

Faculty strike looms as negotiations stall

BY KAVERI GUPTA

The threat of strike still hovers as negotiations stall between the University and faculty.

Talks came to a standstill at last Monday's meeting following the Dalhousie Faculty Association's (DFA) rejection of the Board of Governor's latest financial offer.

"We have neither settled nor broken off talks, but the money is not there

yet," said Michael Cross, chief negotiator for the Association.

Cross met with the Job Actions Committee, the group responsible for planning strikes, on Jan. 20.

"The DFA executive will be discussing a strike vote," Cross said. "It was a tactical decision... I still hope we can achieve settlement long before that."

Cross stressed the process as a deliberately lengthy one.

"This is a very elaborate legal process

so nothing happens quickly," he said. "Everybody should just take a deep breath and relax while we work this thing out."

Cross said current talks will continue for roughly another week. But Cross and the Board's chief negotiator, Peter McLellan, have agreed that Jan. 30 is the last day of discussion before a conciliator will have to be brought in.

"We are trying to buy some time so that we can get a commitment from the

government that if a conciliator is needed, one can be brought in quickly," Cross said.

McLellan could not be reached for comment.

If the conciliator fails to reach agreement between the parties in one day, and talks break down, a strike or lock-out is possible after two weeks.

A strike requires majority support in a vote of the faculty members.

A strike vote, once passed, does not mandate striking, but allows the Association executive to call a strike as they see fit during the course of negotiations.

Talks have centred around the contract agreement between the University and teaching staff. And while most of the contract has already been successfully negotiated, the

faculty association still has concerns about salary raises for professors and preventing further cuts to faculty positions.

"We want to stop the bleeding," Cross said.

Out of 11 universities, comparable in size and quality, Dalhousie falls tenth on the list in terms of faculty salaries.

"[Professors] have lost something like 11-12 per cent of our income in the 90s because of freezes and rollbacks," he said. "We are just shooting for the middle of the pack... you lose people when you have non-competitive salaries."

Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) president Chris Adams says while he has concerns about the negotiations, the DSU is not just a lame duck.

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Whether one is for it or against it, marijuana use is an issue that almost every university student will have to deal with. With that in mind, The Gazette has produced a special hemp and marijuana supplement. See pages 12-14. (Photo by Joachim Stroink)

New allegations of harassment in security

BY MARK REYNOLDS

A second former female employee has come forward with more allegations of harassment at Dalhousie's security department.

The student claims to have been sexually harassed by the same employee who was suspended last month for harassing a female co-worker.

Last week, the Gazette reported that a guard had been suspended for allegedly harassing Joy Day, a female guard. Day complained that

she had endured verbal and physical harassment from a guard that she had been assigned to work with. That guard was suspended for two weeks after she filed a formal complaint. Day has since quit.

The former student guard, who wishes to remain anonymous, said that the guard in question also harassed her.

"It started when I became a student guard [in 1993]," she said.

"It wasn't one incident," she added, "there were comments and jokes... little innuendos."

An incident where comments were made about her body stands out in her mind.

"He said I looked different, and I said that I had got my hair cut. He said it wasn't my hair he was looking at — it was pretty clear what he meant."

The student, who worked with the security department for three years said she chose to treat the comments as jokes.

"[But] when he was asking me out, that made me uncomfortable."

She chose not to make a complaint, but feels that the guards behaviour was unacceptable.

"That guy should not be a security officer," she said.

Although disturbed by the incidents, she says she is not bitter about her experiences with security.

"There are a few that are great guys... but there are a few that give

continued on page 3...

Acadia unsettled by threat of strike

Students worry as professors reject contract offer and set strike vote

BY CHERI GREENO AND MICHAEL NASH

WOLFVILLE (CUP) — With negotiations heading nowhere fast, students at Acadia University are bracing for a faculty strike.

But they aren't taking the looming strike sitting down. Or are they?

On Jan. 12, hundreds of students occupied the main administrative building on the Wolfville campus and held a sit-in to express their displeasure with the current state of contract negotiations between administration and faculty.

Despite their passion, student protestors are unable to slow the

impending strike. Talks are currently at a standstill. A provincially-appointed conciliator was called in earlier this month to help the two sides reach an agreement, but left after just two days. At a Jan. 20 meeting, the faculty voted 97 per cent in favour of rejecting the university's final offer. The refusal was followed by 95 per cent of those present agreeing to hold a strike vote on February 2 and 3.

The highlight of the student sit-in was a two-and-a-half hour question period during which Acadia president Kelvin Ogilvie and faculty association president Jim Sacouman fielded questions

from students.

"I think the students were really pleased about the forum," said Paul Black, president of Acadia's student union. "They got to ask the questions they wanted to ask, and they got to ask them to the people the way [they] wanted to."

During the emotionally-charged forum, however, there were signs of frustration among the students as the two presidents belittled each other.

One student asked how they could stand there and expect to be taken seriously while virtually laughing at each other, and there were repeated calls from the audience for the two to "grow up".

Inside
 "Man is a being that aspires to equilibrium. He balances the weight of the evil piled on his back with the weight of his hatred."
 —Milan Kundera

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Dalhousie Student ISU Union ISU

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Ruth Bleasdale
David Brophy

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Editor-in-chief of the Gazette
Just because!
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For fun!
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CONTACT TERENCE TAM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A TARGET @ 494-1106
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DAGS

"Do you agree to amend the 1979 DAGS constitution with the adoption of the proposed 1998 constitution?"

DAGS REFERENDUM & BY-ELECTIONS

WHY: vote on proposed 1998 DAGS constitution and elect president and 21 councillors

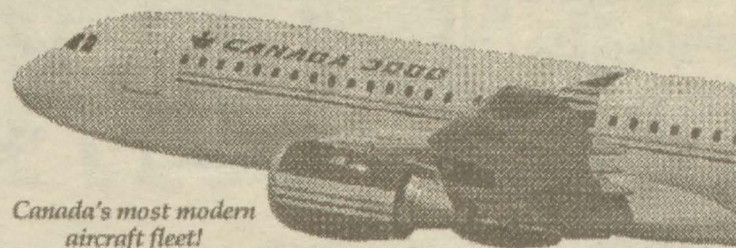
WHEN: January 28 & 29, 1998 10 - 2 pm

WHERE: Polling Stations at: Grad House
Tupper/Link
SUB/ Life Sciences Centre

VALID GRAD STUDENT ID REQUIRED TO VOTE

DSU CONTACT INFORMATION

DSU Council Offices
Room 222, 2nd Floor, Student Union Building
6136 University Avenue
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4J2
Phone: 494-1106, Fax: 494-5185
E-mail: DSUVP@dal.ca
World Wide Web site: <http://is2.dal.ca/~dsu>



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VANCOUVER	—	—	18:50	—	—	—	—
CALGARY	—	—	18:50	—	—	—	—
TORONTO	23:05 ^a	18:25	—	10:55 ^b 22:55	—	11:35 ^a	—
ST. JOHN'S	—	13:25	—	18:00	—	—	—

^a Ends Jan 11

^b Ends Jan 18

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1998**



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**FOR MORE INFO: Contact Bridgette McCaig 494-1106
www.dal.ca/dsu**

Strike on the horizon for Dalhousie's TAs

University rejects union's proposal for binding arbitration

BY STEVE PETRIE

Dalhousie's refusal to agree to binding arbitration has pushed teaching assistants and part-time instructors at Dalhousie one step closer to a strike.

The union representing teaching assistants (TAs) and part-time instructors at Dalhousie, Mount Saint Vincent and Saint Mary's Universities, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 3912, made an offer to Dalhousie's administration to have binding arbitration by a third party to avoid a strike and settle wage disputes.

In a letter sent to the union last week, "The university declined binding arbitration and indicated that we hoped we may yet have a negotiated settlement on the dispute," said Mike Roughneen, director of personnel services at

Dalhousie.

Binding arbitration can only happen in Nova Scotia if both parties agree to it. A recent memorandum to TAs from the deans stated that CUPE 3912 has ended negotiations with the administration at Dalhousie.

CUPE 3912 has been in legal strike position for some time now, as granted to them by provincial conciliators.

According to CUPE 3912 spokesperson Mike Earle, there will be a strike vote on February 18-19, and should a strike occur, March 4 is the planned day.

The strike would include TAs and part-timers at Dalhousie, Mount Saint Vincent and Saint Mary's Universities.

In the event of a strike, CUPE will be supporting its members with strike pay of \$200 per week after the ninth day, which will equal, or surpass what members are currently paid at Dalhousie.

Earl says that CUPE National is now ready to help with communications and research, and CUPE locals from across Nova

Scotia will be contacted to help financially and otherwise with a strike.

Currently, the union is gaining support by organizing its members and distributing information concerning the strike to university students and faculty members to make its position known. In the event of a strike, the TAs and part-timers have already been given the support of the Dalhousie Faculty Association which is also moving towards a strike vote.

In the event of a strike, the impact on Dalhousie students could be quite large. There are approximately 600 to 800 TAs and 200 part-timers on staff at Dalhousie. Without TAs, there would be fewer people to grade papers, and in some cases, no one to instruct labs and tutorials or give lectures. Without part-time instructors, some classes would also be left without instructors.

Dalhousie spokesperson Mike Roughneen says that it is premature to talk about how the university would handle a strike before a strike vote has even occurred.

"Dalhousie is prepared to negotiate further if there are any new proposals to be made. We can't accept the last proposal [from CUPE], but there is room to negotiate," he said.

In the early 1990s, steps were taken to form a union to improve working conditions, wages, and benefits for all part-time lecturers and TAs at Dalhousie. After long delays, contract negotiations began about one year ago. Agreement was reached on general contract language and proposals (including seniority rehiring), but the two groups have come to a stalemate over wage settlements.

Conciliation meetings between the university and CUPE 3912 were ended in July when the Dalhousie representative presented its wage proposals, stating that these were the final offer and there was nothing more to discuss, and not much progress has been made to resolve the situation since.

The university's final offer would see all salaries based on a flat-rate regardless of department or duties performed by the part-timer

or TA. Wages would rise to a flat rate of \$5,550 for part-timers over three years, and \$2,470 for TAs. These figures include the four per cent vacation pay and rule out any additional supplementary benefits.

CUPE's proposition would see part-timers pay raised to \$7,200 for a full course, the Atlantic Canada standard. TAs would also be given a pay increase, rather than having the partial cuts the university's offer would mean. CUPE believes strongly that fair treatment of part-time faculty and TAs is in the interests of all students, and would pay benefits in terms of the long term quality of education provided at Dal.

Currently, part-timers at Dal make about \$2,500 per half course (\$5,000 for a full course), and TAs' pay varies widely from department to department. For example, TAs in Dalhousie's History department earn \$3,000/year. Under the university's current and final proposal they would face a pay cut of about 22 per cent.

With files from Gina Stack

Banner system good to go — for now

BY SHELLEY ROBINSON

Full-year classes may have been spared the axe, but the University seems unprepared to anticipate any future glitches in its new computer system.

The system, called Banner, was unable to recognize full-year classes. The problem was averted by artificially splitting full-year classes, without changing course content.

Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) president Chris Adams, a member of the ad-hoc committee which resolved the issue, is wary about the system's bugs, but remains optimistic.

"I'm somewhat discouraged that we had to get over this hump, but I believe [Banner] is a very good program, from what I have heard and seen so far," Adams said.

He is also pleased about the inclusion of at least one student on every Banner implementation committee.

"If some sort of problem occurs which appears to be minimal to other committee members, but is nonetheless significant...to students, the student representative will be able to bring this to the attention of their fellow committee members.

"Students understand what student concerns are."

Eric McKee, vice-president student services, says problems are inevitable given the size of the system.

"I thought naively it was like a car, you went to the showroom, you test drove it, you read the brochures, you knew what you were getting. It doesn't work that way with these big systems," McKee

said.

"The trick is to work together to make the best adaptation we can."

Gudrun Curri, the Dalhousie registrar, says in a system as large as Banner some concerns are bound to come up, but that a lot of the system's problems stem from mis-communication between Banner representatives, who sold the unit, and University employees.

"I do believe [Banner] didn't understand what we were asking about," she said.

The system, which cost the University upwards of \$2-million, was purchased in part, Curri says, to reduce manual work required for registration and to save some money.

But the modifications required for Banner to recognize full-year classes will both add labour and cost more money.

"You win some and you lose some," Curri said. "The only reason we bought the system was the year 2000 problem — we had no choice in the matter."

Curri says Dal didn't investigate other universities' experiences with the system because they would have been largely irrelevant.

Wilfrid Laurier University, in Ontario, was one of the Banner-operated universities Dal didn't consult before purchasing the system. Laurier's Banner system went through a series of customizations to address its inability to accept full-year classes. The customizations have made it impossible to upgrade the system.

The changes to accommodate full-year classes at Dalhousie should not affect the system's ability to be upgraded in the future.

Curri felt that the committee had

dealt with the threat to full-year classes well, but couldn't possibly foresee problems with the system.

"I can't be prepared for something I don't know," she said.

"[Banner is] something new, it's a huge product and we wish we had all the details — but we don't. We have to be open-minded and problem-solving oriented."

While many glitches are expected, but still unpredictable, it is known that Banner cannot accommodate Dal's current Grade Point Average (GPA) calculations for students who switch degree programs.

Currently, GPA is calculated by degree. If a student switches from a Bachelor of Arts to a Bachelor of Science, or vice versa, applicable credits are transferred and calculated into a new average. Failures are not transferred, and as a result, not included in the new GPA.

But Banner calculates grade point by level, calculating cumulative GPA for all undergraduate courses, regardless of which degree is pursued. Changing degrees would not affect a student's GPA standing.

McGill University is considering purchasing the Banner system.

McKee stresses that although there are problems, Banner is far superior to Dalhousie's current system, Avis. For example, students will now be able to register and access registration information over the web.

"On the whole I think people will recognize that it's an advance."

Harassment allegations

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them all a bad name.

One male student security guard, who also did not want to be named, said that he knows of no problems with the performance of security guards at Dalhousie.

"I was shocked that we hadn't been told about [the suspension]," he said, adding he had neither seen, nor heard of, any impropriety on the part of the full-time guards.

Sandy MacDonald, Chief of

Dalhousie Security, refused to comment either on the new allegations or the Day case.

Susan Brousseau, the Sexual Harassment Advisor for Dalhousie, said that though her office did not deal with the security department case, "the university wants an environment free from sexual harassment".

She added that in cooperation with her office, the security department does update its sexual harassment training regularly.

News in brief

Zero fighting tolerance at Dalhousie

Six students were kicked-out of Howe Hall after a fight broke out during a residence party two weekends ago.

The fight began inside the dance, and carried further into residence. As a result, six students were asked to leave residence by Jan. 16. Shawn Key, Howe Hall president said it was unfortunate.

"Something had to be done. It went against the rules in the residence handbook. Those rules are pretty simple," he said.

Dalhousie administration offered alternative housing in DalTech and Fenwick Tower to the expelled students and returned their deposits for residence and food services for the January term.

In the future, Key says, there will be a change in the way smokers are run. There is a possibility that Dal security officers will attend each smoker.

Killam Library goes on-line

The Killam Library stepped into the 1990s this month, sending out its first e-mail notifications to patrons.

The new system will remind students when books are coming due, late or on hold. In addition, students will be given the option to renew their loan without transporting the books back to the library. Should the pilot-project succeed, it could save the library thousands of dollars in paper, stamps and time.

Students sign thousands of petitions

Students are demanding a change to the student loan system in Canada by adding their names to petitions that will be collected on "National Student Debt Day".

The petitions will be transported to Ottawa to be presented to government officials on Feb. 2.

The event is being organized by the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), of which Dalhousie is a member. It will follow the "National Day of Protest" being held on Jan. 28 by the Canadian Federation of Students.

University environment committee on life support

BY BEN MACLEAN

Saved from extinction by a close vote in the Dalhousie Senate, the University Committee on the Environment remains stuck in a rut of uncertainty.

Established in 1990, the University Committee on the Environment (UCE) has the goal of promoting environmentally sensitive decisions on campus, and to discourage "unacceptable degradation of the environment".

Senate showed concern in its fall meetings when the Committee seemed to have fallen short of this mandate. The UCE has been dormant for the past two years.

David Cameron, who introduced the motion to abolish the UCE and have its responsibilities transferred to the Senate Physical Planning Committee (SPPC), justified his suggestion as a protection of Senate's efficiency.

"When one encounters a committee that can't meet, it weakens the whole nature of Senate," he said.

With 31 senators in favour and 16 opposed to the scrapping of the UCE, the two-thirds majority requirement for the destruction of a Senate committee was not met.

But Cameron stands by his opinion that the UCE should be eliminated, asking why Senate

should even have such a committee. "It has no jurisdiction over environmental issues," he said.

In the early 1990s, the UCE was in much better health. At one time, the group conducted an annual environmental audit, and in 1994, the committee outlined an action plan, giving nine recommendations touching on everything from academic programs to managing buildings and grounds.

While stressing that "it's not that nothing has happened", Deborah Bakker, a masters student involved with NSPIRG, claims that "disappointingly few of the initiatives seem to have been acted on".

Despite progress in areas such as environment-oriented course offerings, she says, "There's much more that could be done."

Cameron, when asked who or which group has been dealing with environmental concerns on campus while the UCE has been stagnant, said the "immediate and pressing concerns", such as the treatment of toxic materials, have been administered by the Health and Safety Committee among others.

"That's where it should take place," he added.

While maintaining that the UCE should keep the role of environmental "overseer" on campus, Bakker agrees with Cameron.

"I am hesitant to assign the environment to one sector so that the others can ignore it."

In this respect, Bakker supports the idea that individual committees should take responsibility for environmental issues. However, this may be easier said than done. Michael Bradfield, chair of the Senate Priorities and Planning Committee, told Senate his committee is already overloaded with other tasks.

Added to the logistical problems of eliminating the UCE are the claims by some that such an action would be "regressive". Cameron, however, warns against using the committee in a game of "smoke and mirrors". He asked, "Are we going to have committees for the sole purpose of trying to project an image of concern?"

When told of the UCE and its recent inactivity, one student said, "If the committee is funded by Senate, it should be active; it should actually be doing something."

Bakker agrees that there is room for improvement.

"The presence of environmental issues hasn't been a priority. There's much more that could be done."

"You have to go beyond the policy to implement it," she adds. "If we're teaching students about the environment and sustainable development, universities should live

by example."

As for the future of the UCE, if senators wish to re-submit the motion to abolish the Committee, they will have to wait at least one year, or submit a modified proposal.

As far as Cameron is concerned,

though, an inactive committee is the same as an abolished committee.

With the responsibility for environmental concerns still up in the air, he says, "In failing [with the motion] we didn't accomplish anything."

Acadia fears strike

continued from page 1...

Black has announced that if the situation is not resolved soon, the student union will call for the resignations of both Ogilvie and Sacouman.

"Having allowed the situation to escalate to this point, it is apparent that neither is capable of competently holding their position," Black said.

While Ogilvie refused comment on the matter, Sacouman said, "If it were seen to contribute to the negotiations, I will resign immediately at the same time that Kelvin Ogilvie resigns as president of the university."

Black also announced that if a strike or lockout occurs, the student union will pursue legal action against both parties.

Student frustration is being exacerbated by a work-to-rule action that was launched by

Acadia faculty at the beginning of the month. Professors are refusing to take part in the Acadia Advantage, a program through which students use laptop computers as a major learning tool.

Students in the program, who now number over 1,400, pay an extra \$1,200 on top of their regular tuition and are issued a laptop computer. Using the computer students can download material provided by their professors, access class notes found on web sites or join with other students in chat groups.

Sacouman says professors have not received pay for helping to make the Acadia Advantage program a reality. Other faculty say they are participating in the job action to drive home the fact that they should be able to choose whether they will use computer technology in their classrooms.

Dal prof says students are treated like cattle

BY GINA STACK AND MARK REYNOLDS

Dalhousie is treating its students like "cattle", according to a psychology professor.

John Fentress, who has taught at Dalhousie since 1974, sent an e-mail to the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) asking them to do something to address the bureaucratic obstacles impeding student's academic careers.

"I can only imagine the frustration level that must occur when one has paid, is given guidelines as to what courses are needed, and then refused these courses — time and time again," the letter reads.

"I hope that the DSU will not allow this terrible situation to fester quietly. It may be that SOMEONE at the senior administration level cares, but that search may be a long one."

Fentress says that students are being denied courses that they need in order to graduate. He says that this problem is acute in his own department, psychology.

"We're reducing faculty and financial support, and increasing enrollment," he complained.

Fentress said that over 70 students were turned away in one of his classes, even though it was a required course for many.

"I'd say that from those 70 students, \$50,000 went into university coffers. That money was collected and [the students] didn't get what they paid for."

Fentress also feels that the quality of education is being reduced.

"As a faculty member... I feel more and more that I am running a cattle ranch. Overbooked classes preclude the individual attention that used to be part of a Dalhousie education."

Fentress said that he sent the e-mail to the DSU in the hope that the student union would speak to the university administration about it.

"It strikes me that individual students feel powerless," he said, "if the student union as a representative body can raise this, it might be more effective than if students went in one by one to complain."

DSU president Chris Adams agrees with much of the content of the letter.

"I weigh it very highly. We really appreciate this sort of e-mail because it gives legitimacy to what we are doing," Adams said.

"When tuition increases, it needs to be countered by a better quality of

education. I truthfully believe in quality of education, that is what I campaigned for."

Adams said that the DSU is already lobbying administration and government for better funding, and so it does not plan to directly address the concerns raised in the letter.

Warrick Kimmins, Dalhousie's vice-president academic, acknowledges that sometimes there can be scheduling problems in large classes, but believes the university is dealing with the issue.

"It's an old problem we have there,"

said Kimmins.

"In undergraduate faculties the difficulty is planning for enrollment... you can't predict what [students] will choose, often one is playing catch-up."

Kimmins explained that when a class has more students than spaces, the administration will try to make more spaces the following year.

Often first-year students enroll in psychology in order to get their science or social science credit. Kimmins explained that the university put on a number of credits

that would also fulfil those requirements, and published a brochure to inform students of this.

Kimmins also addressed the concern that the administration does not care about students who cannot get required courses due to over-enrollment.

"I can't speak for the university, but my experience was quite the opposite," he said.

