

THE GAZETTE

Volume 131, Number 6.

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Thursday, October 15, 1998



photo by Pascal Langlois

Kelly Ballas shudders her way through Thanksgiving in the Cape Breton Highlands, counts the moose skulls and gets over it. See story on page 13.

Students concerned about \$82-million deficit

Concerns over potential lost funding dismissed by provincial education minister

BY ANDREW SIMPSON

The Nova Scotia government is projecting an \$82-million deficit, but student leaders say funding increases to education shouldn't be sacrificed to balance the books.

In a first-quarter budget report released in early October, the minority Liberal government revealed they would not achieve their objective of a \$1.2-million surplus, instead expecting to fall \$82-million in the red.

"It's up to the politicians to look at what they promised to education and stick to their game plan," said Tim McIntyre, president of the St. Francis Xavier Student Union, in Antigonish.

Before the deficit was announced, funding to the province's 11 universities was set to increase \$23.8-million over the next three years, replacing money previously cut.

But McIntyre says he's concerned the government might cave on funding commitments to stay alive in the province's volatile legislature.

"We hope the government keeps its wits about it in this time of enormous political pressure," he said.

While failing to deliver on a balanced budget might be a political liability for the Liberals, cutting social spending would be fatal, says Jessica Squires, Nova Scotia representative for the Canadian Federation of Students.

"They are just pounding nail upon nail into their electoral coffin if they cut from health and if they don't keep their promise on education," she said.

"It's a matter of priorities... finding money for American businesses and not for Nova Scotia social programs is a bit problematic."

Ted Chiasson, president of the Dalhousie Student Union, says he understands the government is under financial pressure, but that there are also significant costs to cutting education.

"They are already treading on thin ice as far as what promises they're going to be able to carry through with," he said.

"But cutting your knowledge and your skills training would be extremely short-sighted and self-destructive in the long run."

Both Chiasson and Squires say they are confident the funding initiatives will be maintained.

But Eileen O'Connell, an opposition MLA and the NDP education critic, says she expects

the Liberals to back-pedal on their commitments to fund education.

"They can put all the money they want on paper for education, but if the government goes down on the budget then it's [back to] square one," she said. "If we are \$82-million short, education is

continued on page 3



photo by Greg de Furdene

Parking permit a 'license to hunt'

Dalhousie parking shortage drives students' nerves

BY MUSHTAK WASITI

It's eight o'clock in the morning. You have a headache, a muscle twitch and you're in an extremely bad mood. No, it's not exams, or a term paper deadline. It's time to look for a parking spot.

There are about 1000 more parking permits than parking spots at Dal, with 1730 basic parking spaces oversold by roughly 60 percent.

Bill Lord, director of facilities management, says it's because of the demand for spots.

"If I sold [all] 1730 spots on campus right now and said, 'that's it guys, no more' I would have a

riot on my hands," he said.

"Most people realize that a basic permit is a license to hunt." But Dal student Marwa Saba says her hunt isn't always successful.

"I park a lot on meters even though I have a permit because I can't find any spaces," she said.

"I get a ticket each month... when I am lucky. I usually get 2 or 3 tickets a month."

Mohammed Azzawe, a third-year student, agrees. He has to leave Bedford at 7:45 to find a space in time for his 9:30 class.

"I eventually find a spot, [you] just have to know when to come," he said.

But while he had a parking pass last year, he says he's not going to renew it when it expires this October.

"It's really bad. They should supply us with more parking spaces," said Azzawe.

But Lord says creating more parking isn't easy.

"As much as I would like to build parkades I've got no money to do it with — other than the money I can make from parking," Lord said. "Now even with overselling twice as many parking spaces... [we] won't come close to building a new parkade."

"As you might imagine a regular parking permit will not pay for anything."

The construction of a new parkade behind Henson College will also not significantly lessen parking problems for regular permit holders.

Currently, there is room for 60 regular spots. The new parkade will have 60 reserved underground parking spots and 70 aboveground regular parking spots — a net increase of 10 parking spaces for regular permit holders.

But Marwa Saba is willing to take her chances, and search for that elusive parking spot.

"I will take my chances. Everyone does it."

Last days of summer — swingin' in a hammock in the Dal quad.

Right to offend?

Writer doesn't support paper's apology

BY PHIL E. LEWIS

The student newspaper at Mount Saint Vincent University is planning to apologize for a controversial article — but the author says he doesn't share the sentiment.

The decision to run an apology for "Take Back the Bullshit" was prompted after readers and women's groups complained that the article was sexist.

The article was printed in the Sept. 29 issue of the *Picaro* in the opinions section.

But Stephen Brown says he stands by what he wrote.

He says the piece was meant to show his frustration towards the Take Back the Night March and how he refuses to take responsibility for the hurtful actions of other men.

"I always thought that I was a bad person because of [the man responsible for the Montreal Massacre]," he said.

Brown also says his opinion

piece was trying to express his outrage at the ignorance of women who tell him his pain is unimportant because of the abusive history of men against women.

"As negative as the tone may seem, it was exactly what I wanted to say," he said.

But Patricia Thomson, director of the Dalhousie Women's Centre, says it was the piece's tone that was sexist. Thomson was one of the most vocal opponents to the piece, and says the article represents a surprising male backlash towards women.

"I do not think this is a lone sentiment," she said.

Bruce Wark, professor of journalism ethics at the University of Kings College, said he didn't find anything sexist in the article.

Wark says the way the article is written, it is designed to offend and provoke thought. He says the offensive tone of the article is a dangerous way to write, but he feels Brown accomplished his task.

continued on page 3



photo by Katie Teed

Gridlock on LeMarchant Street.

Oktoberfest '98



Wednesday 21st

Noon-2pm: Live German entertainment in the Sub Lobby with German food & beer tent area

Time TBA: Dalhousie Skydiving Club Demo on Wickwire Field

Evening: Open Mic Night in the Grawood-Cash prizes to be won

Schedule of Events

Thursday 22nd

1-3pm: Free pool in the Corner Pocket

Noon-2pm: Ultimate Sumo Wrestling Challenge-take on the DSU Exec. and Res. Council

4-6pm: Sumo Suits in the Grawood

Evening: Beat the Clock in the Grawood

Friday 23rd

Noon-3pm: Movies in the Green Room (courtesy of Sandman Video)

3pm: Women's Soccer-Dal vs. St. FX-Wickwire Field

5pm: Men's Soccer-Dal vs. St. FX-Wickwire Field

7-10pm: Dalhousie Arts Society presents

Universal Shelter Gala Night (McInnes Room)

7:30pm: ReThreads Fashion Show for Waste

Reduction Week (Green Room)-Free Admission

Evening: Concert in the Grawood

Dr. Yellow Fever and the Jive

Saturday 24th

11am-1pm: Kids Halloween party in the Green Room

Evening: Dalhousie Science Society Grawood Bash

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DALHOUSIE

Health plan passes referendum

BY SHELLEY ROBINSON

13 percent of Dal students voted in a referendum passing a new health plan.

Of the 1644 students who voted at polling stations across campus last Wednesday and Thursday, 1386 voted in favour of the plan.

For an additional \$96.25 a year it automatically covers 80 percent of all drugs and incidental hospital care up to \$5,000 for all full-time students.

Students with existing coverage may elect to opt-out and receive their money back.

Dalhousie Student Union president Ted Chiasson says the plan is a good one.

"What we're proposing isn't new or revolutionary, it's just a benefit to students," he said.

Chiasson says the relatively low voter turnout was not uncommon for a fall vote. And he estimates 95 percent of students knew the referendum was happening.

"There were polling booths all over campus, you couldn't move without tripping over them. If, after all of that, you chose not to vote — that's your choice."

Chiasson says he plans to

advertise the rebate as heavily as he advertised the referendum itself.

"If [people] are aware of [the rebate] and just don't do anything about it — that's a tax on laziness and I don't have a problem with that."

The plan does not cover smoking cessation programs like the patch or nicotine gum, fertility treatments or topical aids to reduce male pattern baldness.

The opt-out clause only applies to students with pre-existing coverage. But Chiasson says students who have no insurance, but still don't want to fork over the cash to join "should have voted no."

"I think most people realize this is a benefit," he said. "You always hear 'I'm broke, unemployed — but at least I've got my health.' By saying no to this health plan you'd be saying 'I don't care about my health — but at least I've got my ninety-six bucks.'"

Provincial deficit

continued from page 1

going to suffer."

Education minister Robbie Harrison says the government is committed to the \$23.8-million increase.

"We have made a long-term commitment to strengthen post-secondary education funding in Nova Scotia," he said.

"Major policy shifts are not warranted by the ups and downs of quarterly reports."

Harrison says the significance of a small deficit — which he blames on unforeseen factors like the poor dollar and an over-run in health — has been overblown.

"In a \$4.4-billion budget, a deficit in the twenties of millions is not cause for grave concern," he said.

"We will take steps to ride out these bumps in the road... but we have no intention of changing course."

Unapologetic author

continued from page 1

"I think it's a very good piece," he said. "He put it out there and now he'll learn from it and others will learn from it."

"That's why we have the freedom of the press."

But Tim Boudreau, editor-in-chief of *The Picaro*, says he feels it's necessary to apologize because of the number of people the article offended.

"I've learned that I have been a lot more careful," he said. "I honestly believe this is a case where something slipped through the cracks. If I had taken the time to look at it more carefully it would not have happened."

The Picaro received about

ten direct responses about the article, and while the majority were negative, Boudreau says he did receive a few positive responses.

But this may be the last time Brown is offered the chance to challenge the boundaries of acceptable journalism. Boudreau says in the future, he will have to pay more attention to Brown's work than anyone else's.

But Brown says he did not provoke as much debate as he hoped.

"I'm disgruntled because most people are just calling me names — from the second coming of Marc Lepine to my personal favourite: the anti-Christ."

Global tuition rates

BY FRANK SATUSKY
TORONTO (CUP) —

Canada is no longer one of the cheaper places in the world to attend university, despite the federal government's agreement 20 years ago to work towards eliminating tuition fees altogether.

Today, an undergraduate degree averages around \$3,200 nationally, up from \$1,438 in 1990.

Tuition fees have been steadily increasing in recent years even though in 1976, Canada signed a United Nations Covenant agreeing to begin eliminating tuition fees — a pledge many student leaders say has clearly been ignored.

According to the Canadian Federation of Students, Canada is one of a small number of countries that have raised tuition rates over the past few years.

Of the 29 member nations of the Organization for Economic Development, only 12 charge tuition fees, and the average cost of a university degree is only higher in the United States and Japan than in Canada.

Countries that do not charge any tuition fees for post-secondary

education include Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, and Norway.

