maritime Association of Teachers of Singing will be giving a recital on Saturday, March 23 at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Truro. Tickets at \$6 and \$4 will be available at the door.

More than 500 students and teachers from 30 or more high schools will descend upon the Dal campus from May 1-4 for the Annual Nova Scotia High School Drama Festival. The Festival invites inquiries from anyone wishing to volunteer, although volunteers must be high school graduates at least 19 years of age. If interested, call 425-2651, fax 422-0881, e-mail an452@ccn.cs.dal.ca.

The Metropolitan Immigrant Settlement Association invites you to join its volunteer tutor programme. Volunteers are matched with new Canadians and provide them with opportunities for language practice. Please call the Volunteer coordinator for more info at 423-3607.

Hey You Packrats! Doing some spring cleaning and want to get rid of all those things that just seem to clutter up the apartment? Bring them to our Free Swap being held in the Green Room on March 22/96 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. You can bring anything you want to trade, or give away and see if there are any treasures you may find to take home. Admission is free. For more info call Chuck "(Gettin' not so) Heavy" D at 425-7939 or Janice at 492-1354.

Pregnant Women Needed for study on sense of smell, diet, and morning sickness. Are you healthy, between 20 and 40, and still in your first trimester? Interested in advancing maternal health and learning mor about yourself? Call Farhad Dastur, MSc. at 492-8675 or 494-2036. E-mail synapse@is.dal.ca.

Resume Writing Workshops presented by the Psychological and Counselling Services located on the fifth floor of the SUB, will be held March 25 and March 27 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Learn how to professionally prepare one of the most useful tools in your search for employment and create a resume which will effectively sell your skills to prospective employers. To register call, 494-2081 or drop by the office.

March is Asthma Month and for the 100,000 Nova Scotians who must deal with asthma, this month has a special meaning. If you or your child suffer from asthma, free info on programs and support groups is available from the Lung Association by calling 1-800-465-5864. When you can't breathe, nothing else matters.

Free Basic Income Tax Form help is available for low income earners and new Canadians at the North Branch Library on Gottingen St., March 22, 1-4 p.m. Volunteers are not able to complete forms featuring rental, business, or capital gains income. Call 421-6987 for a 30 min. appointment.

University Baseball AGM All Dal students are welcome to the Dalhousie University Baseball Annual General Meeting on Sunday, March 24 at 7 p.m., room 223 of Dalplex. Positions are open for the 1996-97 season effective May 1 as follows: General Manager, President, VP, Treas., Sec. Call 423-7881 for job descriptions ask for Brian or email ctam@is.dal.ca.

JOBS

Internet - **STUDENT JOBS OVERSEAS.** Teach conversational English year round, short term or for summer in Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan or Korea. Excellent pay. No experience or qualifications needed. For current details on living/working conditions and how you can apply see <http://asiafacts.kingston.net> or pick up our free brochure at Student Employment Centre, Room 446, SUB or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Asia Facts (DU), P.O. Box 93, Kingston, ON K7L 4V6.

SERVICES

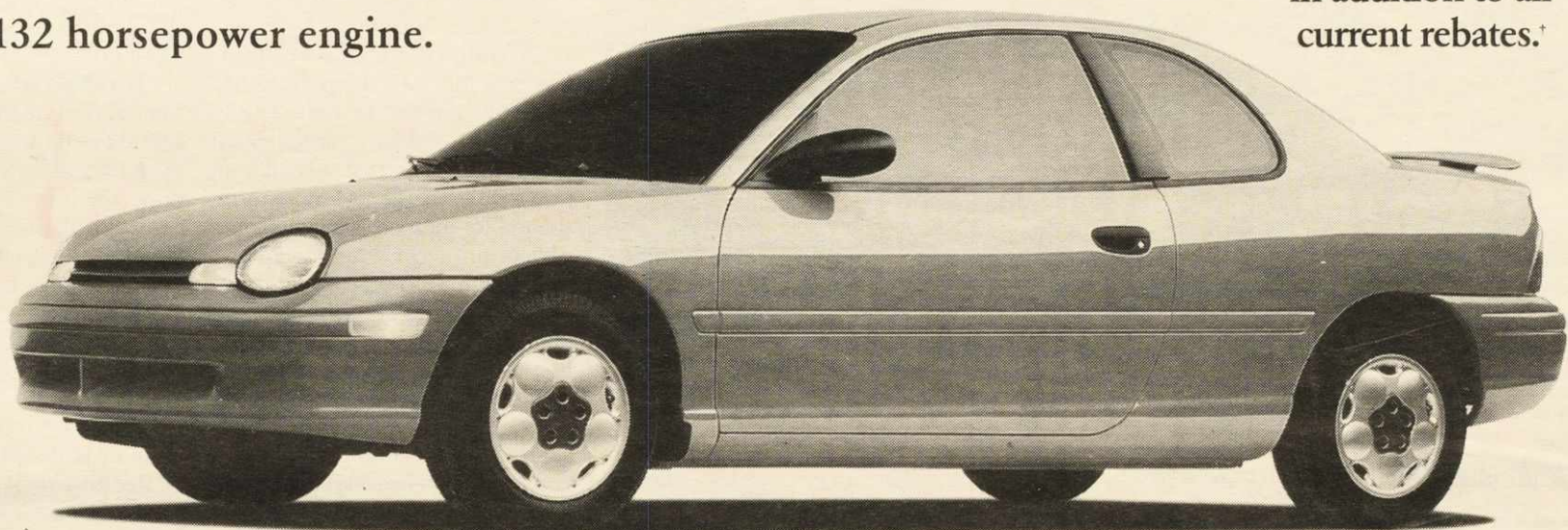
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