"That's what we're here for, to help the students."

Student to sue Metro Transit

BY PHIL E. LEWIS

A Dalhousie student, who had a run-in with a Metro Transit bus, is seeking revenge after being forced to pay for the damage to his car.

Last September, Mike Fong was in an accident at the corner of Robie and Coburg while driving home from Dalhousie.

Fong was waiting behind a Metro Transit bus at a red light. According to Fong, he turned into the right turn lane during a red light. While waiting for the light to turn green he began looking both ways.

"The light turns green, I'm looking the other way and the idiot starts his turn [hitting me]," Fong said, referring to the Metro Transit bus.

Fong got out of his car to survey the damage while the bus kept going to the next stop. He caught up to the bus and they proceeded to exchange information. Fong said that the bus driver apologized for what happened.

Fong filed a police report the following day because the damage

done to his car was estimated at approximately \$1,500. The Metro Transit company did not file a report despite the fact that it is mandatory by law to file a police report if the combined damage is over \$1,000.

Fong says that the bus took off the left side headlights of his car, as well as other damages.

According to Lorrie Patterson, spokesperson for Metro Transit, the damage to the bus was done to the "rear bumper and was fairly minimal".

The settlement for the accident has been denied by the insurance adjuster for Halifax Regional Municipality. The adjuster reached this assessment almost three months after the accident.

"It's around Christmas time and they call me up and tell me I'm responsible for \$1000 worth of damage of my own car," Fong said.

Patterson explained that the insurance adjuster reported the bus "appeared to be struck from behind".

According to the adjuster's

report, the bus was in front of Fong's car in the straight ahead lane. The bus had already started its turn and Fong tried to scoot into the other lane and beat the bus.

"Apparently he can prove this by looking only at the damage to the bus...he never bothered to check out my vehicle damage," Fong said after hearing the adjuster's assessment.

When asked why the bus was trying to make an illegal right turn in the straight ahead lane, Patterson stated that there were cars parked along the right side and a bus needs a lot of room to make that turn.

Unfortunately, Fong does not have collision insurance so he has to pay the cost of the damages himself. He still believes he was right and does not believe he should have to pay over \$1,000 for someone else's mistake.

And he plans to raise the funds to pay the deposit for a small claims suit against Metro Transit.

"The only way it could have happened the way they say is if I was driving on the bloody sidewalk."

DFA Strike

continued from page 1...

We are monitoring the situation very closely, its outcome could have a huge impact on students," he said. "The council has little legal power, but we have plans underway to get big things done."

"We are...moving towards action...but it is at the discretion of the student body."

At Acadia University, in Wolfville, student action impacted the bitter negotiations between faculty and administration.

A student union organized sit-in, staged at the University's main building, pressured the University president and the president of the faculty association to have a two-and-a-half hour open mike discussion about the talks and possibility of strike.

Acadia Student Union president Paul Black also sat in on the contract negotiations — a privilege Dal denied Adams.

"I received a response from the university administration saying that they felt it wouldn't be appropriate to have a third party observer."

But Cross agrees with the administration's decision.

"It wasn't a good idea, [the talks are] confidential discussions, people must feel comfortable speaking freely."

Dal and Daltech student leaders to combine

BY GINA STACK

The amalgamation of the Daltech Student Union by the Dalhousie Student Union is near completion, according to student president Chris Adams.

"We have good working relations with the Daltech Union and everything should be wrapped up by the end of January, with a full transition to come April 1," said Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) president Chris Adams.

Adams welcomes the amalgamation of the two student bodies.

"We need one voice for students on campus to help give us strength."

Adams says that except for a couple unresolved service issues, like marketing bands for the T-Room (the DalTech bar), all issues between the two unions have been resolved.

As a result, the DalTech student union will officially become a part of the DSU this April.

Although the DSU transferred fees collected from DalTech students back to the DalTech Union this year, Adams stressed that the DSU is the only official spokesperson for students at Dalhousie and DalTech. He added that the DSU already handles all external and most internal representation of DalTech students.

In order to better represent DalTech students, a second engineering seat, and full computer science and architecture seats were

added to the DSU council this year. Adams says a DalTech board will also be established to act as a liaison with the DSU.

At the last student council meeting, Adams and vice-president executive Bridgette McCaig brought forward a proposal for the creation of a new vice-president position.

Adams says that the goal of the new position of vice-president community affairs would be to help bring the DSU closer to students and unite the two campuses. The proposal has been sent

to the Constitutional Policy Committee and will be voted on at the next General Meeting to be held February 12.

Should the motion pass, the new vice-president would be primarily responsible for community relations on campus and societies. Adams adds that the vice-president would hold office hours on both the Sexton and Studley Campuses, although no details have been worked out as yet.

Adams added that the DSU will not be increasing student fees to finance the new executive position.

Nation-wide action against student debt

BY RACHEL FUREY

TORONTO (CUP) — Tackling the student debt problem will be front and centre this month as Canada's largest student organization plans for a national Day of Action.

The protest is slated for Jan. 28 and will see students from across Canada participate in rallies, marches, workshops and other events in an effort to gain public support and to urge the federal government to develop a national strategy for dealing with student debt.

The Day of Action is being organized by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and is part of the organization's campaign to support a system of national grants and denounce income-contingent loan repayment schemes.

Canada is one of only two industrialized nations which does not have a national system of student grants. By comparison, a \$3.5-billion increase in education funding was recently announced in the United States, with individual student grants increasing by \$300.

"We want to send a strong message to the government leading up to the federal budget that students will no longer tolerate government inaction on the issue of a publicly-funded system of post-secondary education," said Brad Lavigne, national chair of the federation.

The average Canadian student's debt load currently sits at \$25,000. And student bankruptcies have almost tripled since 1993, rising to 12,000 in 1996 from 4,500.

Lavigne says he hopes the Day of Action will lend credibility to the federation's previous lobbying efforts.

"Meetings with governments...has limited impact unless the governments believe our message has widespread support. National Days of Action help illustrate that widespread support," he said.

The federation has teamed-up with several coalition partners to gain support for the national day of protest, including the National Union of Public and General Employees, which represents provincial government unions across the country and several private-sector unions.

Members of the group are also experiencing tough times because of federal government cuts, says Larry Brown, the union's secretary-treasurer.

"[For us] it's job losses and

program cuts. The details of the impact are different but the cause is the same — complete underfunding from the [federal] government."

While the protest will target the federal government and push for positive student aid reforms in the upcoming federal budget announcement, university and college students are also targeting their provincial governments and have come up with a number of innovative ways to try and force their governments to deal with the student debt problem.

At several schools student leaders are planning to tabulate the total amount of debt shared by their entire student body and use these amounts to send a signal to

governments and administrators about the "walls of debt" students will face upon graduation.

At Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, students are planning a teach-in Jan. 24 to raise awareness about globalization and the growing corporate presence in post-secondary education. Another teach-in was slated for Jan. 21 in Winnipeg.

In Saskatchewan, students will be focussing their protests against the Royal Bank, which has a monopoly on student loans in that province.

And at Memorial University in Newfoundland, students are organizing an indoor rally-style "Cuts Carnival" featuring speakers, games, theatre and other activities centering around student debt issues.

Students in British Columbia have collected thousands of the Canada Student Loans Program's fridge magnets that tell students to "borrow wisely", and plan to give them back to the government during a Day of Action march.

"You can sense the anger out there among students," said Maura Parte, chairperson of the BC component of the federation. "You can sense that people feel there's a general attack on students because of youth unemployment, tuition fees, student debt."

Dalhousie, a member of rival student organization the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), has no plans to participate in the event.

BC education minister battles recall

BY ERIN FITZPATRICK

PRINCE GEORGE (CUP) — As the BC education minister faces the possibility of being booted out of office by his constituents, debate is raging over the provincial recall legislation being used by disaffected voters.

The NDP government introduced a law earlier in its mandate through which constituents could force their legislative representative to resign. And now one of their own — Prince George North MLA Paul Ramsey — could face this very fate.

If 40 per cent of eligible voters in the minister's constituency — that's 8,908 people — sign a recall petition before Feb. 3, Ramsey will be forced to resign by March 15 and a by-election will be called for the riding.

"This isn't about politics, it's

about a lack of representation and accountability," said Pertti Harkonen, the Prince George resident who launched the recall motion on behalf of the Canadian Taxpayer's Federation.

Harkonen says Ramsey told his constituents there would be a surplus in the province's coffers when most likely he knew there would be a deficit.

"It's about an MLA who has not adequately represented the citizens of Prince George North," Harkonen said. "Ramsey should have stood up and told us the truth, but he didn't, he toed the party line."

Ramsey says the budget matter was an honest slip-up.

"We made a mistake," he said. "We were too optimistic in our calculations, but this is not the case of an MLA who neglected his duties."

Neil Moncton of Citizens For Local Democracy, the group

handling Ramsey's side of the campaign, says this recall petition and others like it being circulated in the province are actually ploys to reduce the NDP's slim majority in the provincial legislature.

He says he is also concerned about the involvement of special interest groups like the Canadian Taxpayers' Federation in the recall campaign.

"This is not about Paul, or local issues," Moncton said. "The group leading this thing is not from Prince George, and recall was intended to be a tool for dissatisfied constituents," Moncton said.

He adds that there are also those involved in the recall campaign who oppose Ramsey's decision to allow books featuring same-sex parents in BC schools.

Harkonen says there is nothing partisan about the recall campaign. He adds that organizers do not want to re-

fight the provincial election, and are only trying to take back the mandate of an representative they consider irresponsible.

"It's like running in an election, being an MLA and minister of education all at the same time," Ramsey said. "I'm working around the clock, and it's very discouraging, because normally my job is about making positive changes, and now I spend all of my time defending myself against this mud throwing. The time to fight elections should be at election time."

The provincial government is looking at the possibility of changing the recall legislation, or ditching it altogether, this spring.

"We still support the concept of recall," Ramsey said of the NDP, "but we may need to change some of the technical aspects of the legislation to ensure that the principles are protected, and not abused."

Private degree-granting schools in Alberta to go it alone

BY ANDREA BREAU

EDMONTON (CUP) — Alberta is set to become the first province in Canada to offer fully private college degree programs, and this is raising concerns about the future of public post-secondary education in the country.

"I'm concerned...that [this is] part of a much bigger picture. This [initiative] may create a market for private [post-secondary] institutions in Canada," said Howard Sapers, Liberal critic for Advanced Education in Alberta.

The cornerstone of the transition to allowing fully private degree programs is the introduction of independent organizational evaluations for private post-secondary institutions in the province.

This replaces a requirement, in place since 1984, that such schools had to be affiliated with an Alberta university.

The new evaluation process is a recognition of the changing face of post-secondary education in Canada, says Marilyn Patton, head of Alberta's Private Colleges Accreditation Board.

"It's a recognition of non-traditional institutions that maybe didn't fit into the mould. There are many different types of [education] providers," she said.

Patton adds that the changes do not mean private post-secondary institutions in Alberta will have full authority over the degree programs they offer.

"Every new program [a private college] wants to offer must go through a [thorough] process of evaluation...recommendations are

[then] given to the Minister of Advanced Education and an Order in Council must be given to grant [a college] the ability to offer a particular program," she said.

But this does not relieve the fears of Elizabeth Carlyle, national chairperson-elect for the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and chair of the federation's Manitoba component.

"These are businesses we're talking about. [I think] it's a loss of commitment to public education," she said.

Carlyle adds that the federation has heard complaints from students across the country about the quality of education at private post-secondary institutions.

"Students in other provinces [have reported] substandard teaching and false advertising. It's disturbing," she said.

There is also concern among those who will be directly affected by the changes.

Davin Overland, student union president at Augustana University College, one of the province's four private colleges, says the removal of his school's affiliation with the University of Alberta could have mixed results.

While he says private colleges in Alberta will now have more freedom to expand, he is concerned about the cost implications.

As the evaluation program will operate on a cost-recovery basis, schools will have to pay a fee to participate.

"[The fees] will soak up a big proportion of [the college's] funds. It may result in less programs being offered, but [those programs] might be well thought

out," he said.

Patton says though final details have to be worked out, it is her understanding that the private institutions will continue to receive money from the provincial government.

"I don't foresee a divorce from funding," she said.

Semper says he worried about the effect this will have on public post-secondary institutions.

"Creating competition for grants will affect the [public education] infrastructure," he said.

According to Carlyle, the Ontario government is considering the possibility of introducing similar changes.

Dean gets quarter-million for wrongful dismissal

BY MICHAEL CONNORS

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Memorial University has reached an out-of-court settlement worth over \$250,000 with former dean of science Alan Law over a wrongful dismissal suit.

The two sides reached the deal Jan. 13, one day before the suit was scheduled to go to court.

Law was dismissed as dean last July when senior administration said it had lost confidence in his ability to lead the Faculty of Science. The executive council of the Board of Regents, Memorial's highest governing body, made the decision to dismiss Law solely on the advice of senior administrators and without ever hearing from Law himself.

Law claimed proper procedure had not been followed and quickly launched a legal challenge.

In the settlement document, Memorial's lawyers agreed the university failed to follow proper procedures by not giving Law a fair chance to defend himself to the Board.

Under the deal, the board rescinded its decision to dismiss Law, who then voluntarily resigned as dean. Law is now considered to be on leave with pay until June 30, 2000, at which point he will be granted early retirement with an annual pension of \$13,000.

He will not be required to teach or do research, but will still receive a total salary of \$253,000 over the next two-and-a-half years. Law will also be compensated \$7,500 for the period between his dismissal and the settlement.

But despite the agreement to rescind Law's dismissal, the university does not admit any wrong-doing beyond the way in which the former dean was dismissed.

"The decision to change the dean still stands. And now we can move on and get a new dean of science and get the kind of leadership and direction that the university requires in the Faculty of Science," said university spokesperson, Peter Morris.

Law, who did not speak to media during the lawsuit, says he isn't particularly happy with the settlement, but is glad the matter is finally over and believes his reputation may be somewhat repaired.

"I've never in 36 years had anyone sully my reputation in any way, and I view the reinstatement as somewhat of

a vindication," he said. "I thought it was a bit of a cloud over my head, but now that cloud is gone."

Law was critical of the university for allowing the matter to drag on for so long, especially because he was scheduled to teach three courses this semester. He was instead forced to clear out of his office Jan. 18.

"They made a muck-up of it the whole way through," he said. "If they'd done this three weeks ago we wouldn't have been scrambling to cover classes."

Law's firing sparked widespread outrage across the university community at what many felt was a

summary dismissal which the dean did not have a chance to defend himself against.

Robert Adamec, chair of the Committee of Concerned Faculty, says he is happy with the settlement, although he is worried about how the pay-out will be absorbed by the university.

"I thought it was a justifiable outcome to what I felt was a very badly handled issue," he said. "[But] I'm unhappy for the university because someone has got to pay for this. It will have to come out of an already overburdened budget that's already in deficit."

Adamec says the money should be

taken from the personal budgets allocated for senior administrators, rather than money earmarked for academic programs.

Morris did not know what part of Memorial's budget the settlement money would be taken from, but said the university would be able to absorb the cost.

In the meantime, the university's faculty representatives say the settlement casts Memorial in a bad light, and are calling for a review of the senior administrators responsible for Law's dismissal.

Unique university-college venture launched

BY ANGELA PACIENZA

TORONTO (CUP) — An agreement between Ontario's largest college and Canada's third largest university will make it easier for students not quite ready to enter university to eventually obtain a degree.

Under the York Articulation Program, announced earlier this month, students will begin post-secondary studies at Seneca College and eventually move to York University. The program allows students to earn a college diploma and a bachelor of arts degree in just three years.

"[The deal] enhances our reputation as a university of opportunity and inclusiveness, and a university that cares about how our students move on in the rest of their lives," said Lorna Marsden, York University president.

Stephen Quinlan, Seneca president, says the idea for the project came as a result of Seneca students demanding an

easier way to move on to university. He adds that York is the natural choice for a partner in this program.

"York was one of the key universities because of our close geographic proximity and indeed the reputation of the university in the area of arts and science," he said.

Students can begin the program this September. A new building is being built on York's main campus to house the university component of the program. It is expected to open by September 1999.

"I never thought I'd be going to university," said Simone Ziv, a first-year Seneca student who plans to enter the program. "I didn't have any goals. But now [the program's] given me something to look forward to."

Participants of the program will be in class year-round, spending the first two years of study at Seneca, while taking summer courses at York. Their final year is spent at the university.

Other Ontario colleges and universities are involved in joint educational initiatives, but this is the first program that grants college students the opportunity to obtain a university degree.

"The significant thing about this program is that it is tailored to the needs of college students," said Education Minister Dave Johnson.

Ziv says the joint-program is cost effective because the first two years are spent at college, where tuition fees are significantly lower.

"It makes a hell of a lot of sense," she said.

Prior to the agreement, if Seneca college students wanted to obtain a degree from York, they had to apply

to the school for advance standing after two years of college study, and then complete another two to three years of university.

"I'm sure this will be the incentive for many other students to move to university as well," Ziv said.

Seneca is involved in joint ventures with several other Ontario universities, as well as having a number of other joint programs with York University.

"I think this is the tip of the iceberg," Quinlan said. "As education changes in Ontario, you will see more and more joint venture agreements of this nature, all designed to make it easier for students to have success in whatever they wish to do."

Trent TA union drive

PETERBOROUGH (CUP) — Student employees of Trent University demanded job security, adequate wages and good working conditions as they kicked off their drive to unionize.

The Trent Academic Assistants Workers Committee announced the beginning of a unionization drive for Trent's teaching and research assistants, lab monitors and markers on Jan. 6.

Student workers, most of whom are graduate students, are the only non-unionized employees at Trent.

"As non-unionized employees, we're in a dangerous position in light of the recent wave of attacks on universities by the government and corporate sectors," said Alex Levant, a member of the committee.

As members of a union, the student workers would be able to negotiate a collective agreement which would formally establish the rights and obligations of both employer and employees.

Student academic assistants at 10 of Ontario's 17 universities are unionized, while union drives are underway at two more, Brock University and Queen's University.

According to Daria Ivanodhko, a national representative for the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), there has been a marked increase in the number of inquiries about unionizing academic workers in the last few months.

She says people are increasingly concerned about job security and working conditions as more and more funding is cut from post-secondary institutions.

"My job as a TA is crucial to me. I need that money to complete my studies," said Morgan Gay, a graduate student and TA at Trent. "But with all the cuts to education,

everything is threatened and because we are not unionized we are the most vulnerable."

Val Patrick, business agent for CUPE local 3903 at York and 3908 at Trent, echoes Gay's concerns.

"Especially in this political climate and this time of squeezing, if you don't have an organized collective voice you'll get squeezed out," she said.

Union members at other university campuses say organization is helping to protect them in these tough times.

"Last year the administration wanted huge rollbacks. If we hadn't been organized we would have had our pay decreased, we would have lost our job security and many of our benefits," said Andrew Gray, a student teaching assistant at the University of Toronto and treasurer of CUPE local 3902.

Unionized student academic workers have also made recent gains. At York University, negotiations resulted in a drug and dental plan, guaranteed annual wages of approximately \$9,500 and a guaranteed number of years of paid work.

But Trent administrators don't seem to feel that there is a strong need for student academic assistants to organize.

"I disagree strongly that [they] are so vulnerable," said Paul Healy, dean of research and graduate studies at Trent. He adds that student academic workers are highly valued by the university.

Healy says he is skeptical about the success of the unionization drive. He adds that organization can lead to labour unrest, pointing to the fact that there have been two faculty strikes at Trent in the past six years.

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SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

Tar Ponds become the centre of racial controversy

Canada's largest toxic waste site is being ignored as a "non-issue"

BY NATALIE MACLELLAN

More than a quarter of the blacks and natives living in Nova Scotia are living within five kilometres of a dump.

This, said local black activist Rocky Jones, is symptomatic of a phenomenon recently coined environmental racism.

"All around this province you will find that waste sites are constructed where the people are poor, where they're native, and where they are black," Jones said during a Sierra Club sponsored lecture.

"That is how our institutions, our government, uses their power in a very racist fashion."

"As you know," Jones said, "the native communities are reserve lands. All around these reserve lands, [the government is] putting dumps. So the community can't even move away from the dump. And those communities are not producing the waste...when you get up from a table in a poor community, there is very little waste."

Environmental racism and environmental justice are terms which are gaining popularity very quickly as activists are discovering that environmental issues tend to be dealt

with much more quickly and effectively when they are the concern of the white middle and upper class.

The Sydney Tar Ponds are a prime example of an environmental justice issue, said Elizabeth May, executive director of the Sierra Club. The Tar Ponds are Canada's largest toxic waste site, the second largest toxic waste site

"All around this province you will find that waste sites are constructed where the people are poor, where they're native, and where they are black"

in North America. Yet they are virtually unheard of in local and provincial politics, as well as in the mainstream media.

"I've been a Cape Breton resident forever," May said, "and I didn't know the Tar Ponds existed. It was a revelation to me that Canada's largest toxic waste site was in [Cape Breton]."

"Nothing was more horrifying than actually going there and seeing it."

The Tar Ponds, which coincidentally are neither full of tar nor are they ponds,

are the result of 80 years of steel making in Sydney.

The Tar Ponds problem encompasses a much larger area, the Muggah Creek Watershed, including a tidal estuary of the south arm of Sydney Harbour. Sludge from the steel mill and coke oven site have been dumped into the estuary for years, as well as PCBs from the nearby rail line and raw sewage from the town.

"There are 700,000 tonnes of toxic sludge in the estuary of the Tar Ponds, not counting what's found up Coke Oven Brook, in the abandoned coke oven site, in the soil, and in the dump," May said.

"How much toxic waste was in Love Canal, that became so famous for a community living with toxic waste? The answer is 22,000 tonnes. But it was a nice white suburb. I think there are some differences here."

"What we all have in common in Cape Breton is that we are politically forgotten, and that makes this issue for me, an issue of environmental justice."

Zelda Lucas, a black Sydney native

in the audience, took this suggestion even further.

"It is an issue of racism, because if [the Tar Ponds were] in a white community, it would have been cleaned up many years ago. Many, many years

it wouldn't be in Toronto. People wouldn't allow it."