And students in some of those countries have to pay only education-related costs such as materials and some administrative fees, the federation says.

In France, for instance, the total average fee students are required to pay amounts to \$150 (Cdn).

Until recently, the United Kingdom was one of the countries that could boast low tuition fees. However, the Labour government has recently passed legislation to charge students the equivalent of about \$1,500 (Cdn) annually for post-secondary education.

In the United States, the most expensive country in the world to attend university, undergraduate tuition averages around \$4,600 (Cdn) a year. The U.S. — much like Ontario today — doesn't regulate university fees, leading to a wide discrepancy in tuition fees among institutions.

The countries that do not charge tuition fees fund universities through other means, such as higher taxation.

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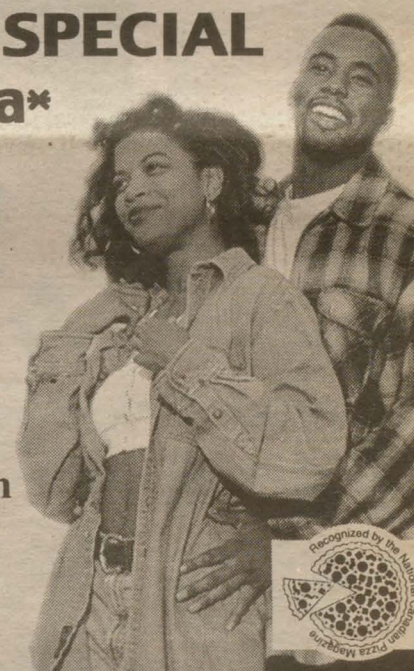
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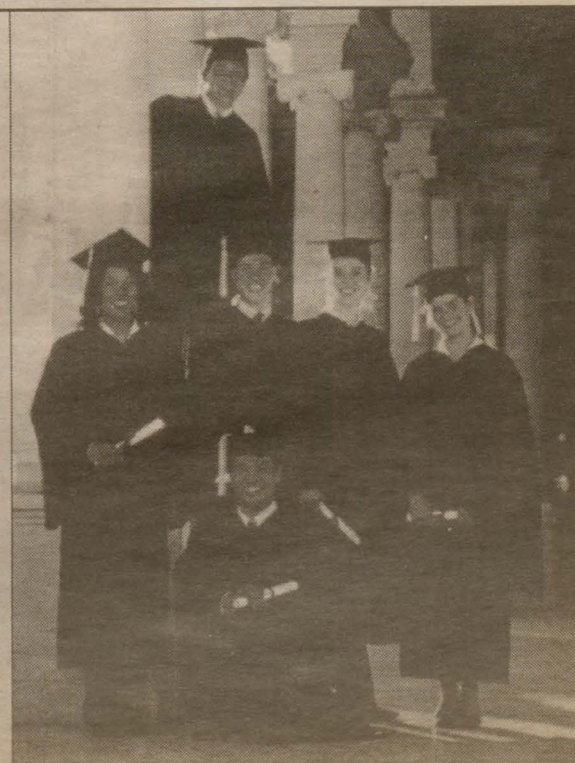
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MACLEAN'S Magazine News Release



Canada considers using weapons-grade nuclear material

BY DALE LUM

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Somewhere near the American border, under cover of night, a plain-looking semi trailer rumbles along a US interstate highway. Nearby in armoured vehicles, heavily-armed federal agents watch over the rig — weapons poised. High above, an American military satellite silently tracks the convoy as it makes its progress north.

At the border, the U.S. agents pass through customs and hand the shipment over to Canadians waiting on the other side.

The cargo? Eighteen metal cylinders, each about the size of a small fireplace log, filled with thumb-sized ceramic pellets of uranium and weapons-grade plutonium.

This scenario may sound like an X-Files episode, but it's really part of a plan being considered by Canada, the United States, and

Russia.

The recipient of the plutonium, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited — the Crown corporation that manages Canada's nuclear research and CANDU reactors — will transport the cargo to the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station in Ontario to be used as reactor fuel.

The fuel, known as mixed oxide, is a blend of uranium oxide and plutonium oxide extracted from decommissioned nuclear warheads.

CANDU nuclear reactors normally use uranium fuel rods in fission reactions that generate electricity. But the U.S. Department of Energy and Atomic Energy of Canada propose mixing a little plutonium into the fuel used by commercial nuclear reactors such as those in Ontario. That, they say, would help eradicate surplus supplies of weapons-grade plutonium in Russia and the United States.

In 1996, Canada announced that in the interest of getting rid of weapons plutonium left over from the Cold War, it would make Ontario Hydro's CANDU reactors available for mixed oxide.

Supporters of the plan say it would be a major step toward nuclear-disarmament.

"If we see surplus weapons-

grade plutonium being destroyed by making electricity, this is a significant development in the area of world peace," says Larry Shewchuk, corporate media relations manager with Atomic Energy of Canada.

"We're taking nuclear weapons off the face of the earth and we're not just

destroying them, we're making electricity out of the destruction of them," he says.

Canada isn't the only country considering the plan, Shewchuk says. The US and some European countries also think it's a good idea and have expressed interest in using weapons plutonium in their civilian reactors.

But he stresses that, at this point, the proposal to destroy American and Russian surplus plutonium at Ontario's CANDU reactor is just one of several potential scenarios.

"We're an option, nothing more at this point in time," he said of Canada's involvement.

Questions also remain about whether CANDU reactors are suited for burning mixed oxide. A test run with a research reactor in Chalk River, Ontario, is planned to determine its performance and the completeness of the plutonium destruction. But there are logistics

to be worked out first, including how to transport the fuel.

Shipping large amounts of plutonium, one of the most carcinogenic substances known, requires the use of specially designed vehicles. Although extremely toxic, it gives off relatively weak radiation, mostly in the form of alpha particles.

But despite the stated aim of nuclear disarmament, anti-nuclear activists suspect there are other intentions behind the proposed plan.

Gordon Edwards, a professor of mathematics at Montreal's Vanier College, is a vocal opponent of the fuel.

He says the Canadian government, unlike the U.S., hasn't conducted an environmental assessment of the plan or even consulted the public about it.

"It appears that the Canadian public is not going to be consulted in any way until everything is in place and so much financial investment and political commitment has been made that it is virtually unstoppable," says Edwards.

A founding member of the anti-nuclear group Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, Edwards says plutonium isn't nearly as benign as

Shewchuk suggests.

While he agrees that the ceramic pellets of the fuel would disperse very little plutonium in an accident, a successful test burn might lead to much greater quantities of plutonium travelling down Canadian highways.

"It's not just these individual shipments that we need to be concerned about, it's the question of what happens if this plan succeeds... then we are taking about something like one hundred tonnes of plutonium coming into Canada."

Despite the small risk of a radioactive release, Edwards says residents along the transportation routes should be concerned about large shipments of plutonium that might be passing through their communities.

"You can kill a tremendous amount of people with a very small amount of plutonium," he says.

One accident scenario, described in an environmental assessment by the U.S. Department of Energy as "extremely unlikely" but "credible," is a traffic accident causing a fire, a subsequent breakage of the fuel bundles and a release of tiny plutonium oxide particles into the atmosphere. Carried by winds, the plutonium could then disperse over a large area.

But Shewchuk says transporting mixed oxide along public highways is safe — and not uncommon.

He says Atomic Energy of Canada has been moving nukes around the country for over 30 years.

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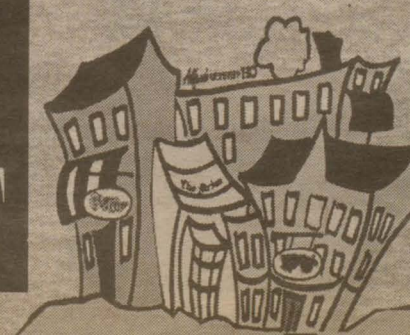
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SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

Your computer and the world beyond

A didactic guide to surfing the net

BY DARREN SPITZIG

Like it or not, the web is here, and since graphical browsers have appeared, the web has really blossomed.

A lot of people surfing the net are doing so for research. This is one of the weaknesses of the web because it is not easy to find pertinent, valuable research material as many would like.

A hint about doing research on the web — it is safer to stick to sites that belong to educational institutions or governmental organizations. If you are not well-versed in the subject you are looking for, you simply do not have the ammo to tell the difference between well-informed, valid research and a partisan, biased rant.

A danger of the web today is that people can be misled by completely reasonable-sounding arguments put up by sham artists. Take note of the number of UFO conspiracy sites out there, for instance.

A very positive effect of governments and institutions opening up on the web is that information is much more accessible to the average person. Material that had only been

accessible through archives or private groups is finding itself onto the internet. There are many examples to support this — a noteworthy one is the (slow) opening up of the FBI archives (<http://www.fbi.gov/foipa.htm>) to the public. While it will take some time, it will certainly make for some interesting reading.

Entertainment is certainly one of the most common reasons for surfing the web. However, it is not always easy to find interesting sites that you will want to come back to — news sites are the sites that people turn to most often. Entertainment is shifting from the idiot box to the monitor, in one form or another, be it games or surfing.

Where as the web used to be the domain of monitor-tanned computer nerds, it now has become more user-friendly. This is largely due to the graphical browser, which hit the computer world in the 1990s.

Since I can only list a small percentage of the sites I have visited and book-marked, I think it would be more valuable to help people find sites on their own. Two major search engines are Yahoo! (<http://www.yahoo.com>) and Altavista (<http://www.altavista.digital.com>). There are others (including meta-

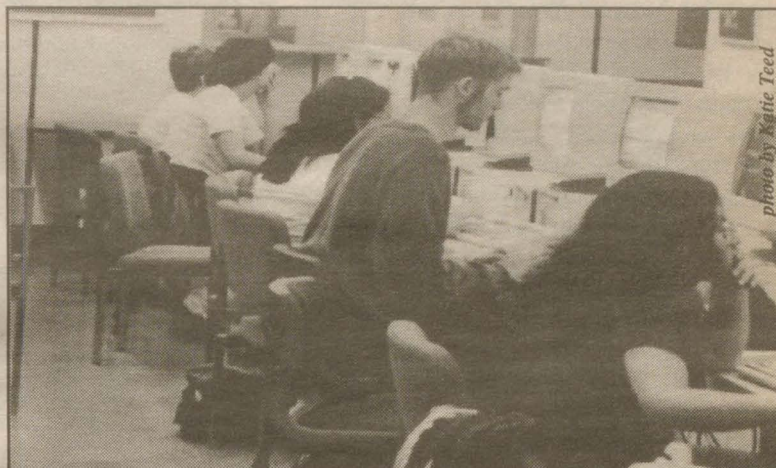
search engines that query other engines to find what you are looking for), but they number too many to list here.