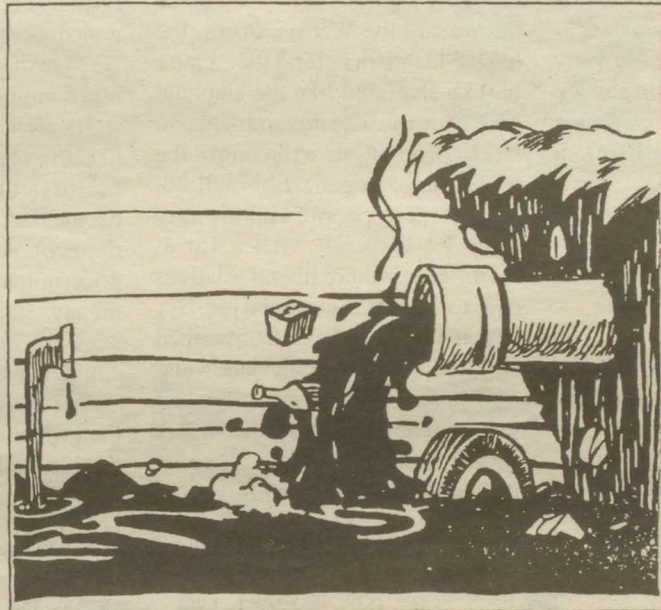
In the late 1980s, \$80 million was put aside to clean up the Tar Ponds, \$55 million of which was wasted building an incinerator which has never worked.

In the winter of 1996, the government announced their "Encapsulation Option" which involved burying the estuary in slag and seeding it with grass to make a nice recreational area. Needless to say that idea was short-lived.

Since then, nothing further has been done to clean up the Tar Ponds. It has become a "non-issue". The solution, May says, is to make it an issue again.

"If [Nova Scotia premier] Russell MacLellan is able to go to his former colleagues

in the Liberal Party in Ottawa and say 'I need to be able to tell people I've done something about cleaning up the Muggah Creek Watershed, people are upset about it, people want a clean-up, people are dying and this is something I must be able to include in my platform; those are where the political windows of opportunity are.'



ago."

Although Sydney is not a predominantly black community, the black population of the city is concentrated in the area closest to the Tar Ponds.

"If it was in South end Halifax, it would have been cleaned up long ago," May agreed. "If it was in Toronto—well,

Environmental martyrdom on a massive scale

BY CHRIS MILLER

Imagine being tortured and executed by your own country for speaking out against environmental degradation.

That is what is happening in Nigeria according to Barenika Gbarazia, Atlantic regional director for the Canadian chapter of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP).

Barenika Gbarazia is a Nigerian refugee who recently arrived in Canada. While living in his homeland, Gbarazia witnessed atrocities most of us find difficult to even imagine—but they are all too real for him. He spoke to a small group of concerned citizens in Halifax on Sunday, Jan. 18.

Gbarazia spoke of a place where soldiers slaughter their own people, children can't attend school, women are raped and young men are tortured before they are hanged.

"Repression is happening and we have to stop it," Gbarazia said. "The [Nigerian] government has no shame. It murders people in jail."

It all started, innocently enough, approximately 40 years ago, when oil gushed from a test drilling site on the Nigerian Delta, in the heart of what is known locally as the Ogoni lands. To the joy of the poverty stricken Ogoni people, the mega multi-national company, Royal Dutch Shell, tapped into one of the largest oil deposits in Western Africa, and spoke of local prosperity.

This enthusiasm quickly began to fade, Gbarazia says, when oil spills,

contaminated groundwater and gas explosions began to environmentally degrade this once thriving agricultural heartland. He says that drinking water became polluted and fish populations began to die.

"Nigeria gets richer from oil, but the [Ogoni] people become poorer," Gbarazia said. "We gradually lose our environment. We gradually lose our heritage."

"The [Nigerian] government has no shame. It murders people in jail"

According to Greenpeace, 6.4 million litres of oil have been spilt, in 27 separate incidents, by Royal Dutch Shell in Nigeria. This is more than the Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska.

Gbarazia says bringing about environmental reforms is difficult, when dealing with a company that accounts for almost all of Nigeria's exports. In 1994, the Nigerian government began to crack down on the Ogoni people's anti-Shell sentiments, in what Gbarazia refers to as "murder" and "genocide".

Ken Saro-Wiwa, Bariner Kiobel, John Krinen and six other Ogoni leaders were executed on Nov. 10, 1995 despite outcries from the international community.

Gbarazia speaks harshly of Dutch-owned Shell. He is calling for a boycott of the company and refers to their

profits as being dirty.

"[The money] is the blood of the Ogoni people. It is the blood of the Ogoni land."

Shell Canada—subsidiary of the multi-national Royal Dutch Shell—has stated that it is not involved with the Nigerian controversy.

"I can confirm that Shell Canada does not import crude oil from Nigeria, nor do we have any other business dealings with the government of Nigeria," says Margaret Sparkes, communications advisor for Shell Canada, via e-mail.

"The situation in Nigeria is complex and does not lend itself to simple answers. It is also true that society today is calling for multi-national companies to play a different role than they have played in the past," she said.

Sparkes concedes, however, that "[Dutch-based] Shell does not claim to have a perfect record in Nigeria, but [Shell Canada] believe [the Shell Petroleum Development Company] is playing a positive role there".

Canada is a leader in the push for human rights reforms in Nigeria, and Barenika speaks highly of his new, northern home.

Local community groups are also getting involved with this issue.

Betty Peterson of the Ogoni Solidarity Network of Nova Scotia has taken up the cause. She helped organize a protest against a Shell gas station in Halifax, and was involved in bringing executed MOSOP President Ken Saro-Wiwa's brother to the city for a series of lectures last year.

"We had a strong protest against Shell," Peterson said.

The Social Action Committee of the Universalist-Unitarian Church is also getting involved. They helped organize Gbarazia's recent presentation in Halifax. Roger Davies of the Church says he was "pleased to have sponsored the presentation" and anticipates the Social Action Committee becoming more involved with this issue in the near

future.

Shell Canada is a major player in the \$3-billion Sable Gas Project, in the waters off Nova Scotia. Gbarazia and others are concerned that Shell's involvement with this project may damage Canada's internationally acclaimed human rights record.

"Today [it] is Ogoni. Tomorrow [it will be] another place," warns Gbarazia. "Together we can make a change."



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Whether your belief-set can be categorized as "hippie" or "teetotaller", money is a fundamental concern for every Canadian. My version of morality may not agree with yours, but it still costs us both \$8.10 for a six-pack.

Right now, while marijuana remains illegal, pot activists are

expanding.

No, legalization will see budding entrepreneurs capitalizing on a new vice with enormous marketing potential.

With this in mind, legalization should be viewed through the calculated bi-focals of economics. You can bet your bong that the government's sole interest in

legalization lies in how much money is to be made or saved at the end of the day.

So let's be realistic. Look at marijuana as a potential commodity for Canada. Prohibition is an expensive program to run. Can we save money if it's legal? Can we make money if it's legal?

If, after adding up the cost of health, regulatory and taxation factors, the number crunchers decide that, "Indeed, pot will boost the economy and supplement the government's revenue," then by all means, start selling. Besides, we need an edge to make us more competitive in world markets.

But if the books don't balance, then why bother? It's not like pot is hard to find.

JOHN CULLEN
AND GREG MCFARLANE

Editorial

enjoying a golden age. If they win the war on the War on Drugs, the happy-idealism behind their cause will be shattered like the elephant man's mirror. The government and large corporations will control the 'holy' herb. Legalization will not see business people sinking into their La-Z-Boys with a fat J, inviting their more liberal relatives over for hash brownies and pie. Nor will it see an influx of unwashed children sleeping on the sidewalk. Marijuana will never stop nuclear waste from entering the water supply, steel mills from clogging the air with toxins, or landfills from

Letters

DSU — A job well done

To the editor,

There is nothing more fulfilling and enjoyable than a good bit of gossip as we spend the evening chauffeuring people in the Tiger Patrol van. The other night, as we complained in the van about the trials and tribulations of student life, it suddenly dawned on us that this year has been the first time in a while that van gossip, and gossip more generally around campus, has not turned to whining about the shortcomings of the DSU executive.

For anyone who is familiar with DSU politics, you will agree that this relative silence is pretty revolutionary. The five executive, Chris, Bridgette, Ted, Kevin and Terence, have taken huge steps this year to rejuvenate legitimacy and accountability in the DSU.

From working countless hours a week, to organizing events, to lobbying for students, to initiatives to help ice storm victims, it is impressive to see a group of people who are not in office just to beef up their resumes. For once, scandals do not abound in the SUB about how some executive member has abused their power, or sat and festered apathetically.

Of course, this is not to say that the executive is infallible. However, with such obstacles to overcome as the DalTech merger, they have managed to handle difficult situations with considerable success.

Let it be known that we are not writing this to get brownie points from the executive. We are certainly the farthest thing from DSU executive lapdogs; if we were disgruntled in anyway, we would undoubtedly be the first to raise a fuss, or at least to gossip about it profusely. We just want to commend those executive on a job well done. We especially appreciate Bridgette's support of student security, particularly Tiger Patrol's pursuit of a new image (Yay, new jackets!).

However, do not take our word for any of this. Go up and see the DSU executive for yourselves.

ALIX DOSTAL
AND DEAN NAUGLER

Meaning behind the words

To the editor,

It would be easy for some to misconstrue Dan Clark's article "The leper without leprosy: society and obesity". To the ignorant it will seem that Dan is making a plea to women — that by expressing the anger he feels towards his situation he is in fact asking for pity, crying out to get laid. Others will respond by saying out loud to the article "Just lose some fucking weight buddy", and others will simply overlook it as another piece of journalistic bullshit.

But if you would just stop and listen, take a minute from your cool, self-absorbed life, you may be able to catch the meaning behind the words.

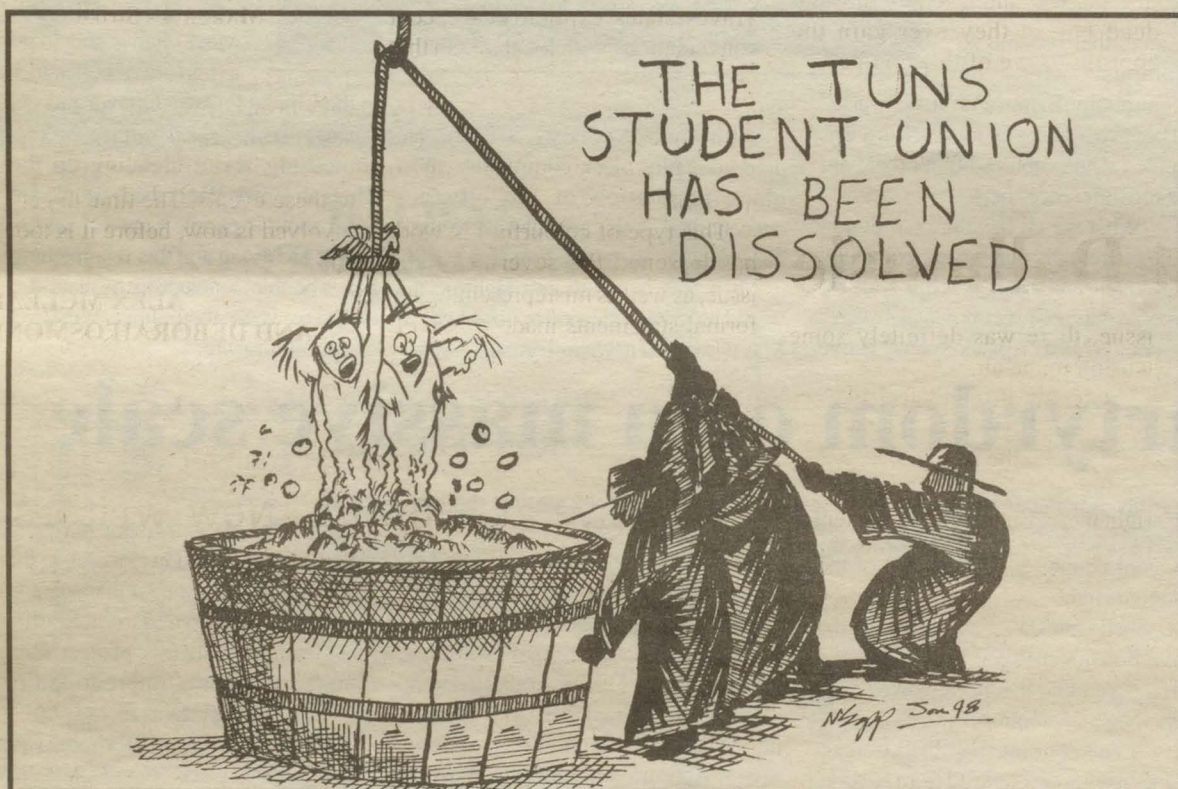
We all hide. We all have facades and habits which we use to hide or deal with our fears and insecurities. We are constantly searching for who we are, where we fit in, and what better way to hide from these questions than by getting high everyday or pretending to be someone we're not.

Dan doesn't want to hide anymore. He doesn't want to wake up everyday worrying about who he is. Imagine the strength it takes to admit to your entire school that you are fat, that people snicker when you pass by, that some even have the audacity to comment out loud on your appearance.

Very few of us would ever be able to make these public admissions, as we are not yet comfortable enough with ourselves to say "fuck you" to those who hammer into our self-worth and confidence.

So Dan, I applaud you. You have without a doubt proven that your sense of self surpasses the superficial judgements our society makes of you.

FIONA SILLERS



THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

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The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor and commentary. All letters will be printed up to four per week. The printing of additional letters will be at the discretion of the Opinions Editor. Letters may be edited for length above 300 words and we reserve the right to edit commentary.

All submissions must be typed double-spaced on paper, e-mailed, or on a Mac or IBM 3 1/2 inch disk, in a WP version not greater than Word 6.0 or equivalent. The deadline is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, the Gazette is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, the Gazette is published every Thursday by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all students of Dalhousie University are members. The Gazette exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. All editorial decisions are made collectively by the staff. To become voting staff members, individuals must contribute to three issues. Views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the editors or the collective staff. Unless otherwise noted, all text © 1998 the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. ISSN 0011-5819

February is African Heritage Month

and the Gazette is looking for our readers' help in celebrating the achievements, history, and culture of black people.

The first week in February we will be publishing an African heritage supplement. We welcome all submissions of poetry, photos and feature articles to the supplement. Call 494-2507 or come to the office room 312 SUB

The Letters/Opinions section of the Gazette is meant as a campus forum for all Dalhousie students. The opinions expressed within may not necessarily be those of the Gazette staff or editorial board. We welcome all submissions, but reserve the right to edit for style and content. It is the Gazette's mandate not to print racist, sexist or homophobic material.

TAs and part-time instructors take action

The time is rapidly approaching when those of us who are TAs or part-time instructors at Dalhousie will have to make a decision that will affect every future TA and part-timer at this university.

The new wage scheme proposed by the administration and the implementation of standardized

salaries (which are lower than almost every other post-secondary institution in Canada) is soon to become a reality at Dalhousie if sufficient action between now and the end of term is not taken.

CUPE Local 3912, the union representing TAs and part-timers, has made a number of attempts

throughout the academic year to bring Dalhousie administration into negotiation over this proposed new wage scheme. The university administration has failed to reach any agreement with the union, and has misunderstood the demands and requests that CUPE has made to continue negotiations on behalf

of its union members from Dalhousie.

Although they have issued statements both to the public and to TAs, which suggest otherwise, the administration has not responded to CUPE's proposals for continued negotiation.

One of the biggest problems is convincing the administration, as well as undergraduate students who pay some of the highest tuition in the country, to reap the benefits of specialized instructors and TAs for courses in the Arts and Sciences, that the short term solution (cutting and standardizing wages in departments) will have a detrimental effect on academic life here at Dalhousie.

It will make graduate and post graduate work even more financially precarious than it is now. Among other issues, it fundamentally undermines the TA's and part timer's ability to vocalize their concerns, be heard by the administration, and make recommendations which are worth considering before the deal is stamped and sealed.

An example of this would be when Dalhousie president Tom Traves states explicitly in recent conversations with local media that negotiations over the future contract have been brought to an end by CUPE, suggesting that the administration was willing to negotiate further.

This type of colourful PR work has lessened the severity of the issue, as well as misrepresenting the formal statements made by CUPE

to continue with the talks. Obviously, things have come to the point where more action needs to be taken, and instructors have to be even more vocal in order to be heard by the Dalhousie community.

CUPE has developed a strategy aimed to include TAs and part-time instructors from all faculties and departments, that includes a schedule of events for the coming few months:

JANUARY 23 - General Meeting and Social. Room 224-226 Dal SUB, 3-6pm

JANUARY 27 - Canadian Federation of Students Rally (Time and Place to be Announced)

FEBRUARY 13 - Rally and March (Time and Place to be Announced)

FEBRUARY 18 & 19 STRIKE VOTE - Polling Stations at DalTech, Dalhousie, St. Mary's and Mount Saint Vincent (Time and Place to be Announced)

MARCH 4 - Strike

TAs and part-time instructors who have been active with union activity encourage all those who want to find out more to come out to these events. The time to get involved is now, before it is too late.

**ALEX MCLEAN
AND DEBORAH OSMOND**

Pot is wrong, period

It is with disdain that I promulgate my feelings toward a rather serious issue, one which my associates choose to treat with the usual immaturity. Our counterculture seems hellbent on an insidious endeavour to legalize, and legitimize, the use of pot.

It is a steady, relentless effort of many lobbying groups to recognize the "medicinal" benefits of marijuana. Without one shred of evidence to be brought forth, they expect Ottawa to blindly embrace this drug use. Terms such as "medicinal" and "herb" are euphemisms being thrown around by the pot industry.

Allan Rock, Parliament's favourite wuss, has taken it upon himself to have an "open mind" on decriminalizing pot for medical uses. Really? On whose authority? And just what would substantiate "medical use"? At least Rock is willing to hold off until he sees some proof of its benefits, if there truly are any.

An Ontario provincial court ruled recently that Terry Parker, 42, was allowed to smoke marijuana to treat his epilepsy. Seventy-one plants that were seized from him had to be returned, even though he was also selling the stuff on the side. You might make a case for his health, until you got a look at this guy. He looked like a haggard, bleary-eyed unintelligible mess. His speech was beyond any comprehension. I guess he figured the only way to cure epilepsy is to destroy the defective organ, namely the brain.

Doesn't it strike anyone that these pot activists are selling you classic dope dealer lines? It won't hurt you, it will make you feel better, and on and on. How stupid do you have to be not to realize that this is what drug dealers have been saying for years? Think about it. These people profess themselves as some sort of social liberators, when they have only to gain from sales of the drug, while peoples' health is severely damaged.

The fact is marijuana can hurt and even kill you. Too many studies (not to mention common sense) show the damage it can do to your brain and your body. According to *Primetime Live*, ABC's news-magazine program, pot smokers are 65 to 85 times as likely to move on to heavier drugs like cocaine and heroin than non-pot smokers. It seems apparent that the ones with a vested interest in this pot smokescreen are the entire drug industry.

It's amazing how many times you hear it's not addictive. It works the same way any other drug does, by stimulating dopamine production in your brain. When

your brain runs out of that dopamine, it wants it back — only more. It's like any other drug, and it's effects are probably why people are so likely to ascend to heavier drug use.

It's these dealers who compare their drugs to things like caffeine and sugar that make me laugh. Are alcohol and tobacco bad? Yes, please don't drink or smoke at all. Are they even comparable to marijuana? Absolutely not.

It's a humbling event to have to stand up for what you know is right. It is with rare exception that people are willing to stand up to the pressure of others. Their incentives are to either sell you that fresh supply, or to drag you down to their level. Misery loves company.

All I can offer to those of you out there who haven't tried it is

you are not missing anything. Those who constantly immerse themselves in drugs, any type, are simply so void of any real purpose in their lives that it's just better to shut out reality. Marijuana doesn't make you enlightened, or funny, or even happy. Just very, very, idiotic.

If I take a lot of guff for writing this piece, I couldn't care less. It has suddenly become a crime in this country to care about other people, and I am sick of it. Who's left to stand up to the degenerates out there who are polluting our bodies and our minds? Drugs are by far the worst scourge to infest this planet, and I'll be cold and dead before they ever gain the approving eye of this country.

They don't call it dope for nothing, I guess.

ALAN LEBLANC

Dr. Zayid at Dalhousie

On Friday Jan. 9, 1998 I had the amazing opportunity to have my eyes opened. On one hand I could say that in a cynical world like ours, where we are constantly being bombarded by images, ideas and facts, it would be quite out of the ordinary to have an eye opening experience. But I have come to the realization that I am an idealist, and that I think everything may be resolved when people just speak to each other and listen in return.

At a talk sponsored by the Dalhousie Arabic Society, Dr. Zayid of the Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine, spoke about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. I went to the talk because I feel that this is an important issue to me and because I wanted to hear another side of the story.

He had given the topic a significant title, "A Legacy of Dispossession and Ethnic Cleansing". This title was both alarming and intriguing to me and I had to hear what he had to say.

Dr. Zayid has a story. His story is interesting, compelling and at times very sad. Like I said, it opened my eyes; it gave the other side of the conflict a name and a face in my mind. He spoke to a group of over 80 people. The audience seemed to be listening intently to his personal anecdotes and historical facts. And after he spoke, the room was opened for questions.

As I said, Dr. Zayid presented one side of the story, because that was the purpose of his talk and that is the side with which he is most personally connected. When some members of the audience attempted to comment on another side of the

issue, there was definitely some tension in the air.

Suddenly it didn't feel like we were listening to one man's story anymore — the Palestinian-Israeli conflict was being openly debated right there. But no one was listening to each other. It became very stressful, at least to me.

Yes, we were there to listen to Dr. Zayid tell the Palestinian story. But what about the people who were not familiar with the other side? What are their rights? Do they have the right to know that not all of his comments and facts were in context? Do any of us have the right to speak at all if we are not directly affected by the conflict?

I really wanted to throw up my hands in despair. There I was, sitting at an informative lecture at Dalhousie University in Canada, and not even for one moment could people discuss and listen to each other peacefully, in relation to the issue of peace in the Middle East.

What are we to do? Can one person really speak for his or her people? Granted, I think that every person should make it his or her responsibility to become aware of such issues. But if you cannot listen to another person speak, if your ears are deaf to words and ideals that are different from your own, then really, are you any further ahead? I am not sure how valuable my idealism is in our world today.