A common error that people make when they perform a search is being either too specific or not specific enough. To make your search easier and faster, use the plus or minus signs. The plus sign in front of a word means that it will look for exactly that word. A minus sign does the opposite.

If you are interested in what other people are looking for, head on over to <http://www.meta-spy.com>. Meta spy shows you exactly what other surfers are looking for by listing it on your screen. Some of the far out searches are: www.sex.com, sex, the effects of alcohol on sunflowers, nude military men and many more, including some that are far too explicit to print. It is very interesting to "watch" other people search, and wonder who and where they are — and what their intentions are.

Now that you think about it, what are your motivations when surfing the web?

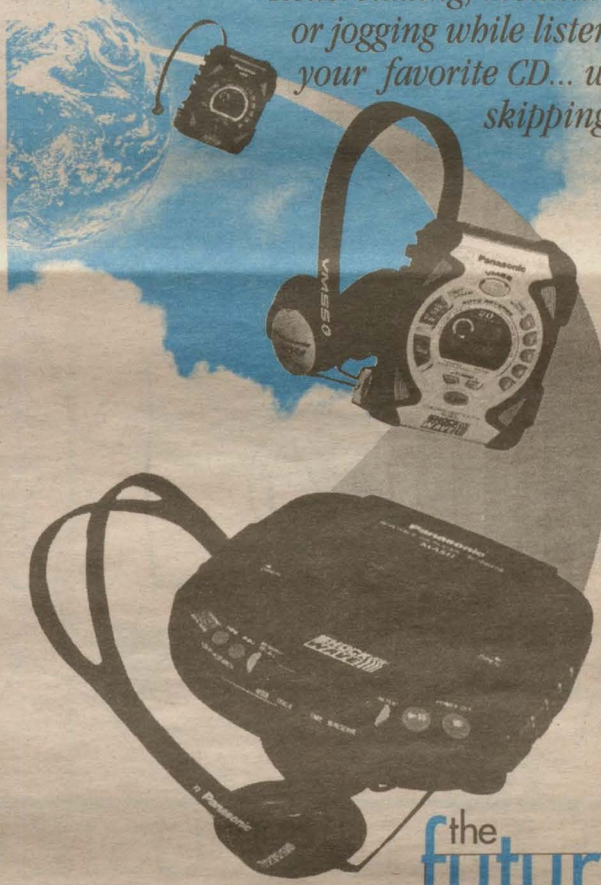
Darren Spitzig is a contributing writer with the Imprint in Waterloo, Ontario.



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Pepper sprayed vision

Are Dal students blind, or just plain lazy?

Last November students at the University of British Columbia protested the fact that then-Indonesian president Suharto and Chinese leader Jiang Zemin were allowed to walk on Canadian soil at the APEC conference. They were pepper sprayed, physically harassed, had their signs stolen and even had a Tibetan flag confiscated by RCMP officers. They were arrested and then released hours later without being charged — all for protesting the actions of brutal dictators by constitutional means.

Would students at Dalhousie ever put themselves in that position? Would we take the initiative? Would we risk bodily harm in protest of something or somebody that doesn't directly affect our immediate lives?

No.

Two distinct political climates exist in British Columbia and Nova Scotia. Whereas BC has a much more socialist background, Nova Scotia comes from a staunch British heritage. This heritage breeds a more conservative ideology which favours a lobby approach and evolutionary change as opposed to radical public protest. These two climates have influenced the reactions that students at Dal and UBC have to events of questionable morality. Dal is obviously a more conservative school.

But being conservative isn't that bad.

Conservatism implies a particular caution when faced with important issues. Although the process leading to public action is slower, what usually results are more thorough thoughts and decisions. Change just doesn't happen for its own sake, but rather because it would benefit society as a whole.

This methodical approach usually rules out activities designed to publicly embarrass or call into question the judgement of

with Dal. The administration felt that it was controversial enough to warrant a closed-door ceremony — but apparently not controversial enough for Dal or TUNS students to take a stand and show their discontent, if we had any at all.

The only real protest by Dal students in our years here occurred last March when approximately 500 students gathered on campus to show their anger about the forthcoming faculty strike.

But how effective was that protest? First, think about how long it actually took us to show our disapproval with the disgustingly slow contract talks between the faculty and the administration, and then think about the protest itself. It began as a good idea, but unfortunately the hot chocolate and hot dogs ran out, and it was a little cold, so we all quickly retreated to the cozy confines of our respective homes. The only thing we really protested was the cold weather and the obvious shortage of hot food.

The fact that we are all here implies that we are not lazy or ignorant, that at some point we had to express an interest in what was happening around us.

But we couldn't even endure the coldness of a late winter's afternoon, let alone pepper-sprayed eyes and the excessive force of brutish police officers.

**BRIANNE JOHNSTON
AND GREG McFARLANE**

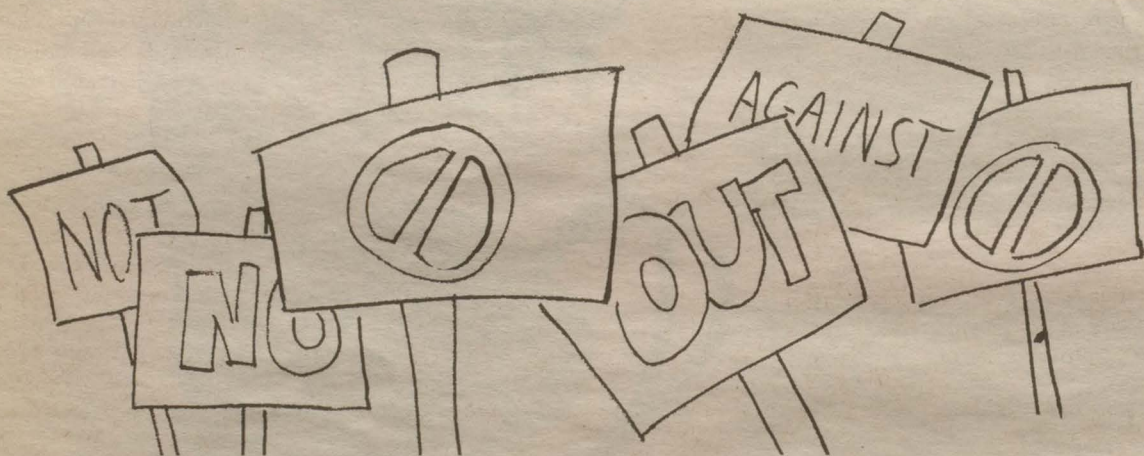
Editorial

governing officials. As a result, we are more liked in the community.

But are we liked because we're spineless? Are we liked because Dal's student population seems reluctant to take a moral stand on any pressing issue?

Our ambivalence towards important issues makes us look ignorant, lazy, apathetic and powerless in the eyes of the public. What's even worse is that it appears we're happy with that public image.

For example, in March of 1997, Suharto's Minister of Industry and Trade, Tunky Ariwibowo, was given an honorary degree by TUNS, which was about to become amalgamated



THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

editorial board Volume 131, no. 6

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contributors

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Student Union Building, Dalhousie University, 6136 University Ave, rm 312, Halifax, NS, B3H 4J2.
editorial tel. 902 494-2507, facsimile 902 494-8890, e-mail. GAZETTE@is2.dal.ca

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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 four 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

Letters

Biased reporting

To the editor,

It has recently come to my attention that certain individuals at Dalhousie consider themselves to be the touchstone against which all things are determined to be moral. First of all, in response to the controversial article contained within it, the last issue of *the Picaro* was confiscated from the Dal campus by "anonymous individuals". Second of all, the staff of the Gazette seem to believe that simply because they think something is true that it should be considered fact.

Unless there was some secret referendum that I do not know about, not all students at Dal were given the opportunity to read the controversial article contained in the last *Picaro*. I believe that these readers should realize that "anonymous individuals" have taken it upon themselves to decide for you what you should or should not read. Students at Dal should defend their right to read something and develop their own opinion by speaking out against this obvious example of censorship.

Next I would like to address the "news" story that ran in the last edition of the Gazette, "Mount paper retracts racist, sexist article". I would like to begin by saying that when you run something in the news section you are presenting it as fact, something that nobody could reasonably contradict. If something is a fact there is no grey area surrounding it. In stating that the article "Take Back the Bullshit" is, in fact, racist and sexist, the Gazette is asserting that the article is racist and sexist in its language, focus, and intent. This is not an uncontested claim, and is therefore not a fact, but an opinion of the Gazette staff, and therefore belongs in the opinions section.

The Gazette article in question was horribly one-sided, it did not represent the other side of the issue which believes that Stephen Brown's article is not completely sexist and racist. When I was interviewed for this story I stated that even though the language of "Take Back the Bullshit" can be considered racist or sexist, which I apologize for not seeing initially, the purpose of the piece was not to promote racist or sexist ideals. However, this quote of mine was not featured in the story. The claim that "Take Back the Bullshit" is

racist and sexist was allowed to stand uncontested.

With this deplorably biased and inaccurate "news" story the Gazette does not seem like a reliable reporter of the facts, but rather an irresponsible publication which is too eager to jump on the band wagon and willing to bend to social pressures from "anonymous individuals". The Gazette has failed to realize that there are different points of view out there, and the staff should take their heads out of their asses and look outside of their own little worlds.

**Tim Boudreau
Editor-in-Chief
The Picaro**

Note: The Gazette apologizes for deeming the article to be racist and sexist. It is not our place to make such claims in a news section. Also, the Gazette apologizes for stating that the Picaro retracted "Take Back the Bullshit". The Picaro has apologized for printing the piece, but the newspaper has not retracted it.

The bounds of common courtesy

To the editor,

In your news article, "Mount paper retracts racist, sexist article", you talk of how the Dalhousie Women's Centre complained of the distribution of Mount Saint Vincent's student paper, *the Picaro*, which contained an article entitled "Take Back the Bullshit". The article goes on to say that within the week that the paper was distributed, "all issues of *the Picaro* had been anonymously removed from the SUB lobby". The implication that can be read into this is that the Dalhousie Women's Centre is responsible for the paper's removal from the Dal SUB.

The Women's Centre did not remove all the copies of *the Picaro* from the SUB, nor did we encourage anyone else to do so. Your readers should know that while we were completely sickened by the article that appeared in that issue, we would never step beyond the bounds of common courtesy and respect and scoop up all the copies. Besides, what would we do with them? We didn't want them.

**Patricia Thomson
Director,
Dalhousie Women's Centre**

**Why would anyone
read a paper other
than the Gazette
Reggie?**

**Gosh, I can't
imagine why.
Wilbur, I can't
imagine why.**



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.

Dalhousie's 365 days of action

Hi there! My name is Kelly MacKenzie and I'm your VP Student Advocacy (Academic/External) of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU).

I feel that it is necessary to say a few things about the Canadian Federation of Students' (CFS) Week of Action. Now, I know what you're probably already thinking... the VP Student Advocacy is about to make a statement about how the DSU does not support the Week of Action and then go on to explain why CFS is wrong. Well, I'm here to do the opposite. The fact is that no one is wrong because it's what they believe in.

The CFS protest is on Friday afternoon. Will I be there? Nope, I have an exam at the time. Would I be there if I didn't have an exam? Nope, because the students at Dalhousie University had a referendum a couple of years ago to pull out of CFS activities. For the DSU to participate in CFS actions would be to go against a mandate placed upon them from their constituents.

For the past few years there has been an expectation that the CFS Nova Scotia component and the DSU would put each other up against one another come this time of year. Well, this year will be different. The DSU does not have any inclination nor does it wish to get into an argument over what type of actions get more dollars from the government. It's a waste of both parties' time and it puts students against students while taking our eye off the ball (lobbying government).

Now let's talk about CFS and why the DSU does not participate in their activities, besides the point of referendum. First of all, we have to ask ourselves the question, do we want to get involved with a group that believes that all corporations are evil? How many of our constituents will be employed by companies when they graduate? How many Dal students work for companies in the summer or for work terms to help support their way through university? This is not to say that the CFS is wrong in their view of corporations, but is just one of the things we as your elected leaders must think about when we

support such an organization.

Next let's ask ourselves, do we want to get involved with an organization that believes that private educational institutions should be prohibited? I'll be the first one to admit that private institutions are costly, inaccessible to many and should be offered through the public system — but our students should have the right to choose. How many of our constituents will go on to attend a school such as ITI? How many of our students are already enrolled? This is just another issue we must consider.

Does this mean that we should discourage those of our constituents that believe in all that CFS believes in from participating in their Day of Action? Of course not. We only hope that you may be fully informed of the issues before you jump on board. We have students on this campus that believe in some of the social causes that CFS does, and we have students that don't. We believe that we are representing our constituents in the best way possible.

Do we support an organization that continues to boycott the Red Cross because of its blood donor questionnaire, even after the fact that the Red Cross is out of the blood supply and now contributes all of its resources to international development and emergency support? These are some of the questions that we must ask ourselves.

Dalhousie is a large, diverse community, and that's one of the reasons I love it so much. However, when you are placed in such a diverse population you must come to respect others' differences. This is what we (the DSU) are trying our hardest to do. On Friday I hope that the schools and students involved with the Day of Action understand our situation. Please don't yell at us or tell us that we love the government, because we don't. Don't tell us that we're inactive, because we aren't. I hope that they realize that we are doing our best to ensure that all of our constituents get the responsible representation they deserve. I'd like to think that none of us would want to participate in activities that would offend or be detrimental to any of our fellow

community members.

Now comes the question: *what is your student union doing for you?*

First of all, would it be prudent of us to speak up for one day of protest during a time in which our provincial government is dealing with a major deficit without offering sound policy alternatives? It's easy to ask the government for money, but it's a lot harder to show them where they can come up with it. That's what we are trying to do. We are members of our Dalhousie community, but we are also members of our Nova Scotian community, and with that comes responsibilities. Do we simply tell the government that we need more

funding and then leave it up to them to decide where to cut? Cut health care? Cut new roads? Cut economic development?

The times we are in demand that we take a more proactive, rather than reactive, approach to lobbying. Asking, even demanding, doesn't cut it anymore. Your DSU is attempting labour-intensive research so that we can show the government where they can get the money that we have given them to run our society properly. Maybe the government can start in their own backyard. But one thing is for sure and that is that we have to start working together — all students, government and the community at large — so that we can start taking

responsibility for educating our community.

Finally, let's talk about the Day of Action. Is it wrong? Of course not! It's great to see that students want to get involved and are willing to speak up about what they believe in. *Bravo*. I wish CFS all the luck for Friday.

Can Dalhousie students become involved in their own Day of Action? I would love it! You can find us in room 222 of your Student Union Building. When is our Dalhousie Day of Action? 365 days a year.

KELLY MACKENZIE
vice-president Student Advocacy
Dalhousie Student Union

The Genius of the Simpsons

I would have known *the Simpsons* could explain our world and our future with eerie accuracy

On Sunday last, a repeat of *the Simpsons* (which I, a devoted fan, had missed last season) explored the age-old debate between science and religion. So there they are, science and religion duking it out — people destroying science — because there are “things we don't want the answers to” — although the court puts a restraining order on religion to keep back from science. But the thing was, while these old enemies focussed on the flaws of the other, capitalism came right up the middle and crushed and replaced both.

It was absolutely perfect — that capitalism would defeat these two entrenched beliefs is both accurate to the times, and prophetic of the future.

We have seen the emergence already of capitalism as religion. Case in point is the recent offer by the Nova Scotia government to

Sheraton Casinos to allow a 24-hour gambling room, offers of free drinks, and a \$100-a-pull slot machines, among others. It is tragic the casino culture of the United States has been purchased by Nova Scotia. Too many people get sucked in by gambling — everything from auto-lotto to get-rich-quick TV programs — because money will supposedly solve their problems, without changing them.

Money talks, but it also kills. Many people have gambling as an illness. Gambling is about money. Therefore, money is an illness? I won't draw that conclusion.

Capitalism as science? You betcha. Just look at economics or commerce or the science of business. The corporate world already supports research in and practice in genetic engineering of food products. Business, run by money — not ethics — drive research and science. Whether you believe science explores truth or not, you have to admit that

capitalism certainly doesn't.

I ask you what this will mean? Well, being in the media, I'll tell you.

It means people pray to capitalism and money as god/God. People live their lives guided by money's eternal truths and its divine laws. Besides, you can *buy* the Bible and every other religious text.

It means many students study science because that's where the money is, and research and medicine revolve around cost and cost-efficiency.

I ask what the solution is.

It isn't capitalism, and any church will tell you it isn't science, and science responds similarly. OK, revolt against capitalism, burn the scientific institutes and convert religious edifices into museums. And, install the one true science and religion and the capitalism that governs them — the media.

Welcome to the new revolution. It will be televised.

TRISTAN STEWART-ROBERTSON

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FOCUS

Tibetan self-determination and human rights

A Conversation with
Eva Herzer

BY AARON DHIR

Beginning in 1949, the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China unilaterally invaded and forcefully annexed the country of Tibet. In the almost 50 years that have followed, over 1.2 million Tibetans have been killed as a result of this invasion. The International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet (ICLT) was created in 1989 at the request of representatives of the Tibetan people, and is the only international organization devoted solely to legal advocacy for Tibet. Eva Herzer, President of the ICLT, spoke at both

Dalhousie's Law and Dentistry buildings on Oct. 1, 1998. The title of her address was "Tibetan Self-Determination: Will the Non-Violent Path Prevail?" The following is the first half of an interview that I conducted with Eva Herzer during her stay in Nova Scotia.

In 1987 the Dalai Lama proposed his "Five-Point Peace Plan" to China, in which he adamantly called for the withdrawal of Chinese troops from Tibet. When this was met with little response he issued the "Strasbourg Proposal" in 1988, which offered the concession that China would remain responsible for Tibetan foreign policy. Do you think that the Dalai Lama has been too lenient in the game of diplomacy?

I do not think so. I think he is a realist who assesses the conditions as they are. China has refused to negotiate with Tibet for a long period of time. When faced on the one hand with that limitation by the Chinese... and a loss of culture in Tibet at a rapid pace, then I think that his assessment that time is against the Tibetans, and that change must occur quickly, is a realistic one.

Those who say that his proposals are unacceptable, and that nothing short of independence is acceptable, have not come forward with a plan of action that appears realistic. It seems to me that by not entering into negotiations for something short of independence, Tibet is leaving



Eva Herzer discusses the Tibetan situation.

itself with the status quo — and the status quo is destructive.

The Dalai Lama has referred to the violent Chinese suppression of Tibetan Buddhism as a form of "cultural genocide". Is there any legal merit to such a claim with regards to the Genocide Convention?

"Cultural genocide" is not a term that is contained in the Genocide Convention. Also, cultural genocide is not a concept that has a precise legal definition. But nonetheless, I think it is a good term and that it expresses what is taking place in Tibet. The fact that

the policies in effect in Tibet are reducing the Tibetan population, preventing births of a group of people — of a distinct culture and religion — I think this does fall within the Genocide Convention, and at a minimum these acts of interference with the births of Tibetans are acts of genocide.

Is the specific intent requirement of the Convention present?

I think a very good argument can be made that it is. China, of course, will argue that it has similar policies that affect Chinese people, and that it is therefore ludicrous to

say that they intend to eradicate [Tibetans] through these policies because clearly they do not intend to destroy their own people. However, within China, there are "rational" reasons for why such policies are appropriate. China has limited space and has the largest population in the world, which has gotten out of control. So that China would intend to reduce its population for the welfare of the whole society is a plausible argument, even though the manner in which it is conducted is clearly in violation of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

With Tibet, there is really no legitimate reason for these policies. Tibetans are a very small group. They number six million people.

continued on page 9

**THE
ATTIC**

**THURSDAY, OCT. 15
INLAND**

**FRIDAY, OCT. 16
P.F. STATION**

**SATURDAY, OCT. 17
SNAPDRAGONS
W/ COPING & KID TWIST**

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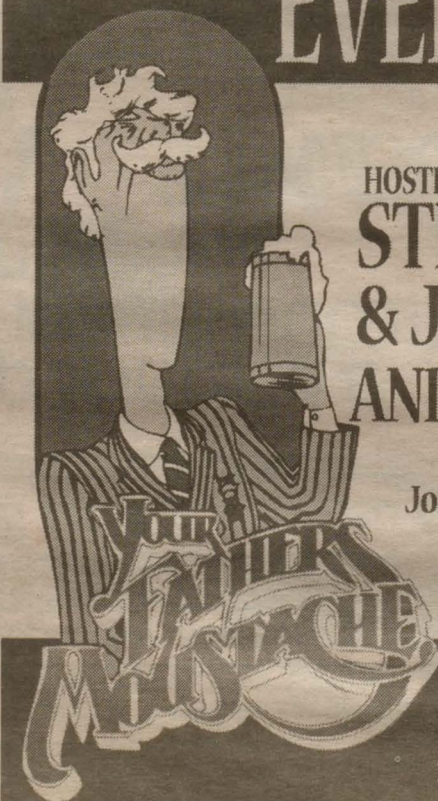
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Prof wants overhaul of Canadian sexual assault laws

Legal system biased, offers very little justice for women and child victims, report says

BY MATTHEW KAYAHARA

OTTAWA (CUP) — A Carleton University professor wants to reform the way Canadian courts handle sexual assault cases after concluding they don't serve justice to female and child victims.