I would like to personally thank and commend the Dalhousie Arabic Society for their efforts to promote awareness and knowledge of the Middle East, and the struggles that are present there everyday.

ERIN SPERLING

The Gazette staff meets every Monday at 4:30pm. New writers of all skill levels are always welcome. Come and see what your peers are talking about. Suite 312 in the SUB.

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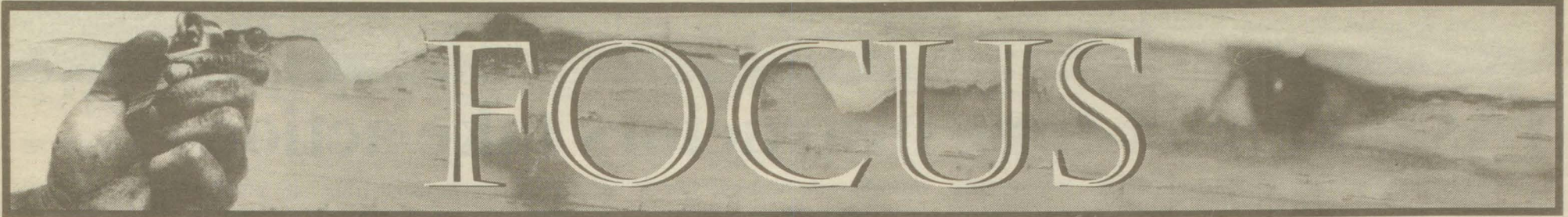
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FEATURE

The hindered path: learning to cope with each other

BY LAURA TIFFANY

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Just before final exams Claire's walls were covered with giant sheets of paper. The papers were filled with complex diagrams. Claire is pursuing a master's degree, and while the road through post-graduate studies is rarely easy for anyone, she has found the journey especially difficult.

Claire is autistic. Sometimes, when she gets scared or "a bit frazzled," she climbs underneath her desk and refuses to venture out until she feels safe. Claire realizes most people don't react to stress in that manner, and has learned to cope with the response it sometimes elicits from her fellow students.

"It freaked out everyone who came into my room during that care, but I finally learned not to care," she said.

Autism is a neuro-cognitive developmental disability affecting the way the brain processes information. Autism is not a form of mental retardation, as many people mistakenly believe. It occurs in approximately 15 out of every 10,000 births. Approximately four out of every five autistic persons are male.

The disorder affects people with varying degrees of intensity,

explained Jared Blackburn, another autistic student. Blackburn refers to autism as a "spectrum disorder".

"It ranges in severity across a wide range of conditions, like the colours of a rainbow," he said.

Aspects of the condition include severe communication and language difficulties, an inability to relate to other people or form social relationships and unusual or problematic behaviour, such as responding oddly to sights and sounds.

Autism was first identified in 1943, and the cause is largely unknown. It seems to involve a "muddling" of the information the brain receives from the senses, which inhibits the accurate processing and integration of information.

Some of the biggest problems university students with autism face have less to do with academics and more to do with the social situations they encounter. Parties, class discussions, and even conversations with roommates can be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for people with autism.

"The higher functioning students with autism...may excel academically, but they often have difficulty with the dormitories, the social scenes," said Carol Grey, a Michigan school board consultant for children and adults with autism.

"The worst problem is that it's noisy and chaotic here in these dorms," Jared said. "I like people, but I find them most strange, illogical, petty and superficial. I can intellectually grasp, but not relate to, their motives."

He explains that, because of autism, he feels like he is in a state of perpetual culture shock.

"I don't understand many of the basic social assumptions that others take for granted."

Autistic students also encounter difficulties understanding exactly what their professors expect from them on an assignment or exam.

"They might not be able to pick up on [what professors want]," Grey said. "They usually have to study longer and harder, and cover everything because they don't necessarily pick up on those strong points like the rest of us."

Jared finds himself spending a lot of time at his studies because he has difficulty scanning words into actual meaning while studying.

"I must stop and process letter by letter, syllable by syllable, and then word by word...so it takes me a long time to read," he said. "When I have many reading assignments, I spend all my time on them, get behind, and am too burned out to concentrate on anything within a week or two."

Dianne Wills, who is also pursuing a master's degree, admits that frustration over her studies sometimes lead her to harm herself.

"I often found math frustrating, and if I couldn't solve a math problem I would often bite myself. I bit myself when I was frustrated from as early as I could remember."

Coping with autism can affect a student's decisions throughout university.

To complete her master's degree, Dianne had the option of either taking an exam or writing a thesis. She chose the exam. "Writing a thesis would have been very difficult for me since, due to my autism, unstructured tasks don't come easily," she said.

Students also seek extra assistance from their schools to help them cope.

The most common request from university students who have autism, Grey says, is to have more time allotted for exams. She believes autistic students often require more time to complete an

examination. "It does take them longer to figure out what it is intended from a question and to formulate their response," Grey said.

But whether autistic students are allotted the extra time they need depends on the school they attend.

For Claire, it was not a problem. "My tutors were generally sympathetic and interested when I told them about my diagnosis, and I was able to get permission on medical grounds."

It is often suggested that the university community as a whole needs to become more aware of autism and the problems associated with it. Grey says one approach would involve "just improving...the understanding that professors have of students with autism so that they will not misinterpret or take offence at some of the social errors they might make".

For Jared, this surfaces as the "constant and frustrating" problem of being unable to get his points across to others, including his professors. "I might ask a question about one subject, and get an answer about another, totally unrelated subject," he said. "Since I am the common factor, the logical explanation is that I am not expressing myself well...in a way other people can understand."

University has been emerging as a reasonable goal for people with autism. Grey said, "We are identifying more and more high functioning people with autism...so we're dealing with a new population that we just became aware of." Assumptions that autistic high school graduates should get jobs in sheltered workshops are being challenged by the realization that there are other options, including university.

While pursuing a post-secondary education, autistic students are acquiring much more than diplomas and degrees. Some find their social skills can be helped just by attending college and university.

Dianne recalls eating lunch with fellow classmates.

"I remember making a very big effort to keep a conversation going and I must have been successful because they continued to have lunch with me," she said. "However, I wasn't able to feel a

real deep attachment with anyone. Still, I think those experiences of eating with those girls, and also socializing with other girls, was positive."

Jared adds that as time passed, it became easier for him to meet others.

"Before college, I had no real interest in socializing or spending time with other people. I preferred to be alone," he said. "During my early years of college, I developed a taste for company, which I previously lacked."

Dianne says she is happy she attained a post-secondary education, adding that it not only enhanced her social and communication skills, but also gave her a "very good career."

Many autistic graduates have gone on to successful careers in their chosen fields and lead fulfilling, productive lives. But they still must grapple with the realities of their condition. Grey explains that many of these students often end up in careers where contact with others is minimal, and where they "don't need to stand around the water cooler to make points, or to climb a social ladder. [They go] where they can just pursue an area of interest".

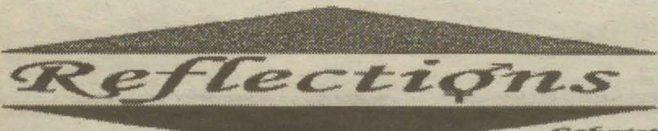
Whatever their destinations, it is evident that more and more people coping with autism will be making the journey through university. And though it will often be a difficult passage marked with frustration, as it has been for Claire, Jared and Dianne, chances are they will be the better for it.

Jared Blackburn says this poem, by Pamela Coleman Smith, captures the difficulties he has encountered with autism.

Alone

Alone and in the midst of men,
Alone 'mid hills and valleys fair;
Alone upon a ship at sea;
Alone. Alone and everywhere.
O many folk I see and know,
So kind they are scarce can tell,
But now alone on land and sea,
In spite of all I'm forced to dwell

In cities large, in country lane,
Around the world, 'tis all the same;
Across the sea from, shore to shore.
Alone. Alone for evermore.




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SAT. JAN 31 \$5 - 11PM	STACEY BROWN LEDREW CHERYL GAUDET
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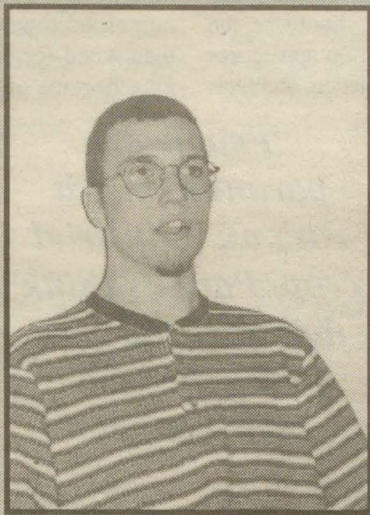
A Large 16" pizza up to 5 items, plus garlic fingers with mozzarella & cheddar cheese, served with donair sauce & 2 Ltr. Pop 15.45

street

How do you feel about legalizing marijuana?



I think it's okay in moderation, so yes it would be okay.
-Erin Prentice, 2nd year BA, Bedford NS



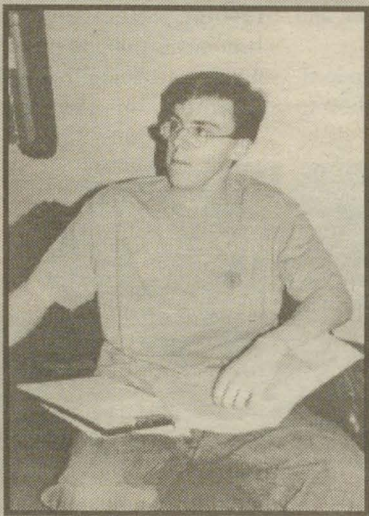
If there was a legal limit on it, like with alcohol.
-Brad Stuart, 1st year BA, Lawrencetown NS



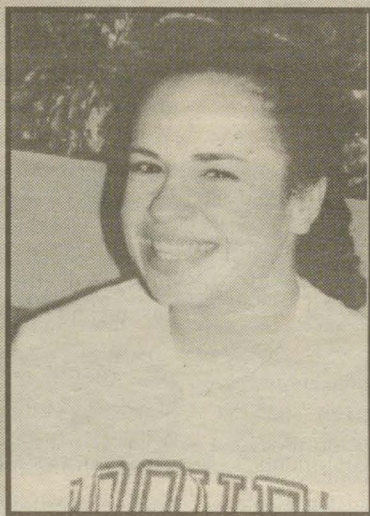
I'm not for it and I'm not against it.
-Christine Sherren, 1st year BSc, Grand Lake NS



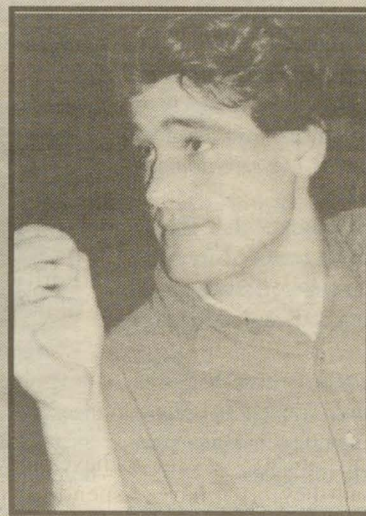
I don't personally use them, but if anyone else wants to it's okay.
-Vanessa MacKinnon, 2nd year Psychology, Cape Breton NS



Why not? We sell alcohol and cigarettes. We could use the tax dollars.
-Ian Robson, 1st year BA, Dartmouth NS



I don't think it's as dangerous or addictive as alcohol.
-Laura Negus, 4th year Kinesiology, Dartmouth NS



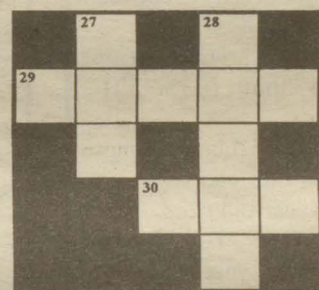
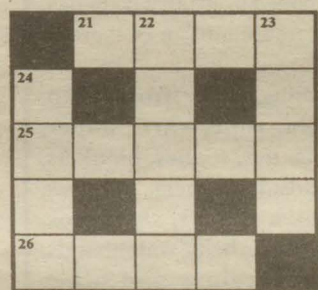
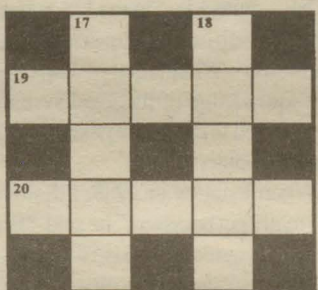
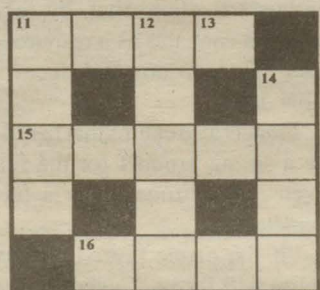
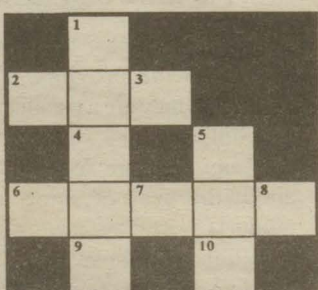
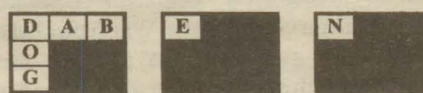
It's probably not a good idea. A lot of my friends get all messed up from it.
-Brian Willdey, 3rd year Engineering and Genetics, Halifax NS



I don't think it should be legalized because it's psychologically addictive.
-Nellie Elhawary, 5th year BA, Fredericton NB

3D Crossword Puzzle # 7 — by Eric Fielding

A 3D crossword grid has words across, down, and deep.
In the example DAB is across, DOG is down, and DEN is deep:



Across

- 2. Computer Operating System (3)
- 6. Male And Female (5)
- 11. 60 mph (4)
- 15. What A Canvasser Does (5)
- 16. What An Employer Does (4)
- 19. Cruella DeVille's Automobile (5)
- 20. Swordplay (5)
- 21. Throw Violently (4)

- 25. Deceptive Move (5)
- 26. Smash To Smithereens (4)
- 29. Thrash (5)
- 30. (With 28 DOWN) www2.dal.ca And is2.dal.ca/~gazette (3,5)

Down

- 1. Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti (5)
- 5. The "p" In "mph" (3)

- 11. ___ Man: Emilio Estevez Film (4)
- 12. Untruths (5)
- 14. Exclamations Of Annoyance (4)
- 17. Shrink Back From Fear (5)
- 18. Speedily (5)
- 22. Association (5)
- 23. ___ Into The Night (4)
- 24. Out Of Range (4)
- 27. Of Age (3)

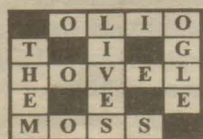
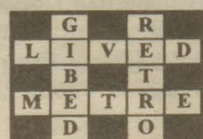
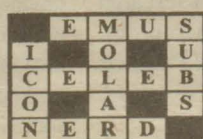
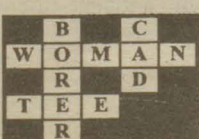
- 28. (See 30 ACROSS)

Deep

- 1. Type Of Chip (5)
- 2. Type Of Coffee (5)
- 3. Bathhouse (5)
- 4. Pulled (5)
- 5. Letters After "EGG" Or "SUP" (5)
- 6. Couch (4)
- 7. Inert Gas (5)
- 8. Form Of Trapshooting (5)

- 9. Foolproof (4)
- 10. What An Accordionist Uses To Make Sounds (5)
- 13. What An Accordionist Uses To Hear Sounds (4)
- 14. The Most Succulent Of All Ducks (4)

Answers To 3D Crossword Puzzle # 6:



Hemp fields may soon sprout across Canada

Canada's new legislation could provide the nation with an environmentally friendly resource

BY GREG MCFARLANE

Industrial hemp could be a goldmine for Canada, but stringent government regulations may make it difficult for stalks to grow.

Both economically and environmentally, hemp is a sound crop, says Sara Francis of the Canadian Industrial Hemp Council (CIHC) in Halifax.

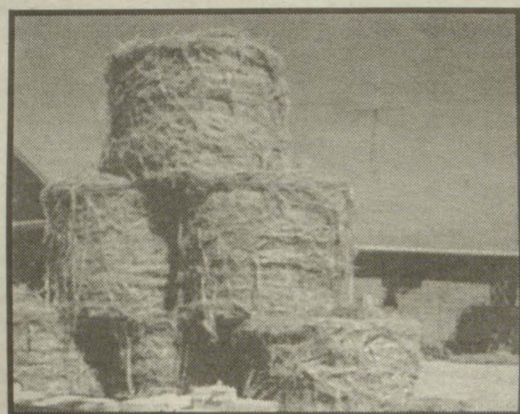
Canada's temperate climate is ideal for hemp farming. While countries at the same latitude as Canada, like China (which exports 80 per cent of the world's hemp) and Hungary, are making profits by growing the plant and exporting hempen products, farmers in our nation may have trouble cashing in on the crop.

The problem, according to Don Wirtshafter of the Ohio Hempery in Guysville, Ohio is that hemp falls under the scope of Health Canada. In 1938, when Canada followed America's lead by outlawing cannabis, lawmakers did not distinguish between the many strains of the plant. The Canadian government banned recreational marijuana, but also prohibited hemp farming.

Since then, hemp farming has slowly become more accepted. Regulations making hemp legal as a commercial crop are set to become law in mid-February. However, as a precaution,

Health Canada is overseeing the industry.

Wirtshafter and his shareholders had intended to expand their hemp products business into Canada, and they even wanted to start farming in our nation,



THE HEMP: Resource of the future?

but decided not to after hearing the nature of the regulations.

"The stake holders are pretty unanimous that Health Canada went too far," said Wirtshafter, who is also a lawyer. "There is evidence that you can regulate hemp so no one will get high. Health Canada makes laws, but they have no idea what they are doing in regulating farmers."

Wirtshafter believes that Health Canada should be removed from the process, and Agriculture Canada should be the governing body, as it is for other crops.

Brian Johnson, whose Victoria-based company, Transglobal Hemp Products, was involved in initiating the new regulations, disagrees.

"I'm glad that Health Canada is involved," Johnson said. "It gives the industry credibility."

Despite Wirtshafter's claims that Agriculture Canada should be the governing body, Johnson appreciates the forthcoming legislation, and feels that, for the time being, farmers should be happy with what they have received.

"Government never says 'good luck, have fun'...they always regulate to a degree. The government took hemp and moved it from [the dangerous drug category] and put it under Health Canada. They compromised."

CIHC's Francis noted that society's overall ignorance regarding the various types of cannabis plants have helped to create tighter laws. Plants with high THC levels, like marijuana, can be used

thousands of tonnes of pesticides. Francis also says in her thesis, *Hemp as an alternative source of fibre for Nova Scotia*, that hemp is numerous times more productive than wood for products like paper. One hectare of hemp plants will provide ten tonnes of hempstalk. To produce the same amount in hardwood trees, more than three hectares need to be used. And don't forget that hemp can be grown every year (although it is wise to rotate crops), whereas it usually takes around 25 years for trees to mature. To further her point, Francis noted that paper can only be recycled so many times. By adding hemp fibres to paper fibres, paper can be recycled many more times over, and be stronger as well.

The evidence is staggering indeed, and provides ample ammunition to environmental groups and pro-industrial hemp lobbyists.

Wirtshafter and Francis both agree that the production of hemp promotes sustainable environmental practices, something the world sorely needs. "People are waking up and realizing what they are missing," Wirtshafter said. "Petro-chemical dependence is not the right answer."

Wirtshafter is referring to a major problem with the world's environment. Not only does our dependence on petroleum drain the earth of natural resources, but it emits large amounts of pollutants into the air at processing plants. Hemp enthusiasts claim that, by relying more on cannabis as a resource, the pace of environmental decay will slow down. Francis also claims that hemp will be a strong product for the future, even if the ozone layer is further depleted.

"If the ozone layer is depleted, hemp will thrive," noted Francis. "It can tolerate a lot of [ultraviolet light]. That is why it can be grown in mountains at high altitudes in India."

Hemp advocates believe that it will be a boon to rural economies, where farms are being shut down daily. Wirtshafter notes that many farmers are looking for an answer to their economic worries and, in Canada, hemp may just be it.

"The farmers are desperately looking for alternative crops, and Canada has the right latitudes [for industrial hemp]. What's it competing with?" asked Wirtshafter. "Canada could be the world's leader in hemp production if the bureaucrats would get out of the way."

Hemptech, a US-based research network, states in its pamphlet, *Industrial Hemp: Practical Products — Paper to Fabric to Cosmetics*, that, in an ideal world:

The local farmer grows some hemp, and sells it to a regional processor who offers good paying jobs. The process markets the resulting hemp textiles to a local garment factory, where a pair of hemp jeans is made. Those jeans are then resold at a local, family-owned retail store. The net effect of this sequence of events helps the local economy by creating jobs and circulating currency within the community. Thus the wearer of these jeans contributes

to the well-being of his or her bioregion.

This is at best an idealistic version of hemp production, and clearly has its roots in a communitarianist ideology. Realistically, if hemp becomes a popular product, there is nothing stopping big business from jumping on the bandwagon.

Hemp and marijuana

as a psychoactive drug. Inhaling smoke from a plant with a low THC level, like industrial hemp, will merely produce a headache. Yet people confuse the two.

"People are paranoid that it isn't an industrial crop," Francis said. "Parents think that their kids are going to smoke their clothes."

Despite this apparent ignorance, most hemp dealers state that consumers are curious rather than suspicious. Because of the obvious links that hemp has with pot, most hemp shops feel the responsibility to educate weary consumers. Cindy Crawford, who works at P'Lovers in Park Lane, clearly defines the difference for consumers, a step Wirtshafter believes is essential.

"When we are successful at separating hemp from drugs, then no one is complaining," he said. That's quite a feat in the US, where hemp is about as popular as communism. Wirtshafter, perhaps due to his knowledge of the legal system, has managed to evade the paranoia that grips his country.

"When I started in 1989, I thought we'd really get harassed," he said. "But we haven't made anybody mad yet." One persistent fear is that growers might hide marijuana plants in a field of hemp stalks. Francis sees this as an unfeasible and risky way to grow the drug.