Carleton Psychology Prof. Edward Renner says his findings from a six-year research project confirm what women's groups have been saying for years: Canada's criminal justice system doesn't take male violence against women and children seriously.

"We got a sense of moral indignation from what we saw in the courts," says Renner.

Along with his associates, Renner searched for patterns in sexual assault cases that had been through the courts, including the sentences handed out to convicted offenders.

"Sentencing is one way to find objective criteria for what the court sees as serious."

His findings were unsettling. "We found that a 'harsh' sentence of two years or more will be given to 13 per cent of those convicted of sexually assaulting a child [and] to 30 per cent of those who sexually assault a woman," said a report by Renner published in the journal *Canadian Psychology*.

The report, co-written by Renner's assistants Christine Alksnis and Laura Park, said the courts are often more lenient in cases where there's a relationship between the victim and offender, where there is no visible harm and where the offender has no criminal record or no weapon was used in the assault.

But these factors shouldn't

affect sentencing, Renner says — especially since there is usually a social relationship between the victim and aggressor.

"Seldom is there physical harm because most women and children choose to comply with the demands of the offender rather than risk harm as well," he adds.

The system is also selective in terms of which cases get prosecuted and which are discarded, and produces few guilty verdicts and heavy sentences, he says.

Renner's team also analyzed court transcripts, dividing them into snapshots that could be classified into 24 categories in a predictable way. "You tell me what happened in the case, and I'll tell you what will happen in the courtroom, because it's just a script waiting to be played out," the professor says.

He also points to the use of legal

arguments that rely on stereotypes and myths about sexual assault as one example of how the legal system discounts male violence against women.

Courtroom scenarios involving children were often the most troubling. Transcripts showed that child victims are often pressured into testifying and were asked tough questions on the stand.

Kids are often asked the same kinds of questions as adult witnesses, including those about concepts like clothing and resistance — which Renner says indirectly hold children responsible for sexuality. In fact, it's the responsibility of adults to avoid all sexual contact with children, an information sheet on Renner's research states.

Lawyers may also ask child witnesses sophisticated questions they often can't answer, causing their testimony to be discredited.

Elizabeth Sheehy, a University of Ottawa law professor, says Renner's conclusions are fairly accurate.

"[Renner's report] doesn't say that there are particular problems with the laws, but how those laws are implemented says a lot about the

legal system," says Sheehy.

Not only does the legal handling of sexual assault cases fail to serve justice, Renner says, but they may also cause harm.

"As long as the court continues to issue a blank cheque for male sexual violence, we'll have [an ongoing problem]."

He and his associates are proposing a three-part plan to work toward law reform.

First, he wants local groups to act as court watchers for cases that fail women and children.

They also want Crown attorneys to object when defense attorneys re-victimize children on the witness stand by badgering them or asking inappropriate questions. The group is also trying to convince the minister of justice to review Canada's sexual assault laws.

Finally, Renner and his associates want to ensure women who press charges aren't re-victimized by the justice system.

All that may sound like a tall order, but Renner is confident law reform can be achieved.

"The kind of change required is one that the court can implement immediately," he says.

Tibet's struggle for freedom

continued from page 8

They have a very large country — the size of Western Europe. They have very low density — their population density is one-hundredth that of China's. They have lost a substantial part of their population through the conflict with China — approximately one-fourth of the population has died in the last 40 to 50 years. There appears to be no legitimate reason for the prevention of [Tibetan] births. These policies appear to be geared toward eliminating Tibetans as a group.

Since the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, China has been successful in avoiding censure at the United Nations. Now the Chinese government, in addition to releasing dissident Wei Jingsheng, has agreed to sign both the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, and the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Will there be a noticeable improvement in the situation of Tibetan human rights if China goes through with these plans?

I have very little confidence that there will be any noticeable difference because China has been very quick to ratify many treaties — the Race Convention, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Torture Convention, the Women's Convention, and a number of other significant conventions. But despite this, China has so blatantly disregarded the treaties it has entered into by continuing to practice racial discrimination, continuing to practice torture, continuing to



violate the rights of women. So it is very hard for me to have much optimism that signing two more treaties will bring about any change. If there were some semblance of compliance with the treaties that have been ratified, then I would be excited about these treaties being signed since they are wider in scope

and provide broader [protective measures] than the treaties that have previously been signed. But in light of the callous disregard of the requirements and standards of conduct set forth in the treaties that have been ratified, I am somewhat pessimistic that signing these treaties will make a difference.

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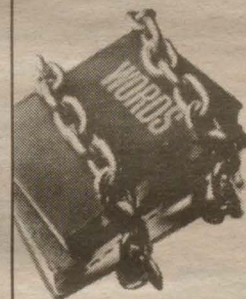
Read the Gazette for information regarding judges and prizes.

Three selected entries will be printed in the January 28th edition of the Gazette.

For information call 494-2507 or drop by the Gazette, room 312, SUB.

Guidelines:

- up to 2500 words
- any style of prose permitted (THE GAZETTE reserves the right to refuse offensive, racist, sexist, homophobic, hateful or other unsuitable materials at its sole discretion.)
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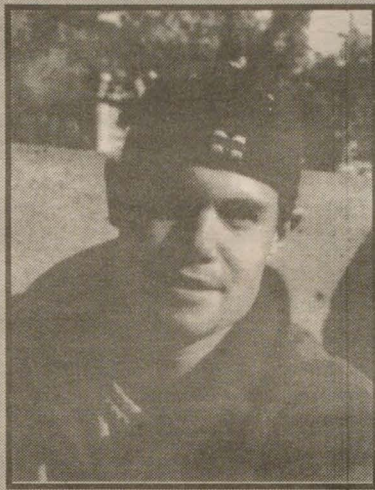
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Interviews by Patrick Blackie, Photos by Greg McFarlane.

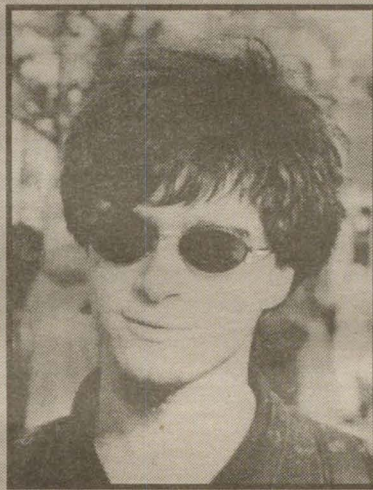
Would you attend a protest if former Indonesian president Suharto came to Dalhousie?



"No. It doesn't really affect my life... what another nation's president does, so I probably wouldn't go."
Nazlin Abdulla, Kenya, 1st-year Commerce.



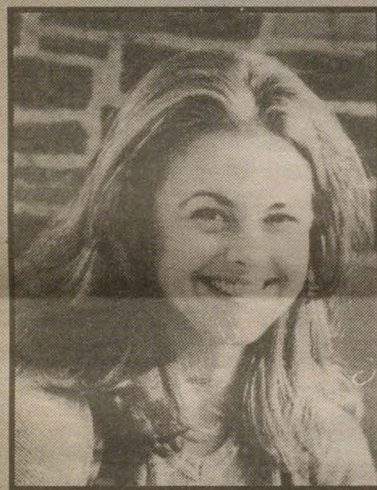
"I'd probably be too busy to attend."
Jim Bickford, Ottawa ON, 4th-year Political Science.



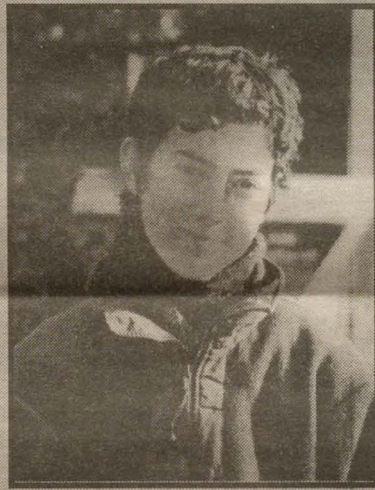
"I don't know... probably. I guess I would. With regards to what Chretien and the RCMP did last time, that wouldn't stop me."
Jonathan Freedman, Halifax NS, future Dal student.



"I believe that anyone that denies basic human rights should be protested against... even if it meant skipping classes."
Shalom Aloni, Blanford NS, 2nd-year Math/Physics.



"I think... I don't know, I guess I'd want more information about it. I would also want to go out and be supportive. I probably would."
Leah Lewis, Ontario, 2nd-year Marine Biology.



"Yes, to demonstrate that we disagree with his treatment of his people."
Susan Cook, Prince Rupert BC, 1st-year BSc.



"If I went, I would want to go for the right reasons, so I'd find out a bit more about it."
Dave McInnon, Calgary AB, King's FYP.

"I really don't know. I don't know anything about it."
Andrew Rhodes, Montreal PQ, King's FYP.



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ARTS & CULTURE

Dressing the wounds: four Orphans take the stage

BY DAISY KIDSTON

French-Canadian playwright Michel Marc Bouchard's play *The Orphan Muses*, brought to the stage by Eastern Front Theatre, is a treat for those who enjoy character analysis, the unearthing of painful family pasts and men dressing up in women's clothing.

Set in the Lac St. Jean region of northern Quebec in 1965 during the Quiet Revolution, a conservative Catholic farming community forms the stark setting for the reunion of four siblings.

The four become reunited at the family's farmhouse and this reunion forces them to face the memories of a mother who deserted them 20 years earlier — an action which has clearly warped their lives.

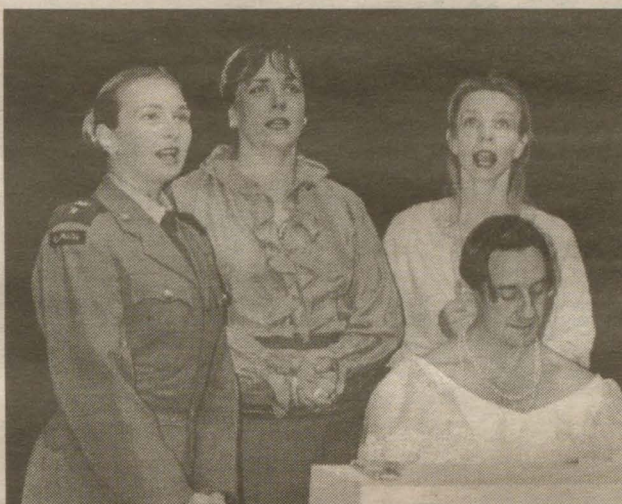
There is Luc, a flamboyantly artistic young man who lives in Montreal and has spent his life being obsessed with the thought of his mother — so much so that he wears the dresses she left behind. Martine, his lesbian sister, is a strong and steady-headed woman who left home to become a captain in the armed forces. Isabelle, the youngest sister, stays at the farmhouse with the oldest sister, Catherine, who acts as Isabelle's guardian.