"[Hemp] is so densely grown, you wouldn't be able to find [the marijuana]," she said. She also explained that the first batch of pot could be useful for smoking, but not subsequent ones.

"If you have a high THC plant next to a low THC plant, [when the seeds pollinate], they will be of a lower THC level [than the marijuana]," Francis said. "And it would be a risk — farmers know that fields will be heavily inspected."

From the environmental standpoint, hemp is about as good a product as can be found. Not only does it require very little in the way of pesticides and fungicides, it requires no herbicides. Cotton on the other hand requires

higher price is justified. Hemp usually lasts four times longer than cotton, and most dealers will argue that consumers are getting a worthwhile product. Many will also claim that consumers are paying for environmental sustainability, something they can't put a price on.

retailers would most likely be controlled by government officials (similar to liquor commissions across the country) and addiction services similar to Alcoholics Anonymous would have to be available to the public.

The government would be quick in assuming control over the new

Little hemp shop of horrors

The enigmatic store owner was hiding something

BY ANDREW SIMPSON

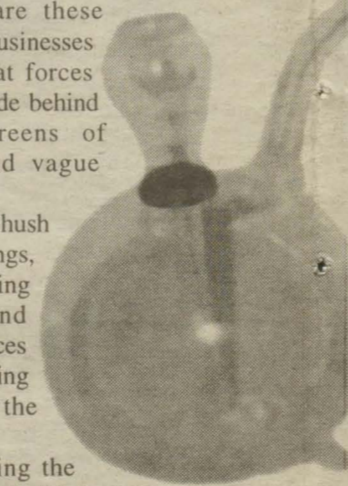
There are a new breed of store owners in the province of Nova Scotia and they are a peculiar bunch. Not only do they shy away from publicity, they are surprisingly coy about the uses of some of their products.

What are these budding businesses selling that forces them to hide behind smoke-screens of denial and vague innuendo?

The big hush is over bongs, pipes, rolling papers and other devices for delivering smoke to the lungs.

Following the lead of successful shops in British Columbia and Ontario, a handful of entrepreneurs around Nova Scotia are selling smoking devices with a tongue-in-cheek, see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil, outlook.

They are the owners of hemp shops, culture shops and sometimes



even exotic food stores and they — being small business owners, fearful of financially crippling legal troubles — take extra care in pointing out that their products are not meant to be used for anything illegal...like smoking marijuana, for example.

Trying to trap one of these media-shy owners into an interview is not an easy task. But, with a promise of anonymity, I did find one who was willing to talk about the issue, sort of. Over the phone he gave me a few sort-of answers.

A summary of what was said:

Have you ever had any hassles with the law? "No. Knock on wood...but that's because we're selling nothing illegal."

So you don't advocate marijuana use in any way? "No. We run the store as a business, not an activist centre. Some other stores [in other parts of the country] do, but we're just trying to make a buck."

Do you advertise? "No, we keep quiet. That's why we're still here to serve. We advertise through word of mouth and we have a faithful clientele."

While continuing to deny that there is anything illegal going on in his store, he explained that businesses such as his are a relatively new thing in Nova Scotia. Many of the stores in Ontario and British Columbia — with deeper roots, and pockets — can afford to openly defy the law.

In the meantime, Nova Scotia's smoking paraphernalia industry quietly continues to grow. It appears Nova Scotians are just going to have to get used to bong wielding pot-heads and baseball bat wielding thugs.

So you sell bongs, hash pipes and that kind of stuff? "Yeah, but we don't recommend our products for illegal use. That would be illegal."

You deny that those products are intended for pot? "If you sell a baseball bat as a tool for bashing people's heads in, it's illegal; if you sell it as just a baseball bat, it's okay."

Uh...so they're intended for tobacco? "Sure, you can smoke tobacco or herbs with them...I prefer to smoke herb..."

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even exotic food stores and they — being small business owners, fearful of financially crippling legal troubles — take extra care in pointing out that their products are not meant to be used for anything illegal...like smoking marijuana, for example.

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Championing the cause: legalization

Osgoode Hall professor, hemp shop owner boost the pro-pot movement

BY JOHN CULLEN AND BRIANNE JOHNSTON

Decriminalization of marijuana means getting caught with pot would be much like getting busted by the highway patrol for excessive speeding. You would receive a fine and no blemish on your criminal record.

But proponents of full-scale legalization think decriminalization would still fuel a black market economy. Sale, cultivation and distribution of marijuana would not change, leaving the recreational user with the same hassles when getting their

Legalization, on the other hand, could involve a cross section of our society. If the myths behind cannabis were debunked, farmers, business people, the government and entrepreneurs could all reap the rewards of a new Canadian cash-crop. Legalization would involve implementation of several different services. Regulatory boards would check potency and quality as well as monitoring cultivation,

and alcohol and tobacco taxes provide substantial revenue for our economy. If marijuana becomes legal, you can guarantee it will be taxed. In fact, an Ottawa researcher, Ken Rubin, recently obtained confidential Health Canada memoranda which revealed bureaucrats in our capitol examining ways to control pot potency. They have also been investigating how to tax its sale and treat its addicts.

One of the reasons behind government officials looking at pot reform is the burden criminalization puts on our already strained economy. Professor Neil Boyd, a criminologist at Simon Fraser University in BC, says that the cost of prosecuting and punishing marijuana users is anywhere from \$200-million to \$2-billion annually. There are currently 2000 police officers dedicated to busting users, pushers and traffickers of drugs in Canada. By 1995, the number of drug charges had fallen to 40,373 from a mid-80s average of 58,995. Of the more recent arrests, 27,180

were cannabis related including 19,105 for possession.

Looking at these numbers, it is no surprise that one of the fundamental arguments against prohibition is that illegality does not stop the availability or use of the drug.

"Post legalization court and drug enforcement costs would drop by about half. Criminalization has not stopped people from taking," Boyd said.

One of the more interesting cases continued on page 14...

question cannabis is addictive and it has long term effects.

"It's a much stronger drug and of course it has a much greater impact. It used to be put in the same category as alcohol, and then in high doses in the same category with acid, now it's put in a category all on its own."

Tobin adds that hydroponics have played a large role in the evolution of the drug.

"Hydro-weed is marijuana that's grown hydroponically which makes it stronger...not only the THC, but the tar and the other chemicals, so you're getting more bang for your buck, I guess."

There are more than 400 drugs in marijuana. Many have not been identified yet, but Tobin says the drug THC is more dangerous than users have been led to believe.

"THC is unlike most of the other chemicals in drugs. If you drink alcohol, alcohol is water soluble, and it leaves the body within 24 to 38 hours. It's the same thing with acid, same thing with

cocaine, but THC is fat soluble, so what it does is it stores itself in fatty cells of the body. The main areas of the body that it stores itself in are the brain, the lungs and the sex organs."

Tobin says that smoking marijuana has long term health effects on all of these areas. These problems are most evident in adolescents (those aged 11 to 21) mental development.

"One of the impacts of cannabis on the brain is that it effects short term memory. What it does is it wraps itself around the fatty cells in the brain, the nerve endings and it affects memory, it affects cognitive learning (problem solving) and it affects motivation.

"What we see with the adolescents we are working with is kids who don't remember very well, who have difficulty learning and who don't give a damn."

Tobin says that smoking marijuana can be far more harmful than smoking a cigarette.

Cannabis has a tar content that's even continued on page 14...

Marijuana: beyond euphoria

BY GINA STACK

It's not addictive, it's better than drinking, you still have control over yourself and it has medical benefits. These are just some of the myths perpetuated by fans of marijuana, but they are just myths.

"I remember seeing one young fellow whose lungs were about to collapse because of cannabis use. He couldn't breathe and you could hear him rattling," said Ann Lewis who spent 10 years working in drug

dependency, and is presently working in a drug and alcohol program for Valley Health Services.

"People who use marijuana socially are not looking at the long term effects. Users are unable to focus, their perception is off, they're paranoid and another thing I see in these people is that after a number of years they're burnt."

Lewis characterizes a burnt person as someone having a bit of a dooziness about them. There are days that they forget who co-workers and people around them are, they saunter, they're low key, some are barely functioning.

"You can tell when someone has used too much. They are operating at a different level," she says.

Jeannette Tobin is a program administrator officer with Drug Dependencies Services in Halifax. She spent seven years working for CHOICES and another seven years in detox.

"Cannabis, if you smoke it today won't kill you tomorrow, so people don't look at it and say, 'Gee this is a dangerous drug because it does such and such and such and such.' The impact and the affect is so slow. People change how they respond to things, people change their attitudes. Because cannabis distorts their perception, how they perceive the problem can be in fact very different from reality."

In the 1970s and 80s, the strength of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC: the chemical that gets users high) in marijuana used to be about one per cent. Today it's eight to twelve, and even up to 25 per cent in strength. Tobin says medical experts now argue that cannabis is an addictive drug.

"Marijuana is a different drug today. Most of the studies that people are reading about were done about 20 to 25 years ago, that's when the percentage of THC was about one per cent. The stuff that's coming out now, there's no

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Hemp notes

COMPILED BY ERIN SPERLING

Hemp and marijuana are the same plant species, *Cannabis sativa* L.

The psychoactive property of Cannabis is delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

Recreational varieties of cannabis products have between 3% and 30% THC.

Industrial varieties (hemp) have less than 0.3% THC content.

Hemp yields four times more material in one year than one acre of 20-year-old trees.

A mature crop can be harvested every year.

Little to no pesticides are needed if the hemp crop is rotated annually with other crops, such as grass and barley.

Hemp products include high-quality paper, textiles and building materials.

There is a high protein and oil content in hemp that is suitable for consumption.

According to *Perceptions Magazine on Hemp*, the contaminated soil around Chernobyl is being rehabilitated by growing hemp on it.

Hemp is the oldest cultivated crop known to humans, first used by the Chinese more than 9,000 years ago.

Widespread use of industrial hemp has not been implemented due to its association with recreational marijuana.

What Can You Get In Hemp?

For those who are unaware, hemp was probably one of the most used fibres before it was prohibited in Canada and the United States in the 1930s. Although it is still illegal to grow the plant in the US, Canada is set to make it legal to grow commercial hemp. Although a lot of the following hemp products are imported from other countries, expect to see a more of these in local stores:

clothing, candy (from seeds), granola, rope, yarn, paper, sandals, ties, toques, blankets, notepads, backpacks, attaches, wallets, kisk sacs, shampoos, massage oils, belts, watchbands, coffee, earrings and other jewelry and shoes (the Ohio Hempory used to sell hemp addidas shoes).

In a small book made by Hemptech, a US-based hemp advocacy group, there are some products made with hemp that most people wouldn't even dream of. For example, Henry Ford used a composite made from hemp and sisal cellulose plastic to make automobiles. By mixing hemp with other materials, and by using every single aspect of the plant, the following products can be made:

oil paints, varnishes, solvents, printing inks, fuel, stucco and mortar, brake/clutch linings (vehicles), insulation materials, cement blocks tarps, diapers, abrasive fluids, soap, cosmetics and carpets.

Pot in perspective: from the Old Testament to today

BY AMBER MACARTHUR

Ignoring the use of marijuana in Canada and the United States is virtually impossible. Everyone has something to say about it; for or against. Whether it is the plant's medicinal, recreational, or commercial uses, marijuana remains a heated subject.

Hemp stores are popping up everywhere; from the *Blue Moon Hemp Shop* in Charlottetown, to the forerunners of the hemp industry, *Hemp BC*, in Vancouver. Arguments for the medicinal use of hemp and marijuana are the strongest they have been in years. Marijuana as medicine is increasingly prescribed by doctors to ease the pain of patients with advanced cases of cancer and AIDS.

But what about marijuana for recreational use? The arguments are not scientifically based, but one cannot deny that marijuana has become the social drug of choice, for all kinds, and its history in Canada and the United States is interesting, to say the least.

Bill Clinton's admission to smoking marijuana, despite insisting, "I didn't inhale", is one of the most memorable images of the nineties (it also gave us an understanding for his love of the Big Mac).

Halifax's own Alexa McDonough followed in his footsteps admitting, in front of a MuchMusic audience, to dabbling with marijuana.

"I tried it once, but I've never smoked a cigarette and I didn't know how to do it," she said.

Also, long-time Liberal MP, Sheila Copps, has admitted to the odd toké during her youth.

Whether or not the President of the United States and the National Leader of the NDP repeatedly mix politics and pot is a story on its own. But, for the time being, what these admissions do for the history of marijuana is provide insight into the widespread use of the drug among all social classes. It also helps marijuana advocates remove some of the prejudices surrounding pot, while at the same time providing historical references to the drug which are thousands of years old.

Marijuana advocates look to history to support their claims that the drug should be legalized, for whatever reasons, so that it ceases to exist under

such extreme public scrutiny. Perhaps the most interesting reference is to the Old Testament. Although uniting religion and marijuana is a sensitive issue, the references do exist.

In a three-part series entitled "Smoke gets in my I" in the magazine *Cannabis Canada*, contributor Chris Bennet goes to great lengths to prove that the use of marijuana in the Old Testament exists. Bennet argues, "this article shows how the Old Testament Prophets were none other than ancient shamans, and that cannabis and other entheogens played a very prominent role in ancient Hebrew culture." Insinuating that Moses and other Biblical prophets sat around and smoked pot is bound to stir up emotions, whether pro-pot or not. Luckily for those people who are pro-

pot, there are references that do not touch on such sacred texts.

In the early 17th century, marijuana was grown here in Nova Scotia by Louis Hebert, who had emigrated here with his family from France. Although most of the historical references during this time link the plant to use as hemp and medicine, one can enjoy the image of some bored Nova Scotians, and others across Canada and the United States, discovering the true beauty of the crop. Throughout this time period there is no concrete evidence that marijuana is considered a threat to society; it was not until the early 1900s that the marijuana became a "drug problem".

In the late 1920s opium paved the way for the marijuana movement. *continued on page 22...*

The politics of truth: legalization in Canada

continued from page 13...

the government chose to waste tax dollars on revolves around Chris Clay.

Clay, the former owner of London Ontario's Hemp Nation (a cannabis culture store specializing in paraphernalia, hemp clothing and seed distribution), was arrested on May 17, 1995 for selling marijuana seeds and one seedling to an undercover cop.

But when most would be scared, Clay welcomed the charge. He initially opened the store to "educate people and fund political activities to change the law".

Clay hired Osgoode Hall Law Professor Alan Young to plead his case in Ontario's Provincial Court. Young is no stranger to drug laws. He has appeared in federal court many times, including arguing that federal laws banning drug literature violated freedom

of expression. Thanks to him, that law was struck down.

Young's argument cited Section 7 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms which "...protects individuals' right to life, liberty, and the security of the person." He contended that the government cannot pass laws that are arbitrary and capricious.

"The law is over-broad here. Parliament has never heard documented proof that marijuana is harmful enough to merit [banning]."

Young also argued that marijuana crosses no "recognizable threshold of harm" in the user. When comparing pot to a legal drug such as tobacco, Young's statement is easier to comprehend.

The tar content in an average marijuana joint could be as harmful to the heart as five or more tobacco cigarettes. The average user of pot smokes about 3-5 joints per week, while

a smoker puffs on an average of 200 cigarettes.

Justice John McCart, in his ruling over the case presented, felt Young, with his army of specialist witnesses, had argued his case well.

In his 27 page report, McCart recognized:

- Consumption in so called "decriminalized" states does not increase in proportion to states where there is no decriminalization.

- Marijuana does not make people more violent or aggressive.

- Health related costs of cannabis use are negligible when compared to the cost attributable to alcohol and tobacco consumption.

- Marijuana is not criminogenic in that there is no evidence of a relationship of cannabis use and criminality.

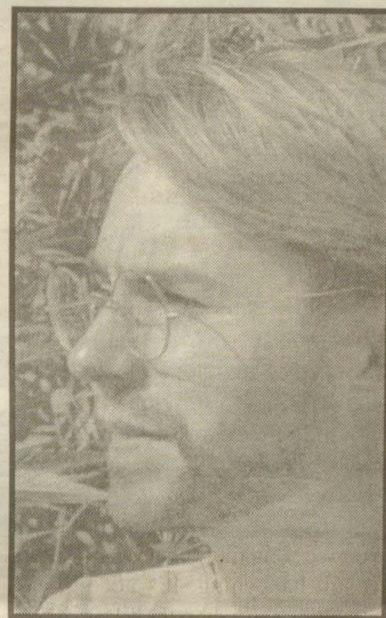
- Consumption of marijuana is relatively harmless compared to the so called hard drugs and including alcohol and tobacco.

However, this wasn't enough to convince McCart that Clay was innocent. He ruled against him, saying that marijuana law reform should take place in parliament, not the courts.

Young is taking his arguments to the Court of Appeals, and should be heard sometime this spring.

In an article published in *Cannabis Canada*, Clay responded to the ruling against him.

"Parliament doesn't have to demonstrate a behaviour is harmful in order to criminalize the conduct." But also acknowledged that "the consumption of marijuana does cause harm, albeit perhaps not as much harm as was first believed."



Chris Clay: the former hemp shop owner has become a martyr for the pro-pot movement.

Consequences

Possession of marijuana under 30 grams: maximum of \$1000 fine or a six month jail sentence.

Possession of marijuana over 30 grams but not exceeding 3 kilograms: Trafficking. Maximum 5-year less a day sentence.

Some changes to marijuana laws
Under the new Controlled Drugs and Substances Act:

- a person guilty of simple possession will not be finger-printed, nor will their name be on any criminal databases.

- police officers have more power to seize property of suspected cultivators.

- people accused of trafficking may experience a new "streamlined" justice system: no preliminary hearing and no trial by jury.

In an official written statement, the Canadian Bar Association says it opposes the new law:

"The prohibition approach is outdated and has proven ineffective in decreasing drug use, reducing crime, or improving public or individual health. The Controlled Drugs and Substances Act will result in a significant increase in rates of incarceration and in lengths of sentences, and will place additional stresses on an already overburdened criminal justice system. It will not contribute to public health but will accomplish exactly the opposite. The Controlled Drug and Substances Act represents a misguided approach to drug control, one that is unnecessary and costly to Canadians." — Canadian Bar Association

Pot's medicinal myths

continued from page 13...

higher than regular cigarettes. Depending upon the kind of cannabis you use whether it's marijuana, hash or hash oil you can get one use equal to an entire pack of cigarettes in terms of tar content, and they don't put a filter on that.

"If you're using hash, hash is marijuana that's mixed usually with used engine oil, so you've got petroleum products as well that the person is breathing in."

In addition to wreaking havoc on the user's lungs and affecting memory and perception in the brain, Tobin adds that much damage can be done to the user's reproductive organs.

"The testosterone level is down in regular users and may be permanently effected. Their testicles shrink and they may lose hair."

Tobin adds that it may be even more dangerous in women because THC is stored around the ovaries and women do not replace their eggs like men replace sperm.

Although these tests have not been conducted on humans, Tobin adds, "In animals, high doses of marijuana have caused an increase in still-births, miscarriages, hyperactivity, and learning and mental health problems in children."

Tobin and Lewis both downplay the benefits of using marijuana in palliative care, the final stages of AIDS and glaucoma.

"So far there are other drugs that work better in terms of cannabis in treating some of those problems," says Tobin.

"I'm not saying that it can't help with these problems, but what you have to do is weigh the pros and cons. It lowers white blood cell count, so you take someone [for example] who has Aids... it can be effective in the final stages, but the last thing you want to do is have somebody, whose T-cells you are trying to keep up, take a drug that will lower their white-blood cell counts."

Lewis agrees.

"They say it's good for pain, well other things are good for pain too. They can cause as many problems, but I know what Demoral is and I know what effect it will have on you, but I don't know what effect cannabis will have on you because it's not the same for all people," Lewis said.

Tobin adds that nabolone, a drug used in Canada that is a derivative of cannabis, is available on a very controlled and limited basis for some conditions. But both Tobin and Lewis both fear that marijuana would become like alcohol if it were legalized.

"Alcohol is our number one drug problem not only in Canada, but the world, and legalization of a drug doesn't lessen the dangers or the effects. Legalization of the drug does not mean that it is now safe," Lewis said.

"You can do one joint and it can

take anywhere from one to three weeks for all of that THC to get out of the body. Somebody says they're only doing it on the weekends, they're never drug free. It's not like having a drink on Saturday night and it's gone by Monday morning," Tobin added.

Tobin believes that marijuana should not be legalized, and that decriminalization should only be considered with caution.

"The positive effects of the drug are so few that it should be controlled. There is limited medical use, but I don't believe in having marijuana shops. I have real concerns about legalization and once you go there it's hard to go back. You look at the issue of smoking. Now they have the tobacco control act. It's so hard to go back and people have to be really careful."

Tobin believes if marijuana was legalized, it would increase the amount of use and increase the problem.

"Studies were done when cannabis was a different drug. Studies now are saying there are real issues, big issues and big concerns, but the media tends to cover stuff like marches for legalization and people get the sensational rather than the full medical story. Kids read it right away, get that information, look for that information and use it to justify using."

Pot health issues

continued from page 13...

to eight hours," he said. "[Smoking marijuana] is more controlled, more beneficial."

Though Hodder is confident that Canada will eventually legalize the use of marijuana for medical purposes, he feels this cannot happen until politicians and Canadians in general begin to look at the issue in terms of the medical benefits.

"I think politicians are dealing with the issue not as a medical issue as it should be, but as a legal issue. The medical use of marijuana has been around for a very long time. Unfortunately in our country, it has been confused with the illegal use."

"As long as it's tied up in this legal crap, we're not going to get very far."

As patients fight it out with politicians, Canadian physicians are being caught in the middle. They want to (and are morally obligated to) do whatever they can to help their patients. But the use of marijuana, regardless of whether it is beneficial, is still illegal in Canada.

"Many doctors will not publicly say they support it—they must toe the party line," said Hodder. "I know doctors who will tell their patients 'All I can suggest is to go get a toké'."

One Halifax doctor who asked not to be named would only say, "If somebody thought [marijuana] would help them and they were dying of cancer — I wouldn't be opposed to it."

ARTS & CULTURE

In defense of their land: *The Face of a Nation*

Film festival highlights the plight of Tibetans

BY AVI LAMBERT

The sweater, the car, the big fucking TV, the five-star vacation, the dog...that's what makes us happy. The Tibetan Film Festival opened my eyes to the human rights violations Tibetans are facing right now, and what happiness can truly be.