Although Isabelle is 27 years old, she has the mentality of a child. She is the play's central character and her actions reveal a clever adult lurking behind her apparent simplicity. Catherine is the conformist of the siblings — bitter and constantly anxious about the town's opinions of their family.

Understandably, when these four get together the viewer becomes enmeshed in a psychological web of personalities and personality conflicts, all of which pivot around their abandonment as children. Clearly they have been scarred, and it is both interesting and touching to witness the exploration of their wounds.

My only problem with this otherwise successful production is that I feel the comments Bouchard likely makes about Québécois culture during the "Revolution Tranquille" of the 1960s may easily slip by the audience, particularly those who are unacquainted with the history of Quebec.

The Catholic church is an unseen-yet-central force in this



Eastern Front's singing siblings reunion; Bouchard's *The Orphan Muses* at the Dunn.

But the setting and time period, although central to the story, are not well established in the play and can be easily ignored by the audience. This lack of an established setting detracts both from Bouchard's insights into

French culture and the experiences of the characters. However, it is difficult to pay close attention to the setting when you have four richly portrayed characters occupying your attention.

The Orphan Muses, an Eastern Front Theatre production, runs until Oct. 18 at the Sir James Dunn Theatre in the Dalhousie Arts Centre. For tickets call 494-3820.

Literary Horizons

Canadian authors read from their new novels

BY CONAL DONOVAN

Last Wednesday night at the Neptune Theatre, André Alexis and Shyam Selvadurai, two of Canada's brightest new stars in the literary world, read from their latest works, *Childhood* and *Cinnamon Gardens*.

André Alexis' *Childhood* is a story of love, loss, and family. It is a novel about missing one's heart's desire, and about relationships both good and bad. In a soft, deep voice, Alexis read a passage about a man's recollection of his grandmother's death. It was told from a unique perspective — the view of a very young boy who didn't really understand what death was.

After the reading, I asked Mr. Alexis how much of the novel was based on his own childhood experiences. He stopped me mid-sentence.

"None!" he jokingly shouted. He explained the story was entirely

fictional, and described the novel as a "long meditation on death". He says the idea behind his novel is that childhood is merely a stage in life meant for "preparing for the separation from one's parents."

Prize-winning author Shyam Selvadurai's passage from his second novel, *Cinnamon Gardens*, was also associated with the idea of family. His novel, set in 1920s Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), explores a world of pre-arranged marriages, forbidden loves, and complex secrets.

At the beginning of the passage he read, "I see the sea of love, but not the raft on which to cross it." The novel reflects upon a society that doesn't always allow its

individuals to follow their desires.

Although I have seemingly described both of these readings as dark and morose, they were anything but that. It was a wonderful, relaxed atmosphere full of intrigue, and the readings were beautifully done.

Readings by authors take place almost every week here in Halifax.

This fall, Frog Hollow Books plans to have readings from the world famous, best-selling mystery author Anne Perry, as well as award winning authors David Adams Richards and Wayne Johnston. It's a great, and educational, way to spend your free time — without spending a lot of cash.



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FLIGHT SCHEDULE - HALIFAX DEPARTURES

OCTOBER 1998

TO	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
VANCOUVER	18:45	16:10	18:45	13:55	10:35 ⁶	—	—
EDMONTON	—	16:10	—	—	10:35	—	—
CALGARY	18:45	—	18:45	13:55	—	—	—
TORONTO	15:35	14:35	11:45 ⁸	12:40 ⁴ 15:40 ⁶	10:20 ¹¹ 11:30 ⁴ 12:30 ² 23:35 ⁶	10:35 ⁶	—
ST. JOHN'S	—	19:55	—	18:35	—	—	—

⁶Begins October 12 ⁴Ends October 11 ⁸Ends October 25 ¹¹Week of October 5 only ²Week of October 26 only

AIRPORT STANDBY FARES: Are subject to available seats prior to departure. Passengers may register 2 1/2 hours prior to the scheduled departure of flight. Fares are subject to change without notice. Travel on any specific flight is not guaranteed. Payment (Cash or Credit Card only) must be made on departure. One way travel only. Schedule subject to change without notice.

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REVIEWS



+ SPEWS

First Love, Last Rites Shudder To Think

Epic/Sony

I had never heard of Shudder To Think before I picked up this CD, but obviously they've got pull. On *First Love, Last Rites* (the soundtrack from the film of the same name), the band has secured guest appearances from the likes of

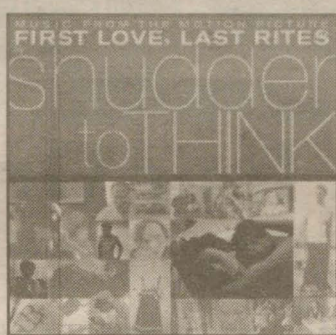
Liz Phair, Billy Corgan, the since-deceased Jeff Buckley and rock n' roll dinosaur Robin Zander (whom I assumed was dead before I saw his band, Cheap Trick, open for Pearl Jam this summer).

The music on the disc, for the most part, should accompany rainy days and gazing out the window on dour grey afternoons. There is a melancholic tone to most tracks, but it doesn't seem to be sadness for the purposes of depression — instead it is comfortable and calm, relaxing and easy. "Speed of Love", featuring John Doe, is a perfect example — the man makes you happy to be down.

Liz Phair's "Erecting a Movie Star" captures her at her poppy best, while Zander is able to escape the power chords of Cheap Trick on "Automatic Soup". He still manages to hook you in, though — which is even more remarkable considering his voice is the only instrument Shudder To Think (STT) lets him use. And STT's own roots-

ish "Lonesome Dove" shows that they're not just about propping up established stars — they've got talent, too.

But Buckley's rendition of "I Want Someone Badly" is the



record's highlight. STT seems to have made a point to work only with people with strong vocal talent (alright, not Corgan — but he sells records, so we'll excuse the band there), but the power and versatility of Buckley's voice floats him head-and-shoulders over everybody else. STT vocalist Nathan Larson takes

a stab at the same song later in the disc. He's good, but he goes for the same style Buckley used, and sounds inferior — like watching a high school talent competition between a trained vocalist and a bunch of kids who sing exceptionally well along with the radio.

But on *First Love, Last Rites* the kids are alright too.

GREG MCFARLANE Think Tank

Henry Rollins

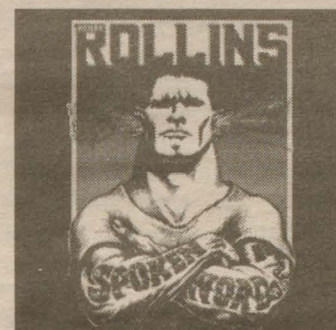
Dreamworks Records

This is yet another piece of art put out by Henry Rollins. Most people know him from the Rollins Band or from his earlier punk days with Black Flag, but little do people realize that he writes books and gives spoken word concerts. This is what *Think Tank* is, and it's a lot like stand up comedy — but with a violent and poetic twist.

Rollins goes from the things that piss him off at the airport to

how he kicked his own ass in Brazil right to his meeting with a seventeen year old battling leukaemia. A definite broad spectrum of images are made, with Rollins' words and energy as the paint and painter.

Think Tank is a double album and the two discs differ greatly in tone. The first is very comical, with all of his views on everyday shit that happens to him. He even gets into "The Gay Thing", a rant in which he states that he doesn't understand



homophobia and figures both homosexual and straight guys should be "high-fiving" each other in bars.

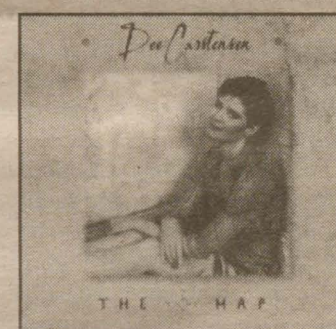
The second disc contains more stories about being on the road and things that relate directly to his band, like how his throat was classic for a person who smoked, drank, did drugs and screamed all day. In actuality, all he does is scream.

All in all this is a great compilation and yet another peek into the distorted mind that is Rollins.

DAVE MACDONALD

The Map

Dee Carstensen
Universal Studios Canada



Dee Carstensen's newest release proves to be an intriguing mix of styles, but it is not the stellar collection of folk that was anticipated.

Known mostly for talents on the harp, Dee Carstensen has been taking folk music festivals by storm over the past few years. However, *The Map* is somewhat unreflective of her past efforts, for it is littered, oddly enough, with pop-style tunes.

Now, I don't meant to cry "sellout" because that would be an unnecessary exaggeration. It is a positive thing when artists experiment with other styles to broaden their range of possibilities. Yet, some of these songs sound as if they were constructed solely from the rigid blueprints of "light rock hit" radio airplay, rather than having been written with passion or inspiration. It could be that Carstensen wants some recognition in the cold, plastic world of mainstream media.

Nevertheless, there are a few beautiful songs from the Dee we know and love that send the listener scrambling for the repeat button on the CD player.

Overall, *The Map* was a little bit disappointing, but the more original tracks still exemplify ingenious songwriting.

JANET FRENCH

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DR. JIM BEAM

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250 ml	(8 oz.)	Cherry Cola
		Cherry

Combine ingredients in a tall glass with ice. Garnish with cherry.

BEAM BENDER

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15 ml	(1/2 oz.)	Gonzales Tequila
15 ml	(1/2 oz.)	Melon Liqueur
15 ml	(1/2 oz.)	Melon Balls

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SPORTS

Baseball Tigers seek third fall Classic title

BY CARMEN TAM

One of the best kept secrets around is that there are university baseball teams doing battle for the right to represent the Atlantic Conference at the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association championships. This year, the championships will be held at Memorial Park in Kentville from Oct. 23 to 25, and Dal is once again a favourite contender.

The Dal baseball club are the defending champions for the third consecutive season, and with a 13-1 drubbing of St. Mary's last Sunday, they have only been sharpening their claws on the opposition.

But Tigers coach Cecil Wright is cautiously optimistic.

"We have an excellent nucleus to our ball club," Wright said. "Traditionally, we've been a hard hitting team with strong pitching

and defence. This squad continued the pattern, but we need to keep our focus and intensity for seven innings. There are some very good teams in the conference, so we don't look past anyone."

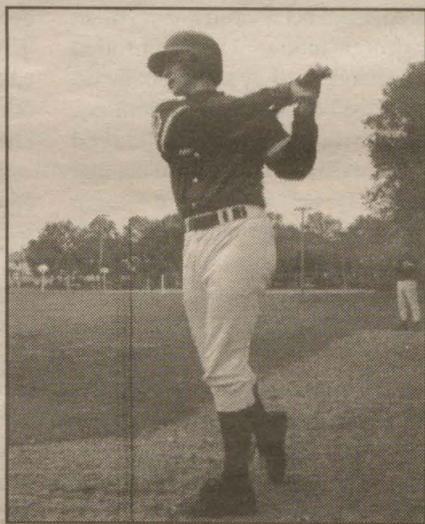
Wright stressed the importance of having reliable veterans, something Dalhousie is in no danger of lacking.

"We have some veterans back who I rely on to keep things loose and enjoyable. Players like Brian Clarke, Curtis Falls, and pitchers Jeremy Drumm and Eric Hemphill have been with us a few years and have valuable experience at previous national tournaments."

But this team also has a few pleasant surprises to compliment the crop of veterans.

"Catcher Mike Swim has really opened a lot of eyes with his bat this year and Trevor Butler has

played well everywhere we've inserted him. But it's the rookie players that I take special delight



in bringing along, and we have some outstanding ones this year," says Wright.

"Pitcher Mike MacInnis,

Adam Sarginson, outfielders Clinton Thomas and Chris Ward and infielders Jeff Locke, Marc Grenier and Brad Hefford have all made significant and timely contributions already this year."

But Wright asserted that, despite their dominance, the Tigers won't take any teams for granted.

"Not as long as I'm around," says Wright.

"SMU is a dangerous team. They have some great players over

there. UNB has already shown that they can hit as well as anyone in the league. Acadia is their usual never-say-die selves and we haven't seen UCCB yet."

Dal is a serious contender for representing the Atlantic conference at the Nationals in Kentville, but the competition is fierce. Coach Wright is confident, but stresses work ethic.

"We'll only get there if we take it one day at a time."

Atlantic Baseball Division Playoffs Weir Field — Sackville Thursday, Oct. 15

Dal vs Acadia @ 7:30pm

Saturday, Oct. 17

Dal vs UCCB @ 10:00am

Dal vs SMU @ 7:00pm

Sunday, Oct. 18

Dal vs UNB @ 10:00am

Championship Game @ 2:30pm

Dalhousie Athletics Upcoming Events

Men's soccer

Friday, Oct. 16 Dal vs SMU 6pm @ Wickwire Field

Saturday, Oct. 17 Dal vs ACA 3pm @ Wickwire Field

Women's Soccer

Friday, Oct. 16 Dal vs SMU 4pm @ Wickwire Field

Saturday, Oct. 17 Dal vs Acadia 1pm @ Wickwire Field

Men's Hockey

Saturday, Oct. 17 Dal vs Acadia 7pm @ Memorial Arena

Overcoming the fear

Running with the bulls in Cape Breton's Meat Cove

BY KELLY BALLAS

Recalling how I spent Thanksgiving weekend in 1997 still sends shudders through my soul.

I find myself shivering regardless of where I am and flashbacks of hiking in Meat Cove, Cape Breton run rampantly through my mind. Yet Saturday morning I found myself once again headed up the Cabot Trail to Cape Breton's northeast tip. My psychiatrist had suggested the trip to overcome my fears and end the nightmares. Fortunately I had enticed eight other members of the Dalhousie Outdoors Club to join me, so I was not alone on this journey.

Spirits were unusually high on the trip up. I believe this had to do with the fact that aside from one other person (who was returning to Meat Cove for the same reason as I — we have the same shrink) no one had been to northern Cape Breton before. They were expecting to see sharp, jagged coastlines combined with the serenity conveyed by the fall colours as the sun illuminated off the Atlantic Ocean.

Meanwhile visions of hurricane winds and hail the size of marbles was all I could muster. Not wanting to frighten the others, I joined in their laughter and allowed myself to become disillusioned once again.

It became easier to fool myself as the morning continued. The music of Ani DiFranco and the Indigo Girls helped ease my tension and the sighting of Pilot whales just outside of Cheticamp had me

convinced that this time the gods were on my side. However, upon our arrival I began to slip back into my paranoia.

The entrance to Meat Cove paralleled my recession. What began as a paved road turned into gravel into clay into a trail. As the quality of the road decreased my palms became clammy and sweat beads were forming on my forehead. I began to question the advice of my psychiatrist and debated turning the car 180 degrees and high-tailing back to Halifax.

advance to prepare for the opening of moose season; fit-full sleep as the four wheelers roared by during the night and the apprehension of being mistaken for a moose made for a long last night. Would history repeat itself?

We loaded up our gear and headed out on the trail. I couldn't help but notice the backward glances and the fear in everyone's eyes, but we continued with a brave front. Thirty minutes later we entered the field and set up camp. It was comforting to see that not much had changed from last year



Like last week, a new group of campers discover there is absolutely nothing to do in the wilderness.

Everyone else seemed quite excited about our near-arrival so I continued besides my better judgement.

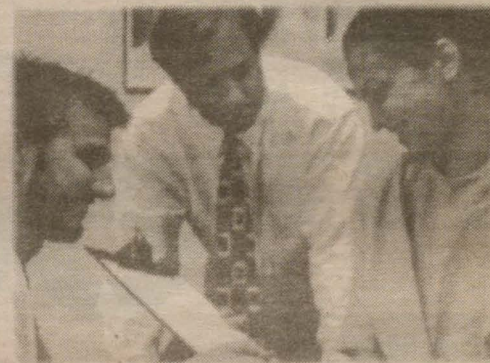
We were greeted at Meat Cove by two men in bright orange reflective gear with camouflage ATVs. They were sporting rifles. Silence filled the car as I once again fell back into Thanksgiving '97. Hunters gathered for days in

except for the addition of two moose skulls, one which still had the antlers attached. I believed this to be a good omen and for the first time began to think my shrink may have been right.

Morning came quickly and I awoke to the sweet smell of campfire smoke and fresh pancakes. Upon opening the tent

continued on page 14

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Deadline for applications is 5 p.m. November 30, 1998.

Running with the bulls

continued from page 13

door I was greeted with grey sky but no threat of rain. Already we were a step up from the previous year. Anxious to begin our hike, we scarfed down breakfast, packed our rain gear (just in case), snacks and first aid kits and we were on our way.

Less than thirty minutes into the hike our adventure began. I came around a corner to be shushed and halted.

I couldn't see what had caused this sudden delay in our travels but as I neared the group a hint of brown hair glimmered through the trees. My heartbeat began to quicken as I anticipated my first confrontation with an actual moose. Once again Meat Cove would surprise me.

As I peered over the heads of the other hikers I couldn't believe my eyes. Standing in the trail was one of the strangest creatures I had ever seen. With its long brown fur hanging off its face like a goatee and long thin horns protruding towards the ground, I was amazed. The creature resembled a cross between a yak, an ox and a bull — it could only be found in Meat Cove.

I'm not sure what we would have done it if it hadn't been for Esther and her rural Alberta upbringing. Chances are we would have turned around and headed back to camp. Instead we followed meekly behind the women of the cows as she "shooed" the beast

down the trail. However, the brute decided to reap his revenge on us as he lifted his tail and let loose before venturing back into the woods. Holding our breath and watching our step, we continued on our way.

Without warning we broke free of our wooded recluse and were greeted by one of the most beautiful coastlines I have ever seen. What a difference from the previous year! I stood in awe as I watched the clouds start to break and the sun peek through as if welcoming us to this site of splendour. Suddenly a whale was spotted off the coast by Julie, the marine biologist to-be of the trip. Everyone grabbed a piece of grass or rock and sat to surrender to the wonder of our surroundings.

No one spoke much during the hour we spent sitting on the coast. As I played a game of peek-a-boo with a friendly seal I could feel the healing begin. Perhaps one could enter Meat Cove and return with a heightened awareness of the beauty of Cape Breton — instead of scars and demons.

Before I had an opportunity to actually contemplate the thought, clouds began to move in, and we decided to continue on our way. With a sigh I waved goodbye to the seal and followed the group once more.

The remainder of the trek along the coast was breathtaking but uneventful. As we turned back towards the woods I felt my old apprehension returning. We were

slowly approaching the "House that Stephen King built", a discovery we stumbled upon the previous year. Would the hatchet still be hanging on the wall? Were the cow skulls still marking the turn leading to the house? My stomach became noxious and I found myself shaking involuntarily.

As we came across the house I was once again surprised, not to mention relieved. Much work had been done since the previous year. Paintings now hung where the hatchet had been while plants filled the front windows. I was comforted and encouraged by this sight as we began the last stretch of our journey.

Aside from being delayed momentarily by a confused bat that kept flying back and forth chaotically along the trail, the last leg ran smoothly. We had the opportunity to converse with one of the locals who was out gathering firewood.

Grandpappy Joe was more than happy to offer us a ride to camp in the back of his blue pick up truck. He thought us crazy when we politely refused and shook his head as we continued on our way. To this man it seemed an odd thing we would want to walk when we could drive — but wasn't that our reason for being there?