Entitled *The Face of a Nation*, the Tibetan Film festival last weekend showed five movies that depict the Orwellian nightmare of state fear and terrorism in which Tibetans live.

These weren't typical Hollywood movies. They were personal stories of Tibetans. One film tells the story of the 11-year-old refugee, Tenzin, who after completing a perilous 20 day journey through the Himalayas, is threatened by deportation. Also revealed is the story of Ngawang Choepel, a refugee and scholar, arrested by Chinese officials for documenting traditional song and dance in Tibet.

You're on automatic pilot until you see something that tells you this is still happening. It's not like the atrocities end when the films end.

Lhadon Tethong, one of the festival organizers and the president of the King's/Dalhousie-run Students for a Free Tibet (SFT), states that Tibet has no army, no weapons and no countries on their side. All they have is their message. Though

Tethong's family is Tibetan, she says, "It's my duty, it's your choice." Take it personally; it should be everyone's problem.

What's the biggest force in our world? Hollywood.

Everyone knows that Hollywood has influence. The Chinese have put so much pressure on the Walt Disney-owned Buena Vista pictures, that Martin Scorsese's film, *Kundun*, will not open on the east coast. Showing only in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, there are worries that the movie will not come out on video.

According to the vice-president of Buena Vista pictures, *Kundun's* limited release is a result of it being "too artistic", and there not being enough "widespread interest [regarding] Tibet".

This is testimony to the fact that China controls what we see.

The editorial published in the *Chinese Daily* warned Hollywood it "will never be forgiven" for the success of *7 years in Tibet* and the upcoming *Kundun*.

Disney has plans to build a Disneyland in China — not with a Chinese theme, but a ready-for-market western happyland. So the Chinese threat to Hollywood presented an obstacle for Disney's business relations in China.

According to another festival organizer, Tessa Jellowicki, Disney hired the former US secretary-of-state, Henry Kissinger, to smooth relations with China. The line between politics and Disney is now

blurred. This is a piece of the bigger picture, in which human rights and trade have been separated by Bill Clinton. Even after the now infamous Tiananmen square massacre, China only briefly lost its Most Favoured Nation trading status.

As the Dalai Lama says, "China denies its human rights violations, [and] if that is the case, let us in with no restriction."

The logic Canadian business people use in doing business with China is that opening up their market will allow us to influence them...not isolate them.

Yet the separation Clinton has made between human rights and business has made China unaccountable.

Organizations like the Milarepa Foundation and SFT are making a difference. Letter writing is a stand. Look what the few Tibetans in North America have done to make the cause known, Tathong says.

The Dalai Lama, speaking from the government-in-exile in Dharamsala, India, said "we're not fighting for a piece of land, we're fighting for our very survival...the main aim is to return to Tibet."

In 1949 the People's Liberation Army of China invaded Tibet, and has since tried to assimilate Tibetans. In 1975, Tibet was annexed by China.

Tathong says that, last year, China was responsible for 90 per cent of the world's executions: for stealing a pen, for having a picture of the Dalai Lama



and for saying "democracy", or "free Tibet".
Ami Wise, of the over 50 member-

strong Students for a Free Tibet, said, "I can do something before it's history".
Free Tibet. Peu Rungzen.

Puttin' on the ritz

BY PATRICK SHAUNESSY

Traditionally when one goes to see a jazz show, it is presupposed that there will be at least three or four members in the band. However, I don't think I have ever seen a duo.

Last Saturday night at the Holiday Inn on Robie street, Bill Stewart and Bill Carrothers pulled off one of the most stunning jazz performances I have seen. With Stewart on drums and Carrothers on piano, they managed to play some astounding music in an improv session exploring a healthy range of jazz sounds and styles.

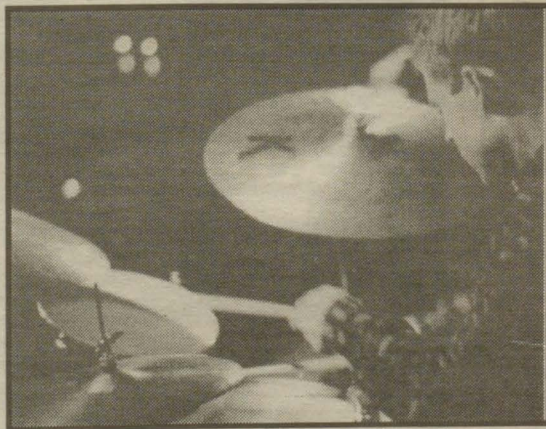
They were performing to promote Bill Stewart's new album, *Telepathy*, on which Bill Carrothers is recorded.

The music is similar to that which was played on Saturday, except that on the disc there is a fuller and richer sound as a full band is used. The album itself is quite good, but it is not as impressive as Saturday night's duet was: Stewart and Carrothers managed to create an equally magnificent musical experience with only two musicians.

Bill Stewart hails from Brooklyn, New York where he has made a lifestyle out of jazz performance.

Stewart was educated at the William Patterson College in jazz and jazz composition. Since then he has enjoyed a successful musical career, having earned a fairly prestigious recording contract under Blue Note records.

Stewart is most often the headliner of the albums on which he is recorded, and he is generally the composer of the music. He himself prefers not to be pigeon-holed with any one style of jazz, so he draws from many different styles to create his own sound. For the most part he prefers the more traditional



styles as opposed to more experimental, atonal styles.

Bill Carrothers' background is almost itself rooted in the spirit of the old jazz performers. He was born of humble beginnings in Woodstock, New York, where he first learned music

playing a church organ. He never received any formal training. At the age of fifteen he started playing at clubs and as his experience grew so did his popularity.

After ten years of "sucking", Carrothers finally began to land some bigger gigs and play with some of the better names in the jazz community. After a while he hooked up with Bill Stewart, and has since recorded on several of his albums.

It is interesting to note that many of the original jazz musicians began of very humble beginnings, often having to play on second hand or damaged instruments. It is because of the poor tuning of instruments (owing to the quality of the instrument and not the musician) that jazz took on such a unique sound: a combination of musical exploration and self expression. In this way, Bill Carrothers' beginnings are in the tradition of some of the great jazz performers.

In the near future, Stewart and Carrothers are re-grouping with the rest of the band on *Telepathy* and travelling to Paris to perform. I was pleased that I got to see such a sensational and unusual act. These are both incredibly talented musicians as diverse in their backgrounds as day and night.



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Highland Heights: higher than a highland kick

BY DAVE MACDONALD

Last Thursday the patrons of the Lower Deck welcomed Highland Heights and their upbeat, toe-tapping, get-ya-singing attitude.

This folk/rock band calls Halifax home and have been together for roughly 3 years. By listening and watching these guys (and one girl), you would

say that they've been together for much longer.

If you've heard Highland Heights on their first self-titled album and haven't heard them live, be prepared. They are drifting away from traditional celtic tunes and are exploring new ground with their own material. But even though the songs may not be celtic, they still carry a beautiful, textured

sound that screams "celtic".

This band is made up of Glen MacIsaac (vocals, lead guitar), who by the way, has my vote for the best guitar plucker in Atlantic Canada; Norma MacDonald (beautiful vocals, guitar, accordian, tin whistle...um, how do you say "multi-talented"?); Jimmie Inch (vocals, harmonica, walking bass); Rob Lorway (vocals,

keyboards); and new drummer, Andy Deveau.

Wondering where the old drummer went? It seems he went back to school. Hey, who can blame him?

When asked why they're leaving the celtic side, Norma replied that they believe that bands should evolve. She remarked that she really admired U2 for their album, *Pop*, since it was so different from all their previous stuff.

Highland Heights have tunes in their repertoire ranging from a jazzy, swinging jive, to a quick version of "Rocky Road to Dublin", which will have you out of breath from trying to clap and sing along.

They will be releasing a new album in March, entitled *Never a Dull Moment*, which

promises to follow suit with their new sound. Even though it won't be a traditional album, it will have many of the flavours that are so vibrant in celtic sounds.

If by chance, they carry the energy of their live show onto their next album, *Never a Dull Moment* will be one of the best East Coast albums of 1998.

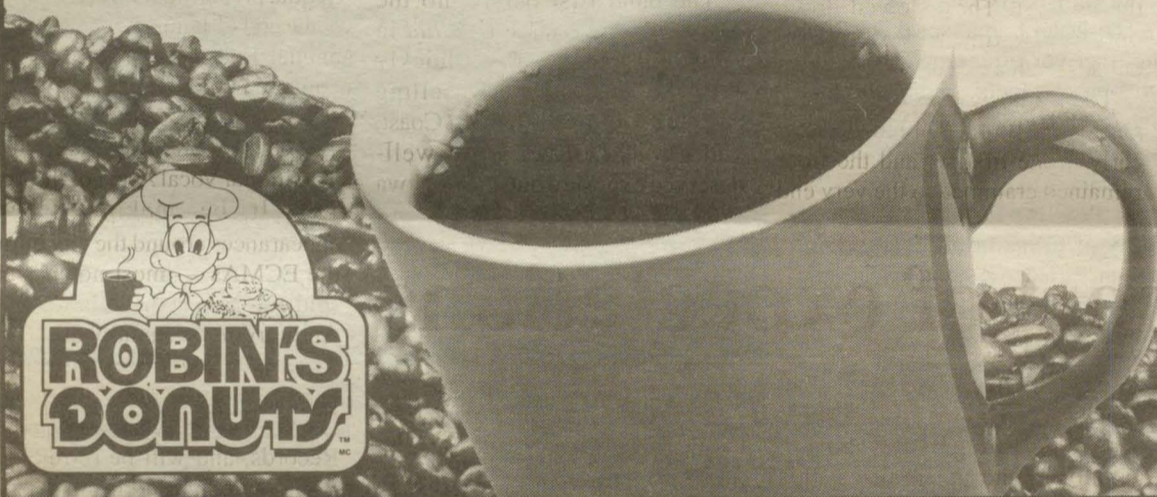
Norma says that they are not worried about losing any of their fans who love them for their traditional stuff. They played a few shows in Cape Breton, where traditional tunes are favored, and they got as much, if not more, of a following.

Highland Heights will be performing at DalTech's T-Room this weekend. *Go!* Don't even think twice, just go. You won't be disappointed.

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ARGYLE & GRAFTON STREETS

On Axis displays originality and diversity

BY JANET FRENCH

While there are several well known international dance stars, *On Axis Dance* is trying to provide a niche for Nova Scotian artists.

On Jan. 17 and 18, the Halifax dance scene was treated with "Open Studio Dance", a creation of *On Axis Dance*, at the DANSpace on Grafton. The Open Studio series, coordinated by Dance Nova Scotia, is essentially an informal performance setting in which companies perform material they refer to as "work in progress" in order to receive some audience input.

The evening began with a small audience interaction game in which the audience chose the order in which a shown sequence of steps was to be performed. The dancers then attempted to perform this series to a randomly chosen piece of music, and did so quite eloquently. This game was important for setting the informal "hang-out-for-a-bit, take-off-your-shoes, and-watch-us-dance" attitude, which was a very nice change from all the pretentiousness which can accompany live dance performances.

The pieces themselves were as varied and distinct as contemporary dance gets, ranging from sorrowful and tranquil to bountiful and explosive. This heterogeneity of the choreography was likely due to

the diversity of the creators' backgrounds, and proves indeed that four brains are better than one.

The first piece, entitled "Dangerous Pool", was an excellent opener because it was derived from universally understood emotions. The emphasis on the uneasiness and oddities of looking within oneself was effectively portrayed by the interspersing of large, expansive movements and tight, rigid movements resembling quirming.

This piece was followed by a solo dance, which also seemed to be somewhat exploratory, in which the dancer used branches for hands. Although well done, this piece was a bit confusing, for it was not clear exactly what gave the choreographer the idea to use the branches in the first place. This is not to say that there must be an explanation for every aspect

of dance, but the dance itself provided no clue whether the dancer was relating to being a tree itself or exploring trees in general. Nonetheless, yew-tree branches appear to make good props for interest's sake.

A piece entitled "Deusa de Paixo", described in the program as "Lady of passion, womb, breath, life", seemed quite fitting, although I think that they left out "power". Passionate indeed, and vigorous, this piece was well-performed with a perfect balance of energy and grace. In contrast, the following piece, "In the Calm" was a tranquil, gentle reminder that peace and quiet need not be boring. "In the Calm" conjured images of flowing water and light wind from the dancers' rippling movements and the flowing of the breezy costumes.

Finally, perhaps the most amusing piece (although possibly not intended to be) was "Frappe

la Rue". This brief solo, involving a woman mucking around in an oversized overcoat, caught the audience as both humorous and fascinating.

Overall, the evening was excellent, for there was quite a mosaic of local talent between the performers and the choreographers. The only problem was that the audience was ready for more, and it was all over too soon. Do not fret if you missed this evening of raw contemporary dance at its best, *On Axis* assuredly will be performing again.



On Axis opens up a new experimental dance niche to artists in Nova Scotia.

MacKeel paints the Grawood Plaid

BY KAREN PARKER

Pictou County natives MacKeel played to a packed Grawood last Friday night with their spirited brand of celtic rock. The band performed two sets comprised of hits from their debut CD, *Plaid*, as well as a good deal of new material and a few old favourites.

From the rousing tunes featuring

fiddler Fleur Mainville and piper Dane Grant, to the hit single "On That Day", the band maintained an incredible energy level throughout the concert. They slowed down only a few times for beautiful ballads such as "Heaved Away".

The enthusiastic crowd at the Grawood was on their feet dancing early in the first set and the floor remained crammed to the very end

of the gig. MacKeel has always been a favourite of Halifax audiences, and this was no exception.

The band first burst onto the scene with the release of *Plaid* in the summer of 1996. It quickly became one of the best selling independent CDs on the East Coast, and gave MacKeel some well-deserved exposure outside of Nova

Scotia. As a result, they've had a busy year touring the Maritimes and Ontario in support of the CD. Now they're back home in Nova Scotia, preparing for a big weekend at the end of January, when the 10th annual East Coast Music Awards come to Halifax.

MacKeel is up for two ECMAs — Group of the Year, and Traditional Vocal Artist of the Year. They'll be making several appearances around the city during the ECMAs — most notably in a sold out show at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium on January 30.

To add to the excitement, the band recently inked a Canada-wide distribution deal with A&M Records, and will be re-releasing *Plaid* with one additional track. The new track, "Star of the County Down", will be the first national single off the album, and will be released to radio stations across the country on January 25 — just in time for ECMA weekend. The re-release of *Plaid*, complete with funky new cover art, will hit the stores on Feb. 24.

Wag the Dog falls short of expectations

BY AMBER MACARTHUR

There is nothing new about the government, media and high rollers in Hollywood covering up scandals by sucking the general population into believing a string of lies. But coercing the general population into paying money to sit through two hours of this in *Wag the Dog* is tiresome at the best of times.

This movie is a deservingly satirical look at the American electoral process, where it is taken for granted that "no one votes". The movie begins with the U.S. president, who is caught in a compromising position with a young "Firefly girl" just days before an election. High powered spin doctor Conrad Brean (Robert

DeNiro) solicits the help of under-appreciated Hollywood producer Stanley Motss (Dustin Hoffman) to cover up the incident.

Motss divulges the fine line between Hollywood and Washington when he claims, "I could have gone this way. It's all a change of wardrobe," grouping together the similarities between the job of producer and president. With the help of Anne Heche, Willie Nelson and Dennis Leary, a diversion is created for the American public.

At this point in the movie hopes are high for an elaborately planned distraction, but the scheme falls short. Their plan involves convincing the American people that they are at war with the

Republic of Albania, who are hiding nuclear weapons in the Canadian prairies (although they do not actually name the prairies, this looks like the area of Canada they point to on the globe).

The political commentary is appropriate at a time when the leader of the most powerful nation in the world is decided by polished sound bites, but as the diversion in this movie unravels, it loses credibility. Brean and Motss are constantly reaffirming that the "President is a product", and that the general public will sink their teeth into anything they read or hear through the media. And although this proves to be true among the public in the movie, hopefully in reality there is an overriding

element called common sense.

Most likely producer Barry Levinson is stretching this idea of displaced power in an attempt to bring humour to the movie, but it comes across as ridiculing a nation. And not even the original "asshole" himself, Denis Leary, can save this movie with his humour; nor can Woody Harrelson as the malicious, nun-raping convict who plays the hero of the Albanian war, Sergeant William Schumann.

There is only one character who shines in this movie, and it's not Hoffmann or DeNiro, but Willie Nelson. He writes and sings catchy and trivial folk songs, allowing the audience a break from a story that we have all heard one too many times.

Paintings and the inevitability of death

BY KIRSTEN MCALLISTER

Naked emaciated bodies lie woven together on a canvas. A crematorium door hangs huge and open on a white wall. Gaunt and terrified faces stare helplessly from the past. These are paintings by Herzl Kashetsky in the exhibition *A Prayer for the Dead*, which is currently showing at the Dalhousie Art Gallery.

Through a combination of photos and memory, Kashetsky creates a photo-realistic documentation of holocaust victims, and a grim

reminder of the mass-murder which took place less than 60 years ago.



Sharing the same gallery space, remnants of a bull constructed from floral china lay scattered on the floor, delicate

images of dead birds and wilting flowers hang across from black and white oil paintings, and charcoal drawings illustrate translucent paper. These are the works of artists Suzanne Gauthier, Rick Burns, Susan Wood and Gerald Beaulieu.

Like Kashetsky, these four artists explore the inevitability of death and decay in a show called *In passing/En passant*. In contrast to Kashetsky, these works suggest natural decay, rather than forced

destruction, as an inevitable factor of life. This idea is largely achieved through abstraction, where lines and brush strokes hint at, rather than state, the temporary nature of life.

Overall, the effect of both exhibitions is one of silence. The bleak image of a Warsaw cemetery next to a painting of fragile, dying red birds are both serene explorations of the passing of time. One is hopeful, the other sobering. Both are very much worth seeing.

Kirsten McAllister is an intern at the Dalhousie Art Gallery.

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Ghosh tries something new with sci-fi thriller

The Calcutta Chromosome

Amitav Ghosh

Vintage Canada

They say India's greatest exports these days are writers. It is true that India produces a veritable plethora of talented novelists, many of whom have settled in the West. Rohinton Mistry, Vikram Seth, Salman Rushdie and newcomer Arundhati Roy whose first, Booker Prize-winning novel has been hailed by John Updike as a "Tiger Woods-ian" debut, are all powerful novelists.

The Calcutta Chromosome: A Novel of Fevers, Delirium, & Discovery is the latest work by Amitav Ghosh, an author who has already established himself as a writer of considerable merit with his critically lauded works *In an Antique Land*, *The Shadow Lines* and *The Circle of Reason*. In this particular novel, Ghosh tries something his compatriots haven't by dabbling in science fiction. The book in fact received the 1996 Arthur C. Clarke Award for the

year's best science fiction novel.

A warning to readers tackling this novel: be prepared to read it twice! The word "complex" is perhaps too euphemistic an adjective to describe this work. I am not ashamed to say that the end left me a little perplexed. Take your most complicated *X-Files* episode, multiply its complexity by one hundred, and that's a close proximation of what you're dealing with in this novel. This protagonist makes Mulder and Scully look like a couple of amateurs, and the story blends suspense and science fiction in a maze of intertwining story lines whose settings range from New York in the not-so-distant future to nineteenth century Calcutta.

Antar, an Egyptian computer clerk, stumbles across an ID card of an old colleague of his, Murugan, who has mysteriously disappeared in Calcutta. While attempting to unearth information on his whereabouts, Antar is drawn into the mystery that shrouds

the medical history of malaria research, a topic that has a great deal to do with Murugan's disappearance. Before pulling his vanishing act, Murugan had discovered that Sir Ronald Ross, the British scientist who pinpointed the mosquito as the vector for the malaria contagion, may have unwittingly been pushed towards this discovery by a secret group of "counter-scientists". This group knows more than anyone could dream to know about malaria, and believes that it might be the key to immortality.

The story is gripping to say the least. Make sure you don't start the novel the night before an exam. The fact that the novel is such a page-turner makes the

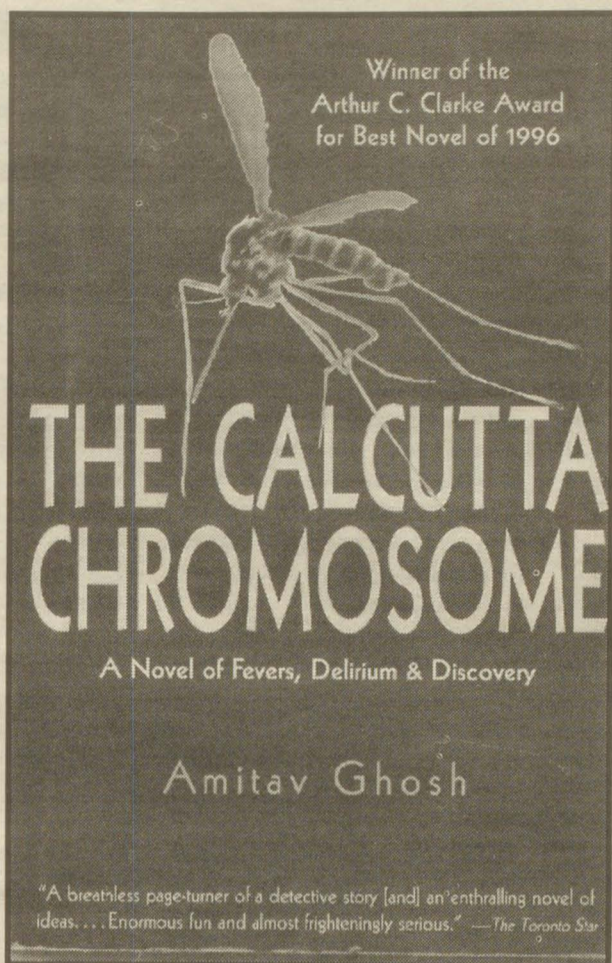
ending seem like a let down. The last page leaves you

loose ends the author leaves dangling in your face.

The first 307 pages are so absorbing that one is able to keep up with Ghosh in spite of the novel's labyrinthine and disconnected storyline, but the last page forces the reader to try and form his own conclusions.