Our last night at camp was relaxed and memorable. The nine of us sat around the fire eating

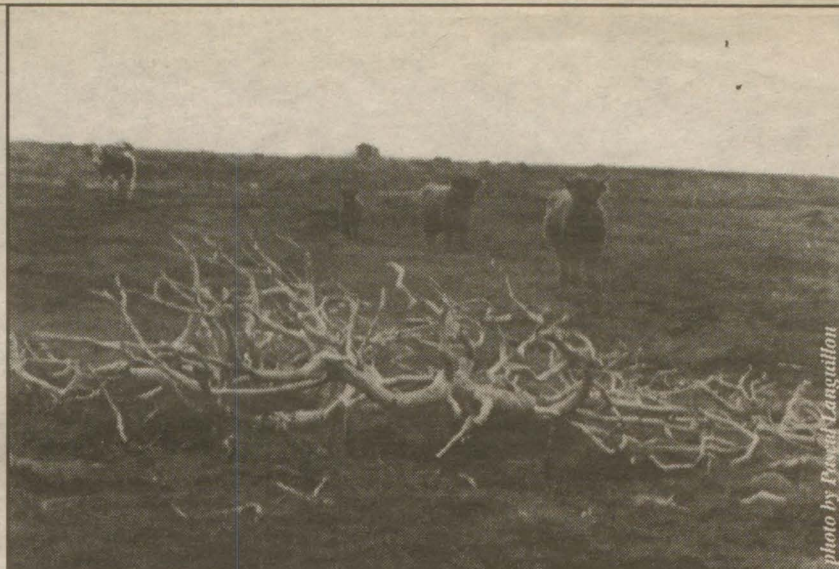


photo by David Langdon

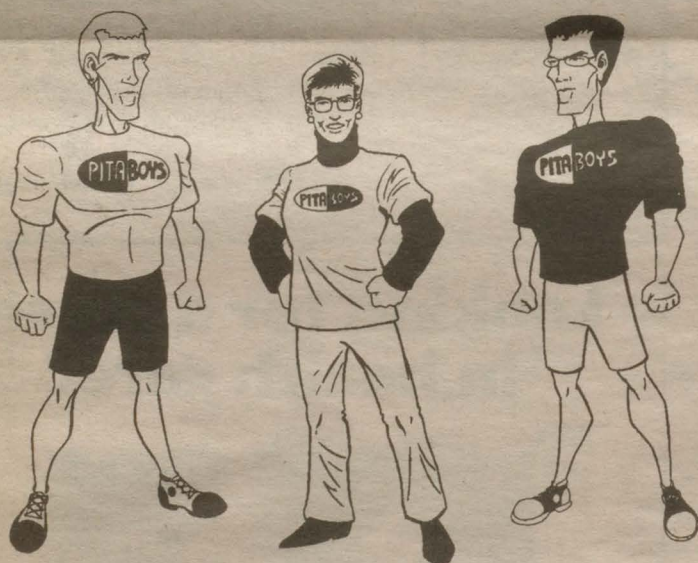
Wolly mammoth-type creatures scare the hell out of our humble camper.

grilled cheese and chili while drinking a communal bottle of chilled red wine. Comradie was born as we believed ourselves to be blessed. The rain had stayed away, as had the wind and the hail. The colours had been vibrant and the scenery heavenly. Everyone retired early but not before numerous rounds of "Categories" and "Concentration-Concentration now begins" were played. The game plan was to get out by dawn and avoid the hunters at all costs.

I woke up once during the night, quivering and whimpering like a baby from the cold and rain, as the roar of ATVs echoed through my mind. Suddenly I realized it was all a dream. I was dry, warm and the night was silent. Cuddling back into my bag I felt I had finally overcome my fear and could appreciate Meat Cove for what it was.

We arose at sunrise, packed up camp in record time and made a beeline for the cars. There was no time for breakfast as we were still fearful of the hunters. It was decided that Baddeck would be our first stop. The waitress at the Yellow Cello restaurant did not seem overjoyed when nine smelly, dirty people entered her restaurant, but we must have looked pathetic enough as she did not refuse us service. We filled our bellies in a cozy, bright yellow atmosphere and then contentedly loaded into the two cars to head home to Halifax.

My shrink is now confident that I have overcome my fear of Meat Cove, but she worries about the nightmares where the Yak is chasing me down narrow hallways. I, on the other hand, know I can face that fear and overcome it. Without Meat Cove haunting my dreams, anything seems possible.



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October 8 - October 16, 1998

Thursday, October 15

Opening of 2 exhibitions -

Jim Logan's *Love Affair: The Book Of Joan*, and Nancy Edell's *Bicabra* will begin in the Dalhousie Art Gallery at 8pm. No admission fee will be charged. Call 494-2403 for more information.

Dan McKinnon will appear at the Killam Library, Dalhousie University, to sing his songs and talk about the stories which inspired them. The show starts at 7:30pm. Call Tina Usmiani at 494-3615 for more information.

Friday, October 16

Dalhousie Christian

Fellowship, Power Praise Evening. 7:30pm, Rm 307 SUB. Everyone welcome. Guest speaker Mary Shlek will ask, "Why Prayer?"

The 1998 Occupational Therapy Open House is being held in the Forrest Building (2nd and 3rd Floors, beside the Dentistry building — Carleton Campus) on Friday, October 16th — 5:30pm to 8:30pm and on Saturday, October 17th — 10:30am to 2:00pm

The Canadian Federation of Students will have a Tuition Freeze March, "Keep the Public in Post-Secondary Education", at King's College Quad, 6350 Coburg Rd, 1:30pm. Call 494-8132.

Sunday, October 18

Fall Foliage Tour at McNab's Island via Murphy's on the Water Cable Wharf in Halifax. Departure at 10am, return at 4pm. \$6.50 for members of sponsor societies and children, and \$8.50 for non-members. Contact Cathy Kelly (443-2261) or Catherine McCarthy (434-2254).

Wednesday, October 21

Soul Stirring Evening of Song at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium. Tickets are \$17.50 for adults, and \$15 for students, seniors, and SANS members. Call 494-3820 for more information.

Thursday, 22 October

Dr. Brian Barry from the Department of Political Science at Columbia University will present "The Trouble With Culture: a Critique of Cultural Politics" at

8:00pm in the MacMechan Auditorium, Killam Library.

Announcements

Parliamentary Guide

Program: Looking for bilingual, full-time university students from across the country to work as Parliamentary Guides in Ottawa from Victoria Day to Labour Day. Application forms available on the Parliamentary Internet Parliamentaire at www.parl.gc.ca. For more information call the Library of Parliament Information Services at (613) 992-4793. Application deadline is Monday, November 9, 1998.

Peers Against Sexual Assault (PASA) needs male and female volunteers. PASA is a student run peer education group whose goal is to promote healthy sexual relationships and to educate students, staff and faculty about the prevention of sexual assault and sexual harassment. No experience is necessary as training is provided. For more info, please contact 494-1137, or susan.brousseau@dal.ca.

The Adventures in Science program is looking for volunteers to help get children interested in science and technology. They are looking for science students (undergraduate or graduate) to help facilitate workshops for Sparks, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Girl Guides, and Scouts in Halifax. Contact the Adventures in Science office at 494-6715, email sits@is.dal.ca, or visit room 4609 in the Centre for Marine Geology.

Volunteers Needed: match your skills and interest with a program that makes a difference at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Volunteer opportunities available now. Call 573-5420 or 473-5420 to make an appointment with either Carol or Roy about openings.

Overcoming Procrastination: A five session group program will take place in the Counselling Centre (4th floor, SUB) for students who want to learn how to get their academic work done on time. The program starts Thursday, October 15, 11:30am-1pm. Pre-registration required.

The World University Service of Canada invites students

to apply to participate in the 1999 International Seminar program in Zimbabwe (English) or Benin (French) for 6 Weeks in May and June. Students will gain international development experience. Applications available on 2nd floor SUB or email schandra@is2.dal.ca.

In Celebration of Canada's first "Leave a Legacy Week", a seminar entitled "Women and the Financial Marketplace" will be held on Tuesday, October 27th from 2:30 to 4:30pm in classrooms 1 & 2 of the Dartmouth General Hospital, 325 Pleasant Street, Dartmouth. Call 1-888-868-4474 for more information.

In Celebration of Canada's first "Leave a Legacy Week", a display will be held at Scotia Square Mall from October 27th to October 31st from 11:30am to 2:00pm. Information on the importance of planned giving and how to effectively leave a gift to charity in a will, insurance policy or estate plan can be picked up. Call 1-888-868-4474.

Volunteers Needed: Ward 5 Community Centre is looking for volunteers to help with their afternoon programs, especially with cooking and arts & craft classes. Volunteers will be needed 3 afternoons per week. Contact Chris Jennings at 454-0018 or 454-0019.

DAGS Advocacy Committee — developing strategies to address political issues which affect graduate students: student debt, funding levels, etc. We need more members. Contact dags@is2.

The Canadian Committee for Educational Support to Cuban Children are hosting a benefit dance on Saturday Oct. 24 at 8pm at the Church community hall on the corner of North St. and Fuller Terrace. Tickets are \$8 at the door or \$5 in advance. Call the

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Pearson International Centre at Dalhousie University at 422-1782 for more information.

Shakespeare Unplugged will take place at the King's College Chapel, Thursdays to Saturdays, from November 5 to 15, at 8pm, and Sundays at 2pm. Call Sherry Brown (542-4348) or Heidi Baltzer (542-9886).

Literacy Volunteers are urgently needed at the Halifax Regional Library to help with adult literacy, children's reading support or adult English training. Volunteers will receive ongoing training and support. Interested persons can call the Captain Spry

Beginner Tai Chi - King's College Fitness Center (below gym). Mondays 12 noon- 1pm. Newcomers welcome. For info please call Sandra 857-9531

Looking for a ride from Dalhousie to Wolfville on Fridays 9pm. Will share the cost of gas. Please call Mora at (902) 542-4101

Lost & Found- Men's Watch found on Henry Street. Please call Jason to identify at 494-2671

Library (490-5734), the Halifax North Library (490-5723), the Thomas Raddall Library (490-5738) or the Spring Garden Road Library (490-5718).

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DALHOUSIE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT CENTRE

Canadian Airlines International Information Session: Tuesday, October 27/98 at 3:00 pm., Room 224/226, 2nd floor, Student Union Building. Currently seeking MBA and B. Commerce. Please sign up at the Dalhousie Student Employment Centre before Oct. 22/98.

Also a Job Posting: Canadian Airlines have posted for 5 positions. Deadline date is October 30/98 at 1pm.

Bank of Canada is conducting its annual recruitment program to meet the 1999 staffing requirements. Deadline for students in Economics is November 13, 1998.

Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada (OSFI) is recruiting university graduates for their Career Management Program. Resumes must be sent in before October 30, 1998.

If a career in the fascinating and highly complex world of international trade appeals to you, consider the many opportunities within **Export Development Corporation**. They are now recruiting for positions in the Financial Services Groups. Requirement: undergraduate or graduate degree in business. Resume, CACEE application, and transcript is to be submitted to the S.E.C. before October 21, 1998 @ 1pm.

Sales & Merchandising Group (S&MG) has exciting job opportunities for students seeking part-time and/or summer employment. Apply on-line (www.jobs.samg.com) or drop your resume off at the Employment Centre.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car, an exciting U.S. based company, is seeking qualified candidates for ongoing expansion into Canada. Check into their Management Trainee Program. Information packet and video on file in employment centre.

The Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP) application kits are now available at the the Employment Centre. Jobs available are across Canada, year-round, during academic term (part-time), and summer (full-time or part-time). Students can also apply on-line via PSC website: www.psc-cfp.gc.ca/jobs.htm. There is no deadline for applying to the general inventory. You can apply starting October 13, 1998. Note, certain departments hire students earlier than others, so apply as soon as possible.

Summer Recruitment for 1999 Parliamentary Guides. Interested students are asked to print the application form off the Internet site: www.parl.gc.ca and mail it in. This years application deadline is Monday, 9 November 1998.

If you are a Dalhousie, Daltech, Kings student or recent Alumni, please visit the Dalhousie Student Employment Centre.

Website at <http://is.dal.ca/~sec/>

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