The writing itself isn't too heavy. Ghosh is probably trying to make his work a little more accessible to a mainstream audience. Critics have said that the novel contains thoughts on free will versus predeterminism, and one has even called it a "post-colonial allegory".

Although I didn't catch a great deal of the novel's "metaphysical subtext" that these other critics seem to think it contains, I can recommend *The Calcutta Chromosome* as an intelligent novel that is



also enjoyable as an easy weekend read.

KARAN SHETTY

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REVIEWS AND SPEWS - CD REVIEWS

Modus Operandi

Photek
Virgin

Modus Operandi is a collection of ambient and breakbeat in its early form, not that that's a bad thing. It's just boring. Really, *really* boring.

However, Photek are undoubtedly one of the best in their chosen musical category and *Modus Operandi* is well-produced. Tracks like "Aleph 1", "Axiom" and "Smoke Rings" will get sampled to death soon enough and will set a standard for future groups in the same category, but for now they're not going to go very far. In fact, I doubt they'll go anywhere at all. The same goes for the title track. After listening to it, one would assume that Photek's

"modus operandi" involves sleep and little else. "124" is easily the best track on the CD but it's as forgettable as the rest.

You need drugs to listen to this album and I doubt that pot will do the trick. Somebody's marketing department should think about including a little bag of something or other with the CD to boost sales. You need uppers. Loads of 'em.

EUGENIA BAYADA

Forever

Bobby Brown

MCA Records Canada

Bobby Brown. We all remember him, don't we? Whitney Houston's husband, member of New Edition, and one of the bad boys of music today due

to his skirmishes with the law.

Thus far, and I emphasize *thus far*, Bobby's had a very successful solo career, what with such hits as "My Prerogative", "Every Little Step", and "Humpin' Around".

This album wasn't released with much fanfare, and it's no wonder why. The production on this disc is adequate at best, and it barely reaches that. The most that might get squeezed out of this album is a flavour of the day.

Don't get me wrong here. I like Bobby Brown, and I really tried to like this album. The major disappointment of this CD is that the vocals are basically sub-par, and can often be annoying. Only rarely do we get flashes of the old Bobby we remember from songs like "On Our Own" off the

Ghostbusters II soundtrack.

It's not that Bobby Brown hasn't tried hard enough with this album, or that he purposely wanted to disappoint his fans, or even that the CD cover was lame. It's just that, basically, this album sucks. The raps suck, the vocals suck, the production sucks. Everything about this CD sucks.

That being said, this disc will still get quite a bit of use out of me, especially in the summertime when I need a frisbee. So, I guess that this album doesn't suck as bad as it could.

Overall, if you're in the market to buy somebody an expensive coaster, my recommendation is Bobby Brown's *Forever*. You can't go wrong with premium plastic!

ASHIR SIDDIQUI



Halifax

FRIDAY, JAN. 23, 9PM, THE GRAWOOD
Simon B. Cotter. The poster says that "He's funny. And he's back!" I don't remember him ever being here, and I have questions about where he went.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24, 9PM, MACINNES ROOM

Just two sentences of obligatory press for **Holly McNarland**, who is headlining for **Weeping Tile** and **Sol**. Female rock invades Dalhousie — welcome to the mainstream.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24, THE BLUES CORNER
Gowan...yes, Gowan. Honestly, he's still alive. The crooner of such Can-Rock faves like "Strange Animal" is attempting to "revive" his career.

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SPORTS

Men's volleyball Tigers earn a silver at Classic

BY CARMEN TAM

The fans who came to support the Tigers last Sunday watched the seventh-ranked Tigers capture their second consecutive silver medal on the weekend at the Dalplex. Playing without one of the best players in the country, the Dalhousie Tigers gave a good show in front of 400 enthusiastic Tiger fans. Dal lost a tough match to the second-ranked team in the country, the Université de Sherbrooke Vert et Or, by game scores of 10-15, 15-4, 15-6 and 15-12.

The Tigers jumped to a 8-4 lead in the first game which they held on to win 15-10. 1996/97 CIAU Rookie of the Year Jean-Francois Mercier proved to be ineffective against Dalhousie. Mercier was much more of a factor in the second and third sets. Sherbrooke regrouped and completely shut down the Dalhousie offense with strong blocking from the Vert Et Or trio of Pierre Chamberland, Bruno Lambert and Martin Dostie.

The Tigers failed to force a fifth game despite a commanding 11-2 lead in the fourth set before the Vert Et Or chipped away at Dal's lead to tie at 12-12. The game was marked by long entertaining rallies and strong play by captain John Hobin and Trepanier. Sherbrooke rookie Sebastien Ruette was solid for the Vert Et Or who won the set 15-12 for the victory.

Despite the loss, an outstanding performance for Dal came from fourth-year veteran Trepanier with 30 kills and 5 digs. Rookie Chris Wolfenden had 10 kills and 3 stuff blocks, and teammate Matt Hartlen contributed 14 kills and 7 digs. With the win, Sherbrooke successfully defended their Classic title and solidified their rank in the nation.

Dal setter Dave Cox said, "We played hard and followed the game plan by the coaching staff which was to continue to serve tough and play hard defense. Sherbrooke is a tough and experienced team... it would have been

nice to go to five."

Sherbrooke setter Jean-Sebastien Nault, a 1997 All-Canadian, was the key player for the Vert Et Or as he pulled his team out of a nine-point deficit.

"That is experience showing," said Cox, referring to Nault's game, "but we never gave up and played to the dying end."

"We were out for revenge," said a Vert Et Or player, referring to their gold medal loss to Dal when Sherbrooke hosted a tournament in late November. Dal swept Sherbrooke 3-0.

The Tigers added another silver in their rematch from last year. Dal has now medalled 15 times in the 19-year history of the Classic. Like past Classics, the tourney showcased some outstanding performances for Dal, like Wolfenden's exceptional passing throughout the tournament and Hartlen's consistently strong serves.

Manitoba captured bronze with a 3-0 sweep of Waterloo by game scores of 15-13, 17-15 and 15-8.

The Tigers went 3-1 in round-robin action. They faced a much-improved team from Waterloo in the opening match on Friday. Dal won the first two games 15-11, 15-4 before the Warriors rebounded with an 8-0 lead in the third game, eventually winning 11-15. The Tigers found their stride to take the final game 15-6. Leftside hitter Trepanier had 27 kills, 8 digs and 4 service aces while Hartlen added 16 kills and 12 digs.

Later that evening, Dal was swept by the Vert Et Or by game scores of 15-11, 16-14 and 15-7. Sherbrooke controlled the match despite a valiant effort by the Tigers. Continuing to be a force was Trepanier who racked up 31 kills and 4 stuff blocks while Wolfenden had 21 kills and 6 digs in the loss.

Trepanier totalled 17 kills while Hobin added 11 kills on Saturday when Dal defeated Memorial 3-0 (15-5, 15-4 and 15-3) in a noon warm-up before meeting the Manitoba Bisons in the evening. It was here that a gelled Tiger team treated Dal fans to a convincing

3-0 (15-4, 15-5, 15-11) win over the Bisons who were not able to overcome a determined Tiger squad. Cox gave a

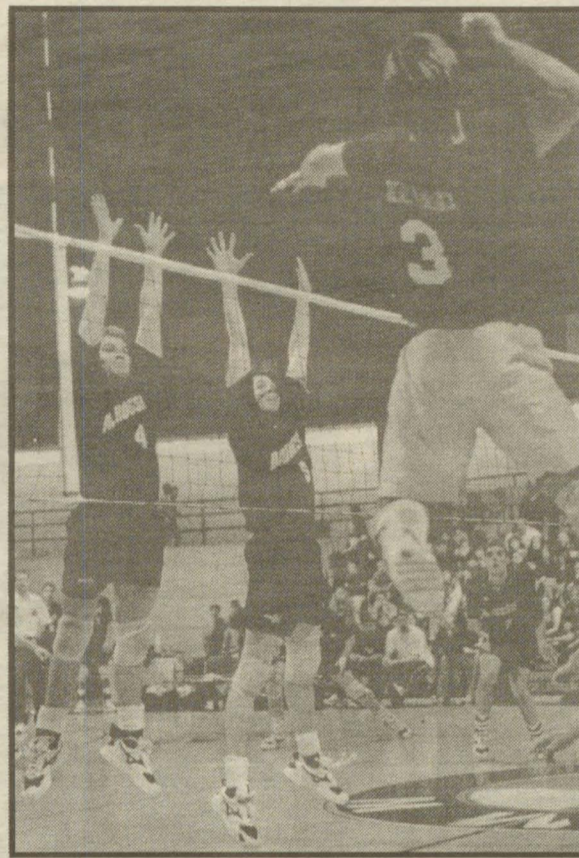
s o l i d performance, setting up Trepanier for most of his 27 kills and 8 digs. Hartlen and Wolfenden had 12 and 10 kills, respectively. Middle blocker Peter Thurlow shone for Dal with 11 digs and 4 service aces. Both the Tigers and the crowd expected much more of a challenge from the Canadian West competitors who were national champions twice in the last three years. Cox noted

c r o w d involvement, as well as playing the initial couple of matches without injured CIAU All-Canadian and National Team-member Martin, as factors in giving them time to adjust their game. Martin suffered sprains to both ankles and has been out of action for the past six weeks.

"We knew what was at stake and knew we had to beat [Manitoba] to make the final," said the second-year

setter.

Sherbrooke had a flawless 4-0 record in round-robin, while Waterloo



Dalhousie's Dave Cox and captain John Hobin block an attack by Sherbrooke's Jean-Francois Mercier during the Dal Classic final. (Photo by Ryan Lash)

finished at 2-2, Manitoba at 1-3 and Memorial was outclassed 0-4.

Trepanier's leadership was rewarded as the powerhitter was named AUSA male Athlete of the Week. The Orleans, Ontario native established the offensive rhythm for Dal with 128 kills. His play, along with fifth-year veteran Hobin's

performance, were recognized as both were named to the All-Star team along with Jason Hubbard from Waterloo and Rob Janson from the Manitoba Bisons. Rounding out the selection was Mercier and Ruette from Sherbrooke while teammate Nault, was named the Classic's MVP for the second consecutive year.

Currently Dal sits on top of AUSA standings at 5-1 and will play a pair of matches against the UNB Varsity Reds this weekend in Fredericton. The Tigers, 1997 CIAU silver medalists, will look to avenge a surprising 3-0 loss to the Reds in their last match in December. UNB is 3-1 in the conference.

The Tiger bench should be enhanced by the return of Martin to the line-up in upcoming conference matches and their next tournament in Laval at the end of this month. Expect the Tigers to seek some vengeance of their own when they meet up with Sherbrooke again.

"We are looking forward to this weekend and we are all excited at the opportunity to play [UNB] again," said Cox. "We are committed one hundred per cent to beating those guys as badly as we can."

"We plan to be successful and, in hindsight, the loss [to UNB] was probably good for us 'cause it made us more hungry."

Special mention must go to the organizers for staging a well-run tournament that provides a showcase for national talent. It is regarded as one of the top tournaments each year for contenders of the national title.

Tigers improve at Classic

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

The women's volleyball Tigers captured a bronze medal at the 19th Annual Dalhousie Classic this past weekend, improving on last year's sixth-place finish. Dal defeated the AUSA top-ranked Acadia Axettes 3-2 in the bronze medal game by scores of 13-15, 15-5, 12-15, 15-2 and 15-5. The Montreal Carabins turned the final around, beating the McGill Martlets 3-2 (13-15, 5-15, 15-5, 15-11, 15-5).

The Tigers were 2-2 following round-robin play, sweeping Acadia 15-12, 15-10, 15-4 in the opening match and dropping 3-1 (4-15, 11-15, 15-12, 9-15) to the Carabins on Friday, while

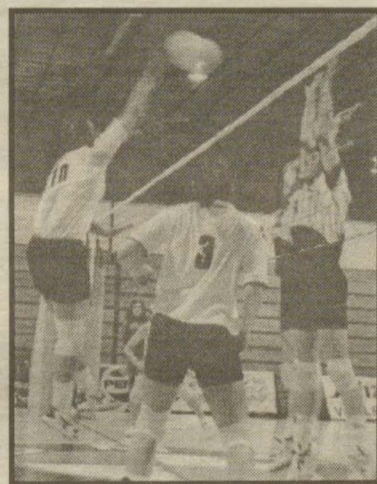


Photo by Ryan Lash

on Saturday they were swept 4-15, 7-15, 10-15 by the Martlets before beating the Université de Moncton Anges Bleus 3-1 by game scores of 9-15, 15-21, 15-7 and 15-6.

McGill posted a perfect 4-0 after round-robin play while Montreal was at 3-1, Acadia at 1-3 and Moncton at 0-4.

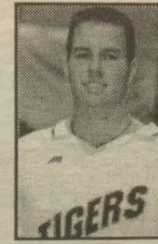
Tiger Denise Chapman contributed six kills, two stuff blocks and ten digs in the bronze medal game and was named to the All-Star team, along with Axette Erin Hogan, Martlet Anouk LaPointe and Carabins Caroline L'Heureux, Marianne Melanson and Isabelle Morin. Martlet Wendy Whelan took tournament MVP honours.

Athletes of the Week



DENISE CHAPMAN
VOLLEYBALL

Denise helped the Tigers capture a bronze medal at the Dalhousie Volleyball Classic on the weekend. She led the Tigers in blocks and served strong consistently throughout the tournament. Denise is a fourth-year Science student from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.



JASON TREPANIER
VOLLEYBALL

Jason recorded 128 kills and 13 blocks in the five matches the Tigers played at the Dalhousie Volleyball Classic on the weekend. He helped the Tigers capture a silver medal and was named to the tournament All-Star team. He was also selected as the AUSA Athlete of the Week. Jason is a fourth-year Economics student from Orleans, Ontario.



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INFORMATION SESSIONS

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
Student Union Building Rm. 224
January 26, 1998, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Loyola Rm. 169
January 26, 1998, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Coordinators and Faculty from the
Education Department
will be available to answer your questions.

Upcoming events

MEN'S BASKETBALL
 Jan.25 UNB@Dal 3pm
 Jan.28 Dal@SMU 8pm
 Jan.31 Dal@SFX 8pm
 Feb.6 Dal@SMU 8pm
 Feb.8 UPEI@Dal 3pm
 Feb.14 Dal@SFX 8pm
 Feb.15 Dal@UCCB 3pm
 Feb.19 ACA@Dal 8pm
 Feb.22 SMU@Dal 8pm
 Feb.27 Dal@UNB 8:30pm

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
 Jan.25 UNB@Dal 1pm
 Jan.28 Dal@SMU 6pm
 Jan.31 Dal@SFX 6pm
 Feb.6 Dal@SMU 6pm
 Feb.8 UPEI@Dal 1pm
 Feb.11 Dal@ACA 8pm
 Feb.14 Dal@SFX 6pm
 Feb.15 Dal@UCCB 1pm
 Feb.19 ACA@Dal 6pm
 Feb.24 SMU@Dal 6pm
 Feb.27 Dal@UNB 6:30pm

HOCKEY
 Jan.24 SMU@Dal 7pm
 Jan.31 UPEI@Dal 7pm
 Feb.4 Dal@SMU 7:30pm
 Feb.7 All-Star Game (@Metro Centre)
 Feb.11 SFX@Dal 7pm
 Feb.14 Dal@UdeM 7pm
 Feb.15 Dal@STU 2pm
 Feb.18 SMU@Dal 7pm
 Feb.22 ACA@Dal 7pm
 Feb.27 Quarter Finals
 Feb.28 Quarter Finals

SWIMMING
 Jan.23 MTA/Dal@UNB 7pm
 Jan.24 UNB/Dal@MTA 2pm
 Feb.13 AUAAs@UNB 10:30 am & 6:30pm
 Feb.14 AUAAs@UNB 10:30 am & 6:30pm
 Feb.15 AUAAs@UNB 10am & 4pm
 Feb.20 CIAUs@Sherbrooke
 Feb.21 CIAUs@Sherbrooke
 Feb.22 CIAUs@Sherbrooke

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL
 Jan.24 Dal@UNB 7pm
 Jan.25 Dal@UNB 1pm
 Jan.30 Dal@Laval Tournament
 Jan.31 Dal@Laval Tournament
 Feb.1 Dal@Laval Tournament
 Feb.13 AUA League Tournament [UNB vs Dal 8pm]
 Feb.15 AUA League Tournament [MUN vs Dal noon]
 Feb.20 AUA Championships (#2@#1, best 2 of 3)
 Feb.21 AUA Championships (#2@#1, best 2 of 3)
 Feb.22 AUA Championships (#2@#1, best 2 of 3)

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
 Jan.24 UCCB@Dal 6pm
 Jan.25 UCCB@Dal 11am
 Jan.27 Dal@ACA 7:30pm
 Jan.28 Dal@UNB 8pm
 Jan.31 Dal@UNB 1pm
 Feb.7 UPEI@Dal 6pm
 Feb.8 UPEI@Dal 11am
 Feb.11 Dal@SMU 7pm
 Feb.14 MTA@Dal 5pm
 Feb.15 UdeM@Dal 2pm
 Feb.20 AUAAs@Dal
 Feb.21 AUAAs@Dal
 Feb.22 AUAAs@Dal



Men's hockey Tigers, waiting to exhale...

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

The men's hockey Tigers showed what they're made of last Wednesday as they slammed the St.FX X-Men 7-0. They then dropped two easy points to the Mount Allison Mounties on Saturday as they lost 5-3, and a further two in a 6-2 loss to UNB.

On Wednesday, St.FX didn't stand a chance at Memorial Arena. The Tigers came out to play and easily dominated the game, outshooting the X-Men 43-24. Forward Jan Melichercik opened the scoring at 5:31 of the first period and his team never looked back. Melichercik added another goal on the power play early on in the second frame. Tim Hill, Craig Whynot and Ted Naylor also contributed in that period, while Chris Pittman and Hill scored in the final frame where the home team tested X-Man goaltender Shawn Silver 16 times versus St.FX's paltry four shots. Neil

Savary took Player of the Game honours as he cruised to his first shutout of the year.

"It was a good game," said team

only goal. Hill tied the game up at the halfway mark of the second and Derrick Pyke put the Tigers up on a short-handed goal a couple of minutes later.



Tiger Jan Melichercik puts one past Ken Carroll during Sunday's game. (Photo by Lisa Verge)

Jody Shelley increased the Tigers lead to two at 19:14, but a lapse in the Tigers' defense allowed the Mounties to narrow the difference before the end of the period. The Tigers then proceeded to give the game away to the conference bottom-dwellers in the third frame. Mt. Allison's perpetual losing

of the weekend — we couldn't finish."

Both the Varsity Reds and the Tigers came out strong on Sunday. Ryan Naismith was quick to open the scoring for UNB at 1:30. Shelley countered at 4:48 on the rebound from an attempt by Martin LaPointe. Peter MacKellar netted a slapshot from the crease to give UNB a lead which they did not concede for the remainder of the game. Humourless referee Bob Best awarded Shelley a ten-minute misconduct before the end of the period, allegedly for making a joke. It should be noted that this was the former Moosehead's only penalty of the weekend.

The Reds opened up a two-point lead before Melichercik narrowed it down for the Tigers at 11:28. UNB increased their lead just over a minute later when Dax MacLean went one-on-one with Savary.

Best awarded Pyke a minor for goaltender interference early in the final frame, raising questions among the fans present about whether or not a netminder is "fair play" if he is out of the crease. Impolite suggestions were made to the referee to review the hockey rules book.

With rookie blueliner Dave Bourque called for slashing at 17:56 and Savary pulled in favour of an extra forward, UNB was able to score two empty-netters from the blueline to seal their victory at 6-2.

"I think our team has made a decision after the last two games about whether or not we want a ring in two months," says Shelley.

With just over a month left until AUHC quarter-finals, Dal has a few consistency problems to work out. Conference standings mean little more than home-ice advantage and a little extra confidence for playoffs, but one can only hope that the Tigers want that ring badly enough to shake up the opposition before another season goes by without hardware. They've proved themselves more than capable.

Women's hockey gains experience at AUAAs

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

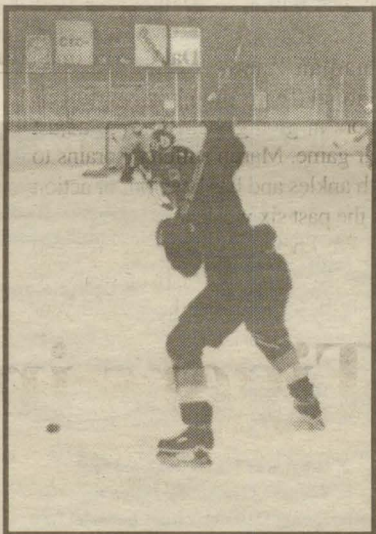
The Dalhousie women's hockey team took part in the first ever AUA Championship at UNB last weekend. SMU took the inaugural title in double overtime over Acadia.

"It was disappointing," says Dal captain Tanya MacDonald of the team's loss. "It could've been anyone — all the games were close."

Dal faced-off with Acadia first on Jan. 16 and suffered a 4-1 loss which was not indicative of the closeness of the game. The win earned Acadia an automatic berth in the two-game total-goal final.

Dal fared better against St.FX the following evening as MacDonald scored to give her team an early 2-0 lead in the first period. The Antigonish team scored their first

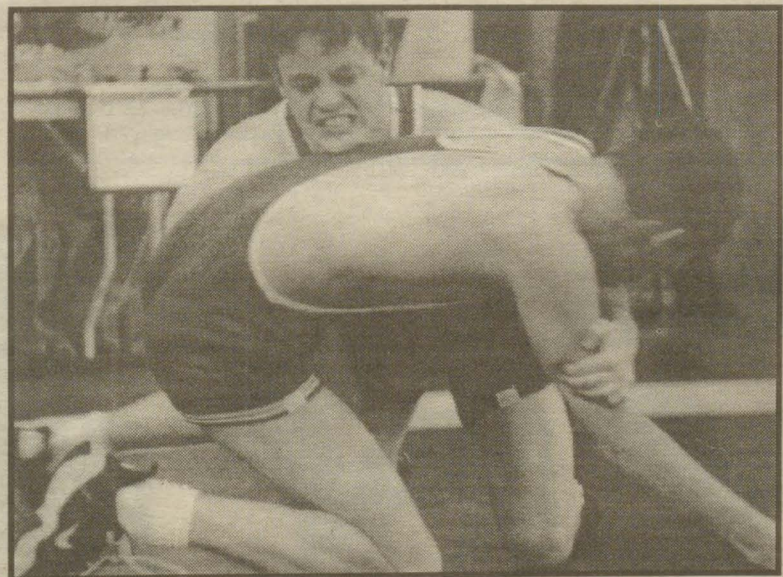
goal on the power play which "got their momentum going". Despite being outshot, outchanced and



Blueliner Simone Page tees one up during practice before the Championship. (Photo by Ryan Lash)

outplayed, St.FX were able to emerge with the win only to be defeated 5-1 by UNB in the bronze medal game.

"It was great to see Dal represented up there," said right winger Shelley Malcolm. "We had a good time and played some great hockey and I hope that us being involved in the first AUA Women's Hockey Championship will help pave the way for future Dal hockey players."



Dalhousie's Logan Ward takes down a South Shore Wrestling Club competitor. (Photo by Ryan Lash)

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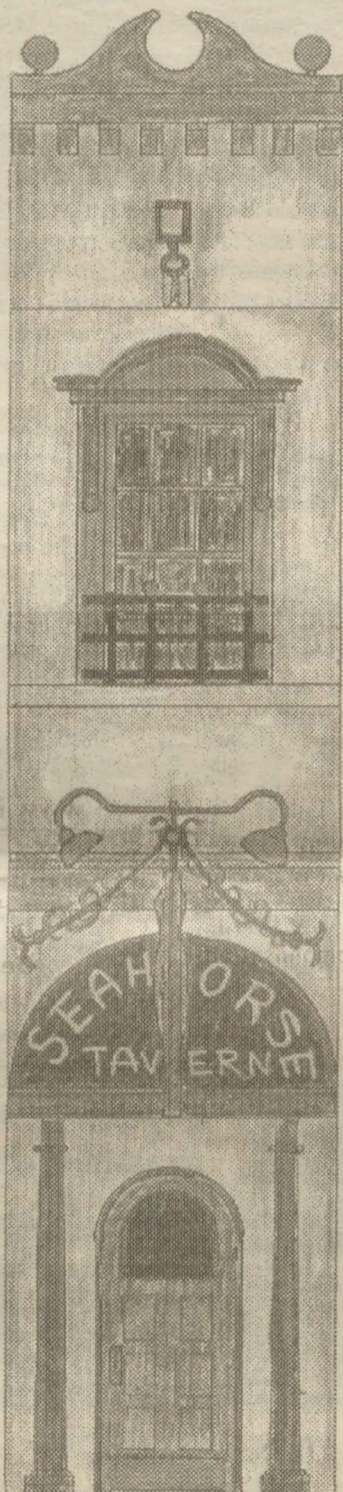
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CONTINUED FROM THE HEMP AND MARIJUANA SUPPLEMENT

Recreational marijuana use

continued from page 14...
 way in Canada for the criminalization of marijuana. Opium had become such a serious problem, especially on the West Coast, that the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act was passed. It was not until 1938 that marijuana was also labelled as a drug and prohibited under this same Act. Over the next 40 years the laws were examined and disputed, but

more important issues demanded attention and marijuana took a backseat until its revival in the sixties.

The development of the sixties sub-culture saw marijuana used freely and openly. References to smoking marijuana in the sixties were everywhere, especially in music. The constant repetition in Bob Dylan's "Rainy Day Women" of the line "Everybody

must get stoned" is just one example of the blatant use of marijuana in almost every facet of the hippy culture. Anyone who attended the Dylan concert in Halifax last spring, and heard this as Dylan's last song under the bright florescent lights, will agree that it has travelled well over decades and still carries the same "in your face" message.

One could say that the youth of the sixties led the way for the widespread use of marijuana, linking the drug to peace and love. But the same generation also stigmatized the drug and created fear, based on misunderstanding, in the general population. Marijuana was again lumped in with other "problem" drugs. And as the seventies arrived many studies were undertaken to uncover the truth about marijuana.

One such study, conducted by the Le Dain Commission in Canada, on the effects of marijuana, confirms what the young people of the sixties believed: that previous misconceptions about the negative effects of marijuana, such as linkage to violence, were untrue. But, still, the laws and much of society continued to view marijuana as a drug which could lead to serious problems. And still, twenty years later, we are hearing the same arguments against marijuana over and over again. The only difference is that it appears fewer and fewer people are listening, relying instead on the knowledge of generations of pot smokers to prove marijuana has been suffering a case mistaken identity.

But even as we approach the year 2000 and are fully aware that times have changed, the controversy about marijuana continues; and so do the smokers. And if music is any indication of the desires of the generation of young people across Canada and the United States, it seems to be more than a coincidence that Dylan belting out the lyrics "Everybody must get stoned" at Woodstock '69, has only been replaced with Cypress Hill's hit song "I wanna get high" at Woodstock '94.

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- ◆ Dalhousie Bookstore certificate valued at \$25 ◆

For more than a century, Dalhousie has closed its doors on the first Friday of February, giving students, faculty and staff the day off in honor of the university's great benefactor, the late George Munro. This year, Munro Day is Feb. 6, and as some of us catch an extra hour's shut-eye, a few may wonder who this Munro guy was, anyway, and what did he do that was so special?

If you know, you could be eligible to win one of six great prizes. All you have to do is correctly answer the following multiple-choice questions.

Return completed entries, with your name and phone number, by fax to the Annual Fund office at 494-6900; e-mail at Annual.Fund@Dal.Ca; or drop them off in the contest box at the Annual Fund office, Macdonald Building, by noon, Friday, Jan. 30. The first six correct entries to be drawn will win.

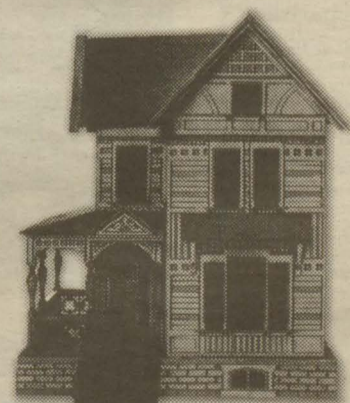
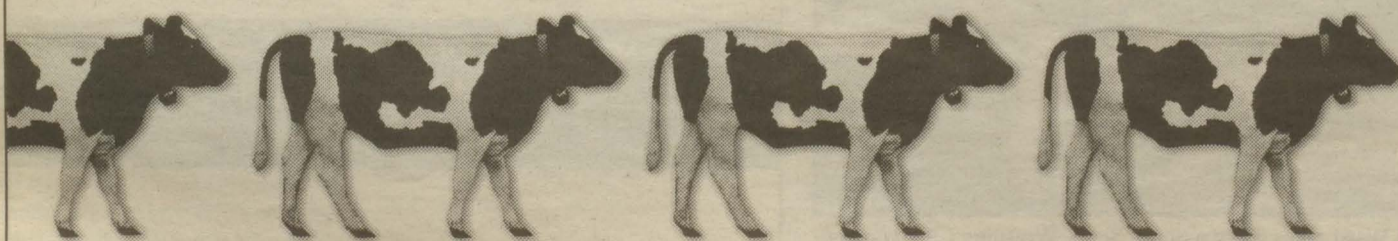
For more information on George Munro, drop by the Munro Day web page at <http://www2.dal.ca/munro.html>.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. How much money did Munro donate to Dalhousie?
a. \$225,000 b. \$189,000 c. \$350,000 | 4. How did Munro amass his fortune?
a. New York Stock Market
b. Publishing "dime novels"
c. Canadian Pacific Railroad |
| 2. What was Munro credited for?
a. Founding Dalhousie University
b. Saving Dalhousie from financial ruin
c. Leaving his estate to Dalhousie | Name: _____
Day phone number, fax or e-mail address: _____ |
| 3. When did Munro Day begin?
a. 1881 b. 1899 c. 1925 | |
| 4. Where was Munro born?
a. Halifax b. Yarmouth c. Pictou | |

This contest is open to all members of the Dalhousie University community with the exception of Annual Fund staff.

THE ANNUAL FUND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE CONTEST'S SPONSORS: Facilities Management, Athletics and Recreational Services, University Club, Dalhousie University Food Services Group, DalTech Club/Ovation Catering and the Dalhousie University Bookstore.

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dalendar

January 22nd - January 28th, 1998

Thursday, January 22

The Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Association of Dalhousie will meet at 7pm in the Council Chambers, 2nd floor SUB. For more info call 494-1256.

Economic Justice, a working group of NSPIRG, will meet at 5:30pm in the SUB. All are welcome. For location call 494-6662. People for Animal Welfare will meet at 4pm in the SUB. Call 494-6662 for more info and location.

Friday, January 23

Women's Health Collective will meet at 3:30pm at the Dal Women's Centre. The group will be chatting over tea and then working on layout of the women's health in perspective magazine. For more info call 494-6662.

Saturday, January 24

The Korean Association will meet at 6pm in the lobby of the SUB. Anyone interested in finding out more is welcome to attend. Dal Magic Association meets from 12-6pm in room 318, SUB. Everyone welcome. For more info call Steve at 494-3407.

Euphoria — The Annual Dalhousie Medical Students' variety show will be held at 7pm in the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, Dal Arts Centre. Tickets may be purchased at the Rebecca Cohn box office.

Julius Caesar — George Frederick Handel's baroque opera Julius Ceasar will be performed in the Saint Mary's University Art Gallery at 8pm. Tickets are available at the door. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for students and seniors. For more info call 420-5445 or 420-5268.

Sunday, January 25

Sunday Mass — The Dal Roman Catholic Chaplaincy celebrates Mass every Sunday at 11:30am in room 307, SUB. All are welcome

to join us in a youthful, modern liturgy that reflects university life and experiences. For more info call 494-2287.

Monday, January 26

The Bluenose Chess Club will meet at 7pm, room 307, SUB. E-mail jafrazer@is2.dal.ca for more info.

Humans Against Homophobia will be meeting at 6pm, room 316, SUB. People of all sexual orientation and all walks of life are welcome.

Tuesday, January 27

Women's Health Issues, a collective of NSPIRG, will meet at 5:30pm at the Dalhousie Women's Centre. For more info call 492-6662.

The Dal Ballroom Dancing Society will meet in the McInnes Room, SUB. Membership is \$25 per person, singles are welcome. For more info call 455-6746 or 482-1007.

Eco-Action, a working group of the NSPIRG, will meet at 5:30pm in the 2nd floor lounge, SUB. All are welcome. Call 494-6662 for more info.

Wednesday, January 28

Taoist Tai Chi will be held by the Ward 5 Centre at 1:30pm. There is a \$2 drop-in fee. To register call Susan Nordin at 454-7003.

Burma Support Network, a working group of NSPIRG, holds regular meetings at 5:30pm in the second floor lounge, SUB. For more info call 494-6662.

Anger Management Program — Counselling and Psychology Services is hosting a program from 11:30am-1pm at the Counselling Centre, 4th floor, SUB. The program is designed to teach students how to identify anger triggers, moderate angry feelings, and assert oneself appropriately. Pre-registration and a \$20 deposit are required. Seats are limited, so register ASAP. For more info call

494-2081 or go to the Counselling Centre.

The Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students Election will be held January 28 and 29. It will include a referendum on the proposed new referendum. Polling Stations will be located at the Grad House, Tupper Building, SUB and LSC. You can vote from 10am-2pm.

The Dalhousie Association of Marine Biology Students will be holding a general meeting at 5:30pm, 5th floor Bio Lounge. Election for DSS rep. Refreshments provided. For info go to room 2114, LSC.

General Announcements

Peers Against Sexual Assault is a student-run peer education group whose goal is to promote healthy sexual relationships and educate students and faculty about the prevention of sexual harassment. For more info call 494-1137.

Do You Love Animals? Elephants and Tigers need your help now! Find out more about the circus. Please e-mail jesmith@is2.dal.ca or call Julie at 423-5422.

Be a Volunteer! Talents to Share? Time on Your Hands? Meet New People and Enjoy New Experiences by Volunteering at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. For more info call

473-5420.

Make a New Year's Resolution to make a change — come to the Student Volunteer Bureau and find out how you can make a difference in your community. The SVB is located in Room 452 of the SUB. For more info call 494-1561 or e-mail svb@is.dal.ca.

Make a love connection.
Gazette Classifieds

CLASSIFIED SECTION

REACH YOUR TARGET!!! ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE'S GROWING CLASSIFIED SECTION...IT REALLY WORKS!!!
\$3 PER WEEK FOR 25 WORDS. DROP ADS + \$ OFF - SUITE 312 SUB.

FROM THE HEART

PHIL - REMEMBERING THE LIGHTS of Halifax in your eyes. Love to go for 'za. - A. H.

COMPUTERS AND GEAR

BUDDING GRAPHIC DESIGNERS AND NSCAD PEOPLE!!! DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO OWN YOUR OWN DESIGN MAC! Mac IIcx (8MB RAM expandable to , 312MEG HD) with Apple portrait display monitor (tabloid monochrome), perfect for desktop publishing. Also comes with an Apple extended keyboard and new Apple mouse. All sorts of the major design software you need to get going are already installed! Zip drive ready. Let this Mac pay for itself in your first couple of jobs! Asking \$550. Call 425-3196 anytime and ask for Ken.

FOR SALE: POWERBOOK 180, APS 8 MEG RAM SIMMS (purchased May, 1997). Asking \$ 90. Powerbook 140-180, Q341 MEG, Daytona Internal Hard Drive. Asking \$200. Phone 422-2224, evenings.

FOR SALE: Powerbook 140-180, BTI NiMH Battery (purchased Feb., 1997); BTI powercharger for batteries. Asking \$90. Phone: 422-2224, evenings.

FOR SALE: Power 140-180, Global Village PowerPort Platinum Internal Fax/Modem, 28.8/14.4. Asking \$150. Phone: 422-2224, evenings.

FOR SALE: MAC SE, 4 MEG RAM, 52 MEG HDD, 800K Internal & External Floppy, 80 MEG Quantum External HDD. LaserWriter IISC printer, 6" SCSI cable w/ terminator. \$500. Phone: 422-2224, evenings.

MORE COMPUTERS AND GEAR

FOR SALE: MAC 512K & IMAGEWRITER PRINTER. Asking \$200. Phone: 422-2224, evenings.

HOUSES FOR SALE

TOWNHOUSE/CONDO FOR SALE ON DAL CAMPUS \$134,900. 2 bedroom + office, LR/DR, Laundry, 1 1/2 bath, deck, yard, prkg + furn. Call Sue 835-7192.

TUTORING - BRAIN BOOST!

MATH TUTOR- Several years experience in tutoring university level mathematics and statistics. Reasonable rate. Groups (2 or 3 people) are welcome. Please call Paul at 499-1618

MAKE MONEY!!!

MARKETING Representative needed to work on contract with 12 year old manufacturing company. Part-time. Residual commissions. Looking for self-starters. Phone Bob 425-1300

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY- Kairos Community Development is seeking roommates for individuals who require support to become self-sufficient in their own homes. Compensation includes free shared apartment and all utilities, plus a monthly honorarium. Kairos Community Development provides services to individuals who have special needs. For more information phone Mary Lou at 455-5442. Mail resume to: Kairos Community Development, 7071 Bayers Road, Suite # 319, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3L 2C2. Fax to 455-5915. Earn MONEY and FREE TRIPS!! Absolute BEST SPRING BREAK PACKAGES AVAILABLE!! INDIVIDUALS, STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, OR SMALL GROUPS WANTED!! Call INTER-CAMPUS PROGRAMS at 1-800-327-6013 or http://www.icpt.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Has School Torn You Away From the One You Love? - Read *Loving Your Long Distance Relationship* by Stephen Blake and find out how to stay in love while being apart. Only \$9.99! Ask for it at your campus bookstore, Chapters, Smithbooks, Coles, or on the Internet at www.sblake.com

BIG CLASSIFIEDS

BEST HOTELS LOWEST PRICES

All **SPRINGBREAK** Locations. Daytona, Orlando, Miami \$89 up. Cancun, Jamaica, Bahamas etc. Depart New York, Boston, etc. \$559 CDN up. Register your group and/or be our Campus Rep. Inter-campus Programs
800-828-7015 or www.icpt.com

EINSTEIN'S CLOTHESLINE

Jeans!
Cords!

& much, much more...

422-4488

Located at 5365 Inglis Street

(psst...we also buy used clothing)

DALHOUSIE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT CENTRE

KEANE, INC.

Keane is seeking a full time Software Consultant (training program provided). Qualifications: Year-round graduates, GPA 3.0+(cum) or 2.2/3.0. Business, MIS, Computer Science, Mathematics majors preferred, but not required. ALL majors are welcome to apply. Analytical skills desired, not technical. **Submit resumes & transcripts to the Student Employment Centre by 12 noon, February 12, 1998.**

Dalhousie U., Housing and Conferences Services - Summer Jobs:

Work on campus this summer. Several positions to be filled. View job descriptions & obtain application forms at the Student Employment Centre. **Deadline: Thursday, February 05, 1998, NOON**

The Walt Disney Motion Pictures Group is seeking a Part-time Market Researcher for immediate hire. The student would evaluate movies, promotional efforts and other Disney Consumer Products. Findings are then reported via an interactive computer system (students must have access to a personal computer (not a school computer). View poster & obtain application in the Employment Centre. **Deadline: A.S.A.P.**

FEDERAL STUDENT WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM (FSWEP)

Application deadlines vary according to the department seeking students. The application packages now available in the Student Employment Office.

If you are a Dalhousie, Daltech, Kings student or recent Alumni, please visit the Dalhousie Student Employment Centre or check out our website at <http://is.dal.ca/~sec/> for further information on the above jobs.

DALHOUSIE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT CENTRE * S.U.B., 4TH FLOOR * MONDAY TO FRIDAY * 9:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

MORE SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES:

- * **Halifax Citadel Regimental Association** is looking for Park Attendants/Park Interpreters (bilingual Eng/Fr) and Military Interpreters. Deadline 1pm, Jan30/98.
- * **Tourism Nova Scotia** is accepting applications for summer positions for N.S. Provincial Resorts and Information Centres. Deadline: January 31, 1998
- * **Tree Planting Companies:** several companies seeking workers.
- * **Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture & Marketing - 4-H Summer Assistants.** Deadline: January 30, 1998.
- * **Canada's Capital Region:** National Capital Commission - looking for interpreter/tour guides or informaion/orientation counsellors. Deadline: Feb.13/98
- * **Summer Camps seeking staff:**
 - Camp Tidnish; Deadline: ASAP or Mar.2/98
 - Tim Horton Children's Camps; Deadline: June 5/98
 - Oasis Nature Day Camps; Deadline: April 30/98
 - Tyler Hill Camps; Deadline: Jan.30/98
 - YMCA Geneva Park; Deadline: Jan.30/98
 - Camp Ouareau (females only); Deadline: ASAP

WINTER CARNIVAL '98

EL NINO'S REVENGE!!

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

9:00pm in the Grawood

Residence and the DSU present:

BATTLE of the BANDS

Open to all Dal Students with Valid I.D.
See sign-up sheet outside Rm. 210
in the SUB for rules and regulations

10:00pm **Camping in the Quad!!**

Everyone welcome! In front of the A&A Building.
Brought to you by the outdoors club.
Contact outdoors@ls2.dal.ca

Time TBA **Dal Parachute Club**

Wickwire Field

THURSDAY, JAN. 29

10:00am-3:00pm **Health & Wellness Fair** (Green Room)

10:00am-2:00pm **Society Fair** (SUB Lobby)

11:30am-12:30pm **Pie in the Face** (for charity)

You can throw a pie at some of the following people:

Erin Trail (Shireff Hall), Shawn Key (Howe Hall),
Chris Adams (DSU President), Jeff Myers (DSU Senator),
Ruth Bleasdale (University Senator), John Cullen (Gazette),
Andrew Simpson (Gazette), Ted the DSU Treasurer,
or Bridgette the DSU VP

11:30am-1:00pm **Car Stuffing** (SUB Lobby)

(Contact Terence for more info at dsuvpca@dal.ca or 494-1281)

2:00pm-4:00pm **Free Pool/Video Games**

Corner Pocket/Games Room in the SUB

9pm in the Grawood

Suitcase Party

Your chance to win a trip for 2 to Toronto
with two nights accomodation@ the Delta Chelsea
& spending money.

FRIDAY, JAN. 30

CKDU Funding Drive Kick-Off!

1:00pm-4pm (Live bands in the SUB!!!)

All Free!!! Moonsocket & the Shysters are the bands plus 3 DJ's
spinning live: Brendan Murphy, Stinkin' Rich, and Nick Nonsense

9pm in the McInnes Room

Hypnotist Robert Lamar

He makes the impossible possible!

Get your tickets early-you don't want to miss out! Tickets only \$6.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

Rock on the Bus '98

The Revolving Concert that
takes you all over the city.

The Night begins at Dal Tech's T-Room for PF Station
then hop on the bus and head up to the Grawood
for more live entertainment TBA!

The final stop on this musical journey is **Loce Fest '98** at the

Via Train Station where you can check out **SANDBOX**, **Grace Babies** and **Shyno Factory**.

WEDNESDAY JAN. 28-SATURDAY JAN 31, 1998

FOR MORE INFO ON ANY EVENTS: www.dal.ca/dsu or contact Terence Tam, VP Community Affairs at 494-1281 or dsuvpca@dal.ca

THIS WEEKEND

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS
SIMON B. GOTTER
"THE FUNNIEST GUY ON THE PLANET!"
He's Funny
And He's Back!
IN THE GRAWOOD
OPEN TO ALL DAL STUDENTS WITH VALID I.D.
FRIDAY, JAN. 23RD

Holly McNarland
Q&A & ISJ present
on sale now!
\$12. INC. TAX
with special guests
Weeping Tife
& Sol
Saturday, January 24
In the **McInnes Room, Dal SUB**
Doors open at 9pm. Tickets on sale now at
the Dal SUB Info Desk and ROW, Scotia Square
Visit our website: www.dal.ca/dsu

Sunday, January 25, 1998
Superbowl
GRAWOOD
Tailgate Party
SPECIALS:
15 wings and a pitcher of draught: \$8.
15¢ wings + chili, nachos, franks
great beverage specials
www.dal.ca/dsu

www.dal.ca/dsu